

Brown Hill Community Newsletter

Edition 36, Autumn 2023

*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.*



*Chris Rix ready to supervise Caledonian kids crossing Thompson Street,
Photographer: Sarah Greenwood-Smith*

Diary Dates

APRIL

Thursday 6: Last day of School Term 1

Friday 7: Good Friday

Tuesday 11: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill Progress Association meeting. Brown Hill Hall. (p.4)

Tuesday 11: Early Learning Centre at Y Learn and Swim, Brown Hill opens (p.11)

...continued p.2

Chris keeps Caledonian kids safe and smiling

Brown Hill local, Chris Rix, has been a well-loved and much-respected crossing supervisor for 26 years. What a wonderful achievement!

Chris began as a Crossing Supervisor on 14 August 1996 and has worked at various school crossings, including Sutton Street, Ballarat High School and, in Brown Hill, Water Street, Old Melbourne Road and the Scott Parade intersection before the roundabout was installed. In between all of these sites, Chris filled in at the Thompson Street school crossing for Caledonian Primary School. She made such a good impression that the principal at the time requested that she be given the job on a full-time basis. Chris has been the Crossing

Supervisor at Thompson Street for the past 18 years.

Caledonian Primary School Grade One student, Edwin, says, "I like that Chris knows all the kids names" and his friend, Toby, says, "I like seeing Chris in the morning 'cos she always says hello".

Over her time in the role, Chris has safely escorted at least two generations of children over the crossing - to school in the morning and towards home in the afternoon. Chris is there come heat, cold, rain, hail or snow! All generations of children know her as Chris and are welcomed to school every day, as are their parents/guardians/grandparents/siblings. Local parent, Jane, says, "I appreciate the calm and care Chris brings to the start (and end)

of each busy school day".

Grade Five student, Ivy, says, "I like going to school in the morning and being greeted by Chris as she's always happy and smiling and gets us across safely".

What a lovely start to the day for so many children.

The school community and the Brown Hill community would like to thank Chris for her devotion to duty and look forward to her continuing to welcome us each day.

Grade Three student, Henry, says, "I hope that Chris is always my crossing person at Caledonian Primary School".

*John O'Brien,
Brown Hill Progress Association*

...continued from p.1

APRIL

Friday 14: 10.00 am-12.00 noon,
Feeling Out Loud Workshop:
Slammin' Spoken Word Ballarat
Library at Town Hall (p.12)

Friday 28: 5.00 - 6.00 pm, Brown
Hill Auskick, Brown Hill Reserve
(p.21)

Wednesday 26: 6.30 pm, Brown
Hill Recreation Reserve
Masterplan presented at City of
Ballarat Council Meeting (p.3)

Wednesday 26: 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm,
Growing in to Autism
presentation, Eureka Centre, 102
Stawell Street (p.12)

MAY

Tuesday 9: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill
Progress Association meeting.
Brown Hill Hall. All welcome. (p.4)

Thursday 11: 10.30 am - 12.00
noon, Brown Hill Uniting Church
Morning Tea (p.10)

Saturday 27: 8.30 am, Brown Hill
Uniting Church Men's Breakfast
(p. 10)

JUNE

Tuesday 6 & 20: Free Workshop -
Managing difficult conversations
and situations (p.25)

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.*

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

Accounts Manager: Brendan
Stevens

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 37 articles are due by
Friday 2 June 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/

Printed by Ballarat Mailworks at
512 Dowling Street, Wendouree,
on 100% recycled paper.

This publication is licensed as
Creative Commons Attribution-
ShareAlike 4.0 International.
Layout using Scribus 1.4.3

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



From the editor

Yet again I feel so proud to be a member of the Brown Hill community.

When putting together this (enormous) edition, I have been so impressed and inspired by the stories from people in, or connected to, Brown Hill.

We have individuals, such as Crossing Supervisor, Chris, who has given years of service to keeping children and their families safe and also many, many local community groups through which hundreds of volunteers contribute to make ours a wonderful, vibrant and connected place to live.

One of our Editorial Advisory Committee members commented on how many amazing opportunities for life-long learning and connection are available to the Brown Hill community - from our playgroup to early learning centres and kindergartens, primary and secondary schools to neighbourhood houses. This is in addition to the wide variety of community groups which would all welcome new volunteers to learn skills whilst contributing.

Advertisement

We hope you enjoy this edition (the first in a little while due to the limited capacity of our small volunteer team) and would welcome a chat with anyone who would like to help us out!

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

Brown Hill Recreation Reserve, Master Plan Report (draft)

Ballarat City Council recently invited the Brown Hill Progress Association (BHPA) to attend a meeting for the stakeholder user groups of Brown Hill Reserve regarding the Reserve's Draft Masterplan.

On receiving a copy of the draft plan, BHPA members met and discussed the document and agreed to offer support for the report's overall direction and the actions outlined. The delivery is to be in a staged process over the next four years.

