



Vale William (Bill) Chandler, OAM

The *Eastsider News* team is deeply saddened by the death of our founder, Bill Chandler on the morning of Sunday 24 July 2022.

Without Bill, there would not have been an *Eastsider News*. Being the gregarious and approachable person that he was, Bill spoke with many who told him of the loss they felt with the closure of the local newspaper. Never one to be daunted by a challenge, Bill set out to establish an alternative. His clear vision of the role a community newspaper can play in bringing people together was matched by his faith in the capacities of local people to make this happen.

In mid-2020, Bill used his charm and persuasive powers to convince a small group of local people that they could and should develop an online community newspaper. He brought extensive experience in many fields, including as editor of an industry journal and a neighbourhood newsletter to the venture. His leadership, intellect, humour and enormous energy guided us through our early tentative steps. His belief that we could do it helped us navigate the inevitable hurdles and enabled us to grow. The principles on which *Eastsider News* is based were articulated by Bill. We continue to channel his insights and advice, especially in challenging situations where we ask ourselves 'What would Bill say or do here?'

We will miss him immensely in many ways, especially his wonderful story telling, his keen but gentle sense of humour and his ability to bring people together to achieve



more than they ever expected to. Thank you, Bill your presence will remain strong within *Eastsider News* and many other areas.

There is much more that we want to say about Bill. But most of all, we want to thank Bill's family especially his wife Ros for the love and support they gave him as the base from which he was able to do so much. Please go to page 3 where we speak about other aspects of his life.

State of the Environment Report

– Mitzi Tuke

On 19 July Minister Tanya Plibersek released the State of the Environment Report 2021 which had been sat on by the former Liberal government. The big picture is very concerning in contrast to the generally held view that our natural world is okay. The key findings of the report include:

- Australia's environment is in a poor state and deteriorating, which has accelerated in the past five years. All parameters had declined except for air quality.
- Nineteen major ecosystems show signs of collapse, for example the Great Barrier Reef and the giant kelp forests of Tasmania.
- Australia has lost more mammal species than any other continent.
- Australia now has more foreign plant species than native.
- 7.7 million hectares of habitat for land based threatened species was cleared between 2000 and 2017 and nearly all (93%) was not referred for assessment under the federal EPBC act.
- Funding for environment has been cut which has reduced capacity to manage threats to nature.

The major causes of this decline are the effects of climate change, habitat destruction and invasive species which are taking a huge toll on precious species and ecosystems. However immediate action can turn this around. It was pleasing to see the understanding from our new Federal Government that the environment and jobs are not in conflict. We must have both.

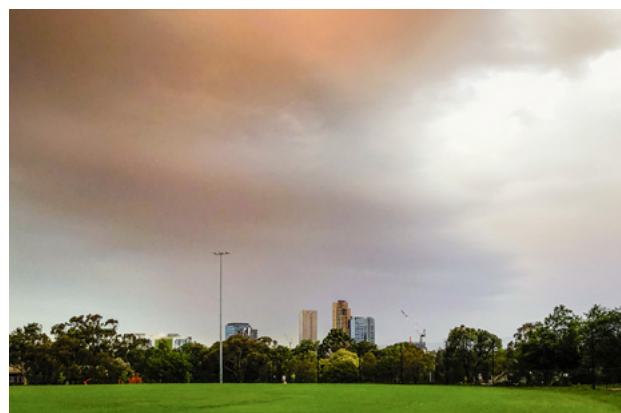
Habitat destruction occurs for a range of reasons such as clearing land for agriculture, logging, mining and urbanization. As a result, action is needed at all levels of government and sectors including industry, business and the general community.

We must act now because we are all vitally dependent on nature to provide us with a habitable world. When we live in cities it is possible to believe we're somehow walled off from environmental disaster. This is misguided. Healthy environments provide clean air, clean food, clean water and a safe place to live – all essential to a healthy life.

The Federal Government must vastly improve outcomes for nature by:

- creating strong environment laws that actually protect nature and an independent regulator to enforce them,
- funding the recovery of Australia's threatened species and the restoration of our degraded ecosystems,
- slashing climate pollution by more than half this decade and supporting nature as a climate solution, and
- leading on ambitious global goals for nature, that stop biodiversity destruction, end extinction and restore nature to better health.

These changes are complex and will require a comprehensive overhaul of our nature protection laws. There are many inconsistencies and overlaps between federal and state environment laws and removing these will need extensive negotiation and consultation with other sectors, as Minister Plibersek has identified.



Dust Storm over Box Hill in January 2020

Our future depends on science



In the lead up to the Federal Elections in May 2022, President of the Australian Academy of Science, Professor John Shine published an article in *The Conversation* bemoaning the lack of discussion about the fundamental role of science to Australia. He observed that, "There has been no serious national dialogue concerning climate change and very little talk about the pandemic, which is not over nor likely to be our last. Next to nothing has been said of the role of science in supporting our defence and national security and its role in equipping the public with essential life skills".

Now that we have a new government, it is time to remind them of the importance of science to our future, as a source of innovation, increased productivity, more jobs, better health outcomes and the basis of a culture that values the beauty and value of our natural world currently suffering a climate crisis.

Continued on page 9.



Turtle living in the wetlands along Koonung Creek

We need to use the release of this confronting five-yearly report as an opportunity to highlight the twin climate and extinction crises, as the nation begins its overhaul of our nature protection laws.

Actions you can take

Powerful actions to take are to contact our local MPs, both federal and state to convey our support for the strong nature laws we need. With a state election imminent, it would be advantageous to contact candidates of all parties and put our case for urgent action. In addition, we need to raise awareness by talking with our community about the severity of the nature crisis and the need for action to protect our natural world.

Mitzi Tuke is a member of ACF Chisholm Group

Looking ahead: an invitation from *Eastsider News* to be part of a review of our future

This edition is our thirteenth since we started publishing on-line in September 2020; a good time to look at where we have been and where we want to go in the future.

We not only want but need you to be part of this conversation. We greatly value the support you have given us so far including your stories, poems, newsworthy articles donations, advertising support, photos and illustrations. Most of all, we value the thoughts and ideas that you have shared with us about what we are doing.

We welcome newcomers and are always looking for people who can volunteer their skills and time in areas such as journalism, illustration, website

management and search engine optimisation, audience and advertising promotion and editing.

We invite all our friends and supporters to join us on Wednesday 24 August at 7.30pm in a Zoom meeting. Come along and discuss where we go from here, the challenges and opportunities this journey will present and be encouraged to volunteer your ideas and skills. We will send you an invitation in the near future so that you can register your interest in participating.

Our next edition will be in mid-October 2022. Submissions for the 14th edition of *Eastsider News* are due no later than 25 September. See the guidelines for submissions on page 16.

Supporting local traders in Hamilton Street Mont Albert and Union Road Surrey Hills

– Corinne Fenton

For the last 35 years or so, I've made regular visits to Mont Albert Village in Hamilton Street, Mont Albert.

I remember an appointment with the podiatrist with my 15 month old daughter (now 35), even though we didn't live in the area. I remember having a book launch for my first picture book, *Queenie One Elephant's Story*, at the beautiful Mockingbird Bookshop with Evelyn Snow in October, 2006, with wonderful treats supplied by Bread Street.

I remember sitting with my darling Mum at the Orient Express Cafe, having lunch and planning a book launch for *Bob the Railway Dog*, which was held at The Railfan Shop in August, 2015, complete with Smithy the Smithfield, a Bob-look-alike.

Almost 7 years ago, my husband and I shifted to the Mont Albert/Surrey Hills area. One lovely advantage is living only three streets away from my sister. Another wonderful plus is living walking distance from all the Hamilton Street and Union Road shops.

During lockdown, shops like Mont Albert Fresh, fruit and vegetables, Cornehlis & Blackburn Butchers and Bread Street, kept us all supplied with necessities and special treats. And every week since, Mont Albert Fresh have delivered a box of superior fresh fruit and vegetables to my door, at no delivery charge!

I've frequented all the cafés and restaurants, eaten family serves of fish and chips and pizzas, bought countless

clothing items at Enni, had my jewellery repaired at Montal, rummaged through goods in the op shops and of course relied on shops like the pharmacy, the Foodland Supermarket and post office for essentials, and so many I haven't mentioned.

At the moment, the areas around both Hamilton Street Village and Union Road Surrey Hills, are suffering with the ongoing rail works. Yes, of course we all have to wait while the person with the stop sign gives us a nod and it's certainly taking longer and is much more difficult to get a parking spot.

But, the bottom line is, if we don't support these precious village shops over the next two years, the traders will not survive. We are so fortunate to have these precious precincts on our doorstep and right now we need to get behind them . . . they are special and unique. In a world with ever bigger shopping centres being built, Hamilton Street Village and Union Road shopping areas are a little glimpse of yesteryear.

Photo: Philip Mallis



Why not stroll down if you live close enough, or maybe park the car in a side street and walk half-way and enjoy all the special things that these streets offer.

Award-winning Australian author, Corinne Fenton, is a passionate creator of picture books that delight readers from 0 to 100. To find out more about Corinne and her books, go to her website at <https://corinnefenton.com/>

Quizing Questions



David Astle, radio and TV star, writer, wordsmith, and cryptic crossword maker is expert at intriguing, teasing, and frustrating his audiences with his inventive mastery of words. He has very generously agreed that in each edition of *Eastsider News* we can include two of the Quizlings from his book, 'Puzzled'. You will find the answers on page 16 of this edition.

1. Israelis know the game as *Mapolet* – or avalanche. On the other hand, Danes prefer *Klodsmajot*, alias klutz. In Rio de Janeiro the same game's nickname translates as earthquake-tower, while you and I know it as the Swahili word for build. What game?
2. Can you place an Asian currency beside an Asian hardwood to sound out an Indonesian word adopted into English?

From the Editors

What do you see as the purpose of a community newspaper? This is a question that we at *Eastsider News* continually ask of ourselves. The many and varied answers we tell ourselves all share a common theme – local newspapers, whatever their physical form, play an essential role in strengthening the links amongst the people who live, work or play in a geographically defined region. They provide a platform for locals to talk about the things that matter to them; a place to share ideas and creativity, to celebrate achievements and provide comfort in difficult times.

The concept of a 'local rag' was something very important to Bill Chandler, the founder of *Eastsider News*. Many of us, particularly those who grew up in the country as did Bill, will remember their local paper as the place where you found out about the important stuff happening in your local area.

In recent years, the local paper has all but disappeared.

Changing technology, the growth of social media and the propensity for personal identity to be delinked from geographical location have not helped. Traditional media's ability to adequately address local and regional issues has declined as newspapers became more centralised and remote from the concerns of local neighbourhoods.

Since we published our first edition in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic in September 2020, our readers and supporters have told us how much they miss the 'local rag', and how much they want to read stories and news about their neighbourhood.

The primary objective of *Eastsider News*, as articulated by Bill, is to 'provide a free independent local media platform that focuses on showcasing substantial news about, and affecting, the diversity of local people and their activities'. We see ourselves as community-based, not-for-profit rather than commercial, and with the aim of giving voice to the diverse interests of local people. The newspaper should bring transparency and accountability not only to what we publish but to shine a light on the

work of the those in authority making decisions on behalf of the people they have been chosen to represent.

Something else that we consider important is that *Eastsider News* be seen to take a non-partisan political stance. That doesn't mean that political issues are not to be reported or commented on. Input from along the political spectrum is welcomed, the essential element being that it is accurate, honestly and truthfully reported, based on fact not rumour or supposition and without malicious intent.

We call upon the people in our local neighbourhoods to help us continue this journey. Our readers and supporters have been very generous in their backing of us, whether it be well written reports of local news, articles that discuss the big issues affecting our lives, stories, poems, illustrations and photographs. Our advertisers and donors have enabled us to pay the bills and allow us to access the highly professional services of our graphic designer and IT support. We thank you and hope that you will continue to keep faith with this vision of a local rag that has motivated us over the last three years.



Acknowledgement of Country

Independent Community News Group Incorporated acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation, Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land and waters of the *Eastsider News* focus area, and pays respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging.



To learn more about the rich culture and traditions of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people, explore their website at www.wurundjeri.com.au

Credits and contacts

The informal group who initiated the idea which has evolved into Independent Community News Group Incorporated and *Eastsider News* were Bill Chandler, Michael Hassett, Allan Havelock, Joy Mettam, Anne Young, and John Malvestuto. From this small beginning, an evolving network of many other people are taking an interest in being involved in its ongoing development. The current compilers and editors are Anne Young, John Malvestuto, Joy Mettam, Mike Daly, and Callum McNaught..

The primary contact point for Independent Community News Group Incorporated and *Eastsider News* is eastsidernews1@gmail.com.

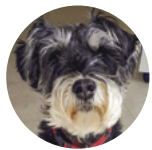


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My favourite walks

– Maximillian von Schnauzer



Gordon Barnard Reserve

Hi, my fellow four-footed-friends, I lost Mum the other day. No, no, don't panic. She's still with us. We were on the oval, all the gates were closed. She couldn't have got out. I just couldn't find her. I was panicking.

You know how it is – you wander off, one sniff leads to another sniff, a couple of chases, a growl or two and – voila – no Mum? If I'm to be honest I don't think I'm actually seeing that well. I am getting on a bit, you know ... or maybe it's simply that I won't let them clip my John Howard eyebrows?

Hmm, but no. I couldn't see her, but she was there, and now the two-leggeds are worrying about my eyesight. Well, my eyes mightn't be great, but boy, are my ears fantastic. You might say 'perfect' when it comes to something dropped on the floor, or my dry food as it hits my metal bowl.

I hear the chopping board! I hear the carrot tops bounce on the floor! I'm off and running! But then again, some days I'm a bit over carrot tops. Mind you, if I was a labrador, a breed with no discernment when it comes to food, I'd probably enjoy a carrot top all day, every day.

By the way: Are you allowed on the bed? I'm not, but I like to get up there when no one's home. I can see out the front window, watch the people, bark at passing dogs, and generally have fun. And of course, my amazing hearing means I'm off that bed in a flash when I hear a two-legged coming home. The system worked well until this new soft squishy bed cover arrived. My footprints are giving the game away. I shall have to rethink.

