

Brown Hill Community Newsletter

Edition 35, Spring, November 2022

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 local, Maria, sending a letter with help from Dayle and Mick at the new Brown Hill Post Office. Photographer: Sarah Greenwood-Smith

Diary Dates

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 8: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill Progress Association meeting. Brown Hill Hall. (p.4)

Saturday 26 & Sunday 27: Free skin cancer screening checks hosted by the Brown Hill Lions Club. (p.6)

Sunday 20: 1.30 pm - 3.00 pm, Brown Hill Community Newsletter team catch up (p.3)

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Return of the Brown Hill Post Office

In August 2017, the Brown Hill Post Office closed suddenly and unexpectedly. After years of campaigning, the Brown Hill community are very excited that a new Post Office has opened on Water Street in Brown Hill!

Mick and Dayle are to be congratulated on their persistence to get a Post Office back in Brown Hill. They say, "Our decision to open the Post Office and create the space for Hideaway Cafe at 69 Water Street was because of the overwhelming need in Brown Hill for services."

It has been approximately 18 months since their first plan for the new Post Office was put to the City of Ballarat. Since then seven more versions have been drawn up and forwarded on to the planners with amendments to address all of their concerns. A big

thanks to Australia Post for working with Mick and Dayle to get the branch to fruition.

The new Brown Hill Post Office is a really comprehensive service for businesses and personal needs that provides:

- * Two terminals - which will mean quick transactions and minimal wait times.
- * Full banking transactions (deposits, withdrawals and transaction summaries). Western Union international money transfers are available.
- * Bill paying to all banks (except the ANZ).
- * Full postal services such as mail redirections, change of address etc.
- * Parcel sending and pick up of undelivered mail.

* All styles of packaging, envelopes, stationery and cards.

* Access via the Australia Post Catalogue and website to a huge range of products and gifts that can be ordered and paid for on site and delivered to the Brown Hill Branch in 2-3 days.

* Gift Cards - various price points for various popular shops such as Myer, Rebel Sport etc.

* Soda Stream gas exchange.

* Good selection of old style lollies.

The hours of operation from now until Christmas will be **8.00 am - 6.00 pm Monday to Friday** and **9.00 am - 12.00 noon Saturday**.

At the new Brown Hill Post Office, Mick and Dayle will do their very best to meet any request that a

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DECEMBER

Tuesday 20: Last day of school year

Saturday 24: Wallaby Track parkrun - Community Celebration BBQ hosted by the Brown Hill Progress Association. (p.23)

JANUARY

Tuesday 10: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill Progress Association meeting. Brown Hill Hall. All welcome.

Wednesday 25: 9.00 am - 11.00am, Brown Hill Playgroup Summer Session at Russell Square. (p.7)

For more, visit: brownhill.vic.au

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

We acknowledge and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

From the editor

The seemingly endless rain and subsequent flooding of the Yarrowee River in Brown Hill have caused significant damage to our much-loved walking/running/riding track. It is with a sense of awe and concern that we look at photos of the effect on the Brown Hill landscape. The power of the water coming through the tunnel under the Western Freeway was enormous, eroding a large section of the track. Our thoughts are

About our Newsletter

This publication is a community project of the Brown Hill Progress Association. It is published quarterly.

Our volunteer team:

Editor: Sarah Greenwood-Smith

Editorial Advisory Committee:

Brian Green, Brendan Stevens, Geoff Dickson and Hazen Cleary.

Editorial Support: Anne

Rowland, Anna Beesley, Dianne Vanderveer, Sally McAlpin and Julie Hayes

Lead Writer: Louise Jones

Accounts Manager: Brendan Stevens

Proof Reader: Peter Morton

Social Media: Ellie Thacker, Sherene Mounier and Emma Bannan.

Over 20 wonderful local volunteers distribute the newsletter across Brown Hill with additional copies 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 can be emailed 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 36 articles are due by **Friday 3 February 2023**. 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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ISSN 2209-9050

Brown Hill Progress

Association Meet in the Brown Hill Hall (rear room), second Tuesday every second month, 7.00 pm. All welcome.

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

PO Box 1863, Bakery Hill 3354





Significant flood damage to the Yarrowee River Trail on the western side of the tunnel under the Western Freeway. Image used with permission from the City of Ballarat Facebook page.

with anyone affected by the floods. We hope this important section of the Yarrowee River Trail is able to be repaired over the coming months so we can get back out to enjoy this beautiful space. Please take care around the damaged sections of the trail as the soil may be unstable and observe the 'Track Closed' signs.

At the recent conference of the Community Newspapers Association of Victoria (CNAV) in Mount Macedon, I was reminded of the importance of face-to-face social connection. It was wonderful to catch up with volunteers from all across Victoria who give their time and skills to

Advertisement

create regular news publications for their communities.

I believe that a hard-copy newsletter is an important way in which to keep the Brown Hill community connected and to share local stories and voices. This helps to build resilience and a sense of belonging for those who live, work, learn, volunteer and play in our awesome suburb.

Our volunteer team has been missing the element of social connection we had when we caught up to plan for each edition. So we are going to have a catch up over a cuppa in Brown Hill on **Sunday 20 November** from **1.30 pm - 3.00 pm**. If you are keen to

join us, please get in touch via email (below) or by contacting the Brown Hill Progress Association Secretary, Brendan, on 0409 018 867 by Monday 14 November. New volunteers very welcome! Let's start planning for 2023.

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

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Return of the Brown Hill Post Office

customer may make. They are excited to work with Hideaway Cafe to create a Brown Hill Hub, where locals can grab a coffee, post a letter and meet up with friends and family.

So it is up to the Brown Hill community to get right behind them and support this branch. Community support will help the Brown Hill Post Office to be viable and expand to improve their business so they can meet the needs of our growing population.

Brown Hill Post Office

69 Water Street, Brown Hill

*Brendan Stevens, Secretary,
Brown Hill Progress Association*

A RE-ELECTED LABOR GOVERNMENT WILL HELP REJUVENATE THE BROWN HILL RECREATION RESERVE

Michaela Settle MP
Labor for Eureka

Victorian Labor

Authorised by Chris Frost, Australian Labor Party, Victorian Branch, 408 Cockfield Drive, Cockfield 3008

Brown Hill Progress Association

From the Secretary's Desk

Happy springtime to residents and friends who share our beautiful suburb.

The Brown Hill Progress Association (BHPA) is gaining momentum again as we all start to come through the mist of winter and the COVID-19 pandemic. Having been lucky enough to escape Victoria for a couple of months of winter, I really notice some progress and changes around this end of town.

Avenue of Honour

Thanks must go to the City of Ballarat with their rejuvenation and planting of trees at the eastern end of Old Melbourne Road. The continuation of the Avenue of Honour will be an asset for many years to come.

Water Street Upgrades

For those who may not have noticed, there has been major construction of a new concrete footpath on the western side of Water Street from the school towards the north east. This City of Ballarat project has been moving along slowly for several

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A yellow rectangular advertisement for N.V. Pollard Plumbing. On the left is a cartoon illustration of a plumber in a blue uniform and cap, holding a wrench. To the right of the illustration, the text reads: "If it leaks, we'll fix it" in blue, followed by "N.V. POLLARD PLUMBING" in large white letters on a red background. Below this, in a blue oval, it says "Prompt & Reliable Service". At the bottom, it lists the name "Neil Pollard", the phone numbers "0484 002 533" and "4333 8065", and the email "nvpollard@gmail.com".