As the BHPA's role in the community is to represent Brown

Hill residents, especially those who are not involved with the more formal areas of the Reserve, the BHPA provided feedback to the Council with comments relating specifically to the pool precinct and the eastern area of the reserve. This feedback was based on the outcomes of the BHPA survey conducted through July 2021.

The final draft master plan documents will be presented for adoption at the City of Ballarat Council meeting on Wednesday 26 April 2023 (documents are labelled draft until adopted by Council). BHPA will be represented at this Council meeting and will report back through a future edition of the newsletter.

The draft report and BHPA's response can be found on the Brown Hill Community Online Hub for residents who wish further information:
brownhill.vic.au

Please refer to the centre-spread of this edition for a full-colour diagram of the plan. Thanks to the City of Ballarat for contributing to the printing costs so that the map could be in full colour.

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



WE'RE BRINGING BACK THE

\$250

POWER SAVING BONUS

AND THE SEC

Head to compare.energy.vic.gov.au to claim your \$250 bonus.

If you need assistance completing your application, please contact my office.

Michaela Settle MP
Member for Eureka

 15 Main Road, Bakery Hill VIC 3350  5331 7722

 michaela.settle@parliament.vic.gov.au  MichaelaSettleMP

Brown Hill Progress Association

From the Secretary's Desk

Welcome back to hopefully a bright and busy 2023. The first meeting of the Brown Hill Progress Association (BHPA) was on Tuesday 14 February at the Brown Hill Hall and scheduled meetings are now bi-monthly on the second Tuesday at 7.00 pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and have a chat or listen and we are always looking for assistance. Our committee was ravaged by COVID at the end of 2022 so it's great to get the "band" back together.

The committee looks forward to working and consulting with the City of Ballarat over the next year to get some action with the redevelopment of the Brown Hill Reserve. Funds promised by Michaela Settle, our local MP, should give this project some weight and hopefully a completed plan for the park area will be available in the not too distant future.

It's great to see the bridgework well and truly underway over the



Brendan Stevens with Federal MP Catherine King. Image supplied.

creek in Water Street, giving much improved access to the Cafe/Post Office area and a nice wide path to go south towards Caledonian Primary School and north to the Kindergarten/Day Care Centre. The disruption of a speed restriction and some dirt and dust will soon be forgotten once the bridge and last bit of footpath construction is complete.

A big thanks must go to the council crew who cleaned up all along the Wallaby Track on the north side of the freeway after the floods at the end of 2022. The debris and fallen trees were all cleared away quickly after the water had receded and the track smoothed out and regavelled where needed. The "Grand

Canyon" dug away on the south side of the tunnel will take a bit longer and some major engineering to clean up, but hopefully soon. It has been a win for the gold fossickers among us with several panning and gold detectors seeing a glint of yellow after putting in the hours. Apparently there has been a few finds along the Yarrowee - good luck to them.

A fellow committee member and I were lucky enough to have a chat again with Federal MP Catherine King in her caravan office on 11 February. Catherine has been a great supporter over the years, especially when she took our call for a Post Office to Canberra last year. We always want to keep her in the loop with what's happening locally and she is generous with her time as we were one of half a dozen people who dropped in to see her in the burgundy caravan parked in front of the Hall.

All the best to the community for 2023 and the best way to get in touch with BHPA is via email, bhpa@brownhill.vic.au or come along and say hello at our meetings. Keep well, Brendan

2023 Meetings

Tuesdays, 7.00 pm:

11 April, 9 May, 11 July, 12 September and 14 November

Advertisement

Catherine KING MP

Federal Member for Ballarat

03 5338 8123

Catherine.King.MP@aph.gov.au

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

[@CatherineKingMP](https://twitter.com/CatherineKingMP)

Standing up for our Community!

www.catherineking.com.au


Authorised by Catherine King, Australian Labor Party, 5/8 Sydney Avenue Barton ACT.



Bronze Sponsor

matt wilson electrical

REC 24006



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/](https://www.facebook.com/mattwilsonelctrical/)

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

Post Office

It has been five months and how lucky are we to have the Café and Post Office hub in Water Street. The convenience of a local full-time Post Office cannot be overstated and support from the community is essential for its viability. Please take advantage of:

- * The banking services, bill paying, deposits, withdrawals can all happen here
- * Use the the fantastic parcel send and pick up service
- * Drop in and set up a post box
- * Have a look around the shop and in the catalogue for your stationery needs.

Dayle and Mick also now welcome Sharon to the team.

Local Bus Network

There is a number of issues, challenges and opportunities for the bus network across Brown Hill and Ballarat.

While Council does not run the buses – they're run by Public Transport Victoria – the City of Ballarat has been advocating to the State Government for many years for a review of the Ballarat bus network.

Ballarat's bus network currently caters for only a small percent of travel in the city due to a number of issues. However, a strong bus network plays an important role in reducing peak congestion, particularly around schools and activity centres such as the CBD and Wendouree.

We think getting across Ballarat on the bus should be faster and simpler. Share your experience: ballarat.vic.gov.au/busnetwork



Bev Duffin. Image supplied by Darren.