It seems I'm not the only one showing my age. Mum is having trouble walking any distance at the moment, so we've been trying out the new dog park in Gordon Barnard Reserve, Balwyn (see Paw notes). I can recommend it. A special digging sandpit, logs, trees, dry creek bed, AND dogs, dogs, dogs to run with. One day there were about 10 corgis having a meeting there. Would that be called a "Queen of Corgis"?

And of course, coffee, for your two-leggeds. There is a cafe in the Boroondara Sports Complex just behind the park, plus a number of cafes a little further up Balwyn Rd heading towards the city.

As ever, please say hello if you see me around. I'm black and silver with a red collar.



Paw Notes for two-leggeds:

<https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/about-council/projects-and-major-works/gordon-barnard-reserve-fenced-dog-play-area>

Dion: Stomping Ground (KTBA Records)

– Mike Daly

The name Dion DiMucci evokes memories of my teen years: an era when singers like Elvis, Buddy Holly and Chuck Berry ruled the hit parade. Around the same time, Dion and three pals started out singing close harmonies on street corners of New York's Bronx. A string of hits soon followed for Dion and the Belmonts, including "I Wonder Why" and "A Teenager in Love".

They were scheduled to join Buddy Holly, Richie Valens and The Big Bopper on the ill-fated 1959 Winter Party tour of the US Midwest but, in a twist of fate and with not enough room on the plane, Dion opted to go by road instead. The crash killed all on board, a tragedy later lamented by Don McLean in his hit song, "The Day the Music Died".

As a solo artist, Dion is of course remembered for hits such as "The Wanderer", "Runaround Sue" and "Ruby Baby", as well as "Abraham, Martin, and John". Through



the inevitable career peaks and troughs, he has never stopped performing and recording, gravitating to the blues in recent years, including the recent album "Blues With Friends", featuring stellar names like Bruce Springsteen, Paul Simon, ZZ Top's Billy Gibbons, Van Morrison and guitarist Joe Bonamassa.

His duet on that album with Simon, "Song for Sam Cooke (Here in America)" also recalled a time when he toured southern states with Cooke, experiencing firsthand the racism meted out to the great soul singer, who calmly absorbed the insults and advised the white New Yorker to keep his cool.

Now aged 83, Dion still seems unstoppable, and he's just released a new album celebrating his own love of the blues. "Stomping Ground" is on KTBA Records, the label set up by bluesman Bonamassa as an offshoot of the non-profit Keeping The Blues Alive Foundation. The

aim is to "conserve the art of music in schools and preserve the rich culture and history of the blues".

Dion recruits a few guitar heroes to lend their talents, including Mark Knopfler, Boz Scaggs, Patti Scialfa, Peter Frampton and Rickie Lee Jones. It's a more straight-ahead blues album than its predecessor, but there are some lyrical interludes, including Knopfler's melodically nuanced guitar on "Dancing Girl". Favourite tracks include a rollicking tribute to the late, great Dr John on "What the Doctor Said" and sweet slide playing by Keb' Mo' on the Jimi Hendrix standard "Red House".

Mike Daly is a local resident and a widely experienced and well-known journalist with a keen ear and eye on the music scene. He can be contacted at mikedaly35@gmail.com.



Vale William (Bill) Chandler, OAM

Continued from page 1

Tributes and condolences are continuing to flow from individuals and community groups, highlighting how broad was Bill's reach. The 'Event' as Bill nicknamed the Celebration of his life was held at the Habitat Uniting Church in Canterbury. The building was full with people from all parts of his life. His family and close friends gave moving tributes sprinkled with the humour and warmth that typified his approach to life. And we got to sing one of his many songs, 'Travelling well'.

Tributes have also come from those who did not know him personally but had heard of him through his advocacy, his writing and his community and climate activism.

Bill lived in Surrey Hills with his wife Ros for 50 years, a proud father of four children and six grandchildren. He valued the 20-minute neighbourhood around him (local shops and services, a train station, bus routes and tram options). When the local shopping strip was under threat in the 1970's from a proposed overpass over the train line he was part of the community action that stopped that happening.

One outcome of this community galvanising was the establishment of the Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre where this community could continue to meet. The main gathering space at the centre was designed by Bill and named the Chandler Room in recognition of his initiative in bringing it into being. The Surrey Hills Neighbourhood News was also born around this time and Bill continued as editor for 40 years, handing over the reins just this year.

With other local citizens concerned about climate change, Bill helped set up *Lighter Footprints*, in 2006. Within this local climate action group, Bill was well known for his readiness to stand strong for what he believed was right, as well as his wit and stand-up comedy routines



and his prodigious letter writing to the mainstream press. Bill cared passionately about the earth and leaving a safe, healthy environment for following generations. Spurred on by accountability to his grandchildren for the lack of action to address the climate crisis, Bill stood as an Independent for Kooyong in 2019.

This was all in addition to the work he did as an architect and town planner including as editor of the Planning Institute of Australia journal. Bill was awarded the OAM (Medal of the Order of Australia) in 2014 for 'service to urban design and planning'. He advocated tirelessly to improve the design of our cities for liveability.

Bill died peacefully at home, surrounded by his family on Sunday 24th July. He had been ill for some time but his spirit was so strong that we kept expecting him to turn up and brighten our world with his gentle humour and storytelling. This quote from an interview with Bill in the *Lighter Footprints* Community pages captures Bill's approach to acting on what you believe in.

"Change can happen but you have got to keep persistently and sometimes noisily working at it. We need to be looking forwards not backwards. So just turn up, get involved and be front foot positive to progress the actions needed to provide a better future for our children and grandchildren."



Cloud 9 Women's Choir Celebrates 10 Years of Singing Beautiful Music

A Special Concert on 3 September

– Gail Norman

For 10 years, the 40 or so women who make up Cloud9 have come together to enjoy singing in harmony and to share the easy companionship that comes from a love of music. One of our delights is to share that love of music with our community, and with our family and friends through our regular concerts and community performances.

On Saturday 3 September, we will celebrate our 10th Anniversary with an extraordinary concert in the North Balwyn Uniting Church. We have chosen some of our favorite songs acknowledging the legacy of our previous

Music Directors. Our current Director, Kerry has also introduced some sensational new works to round the concert out.

Come and help us celebrate and enjoy some glorious, beautiful and joyful music. The concert starts at 5pm on Saturday 3 September at North Balwyn Uniting Church, 17–21 Duggan Street, Balwyn North commencing at 5pm. Entry by donation (\$15).

You can see and hear more of who we are at www.cloud9womenschoir.com or send us an email Cloud9womenschoir@gmail.com



Distinguished cook Elizabeth Chong had been sharing her recipes with us since our first edition. Her recipes are specially developed and adapted to Australian ingredients.

Sung Choi Bao

The Chinese have surprising ways of serving lettuce. Lettuce dropped in a clear chicken broth makes a delicately beautiful soup, or braised lettuce tossed for a few minutes in a garlic- flavoured oil is a superb base for exotic dishes like stuffed mushrooms and abalone in oyster sauce.

The following recipe uses crunchy lettuce leaves as wrappings or pancakes. The surprise is in the filling. Beef or chicken are equally popular fillings for these Sung Choi Bao, whilst quail, pigeon or roast duckling make them rather special. Serves 2

Ingredients:

4 lettuce leaves (iceberg), refreshed in cold water, dried and left to crisp in the refrigerator
1 tsp cornflour dissolved in 2 tbs cold water (thickening)
2 tbs peanut oil

For the Filling:

125g/4oz minced pork (pork fillet can be used)
1 Cup chiang (Chinese Sausage) steamed for 10 minutes then diced
¼ cup water chestnuts, roughly chopped
1 tbs spring onions, chopped (use mainly the white part)

For the Seasoning

½ tsp salt
Dash of pepper
1 tbs shaohsing wine (Chinese rice wine)
1 tsp light soy sauce
1 tsp oyster sauce

Preparation:

Mix together the filling ingredients in a bowl ready for frying.
Mix together the seasoning ingredients in a separate bowl.



To Cook: Heat the peanut oil in the wok until it is just smoking, then stir-fry the filling mixture until the colour changes (this takes about 2 minutes). Add the seasoning, toss well, then stir in the cornflour thickening until boiling. Add a dash of water if needed. Serve crisp lettuce leaves separately with the filling. The meat is spooned into each leaf and rolled up to make a little parcel. Eat with the fingers.

Up in Grandma's Attic

– Corinne Fenton



Up in Grandma's attic
Much to my surprise
I came upon a teddy bear,
With sad golden eyes.

His fur was kind of ruffled,
With bare patches here and there
His ears were very crooked,
And one had a little tear.

I picked him up quite gently
And held him very tight,
He felt all soft and cuddly
So he shared my bed that night.

He lay right there beside me,
He was glad that he'd been found,
When Gran came in to kiss me,
He didn't make a sound.

But in the sunny morning,
He was such a sorry sight,
He'd spent so long with cobwebs,
He really looked a fright!

I gave old Ted a soapy wash,
And after he had dried,
I stitched his ear so gently
And looked at him with pride.

When Grandma came to look for me,
Her face showed such surprise,
Old Ted was sitting watching her
With sparkling golden eyes.

'Where-ever did you find him?'
my smiling Grandma said.
I thought he'd gone forever,
My long-ago lost Ted.'

Then Grandma hugged him to her heart,
'He's a special bear you see,
Now he's yours forever,'
And she held him out to me.

Illustration: Marjory Gardner

How the current COVID wave has affected my schooling



– Madeleine McGregor

COVID: the word that has been echoing around the streets for years, the word that yields that power to shut down schools and send the nation into a state of panic, the word that remains ever present in our minds. Currently, COVID cases have been on the rise yet again. My school has adopted a variety of rules to accommodate this. This of course has come with a variety of positives and negatives.

Having been away from school for so long, it has been absolutely wonderful to experience the benefits of face-to-face learning. However, I am very privileged as my school has adopted a policy of anyone being able to attend online classes if they are sick and have a doctor's note. While this policy was originally only for COVID-infected students, the extension to any illness is a welcome change. This incorporation has found the balance of remote and in-person learning. Personally, I have used this and found it to be extremely helpful. This system meant that I was able to stay on top of my work, when I was sick, but not infect anyone in the process. Hopefully, this will remain, even after this COVID wave has decreased.

On the other hand, due to ventilation requirements, my friends and I have found ourselves to be very cold in many classes! My school has a rule that at least one door or window has to be partially open during the school day. While this is understandable and everyone accepts the necessity of this, I have often found myself in two jumpers, leggings, tracksuit pants and a scarf during the school day! Hopefully, the temperature increases, so this issue can be resolved.

Another interesting observation is public transport. Passengers on trains are quite spread out, and everyone has their own area to themselves. This is one thing I have been thoroughly enjoying and has meant that trains are much more relaxing. Additionally, having to wear a mask on public transport has kept my face surprisingly warm during the winter months

Madeleine McGregor is in Year 9 and lives in Mont Albert.

Probus Club of Surrey Hills



With the relaxing of COVID 19 restrictions, the Men's Probus Club of Surrey Hills has resumed its monthly meetings with guest speakers and recently held a luncheon to celebrate its 30th anniversary. Our golfing, cycling, walking, cinema and fortnightly coffee groups have also recommenced their activities. Further luncheons are planned along with outings, including a trip to Apollo Bay.

We meet in North Balwyn and welcome men who are either retired or considering retirement. If you are looking for companionship, new activities and a new network of friends why not join us? Prospective members usually visit us as a guest at our monthly meetings. After meeting the other members of our friendly and active club, you have the option of joining the group. To do so, you complete a membership application form, available from our Membership Officer.

Visit our website <http://www.surreyhillsprobus.org.au> or for further information contact John Osborne on 0431 707 408 or Email: osborne_jw@yahoo.com.au



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Don Cheyne

A giant in the table tennis world

– Neville Young

The Eastern Suburbs and Churches Table Tennis Association acknowledges the achievement of Don Cheyne who has contributed much to table tennis in this area and offers their congratulations to him for his 90th birthday.

Don Cheyne started playing Table Tennis at age 15. Over the time that Don has been a member of the Eastern Suburbs and Churches Table Tennis Association (ESCTTA) he has been, a Committee Member, Secretary, President and Life Member.



Don has run the Monday night social and practice Table Tennis night for around 45 years. He has spent thousands of hours coaching and mentoring players of all standards over that time. Don has been a volunteer with the ESCTTA for a remarkable 70 years. To celebrate these wonderful achievements the ESCTTA held a surprise party to thank Don for his extraordinary contribution to the sport of Table Tennis.

If you are interested in playing Table Tennis, please visit our website for further information. We cater for all abilities, from State level to beginner. We hope to hear from you. Our website is <https://esctta.com.au/>



Neville Young is President of The Eastern Suburbs and Churches Table Tennis Association

Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning:

a successful and enjoyable Open Day

– Patty Trajkovska

After two postponed openings, landscaping works finally came to an end and the weather cleared for a beautiful sunny winter's day ahead, perfect for Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning's Open Day.

Staff, committee of management and volunteers were indeed very happy to welcome the community back to the redeveloped centre. After a 12-month period at temporary accommodation and with continued closures during this pandemic, it was sheer delight to physically welcome back familiar faces and some new ones too.

Everyone had the opportunity to check out the new spaces around the centre including the computer lab, craft room, two classrooms and communal kitchen area. There was a constant buzz of activity with a range of Open Day activities available throughout the day whether it was planting seedling pots, science experiments, face painting, gingerbread decorating, Wordle games, Bike and Blend smoothies, drama classes and so much more.

And of course, everyone enjoyed the sausage sizzle, managed by the Men's Shed, in the community garden



next door, along with the delicious gingerbread biscuits, refreshing smoothies and gorgeous cupcakes to celebrate the return to the centre.

Staff and volunteers were also very grateful for the feedback and insights provided to them on the day and one lucky winner, Dave from Ashburton, won the prize draw for \$120 worth of programs from the centre.

Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning has undergone a name change as part of their rebranding and you will now see the vibrant, colourful and contemporary brand, well-suited to its new premises.

As a Learn Local organisation, the neighbourhood house provides low-cost or free courses whether it be English and literacy classes, technology and work skills, creative pursuits or health and wellbeing; there is something here for everyone. The centre is also excited about new workshops and programs in the near future so reach out with your suggestions.

Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning is interested in supporting local businesses and organisations and if you would like to discuss how they can partner with you, please get in touch. Venue hire is available and the state-of-the-art technology is perfect for any organisation looking to run a course, workshop, training or event.

If you would like to come and visit or have a chat with staff, get in contact on 9885 9401 or admin@alameinnlc.com.au All are welcome to the centre and you do not need to reside in the area to attend a class or event or volunteer.

To discover what you can do at Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning, follow this link: <https://www.alameinnlc.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Alamein-Term-Brochure-Term-3-FINAL.pdf> or drop in at the centre at 49 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton, opposite Alamein train station.

Patty Trajkovska is Marketing Coordinator for Alamein Neighbourhood and Learning.

The Nappy Collective

– Fiona Pourgoutzidis

The Nappy Collective is a community based not for profit run mostly by volunteers collecting and redistributing nappies to families in crisis. While we are based out of Melbourne we have volunteer committees across Australia and continue to grow. Financial donations to The Nappy Collective support the work of diverting all donated nappies to families that need it most and are tax deductible.

Right now in Australia, 1 in 10 families can't afford the nappies they need for their babies. Without access to nappies, little ones may be left in their nappies for too long, causing distress, discomfort and infections. With the cost of living rising, this problem is set to get worse. The Nappy Collective has an ambitious goal to provide 1 million nappies to children and families experiencing 'nappy stress' across Australia.



Collection Points around Australia are open to accept donations of new or leftover disposable nappies.

These include selected ANZ bank branches, Ripe Maternity clothing stores, as well as dozens of early childcare education centres, maternal health centres, and more. The Collection Points in our area include

- The Avenue Occasional Care, Blackburn South
- Indra Preschool, Blackburn South
- Forest Hill Shopping Centre – Information Desk & ANZ Bank
- Bowen St Community Centre, Camberwell
- Chadstone SC – Ripe Maternity
- Nunawading Toy Library
- Kew Toy Library
- The Craig Centre, Ashburton
- Ashburton Toy Library
- Bright Kids Early Learning, Lilydale
- Dorset Early Learning and Kinder, Croydon

Donations accepted include newly purchased disposable nappies; leftover, opened packets of disposable nappies that are no longer needed — such as when a child outgrows their nappy size; disposable swim nappies; and nappy pants.

Sarah Witty, the CEO of The Nappy Collective said, "A lack of access to clean nappies may be due to issues

of financial hardship, homelessness or escaping domestic violence, or those impacted by natural disasters, such as the recent flooding we have seen in New South Wales and Queensland. Every child deserves a clean, healthy, and stable start to their day with a clean nappy".

For more information on how to donate or volunteer, visit <https://www.thenappycollective.com/>

Fiona Pourgoutzidis Melbourne Collective Leader, The Nappy Collective. Contact her by email at melbourne@thenappycollective.org.au



The emotional support dog after I get done telling it my problems!




Probus North Balwyn:

a great place to be
– you are a stranger but once



After two years of COVID confinement, Probus North Balwyn is looking for retired gentlemen to join our ranks. A vital and stimulating environment with special interest groups and opportunities for social interaction.

We meet every second Tuesday from 9.45 am to 10am at the Greythorn Community Hub. Special interest groups meet throughout the month at the North Balwyn Uniting Church. Go to our website at <https://balwynnorthprobus.org.au/> to find out how you can be involved or telephone our membership officer Rodney Manser on 0418 164 432




PAUL HAMER MP

STATE MEMBER FOR BOX HILL

I'd like to hear from you. Scan the code and have your say!

24 Rutland Road, Box Hill VIC 3128
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Letters to the Editors

The Editors of *Eastsider News* welcome letters from our readers and supporters. We want to provide you with a platform where you can express your concerns and share your insights on the things that matter in our communities. All we ask is that you keep them polite, well written, short at no more than 250 words and factually based. We will not publish anything that is intended to promote misinformation or falsehoods.

Please note, while we welcome a spread of topics, views and opinions, the specific responses expressed by individual writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, Independent Community News Group Incorporated, or any other organisation.

Dear Editor

Leading the way on climate policy

As I write in the week before the new federal parliament opens, I hope that the Greens and others do support Labor's 43pc emissions reduction by 2030 target; that Labor agrees to raising it, and also to banning all new coal and gas from now on. This can be a huge turning point at last for science-based decarbonising.

This century's long-term trend of accelerating massive heatwaves and wildfires is adding a terrible urgency for emergency action. It is beyond comprehension that the fossil fuel industry and Coalition still value continuing fossil fuels and their dollar profits more highly than all else including health and a clean energy future.

They should read Oliver Milman's thought-provoking book *The Insect Crisis- The Fall of the Tiny Empires that Run the World* (2022). Climate change's heat is killing the insects who pollinate our fruits and vegetables, that is, our basic food supply. This is yet another of climate change's deadly consequences and the consequent extremely urgent need for reforms. Our new parliament must soon lead the way forward.

Barbara Fraser Burwood

Rotary Club of Hawthorn:

Lift the Lid on Mental Illness, Fundraising Lunch

October 7 2022 at Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club

The Rotary Club of Hawthorn will be holding our second 'Lift the Lid on Mental Illness' Fundraising Lunch on 7th October at Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club. This is a major fundraising activity for the Club and the monies raised will be donated to Australian Rotary Health Mental Health Research and the Club's Community projects many of which support mental health projects in the Boroondara area.

'Lift the Lid on Mental Illness' is Australian Rotary Health's National annual fundraising initiative for mental health research. The campaign, founded by ARH Vice Chairman Greg Ross, started in 2016 in partnership with Rotary Clubs of Victoria. The event was such a success that it has now been extended to all Rotary Clubs across Australia.

Each year approximately 1-in-5 Australians will experience a mental illness and in order to help future generations of young Australians, we need to look ahead through research and find out how we can prevent this type of illness occurring.

Sharing the Everyday

The gathering of older folk at Uniting East Burwood on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays is now referred to as a 'Social Support Group'. But for those who know it well, it is the 'Positive Living Group' or PLG. That name reflects its philosophy, and the outlook of its members.

The programs have varied but the purpose has remained the same. The group provides companionship, a little exercise, some armchair travel and music, and a friendly place to chat, sharing memories and talking about the things affecting daily life. A visitor is always welcomed as a friend. As in many agencies, post-COVID hesitancy has had some effect on the attendance this year.

The group meets at 220 Burwood Highway, Burwood East Vic 3151 (entry from Blackburn Road – wheelchair accessible). Learn more by phoning 03 9803 3400 or going to the website at www.vt.uniting.org/locations/east-burwood/

Dear Editor

Mask Wearing

As an 83 year old woman, it's obvious that I will have particular, and possibly set, views on current approaches to managing the pandemic. I admit to being a confirmed Labor voter. Regardless, I don't understand the criticism of the government's determination to not impose mask wearing mandates.

It seems clear to me that any such mandate would stir up more trouble with those who vehemently opposed mandates in the past. It's also clear how little people take notice anymore even where masks really are warranted. Public transport is the perfect example, where masks are mandated and virtually ignored. Serious questions immediately would be raised as to how an overall mandate would be enforced. No other state has imposed a mask wearing mandate, nor has the Federal government encouraged them to do so. Does any opposition party support mask mandates?

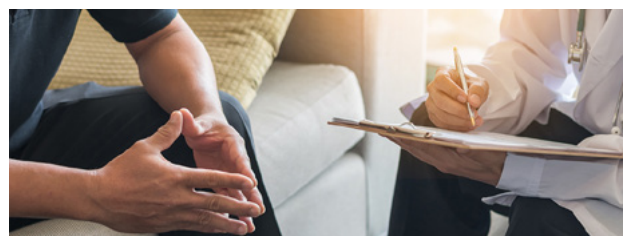
Overwhelmingly, the health authority message is that wearing a mask when in close contact with others is by far the most effective control of covid transfer. That up-to-date vaccination is the best method of ensuring that, if infection does occur, illness levels will be reduced in most cases. If many people are determined to ignore the value of masks and vaccinations, I see no way of compelling them to reconsider. Personal comfort seems to outweigh pleas to consider community benefit. I sincerely wish it were otherwise.

Lynn Heath, Doncaster

Dear editor

Trees and their importance


Living in leafy Boroondara it can be easy to take trees for granted. However, with just over 20 per cent tree cover, Boroondara has more than twice the tree cover of Maribyrnong and other Western suburbs of Melbourne.



Gareth Andrews, Executive Director and Founder of the 'Life Again' Foundation is the guest speaker and his presentation is titled "No Change Without Understanding". Gareth has been an AFL Club CEO, TV and Radio host and story teller. His AFL journey spans 52 years. His work in both the mental health area and indigenous health is well known. He established 'Life Again', a registered Not for Profit charity that educates and helps men to change and lead more fulfilling and purposeful lives. 'Life Again' reaches out to all people through writing, public speaking, taking groups to the Outback and working with Aboriginal communities.

The Rotary Club of Hawthorn has a long and close connection to the Boroondara community running projects in the area of mental health and addressing the needs of the disadvantaged across the spectrum for nearly 70 years. The 'Lift the Lid on Mental Illness' Lunch is an important fundraiser for the Club so that we can continue to support our community through these challenging times.

Charlotte England Vice President and Foundation Director, Rotary Club of Hawthorn



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Our trees have a cooling effect of several degrees on hot days, countering the urban heat island effect and providing welcome habitat for birds and other animals. A well-treed garden not only adds value to a property but is good for mental health. And children enjoy climbing in trees and making tree houses. But urban trees also remove particulate matter and of course, they store carbon. Boroondara has many trees designated as significant because of their impressive size, age, rarity, ecological value, or cultural and historical significance.

A fun activity is to type your address into the significant tree map at boroondara.vic.gov.au/waste-environment/trees-and-naturestrips/protected-and-significant-trees to locate the significant trees near you. I was surprised and delighted to find twenty in my immediate neighbourhood. Lighter Footprints' next event on Wednesday 31 August is called, "Boroondara's disappearing trees: What can we do about it?" Readers can find out more and register online at lighterfootprints.org/event/urban-trees/

Ray Peck, Hawthorn

Dear Editor

Answers needed on climate policy

In the Labor Government's response to the recently released State of the Environment report, which found that our environment is in decline, I have confidence that the government will address some of the urgent issues. I hope that Labor's actions will be effective.

However, I find there are sticking points that do not inspire confidence that all that should be done, will be done. Logging old growth forest and land clearing are huge threats to the health of ecosystems and biodiversity. So far we have not been given any indication that action on the scale required will be taken by either the States or federally (with the possible exception of WA ceasing old growth logging in 2024).

Ministers Bowen and Plibersek have not ruled out further exploration for gas, coal and oil and exports of these fossil fuels will not be wound back as rapidly as science informs us is needed to limit global warming to as close as possible to 1.5 degrees. Regarding our targets and nationally determined contributions, while we anticipate better action from this new government, will our targets ultimately be sufficient to start driving down emissions and their effect on extreme weather events? The solutions to these issues are unknown in the diminishing time left for us to act. We need answers.

Liz Reen Mont Albert

JOHN KENNEDY MP

STATE LABOR MEMBER FOR HAWTHORN



Need assistance with a State Government matter?

Contact my office, we're here to help.

A: Suite 1, 197-199 Riversdale Rd, Hawthorn, VIC, 3122
P: (03) 9882 4088
E: John.Kennedy@parliament.vic.gov.au
W: www.johnkennedympp.com.au

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It's The Little Things Community



Providing a helping hand

Tom Stewart

A local husband and wife are enlisting the help of friends and people from their community to help feed the disadvantaged in Melbourne. It's The Little Things Community (ITLTC), a charitable organisation established by Jane Stewart operates three to four days a week, generating over 300 meals for those unable to find food for themselves and their families.

It's The Little Things Community prides itself on community and operates through volunteers from the local area, said Jane Stewart. "It is absolutely fantastic to see so many people, some of whom I hadn't even met before, help out in whatever capacity they can", Stewart said. "Never once did I imagine this to have the impact it does.

Until recently, ITLTC operated out of Stewart's home kitchen. It has now moved into a commercial kitchen at Christ Church Hawthorn, which has allowed them to expand and cater for many more people.

Using donated ingredients from local producers the organisation has a dynamic menu, which also caters to different people's needs.

As of the 22 July 2022, ITLTC have produced 8,753 meals for those battling food insecurity in Melbourne making frozen dinners for families, single meals and even kids lunchboxes. "We deliver meals to so many different people, from so many different walks of life. People are in need everywhere, even in our own neighbourhood."

Jane's husband Grant is amazed at how quickly the organisation has grown. "We began only a matter of years ago taking the elderly out on activities, to do things they never would be able to. And now, with the help of so many people around us, we are truly making a difference", Grant Stewart said. "Our name isn't just a saying. We really believe it is the little things which make the most difference. It is beyond donating money, it's about donating time and effort."



Grant and Jane invite anyone from the community to offer their time and help at ITLTC by registering their interest at www.itsthelittlethingscommunity.org. Currently cooking on Monday and Tuesday, ITLTC open their kitchen to anyone who wants to come and help cook for a day, or even help with cleaning.

ITLTC also offer an opportunity to 'Sip and Bake', where they provide recipes and boxes for groups to get together at home and prepare baked goods for vulnerable children in the community. In addition to this, ITLTC also accept fresh food donations – ingredients, cooked meals and non-perishable items – as well as partnerships with businesses, cafes and restaurants who are looking to donate unused food items.

