

Brown Hill Community Newsletter

Edition 32, October 2021

*A project of the Brown Hill Progress Association supported by the Brown Hill Community Partnership.
We are proud to walk this land with the Wadawurrung people and all other First Nations people.*



Brown Hill Progress Association's Vice President, Bernie Brisbane, with local Brown Hill family, Ashleigh, Charlotte, Harrison and Erin Kanoa. Image supplied.

Diary Dates

NOVEMBER

Monday 29: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill Progress Association meeting and Annual General Meeting. Brown Hill Hall. All welcome.

DECEMBER

Friday 17: Last day of School Term Four.

JANUARY 2022

Monday 17: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill Progress Association meeting. Venue to be confirmed. All welcome.

For more, visit: brownhill.vic.au

Brown Hill Reserve - Update on redevelopment

Brown Hill community feedback report on the proposed redevelopment concept for the Brown Hill Reserve.

In June 2021 the Brown Hill Progress Association (BHPA) decided it was time to initiate a community-wide conversation concerning the future of Brown Hill's ageing community pool.

With this in mind, an initial concept proposing redevelopment of the Brown Hill Reserve, including the Brown Hill Pool, was formed. The overarching theme was, "If or when the pool needs to be closed, how could its legacy be enhanced for future Brown Hill generations?"

In order to best represent the Brown Hill community, the BHPA needed to hear from local residents to see what they thought about the future of the pool and Reserve. The primary method used to gather feedback was an online survey. The survey was open for six weeks from mid-July to the end of August 2021.

To ensure that all residents were aware of the survey and reasons behind it, a Special Edition of the Brown Hill Community Newsletter was published and delivered to all 2,000 (or so) households in Brown Hill in mid-July. The Special Edition can be accessed online: brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-progress-association

Gathering Feedback

The online survey was the primary method for gathering feedback. A QR-code was widely distributed to provide easy access to the online survey. As not all residents are able to access online surveys, or feel comfortable doing so, other options were made available.

Options included: most of the back page of the newsletter was left blank for feedback to be provided and returned via the Brown Hill Hall letterbox; email; phone; post; paper copies of the online survey were also made available in local businesses. All comments received

...continued p.4

We acknowledge the Wadawurrung people and their ancestors who have been custodians of the Ballarat area for thousands of years performing age-old cultural ceremonies, celebrations and traditions.

We should like to acknowledge the Ballarat Aboriginal community, many of whom were forcibly removed from their families during the Stolen Generations decades and brought to Ballarat.

We would also like to acknowledge and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

In this edition

Hello Brown Hill! We are back.

Thanks for your patience and understanding as our volunteer team took a short break.

This edition is published online with limited (600, not 2650) hard-copies printed and distributed through local shops, schools, organisations and community groups. When the Brown Hill Progress Association is comfortable for our volunteer team to deliver again, we plan to return to putting a hard-copy in every letterbox in Brown Hill.

Until then, please help us to make sure as many people as possible see this edition. Email it to a friend and suggest they subscribe to our e-news, like and share it on the Brown Hill Community Newsletter Facebook page and/or print a black and white copy for a neighbour without online access.

We should like to thank Catherine King and Juliana Addison for their ongoing support through advertising. Also to the Water Street Cafe and Glen Park Primary School. The income for their advertisements in this edition covered the cost of printing.

About our Newsletter

This publication is a community project of the Brown Hill Progress Association. It is published quarterly in February, May, August and November.

Our volunteer team:

Editorial Advisory Committee:

Geoff Dickson, Brian Green and Sarah Greenwood-Smith

Editorial Support:

Anne Rowland, Dianne Vanderveer, Hazen Cleary, Sally McAlpin and Julie Hayes

Lead Writer: Louise Jones

Accounts Manager: Andrea Perrin

Proof Reader: Peter Morton

Social Media: Ellie Thacker

Over 20 wonderful local volunteers distribute the newsletter to all businesses and residences in Brown Hill with additional copies usually available at local businesses and community hubs. Electronic

copies are available on the Brown Hill Online Community Hub: brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/ or you can subscribe online or by emailing us: newsletter@brownhill.vic.au.

Contributions are welcome from the Brown Hill community. Articles are due by the first Monday of the month in which the edition is published to newsletter@brownhill.vic.au or in hard copy to the reception desk at Caledonian Primary School, Thompson Street, Brown Hill during school term and hours.

Edition 33 articles are due by **Monday 7 February 2022**. Please read the editorial policy regarding contributions before submitting an article or advertising: brownhill.vic.au/newsletter.

The views expressed or information provided in this publication are not necessarily those of the Brown Hill Community Newsletter Committee or the Brown Hill Progress Association, including any officers, members, agents or

contractors.

Occasionally, some content included in our newsletters may be upsetting for some readers. If you need support, contact numbers are available here: brownhill.vic.au/new-to-brown-hill/need-some-support/

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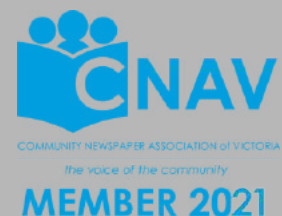
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Brown Hill Progress Association

Meet in the Brown Hill Hall (rear room), third Monday every month, 7.00 pm. All welcome.

bhpa@brownhill.vic.au
brownhill.vic.au

PO Box 1863, Bakery Hill 3354



As our printing costs are relatively low this time, we have not charged our 2020-2021 sponsors for including their advertisements in this edition - our way of saying thank you! Alongside the significant contribution of our editorial and delivery volunteers, the support of sponsors to this fantastic community project makes it financially self-sustaining.

Thanks to: **Gold Sponsor:** Andrew Johnson - Maxwell Johnson Real Estate. **Silver Sponsors:** Mount Xavier Golf and Bowls Club Inc., The Hair Room By Elaine and Waldron Heating and Cooling.

Bronze Sponsors: Ballarat Treeworks, Bakers Delight Bakery Hill, Cornerstone Learning, Dazzlin' Doggie Country Village, Jigsaw Puzzles Australia, Matt Wilson Electrical, Neil Pollard Plumbing, RCC Commercial Cleaning and The AFL Store - Ballarat.

We are now seeking Business Card and Banner advertisement sponsors for 2022. Please contact us if you are interested.

A key benefit of making a small profit is that we were able to invest in the planting of 180 trees at Narmbool in Elaine, owned by Sovereign Hill. This is a step towards being more eco-friendly.

Advertisement



Narmbool, home to an array of native birds. Image by Fifteen Trees (p.28).

Thanks to Brown Hill organisation, Fifteen Trees for making this happen. (p.28)

In this edition you can read the results of the recent Brown Hill Reserve survey (p.1) and an update on the mobile phone survey (p.11). There are reports from three local school principals (p.14-17) and stories from owners of two local businesses (p.8-9).

Our two local Neighbourhood Houses are offering online activities and information sessions while they continue to operate remotely (p.20-21). There is a yummy recipe from the Ballarat Wholefoods Collective (p.19) and a lovely story about people from different places coming together

to grow edible plants at the Ballarat Community Garden (p.25).

Thanks to Brown Hill local, Helen, who provided the copy of an article from The Courier printed in March 1967 (p.27). It is an interesting read!

It will be lovely to emerge from this challenging time and enjoy seeing friends and family face-to-face, supporting our local cafes, restaurants and businesses and seeing children back at kindergaren and school full-time.

See you again soon Brown Hill!

Sarah Greenwood-Smith, Volunteer Editor, Brown Hill Community Newsletter and Directory Committee
newsletter@brownhill.vic.au
brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/

Juliana Addison MP

LABOR MEMBER FOR WENDOUREE

📍 17 Lydiard St Nth, Ballarat VIC 3350
☎ 5331 1003 ✉ juliana.addison@parliament.vic.gov.au
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...continued from p.1

have been incorporated in the final report.

During the six-week period, BHPA intended to hold at least one or possibly two community get-togethers at the Reserve. This would have included a presentation of the current situation and discussion of the proposed redevelopment concept as an open forum for residents to have their say. However, with the unpredictability of COVID-19 restrictions, this did not happen. Another casualty of the COVID-19 restrictions were meetings planned with local community groups and schools.