Vale Bev Duffin

It is with a heavy heart that the BHPA committee sends our condolences to the Duffin family on the loss of their matriarch, Mum and Grandmum Bev at the end of 2022.

The Duffins have a long history in the Brown Hill Community and were owners of the original service station that disappeared when the freeway bypass road was constructed.

Bev had a great love of the area and during the 15 years that the BHPA was running the Community Pool, Bev was a very active volunteer and gave many hours of her time and energy in the kiosk. She had a lot of experience in bookkeeping and retail and her skills were put to good use in the workings of the shop. We appreciated her wise advice to make sure we were well-stocked whenever a public holiday was coming up, and she never let the dim sim steamer boil dry.

Bev spent many hours counting out lollies into bags and loved serving the kids. She had a great respect for good manners and expected her customers to be the same. So “please” and “thank you” were the order of the day when she was on duty.

The BHPA survives on volunteers

like Bev and we will all miss her. She now joins our list of departed kiosk workers and hope she says hi to Gary and Di Stevens, also former pool volunteers, as she moves into the kiosk of the hereafter.

Join the Newsletter Team

After seven years and 36 editions the award winning Brown Hill Newsletter is going through a period of transition from the foundation team to whatever happens next.

Can you as an individual or others you may know as a group assist with the ongoing production of a quarterly newsletter?

If so, please contact Brendan (bhpa@brownhill.vic.au or 0409 018 867) or Sarah (newsletter@brownhill.vic.au).

Assistance and training will be provided. No one is going to be thrown in the deep end!

Our terrific team of volunteer delivery people will still continue to distribute the publication.

We also encourage Brown Hill community members to use available digital network links to keep up with and share their views and information. Links are available through the:

* Brown Hill Community Online Hub: brownhill.vic.au/newsletter

* Brown Hill Community Newsletter on Facebook

* Brown Hill Community Noticeboard on Facebook

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

Ballarat Fire Brigade CFA

Did you know that the Ballarat Fire Brigade is a fully volunteer brigade. Ballarat Fire Brigade currently has 65 members and is made up of three categories:

*** Junior Members**

(11 to 15 years old)

*** Operational Members**

(firefighters 16 years old and above)

*** Brigade Members**

(non-firefighters - 16 years old and above)

The brigade responds to between 400 and 500 calls a year including house fires, vehicle collisions/rescues, bush and grass fires, chemical spills, car fires, community service calls and much more (yes, we do get called to cats up trees). Last year the brigade responded to 466 calls to a vast variety of incidents. Members also attend the station weekly to undertake training, station duties and meetings.

Members also assist in many other activities throughout the year including:

* Fundraising for the brigade



The magnificent Ballarat Fire Brigade Station, Barkly Street, Ballarat East. Image supplied/

* Fundraising Royal Childrens Hospital Appeal (raised \$213,096.00 in 17 years)

* Fuel reduction and environmental burn offs

* Community education/engagement (school and kindergarten visits, community events etc)

* Servicing of fire equipment (extinguishers)

* Station Open Days for the public

The brigade covers an area of approximately 35 square kilometres and a population of just over 20,000. Suburbs we respond to as our primary brigade

area include Ballarat East, Eureka, Black Hill, Bakery Hill, Canadian, Golden Point, Mount Pleasant and parts of Mount Clear, Brown Hill, Nerrina, Ballarat North, Warrenheip and Ballarat Central. These areas include residential, bushland, farming land, industry, commercial and several major transport routes through Ballarat.

The brigade is also the primary Road Crash Rescue provider, covering an area approximately 30 minutes in any direction from our station.

Mark Cartledge AFSM
Captain/Officer in Charge
Ballarat Fire Brigade
20-22 Barkly Street Ballarat East

Bronze Sponsor

If it leaks, we'll fix it
N.V. POLLARD PLUMBING

Neil Pollard
0484 002 533
4333 8065
nvpollard@gmail.com

Prompt & Reliable Service

Bronze Sponsor

BALLARAT TREEWORKS

CALL 0417 370 312
WWW.BALLARATTREEWORKS.COM.AU

YOUR TREE CARE & MAINTENANCE PROFESSIONALS

Glen Park Fire Brigade

When most people hear that I am Captain of Glen Park Fire Brigade their first reaction is “I’ve never heard of Glen Park. Where is it?”

Well, Glen Park Fire Station is only 5 km northeast of the Brown Hill Post Office.

We are a very friendly, 100% Volunteer Fire Brigade.

The brigade's primary response area covers a major part of the state forest as well as a large section of urban growth area in the North East of Brown Hill. As well as Glen Park, our primary response area takes in parts of Brown Hill, Nerrina, Invermay, Pootilla, Clarkes Hill and Creswick. The White Swan Reservoir, Ballarat’s main water supply, is right in the middle of Glen Park.

Our Brigade has two appliances, a 4WD tanker and an Ultra-Light which can access more remote areas. Our brigade has a large amount of equipment to assist our community including specialised equipment such as breathing apparatus, remote area lighting and a structural thermal imaging camera.