If it leaks, we'll fix it
N.V. POLLARD PLUMBING
Prompt & Reliable Service
Neil Pollard
0484 002 533
4333 8065
nvpollard@gmail.com

STOP PRESS!

Brown Hill Reserve

We are thrilled that Michaela Settle MP has announced an election commitment of \$1 million to rejuvenate the Brown Hill Recreation Reserve. We will keep Brown Hill residents up to date on the Brown Hill Community Online Hub: brownhill.vic.au and have a detailed update next edition.

months with many holdups due to the very wet weather. The contractors will be on site for another month or so with the biggest part of their job being the building of a concrete bridge across the creek adjacent to the Hideaway Cafe. They hope to be well and truly finished by Christmas.

When completed this will be an excellent wide path for pedestrians, both young and old, and will allow a smooth run for feet and everyone on wheels from the Shell service station, past the new Post Office and cafe, right down to the Caledonian School. Our Water Street Boulevard is gradually being improved both in its appearance, functionality and safety.

Also the continued progress with the Y Ballarat project and the addition of the Post Office next to

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A rectangular advertisement for Ballarat TreeWorks. The background is a photograph of a dense forest of tall, thin trees. Overlaid on the image is the text "BALLARAT TREEWORKS" in large, bold, green letters, with a green tree icon replacing the 'O' in "WORKS". Below this, it says "CALL 0417 370 312" and "WWW.BALLARATTREEWORKS.COM.AU". At the bottom, a green banner contains the text "YOUR TREE CARE & MAINTENANCE PROFESSIONALS" in white.

BALLARAT TREEWORKS
CALL 0417 370 312
WWW.BALLARATTREEWORKS.COM.AU
YOUR TREE CARE & MAINTENANCE PROFESSIONALS

the very popular Hideaway Cafe will change the face of Water Street as it becomes a hub for business again.

Join our Team

The BHPA Committee has again struggled to get a full line-up at its AGM held in early September. Our volunteer numbers are low but our current committee has been in the role for many years.

If you would like to have an active role in the expansion and improvements in Brown Hill, please contact us. We have a good rapport with local council and politicians and hope to have ongoing input into the future developments around Brown Hill. Please help us keep this important link relevant and open.

We have now reduced our meetings to bi-monthly on the second Tuesday every second month from 7.00 pm at the Brown Hill Hall. Next meeting **8 November 2022**. All welcome.

2023 Meetings

Tuesdays, 7.00 pm:

10 January, 7 March, 9 May, 11 July
12 September and 14 November

Looking forward to summer.

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

Brown Hill FireAware

Being prepared for the fire season is a shared responsibility.

Even though it looks like we are in for a wet summer, just a few hot windy days can quickly increase the risk of a fire impacting on Brown Hill. The best way to minimise this risk is to prepare your property and family now – it is your insurance policy.

A well-prepared home is more likely to survive a bushfire even if you're not there and it is less likely to put your neighbours' homes at risk as well. It will also give you more protection if a fire threatens suddenly and you cannot leave and have to take shelter.

When a bushfire is in the area and fire brigades are at the bushfire, they may not have the resources to attend to individual house fires in the suburbs. Therefore, preparing for the fire season is everyone's responsibility – a shared responsibility.

Get to know your neighbours: share your bushfire plans and find ways to work together. Even 3 or 4 households could do much to lower the fire risk to themselves and their neighbours.

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Stay informed: work out alternative ways to keep informed of possible fire threats and how to share information amongst your neighbours. **Watch the weather!**

Have a bushfire plan: know what you are going to do pre-season. On high fire risk days and days leading up to them, decide if you are going to leave or stay and defend and then have a plan to know what to do if circumstances change. Know the triggers for when decisions will be made and review your plan regularly.

Remember: If a plan is not written down and practised – it is not a plan!

Here are a few tips to help you get started:

* Walk around your property and see where autumn leaves accumulate. These will be the places where embers will also collect. What flammable structures do you have in your yard; a wood pile? What about your fence line? Are hedges out of control and full of dead wood?

* Look at your house and imagine where the weak points are which could let embers inside. Windows can crack; doors have gaps; vegetation can be too close to your windows; flammable material can be stored under the flooring and in ceiling spaces; vent holes can let in embers.

* Look up – are there branches overhanging the roof; are the gutters full of winter leaves and debris; are there gaps or cracks in the roofing material and wall cladding?

Even though you might only have an urban size house block (such as in an estate) there are still many things you can do to lower the risk to your home from a bushfire event. **Remember – for a fire to take hold and grow it needs fuel.** By reducing the fuel load (anything that will readily burn) you reduce the potential for embers becoming unmanageable fires. This is what summer preparation is about – reducing the fuel load of your property.

Next step: Access the Brown Hill Community Online Hub's "Be Bushfire Ready" page for more details.

Hazen Cleary

Brown Hill FireAware Network

Coordinator, 0408 690 493

*facebook.com/BrownHillCommunity
FireAwareNetwork*



waldron

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Brown Hill Pool

The City of Ballarat has confirmed that the Brown Hill Pool/Aquatic Centre will be opened this summer on the **days when the temperature is forecast to be 23 degrees or higher**. This is the same as in previous summers.

The Pool will be open from **Saturday 3 December 2022 to Sunday 5 March 2023**.

Outside of school holidays

*Monday to Friday: 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm

*Weekends and public holidays: 1.00 pm to 7.00 pm

During school holidays

* Monday to Friday: 1.00 pm to 7.00 pm

* Weekends and public holidays: 1.00 pm to 7.00 pm

ballarataquaticcentre.com/swim/outdoorpools/

Brown Hill Lions Club

Eight members from the Lions Club joined with the Brown Hill Progress Association to plant 62 trees to replace those missing from the Ballarat East Avenue of

Advertisement

Catherine KING MP
Federal Member for Ballarat

☎ 03 5338 8123
✉ Catherine.King.MP@aph.gov.au
f CatherineKingMP
t @CatherineKingMP

Standing up for our Community!

www.catherineking.com.au

Authorised by Catherine King, Australian Labor Party, South Western Australian Division



Honour along the Old Melbourne Road close to the bottom of Woodmans Hill. While the weather wasn't too kind to us, we had a great day re-establishing the original English Oak trees planted there in 1917 – 1920 to commemorate World War 1. What a great day.

Coming Events

Lions Christmas Cake Sales

Lions will once again be selling Christmas Cakes from Monday 14 November until Christmas Eve at our regular stall on Level 2, Central Square Shopping Centre. Bulk orders are welcome by contacting our Secretary Barry.

Free Skin Cancer Screening

Brown Hill Lions Club in a joint project with the Lions V Districts

Cancer Foundation Inc. will be conducting **free skin cancer checks** at their Club Rooms located at Lions Wing, Pinarc Services, 222 Otway Street South Ballarat East on **Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 November**.

These checks are carried out by registered Dermoscopists who are trained through Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. They are all volunteers through Lions Clubs International.

All checks are by appointment only.

To book your free skin check appointment, please contact our Secretary Barry.

Barry Davis
Secretary, Brown Hill Lions Club
0418 580 971
barglen9@bigpond.net.au

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Matt Wilson Electrical Co. is dedicated to providing great service for all your electrical needs. No matter how big or small we have you covered!

0414 933 394
mwelec@outlook.com
[facebook.com/mattwilsonelctrical/](https://www.facebook.com/mattwilsonelctrical/)

Happenings at Ballarat Wholefoods Collective

This year has seen us host workshops again! It's been so wonderful to be able to have these up and running in our new home at Barkly Square.