Boroondara's Bike Bingle

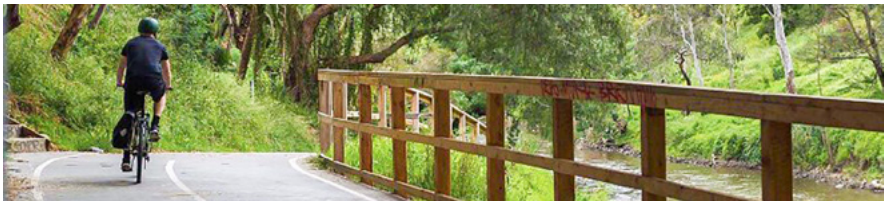
– Leigh Naunton

Boroondara finally has a Bicycle Strategy, voted unanimously at Council's Services Special Committee meeting of Monday 18th July. As Council Officers reported it "sets out the framework to improve bicycle infrastructure and increase mode share in the City of Boroondara".

This is welcome and well overdue, the last one being in 2008. So why the "Bingle"? Because it nearly did not get up, with the northern part smashed due to an unfortunate combination of interests, passions and prejudices. Two paths in the north, the Jacka Trail and the Glass Creek Trail, pretty much disappeared due to a lot of community opposition to shared paths in parks.

Parks are a valued and scarce resource for which there is competition – in this case mainly between walkers and cyclists. You may think that the interests of walkers and cyclists would be similar, and you may be right when cyclists are slow, but not if the cyclists are speeding on "cycleways" for commuting or sport. There was also a view that transport (for commuting including to school and for shopping and so on) should be kept out of parks and bikes mainly kept on roads.

There was also a push-back against a presumed Council plan for fast bike connections involving concrete or bitumen paths in parks. There was reason for this, given the construction of part of a path of this type in Hislop Park ahead of the strategy. However, Council officers made it clear that the paths in the parks would be gravel only and it seemed that the main reason that Council initially favoured concrete or bitumen was increased maintenance and reduced safety for cyclists on gravel paths.



Three northern ward Councillors, Crs Watson, Parke and Sinfield, were aligned with those opposed to cycle connectivity when it involved more bikes in parks. With large numbers objecting to the "Jacka Trail" and the "Glass Creek Trail", these Councillors were able to be seen to respond to the voices of their constituents. The Council Officers, seemingly well aware of the possibility that the whole strategy would be delayed or even voided if the "northern issue" were not resolved, revised the strategy to substantially exclude the two northern "trails". The Council passed the Strategy as revised, therefore locking in little progress for connectivity and safety for local bike riders in the three northern wards.

The point where Council particularly erred involved a fall-back motion asking Councillors to approve further investigation of the northern options and a report to Council in 2023. This was defeated on the grounds

that the implementation would be reviewed every two years anyway, these issues could be addressed in the relevant Council Advisory Committee, and the apparent views of the northern Councillors, generally supported it seems, that Ward Councillors have the main say over implementation decisions that affect their wards. These reasons are on their face insufficient and in the case of the alleged primacy of Ward Councillors, plainly wrong based on their oath of office.



This fracas and error may have been avoided if the Bicycle Strategy had been based on a prior review of the Council's very old Integrated Transport Strategy, intended to provide improved travel and access within, to and from Boroondara. Certainly, in the context of Council's Climate Emergency Declaration and Climate Action Plan and the fact that transport greenhouse gas emissions are about 20% of total, it is high time for that review.

Citizens who are concerned about safety and connectivity for active transport and who want less reliance on polluting cars may want to lobby Councillors to make sure that a Bicycle Strategy implementation review planned for 2024 fully reconsiders the northern part of our city.

New Members Welcome

NYP Dragons Water Polo Club

Come and Try



MLC

Mens:
Monday 7.30 - 9.00pm
Womens:
Thursday 7.30 - 9.00pm

Contact us for more info!
Email: nypdragons@hotmail.com
Call: John Malvestuto - 0417 347 289








Photo: Neil MacLaughlin

A little-known Boroondara gem

– Clare Newton

By the start of spring, refurbishments to the Kew Croquet Club will be finished, with new flooring, roof and a fresh paint coat. Located within Victoria Park, the Kew Croquet Club is a largely undiscovered gem not just of Boroondara's architecture, but also some fun, skilled and competitive community sports.

The Kew Croquet Club is a modest but cleverly designed building sheltered by mature eucalypts. Walter Burley

Griffin's influence is apparent in the architecture. Built in 1934, the clubhouse is said to be designed by Eric Nicholls who began working with Walter and Marion Griffin at age 19, eventually managing the office 14 years later when the Griffins left for India in 1935.

The corrugated roof is a simple pyramid over the social room, kitchen and entry balcony. The white windows and shutters stand out with glass panes divided by a tree-like pattern of timber mullions.

Make sure you keep an eye out for this hidden gem if you are in the vicinity of Victoria Park. The refurbishment works are being undertaken by the Boroondara City Council and will renew the building for a long time to come.

Along with the traditional Association Croquet and the popular Golf Croquet, the Club offers the home game of Kew Croquet focused on introducing newcomers to the skills and strategies of croquet.

The various forms of croquet use mallets to propel balls through a course of hoops on a tennis-sized grass court or half court while making it as difficult as possible for the opposition by knocking their balls away from the action. To excel, the games require the concentration and skills of snooker players.

Then there's Gateball, a Japanese sport developed in 1947. Each 30-minute game is played by two teams with

ten balls, three gates and a goal pole on a 20x15 metre outdoor court. Highly strategic, gateball is like a cross between chess, billiards and croquet. While the game is not yet well known in Australia, it is played by over 8 million people around the world. Kew are the current Australian champions.

With its newly refreshed building, now is a good time to plan a celebratory or team-building event at Kew Croquet Club. Kew Croquet Club has a BYO licence and kitchen for BYO catering. Events can be under lights at night or during the day. Up to 24 guests can play concurrently and the pavilion accommodates around 40 people. No experience is necessary to have a fun and rewarding game.

The Club, with its inclusive approach to community sport, also welcomes individuals from ages 10 to 100 and offers free training, equipment and affordable membership.

If you would like to learn a mallet sport, whether croquet or gateball, or host an event, please contact the Secretary, Chris Fraser kewcroquetclub1@gmail.com or 0413833229.

Clare Newton, is Kew Croquet Club President. She is also a Registered Architect (Retired) and Doctor of Education and Honorary Principal Fellow at The University of Melbourne

Boroondara youth advocate for electronic waste solutions

– Jacob Gamble



A group of young people from Boroondara have successfully passed a Bill in the YMCA Victorian Youth Parliament that aims to improve and centralise the management of Victoria's e-waste system.

The Effective E-Waste Management Bill 2022 was developed by Ravin Desai, Alan Wang, Patrick Homes, and Angelo von Möller. It is one of 18 created in the YMCA Victorian Youth Parliament, a program that brings together over 120 young people from across regional and metropolitan Victoria to develop and debate mock Bills at Parliament House.

For Camberwell Grammar School student Ravin Desai, e-waste has long been an area of passion, sparked by a persuasive writing task set by his Year 5 teacher. "I was disheartened when I visited my local council's tip and found still perfectly functioning computers thrown in the bin," Mr Desai said.

The Bill proposes e-waste be managed under the State Department of Environment, Land, Water, and Planning, and offers incentives for recycling electrical products. When presented in the Legislative Council, it met fiery debate from fellow youth parliamentarians.

Argument centred around the lack of a uniform e-waste management policy in Victoria. This is predominantly managed by local councils and not for profit organisations who coordinate individual product stewardship schemes such as Mobile Muster and Cartridges 4 Planet Ark. "Because each council sets its own rules, there's a lot of inconsistencies. It leaves consumers in the lurch about what exactly to do to recycle their e-waste," Mr Homes said. "By centralising management, we can provide a consistent service with



clear rules and ensure e-waste services are provided to every council irrespective of rate income."

The debate included the economic value of rare earth materials, equitable access to devices, and shifting to a circular economy in the face of the climate crisis. "We can facilitate a system whereby people who really need access to what is almost a human right, the internet, can actually get that through an [repurposed] electronic device," Mr Desai said.

Many Australians are unaware of electronic waste or the effectiveness of product stewardship schemes. Rachael Ridley, Manager of Planet Ark's Recycling Near You and Business Recycling initiatives said "The Television and Computer Recycling Scheme has been operating since 2011 but there are still lots of Australians that don't know it exists or that they can use it for free".

Ms Ridley saw encouraging businesses to transition to a circular economy, as part of the solution. "In terms of e-waste it's also about designing out waste during the design phase. Creating products with recycled materials that are built to last. Empowering consumers with the right to repair their products without fear of breaking their warranty," Ms Ridley said.

Electronic waste, with its valuable metals, presents a compelling case study for how an economically viable circular economy could function. Professor Usha Iyer-Raniga from RMIT's School of Property, Construction and Property Management said "To move to a circular economy we really need to tackle [e-waste] at both ends,



the production end but also the consumption end," Dr Iyer-Raniga said. "Consumers can put a lot of pressure back onto companies. If a company is not doing the right thing in terms of its response to the environment... then I think consumers can vote with their purses."

Dr Iyer-Raniga said it was important to shift consumer expectations "away from ownership models to service type models", where products are rented rather than bought, and embrace second hand items. She is optimistic younger generations are more conscious consumers. "Young people are much more amenable to these sorts of ideas than the older population who have been raised with this idea of needing to own something".

The Effective E-Waste Management Bill 2022 has been presented to the Victorian Minister for Youth, Ros Spence, who will consider it when developing policies that affect young people. Emboldened by their experience, Ravin Desai and Patrick Homes hope to expand a laptop refurbishment scheme they piloted at Camberwell Grammar School, while advocating for issues such as more Indigenous culture embedded into the school curriculum. "Advocacy, for Patrick and myself, with all the issues that we care about, is kind of our future in many ways," Mr Desai said.

Jacob Gamble is a journalism student at Monash University, a 3CR Community Radio presenter, and a YMCA Victorian Youth Parliament Press Gallery journalist. Follow them on Twitter @JacobAGamble.

103 Years of Community Service contributed by Charter Lions

– Harvie Hele

The recent Lions Clubs Changeover Dinner held at the Mulgrave Country Club was a time to recognise the achievements of its members. This included the presentation by President Lion Rob Birch of the Wheelers Hill Lions Club of Life Memberships from Lions Clubs International to four Charter members. The night also included the installation of Incoming President, Past District Governor Lion John Odgers, conducted by incoming Vice District Governor Lion Graham Bryant

The four recipients for Life Membership were Lion Alan Newton, Lion Denis Carruthers, Lion Kathy West & Lion Ralph Wildenberg. This represented 103 years of service to Lions Clubs International.

Certificates of Appreciation were also presented on the night to Lion Tess Ball, Lion Val Eldridge, Lion John Watson, Lion George Temelli and Lion Rod Lockwood



for services to their community. President Lion Rob Birch was awarded the Ian M. Stockdale Humanitarian Award by 1st Vice District Governor Graham Bryant.

The evening was a great success with 60 Members and Guests in attendance.

Members extended their best wishes to Incoming President PDG Lion John Odgers for the coming year.

To find out more about the Wheelers Hill Lions Club, go to their website at <https://wheelershill.vic.lions.org.au/>

Harvie Hele is the PR Officer for Lions Club of Wheelers Hill.



Left: President Lion Rob Birch receiving award from VDG Graham Bryant

Below: Four recipients of Life membership Awards with President Rod Birch (left)



Our future depends on science

Continued from page 1.

Professor Shine pointed out that science is about "...how we understand our present and future and realise our potential as people". He referred to recommendations by the Academy of Science regarding actions a new government should take to harness the capacity of science to contribute to a stronger, better future. These included:

- securing the scientific base through a long-term investment strategy for science,
- establishing a Parliamentary Science Office,
- undertaking a national, whole-of-government review of the science and research system, and
- advancing a cohesive, national approach to secure jobs through the translation of science to industry.



None of this is difficult but does require an up front and immediate commitment not just on the part of our new Minister for Industry and Science, the Hon Ed Husic MP but by the whole Labor Cabinet that science, including basic scientific research is fundamental to a better way of life for all Australians and

should be integral to its decision making.

Professor John Shine is an amazing example of the contribution science and scientists have made to Australia. He was Executive Director of the Garvan Institute of Medical Research from 1990 to 2011, and is Professor of Molecular Biology and Professor of Medicine at UNSW Sydney. The 'father of gene cloning', Professor Shine was the first to clone human hormone genes and the first to sequence the replication of a cancer-causing virus. These and other pioneering discoveries by Professor Shine helped to launch the biotechnology revolution that has transformed medicine and agriculture.

Ringwood Croquet Club

COME AND TRY DAY

Sunday, 2 October from 1pm to 3pm

Ringwood Croquet Club will hold a "Come and Try - Croquet" Day on Sunday, 2 October from 1pm to 3pm at Jubilee Park, off Gardini Avenue, Ringwood. Mallets will be provided; wear comfortable clothing and flat soled shoes. There is no charge. Finish the day with Afternoon Tea with Club members.

To book, please ring the Secretary Peter on 0407 098 980 before 28 September.



Developing Confident Women

- Linda Carter

'Speaking Made Easy' Camberwell is part of a women's national organisation that offers members guidance to develop communication skills and confidence. All women from all cultures and backgrounds are welcome to join the organisation.



The Camberwell group meets at Camberwell Library on the fourth Thursday of every month, at 12pm for a 12.15pm start, from February to November. Visitors are welcome to attend three meetings before joining. Contact the Victorian Membership Officer, Nora, on 0459 186 670, or email vic.membership@speakingmadeeasy.com.au. For further details, visit the website: <http://speakingmadeeasy.com.au>

Linda Carter is a member of 'Speaking Made Easy' Camberwell



Boroondara General Cemetery

- Judith Voce

Boroondara General Cemetery, or Kew Cemetery, was established in 1858 on a 12.5 hectare site bounded by High Street, Parkhill Road and Victoria Park, Kew. Since then, there have been more than 80,000 burials.

The Heritage Council of Victoria describes the cemetery as "an outstanding example of the Victorian Garden Cemetery movement". With its curving paths, park-like setting, and rotunda the cemetery contains significant heritage buildings recognised by the Heritage Council and the National Trust. Foremost are the Springthorpe Memorial, the Syme Memorial and the Cussen Memorial.