Encouragement and reminders

As face-to-face encounters were severely limited due to COVID-19 restrictions, other means were needed to encourage and remind people that their input was important. Posters were displayed in local shops but the greatest assistance came from half-a-dozen Facebook users who regularly placed posts on their sites throughout the six weeks, including the BHPA Facebook page.

Keeping informed

All information about the redevelopment concept is available on the Brown Hill Community Online Hub: brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-progress-association/

Further updates will also be provided through this Community Newsletter.

City of Ballarat Councillors

Prior to the community feedback phase, all City of Ballarat Councillors were notified of what the BHPA was considering and each was invited to attend individual walk-arounds of the Reserve to obtain further details. Neither Councillors nor Council officers were involved with the survey.

Survey responses and other feedback

The purpose of the feedback phase was to find out what people had to say. Therefore, the survey provided several opportunities for Brown Hill residents to respond. This they did with the final collation of comments filling 23 pages. The full list is on the Brown Hill Community Online Hub. This survey is both qualitative and quantitative.

Even though the primary target group of the survey were Brown Hill residents (households), it is also apparent that many users of the pool and Reserve come from further afield, in particular the suburbs bordering Brown Hill. It was therefore important to include their feedback as well.

Except for Question 2, all data is based on respondents, including both Brown Hill residents and other pool and Reserve users who felt strongly enough to complete the survey.

At the end of August, the online survey was closed and all comments were collated. The majority of comments received via other methods responded to question 21. There was a total of 360 comments received, 344 through the online survey.

Comments were also received from local community organisations, including the Brown Hill Lions Club, Brown Hill Uniting Church, Brown Hill Kindergarten and Caledonian Primary School.

There were 330 respondents to the online survey. Of these respondents 258 (78%) were residents of Brown Hill, with the remaining 72 (22%) tending to be residents of nearby suburbs who use the pool and reserve.

Key findings from feedback survey

1) Over 75% of respondents were in favour of the concept of a redevelopment of the Reserve.

2) Over 81% of respondents were in favour of the pool closing if there was a possibility of having a pool in the future. This favourable response indicated that if the pool was to close, then any future use of the site should be so designed to allow for construction of a new pool.

Comments supported a preference for the Brown Hill community to have a pool. However, this did not mean the current pool in its present state.

Comments indicated a high preference for the pool to be replaced by a splash park.

3) Over 71% of respondents were supportive of the proposal that, if the City of Ballarat decided to close the pool, the community would be compensated for its loss.

4) Over 50% of respondents did not wish to retain the existing pool, no matter what; 14% wanted the pool retained, while the remainder were unsure. This indicates that there needs to be

more discussion around this issue.

5) The survey results showed that the history and heritage significance of the Brown Hill pool needs to be acknowledged and celebrated.

6) Over 71% of respondents were supportive of maintaining the overall style of the Reserve as outlined in the proposal.

7) In regard to individual features highlighted as possibilities, the clearest preferences were for the addition of a toilet block and picnic tables with shading. These features were also the least contentious.

Drinking taps, shading for the play area, solar lighting for the reserve, and replacing the pool with a splash park were also important to the majority of respondents. The rest of the proposed features had mixed responses.

8) In regard to a skate park, there were comments suggesting that the Reserve may not be the best place for a skate park and highlighting that one may be of greater value if built north of the freeway where currently there are no facilities for children. Comments also indicated that the addition of a pump track would also be welcomed.

9) Over 90% of respondents were in favour that any works for redevelopment of the Reserve be completed in time to celebrate the 120-year anniversary of the Reserve in 2023.

The BHPA's proposed modifications of the initial proposed concept

(Note: there were many suggestions put forward, which will be considered)

1) Brown Hill hall toilets to be



modified to allow a lockable external entrance.

2) A skate park/pump track site be explored north of the freeway.

3) Basketball hoop and half-court be included in the splash park complex. This does not need to be a full-sized half-court but more substantial than just a hoop, depending on the area available.

4) An off-lead dog enclosure to be made available along the Yarrowee River Trail/Wallaby Track – not in the Reserve.

5) When it is time to close the pool, redevelopment should be done in stages with the first stage being the pool site and toilets. A works schedule to be developed to minimise any down-time between the close of the pool and opening of the alternative.

BHPA's proposed way forward

BHPA to:

1) Form a Reserve Redevelopment Working Group to oversee community input and involvement in all stages of redevelopment project works.

2) Work closely with the City of Ballarat to ensure an efficient and smooth transition of the Reserve.

NOTE: All City of Ballarat Councillors have received a copy of the report and full list of comments.

3) Ensure whenever and wherever appropriate, BHPA members and residents can be involved in a hands-on manner in the delivery of project works.

4) Provide ongoing support to encourage appropriate sponsorship for various aspects of the proposed redevelopment and support any City of Ballarat funding applications for major works of the proposed redevelopment.

5) Work with the City of Ballarat in the exploration of a site for a potential skate park/pump track for Brown Hill, preferably north of the freeway.

6) Encourage City of Ballarat to formally conduct an oral history project to document the history and heritage significance of the Brown Hill Pool to Brown Hill and Ballarat.

A **very big** thank you to all residents and supporters of the pool and reserve who participated in the survey. It was a great response considering the COVID-19 factor. Hopefully we will be able to hold a community get-together once our world has settled down.

There will be future opportunities for residents to be involved and provide further input as things progress. We need to wait for a response from the City of Ballarat.

The full report is available on the Brown Hill Online Community Hub: brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-progress-association/brown-hill-reserve-potential-redevelopment/ along with the 23 pages of comments. We will keep everyone informed of developments through this newsletter.

Contact: Brendan Stevens, Secretary,
Brown Hill Progress Association
0409 018 867
bhpa@brownhill.vic.au

Brown Hill Reserve

Community consultation feasibility and master plan development study

The City of Ballarat has been working closely with the Brown Hill Progress Association on the future development of Progress Park – Brown Hill Reserve.

Now that the Brown Hill Progress Association survey is completed, the City of Ballarat has gone out to obtain the services of suitably qualified and experienced consultants to lead further community consultation, feasibility study and master planning for Progress Park - Brown Hill Reserve, ensuring all the key elements of the Reserve are included.

Key focus areas being:

- * Brown Hill Community Pool
- * Brown Hill Community Hall
- * Community Sporting Clubroom
- * Band Hall
- * Brown Hill Reserve (Oval) and associated infrastructure
- * Open space and connections
- * Yarrowee River Trail link
- * Playground infrastructure
- * Public toilets
- * Egress (means of access)

The tender opened on Thursday 30 September and will close on Thursday 14 October with evaluation and award expected to be concluded on 21 October.

Developing a masterplan for Progress Park - Brown Hill Reserve is to ensure suitable and equitable facilities for the tenants of the

Reserve and the wider community.

The plan will need to protect the character of the Reserve and ensure the enhancement of the sporting, social, environmental and heritage values that may be present while also considering and accommodating the long-term development aspirations of the tenant clubs, community groups and residents.

The importance of community facilities is clearly articulated in the City of Ballarat Council Plan 2011 – 2025.

Council and the Recreation Services team look forward to continuing this work with the Brown Hill community.

*Michael Hynes
Senior Advisor Strategy and Planning
City of Ballarat*



Victoria Bowling Club Inc.

The Ballarat Bowling Association was formed in 1894 with Ballarat, Central, Learmonth and Maryborough as the initial participating clubs: this followed on from the formation in 1883 of the Ballarat District Bowling Association, (BDBA).

In 1907 the BDBA clubs were

Ballarat, Central, City, North, East, Learmonth, Clunes, Buninyong, Creswick and Daylesford. Late in 1907 some residents living East of the Ballarat East Town Hall, which was in Barkly Street opposite the Fire Station, were interested in the possibility of a bowling club in their area. For most of them it was a long walk to the Ballarat East Bowling Club which was formed in 1904 and also the Ballarat Bowling Club.

"A meeting of the intending members of the Bowling Club, Victoria Street will be held at the Public Library, Ballarat East tonight at 8.00 pm," appeared in The Courier notices on Tuesday 12 November 1907. The next morning's Courier carried the paragraph – "Judging by the enthusiasm of the intending members of the proposed new bowling club in Victoria Street Ballarat East the club has a bright future before it."

The meeting decided to accept the offer of the Railways Department and lease two acres of land east of the Buninyong line, north of Victoria Street, at \$20 a year for 21 years.