We have more planned for next year too! Keep an eye on our Socials for more info.

Our final workshop for this year is a Kasundi Making workshop with Mick on 26 November at Barkly Square, 12.00 noon – 2.00 pm.

Everyone is welcome. \$15 for non-members and \$10 for members.

Our extremely popular Op Shop Clothing day is also happening from 10.00 am - 1.00 pm on 26 November at Barkly Square. Such a fun day and always so many great bargains! Stalls cost \$5. Contact Rhonda 0409 211 269

In other exciting news we have a **big** birthday coming up next year, Ballarat Wholefoods turns **ten!!**

To celebrate we've designed a 2023 calendar, full of beautiful images and available to purchase in-store at Ballarat Wholefoods.

Our last day of shopping for this

year will be 22 December. We'll be open all day from 9.00 am - 5.00 pm!

The Wholefoods Collective is open for shopping from 9.00 am - 12.00 noon on Thursdays and Saturdays during school terms.

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

Come, Sit, Chat & Play at Brown Hill Playgroup!

Brown Hill Playgroup at Caledonian Primary School is now in its 33rd year. We are a volunteer-based playgroup with many local residents connected through the surrounding schools, kindergartens and childcare centres.

The last three years have been tough on all playgroups and community-driven activities. However, we are excited to see new and existing families venturing out (even in the rain) to join us in the Multipurpose Hall at Caledonian Primary School on Wednesday mornings. We have

had a fantastic turnout for the first few weeks of term four as Spring has brought a new wave of faces and families to playgroup. We have recently added some new toys to our collection and look to make the most of our 'crawl out' of COVID-19 times to have our first end-of-year celebration since 2019.

After many conversations over tea and coffee at playgroup, families have expressed the challenges of having young children through COVID-19 times. Many of these little people are finding socialising confusing and overwhelming. Due to this we have encouraged a variety of play options at playgroup.

We will also be hosting a playground Summer Session over the school holidays. This is designed to support families with children transitioning to local childcare, kinder and Prep. It will be a great opportunity for your child to have a few familiar faces as they step into the next chapter of their lives. It will also provide a great space to ask questions about the first day expectations, lunch box ideas, uniform rules and some tips for preparing for these big new adventures.

Our special Summer Session will be on 25 January 2023 at Russell
...continued on p.8

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ST. BRENDAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Just 9.5 km from Brown Hill.
1 Ti Tree Road, Dunnstown
5334 7604
principal@sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au
sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au



ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Just 11 km from Brown Hill.
131 Powell's Road, Clarkes Hill
53345280
principal@smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au
smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au



We are both small country schools close to Brown Hill and we aim to provide learning to suit your child's individual needs. Enrolments across all year levels are now open. Please contact the school to book a personalised tour at a time that suits you.

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Square Playground from 9.00 am -11.00 am. A hat and sunscreen will be a must!

Our regular playgroup runs during school term each Wednesday from 9.00 am until 11.00 am in the Multipurpose Hall at Caledonian Primary School. There is a gold coin donation and all preschool-aged children and their families are welcome.

playgroup@brownhill.vic.au
facebook.com/brownhillplaygroup
Caledonian Primary School, 5332 6955

Perridak Burron Early Learning

A big hello to our fellow Brown Hill Community members! We have had an amazing first half of the year and are looking forward to finishing off 2022 with a bang!

Over last year's Summer break we were lucky enough to have the team from Ballarat Groundworks come out and revamp our Bunjil

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Bakery Hill
Bakers Delight
Baking fresh daily.

It's TART season! We bake the most delicious tarts and between now and Christmas have 3 fantastic flavours: the brand new **MANGO PASSION TART** (limited time), the ever popular zesty **LEMON TART** and the traditional **FRUIT MINCE TART**.

Come into our Bakery, purchase a 6-pack of any of our TARTS and we'll give you any loaf of bread up to the value of \$5.20 FREE!

*Simply bring in this coupon to redeem the offer.
One per customer per day.
Valid at Bakers Delight Bakery Hill only.*

**Shop 6, 73 Victoria Street,
Bakery Hill Shopping Complex**



Some lovely artwork. Image supplied.

(Over 3s) yard and this year our Waa (Under 3s) yard is having their turn! We look forward to watching, listening and observing all the works happening and will excitedly await the finished product.

As we near the end of the year, we welcome all families to book in for a tour for enrolments. It's nearing the time where we work on our room movements for 2023 and we encourage all those families looking for Kinder to call in, book a tour and come see our amazing spaces! We run a fully funded Kindergarten program with three amazing bachelor-trained Kinder teachers.

Of course our three other rooms, Barnong (ring-tail possum), Yaluk (River) and Kuwiyn (fish) rooms

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mobile: 0438 689 297
email: marie@dazzlindoggie.com.au
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Ballarat, Victoria 3350

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www.dazzlindoggie.com.au

are always set up with exciting culturally inclusive experiences for all ages to explore and engage with as well.

Recently our team volunteered at the Bunnings Ballarat BBQ. We were so grateful for this opportunity to get out and about in the community and see so many familiar faces as well as have community members introduce themselves to our team.

We thank all our community members for being so welcoming both at Bunnings and even as they walk past our centre and say hello to the children!

We wish everyone a happy and healthy end to the year as we countdown to Summer and Christmas and can't wait to see what fun and learning our children engage in!

Sophie Collins
Centre Director,
Perridak Burron Early Learning
admin@perridakburronel.com.au
perridakburronel.net.au
340-348 Humffray Street North, Brown Hill

Bronze Sponsor

THE AFL STORE

Ballarat

Shop 50, Central Square,
Armstrong Street South
Ballarat VIC 3350
(03) 5332 3400,
ballarat@theaflstore.com.au

YOUR TEAM YOUR STORE

Caledonian Primary School

From the Principal's Desk

To the Brown Hill community,

Last term was incredible! We had an amazing number of high-engagement opportunities designed to build curiosity, resilience, wellbeing and cultural understanding.

Our students have been engaged in NAIDOC (National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee) week, experienced African drumming, history excursions and had an "Author Visit" with Nicole Kelly, a published author, who enlightened and inspired them on the writing process.

Students have attended a huge range of sporting clinics including basketball, touch football, Gym Sports and cricket clinics. Our relationship with Woodmans Hill Secondary College continues to develop as their students ran special PE sessions for our junior grades. The "big kids" were fabulous and a credit to their school.

We have also explored alternative sports with a BMX trick show and

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Fun on camp! Image supplied

skateboarding lessons, provided by Y Ballarat. In fact, I was personally inspired by this to get 10 new skateboards for our school to introduce a skateboarding club. Skateboarding is something I still enjoy, so it has not been hard to bring in a new and exciting sport for our students. We have focused on year 4-5 girls initially, building their confidence and resilience!

Our students in years 3 to 6 have also been on camps in the last weeks of term. School camps allow children to take risks in a safe and alternative environment and develop independence. This year we had students attend a seaside camp in Queenscliff and others trekked out to Cave Hill Creek.

I attended the 3-4 camp and while I may have had very little sleep, we had a fabulous time! Our kids

worked through high ropes challenges, navigating a mapping task, mountain biking through the bush, canoeing and "bouldering" which is sideways rock climbing. It was an incredible experience with kids who started saying, "I can't", but shortly after could say, "I can!"