Overall design of the cemetery was drawn up by Frederick Acheson when he surveyed the land in 1859. In 1864 Albert Purchas joined the Trust and oversaw the layout, design and ornamentation of the cemetery for the next 45 years. It now features mature plantings, extensive rose gardens and many rare specimens of trees.

Buried here are many of Melbourne's historical leaders, such as artist Louis Buvelot, publisher David Syme, artist and diarist Georgiana McCrae, High Court judge Sir Owen Dixon, Victoria's first policewoman Madge Connor, and businessman John Wren.

The most recent architectural additions are the garden crypts, designed by prominent Melbourne architects, McIntyre Partnership, and constructed in 2001 from local materials. Garden crypts are available for above ground burial, and many options for interment of cremated remains in the Peace Haven Mausoleum, the lawn or the rose and azalea gardens.

A not for profit cemetery

Boroondara General Cemetery is a public "not for profit" independent enterprise. Our Board (Trust) is appointed by the government but do not receive funding or services from the state government. Revenue received from funeral services and the sales of graves and niches, along with our investments, is used for the staffing and



maintenance of the cemetery. We are grateful to the many community volunteers who assist us.

Management

The cemetery is managed by a Trust appointed by the Governor in Council for five year terms. The eight current Board members come from all walks of life and backgrounds and offer their services to the cemetery as volunteers.

The Trust is looking for additional members. Previous experience on not for profit boards and in the fields of finance, IT, horticulture, marketing or legal practice would be advantageous, but anyone with any relevant skills is encouraged to apply. For further information on applying please contact Mr Haydn Robins, Chief Executive Officer, Boroondara General Cemetery on 98537025 or email h.robins@kewcemetery.com.au

Judith Voce is Chair of Boroondara Cemetery Trust



Green Sparks at Vinnies Shops

The St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria's (Vinnies) dedicated retail division, Vinnies Shops, has launched a novel, volunteer-run program to give quality electrical goods a second chance at life.

Vinnies has trained and deployed almost 200 passionate Green Sparks electrical test and tag program (ETTP) volunteers in more than 100 Vinnies Shops in all corners of the state. They are ready to receive quality electrical donations in-store, to test, tag and sell the goods. Every sale represents an important contribution to reducing harmful e-Waste in Victoria, which was officially banned from household bins and landfill on 1 July 2019.

"This program launch represents a formalisation and expansion of Vinnies' passionate commitment to reducing harmful e-Waste in our community. Vinnies Shops was awarded a \$250,000 grant to support this project in September 2021 from the Recycling Victoria Communities Fund. The Fund is delivered by Sustainability Victoria on behalf of the Victorian Government. Like us, the Victorian Government is dedicated to building a circular, climate resilient, clean economy," said Vinnies Victoria Executive General Manager Commercial Services, Jeff Antcliff.



"We haven't wasted any time bringing our vision to life. Vinnies Shops across the state now have dedicated battery disposal hubs and Green Sparks test and tag volunteers, who are trained and ready to assess and test quality electrical goods. We are a one-stop-shop for people looking to donate and/or purchase quality second-hand electrical goods."

Vinnies Shops' ETTP initiative is estimated to be ready to divert around 100,000 electrical goods (approximately 100 tonnes) from landfill every year. Vinnies is also leading vital public education and awareness initiatives, to support the re-use and repair of electrical items - together with the most appropriate ways to manage disposal of e-Waste at the end of its life.

"In Victoria there are clearly mandated steps to appropriately manage e-Waste and whilst Vinnies Shops are creating a solutions-focused initiative to give electrical goods a new lease on life, we don't want to be a destination for careless disposal either. If it is good enough to give to your family, it is good enough to give to Vinnies - we welcome as new or fully functioning electrical products, to be donated during our shop opening hours," said Mr Antcliff.

For Victorians seeking to support this initiative by bringing electrical donations in-store, Vinnies Shops has created a short checklist to help.

What: Electrical goods must be as new or fully functioning to qualify for donation.

Where: Check the location of your local Vinnies Shop by clicking here.

When: Visit your local Vinnies Shop during business hours so a dedicated test and tag volunteer can test and verify if your donation is suitable for test, tag and re-sale.

What next: Watch your electrical goods go to a deserving new home - with all profits from the sale supporting vulnerable Victorians through Vinnies' vital frontline support services.

To find out more about this program, go to the Vinnies Shops website at https://www.vinnies.org.au/page/Shops/VIC/Electrical_Test_Tag/





Whitehorse Police Service Area Crime Report

The following article is based on a report prepared by Victoria Police and sent to us by Neighbourhood Watch Whitehorse.

From March to May 2022, the Whitehorse Police Service Area recorded 1232 offences. Primary modes of offending included theft from a motor vehicle (219); residential burglary (125 including 17 aggravated burglary); theft other than shopsteal (98); property damage (76); theft from shop (62); theft of a motor vehicle (61); and commercial burglary (40).

Theft from a motor vehicle continues to be the most prevalent mode of offending, comprising 17.8% of all recorded offences in the Whitehorse Police Service Area in this period. Of the 219 offences, up to 50% of the vehicles had been left unlocked.

Geographically, Box Hill recorded the highest number of offences during Autumn with 253 offences, equating to 20.5% of all offences recorded in the Whitehorse PSA during this period. Box Hill Vicinity is highly represented in these figures. Other areas highly represented in these figures were Burwood with 132 offences, Mitcham 131 offences and Nunawading 107 offences. Conversely, Surrey Hills, Mont Albert and Mont Albert North recorded a combined 99 offences during this period accounting for only 8% of all offences in the Whitehorse PSA.

A large number of offences have been recorded in the vicinity of local Public Transport Victoria locations, including railway stations and associated carparks. Theft from and of motor vehicles has been prevalent in the vicinity of Blackburn and Mitcham Railway Stations in particular, with other offences such as burglary and theft (other than shop steal) occurring in the vicinity of these locations.

Neighbourhood Watch Whitehorse can be contacted by email at whitehorse@nhw.com.au, by phone at 0418 596 831 or by post at Laburnum LPO, PO Box 5005. More information is available on their facebook page at facebook.com/NHWWWhitehorse and on their website at nhw.com.au/whitehorse.



Box Hill Community Bakehouse

– Eddie Chapman

Across the eastern suburbs, early in the evening, a small army of volunteers sets out on a twice-weekly mission to save a small mountain of delicious food from ending up in landfill. Every Thursday and Saturday, the Box Hill Community Bakehouse distributes this free food (including bread, baked goods, fresh produce and other items) to the local community with a smile and without question.

This initiative commenced during COVID-lockdowns in 2021 when local community members became aghast at the amount of food bakeries across the eastern suburbs threw out each day. They began with just one bakery but found that too much to distribute through their own networks and neighbours. Folks at Box Hill Baptist Church came to the rescue and within a few days the first Bakehouse event was launched on a Saturday morning.

It has quickly grown to cover bakeries across Whitehorse, Boroondara and Manningham and the shop opens twice weekly with over 80 helping make sure food goes to tummies and not landfill.

“We started with a mission to minimise food waste, but it has quickly grown into addressing all sorts of needs,” said Lynne Dyer, the coordinator of the Community Bakehouse. “Food poverty is unfortunately still a very real problem in our neighbourhood. But we’re also helping to address social isolation, bringing people together and breaking down barriers of age, language, background and culture.”

While free food programs are not unusual in our suburbs, the Community Bakehouse refuses to consider what it does as ‘charity’, or to see the people it serves as ‘in need’. “While we know that some come to the Bakehouse because they are struggling financially, we always stress they are important partners in our work to help the environment by reducing food waste. Everyone is welcome no matter how much or how little they have” said Eddie Chapman, Executive Pastor of the Box Hill Baptist Church, which hosts the Bakehouse.

On a Saturday morning, in addition to free food, the Bakehouse also puts on a free morning tea and encourages people to sit down and have a chat with each other – building relationships and connections between



people who might never share a space at any other time.

“Loneliness and division are a real problem in our communities, which is tragic when you consider how many people there are living isolated lives in a growing city like Box Hill. We hope these small efforts can bring people together and help build friendships and support for each other.” Eddie continued.

The Thursday Bakehouse showed how this can be done when students from the local English language class (also hosted at the Church) saw what the Bakehouse was doing and were inspired to get involved. They now run the Thursday session entirely by themselves giving them a space to practice their English skills and building their confidence and purpose as they give back to their community.

It’s amazing what has grown in just over one year – how much food has been saved, how many people have been supported, and the new connections that have grown – all from an unwanted loaf of bread!

The Bakehouse takes place at 3 Ellingworth Pde, Box Hill every Thursday at 1:30-2:30pm and every Saturday at 7:30-8:30am. You can follow the Bakehouse at <https://www.facebook.com/boxhillbakehouse>

Eddie Chapman is Executive Pastor at Box Hill Baptist Church. He can be contacted by email at office@boxhillbaptist.org.au



Wish you could take a better photo?

– Pamela Rixon, Doncaster Camera Club

Doncaster Camera Club is holding a Beginners Photography Course in October 2022. This is a hands-on course delivered by photographers for photographers. Our members are very excited about running this course as it has been in the planning stages since before Covid. The presenters are all highly regarded and experienced photographers.

It will be run over four Mondays, 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th of October from 730 – 9.30pm plus a practical outdoors photography session. The cost for non-members is \$100 and includes complimentary membership of DCC. More details are available on our website and all enquiries are welcome.

Members of Doncaster Camera Club are again out and about with their cameras and actively taking photos. We are continuing to present photos at Club meetings and Special Interest Groups, as prints and digital images. Members find the discussion and feedback of their images is a valuable learning process. We are



Waiting for the fairy – Liz Reen



Eden Sunrise – Pam Rixon



Tiger – Peter Stone

also increasingly embracing social media as a means presenting images. We have several active Facebook groups and Instagram pages which are open to the public.

The Doncaster Camera Club is for anyone interested in photography. It is the place for both novice and more advanced photographers to share their passion for photography. Members come from many of the surrounding suburbs.



For more information, check out our website at www.doncastercameraclub.org.au. To contact Doncaster Camera Club, email doncastercameraclub@gmail.com or follow them on Instagram at [doncaster.camera.club](https://www.instagram.com/doncaster.camera.club) or on Facebook at [doncaster camera club – melbourne](https://www.facebook.com/doncaster.camera.club)

Neighbourhood Watch Whitehorse

Neighbourhood Watch is a community-based crime prevention program which aims to improve the quality of life within the Whitehorse neighbourhood by minimising preventable crime and promoting a safer community. The program relies on the community and the Police working together in a partnership to achieve these aims.

If you see a crime happening, call Triple Zero (000), if you have information about a crime, please contact CrimeStoppers on 1800 333 000.

Neighbourhood Watch Whitehorse is administered by a volunteer Committee which meets monthly and includes Police representation. There are approximately 600 volunteers working within Whitehorse, holding regular

meetings, producing newsletters and involved in about 30 field activities throughout the year.

NHW Whitehorse Needs Your Help

We need new people to join the NHW Whitehorse Executive and keep us moving forward. The current Executive Committee have done a fabulous job and achieved a great amount over a number of years, but it is now time for the ‘old’ to step back and the ‘new’ to step up.

We urgently need new Executive Committee members and Coordinators for various activities such as:

- Safe Plate Days – 2 or 3 days run each year on a Saturday in association with Victoria Police and Bunnings Vermont South and Box Hill

- Annual Community Meeting – a once-a-year gathering of the community to hear from experts in the field of community safety and our local Police

Please email us at whitehorse@nhw.com.au if you think you could assist Neighbourhood Watch Whitehorse with these and many other tasks we undertake throughout the year.



NHW Whitehorse on Facebook

You can visit our Facebook page (#NHWWWhitehorse) for up-to-date information on our latest activities and general safety information. Please visit our page – facebook.com/NHWWWhitehorse





Activities for the retired and semi-retired at Ringwood U3A



Ringwood U3A is a relatively small, friendly organisation that runs a wide variety of classes. On offer are a wide range of exercise classes including Tai Chi, Yoga, Shibashi, Line Dancing and Dance to Music, as well as Table Tennis. Equally important are the very active Discussion Groups which enhance our knowledge such as Current Affairs and Elders and the Law.

You may be interested in diverse and informative Courses such as:

- Drawing and Sketching, Writing and Card Making
- Poetry, Music, Film and Art Appreciation

- Computer assistance and free basic digital skills mentoring
- Foreign Languages and Family History
- Out and About Excursions – always enjoyable and strengthen friendships
- Wine Appreciation and Quilting.

Importantly, you may have a skill/interest that you would like to share with and enthuse our current membership. You will be pleasantly surprised by the level of interest that is generated by this input.

Find out more about joining us, current membership fees, courses and activities on our easy to navigate website at www.u3aringwood.org.au or email us info@u3aringwood.org.au or phone 0481 591 224

New research reveals how Australians feel about end-of-life, death and dying

The Groundswell Project

New research has revealed the attitudes, behaviours and experiences of Australians around death, dying and end-of-life planning. The study, commissioned by the not-for-profit The Groundswell Project Australia, reveals that while nine in ten (87%) Australians believe it is important to do some end-of-life planning, only one in three (35%) have actually taken action.

The research shows that almost two in three (64%) Australians feel there are challenges and barriers to them undertaking end-of-life planning. Reasons include death and dying being too emotional to think about (14%), not knowing where to start (17%), or where to get help or information (16%) and not understanding their choices when it comes to end-of-life (15%).

However, the research also explored the perceived benefits of end-of-life planning at all stages of life. Most profoundly, Australians say that if they were to die unexpectedly, having some end-of-life planning in place would help the people they care about. With almost half (48%) saying it would lessen the mental burden of organising financial and legal affairs on their loved ones; and two in five (40%) believe that their loved ones would be comforted by knowing for certain what they want to have happen after they die. Almost a third (30%) believe it would help their loved ones grieve and heal more readily.

Cherelle Martin, Dying to Know Campaign Manager at The Groundswell Project Australia, says that these results reinforce the importance of reshaping the way we approach death in our communities, especially at a time where the COVID-19 pandemic has changed how we live, die and grieve.