The brigade attends over 60 calls a year including, fires, accidents, rescues and community assistance. We are currently looking for new members to assist in all roles within the brigade.

If you are interested, please contact me on **5334 5524** or visit **cfa.vic.gov.au**.

*Tracey Webber, Captain
Glen Park Fire Brigade
facebook.com/glenparkfirebrigade*



Brown Hill FireAware

Improving mobile phone reception for Brown Hill residents northside – **Good News!**

Many Brown Hill residents northside, especially those who live in the area around Springs Road, have reported poor, intermittent or non-existent mobile phone coverage for many years. As this is an area of high bushfire risk, Brown Hill Fire Aware Network believe a strong and consistent mobile phone coverage should be seen as an essential communication tool during emergency events.

One of our Cluster Contacts, Jeff Dobell, put together a survey of residents in the affected area in 2020. At the close of the survey 168 responses had been received. This was a great response when it was estimated there were around 350-450 houses in the designated area. Many thanks to all the residents who took part in the survey. The responses supported our concerns that phone reception was poor to non-existent in a significant proportion of the area.

Since then, Jeff and supporters lobbied wherever possible to highlight the issue. In 2021 the State Government announced the

Connecting Victoria program, with the aim to fast-track better mobile coverage and broadband across the State. The government allocated \$550 million toward this program.

And now to the good news! An exciting development towards improving mobile phone reception in northside Brown Hill may be one step closer. A resident in Hill View Road has received a letter advising that Telstra is proposing to build a mobile phone tower on Central Highlands Water land facing Gong Gong Road, Brown Hill. This is a high point overlooking the Springs Road valley and surrounds. Jeff is also aware that Optus is similarly exploring sites in the same area for a phone tower.

The letter states: Notification of Planning Permit Application. Proposed Telecommunications Facility at 265 Daylesford Rd, Gong Gong...The antennas will provide Telstra 4G/5G telecommunications to the area; funding through Connecting Victoria Program.

It is hoped that this will at last give the area much improved and dependable mobile phone reception. Nothing like being a squeaky wheel to help things along. Well done, Jeff!

*Hazen Cleary
Brown Hill FireAware Network
Coordinator, 0408 690 493
[FireAwareNetwork](https://FireAwareNetwork.com)*

Brown Hill Lions Club

Skin Cancer Screening Day

As reported earlier the Lions Club held a Skin Cancer Screening two-day event in late November.

Figures show it proved a highly successful venture.

Total people screened:
96 (40 males – 56 females)

People referred for further tests:
19 (21%)

The feedback from participants was very encouraging.

BBQ at the Y facility

Our Lions Club recently conducted a BBQ at the new “Y” facility due to open soon. It is great to see Brown Hill moving forward with new facilities.

Members recently installed a new sign at Inkerman Gully Reserve

Advertisement

Ballarat North. This area has been a project of our Lions Club for many years. The City of Ballarat is in the process of further improvements to this area and the Brown Hill Lions Club are in discussions with the Council to be involved with these upgrades.

Help Help Help Help

We need your help !!!

We are a small Club working in your local Community and we need support to continue.

How can you help?

Join our Club to give us more input in to fundraising – new ideas to improve your community.

How can we help your local organisation?

We have BBQ facilities to help run BBQs for your much needed funds.

We can all work together to help our community.

For more information and support

Contact Secretary, Barry Davis, (details below) or Membership Chairman, Ian Drew, 0428 503 092.

Barry Davis

Secretary, Brown Hill Lions Club

0418 580 971

barglen9@bigpond.net.au



Pipe Band Learners program

The Ballarat Pipe Band is currently welcoming learners from around 10 years of age, for bagpipes and snare drums.

Benefits of playing in a pipe band:

* Teamwork, confidence and self-esteem. Strengthening lungs

BROWN HILL POST OFFICE

- * Open from 8.00 am until 6.00 pm
- * Parcel Collection - Use the Post Office as your delivery address for safe and dry parcels
- * Post Office Boxes
- * Banking - Deposits and withdrawals
- * Bill Payment
- * Cards and Gifts
- * Mobile Phone Prepaid Re-Charge
- * Foreign Currency for Travelling
- * Friendly Local Staff



69 Water Street, Brown Hill

(piping), dress and discipline, plus fun and friendship.

* It opens doors to travel. The band has travelled to compete in New Zealand, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia, New South Wales, and Tasmania.

* Members of the band have competed in Scotland at the World Pipe Band Championships and other competitions and played at the Edinburgh Tattoo.

The band practises on Wednesday nights from 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm. Learner piper sessions are from 6.30 pm. We practise either at the band room, Brown Hill Reserve, Reid Court, Brown Hill or at the Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts, Howitt Street, Wendouree.

To request an information sheet and to arrange a 'Come and Try' session please leave a message for Sue Brant on **0437 981 194** or email

ballaratpipeband@gmail.com.

Following the interruptions of the past few years we would like to have a group of young people learning at the same time for fun and friendship.