This semester we are seeing the fruits of our labours in Prep-2 with the full implementation of our English learning approach incorporating the science of reading. The term "science of reading" refers to the research that reading experts, especially cognitive scientists, have conducted on how we learn to read. This body of knowledge, over twenty years in the making, has helped debunk older methods of reading instruction that were based on tradition and observation, not evidence.

Based on the science of reading, the 2000 National Reading Panel Report stated that students need explicit instruction in the essential components of reading: phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and reading comprehension. At Caledonian we have embraced this research and have fully integrated this into our instructional approach in the early years of schooling and are seeing some incredible outcomes

...continued p.10



7 Sawmill Close
Brown Hill
0434 522 477

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for our students in both reading and writing.



Ella, Prep, Caledonian Primary School.
Photographer: Brooke Stevens

Student Writing Award

At our recent school assembly, Prep student, Ella shared a piece of her persuasive writing. Ella wrote about how much she loves her tiger. She writes, "I like my tiger because it is fluffy. It has stripes and it has my favourite colours and it is the biggest I had ever seen! A lady I don't know gave it to me. She is nice. It has blue. I like her so I love my toy. It is amazing, like I just don't know what to say. I like it too much. I don't leave it behind."

What a lovely piece of writing from Ella. It was particularly special and brave of her to read it out loud in front of the entire

Advertisement

CALEDONIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

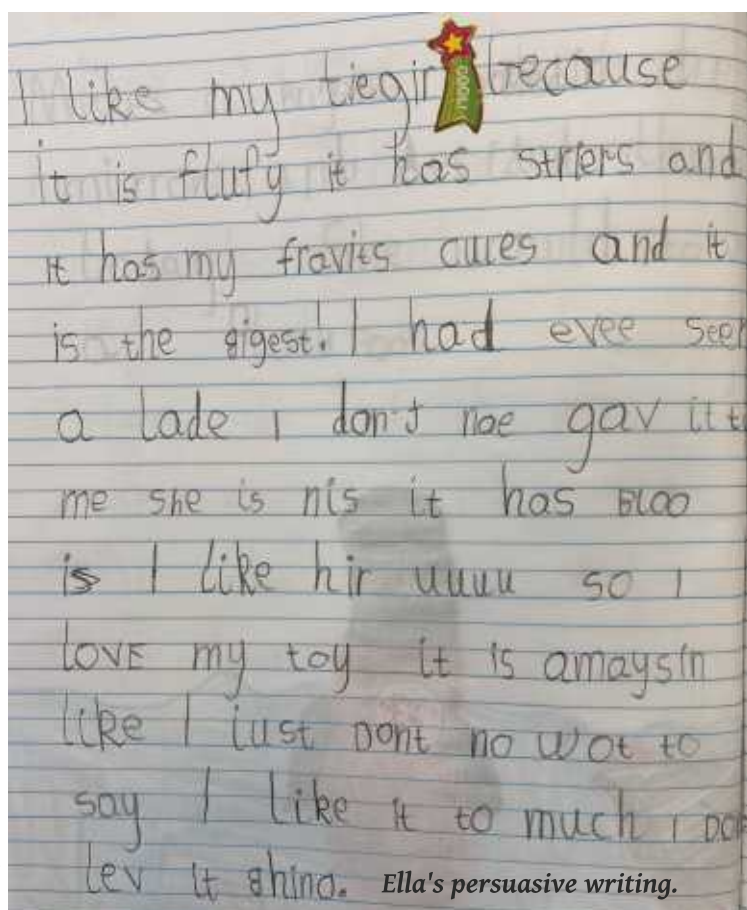
Thompson Street,
Brown Hill
5332 6955
caledonianps.vic.edu.au

school, including parents who returned to assembly for the first time since lockdowns.

Ella was awarded our Student Writer for the Month Award. Well done Ella!

In coming months, the school council has coordinated some

incredible enhancements for our school. Following the last few years that have seen significant upgrades to our facilities, school council has worked to take the next step in offering our students an amazing environment. This term we start with the painting of our heritage building which in truth has been looking a little tired for a few years now. This simple renovation will see our old building reflect what is happening inside the school with fresh and innovative teaching and learning happening at all year levels!



The school council is also coordinating the installation of two new playgrounds for the junior and senior students. These will replace the two we have in place currently and will provide a highly engaging and challenging new play space for all students. We have consulted with the kids and they are almost as excited about it as I am!

We are really proud of our students who have a go and participate in our annual school athletics and cross country events in Term 1. A bunch of our students



2023 ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN

Contact us to make an appointment for a personalised tour of our school with our Principal, Ben Moody.

Photographer:
Sabelle
McSparron
Sports Central



Annika, James, Jack, Lily, Aoife, Chet, Hank, Charlie and Cohen and the new map on Active Transport to school day.

go on to the next level (District), competing against other schools in our half of Ballarat. After that, a handful of students make it to the Divisional competition (involving all schools in Ballarat). It is pretty tough competition and it is wonderful to see the spirit of the Caledonian kids.

On a last note, if there is anyone out there in our school zone who has not enrolled yet, please get in touch. We have a wait-list of students from outside the zone but first we must make sure we have spots for our local kids.

I hope you all enjoy spring!

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

Active Transport to School project

On Friday 21 October, Caledonian Primary School had an 'Active 2 School' day. A group of students has been working hard with Mr. G on this project for a while.

There was a smoothie bike for the kids and a coffee caravan for the parents. The smoothie flavours were strawberry and banana with milk or orange and orange juice. The coffee caravan had coffee and hot chocolate for teachers, parents and grandparents.

70% of children rode a bike or scooter or walked to school that day. This is a huge improvement

for the school as we normally have around 30% of students who regularly walk/ride or scoot to school. We hope this project will get more people using active transport to get to and from school.

The smoothies were delicious and free! The idea was to get on the smoothie bike and pedal. There was a blender connected to the bike and when you pedalled it ran the blender and made the smoothies for the people who peddled the bike.

The student group made a map of safe walking and riding paths. This helps people to take safe paths to school. There are big printed maps by the main school gates.

With the money the City of Ballarat and State Government (Regional Roads Victoria) gave to Caledonian Primary School for this project, we are going to improve our bike and scooter parking. Hopefully a new undercover bike shed will encourage more people to use active transport to get school.

By Archie (Grade 5) and Harry (Grade 4), Caledonian Primary School



Buster, Grade 4, Caledonian Primary School.

Photographer: Brooke Stevens

We are so excited that Buster, Grade 4, has made it all the way through the Regional level. Buster will be representing Western Victoria in both the 200 metre sprint and long jump at the State athletic competition in November. What a great achievement!

Little Bendigo Primary School



Students helping out with planting at school. Image supplied.

From the Principal's Desk

The end of the school year is just around the corner so this is a great time to reflect on the events, highlights and achievements of our students in 2022.

Student leadership is a priority at Little Bendigo, as it provides a voice for students and develops social skills and confidence. Student leaders support and help others. This year the student leadership team, including our school captains, house captains and junior school council members, led assemblies, helped in the garden (including our new vegetable gardens) and purchased sports equipment. They have planned and run fundraising events including a Footy Colours Day, cooked toasties and supported RU OK Day.

During the course of the year

students have participated in excursions and incursions focused on Science, the Arts, Sport and History.

Our science program included visits to EarthEd and Ecolinc, where students learned about sustainability, geology, the weather and plant propagation. They also planted native vegetation at the school.