This "Railway Corner" was constructed in the 1880s and the land was used for grazing the horses that provided the "Power" to make the railway cuttings.

The Victoria Bowling Club Inc was founded in 1907 and currently enters six teams in the weekend Pennant and four teams in the Tuesday Pennant of the Ballarat Highlands Bowls Region competition.

The Club is looking to build on the success that we have achieved both on and off the green in the

past couple of seasons.

Therefore, the Victoria Bowling Club Inc. is seeking experienced and inexperienced lawn bowlers for the upcoming 2021/22 Bowls Pennant season. Whether you have played lawn bowls in the past or would like the opportunity to play in the upcoming Ballarat Highlands Bowls Region pennant season we would welcome to the opportunity to welcome you into our Club.

If you are interested in playing lawn bowls with our Club, please contact me.

Alan Dennis, President/Secretary
Victoria Bowling Club Inc.
0437 369 423

Random Acts of Community

Most people will tell you that Brown Hill is a friendly community and over the last few months it has been refreshing to see kindness shared amongst locals, proving this point.

In July residents Jeremy and Andrew put themselves to work cleaning up rubbish around White Swan Reservoir. Equipped with their own trailer, children and near-expired tip passes, they did a



Where's Wally hiding in a tree at Russell Square, Brown Hill. Photographer: Sarah Greenwood-Smith

great job for the environment and the community. Thank you for your efforts!

In August the Brown Hill Auskick group held their final session. Thank you to Megan for her tireless efforts to keep the season running amid lockdowns, as well as the volunteers running activities and cooking the BBQ each week. Also, a huge shoutout to the kind family who donated funds to pay for sausages, soup and soft drinks for *everyone* at the final session.

In September, during lockdown seven, several families set up activities in the parks and walking

tracks for local children, while the playgrounds were closed. There was 'Where's Wally', 'Find Bluey', the 'AFL Trail' and 'Spoonville'. Thanks to all the families who set up these great activities. Residents of **all** ages enjoyed getting outdoors and breaking the monotony of lockdown.

No doubt there are hundreds of instances worthy of a mention, so these are just a few that were brought to our attention. If you have any great news or community kindness you would like to share with the neighbourhood, please email us: newsletter@brownhill.vic.au.

Louise Jones, Lead Writer

Advertisement

Catherine KING MP
Federal Member for Ballarat

03 5338 8123
Catherine.King.MP@aph.gov.au
[CatherineKingMP](https://www.facebook.com/CatherineKingMP)
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YOUR TREE CARE & MAINTENANCE PROFESSIONALS

Bringing Business to Brown Hill

As the background work continues for the future plans of Brown Hill, there have been several savvy business owners who have pre-empted the inevitable growth and development of the area.

In 2021 we have seen the opening of the Perridak Burrton Early Learning Centre, the Water Street Café and now Molly Pip & Co and Sole Mates. So, we wanted to find out exactly what drew these businesses to the area.

Sole Mates

Elyse and Michael, owners of Sole Mates, have operated their business online and at markets for 15 years. Since moving to Brown Hill in 2009 they saw an opportunity to open a store in Warrenheip (literally metres from the Brown Hill border).

Stocking everything from moccasins to ugg boots, rugs to work boots and much more, the location suited them perfectly. They liked the freeway store (near the Mill Markets) and close proximity to the Brown Hill exits, with customers coming from all over, including tourists and those seeking specialist items.

Elyse and Michael also love having a close commute between home and work, touting the community vibe, bush settings and proximity to Central Ballarat as their main attractions to living in Brown Hill.

When asked what could be improved in the area, they said the suggestions in the Brown Hill Reserve redevelopment proposal would be great to serve



Elyse and Michael with their baby, owners of Sole Mates in Warrenheip. Image supplied.

generations to come, such as the skatepark and splash park. As their own baby grows, they look forward to being part of the family community, using the facilities, sports groups and more.

Sole Mates

**9367A Western Highway,
Warrenheip**

4327 6240

facebook.com/solematesaustralia

Molly Pip & Co

Christine and Felicity, joint owners of Molly Pip & Co have always had ties to Brown Hill.

They attended Ballarat East High School and have been friends for

almost 40 years. Although they moved to other areas of Ballarat for many years, both decided to move back to Brown Hill more recently.

Like Elyse and Michael, they were attracted by the family-friendly atmosphere, the country bush settings with city access and the growing destination that Brown Hill is set to become.

Stocking affordable, high quality and unique ladies-wear, accessories and beautiful canvas art, their store is a unique destination to visit. Customers come from Creswick, Smythesdale and even Bacchus Marsh to visit the shop, so the location of the



Felicity and Christine outside Molly Pip & Co., Brown Hill. Image supplied.

store (in the old Brown Hill Post Office), is perfectly placed near the freeway exits.

Being outside Central Ballarat also means that parking is much easier. As Brown Hill businesses grow, visiting the shopping strip can become more of an experience, stopping for a coffee, a bite to eat and a pamper.

The retail hub is one area that Christine and Felicity would love to see improved as part of future plans for Brown Hill. A chemist, food outlets and other retailers would be great to see.

Christine and Felicity feel that the pandemic has encouraged people to shop locally, with click-and-collect during lockdowns taking off well and strong social media showing their products, making it easy for customers to shop. They look forward to being part of the Brown Hill community as it grows.

Molly Pip & Co

407 Humffray Street North, Brown Hill

[facebook.com/mollypipandco](https://www.facebook.com/mollypipandco)

Instagram: @molly_pip_and_co

We welcome these stores and their families to Brown Hill and are excited to see our community thriving and supporting new businesses.

Louise Jones, Lead Writer

Silver Sponsor



The 'Little Free Library' in Moola Street, Black Hill. Photographer: Louise Jones

Little Street Libraries

Have you noticed the little Street Libraries around Brown Hill and nearby?

These tiny boxes have a door, are often shaped like a doll's house or decorated with bright colours and placed at the front fence of a home. The idea is to place books inside for people passing by to choose and take home to read. In return, they can leave a book for someone else to find. Take a book, leave a book.

Books might range from children's picture books to crime thrillers and everything between. They are freely available any time of day, allowing everyone access to books to read.

We have spotted some in the Brown Hill vicinity and hear there are more to come. So keep a look out as you walk and drive around.

Little Libraries:

- 1) Humffray Street North (between Thompson and Brophy Streets, on the Brown Hill Uniting Church side).
- 2) Humffray Street North (opposite the Greek Orthodox Church).
- 3) Moola Street (Black Hill – Look for the rainbow - pictured).

To find more street libraries or register a new one visit: streetlibrary.org.au

Louise Jones, Lead Writer



Come and see us today for all your heating, cooling & hot water needs.
1107 Latrobe st Delacombe 3356
Tel. 5336 0000

Brown Hill FireAware

In this changing world, summer is always a constant.

No matter what is happening in this COVID-19-challenged world, summer is still on its way and it would be a good idea to use some lockdown time to prepare yourself and your family now. It will be too late on any extreme weather days that might come our way.

Take some time to review your written bushfire plan and talk about it with family members and know where each member will be on any days of extreme weather. If you live alone talk with your immediate neighbours and find out what each may be planning to do if a fire is in the vicinity. Remember what you might decide to do may not be possible so always consider alternative actions.

Here is a basic checklist for preparing your property:

1. Check that trees and shrubs still have space between them (horizontally and vertically) so they don't form a continuous canopy. Prune if needed.



2. Remove dead vegetation from around your home and prune lower limbs of trees.

3. Check with council to see if a permit is required to burn off garden waste or dispose of the material through mulching or at council rubbish dump.

4. Remove fallen branches and other debris, bark, heavy mulch, wood piles and any other flammable materials close to your home and sheds.

5. Ember-proof your home: seal gaps and areas under your home, verandahs or balconies; repair any loose tiles or gaps in your roof; cover windows, crevices and vents with fine wire; repair or fill nooks and crannies where leaves or embers could gather.

6. Slash or mow long grass and remove cut material.

7. Remove weeds.

8. Cut back trees overhanging your home. Trim hedges along fence lines.

9. Remove leaves from gutters.

10. Check and service all mechanical equipment, including grass cutters, water pumps, sprinkler systems and fire extinguishers.