*Sue Brant,
Ballarat Pipe Band*

Silver Sponsor

Brown Hill Community Hall

The City of Ballarat is continuing to upgrade the Hall. The 'beam-me-up-Scottie' lights in the Main Hall are impressive. Further works include a new front façade and solar panels on our new roof.

The Hall is being extensively booked, both for weekends and during the week. Meeting rooms One and Two are popular for smaller groups, with different groups using the Hall at the same time. Three separate rooms make this possible and is what the Council envisaged.

Bookings are being made from outside Ballarat and include interstate bookings by business groups. The Hall has regular bookings which have been maintained over many years and these groups take pride in 'their Hall', having seen many positive changes.

Our cleaners work between these many bookings and the pride in their work is evident to all users.

The Brown Hill Hall is under the management of a small group of volunteers for the City of Ballarat. If you would like to contribute to the management of the Hall the

Committee would appreciate your application.

*Dianne Eden, Treasurer/Bookings
hall.brownhill.vic.au*

Brown Hill Senior Citizen's Club

The Brown Hill Senior Citizens Club returned to the Brown Hill Hall, after a holiday break, on Monday 6 February. The first Monday of every month we play HOI and indoor bowls. Every other Monday euchre and indoor bowls are played. A new activity, which is proving popular, is the board game 'Sequence'. This is played between 12.15 pm and 1.15 pm before the commencement of our usual activities at 1.30 pm.

Two bus trips have been finalised. The first is on 5 April to Tesselaar KaBloom Festival at Silvan. On September 13 the trip will visit the RAAF Museum, Point Cook and the Western Sewage Treatment Plant, Werribee. The November bus trip is in the pipeline.

People from outside the Club are welcome on these bus trips and new members are always welcome.

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



waldron
HEATING, COOLING & HOT WATER

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



Brown Hill Uniting Church

Thoughts for Autumn

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone, when
the kings and princes are home, when
the shepherds are back with their
flocks, the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost, to heal the broken, to
feed the hungry, to release the
prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to
bring peace among the people, to
make music in the heart.*

Howard Thurman, "The work of
Christmas" (1985)

Easter Services

Easter Sunday service at Brown
Hill, with Communion, 9 April at
10.00 am.

The Brown Hill congregation will
attend other Uniting churches on
Maundy Thursday and Good
Friday.

*Easter spells out beauty, the rare
beauty of new life!*
S.D. Gordon

Community Consultation

Brown Hill Uniting Church
actively promotes a way of life
which embraces Christian values
of hospitality and being a good
neighbour to others. Hospitality
means creating a sense of
belonging, so everyone is
welcomed and is valued. We are
aware that many in our
community experience loneliness
and we want to work with
members of the Brown Hill
community to build a
neighbourhood that cares for one
another.

How can we work together to
combat loneliness? We are seeking
new ideas for activities to engage
people across a range of ages, and
people to collaborate with to make
these dreams come true.

Brown Hill Uniting Church has
buildings (including a kitchen)
and furniture, such as tables and
chairs, homewares, crockery, and
cutlery. We already offer a Craft
Group on Thursdays and Men's
Breakfast on a quarterly basis.

Do you have any ideas about what
we can do together?

You can let us know by either:

1. **Email:** BHUC3350@gmail.com
2. **Phone:** Jane Measday (Chair of
Brown Hill Uniting Church
Council) on 0459 819 982

3. Attending an information
session and morning tea at Brown
Hill Uniting Church (corner of
Thompson and Humffray Street
North) on **Thursday 11 May**
10.30 am – 12.00 noon

Men's Breakfasts

Faye Parry was the guest speaker
at the Brown Hill Uniting Church
Men's breakfast, held on 29
October 2022.

The men who attended the
breakfast were captivated by
Faye's presentation. This was her
first presentation to a community
group sharing her research on the
Ballarat East Avenue of Honour.

Interestingly, Faye's journey
started, when she was researching
the history of the Warrenheip
Hall. This then led to her
investigation of the Avenue of
Honour. Her first discovery was
the Warrenheip Methodist Church
Honour Board For God, King and
Country, located at the Brown Hill
Uniting Church, the venue for her
presentation.

She also located a second Honour
Board at the Warrenheip State
School from 1914-1918. This
brought the list of names to 70
soldiers from the area, on two
Boards. In response to her
findings, her mission is to have
visual Cairns, Honour Boards,
Photo Displays and a summary of
the Avenue's History, placed along

Bronze Sponsor



- ✓ SANITARY DISPOSAL UNITS
- ✓ NAPPY DISPOSAL UNITS
- ✓ INCONTINENCE DISPOSAL
- ✓ AIR FRESHENER UNITS
- ✓ ODOUR CONTROL
- ✓ URINAL DEEP CLEANING
- ✓ SOAP / SANITISER
- ✓ PAPER CONSUMABLES
- ✓ TEST AND TAGGING

**6 MONTHS
FREE SERVICE**
BROWN HILL BUSINESSES ONLY
WASHROOM SERVICES ONLY
CONDITIONS APPLY
OFFER ENDS 31 DECEMBER 2023

**WINDOW
CLEANING**

☎ 0402 660 836
www.rcc2clean.com.au

Bronze Sponsor



Sun 2 Solar
THE REAL SOLUTION

1300 471 291
35 MAIR STREET, BALLARAT CENTRAL

the Avenue. She is also assisting Federation University with the development of a website.