The sport program and interschool sports saw our students participate in house athletics (our sport houses are named Lofven, Hillcrest and Monte), cross country and winter sports with other local schools. A number of our students represented the school in district level athletics events, Futsal, Cricket, AFL and golf.

Students also visited the Art Gallery of Ballarat and our Grade 5

students spent two days at the Sovereign Hill Costume School. We have been fortunate to have students write and record their own songs with local musician Amie Sexton. The songs are titled: It's a Snowy Day, Larry the Alien and Mr Ratsy and you can hear them at: soundcloud.com/littlebendigops

Our Grade 3 to 6 students spent three days on camp at Cave Hill Creek last term. It was fantastic to see students grow in confidence and independence and cheer each other on as they climbed the Giant Ladder, went canoeing, boulder climbed and tried archery.

Another highlight last term was a visit from Samuel Johnson (Actor and Philanthropist) who spoke to us about the importance of early detection of cancer and his charity Love Your Sister. The visit was arranged by local charity Twin Hearts. Samuel also displayed his skills on the unicycle!



Some creative student artwork. Image supplied.

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Term 4 is a time of transition for our Grade 6 students who are nearing the completion of their primary school journey and our new Foundation students who will commence school in 2023. Our Grade 6 students are starting to prepare for their graduation. The graduation is very much student-led and includes a dinner and special assembly. Students give a speech that outline their growth and achievements over their time at Little Bendigo. As always, I look forward to hearing about their highlights, the enduring friendships they have formed, their learning, social and emotional growth and the fun times! This term our 2023 Foundation students attend school as part of our transition to school program. This gives them an opportunity to play and make new friends as they explore the school and commence their primary school journey.

We have some places available for students starting school in 2023. Please phone me on 5332 6317 if you would like to arrange a tour of the school and enrol your child here for 2023.

Anthony Tait

Principal, Little Bendigo Primary School, 5332 6317

littlebendigo.ps@education.vic.gov.au

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The Pootilla State School site on Ballarat-Daylesford Road today. No buildings exist. Photographer: Tony Shaw

Pootilla Primary School

Pootilla School (also known as Fellmonger's Road School) was opened on 9 October 1878 with Mr Samuel Trend as head teacher and Miss Cope as sewing mistress. The site recommended by District Inspector Philp was Allotment 3, Section 5, Parish of Bungaree, County of Talbot and part of the water reserve.

It was said to be an excellent school site being in such close proximity to permanent spring water.

In 1878 a wooden portable building measuring 24 feet X 16 feet with attached quarters of three rooms and roofed with iron

was erected at a cost of eighty pounds. Unlike most schools of its size, it had a gallery (similar to a cloakroom). In 1881 the school room was lengthened by 10 feet at a cost of eighty pounds.

In 1879 the name Fellmonger's Road School was changed to Pootilla on the recommendation of the then District Inspector, as Pootilla was the name of the Post Office. In 1880 the enrolment reached 83, mostly the children of timber workers and miners. The school closed on 27 March 1946.

Tony Shaw

*Principal, Glen Park Primary School
(Formerly Bungaree Springs Common
School number 1135)*

Warrenheip Primary School



Prep 2023 Transition Dates



Warrenheip Primary School Prep 2023 Transition Dates are listed below. All sessions will be held in our Prep/One Classroom with Mrs Le Marshall. Students should bring a fruit snack, recess snack, water bottle and a hat on these days. For questions and enrolment information, please call 5354 7294. A reminder our Open Day is 27th October, 9:30-11:30

Tuesday 29th Nov 2022
9:00-11:00

Tuesday 6th Dec 2022
9:00 - 11:30

Tuesday 13th Dec 2022
9:00-12:30

Woodmans Hill Secondary College

From the Principal's desk

You are often advised not to look back but as I reach my fourth year as the Principal of Woodmans Hill Secondary College it is quite reassuring to see how far we have come. Although many of the faces on the staff have changed, as trusted colleagues move on or retire and new staff take their

place, the same belief in our vision that we can make a difference in the lives of our community gets stronger.

It's probably fitting to reflect on the past in this way as we are entering into Year 12 Graduation week. Year 12 Graduation always inspires me as it provides an opportunity for our students to share their destinations, post-school. When I grew up, there were limited chances of work in the area and it was tough to even dream about a future when there was every chance of your

ambitions never coming true. Over the course of the four years that I have been lucky enough to be principal at Woodmans Hill, our students' destinations have become more aspirational and awe-inspiring. This year group, more than any other, have had a hard time and the fact that they have stuck in and not given up on their dreams is a testament to their courage and resilience. These students were Year 9 when I arrived and we became a stand-alone school. They have been instrumental in the many changes that the school has undergone and their positive influence this year is a legacy that will live on. This cohort have stood for social justice, inclusion and caring for their peers. I am incredibly proud of how far they have come and genuinely excited at what they will do next. They are a credit to their families, their school and our wider community and they will go on to do great things. They have also set the bar high for the students who will follow and, if we can continue to do that, we can instil in our students the self-belief needed to be the very best version of yourself that you can be.

It is also fitting to consider our own place in the school's history as we prepare to welcome the class of 1972 to our school for their 50-year reunion. Alumni James Robertson and Ralph Kiel have been the engine that has driven this reunion to take place. I've been lucky enough to spend time with them and hear how fondly they speak of old classmates and teachers alike. There is a real sense of camaraderie that was forged in their time here and they too have

inspiring stories to tell of their achievements since leaving school. Whilst the school's name might have changed a few times along the way, we share the same DNA and come from the same place. Our students need to know that their aspirational and inspirational journeys, about to start, are part of a longer legacy of achievement left by our wider community. I am really looking forward to being part of this momentous event to gain a better sense of our school's history, as well as seeing if we can use this as a springboard to form an Alumni. I believe that a greater connection with past students can help our students see how limitless their potential is.

As well as looking back, it is an exciting time to look forward. At the time of writing, I have just received confirmation of an \$8.59 million investment for my school. This funding allows us to build a Year 7 Centre that will create a safe and nurturing environment with flexible learning spaces. Students will be able to access support and care that still allows them to experience many aspects of high school education through the use of specialist classrooms whilst having a secure base where they can learn, connect and



Stephan Fields, Principal, Woodmans Hill Secondary College. Image supplied.

belong. What we also want to retain is the access that families have with their child's primary school that can often disappear once Year 7 commences. We value the relationships we have with our families and see that we can do more to make them feel they are connected to their child's learning. Therefore, the design of the centre, will ensure that parents feel that they can access the people who will be caring for their child.

It also seems fitting that in the week of Year 12 Graduation, part of this funding will be used for an extension to our Senior School Centre. In preparing the bid, it made complete sense to ensure that both major transition points

were catered for, so the students experiencing the biggest changes were supported by experts, in the best facilities possible. The world of work continues to evolve and the potential pathways that our students will journey on will constantly change. What we need to secure for all students is the confidence, capacity and skills to adapt to the many changes that they are destined to face. Additionally, the changes in the Senior Certificate - particularly the Vocational Major component - require upgraded facilities that provide flexibility beyond the traditional classroom learning space. Our students deserve the very best.

These are exciting times for our community and the phrase upwards and onwards never felt more apt. It pays to look back sometimes to get a sense of how far you've come, but it's more important to look forward and believe that the journey has only just begun.