“Death is often over-medicalised and institutionalised. Our superstitions, fears, discomfort, and lack of knowledge about dying affect our approach to end-of-life. This new data emphasises that Australians think conversations – and action – around end-of-life is important,” said Cherelle.

“This new research highlights the many ways in which people can feel ill equipped to act or start a conversation. Sadly, this can mean that end-of-life experiences are not aligned with an individual’s values, preferences or wishes.”

“At a time where our mortality is a part of our collective consciousness like never before, it is crucial to ensure that we normalise conversations around death and dying, so Australians can ‘get dead set’,” said Cherelle.

The Groundswell Project Australia’s Dying to Know campaign aims to improve death literacy and positivity in individuals and communities through local events. Death literacy is the knowledge, compassion and practical skills that enable supportive action and active decision-making around someone’s end-of-life choices.

Three ways Australians can ‘get dead set’:

1. Capture your choices in writing. Like a will, substitute decision maker and guidance on your social media or organ donation. These could be documents, or as simple as a text or scribble on a serviette to start.



2. Have conversations with loved ones and others so they understand your wishes – and you understand theirs.
3. Prepare your send-off. Share what you want it to look like so you can be celebrated and remembered in line with your wishes.

The national campaign asks people of all ages and stages of life to ‘get dead set’ around the reality of death and dying – because it’s going to happen to us all. The campaign invites Australians to overcome their fears or discomfort around death and take action on end-of-life planning in a way that is right for them. It outlines simple steps people can take around end-of-life planning, which is personal and unique to everyone.

The Groundswell Project works with individuals, organisations and communities to improve how people in Australia die, care and grieve. We run educational workshops, develop innovative programs and advocate for a better end of life experience for all.

To find out more about their work, go to their website at <https://www.thegroundswellproject.com/> or contact Aphroditi Zafiropoulos at aphroditi@palin.com.au



Embrace Education Thoughtful tutors who want to bridge the education gap

– Yolanda Torrisi

Embrace Education is a volunteer group of tutors helping disadvantaged students obtain access to free tutoring. The pandemic has created new educational needs for students and the club is in urgent need for more tutors and financial support. The group is calling out to thoughtful individuals who want to share their knowledge and aptitude to lift the learning abilities of disadvantaged students around Melbourne.

This year Embrace Education celebrates 16 years since the club began in 2006, the brainchild of Monash student Emil Kogan and a group of Monash University students. True to its original mission, university students provide quality education to disadvantaged high school students around Melbourne, free of charge.



The importance of co-learning assistance in the classroom is a bonus to teachers. Forest Hill Secondary College teacher Chrissie Chen, a teacher of 15 years, says the Embrace Program has brought a higher level of confidence among her students’ ability to grasp new concepts.



“Embrace Education tutors are often willing to spend their own time preparing for the additional help students need,” Chrissie Chen says. “Studying has been made tougher for students in recent years. Only a small number of students were able to study effectively with the online learning delivery during the pandemic. For some, they are unable to use their time effectively when learning online. Tutors make a difference in many disadvantaged students’ lives and I encourage more university students to join as tutors.”

Embrace Education tutors Lia Greenhalgh, a third year Melbourne University medical student and Qirui Soh who is studying engineering and design also at Melbourne University, are two who provide educational assistance to students in need. Both believe that every student deserves equal access to education and encourage more people to think about joining

Embrace Education, giving up a little bit of their time to make a difference in a student’s life.

Our mission is to empower more disadvantaged students and we need your help. Every donation makes a difference in a student’s life. We are extremely grateful for every support and assistance we receive from our community. Your donations will go towards strengthening Embrace Education’s impact, such as tutor recruitment and training, coordinating the programs and helping supply resources to students and tutors.

Anyone interested in tutoring or sponsoring Embrace Education or wanting more information is invited to contact Jack Petereit, President – South East Chapter by email at: president.monash@embrace-education.org or by phoning 0426 210 558

For general enquiries, email enquiries@embrace-education.org



North East Melbourne Orchid Society

Registration No A0027919Z

ORCHID SHOW

Saturday 17th September 2022 9.00am - 4.00pm
Sunday 18th September 2022 10.00am - 4.00pm

ADMISSION \$5.00
CHILDREN UNDER 15 FREE

BULLEEN HEIGHTS SCHOOL
 221 MANNINGHAM RD
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A large variety of orchids on show and for sale
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Quality refreshments and light meals

All enquiries: Contact Peter Moskovic 0418 110 345 / info.nemos@gmail.com



New law says sex workers deserve a fair go in the City of Boroondara

The City of Boroondara’s engagement with the sex industry has been non-existent for decades, with the conservative council effectively outlawing all brothels and home-based sex work. But this will change with new state-wide laws being introduced throughout 2022 and 2023.

In March, the *Sex Work Decriminalisation Act 2022* became law, meaning sex work will be decriminalised in Victoria in stages. Victoria will be only the fourth jurisdiction in the world to decriminalise sex work, a move supported by sex workers’ rights groups, but strongly opposed by Council. All Victorian councils must now remove local laws which discriminate against sex workers.

There have always been sex workers living and working in Boroondara, and the new laws are designed to enhance the safety of their work conditions.

From December 2023, planning schemes will regulate brothels in a similar manner to hairdressers and will also permit home based sex work. Brothels will be permitted in more zones overall, although brothels in some zones will still require planning permits and will still be prohibited in residential areas. Existing planning, council, advertising, tax, health, and occupational health and safety laws will regulate sex work in the same way they currently regulate other types of businesses.

Last year, the City of Boroondara passed a motion opposing these reforms and endorsed a community awareness campaign about the changes. Six months on, no such awareness campaign has materialised.

Sex work was decriminalised in New South Wales 27 years ago, and from the perspective of local communities, little changed. Following decriminalisation

in Victoria, there will be no expansion of the size of the sex industry; as it is, street solicitation has been steadily declining for decades. There will be no change to the impact of sex work activities on the community, and any associated disturbance will remain unlawful.

The only change will be who to call in the case of any disturbance arising from sex work activities: after 1 December 2023, residents will contact their local council instead of the police.

The new laws also strengthen anti-discrimination protections afforded to sex workers. It’s about applying Australian values of a fair go – to sex workers as they live their lives.

Lisa Dallimore and Matthew Roberts work with Sex Work Law Reform Victoria, a not-for-profit led by sex workers lobbying for the legal rights of sex workers in Victoria. contact@swlrv.org.au



Pathways for Carers Boroondara

Hawthorn Community House has established a new support group in Boroondara, providing unpaid carers with an opportunity to connect with others and receive support, services, and resources. Supported by the Victorian Government and Interchange Outer East, the new Pathways for Carers group in Boroondara was formed in addition to almost 20 other groups state-wide.

The support group model allows unpaid carers of a loved one who is an older person, has a disability or mental illness to connect with other carers through monthly walks followed by a complimentary morning

tea, with guest speakers attending to provide information about services and supports available to carers and their local community.

Pathways for Carers project manager Michelle Willoughby said the groups helped to remind carers they are not alone. “We understand the importance of social connection and ensuring carers are not isolated, as well as reminding them about the importance of taking time out to focus on their own health and well-being.”

Pathways for Carers Boroondara was established through a state government grant and is intending to become self-sufficient in the future through local sponsorship.



“The goal of each group is to provide carers with peer-based support, information, services and resources, opportunities to be active and connect with other carers, connect with nature and connect with their local community,” she said.



Special mention to Carolyn Cuming from Hawthorn Community House for facilitating this group and greeting carers with empathy and understanding. The next group meet will be on Thursday, August 18, beginning at Hawthorn Community House at 32 Henry St, Hawthorn.

For more information, carers can contact Hawthorn Community House on 9819 2629 or info@hch.org.au For more information on the program, visit www.pathwaysforcarers.com.au.

Do you, a friend or loved one qualify for a footpath riding exemption?

– Glennys Jones



Victoria and NSW are the only two states to impose age restrictions on footpath riding and whilst the age limits are well publicised, the medical exemption is kept relatively quiet.

Road rules for cycling:

Cyclists are required to obey the same road rules as drivers, plus some additional bicycle-specific rules. Like all road users, cyclists can be fined for failing to follow these rules.

Vic Roads provides a summary of the key road rules by topic and information about the penalties that can apply if you are caught breaking these rules. Those applicable to cycling can be accessed on its website at <https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/safety-and-road-rules/road-rules/a-to-z-of-road-rules/bicycles>

Obtaining a medical exemption to ride on paths

If you have a disability or medical condition that affects you when riding on the road, your doctor might think the footpath may be the safest space to ride.

Road Rule 250 1A(b) provides for a medical exemption for footpath riding to be issued by a registered medical practitioner on the basis of a disability or medical condition. Go to the Australasian Legal Information Institute website here <http://classic.austlii.edu.au/.../rsrr2017208/s250.html> to read the specific provisions applying for and using a medical exemption.

The doctor may add conditions and an expiry date to the certificate, if your condition is temporary or under review or state that your condition is permanent. Your disability or medical condition is a private matter so it is not necessary to be disclosed on the certificate or to police or others if you are stopped.

The medical exemption also allows your riding partner or carer to accompany and supervise you on the footpath, Road Rule 250 1A(c). You must carry the certificate with you and present it to a police officer or Authorised Officer when requested.

Suggestions:

Some doctors are not familiar with this exemption, so take a printed copy of the road rules and highlight the relevant section. You should identify how, where and when your disability or medical condition affects your riding on the road, eg: the physical demands of shoulder scanning, riding one handed whilst signalling etc.

It is worth carrying a copy, printed or digitised of the road rule with your certificate as not all police are across the footpath riding road rules. When riding on the footpath you are expected to keep to the left where practicable, avoid areas with lots of pedestrians and ride with caution.

Glennys Jones is a member of Boroondara Bicycle Users Group

Blackburn Lions Italian Affair

– Nelson Knight

Blackburn Lions members Sal Giambruno and wife Louise Webster are not having Italian affairs, but they did recently visit the club’s twinning Club in Italy. They were guests at a dinner meeting of the Lions Club of Pandino Gera d’ Alda Viscontea, where they presented an example of ancient Australian Indigenous artwork to Pandino Lions Vice President Selene Ogliari and an Appreciation Certificate for the club’s donation last year to Box Hill Hospital.

This gesture of goodwill from Blackburn Lions President Don Lucas and members of Blackburn Lions Club is in recognition of the club’s ongoing twinning relationship, charted on 15th April, 2000. Blackburn Lions Club has maintained exchanges of ideas and run joint programmes since the twinning charter and look forward to continuing further friendships between the two clubs. Vice President Selene and members of the Pandino Lions Club were very appreciative of the gifts from Australia and made Aussie guests Sal and Louise feel very welcome.

Nelson Knight is a member of Blackburn Lions Club



Selene Ogliari (left)

The Fence

– Owen Clark

Now Tom, he is an angry man,
Embarrassing for his wife, Jan.
We’ve seen him blow his top before,
He told a child off with a roar
For walking on his concrete pour.
His anger soon became intense,
We wanted to renew the fence
That runs between his house and ours.
You’d think we’d stomped on all his flowers,
The way he carried on for hours.
Ten years we’d lived across the road,
Good vibes between us often flowed
Before we bought the house next door.
Sharing freely with our favours.
We were then the friendly neighbours.
But now, with noses in the air,
Pretending that we are not there,
They treat us in a different way,
And when we wave and say good day,
They’re silent, and they look away.
The problem, it has grown immense,
The simple matter of a fence!
In this exchange, no one will gain,
And this is such pointless pain.
As neighbours go, it is a shame.
But still, we’ll smile and say good day,
And hope there comes some future day,
When neighbours will forget their pain
And come what may, hail, shine or rain,
We hope we can be friends again.

Building Bridges Through Story:

Further opportunities to delve deeper Ableism. Saturday 27 August



– Helen Bartlett

Following a shortened version of the **Building Bridges Through Story** event in March, due to COVID restrictions, Manningham Uniting Church is delighted to be able to present three further opportunities to delve deeper into stories of ‘Ableism’, Muslim Women and First Nations People. Each event will be on a Saturday afternoon, with afternoon tea provided, free of charge.

Story tellers and Q/A sessions will provide opportunities to discuss issues in greater depth in the hope that we can identify more shared possibilities for real action.



The first afternoon event will feature the personal experiences of ‘Ableism’ and will be held on **Saturday 27 August** from 2.00-4.30pm, at 109 Wood Street, Templestowe.

Ableism characterises people as defined by their disability and assumes they are inferior to non-disabled people. Stereotypes reinforce discriminatory attitudes and behaviours towards people who are disabled limiting their options for action or change.

Speakers will be:

Maddie Fogarty – a young person with a disability who grew up in the main stream school system and has experience with exclusion due to her disability and a story of self-discovery and identity.

Matt Simpson – a young adult with a disability who grew up in special school experiences, lives independently and runs his own business. Matt uses a range of communication devices and has experience with people

assuming intellectual disability as a result of his non-verbal communication.

Susan Arthur – parent with a disability whose child was taken away by protective services. Susan started a support group called Positive Powerful Parents.

MC – Mary Henley-Collopy – someone who experiences disability as a result of thalidomide (a drug used as a treatment of morning sickness in pregnant women in the 50’s and 60’s which subsequently caused babies to be born with a range of disabilities). Mary sits on a range of boards, is social work trained, has a wonderful contextual understanding and was a speaker at the last BBTS event.

Each speaker will tell their story with a focus on their experience of ableism and how it has impacted on their life.

Photo: Mary Henley-Collopy

For those not able to attend physically, there will be an opportunity to participate online. Contact 9846 2012 for enquiries. Information will also be posted on the Building Bridges Through Story website: <https://buildingbridges.events/>

How engaged are you?

– Chris Trueman

The recent Federal election showed a high level of discontent within the community, much of which was due to resentment that community views were not being reflected, or even considered, when decisions were being made in parliament. Independent candidates came to prominence with many being elected and many more turning previously ‘safe’ seats into marginal ones.