For more, see the Brown Hill Community Newsletter, Edition 35: brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/

Thank you Faye for a captivating and eye-opening presentation.

Rob Soar

Another Men's Breakfast was held on Saturday 18 March 2023.

Following their breakfast, the men, representing their group or club, shared valuable knowledge.

The next Men's Breakfast is on Saturday, 27 May, 2023, from 8.30 am in the church hall. Juice, tea, coffee, cereals (including gluten free) and cooked breakfast for \$5.

Our guest speaker will be Danielle Measday, Conservator of Natural Sciences at Museum Victoria. She will speak about the most complete *Triceratops horridus* specimen ever, which was discovered in 2015 on a private ranch in the Montana Badlands, in 67 million year old cretaceous sandstone from the Hell Creek formation. It has now found its home at the Melbourne Museum, three countries, a boat, a plane, a truck and a pandemic later.

Louise Wright
Brown Hill Uniting Church

Silver Sponsor

Y Learn and Swim

Brown Hill's newest ELC to open on 11 April

The Early Learning Centre at Y Learn and Swim, Brown Hill is opening on 11 April, 2023.

Ballarat's newest ELC, Y Learn and Swim, has an approach to early education which is noticeably different. The whole centre aims to make life easier for families and provides a unique experience by combining swimming lessons, long day care and kindergarten in one location.

The Swim School opened on 10 March, with the 17 metre warm water pool offering the opportunity for focused lessons for children, without many of the distractions of larger, busier environments. The pool is heated to an ideal 32 degrees. Along with an air temperature of 30 degrees, it's comfortable for even the youngest of participants.

In the ELC, the team of educators is passionate about the time that they spend engaging with children. Child focused education at Y Learn and Swim recognises that every child is unique and has their own learning style, interests and abilities. It also means

prioritising the quality of the interactions with each child to provide personalised educational experiences.

"We all know what a precious resource time is. That's why we focus on ensuring that educators are very present and immersed in the time spent teaching and caring for children," said Sam Lane, Centre Director at Y Learn and Swim.

"We aim to create deep, meaningful experiences and relationships with children. To value our time with them, to share in the joy of learning, to rejoice in their achievements and give them our full attention to build skills that will set them up for life-long learning."

The Early Learning Centre is open 50 weeks of the year from 7.00 am – 6.00 pm and caters for children aged from six-weeks old to five years.

Y Learn and Swim's ELC is approved for Child Care Subsidy, an aspect that makes childcare much more affordable for families.

Enrolments for the Early Learning Centre are now open.

To find out more, visit ylearnandswim.org.au or contact the centre on 4320 0850.



THE HAIR ROOM
By Elaine

7 Sawmill Close
Brown Hill
0434 522 477



Ballarat Society of Artists

Ballarat Society of Artists began the year with around 80 members and new adventures. The Ballarat Urban Sketching Group meets weekly at the Titanic Rotunda (pictured) on Wednesdays at 11.00 am. Anyone can come along and draw, it isn't just for members. If you enjoy drawing, this is a new option.

Outdoors provides other opportunities, with monthly En Plein Air sessions that have also begun for 2023.

Socially, we meet monthly at the Brown Hill Uniting Church on the first Saturday of the month. We still meet twice a month at 'Art at the Framers' for night catch-ups with time to create and there are various opportunities for coffee catch-ups.

In April, our 40th Annual Easter Art Show will be at the beautiful Ballarat Gardens in the Robert Clark Centre and open between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm, from 7-10 April. What is more beautiful than begonias and art!

*Sue Clarke, Business Secretary,
BSA Inc.
bsamember16@gmail.com
ballaratartists.asn.au*

Ballarat Libraries

Growing in to Autism

Author talk with Professor Sandra Thom-Jones

What is it like to realise you're autistic? And how do you start to ask the world around to accept that?

Join Ballarat Libraries for an author talk with Professor Sandra Thom-Jones, as she tells us about gradually realising that she is autistic and experiences the world in ways markedly different from the neurotypical.

Auditorium at the Eureka Centre,
102 Stawell Street

Wednesday 26 April, 6.00 pm-
7.00pm

events.humanitix.com/tours/ballarat-libraries

CLI-FI Reading Challenge

Climate fiction (Cli-Fi) is a phenomenon that is represented in adult fiction, young adult fiction, junior fiction and picture books as well as narrative non-fiction.

Cli-Fi explores themes of human altered climates and can offer a way of humanising the science of climate change.

Join the Ballarat Libraries reading challenge to explore the themes of Climate Fiction and become aware of the various ways you can access the library and be a part of a reading community.