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

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Our local Neighbourhood Houses



Ballarat East Neighbourhood House

We are huge fans of Barkly Square, Ballarat East. This community hub is home to over 20 community-minded organisations, including the Ballarat Toy Library, Ballarat Tool Library and Repair Cafe, Ballarat Community Men's Shed, Ballarat Wholefoods Collective, Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council, Y Ballarat, Centre for Multicultural Youth, Sports Central, Ballarat Italian Association, Voice FM and many more. The site is owned by the Department of Education and managed by BGT Jobs and Training. There is an amazing social-enterprise cafe (A Pot of Courage) and beautiful artwork and creations made by local artist, Kelsie White.

The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House team enjoy being part of the Barkly Square community and running a range of great activities to bring people together in this fantastic, welcoming space.

We now have the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Community Room, in which we run several of our activities, including



Some of the team behind Ballarat's Neighbourhood Houses (L- R) - Jane Grimwood (Central Highlands Association of Neighbourhood Houses Network Coordinator) and House Managers: Sarah Greenwood-Smith (Ballarat East), Kristen Sheridan (Ballarat North), Vicki Coltman (Ballarat) and Manya Ferwerda (Wendouree). Photographer: Shalini M.

Playgroup, Auslan, Drawing Group, Kids' Club, Hypnotherapy-Meditation and Winter Woollies.

Check out our Term 4 Activities: ballarateastnh.org.au/classes/activities

Zero Waste Homes

We were delighted to be awarded a grant from Sustainability Victoria to work with local environmental educator, Julie White, to co-design a ten-week Zero Waste Homes course for delivery in 2023.

Bringing together expertise from across Ballarat, this hands-on course will take participants on a journey to understand waste and recycling in your homes. You will discover ways to prevent/minimise bringing waste into your home, repair items, re-use items, recycle or, as a last resort, dispose of the waste.

If this is something in which you are interested, as a participant or presenter, please get in touch with the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House team.

Mindfulness in Nature with Art

Join local teacher, Nellie, and local hypnotherapy-meditation expert, Clare for this relaxing weekly art session. Starting on Tuesday 15 November, this five-week course will involve spending time in the gardens surrounding Barkly Square, then creating meaningful art in a peaceful environment. The class will run from 1.30 pm - 3.00 pm and costs \$15.00 per session. Free trial on Tuesday 8 November. Please contact us to find out more.

Be Connected

Free Digital Skills training for people aged 50+

The 'Digital Nation Australia 2021' Report found that 61% of Australians don't feel confident that they can identify misinformation online. It also found that fewer than 40% of Australians felt confident that they could keep up with the rapid pace of change in technology. This increases to 80% of people aged 65+, making them one of the most at-risk groups for digital exclusion in Australia.

The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House is proud to be a Network Partner of the Australian Government's Be Connected program.

If you or someone you know aged 50+ need/s help with your digital device (phone, tablet, laptop), or need some advice about devices, please get in touch so that we can make a time for you to meet with our experienced Digital Mentor, Greg. This is a free program.

Walking Group

As the weather starts to warm up you might like to try out our weekly Walking Group. We meet at 9.30 am on Wednesday mornings during school term and walk from Barkly Square, along the Specimen Vale Creek Trail to Eureka Centre Ballarat and return. The walk is 3.6 km and usually takes a bit under an hour. All welcome.

Chatty Wednesdays

From 10.30 am - 11.30 am on Wednesdays, a welcoming and friendly group of locals meet at the amazing A Pot of Courage Cafe at Barkly Square for a cuppa and a chat. All welcome.

We look forward to seeing you at Barkly Square, joining one of our activities and connecting with others from our wonderful community.

*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**



Ballarat North Neighbourhood House

The Ballarat North Neighbourhood House is developing a few new programs and we would love to hear from you!

Book Magic

We are about to begin a new program for mums/female caregivers who would like some tips and tricks to support their pre-school children to prepare for school and to develop a love of books! Book Magic begins in November!

Ukulele Classes

There has been some interest in the local community for the house to start a ukulele class! If you think you may like to join, please contact us. Start dates to be confirmed.



Ballarat North Neighbourhood House, 6 Crompton Street, Soldier's Hill. Image supplied.

Photography

This program is design to support you to get the best out of your camera. Whether you have a fancy SLR or use your phone, we would like to support you to take better photos and learn how to edit the not so good shots! Start dates to be confirmed.

Volunteers

Finally, we are developing a number of volunteer opportunities, so anyone who would like to volunteer in a range of positions is encouraged to contact us via our website or by giving us a call.

If you are interested in providing some feedback or attending these sessions, please contact us on **0491 753 307** to have a chat (our desk phone is currently unavailable). You can also find our calendar of activities and further program information online.

*Kristen Sheridan, Manager,
Ballarat North Neighbourhood House
6 Crompton Street, Soldier's Hill
0491 753 307*

*ballaratnorthNH@salvationarmy.org.au
socialplanet.com.au/at/ballarat-
north-neighbourhood-house*

**8.45 am - 3.30 pm Mondays,
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
during school term**

Brown Hill Senior Citizen's Club

Members are continuing to enjoy being back at their Brown Hill Hall clubrooms.

Indoor bowls, euchre, scrabble and Hoi are enjoyed. New members are always welcome. Never played indoor bowls? You will be guided in the game by the friendly bowls members and, judging by the cheers and claps coming from the main hall, they are having a lot of fun.

A call out to euchre players – we would like more of you. We do not play for ‘sheep stations’ but you could win a chocolate bar.

Our bus trip on 14 September was enjoyed with a ‘Garden River Cruise’ up the Yarra and back to Southbank. A bus ride to Williamstown where we chose our own activities – walks, eating, shopping, enjoying the lovely old shops. Back to the bus and home to the Brown Hill Hall.

Our third bus trip for the year is to the ‘Star Spanner Sculpture Garden’ at Boort. Many would know this as ‘The Spanner Man’. A two-course pre-ordered lunch at the Wedderburn Hotel and back to Brown Hill Hall. This has proved to be a very popular destination, hiring a 58 seater bus and there is a wait list.

As part of the Brown Hill Seniors celebrating ‘Seniors’ Week’, on Monday 17 October Brown Hill Seniors held a ‘Round Robin Bowls Bash’ at the clubrooms. Members from the other clubs were invited to take part in this fun event with teams being pulled ‘out of a hat’.

December will quickly come around. On Monday 5 December we will be celebrating at the Hall our 52nd birthday. Entertainment is Sun Aria winner, local ‘boy’ Jason Wasley. Afternoon tea, raffle and door prize. Two members from other clubs are invited to join us.

12 December is our Christmas luncheon at the Golf House Hotel which is our final meeting for the year. The Club will resume on 6 February, 2023.

Dianne Eden, President.

*Dianne Eden, President,
Brown Hill Senior's Club
5331 1769 or 0428 379 979*

Ballarat Residents and Ratepayers Association

Seeking Brown Hill Members

Ballarat Residents and Ratepayers Association (BRRRA) has called upon Brown Hill locals to be part of a new movement which proposes to liaise with the City of Ballarat council to advocate for issues about which members are most concerned.

Headed up by President Bruce Crawford, the bi-monthly meeting invites paid members and new applicants to discuss prominent issues and determine actions that will give a voice to individuals and groups concerned about council involvement, or lack thereof, in projects and maintenance around Ballarat.

With approximately 32 members to date, the group began in late 2019 and efforts were dampened

by the rapid growth of the COVID-19 pandemic when meetings were largely delayed and actions held off. However, in moving forward the group has reconvened for face-to-face meetings and has gathered renewed momentum with increased interest from new members, local media and other advocacy groups.