The ‘Independents’ were perceived by electors as representing their community’s view on key issues. People wanted to be heard and to have their views part of the decision-making process. They wanted real community engagement that helped make a difference.

People want this for state government and local council decisions too.

The Victorian Government recognised this when they passed the Local Government Act 2020. Councils are required to adopt and maintain a community engagement policy that must, amongst other things, be developed in consultation with the community and give effect to principles listed in the Act.

The intent of the Act is described in the document accompanying the Act entitled “Principles of Community Engagement”. It notes that the Act has at its core, ‘... the aim of ensuring all Victorians have the opportunity to engage with their council on local priorities and the future of their community [including] a legislated requirement for local government to engage with their communities in more effective ways.’

Community engagement is seen as encompassing “... a range of practices and processes, from a simple online poll, through to elaborate citizen juries. The Act does not define any type of community engagement that councils must employ. However, it does ensure that at a minimum, a council use deliberative engagement practices in developing certain documents and processes, including strategic and financial plans.”

“Community engagement, when well-planned and genuine, can be a positive and productive practice. The intent of the Act is to encourage this by assisting councils to build capacity in deliberative engagement and for it to become usual practice, rather than an exceptional exercise.”

Well, how is all this going? How engaged do you feel? How are the Councils faring?

A recent e-book by Melbourne writer and researcher Sally Hussey “Future Skills for Engagement Practitioners” written for IAP2 Australasia, has the by-line “*Would unlocking stories of failed engagement evolve the practice of engagement in Australia today?*”

This quote caught my eye.

People [within Council] who are the most passionate and committed to doing engagement don’t have a lot of authority. They go and do a [training] course and they get very enthused about it and when it comes to trying to apply it, or practice it, they find they’re brought on very late in the piece. That the project has already been mapped out. Internally, the idea of engagement is basically marketing how good the project is and people are told to make sure they manage the community so there’s no opposition

I’m sure this resonates with anyone reading this who wonders why a Council (or local authority) didn’t ask **before** they did something that is often not in line with community expectations. Then they did some publicity in the guise of engagement – something obviously designed to get the community to ‘tick the box’ to confirm their actions.

Hussey’s book is an excellent resource for anyone wanting better community engagement (isn’t that most people?), and especially for Councillors and Council

IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation



IAP2’s Spectrum of Public Participation was designed to assist with the selection of the level of participation that defines the public’s role in any public participation process. The Spectrum is used internationally, and it is found in public participation plans around the world.

INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION					
	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

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Image credit: <https://organizingengagement.org/models/spectrum-of-public-participation/>

officers. If we can’t learn from past experiences, how can we progress? If we can’t have infrastructure to meet the community expectation, why are we building it?

Whitehorse’s Community Engagement Policy

In February 2021, Council endorsed the first Whitehorse Community Engagement Policy. The policy sets out their community engagement commitment and explains how the community can expect to be involved in decision making. They are currently seeking final feedback on their draft Community Engagement Handbook. You are encouraged to participate in the survey on the Council’s Have Your Say page at <https://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/about-council/have-your-say/community-consultation-and-engagement>. The survey closes on 26 August.

Chris Trueman lives in Blackburn. He is a keen Active Transport advocate and is a Committee Member of WATAG and CROWAG.



English Corner

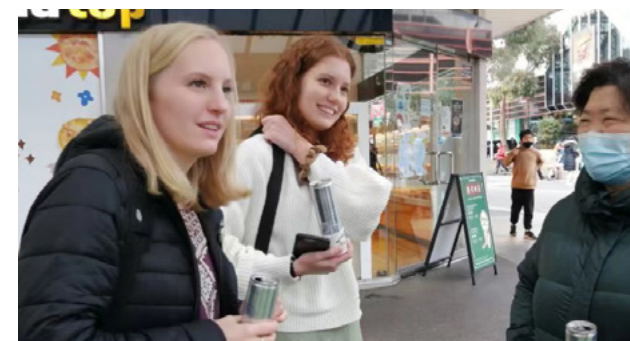
– Minwen Wu

English Corner is an initiative of the Chinese Australian Network (CAN), a recently formed, not-for-profit organisation that aims to bring the Whitehorse community together and build social cohesion. CAN seeks to provide a new way for Chinese Australians to learn about the local community while practising English. More than 15% of our residents come from a Chinese background and a very high percentage of our Mandarin speaking residents have a very low level of English which makes navigating community life very challenging.



The English Corner was started in November 2020 at Box Hill Gardens. Since then, it has been meeting from 10.30am for one and a half hours every Saturday except during lockdowns. A weekly Zoom meeting was also started in July 2021. In April 2022, English Corner moved to the Box Hill Mall.

The Chinese Australian Network, and its English Corner initiative strives to help Chinese Australians in the City of Whitehorse improve their conversational English by socialising with English speakers. It creates informal opportunities for cultural and language exchange and provides a welcoming platform for Chinese Australians to learn more about life in Australia and receive practical information about local services and community life.



Given the area is home to two major universities, Deakin and Monash Universities, as well as a number of TAFE campuses, reaching out to international student populations is also significant. Connecting with CAN and English Corner provides a welcoming way to understand Australian life, and gain practical insights into the local area and services available.

The recent experience of the COVID-19 pandemic has shown how important it is to look after one another in our communities and connect with local services and organisations. CAN’s contribution is significant in enabling this connection. Go to the English Corner website at <http://englishcorners.com.au/> to get more information and to access English language learning resources.

Challenging racism in Melbourne's East

Whitehorse News – July 2022

When it comes to stamping out racism, it is important to listen and learn from those in our diverse community who have experienced it firsthand. Amplifying Community Voices in the East (ACVE) is a project supporting five leaders from the local Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) community to become ambassadors against racism.

The initiative will be led by the Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC) in partnership with Indiancare, the Centre for Holistic Health and The Communities' Council on Ethnic Issues. The community leaders will participate in workshops that focus on challenging racism and sharing their voices and experiences of racial discrimination. They will also develop a video to educate community members on how to identify and report incidents of racial or religious vilification.

ACVE will work closely with migrants and refugees to educate and share stories about racism and what can be

done to support community members from diverse cultural and faith backgrounds.

Dr Chris Mallika Bhadra, one of the project participants, believes this project is an opportunity to raise the issue of racism for those who may not otherwise have a voice. "I want to create a platform for people who can't speak for themselves. Racism is a big issue. If I can help amplify the voice of even one person, I feel something is accomplished."

The final stage of the project will see the group speaking to the media, local MPs and workplaces, sharing lived experiences of racial discrimination to inspire systemic change.

ECLC CEO Michael Smith believes the project will equip leaders with the tools to empower others to challenge racism in Melbourne's eastern suburbs. "These leaders are experts on their community and their experiences of racism. Rather than speaking for them, we're working together to amplify their own voices and influence positive change. The project builds on the close connections and trust that ECLC has built with diverse cultural and faith communities over many years."



Back row: ECLC CEO Michael Smith, ECLC Director of Partnership and Community Engagement Donna Askew and ECLC ACVE Project Coordinator Capella Henderson. Front row: Communities Council on Ethnic Issues Community Representative Saarah Ozeer, Centre for Holistic Health Service Coordinator Ada Poon, Communities Council on Ethnic Issues Community Representative Dilnaz Billimoria, Indiancare Manager Dr Jyothsna Rao.

A new space at Forest Hill Chase

revitalising and reconnecting
a COVID fatigued community

– Kerry Pell

Meet your place at the chase – a new community space at Forest Hill Chase that hopes to become your home away from home. Located on the second floor in the old Melbourne Bank (opposite Australia Post) we are banking on far more than just a friendly exchange. This is an initiative of Whitehorse Churches Care, a charity made up of 29 churches working together across the City of Whitehorse and across all denominations. WCC was established about 3 years ago to facilitate and coordinate, unified care efforts across the city.

Over the next month, the space will begin to offer a range of activities from information sessions and one off workshops to community meet up groups and gatherings through to a range of interest classes and programs at low to no cost. There is even an art gallery, space for intimate music, spoken word and theatre performances and a full scale community multidisciplinary arts project in the making. All this in a bank? You can bank on it. Ok, ok, enough with the bank idioms, you get the idea, we are offering you and your friends, family, school, organisation, team, neighbours, everyone a blank check that won't burn a hole in your pocket.

Pop in with your cuppa (it's a BYO deal) and have a chat, join in on one of the many drop in activities we have going or simply rest your weary limbs in a space you know you won't have to leave until you are good and ready. We're working on our facelift and have some fun workshops and activities planned to get many helping hands in there making it look like and feel like your space.

Don't see anything here that's right on your money just yet? Find Kerry or one of her team and tell'er/



him (ooooh, almost a bank pun) and we will try to get something going (also, if you'd like to join the team, there's a place for you there as well – just pop in and let us know or follow the links on our website). We are so keen to hear your ideas and have you help us make this OUR PLACE. All of ours. Something for everyone regardless of age, ability or cup of tea.

Be sure to bookmark our website and follow our social media to stay up to date with all the happenings and become part of the extended family of our space at the chase. Share it with your friends and community and let's spread the word so this can become "just what we all need" after a looong two and a bit years.

Kerry Pell is the Executive Office of Whitehorse Churches Care.

More information on the space is available at www.foresthillcommunityspace.com. To find out more about Whitehorse Church Care (WCC), go to their website here: <https://whitehorsecchurchescare.org.au/>. Please note *Eastsider News* has sought reassurance from WCC that the primary objective of the Forest Hill Chase Space is to support the physical and social well being of people seeking help in time of need.

Banning of the Nazi Swastika

– Paul Hamer



On 21 June this year, legislation passed the Victorian parliament making it a criminal offence for a person to intentionally display the Hakenkreuz (or Nazi swastika) in public. The passing of this legislation sends a clear message that the dissemination of Nazi and Neo-Nazi ideology through the public display of the Nazi symbol has no place in Victoria.

Of all the legislation that has come before the 59th Victorian Parliament, this was the most personally significant. Melbourne is home to the largest population of Holocaust survivors per capita outside of Israel; many of these survivors – including my own father – live in Melbourne's eastern suburbs.

My father was born in Łódź, Poland in 1937. When war broke out, his family moved to his mother's home town of Staszów. During the early part of the war, terror, shootings and beatings on the street were a regular occurrence. In 1942, all the Jews in the town were forced into a ghetto; later that year, the ghetto was 'liquidated' with all the Jews moved off to the nearby death camps. Fortunately, my father, who at that stage was about five years old,

managed to escape the ghetto before the liquidation with other members of my family and hide in the forest.

For many communities, the swastika is an ancient and sacred symbol of peace and good fortune (the legislation permits the display of the swastika for these religious and cultural purposes). But the Nazis hijacked this ancient symbol and used it as a symbol of hate. It was a symbol that reinforced the control that the Nazis had over the population and led to one of the darkest chapters in human history.

Sadly, the use of Nazi symbols did not disappear with the defeat of Nazi Germany. The Hakenkreuz continues to be a symbol of antisemitism and vilification, and its public display does nothing but cause further pain and division. In recent years, Victoria has seen a rise in anti-Semitic activity, including through the use of Nazi symbols. During the 2022 federal election, posters of Jewish politicians were defaced, and as recently as last month, a constituent of mine showed me an anonymous letter posted to them from their "local Aryan Communications Controller".

It is sad that such an offence is required, but for my family and all others who suffered during this period, I was proud to be part of this change.

Paul Hamer is a member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly since November 2018, representing the seat of Box Hill.

Schwerkolt Heritage Family Day is Back

Whitehorse Historical Society

The Whitehorse Historical Society Heritage Family Day is returning after a two-year Covid hiatus. It will be held between **11am and 4pm on Sunday 11th September, 2022** at the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex, 2-10 Deep Creek Road, Mitcham.

The new pathways throughout the Complex have made the area accessible for all and the BBQ and playground area have been upgraded. Make this a day for the whole family by packing a rug and bringing a picnic and settling in to enjoy the day.

Schwerkolt Heritage Family Day is a free event that is a major part of the annual Whitehorse Heritage Week that runs from Thursday 8th to Thursday 15th September.

Many of the displays this year will be in marquees around the property to assist with social distancing however our ever-popular old fashioned children's games and picnic races will still be held in the Schwerkolt Cottage garden.

There will be the opportunity to see lost trades such as wood turning and black smithing together with demonstrations of lace making, tatting, basket making and spinning and weaving. Tours of the Cottage will be available and you can join a walking tour to discover the location of the other houses built on the property and hear the stories of what happened to them.

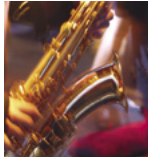
Brumbies Bush Band will provide their fabulous music on the day and there will be an animal farm, story-telling tent, Chinese brush painting and a craft activity provided by the Box Hill Community Arts Centre to keep the kids entertained. A brand-new attraction will be a Giant Bubble experience where both kids and adults can have a hands-on opportunity to make their own giant bubbles and also watch a giant bubble demonstration.

The Vintage Drivers Car Club will be displaying their vehicles and the Whitehorse Square Dancing Club will be providing demonstrations during the day.

Take a break from the activities by enjoying a delicious Devonshire tea provided by the Whitehorse Historical Society from the Local History Room or enjoy a sausage from the Rotary Sausage Sizzle. Delicious coffee will be provided by Vivere Coffee and yummy home-made goodies will be available at the Society's cake stall where everything is homemade and extremely reasonably priced.

Congratulations to Whitehorse Historical Society. On 6 July, they became the first Community Museum to undertake and achieve Reaccreditation under the rebranded CMAP (Community Museums Accreditation Program).





Diary notes from a lover of the arts

– Rowan Streiff

The last week of July means the return of universities for Semester 2 and resumption of the beloved free concerts by students, staff, alumni and friends of the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music. Recitals are held weekly at Melba Hall on Monday lunchtimes and the Southbank Conservatorium on Tuesday evenings. The programs range widely from 12th century chant to contemporary Melbourne composers, from string quartets to Big Bands and jazz ensembles. These events are very popular so you are advised to book. Go here <https://finearts-music.unimelb.edu.au/events> to find the event you want to attend. When you click on *view event*, you will be able to register for the event through Eventbrite.

The Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) also returns after a long winter break. ANAM is dedicated to the artistic and professional development of exceptional



Who is taking Victoria's playgrounds away? And where are they going?

– Mike Finke

Groups in Victoria have been showing up early in the morning in locations around the greater Melbourne area, carefully unbolting slides, flying foxes and climbing platforms and using heavy equipment to pull them out of the ground. Then they pack it all into trucks or on trailers and take it all away, leaving just tan bark and dirt. Who are they?

It's not a plot or a criminal syndicate. It's the Rotary Overseas Relocated Playgrounds (RORP) project, which works to improve things both locally and internationally. Here in Melbourne's eastern suburbs, the project is based in the Rotary Club of Nunawading and a member of that club, Bob Allardice, runs it in conjunction with other project leaders.



Playgrounds get replaced regularly. Sometimes, this is because demographics change. Recently a playground close to Burwood Brickworks was removed because it was too small to cater for the large number of new families moving into apartments nearby. Sometimes, councils have a set replacement cycle to cater for the fact that metal corrosion below the surface of the ground can't be seen without pulling a piece of equipment out of the ground. Sometimes, older play equipment is just a bit dated and out of style.

Normally, this equipment is discarded at the end of its life. While some components can be recycled, a lot of it goes to the tip, costing councils money and adding to the



young musicians. You have the opportunity to attend dozens of concerts, workshops and masterclasses at their base at Abbotsford Concert and also at the Melbourne Arts precinct in Southbank.

Go to their website here <https://anam.com.au/> or phone 03 9645 7911 to book your tickets.

Melbourne's Arts world is bringing two major exhibitions likely to relieve the winter cold. The Picasso Century is at NGV International in St Kilda Road until 9 October. It features over 80 works by Picasso alongside over 100 works by more than 50 of his contemporaries. ACMI at Federation Square is featuring Light: Works from Tate's Collection until 13 November. The exhibition celebrates how artists over the last 200 years have depicted light through painting, photography, sculpture, drawing, installation and the moving image.



Want to escape the traffic hassles and save on fuel costs? Take a relaxing train trip to visit one of our regional galleries. Both the Geelong Gallery and the Ballarat Gallery are only a five minute walk from the railway station and have fine permanent collections. Current exhibitions at Ballarat include the work of Lionel Lindsay and the Max Meldrum Circle. Close to home is the excellent Hawthorn Town Hall Gallery. The exhibition 'Above the Canopy' runs until 24 September and celebrates the diverse beauty of Australia's natural environment.



waste problem. Instead of paying landfill fees, councils pay money to the project to take the equipment away. Contractors the council uses to install new playgrounds help with some of the heavier work and have become very good at carefully ensuring it isn't bent or broken during the excavation process.

The equipment is checked over carefully to ensure everything is structurally sound and safe for reinstallation. Anything that doesn't meet standards is set aside for recycling. There's a network of volunteers who document everything so it can all be put back together later.

Eventually, playgrounds are shipped overseas. The project works with Rotary clubs around the world and has sent playgrounds to the nearby countries of Fiji, Sri Lanka and Papua New Guinea and as far away as Egypt, India and Mongolia. Once the playgrounds arrive, local Rotary clubs ensure the play equipment is installed correctly and safely. They're installed near schools and community centres. Often these are the first playgrounds some children have ever had access to, and they provide a safe place to play and enhance some of the education infrastructure projects also run by Rotary clubs in those areas.

It's a fantastic project. It has an environmental benefit here in Australia and improves the lives of children overseas. It's cost effective, run by unpaid volunteers and overseen by a network of Rotary club members around the globe.

There is, however, a growing challenge. The money provided by councils to the project in place of landfill fees used to cover a substantial portion of the cost to ship the playgrounds to other countries, but prices for shipping have increased dramatically over the last two years and this is no longer the case. So, in addition to welcoming more volunteers for the project, there's also a call for sponsors and donors. If you'd like to know more, get in touch at RORP.9810@gmail.com.

Mike Finke is a member of Rotary Club of Nunawading

Heritage Week 2022 We came to Whitehorse



Heritage Week is celebrated in the City of Whitehorse every year during September. This year, the celebrations will take place from 8 to 15 September.

The theme this year is 'We came to Whitehorse'. The Whitehorse area has always been a place where people can settle and start a home, work and socialise with others. Our history includes fishing, farming and coming together as a community and this is reflected in our shared cultural heritage.

Join the Box Hill Historical Society during Heritage Week

The Box Hill Historical Society will conduct a program of events during Heritage week. These events are listed below. To find out more about the Society, go to their website at <https://www.boxhillhistoricalsociety.com.au/>

They came to Whitehorse

What did they look for then and now?

When: Thursday 8 September, 10am – 10.45am
Where: Box Hill Town Hall – Matsudo Room, 1022 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill

Cost: Free

Bookings essential:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CAGWC>

Urban historian Emeritus Professor Graeme Davison will reflect on how COVID-19 has made us more appreciative of our own streets and neighbourhoods. He will discuss what we have looked for in our suburbs throughout history, and what heritage contributes to it.

We came to Whitehorse

Box Hill Vignettes

When: 8 to 15 September
Where: Online Digital Presentation
Cost: Free

Learn about a variety of people who called Box Hill home. Meet a proud Wakka Wakka and Waanyi woman, a conservationist, some entertainers, a police commissioner, and a field naturalist. Watch for further information on the City of Whitehorse website here: www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/heritage-week

They stayed in Whitehorse

When: Friday 9 September, 10.30am – 12.30pm
Where: Box Hill Cemetery, 395 Middleborough Road, Box Hill
Cost: \$15 – Special Heritage Week price

Bookings essential:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CAGOO>

Join members of the Box Hill and Surrey Hills Historical Societies as they take you on a tour of some of interesting people for whom Whitehorse became home.

We came to Whitehorse to have fun

When: Friday 9 September, 7.30pm – 10pm
Where: St Peter's Church Hall, 1038 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill
Cost: \$20 per person; or book a table of 8

Bookings essential:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CAGNV>

Test your brain cells and the extent of your trivia knowledge with our quiz master Rev Shane Hubner and help raise funds for the Box Hill Historical Society.

Chasing the Dragon's Tale

When: Saturday 10 September, 11am
Where: Box Hill Library – Bert Lewis Room, 1040 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill
Cost: Free

Bookings essential:
RSVP_boxhillhistory@gmail.com
by 3/9/22 to attend the launch event

The Box Hill Historical Society received a grant from the Victorian Government Support Fund and PROV to interview Chinese residents who have lived in Whitehorse for many years. Five residents shared their experiences. The four short videos will launch on Saturday 10 September at 11am in the Bert Lewis Room at Box Hill Library. A small exhibition of photographs will be displayed at Box Hill Library during Heritage Week.

For more information about Heritage Week:
www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/heritage-week



National Tree Day

Every year towards the end of July, the environmental organisation Planet Ark conducts its National Tree Day. Started in 1996, the event has grown into one of Australia's largest community tree planting and nature care event.

This year on Sunday 31 July, six members of the Blackburn Lions Club and eight environmentally conscious Whitehorse Omega Leos undertook a big day of tree planting and clearing along Gardiners Creek Trail with many trees being planted in areas where there was previously a lack of new growth. Well done and thank you to the team who did such great work adding to the local native flora.



The big chill what is a cold front?

A cold front is a feature we see every day on weather maps, particularly through southern parts of Australia. So, what are they, and should you put your outdoor activities on ice when one is heading your way?

The cold front shirtfront

Cold fronts can pack a powerful punch. In 2014 a sequence of strong cold fronts crossed southeast Australia between 22 and 29 June, bringing squalls and gusts in excess of 90km/h across many areas. In Melbourne and surrounding bayside suburbs the associated low pressure system caused a storm surge, large waves and tidal flooding. Flooding in bayside suburbs and along the Yarra River caused significant disruption to transport, as well as widespread coastal erosion.

Extensive storm damage was reported in Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia. In Victoria, more than 80 000 properties lost power and two deaths were associated with collapsed walls. Heavy rainfall later in the event led to flash flooding in northern Tasmania. Substantial snowfall was reported in the alpine regions of New South Wales and Victoria, elevated regions of Tasmania and the highest peaks of South Australia's Mount Lofty Ranges during this event.

While not all cold fronts produce such damaging impacts, abrupt changes in temperature, wind speed and direction, and rainfall are common features of cold fronts anywhere in Australia.

The cold, hard facts

A cold front is the leading edge of a relatively cold air mass moving into a region of warmer air. In the Australian region, warm moist northerly winds often occur ahead of the cold front, while colder dry southerly winds typically follow behind the cold front.

As the surge of cold southerly air moves northward and meets the warm air moving southward, a large difference in air temperature occurs and may extend as a 'line' across hundreds or thousands of kilometres. The biggest change in temperature occurs with the passage of the cold front, however this is not necessarily the coldest air. The coldest air may move over an area many hours after the frontal change, sometimes bringing snow in wintertime.

In summer, cold fronts can see temperatures plunge by as much as 10–15°C within the first 30 minutes. The air behind the front is colder, drier and denser (heavier) than the air preceding the front. This cold air pushes under the warm moist air lifting it higher in the atmosphere. This lifting can produce cloud, causing rain bands, showers or thunderstorms to form, generally within 100 kilometres of the front.

The surge of denser cooler air 'squeezes' the atmosphere ahead of it. This squeezing effect is like putting your finger over the end of a running garden hose; the water speeds up. The squeezing strengthens the wind ahead of the front. A front also usually brings a significant change in wind direction.

In Australia, this is typically from a northwesterly direction in the warm area ahead of the change, around to a southwesterly direction behind the change. Winds and

gusts strengthen the closer you get to the cold front, with the strongest winds just ahead of the front. Behind the front winds can remain strong and gusty for a period of time, making conditions particularly dangerous for mariners. Cold fronts can also move very quickly. A fast moving front can cover 100km in an hour.

When do they occur?

Cold fronts occur all year around, but they have different impacts throughout the year. In summer, strong northwesterly winds ahead of the cold front can bring very hot, dry air from inland over southeast Australia, leading to extreme fire danger. The wind change with the front can rapidly change the direction of any fires, further increasing the danger.

In winter, the inland air is cooler, but damaging winds and heavy rainfall can occur with the passage of a strong front, while snow can develop behind the front in the coolest air.

Cold fronts are generally stronger in southern Australia during springtime when the Australian continent is starting to warm up but the sea to the south is still very cold.

Want to know if a cold front is heading your way?

Look for yourself on our synoptic charts; a cold front is represented by a solid blue line with triangles along the front pointing towards the warmer air and in the direction of movement. If a cold front is expected to bring potentially dangerous weather, the Bureau will issue a Severe Weather Warning. Check the latest weather warnings at www.bom.gov.au

Courtesy: https://media.bom.gov.au/social/blog/1001/the-big-chill-what-is-a-cold-front/?utm_source=bom-blog-edm&utm_medium=email

Whitehorse Business Group 2022 Excellence in Business Awards



Entries are now open. Go to the Whitehorse Business Group website at <https://www.whitehorsebusinessgroup.com.au/business-awards> to nominate a business that you think deserves to win.

A previous award winner, Stephanie of Toepaz Dance Studio spoke about her award. "I was very grateful to have won the category 'Small Business' in The City of Whitehorse Excellence in Business Awards. The application itself helped me recognise the successes we have worked hard to achieve over the years and to win was an affirmation that our processes have stood up to the test, particularly after a pandemic.

We proudly hang the award in our front entry foyer as an acknowledgment to our Toepaz Dance Community's support over the years. As the winner it also gave me the opportunity to speak about the business through a

In the next edition

The deadline for articles for the next edition of *Eastsider News* is 25 September 2022, with the edition due to go online mid October. We try to maintain diversity and give priority to those which are time relevant, so make sure you submit your article as soon as possible at eastsidernews1@gmail.com

We encourage you to send us photographs and images that relate to your contribution. To get adequate resolution, please try to make them at least 250Kb and preferably larger at around 400Kb or more.

Page 9 Quizling Answers

1. Jenga
2. Baht+teak = batik

podcast and become more involved in the supportive community that is The City of Whitehorse."

All Award winners will be publicly recognised through the local media and industry category publications. This is an opportunity to maximise business presence and growth. For further information go to the Whitehorse Business Group website at <https://www.whitehorsebusinessgroup.com.au/business-awards> or contact info@whitehorsebusinessgroup.com.au for further information.



EastsiderNews

Guidelines for writing articles

The guidelines for writing for *Eastsider News* are:

- Length and quality: ranging from 400-700 words, occasionally longer, but always well written, and concise. Letters to the Editors may be shortened if they are longer than 250 words.
- Relevance: local public interest, but sometimes with a broader context
- Style: personal, but varied – story, humour, technical, creative, cartoons, etc
- Evidence-based: transparency about whether it is factual or opinion
- Language: can be expressive, but respectful and non-defamatory, with a focus on information, ideas, or issues,
- Text to be submitted as an unformatted Word document by email
- Photos and graphics: to be submitted as stand-alone jpegs by email to eastsidernews1@gmail.com. To get adequate resolution, we ask that your image has a resolution of 300dpi and is at least 250kb and preferably larger at around 400Kb or more.
- Author's information: name and suburb for publication, an email address for follow-up but not publication. An author's headshot and short bio is optional
- The Editors will usually accept material as written, but may make minor changes to improve clarity, readability, or focus.

The types of articles are expected to include:

- General interest: local environment, planning and development, social issues, health, etc
- Local activity centres and organisations: community centres, schools, churches, social groups, sports clubs, business, service clubs, universities, etc
- Socio-demographic groups: eg ethnic, age, ability, household types, etc
- Council business: Boroondara and Whitehorse ward reports, consultations, etc
- Personalities: interviews with interesting 'ordinary' people, and related events
- Culture, hobbies: art, music, recipes, eating out – and more.

We publish a new edition online every two months. We will also add to and update content on our website, and plan to do a limited print edition for community distribution when funds become available. Go to our website at www.eastsidernews.org.au to check out the current and past editions.