Online via
ballarat.beanstack.org.au

Launches Saturday 22 April (Earth Day 2023)

Feeling Out Loud Workshop: Slammin' Spoken Word

Gain confidence when presenting aloud to an audience. Using your original writing or a variety of existing texts – including poetry, informal prose, dramatic monologue and political speeches – explore structure, dynamics and rhythm in the delivery of your text and learn techniques to engage your audience.

Presented by local poet and spoken word performer, Megan J. Riedl.

Ballarat Library at Town Hall

Friday 14 April, 10.00 am-12.00 noon

events.humanitix.com/tours/ballarat-libraries

ballarat.vic.gov.au/library

Happenings at Ballarat Wholefoods Collective

Autumn is well and truly upon us in Ballarat and our minds and stomachs turn to more warming foods. I know this not just because the weather has changed, but the Collective's stock of fresh produce has also moved with the season.

Of the three rooms that house the Collective in Barkly Square, the fresh produce room is the one that tracks the seasons for us. Now in stock are brassicas, cauliflowers, sweet potatoes and onions...gone are the summery tomatoes, corn, mangos, lettuce and salad. This first room is open to all shoppers, not just members so if you are unsure about joining you can



browse amongst the fridge goodies; cheese, vegan cheese, pate, meat, milk (in refillable glass bottles!), fresh fruit and vegies, fresh Basilio sourdough bread and some beauty products.

The largest room contains the non-perishable goods from all types of flours, oats, pulses, nuts and seeds, peanut butter, tuna and much more. Sometimes there are also season-themed products such as chocolate for Easter. Easter has reminded me of the need to stock up on dried fruit and flour for my annual baking attempt at hot cross buns. They are always most delicious when fresh out of the oven and very impressive for friends and family when they turn out perfectly – and if not, you are still applauded for the attempt!

The smallest room has essentials such as the wonderful local Enbom honey, cleaning products, marvellous maple syrup, local olives and olive oil, just to mention a few.

Shopping at the Collective allows you to reap the financial benefit of bulk purchasing without having to store the bulky 'bulk' product as well as the lack of packaging to dispose of at home.

The Wholefood Collective hours are 9.00 am - 12.00 noon Thursdays and Saturdays during school terms and also during special events at Barkly Square such as night markets, usually on

a Friday night.

Checkout our website for more information and special events - ballaratwholefoodscollective.com

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

Waste-Free Lifestyle

Six weeks ago I started participating in a course run by the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House entitled Waste Free Lifestyle. Little did I know how much it was about to change my thinking, and potentially, my life!

Julie, the facilitator extraordinaire, has guided us through a number of discussions and experiences to give us the confidence to make the changes needed - but in the most unthreatening way. Here is Julie's description of the course:

The Waste Free Lifestyle course reduces your waste and recycling. Through the lens of Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Rot, and Recycle we travel through every room in your home finding alternatives that are not harmful to the environment. The best part of this course? It is the people who you will meet - on the same journey as you, wanting to leave this world in a better place and are keen to try and make significant changes. Supported with the latest mindset and habit-changing science you can confidently know that things will change in your home, and you can make a difference.

The course is 9 weeks, covering the following topics/areas of your home: Waste and Recycling Audit, Kitchen, Bathroom, Laundry, Bedroom, Kids & Pets, Entertaining, eating out and going on a holiday! It is geared towards supporting you to make changes in your home.

Julie is right! It is the people you meet that make the experience magical. There are people in my group who have the most amazing skills and creative ideas to deal with waste of the worst kind. I have learned more things to do with soft plastic than I ever imagined possible. The collective thoughts of the group have given me hope that each one of us is able to do simple and effective things to assist our planet into a brighter future!

I'm not going to say any more!

Go and find out for yourself.

Be inspired!

Sheilagh Kentish

ballarateastnh.org.au/support/waste-free-lifestyle



Creations made with soft plastic which was otherwise destined for the rubbish bin. Photographer: Sheilagh Kentish

Perridak Burron Early Learning

Our start of year has been very busy, welcoming our new families into the service and getting to know our new friends.

We celebrated Perridak Burron's Second Birthday! Our centre has grown so much over the past two years and we are very lucky to have a wonderful community.

As part of International Women's Day we had members of the community come to Perridak and be part of our celebrations for the week.

We were lucky enough to have Jenna Oldaker with us, a local artist who shared what International Women's Day means

Advertisement



Happy kids at Perridak Burron. Image supplied.

to her, and some significant women in her life. Jane Marini came and facilitated a Wayapa session, (an earth connection practice that is based on ancient Indigenous wisdom that focuses on taking care of the Earth as the starting point for creating Earth Mind Body Spirit well-being.)

along with Nikki and Nicole from the youth group team. Ashleigh Moore, a proud Wamba Wamba, Muthi Muthi woman from Swan Hill, is a mother and an inspiration - she shared some photos with us of searching for spiders with her cousins, fishing with her dad, and collecting sticks for the fire to cook with.

Our Perridak Burron Team is growing, we are looking for Certificate III and Diploma Educators to join our team. If this is you or you know someone who would add to our culture please go to our Facebook page and find the SEEK advertisement.