One area well under-represented in the group is Brown Hill and with raised concerns such as the future of the Brown Hill Reserve and swimming pool, lack of footpaths, school traffic safety, Yarrowee River pollution and general growth within the area, Bruce says it's a crucial time for Brown Hill residents to ensure their voices are heard throughout the decision-making process.

“It often feels as though, unless you live in certain areas of Ballarat, your suburb and your opinion is not as important,” Bruce says. “We hope to gain new members such as young families, community groups and passionate advocates from Brown Hill, who can help us understand these local issues and ensure that our rates paid return good value for money.”

“We see hundreds of thousands of dollars being spent on community consultation and projects for the tourist zones of Ballarat, while suburban areas like Brown Hill struggle to get traffic islands or low speed zones to help students safely cross busy roads to school,” says Bruce.

*brra.asn.au
facebook.com/ballaratresidents/*

Louise Jones, Lead Writer



Artwork from the portrait session with Jon Lam. Image supplied.

Ballarat Society of Artists

The Ballarat Society of Artists Inc. are enjoying a wonderful year with many new members and opportunities to exhibit and get together. We still meet on the first Saturday of the month at 10.30 am at the Brown Hill Uniting Church Hall, but a new gathering takes place once a month at Accent Framing in Sturt Street. It is called 'Art at the Framers' and is for members and non-members. This is usually one night, during the last week of the month, between 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm. It is a chance for anyone who wants to create to get together for a chat and work on their art. It is proving very popular with about 6 to 8 people attending - if you are interested please contact Sue (details below).

Workshops continue to be held at the Brown Hill Uniting Church

Hall and Jon Lam has been the latest artist to share his talents with fellow members, with a portrait session and some follow-on sessions for October/November. Our artists have been busy at the Wendouree Museum with Glimpses which will close on 30 October with a new exhibition being set up on 5 November 2022 running to 5 March 2023. It is titled *Explore - A View of Ballarat and Regions*.

Arts at the Lake begins again on 6 November and will run until 1 May 2023. Depending on the weather, artists will be at Lake Wendouree on Sundays, just south of Pipers and the cannons - keep a look out for us.

There is a plan to have a Christmas exhibition at Barkly Square from 5 to 12 December.

This is another opportunity to share our art with the audience in Ballarat East and provide a chance for early Christmas gifts with cards, unframed works and merchandise available over that week, between 10.00 am and 3.00 pm. Members have also been involved in private exhibitions around Ballarat, including Accent Framing, Websters Café and The Gatehouse Ballarat.

An exciting social event for this year is a planned paddleboat ride and meal in November to celebrate the 40th anniversary of our incorporation.

We continue to be a very active group and we are always looking for new members who would like to join and share their art with other artists. All are welcome, no matter what your ability.

Beginners to professional artists are all members of our group - that is what makes it such a special group in Ballarat.

Sue Clarke, Business Secretary, BSA Inc.

*bsamember16@gmail.com
ballaratartists.asn.au*

Interviewing and writing

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

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newsletter@brownhill.vic.au*



Brown Hill Uniting Church

Thoughts for Spring

"Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."

Desmond Tutu

After the winter, God sends the Spring

Springtime is a season of hope and joy and cheer,

There's beauty all around us to see and touch and hear.

So, no matter how down heartened and discouraged we may be,

New hope is born when we behold leaves budding on a tree,

or when we see a timid flower push through the frozen sod

and open wide in glad surprise it's petaled eyes to God.

For this is just God saying, "Lift up your eyes to Me,

and the bleakness of your spirit, like the budding springtime tree,

will lose its wintry darkness and your heavy heart will sing",

for God never sends the Winter without the joy of Spring!

Helen Steiner Rice

May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace by means of your faith in him, so that your hope will continue to grow by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

Thank you to members of the Brown Hill Community who supported the Uniting Appeal, through Brown Hill Uniting Church, for warm coats, blankets and bedding for those sleeping rough during our cold winter. These items were much appreciated by Uniting Ballarat, who are busy supporting the many families doing it tough at this time.

The **Craft Group** is meeting on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month at 1.30 pm in the church hall, unless otherwise notified. Come along if you're interested in doing any sort of craft or just come for a chat if you're not!

The **Op. Shop** is open on Thursdays and Fridays 9.30 am - 12.30 pm providing our community with very good quality clothing and bric-a-brac at very affordable prices.

Our **Sunday Service** is at 10.00 am except for the 5th Sunday when our congregation choose to visit other churches.

Our **Wednesday Communion** is at 1.30 pm in our hall for those who like a midweek opportunity.

Louise Wright
Brown Hill Uniting Church

Men's Breakfast

Presentation made by Brett Edgington, Secretary of the Ballarat Trades and Labour Council, 27 September 2022, to the Brown Hill Uniting Church Men's Community Breakfast.

Brett's presentation took us on a fascinating journey through the history of Ballarat as viewed through the eyes of everyday workers.

The journey started with the



Men's Breakfast. Image supplied.

battle over unfairly high gold licence charges and led to the Eureka Stockade Rebellion on 3 December, 1854. This was closely followed by the formation of the Ballarat Trades and Labour Council in 1883, one of the oldest unions in the world, and in conclusion he focused on current issues facing workers, one of the largest being their mental health.

Surprisingly, 70 percent of current members are female, primarily being nurses and teachers, where the historic inequity of their wages, in comparison to males, is still a huge issue.

Another big issue was the future make-up of the skilled labour force, with only 13% of apprentices completing their apprenticeship. The transition from small builders who employed their own team and supervised their apprentices, to that of project builders who sub-contract out most of their labour force, leaves limited opportunities for ongoing mentorship, for sharing of apprentice issues and individual support. These apprentices now feel very isolated.

On behalf of the attendees, I would like to express our gratitude and say a big thank you to Brett for the time and effort that he put into his presentation. His approach was very informative and engaging, as evidenced by the

number of questions the men asked him. I was personally engrossed by the way that he clarified the role of Unions from one hundred plus years ago to the present. He certainly gave me much to think about.

Thank you also to those who attended, along with the Church Council, for their donations to Uniting Ballarat's Emergency Relief program. The Men's Breakfast has become an integral part of Brown Hill community events, which provide opportunities for men, many of whom live alone, to socialise and grow in knowledge across a broad series of presentations.

In appreciation, Rob Soar, Brown Hill

Mt Xavier Golf & Bowls Club

Strong, Successful and Fun

The past two years have been challenging for most organisations. However, as a results of sound administrative decisions and increased participation, Mt. Xavier Golf and Bowls Club has gone from strength to strength. Currently, the club is seeking to redevelop adjacent crown land on the corner of Fussell and Fortune Streets.

Silver Sponsor



Mt. Xavier Golf & Bowls Club. Photographer: Michael Haywood

During this period the club has had success on the sporting fields as well. In 2021, Mt. Xavier won the Ballarat District Golf Incorporated Handicap pennant title. In 2022 the club also added the Scratch division title to its list of achievements. This was the club's 4th highest level victory in fourteen years.

On the bowling green the club has had success winning the Ballarat District Bowls Division 4 pennant. In addition, members Stacey Forrest, Ben McDonald and Phil McGrath were selected to represent Ballarat in intercity events against Geelong.

More importantly, members have continued to enjoy their sporting pursuits, social activities and

camaraderie in its friendly, inclusive and welcoming club atmosphere situated in a picturesque location in the Eastern suburbs of Ballarat.