11. Check insurance is still adequate.

12. Prepare / check your emergency kit.

13. Check your fire clothes still fit.

14. Review, update and practise your Bushfire Survival Plan.

If you don't have a plan go to the Brown Hill Community Hub: Be Bushfire Ready page - brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-are-you-bushfire-ready/

Watch the weather! Always be on alert on hot windy days.

Hazen Cleary

Brown Hill FireAware Network

Coordinator

0408 690 493

facebook.com/BrownHillCommunityFireAwareNetwork

Silver Sponsor



7 Sawmill Close
Brown Hill
0434 522 477

UPDATE: Brown Hill Mobile Phone Signal Survey

Just an update on the Brown Hill Mobile Phone Signal Survey. You may recall that the survey was coordinated by the Brown Hill FireAware Network in October/November last year. The survey was seeking input on the strength of mobile phone signals from residents in the Springs Road and surrounding areas.

In June the Victorian Government asked where they should prioritise better mobile and broadband connectivity. With this question comes \$550 million aiming to "give more Victorians access to business-grade broadband and upgrading mobile coverage, improving 4G mobile coverage, helping more places become 5G ready and improving access to safety information during bushfires and other emergencies".

To allow community feedback on areas of need, the Victorian Government launched 'The Connecting Victoria Mobile Phone/Internet Survey'. As this was in line with the Brown Hill Mobile Survey Team's lobbying efforts to improve mobile coverage in north Brown Hill, it letter-boxed the affected area of Brown Hill to notify residents. We are aware that over 50 residents



completed the survey, indicating they have poor mobile phone reception. The survey closed on 20 September 2021 and we are hopeful more completed the survey without advising us.

Michaela Settle MP is submitting our Brown Hill Mobile Phone Coverage Survey report from 2020, with a letter of support to Jaala Pulford, Minister for Resources, Small Business and Employment, to back our request that funds be allocated to improving mobile phone services in the Springs Road, Brown Hill area.

If you wish to keep informed of where funds are allocated go to: djpr.vic.gov.au/connecting-victoria/projects. We will continue lobbying and will keep residents informed via the newsletter. If you have any queries or suggestions please email us.

Jeff

Brown Hill Mobile Phone Survey Team
brownhillmobilesurvey@gmail.com

New Residents

Are you new to Brown Hill and want to know more about our great suburb?

Find out more at our Brown Hill Community Online Hub:
brownhill.vic.au/new-to-brown-hill/

Read the newsletter, discover the pool, find a local business, join a sports club or connect with a community group. There's a lot happening in Brown Hill!

The Newsletter and Online Hub are projects of the Brown Hill Progress Association created in 2016 with support from the City of Ballarat through the Engaging Communities Program / Brown Hill Partnerships.

Our volunteer team keep the Directory up-to-date by adding details of any businesses located in Brown Hill or owned by a Brown Hill resident. Local community, sporting and activity groups are also included.

The Brown Hill Progress Association usually meets at 7.00 pm on the third Monday of the month at the Brown Hill Hall. All welcome, but please let us know if you plan to come in case we are holding the meeting online.

Contact us:

bhpa@brownhill.vic.au
newsletter@brownhill.vic.au

Silver Sponsor



Come and enjoy our user friendly golf course and bowling green, open to people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.

PH: 03 5331 3691

Email: mtxaviergolfclub@bigpond.com
118 Fortune Street, Ballarat VIC 3350

New Golf and Bowls members welcome.
Take out a 2022 golf membership and receive the remainder of 2021 for free.
Summer Memberships now available (Oct-Mar)

Find us on 

Small hero – Tiny Home, Small Home, Granny Flat or Secondary dwelling

Gold Sponsor Advertorial

“More than half a million home owners across Australia’s eastern seaboard have enough space on their property to build a granny-flat which could boost home values by 30 per cent and add around 27 per cent to rental income.”[^]

Alternative forms of housing such as secondary dwellings offer:

* Diverse and affordable housing

options,

- * Opportunities for extended families to live together,
- * Ability for couples to downsize,
- * Extra rental options for the community.

Smart Planning has developed a code to facilitate small-scale ‘granny-flat or garden studio’ style accommodation on the same lot as an existing dwelling in a residential area. Key aspects of the code to guide the siting and design of secondary dwellings are:

- * A height limit of 5 metres.
- * A maximum floor size of 60 square metres.
- * The need to meet the minimum garden area requirements of the zone, along with other siting and design requirements assessed through the permit process.
- * No ability to subdivide.[#]

With an ageing population we all have loved ones who may in the future benefit from living with us but prefer their own privacy and space. So having the option to provide a tiny home or granny-flat on our land is great.

Living small, smart, comfortable and affordable is a great option to consider, so be your own hero and start the journey today.

Andrew Johnson
MAXJRE

[^]Source:
corelogic.com.au/news/granny-flat-could-boost-property-values-30-percent

[#]Source:
planning.vic.gov.au/policy-and-strategy/smart-planning-program/rules/secondary-dwellings-code

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MAXJRE Real Estate provides a new alternative and boutique personalised service to sell residential, lifestyle & commercial properties in Ballarat, Daylesford, Glenlyon, Ballan, and the surrounding regions in Victoria. If you're thinking about selling contact Andrew for a confidential discussion about your real estate needs.

MAXJRE Projects works with developers, investors and partners to provide solutions for Housing & Land Developments, Health Care, Aged Care, Hotels, Motels, Student Accommodation and Offices.

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Andrew Johnson, MEI, MBA
Managing Director MAXJRE, Licensed Estate Agent ☎ 0473 207 988
✉ andrew@maxjre.com 🌐 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/andrew-johnson-8435092/>



Please check out www.maxjre.com or call Andrew on 0473 207 988 to talk about our current off market listings and your own requirements.

Perridak Burron Early Learning Centre



Perridak Burron Early Learning have been thriving since our opening in February this year. This term we have been excited to launch our Ngarrwa Dja (Learning on Country) program which involves our Parrwang children venturing out to the local bushland each week. Teaching and learning on Country has been a traditional child-rearing and educational practice for our Indigenous Australians for over 60,000 years. Our Aboriginal Elders have been teaching generations of children educational concepts through connectedness to the land and its resources. Ngarrwa Dja provides the opportunity for children to learn through, connect with and care for Country by embedding Aboriginal perspectives and traditional land care practices. It has been a big hit with the children who have been very enthusiastic for their Ngarrwa Dja visits!

Perridak Burron Early Learning are currently looking for enthusiastic educators to join our team. If you would like to know more please contact us.

Our service is excited to be offering funded 3-year-old and 4-year-old kindergarten in 2022. If you are interested in a quality, culturally inclusive kindergarten



*Children on a bushland adventure.
Image supplied.*

program within the flexibility of long day care, please contact us.

Hayley Wilson,
Quality Assurance Officer
Perridak Burron Early Learning
340-348 Humffray Street North, Brown Hill
facebook.com/perridakburronel
5334 4727
admin@perridakburronel.com.au
perridakburronel.net.au

Brown Hill Community Hall

The roof for the Brown Hill Community Hall is scheduled for replacement from December 2021.

The Hall is currently operating under restrictions and will close at the end of November 2021. It is scheduled to reopen in April 2022.

Please contact the Brown Hill Community Hall Committee through hall.brownhill.vic.au or the City of Ballarat if you have any questions.

Scott Antonio, President,
Brown Hill Community Hall
hall@brownhill.org.au



Brown Hill Playgroup at Caledonian Primary School

Brown Hill Playgroup at Caledonian Primary School will be recommencing soon in the great outdoors.

For now we are not able to meet at Caledonian Primary School. We are finding other ways to get together with Playgroup families.

Jonah and Abel are so excited that they will be able to see their playgroup friends again.

I can't wait to enjoy some long overdue chats with other grown-ups, hopefully in glorious Ballarat sunshine.

Please follow our Facebook page, facebook.com/brownhillplaygroup, for updates or email us for more information.

Our Playgroup usually meets from 9.00 am - 11.00 am on Wednesdays during school term at Caledonian Primary School, Brown Hill. All parents and carers are welcome to join with their babies and pre-school-aged children.

Aimee Knight
Playgroup Co-Coordinator
playgroup@brownhill.vic.au
Caledonian Primary School
5332 6955

Caledonian Primary School

From the Principal's Desk

To the Brown Hill Community,

It was with joy that we welcomed our students back this term with junior students on site first, then Grade Three to Six students through a staged return. The school has begun to feel like a vibrant community once again.