Mt. Xavier welcomes new members and visitors to utilise its facilities and experience the fun in a relaxed atmosphere. If you would like more information, feel free to contact the club.

Information about upcoming and past events can be found on the club's Facebook page.

We look forward to seeing you at Mt. Xavier.

Michael Haywood, Secretary, Mt. Xavier Golf & Bowls Club
5331 3691 or 0418 331 051
mtxaviergolfclub@bigpond.com



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
members
welcome

Find us on 

Y Learn and Swim takes shape



Artist's impression of the new Y Learn and Swim centre. Image supplied.

While there's been plenty of mud and rain recently, there's also been plenty of progress at the site for Y Ballarat's new innovative centre located in Water Street, Brown Hill. Y Learn and Swim is on track to open early 2023. The centre will offer long day care, kindergarten and swimming lessons all in one location, helping to smooth out all those drop-offs and pick-ups for families.

The Early Learning section of the building is nearing completion, with plastering, tiling and cabinetry installation taking place. The ELC has been planned to provide rich environments and experiences to initiate learning and safe spaces where children can explore and express themselves. Catering for children

Advertisement

between the ages of 6 weeks and 5 years old, the centre will have five specially designed rooms for different age ranges. Fifteen hours of free kindergarten programs will also be available for 3 and 4 year olds.

"We're really excited about the early education offer we're delivering at Y Learn and Swim," said Vicki Dobson, Executive Manager, Children's Services at the Y Ballarat. "Not only does our new centre provide the unique opportunity to embed water safety and fun into all aspects of our program, but there will also be an emphasis on developing a special connection to natural learning environments."

Bush Kinder or nature-based play is a valuable part of the

curriculum and is being included at every Y Kinders' centre. At Y Learn and Swim, these experiences will be offered not just for the older children but for all ages.

At the front of the building the pool hall is taking shape with the steel framing in place and the roof going on. Children's swim lessons will be available 7 days a week in the 17 metre warm water pool. Classes will be open to the public and children enrolled in the ELC. Enrolments for the ELC will open in November.

For more information and to be kept up to date with the progress of the centre and enrolment information see

ylearnandswim.org.au

The Y Ballarat



BE Medical
BALLARAT EAST MEDICAL
216 Humffray St Nth
Ballarat East, VIC 3350
Phone: 5332 1355

Ballarat East Medical (BEM) will be welcoming a new doctor in the new year and accepting new patients. BEM is a family friendly practice offering a variety of consultations for all ages. In addition to GP consultations we offer chronic disease management; mental health management; counselling and structured relaxation programs for stress management. We have a visiting psychologist and affiliation with a psychiatrist who consults through telehealth. Laser therapy is offered by an independent trained therapist for pain relief and healing.

We look forward to welcoming you to our practice in the New Year.



Wallaby Track parkrun participants Ian, Abbie and friends, in action. Image supplied.

Wallaby Track parkrun

After a couple of years of lockdowns and not being able to run our parkrun during winter, we have finally had a full winter's worth of Saturday morning parkruns. We've never been sure how our parkrun would go through a Ballarat winter and we probably still don't know what a "normal" winter is like. It would be great to say we've been blessed with wonderful sunny mornings, but as we all know, it's been quite a wet one.

Coming into spring the expectations were that we would see a little more sun...then came the rain again and those floods which caused massive flooding down at the track.

Although it was wet and cold, winter was as exciting as ever for our parkrun. We've had lots of people achieve milestones for their runs, walks and volunteering roles. Some of those milestones have been 250/100/50 runs, 25/50 volunteering sessions as well as

some of our junior runners celebrating reaching 10 runs! Although it's not all about the milestones, it's always great celebrating the achievement with people and it's so good seeing people participating in their milestone shirts.

We also had a film crew come and do a video on one of our local parkrunners who bravely shared their story for the parkrun Australia community and at the parkrun Australia conference. As a parkrun community, we are so privileged to be able to be part of people's stories. Hearing how parkrun has made a difference in their life is amazing.

October had us celebrate "parkwalk" month where people were encouraged to come along and participate by walking the event. We are fortunate at Wallaby Track that we have so many people come and join us by walking each week and it's great to see such a range of runners and

walkers participating. What is really special though is to see all those people encouraging each other along the way, whether it's a personal best or being able to walk 5km for the first time after injury. If you've always thought parkrun was just for runners then you need to come and join us to see that it's for runners, walkers, shufflers and everybody in-between.

Due to the floods the tunnel is currently cut-off by floodwaters. Fortunately, we have an alternative course (using the same start and finish). The track looks to have sustained a large amount of damage which we hope can be repaired soon.

Join us on **Saturday 24 December** for a free BBQ at the Wallaby Track parkrun, hosted by the Brown Hill Progress Association.

Aaron and Laurinda Coulter
 Wallaby Track parkrun
coordinatorswallabytrack@parkrun.com
 Find us on Facebook
parkrun.com.au/wallabytrack

Ballarat East Avenue of Honour Brown Hill

When Faye Parry began researching the history of the Warrenheip Memorial Hall, she never imagined it would lead her back to the very street she grew up in and then walked along to school every day of her childhood.

Mrs Parry's research eventually included what was once the glorious Ballarat East Avenue of Honour where trees were planted for diggers from Ballarat East, from the eight Bowling Clubs of Ballarat, from the Shire of Bungaree and from the Shire of Buninyong.

Planted in 1917, the avenue stretched along Victoria Street (from Stawell Street), past the Caledonian Bridge along (what is now) Old Melbourne Road, past Boundary Road and out into both (what were then) the Shire of Bungaree and the Shire of Buninyong. All the name plates were removed later when they were duplicated in The Ballarat Avenue of Honour past the Arch of Victory. The Avenue signs remained until the late 1940s, when they were eventually removed due to neglect and overgrowth, (front page story in The Courier Friday 16 April 1948), and many trees were demolished for highway works in the 1960s.

Through the 1950s and 60s, Mrs Parry walked from her family home known as "The Manse" at the top of Old Melbourne Rd, along the avenue to school at Brown Hill Primary and then Ballarat East High School, always knowledgeable of its history.

As fate would have it, Mrs Parry's research of the Memorial Hall in Warrenheip, where she has lived



Mrs Faye Parry, Researcher and Previous Resident of Brown Hill. Photographer: Louise Jones

now for many years with her family, led her on a journey back to her home grounds, where she located one of Warrenheip's Honour Boards in the Brown Hill Uniting Church and where she helped with re-planting a section of the Ballarat East Avenue of Honour.

With only a handful of trees still existing, Mrs Parry contacted the City of Ballarat and shortly thereafter a grant was received to replant 72 of the trees. On the 105th anniversary of the original tree plantings, volunteers from the Brown Hill Progress Association and the Brown Hill Lions Club helped Council and Veteran representatives plant the new trees. Faye hopes further funding can help plant more trees for the avenue, replace the signage and potentially see the construction of an interpretive board and a remembrance cairn for the soldiers.

Having lived outside the Brown Hill border in recent years, Mrs Parry (nee Woodward) has not been a recipient of the Brown Hill Newsletter. But with her family's strong ties and long history within the Brown Hill area, a wealth of knowledge and many stories to share, we hope she will be so kind as to share them in our newsletter over the coming issues. And we will endeavour to get the newsletters (past and present) sent to her by email!

*Louise Jones
Lead Writer*

For an historic image of the Ballarat East Avenue of Honour Tree Planting in August 1917, visit: collections.museumsvictoria.com.au/items/766170