In many ways the last 20 months have been like a roller-coaster with times of elation and hope and times when we felt it would never end. We have cleaner hands than ever, more vigilance with COVID-safe measures and it's been a long time since someone got a common cold.

For many months children, including my own, have been glued to screens for both learning and entertainment as we haven't really been able to do much else. At my house we definitely have some "issues" with screen time that we will need to overcome.

However, returning to some form of regular, on-site attendance, will hopefully alleviate some of these concerns as children once again play and learn together.

Positive interactions between peers is an important part of primary school and at Caledonian we are very fortunate to have a student population that cares and looks after each other. As the number of children on site has increased, the manner in which they play and include each other has been delightful. Although Grade Six students are definitely

entering the socially awkward phase, we hope to be able to conclude the year and their primary school time on a high note with no further disruptions!

We have been excited to get back into the pool for the first time since 2019 with swimming lessons. For some misguided reason, I personally volunteered to help with Prep classes. The only answer when it comes to getting bags packed and wet rash-vests removed is to go into "dad mode" or perhaps "production-line dad mode" would be a better description, as they line up, arms raised to get the rashie off. No one ever owns up to the last piece of clothing left on the changeroom floor!

Swimming lessons are amazing to watch. The smile on the children's faces as they overcome a fear, as they achieve a new trick or simply get a little play in the water with their mates, is wonderful...and that goes for all age groups!

We have continued to refine our approaches in English, with a particular focus on the junior grades. Structured synthetic phonics continues to be implemented across the junior team, combined with high-interest books. We have incorporated decodable and predictive books for children, catering for both phonemic and predictive approaches, picking the best out of the current research from both sides of the reading instruction debate.

Our NAPLAN results have also been incredibly positive this year with children having great success in Grades Three and Five. Academic achievement continues to be a focus as we work to

continuously improve our practice in the classroom. Many factors contribute including documented curriculum, sequential instruction and a positive learning environment. We are really looking forward to continuing this work in person as we return to normal school operations.

Spring is without a doubt the best season at Caledonian Primary School. We have 70 fruit trees on site and the blossoms brighten our entire yard. The gardens come to life and our grounds are lush and green. Children get their hats on and jumpers off and get to enjoy the outdoors. Being very fortunate to have over six acres of space with a safe fence all the way around gives our students a vast area in which to engage in creative games. We have increased the amount of skipping ropes, basket balls, soccer balls and other random equipment (including frisbee golf) which has encouraged kids to play together. Granted this means on Fridays we have equipment everywhere but it's worth it. A special mention to our former students (thanks Josh) who are now at Woodmans Hill Secondary College, who come past every Friday and help me collect the gear!

We are rapidly approaching the end of the year and we are aiming to find ways to celebrate within restrictions. We always find a way to ensure kids have some fun!

Prep enrolment interviews are still available.

Ben Moody,
Principal, Caledonian Primary School
5332 6955
caledonian.ps@education.vic.gov.au
caledonianps.vic.edu.au

Vale Casey

For a number of years, Casey the dog and John, his owner, were well-known on the streets of Brown Hill where they took a daily walk.

A highlight of their walks was the interaction with the children at Caledonian Primary School, Brown Hill Kindergarten and Brown Hill Playgroup at Caledonian Primary School.

John says, "I'm sure Casey enjoyed it as much as the children."

Sadly, Casey passed away on 20 May, 2021.

John would like to thank the children, parents and teachers for allowing Casey to be part of their daily lives. Many people gave John drawings of Casey by their children. They were much appreciated.

John O'Brien, Brown Hill Progress Association



Drawing of Casey, by Brown Hill resident, Kristen.

Bronze Sponsor



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Reading, Spelling and
Maths

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The weather is improving, things are starting to open up after a lengthy stretch of restrictions... so its time to start enjoying the company of those we like spending time with!!!

For all your bread needs drop in and see our friendly team who will make sure all your needs are met with our delicious products baked fresh from scratch every day!

Shop 6, 73 Victoria Street,
Bakery Hill Shopping Complex

Glen Park Primary School

From the Principal's desk

COVID-19 lockdowns at Glen Park

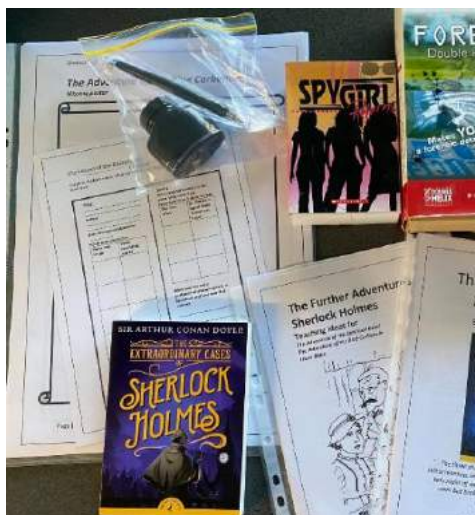
As we did last year, Glen Park provided 'learning packs' for individual students during lockdowns.

These packs were all self-contained and included reading, writing, maths and arts/humanities activities usually for 1-2 weeks. They would be collected by parents and changed over as required.

Every pack had all the work, learning tools, books and consumables needed, as well as detailed instructions for the learning material provided. In this way we replicated the learning we would be doing at school as much as possible and it also minimised the amount of time children needed to spend online.

Students took home their iPads which were loaded up with all the apps they needed, as well as the books and videos they might require.

Some children were able to attend



The contents of two learning packs provided to students. Image supplied.



school (children of essential workers or children accessing our tutoring program) and to learn as much as they would have done normally just with fewer students around.

Our open space and room to move both inside and in our school grounds has been a bonus during these times. We plan to enhance that by constructing a dedicated outdoor learning space which we plan to have in place in early 2022.

The only major disappointment this year has been that we have had to cancel our excursion program. Hopefully we can have a bigger and better one in 2022. Next year, as well as our outdoor learning space, we plan to replace our computers and our school fence.

Our students seem to have adjusted well (they were early in their uptake of mask wearing, long before it was mandatory) to the two years of lockdowns and they are all looking forward to a safe and busy year next year.

*Anthony Shaw, Principal
Glen Park Primary School
265 Ralstons Road, Glen Park
5334 5360
shaw.anthony.n@edumail.vic.gov.au*



Some of the students back onsite catching up and having morning tea. Image supplied.

Advertisement



*Just 4 minutes out of Brown Hill,
Glen Park Primary School is Ballarat's best kept secret.*

*Visit glenparkps.vic.gov.au and our Facebook page
(facebook.com/learningwithliterature/)
and see what learning experiences we can offer.*

Ring us on 5334 5360 to arrange a visit.

Little Bendigo Primary School

From the Principal's desk

This is an exciting time as all of our students are back on site! Over the last 18 months, our students have demonstrated their resilience, dedication to learning and positive attitude in challenging times. They have maintained their friendships through video meetings and phone calls - sharing their learning, thoughts and opinions.

Gradually life is returning to 'normal' and I am proud of our school community, students, staff, parents and families as we navigated through uncharted waters together. I admire the way our parents have juggled their own work and having children at home during remote learning.

Our new junior playground equipment has been installed and is very popular with all of our students! The fundraising committee raised funds over the past couple of years to make the playground possible.

As we head towards the end of the year, we hope that opportunities to go on excursions and have



Students on the new junior playground equipment. Image supplied.

visitors to schools will increase. I know that students are looking forward to end of year excursions and our Grade Six students are planning their graduation events.

We are all looking forward to a fantastic 2022!

We do have a few places available in our Prep and other Grades for 2022. Please phone me on 5332 6317 if you would like to learn more about Little Bendigo Primary School and enrol your child for next year.

Anthony Tait, Principal
Little Bendigo Primary School
5332 6317
littlebendigo.ps@education.vic.gov.au
littlebendigops.vic.edu.au



Little Bendigo Primary School students back in the classroom. Image supplied.

Advertise

This is a well-respected, successful community engagement project. For advertising and sponsorship opportunities, please contact us: newsletter@brownhill.vic.au

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Woodmans Hill Secondary College

From the Principal's desk

Spring always brings with it a sense of renewed hope. Those little flashes of sunshine that pierce the Ballarat grey change the mood and liven the senses with promises of warmer days and longer nights. Spring is also the time when we get things done. Shaken from our winter fog, we clean up and clear out the things we no longer need knowing that if we work hard now, there's every chance of kicking back and enjoying the sunshine when it finally comes...

Friday 22 October felt like the first day of Spring all over again for the Woodmans Hill community. It had been too long since all year groups had been back on site and, whilst we were still two Year Nine groups short due to quarantining, there was a real sense of positivity and optimism as we saw classrooms full and playing fields thriving with students reconnecting with their friends and their teachers.

As a community we have worked hard over the course of the last few months to keep our students engaged. In many respects this last lockdown was the toughest as it came after two hard years in which students lost time that they will never get back. As a school we pride ourselves in staying true to our educational values and providing opportunities for students to connect with their teachers and classmates online - but that is not all we are about.



If I'm being honest, I struggle to remember a lot of the lessons I sat through when I was at school (mind you, it was over 35 years ago now!) but I can remember every camp or school trip or guest speaker; I can remember every ball I kicked, every event I competed in and every coach ride home. Our staff had so many exciting plans for 2021 with every year group having excursions and camps organised for them.

Similarly, the Physical Education team have worked so hard over the last couple of years to develop a culture in which our sporting teams were able to compete against rival schools and give it a red hot go. 2021 was going to be our year to compete and travel and bond. As we all know that's

not how things played out!

But as they say - never look back - and with that in mind, we have begun planning for a better 2022.

We are determined to make next year a year to remember for

our students so that they can create memories that make up for what they have lost.

No year group has missed out as much as our Year Twelves who had their last official day last Friday. Whilst we were fortunate to be able to take them away on a Study Camp at the start of the year, they have had so many uncertainties surrounding their final year that it is a miracle how positive they have remained. We are so proud of how well they have acquitted themselves over the last few months, refusing to be dragged down by the weight of another lockdown. For them, Spring really has arrived and if they can keep pushing on over the course of the next month, I know Summer will bring them the success they all so rightly deserve.

It is so good to have everyone back and we hope that we stay back for the remainder of the year, so students, staff and our community can finish strongly.

Stephan Fields, Principal
Woodmans Hill Secondary College
5336 7264
woodmans.hill.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
woodmanshill.net.au
Fussell Street, Ballarat East

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AUSTRALIAN MADE AND OWNED

Ballarat Wholefoods Collective

Ballarat Wholefoods Collective is a volunteer-based not-for-profit group offering an extensive range of organic non-perishable staple foods.

Our aim is to cut out the middle-man and go straight to the source and support our farmers. As a result of this our prices have a minimal mark up.

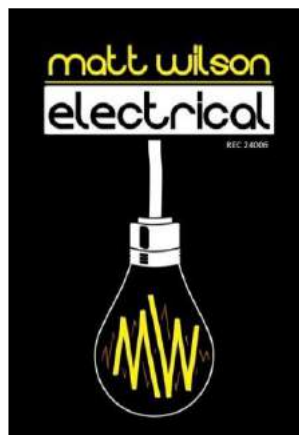
We feel very strongly about the over-packaging of food so members will be required to provide their own containers/bags as we buy in bulk to avoid this waste. You only need to buy what you need, there is no minimum quantity required.

New yearly membership to Ballarat Wholefoods Collective is \$50.00, with a \$20.00 renewal each June. New members are always welcome.

Opening hours are Thursdays and Saturdays, 9.00 am - 12.00 noon.

Ballarat Wholefoods Collective
ballaratwholefoodscollective@gmail.com
facebook.com/ballaratwholefoodscollective
ballaratwholefoodscollective.org
Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly Street,
Ballarat East

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ALMOND MUESLI BITES

DON'T MESS WITH MOTHER NATURE

INGREDIENTS	DIRECTIONS
50 grams coconut oil	Preheat oven 150°C.
70 grams honey	Put coconut oil, honey, sugar and vanilla extract into a bowl and mix until combined.
25 grams panela sugar	Add rolled oats, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt. Mix until combined.
1 tsp vanilla extract	Spread the mixture evenly on the prepared tray, bake for 10 minutes.
200 grams rolled oats or rolled spelt	Remove from oven, and with a spatula gently stir the muesli. Sprinkle with almonds then bake for a further 10 minutes.
1 tsp cinnamon	Take out of the oven, sprinkle with sultanas/currants and bake for another 5 minutes.
½ tsp nutmeg	Remove from oven and cool on the tray.
Pinch of salt	Once cooled, break into bites by hand.
120 grams almonds	
120 grams sultanas or currants	



Bronze Sponsor

Water Street Café
Serving Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Chai,
Cold Drinks, Hot and Cold Food



6.00 - 11.00 am Monday-Friday
7.00 - 11.30 am Saturday

EFTPOS / Order on Skip App
Gluten Free and Vegan options
69 Water Street, Brown Hill

Our local Neighbourhood Houses

Neighbourhood Houses bring people together to connect, learn and contribute in their local community through social, educational, recreational and support activities, using a unique community development approach.

Ballarat has four Neighbourhood Houses: Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre in Sebastopol, Wendouree Neighbourhood House, Ballarat North Neighbourhood House in Soldier's Hill and Ballarat East Neighbourhood House.



Ballarat North Neighbourhood House

The Ballarat North Neighbourhood House is currently operating remotely.

We design programs to provide connection, community and opportunity for people across our city to learn new things. Find us online:

socialplanet.com.au/at/ballarat-north-neighbourhood-house

Information is updated regularly with new and free classes. Please contact Alison with questions or to register for classes.

In the next couple of weeks we will be contacting all of our groups to discuss the next steps. In the meantime, we have two activities for the community. Bookings are essential.

Android Phones

1.00 pm - 3.00 pm
Mondays, 8 - 22 November
Face-to-face, FREE

Do you have a phone you would like to learn more about? Join us for these hands-on sessions. A great opportunity to ask question, in a small class of six people.



Beginners Guide to Watercolour

12.30 pm - 2.30pm
Tuesdays, 16 November to 7 December
Face-to-face, \$55.00 per person including all materials

Our very casual Watercolour class with Kelsie White is an inclusive program that promotes the creative aspirations of people in our community. We provide a safe, friendly and supportive space offering creative art-making opportunities in various mediums. Kelsie will start at the beginning.

Looking forward to welcoming everyone back.

Alison Demuth, Co-ordinator, Ballarat North Neighbourhood House,
0491 753 307

Ballaratnorthneighbourhood@gmail.com
Alison.Demuth@salvationarmy.org.au
6 Crompton Street, Soldiers Hill
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 9.00 am-3.00 pm



Ballarat East Neighbourhood House

The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House is continuing to operate remotely.

We have a whole host of online activities, classes and information available, most of which are free-of-charge.

To stay up to date online, register for our e-news:

ballarateastnh.org.au/contact-us

You can also follow us on Facebook:

facebook.com/BallaratEastNH

If you are not online, we are also available between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Tuesdays to Fridays on 0422 612 052. Give us a call!

We look forward to getting back to the wonderful Barkly Square for some face-to-face classes and activities. Until then, here are some great, low-cost or free activities:

Supporting your Children's Speech Development at Home

8.00 pm - 9.00 pm, Wednesdays
until 10 November
Online via Zoom, FREE

This super popular series of five information sessions is being provided by Brown Hill local, speech therapist, Meaghan Sullivan.

Meaghan is providing information



Speech Therapist, Meaghan Sullivan

to parents or carers of children from babies to five years old about how to support speech development at home.



Free Digital Literacy Sessions

10.30 am - 11.30 am Wednesdays

until 15 December

Online via Zoom, FREE

We are partnering with Rachel from NBN-Local to offer eight free Digital Literacy Sessions.

Topics include:

- * Navigating the Internet – Government websites and MyGov
- * Preparation for Emergency and/or Power outages
- * How to be safe – Privacy, Protection and Scam Awareness ...and more

Free Legal Support Sessions

2.00 pm - 2.30 pm Thursdays

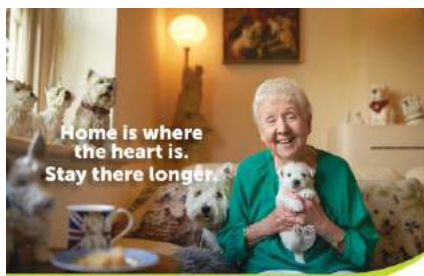
until 25 November

Online via Zoom, FREE

We are partnering with the Ballarat and Grampians Community Legal Service to provide free online legal information sessions.

Topics include:

- * Powers of Attorney
- * Wills
- * Family Law
- * Neighbourhood Disputes



Live at Home Longer

8.00 pm - 9.00 pm Thursday 28 October

9.30 am - 10.30 am Thursday 4

November

Online via Zoom, FREE

In partnership with Latrobe Community Health, we are presenting these free information sessions for those who would like to live at home longer and their families.



Ballarat Buddies for International Students

In partnership with the City of Ballarat and local universities, the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House is running a pilot project to reduce social isolation by connecting and supporting Ballarat's international students

through the establishment of a local hosting program.

There are around 800 International Students in Ballarat from a range of countries. Students vary in age and some have partners and children in Ballarat. In 2021, the majority of students are from an Indian background.

Isolation, financial pressures and the stress of the ongoing pandemic crisis around the world are putting many international students in Ballarat at risk of poor mental health.

The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House will connect interested Ballarat locals with international students through optional group activities, casual cafe catch-ups, phone calls, emails and encouraging outdoor activities such as walks together.

Please contact us if you would like to find out more and get involved.

Access to Digital Devices

If you would like to participate in one or more of these sessions but do not have access to a digital device, please let us know as we may be able to loan a device to you.

The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Team is looking forward to staying in touch online until we can see you again soon.

Sarah Greenwood-Smith, Manager,
Ballarat East Neighbourhood House
Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly Street,
Ballarat East
0422 612 052

reception@ballarateastnh.org.au
facebook.com/BallaratEastNH/
ballarateastnh.org.au

9.00 am - 5.00 pm Tuesdays to Fridays during school term

750 metres of Ballarat Sewer Build installed

Construction of the Central Highlands Water (CHW) Ballarat Sewer Build future-proofing project is continuing through Ballarat with over 750 metres of sewer now installed and works continuing in Anderson Street West.

Stage 1 includes approximately one kilometre of pipeline being constructed at a depth of four to five metres along Peel Street, Eastwood Street and Anderson Street East and West before connecting into the Ballarat South sewer system near White Flat Oval.

This major infrastructure project will service Ballarat's current and future population for another 100 years.

CHW project manager Mick Dwyer, said the project has faced its challenges, particularly during Ballarat's winter, but the organisation and its contractors were pleased with progress.

"Construction has included micro-tunnelling beneath two major



Image provided by Central Highlands Water

intersections, working through difficult ground conditions, tackling obstacles beneath the surface and, of course, inclement weather."

"Despite these challenges, we have had overwhelming support from businesses, residents and our community and we sincerely thank everyone for their understanding," said Mr Dwyer.

Over the next three to five years, the \$25 million Ballarat Sewer Build project will duplicate the existing sewer line from Ballarat East to Ballarat South while the original sewer continues to operate.

For more information visit chw.net.au/sewerbuild or phone 1800 061 514.





Brown Hill Uniting Church

Thought for the month

Isaiah 26: 3 "You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you."

Worship services at Brown Hill Uniting Church

**Sunday morning worship is at
10.00 am**

Led by a variety of Lay Worship Leaders and an accredited Lay Preacher. Holy Communion is on the fourth Sunday of the month.

When there is a fifth Sunday in the month we join in worship at Central Uniting Church in Lydiard Street South at 10.00 am.

Under current spatial distancing regulations we can only fit 20 people in the church. Those who wish to go on the waiting list can phone Mari on 0439 612 509.

**Ballarat Churches Midweek
Communion is on Wednesdays at
1.30 pm**

Held in the Church Hall with Central Uniting Church. Led by Rev Lauleti Tu'inavai from Central Uniting Church, Rev Bill Clark or Lay Preacher Jim de Jong assisted by other Lay Worship leaders.

With a capacity of 16 people in the hall, please check with Liz on 0413 558 981 if you wish to attend.

On-line Worship

Our accredited Lay Preacher, Jim de Jong, continues to offer a weekly on-line worship service and other resources on his website:

dejongs.id.au/home/church.

Ballarat Central Uniting Church offers live-streamed services each Sunday at 10.00 am. Search online: Ballarat Central Uniting Church.

Ballarat Regional Healthcare Chaplaincy are providing a half-hour Chapel Service aimed at those in hospital, Aged Care or isolated at home. Leaders are members of the Chaplaincy Committee and Ballarat Uniting Churches. This will now be recorded at the Chaplaincy centre and available to watch on Wednesday each week. Visit: ballaratchaplaincy.com.au.

Support of Uniting Ballarat (formerly UnitingCare Ballarat)

We are continuing our support of the daily lunchtime Breezeway meals program and our collection of groceries for their welfare program in support of struggling families. Non-perishable food items are always welcome.

Uniting emergency relief services remain open for those in need of essential food and toiletry items. With the continued help of volunteers and frontline staff, community meals programs have kept going with nutritious free lunchtime meals available from Uniting on the corner of Dana and Albert Street in the Ballarat CBD.

Use of our buildings

We are a registered organisation with separate Service Victoria QR codes for the Church area and the Op Shop. Our premises have been

sanitised and we maintain contact registers for those users unable to register digitally. Hand sanitiser and cleaning equipment is available and each area is wiped down after use. Spatial distancing dictates the numbers allowed.

Op. Shop

Our Op Shop will be closed until early November due to the COVID-19 risk and current regulations.

Craft group

Craft group runs in the church hall from 1.30 – 3.30 pm on the first and third Thursday of each month. Bring along a craft item or just come for a chat. All welcome.

*Liz Mason, Brown Hill Uniting Church
16 Thompson Street, Brown Hill
(corner of Humffray Street North)*

Now locked in

The Brown Hill Community Hall will be closed from Monday 6 December until 1 April 2022 to allow for the renovations.

This means that all the regular groups will have to temporarily relocate.

The Brown Hill Seniors will be meeting at the Victoria Bowling Club, the committee of which has generously agreed to the Seniors operating from their rooms.

Brown Hill Seniors Club Members will be able to try lawn bowls under the guidance of Victoria Bowling Club Members. The Brown Hill Seniors will be at the Victoria Bowling Clubrooms on 6 December and then on Mondays in February and March 2022.

*Dianne Eden, President,
Brown Hill Senior's Club
5331 1769*

Brown Hill Cricket Club

Community Impact Grant

The Brown Hill Cricket Club was the recipient of a \$9800 grant through the City of Ballarat's Community Impact Grant program.

With the introduction of the Brown Hill Auskick Program this year, the club was keen to have clear PVC blinds added to the verandah, in addition to a coffee machine, to assist in making the parents comfortable whilst Auskick was running.

Unfortunately the blinds were unable to be installed ready for Auskick this year. However, they have now been installed and have been of great benefit to the club thus far this cricket season. The club looks forward to putting the blinds to good use during Auskick next year.

The Brown Hill Cricket Club are grateful to the City of Ballarat in judging it as a worthy recipient for the funding.



New PVC blinds at the Brown Hill Cricket Club. Photographer: Phillip Knowles

2021-2022 Cricket Season

The Brown Hill Cricket Club is looking for Under-13 and Under-15 year old cricketers for this cricket season. Training is on Tuesday nights at 4.30 pm.

Woolworths Cricket Blast

Starting at 4.30 pm on Friday 5 November, Junior Blasters is for kids new to cricket with participants building their skills through fun, game-based

activities. The games are designed for small groups to ensure every child gets a go, allowing them to test and learn new skills.

These one-hour weekly sessions will run until 26 February 2022 (with a break over school holidays) at the Brown Hill Cricket Oval and costs \$90.00 per child.

To contact the Brown Hill Cricket Club, call Phil Knowles, President, on 0407 399 971

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YOUR TEAM YOUR STORE



New PVC blinds at the Brown Hill Cricket Club. Photographer: Phillip Knowles

Ballarat Community Garden

A big thank you goes to Hugh and Ian Dreher and Andrew for erecting our new greenhouse!

The recent addition is a result of a joint project between the Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council and the Ballarat Community Garden to generate interest in growing food and passing knowledge from one organisation to the other about...you guessed, growing vegetables! I am sure there will be many happy hours spent nursing along seedlings and plants, sharing different cultural knowledge and later, distributing many plants to homes where they will be much appreciated and loved.

Growing vegetables in the Ballarat region is quite a different ballgame from Melbourne, let alone from Asia or Africa! Members of the group working within this project come from Ghana, South Sudan, Afghanistan, China and Europe. There are surely some fascinating stories to be found in that mix!

Our first vegetable will be the tomato (which is strictly speaking a fruit!). We shall not let that detail get in the way of seeking out the best ways to raise the seeds into healthy plants. Once the tomatoes have appeared waaaaay down the track (but hopefully before March as they did earlier this year) we shall learn the many ways they can be used.

This is the part I am looking forward to, discovering new



The new greenhouse at the Ballarat Community Garden. Image supplied.

recipes which I have no doubt will involve the use of spices and herbs. It will be almost as good as travelling the Silk Road and visiting exotic places to learn about each spice and herb specific to those countries.

Gardening is an amazing healer. Bringing the flavours and smells of 'home' to another country can also feed the soul and restore peace to our lives. Many of our multicultural community have experienced trauma and uncertainty. It is time now for the healing to start with some grounding experiences and the sharing of food with love.

Happy Spring gardening to you all!

Sheilagh Kentish, President
Ballarat Community Garden,
0417 347 395
sheilaghkentish@hotmail.com

Interviewing, writing and editing

We need volunteers to help interview, write and/or edit articles. There are so many great stories. Please contact us if you are interested:
newsletter@brownhill.vic.au



What have you seen this spring?

Spring is a wonderful time of year to notice the richness of our local environment. Did you know that while you are outside enjoying nature, there are also simple ways you can learn more about native plants and animals and help protect them?

Share your discoveries

Gathering data about biodiversity is important for scientists and environmental managers and there are easy ways members of the public can help. There are several 'Citizen Science' projects that use apps for you to record and identify your observations.

iNaturalist Australia

inaturalist.ala.org.au is a global program where you can upload photos and use its powerful photo recognition software to help identify a plant. It's easy to use and your recordings contribute to

Advertisement



Eastern Spinebill, a less common species sighted in the recent Backyard Bird Count. Photographer: Doug Wilson.

the Atlas of Living Australia – a nationwide record of biodiversity managed by the CSIRO.

FrogID app and eBird

If you've heard a frog but can't capture a photo, you can record the call using the FrogID app: frogid.net.au and have its identity verified by experts. Or if you enjoy bird spotting you can try eBird: eBird.org.

Backyard Bird Count

In October, BirdLife Australia held their annual Backyard Bird Count. Common sightings by local residents included: Magpies, Sulphur Crested Cockatoos, Crimson Rosellas and Red Wattlebirds. Some less common species sighted included the

Eastern Spinebill.

Wildflower wonders

There is an abundance of native wildflowers on show at the moment. Keep your eyes open for native peas, orchids, daisies and many more in late spring and early summer!

Gardens for Wildlife

If you would like to see some of our beautiful, local native plants in your own garden, check out Gardens for Wildlife Ballarat on Facebook and get involved!

Kate Martin,
Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group
wfplcg@gmail.com
facebook.com/wfplg
leighcatchmentgroup.org/wattle-flat-pootilla



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THE GOLDEN DAYS OF EARLY BROWN HILL

The colorful history of Brown Hill will be revived in the coming weekend when past residents from many parts of Australia will join the local community in "back-to-Brown Hill" celebrations.

The school will figure largely in the programme, and the celebrations will begin there on Saturday morning with a back to school session.

The Brown Hill area, now an attractive residential suburb, was in 1851 a pleasant pastoral district where sheep and cattle grazed.

Heavy timber covered a large tract of uncultivated land, but streets and houses have changed the face of this area for many years past.

The Brown Hill State School was completed in December 1877 at a cost of £1894. There were about 114 pupils and the first head teacher was Mr T. Potter.

COMMON SCHOOL

It is almost certain that there was a school on the site before the State School was built, and before the Education Act of 1874 a Common School was conducted on the area of the present Brown Hill Methodist Church.

Part of the school building is still there, and the words, Common School, can still be seen on the southern end of the wooden building.

Before the State School was established there was a Catholic school at Palmers Gully, and there was also a private day and boarding school in the district conducted by John Finlay.

In December 1867 John Finlay sold his Plank road school and built another at Gracefield Park Farm. The school was opened in the following January and was called Gracefield, after his young

daughter. Gracefield road, Brown Hill, derived its name from this property.

The name of Brown Hill has an interesting derivation. In October 1851 after the gold discovery, William Brownbill, who had been gold-seeking at Golden Point, changed his field of operation and struck out into the bush country to the north east of Ballarat. The area became known to the diggers as Brownbill's diggings, and eventually the title was corrupted to Brown Hill.

The first Mass in the district was celebrated by Father Dunn, in October 1851, in a tent and was attended by 500 people. Mr D. Marnell now lives on the site in Humffray st.

Many years ago the Benevolent Home had a vegetable farm in what is now Bradbury st. which was eventually made from funds raised from a toll gate in Water st.

In the early days there was a cemetery in Canterbury st., located on land at the rear of the present tennis courts.

The district also had a Government library in those days, and the Methodist Parsonage now stands on the site.

The Brown Hill Hotel dates back to 1854, and its first licensee was a Mr Schmidt.

FIRST DANCE

The first dance hall was located in the Brown Hill Hotel building, but owing to objections it was closed and converted to a post office.

Afterward dances were held at a bakery in the Gong Gong road owned by a Mr O'Day.

This was called Knockshigowna Hall and it was closed in 1918.

The first grocery was owned by Miss Murray and later by G. Skinner and then a Mr Morris. It was taken over in 1929 by the late Cr. George Stewart, and is now conducted by his daughter, Miss Jean Stewart, and her uncle, Mr A. Hehir. The shop is on the site of a former blacksmith shop.

Other flourishing businesses in the 'fifties and 'sixties included a chemist shop, situated between Bradbury st. and St. Mark's Church of England; a tannery on the Gong Gong road, known as Fellmongers, conducted by Burns and McLeave; on the same road a sausage-casing factory was conducted by Hansen Ainley. Farmer's butchery was also an early established business.

After the settlement was well established other hotels began to operate, and among them were the Wool Pack and the Fellmonger's Arms.

NEW HALL

A major item in the Back-to-Brown Hill programme will be a dance at the new public hall.

There will be special services at St. Mark's Church of England and the Methodist Church on Sunday followed by social gatherings, and central interest on Monday will be an afternoon flower show at the hall.

Among the oldest past pupils of the school who will attend the reunion will be Mr E. J. Powell, a former well-known Ballarat businessman.

Our eco-progressive newsletter

The Brown Hill Progress Association (BHPA) volunteers have been hand-delivering newsletters to residents six times a year since 2016. That's a lot of behind-the-scenes effort, a lot of writing and an unbelievable number of volunteer kilometres walked! It's also a lot of paper.

The BHPA has worked hard to get the newsletter onto a sustainable financial footing and has now turned to ensuring it can be environmentally sustainable as well. It has partnered with Fifteen Trees to plant 180 trees per year to reduce its carbon footprint.

All 180 trees (made up of a mixture of Tree Violets, Messmate Stringybarks, Peppermints, Snow Gum, Candlebark and Manna Gums) were planted by Lulu and Matt and the Education Team at Narmbool, Elaine.

Calculating the footprint of a newsletter isn't particularly



Matt and Lulu planting trees funded by the Brown Hill Community Newsletter. Image supplied.

straightforward. There is some simple maths – 2,650 newsletters distributed x up to 12 pieces of paper in each = 31,800 sheets of paper per edition – and then some more approximate projections. For example, we like to take into account hidden costs like the environmental impact of production and transport per box

of paper.

We also encourage any organisations that use paper as part of their workflow to commit to using only ethical paper. This means actively avoiding brands that use native timber for paper or are not transparent about their suppliers. Paper brands to avoid currently include Reflex, Opal and Nippon, all of whom are complicit in destroying habitat, endangering waterways and undermining the fight against climate change. You can find more information about pledging to use ethical paper here: ethicalpaper.com.au.

The hardworking BHPA has so much to be proud of. We are thrilled to work with this optimistic, big-hearted group of volunteers to help them make the world a better place.

Sarah Hart, on behalf of Fifteen Trees
15trees.com.au/tree-plantings/brown_hill_progress_association/



Narmbool, Elaine. Image supplied.