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



Open Day Sunday 7th May - 10am to 1pm tel 03 5341 8188
come and see how we work 244 Moss Avenue Mount Helen ballaratsteinerschool.com.au



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

We have had an enjoyable Term 1 at Brown Hill Playgroup at Caledonian Primary School. We have had sing-alongs with Mrs Gleeson and creative craft activities. All the children have been growing in confidence and are really enjoying their time playing together. The best part of playgroup for many of the children is after we pack up the toys and they get to run free in the large open space of the multipurpose room.



Crafty creations made at Brown Hill Playgroup. Image supplied.

Although this term has come to an end, we welcome all families with young children to stop by and visit our friendly playgroup during Term 2. Families can drop in any time between 9.00 am - 11.00 am on Wednesday mornings during the school term and stay for as long or as short as suits you and your child/ren. Bring along a snack and water bottle for your child. Hot drinks are provided for adults and a gold coin donation is appreciated. We enjoy meeting new people and over time friendships blossom.

Finally, we would like to say good bye and best of luck to our playgroup children who have become big Prep children this year. It has been great to catch up with you this year while you have had no school on Wednesdays. We will miss you and look forward to seeing you around the neighbourhood in those school uniforms.

Aimee Knight
Brown Hill Playgroup Co-Coordinator
playgroup@brownhill.vic.au
facebook.com/brownhillplaygroup
Caledonian Primary School, 5332 6955

Silver Sponsor

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.

Brown Hill Kindergarten

Dear Brown Hill Community,

My name is Emma Manton. I have stepped into the Service Leader role at Brown Hill Kindergarten whilst Laura Draper is on maternity leave.

It's been a busy and positive start to the year. Brown Hill Kindergarten is a very active community. We have 162 children enrolled this year, 97 four-year-olds and 65 three-year-olds, almost the size of a small school!

We are adapting to the new model and funded hours for our three-year-old kinder programs. We currently offer 7.5 hours a week for our threes. Our four-year-old programs continues to offer 15 hours a week of play-based learning. For more details on our session times and tour dates you can go to the ECKA website - **ecka.org.au**.

Our focus in term one is around belonging. We believe children develop a sense of belonging in our kinder environment when we as educators respond to their needs, interest and abilities. Relationships of trust and respect between educators, families and children are paramount.

Our Kindergarten Picnic on 23 February was our first opportunity for connection as a community. We had a beautiful sunny afternoon at the Brown Hill Recreation Park where families could mingle and get to know one another.

Next term our four-year-olds will commence their weekly Nature and Community Program. We



The Annual Brown Hill Kindergarten Picnic at Brown Hill Recreation Reserve. Image supplied.

believe outdoor engagement is important for children to be able to experience, explore and engage with the natural environment. Our Nature and Community Program provides opportunities for children to:

- * Explore and discover the natural environment
- * Learn about creatures of the bush, how they impact our lives and how we can protect them
- * Experience different weather conditions and seasonal changes
- * Take risks and test their limits
- * Learn about boundaries
- * Co-operate with each other and learn to work together for shared goals
- * Engage with and resource their own learning through connecting with people, place and the natural environment
- * Build an awareness of the impact we have on our environment
- * Connect with their greater community

*Develop crucial safety skills in the wider community.

As the term comes to a close, we acknowledge how well our children have settled into Kinder life and celebrate the learning and successes. We wish everyone a rejuvenating term one break.

*Emma Manton, Service Leader
Brown Hill Kindergarten
1 Reid Court, Brown Hill
5332 7973*

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*

Little Bendigo Primary School

From the Principal's Desk

One thing I used to like about living in small towns was the great feel of community, where people would help others, volunteer their time and talents and be there to support each other. Our school has been fortunate to have the support of the Brown Hill and Nerrina communities over the past term, and I thank you for your support.

We would like to thank Woodmans Hill Secondary College for helping us out this term. Earlier in the term our students and staff had to relocate to Woodmans Hill on a day of extreme fire danger. Mr Fields, staff and students made us feel most welcome, even baking us some cupcakes for morning tea! Last week, the college donated a cubby house to our school that was built by some of their students. Our Junior School Council will now vote on which colours to paint the cubby and our students will help give it a lick of paint to protect it from the weather. It is an awesome addition



Our new cubby. Image supplied.

to our school and is played in every day.

With the weather just starting to turn wintry, we are fortunate to have completed work on our new playground, adding retaining walls. Thanks to our students and families who pitched in to spread all of the mulch in a couple of days with wheelbarrows, shovels and rakes – over ten cubic metres in total!

Our students have had a fun and engaging term, learning many new skills in our collaborative learning environment. Along with our core literacy and numeracy curriculum, we have a broad range of specialist classes including Music, Art, Science, Design Tech,

Chinese and Respectful Relationships. We also have individual piano/keyboard lessons on offer and this term our Grade 5 and Grade 6 students participated in the Re-Cranked program, run by the YMCA. Students had a great time learning how to maintain bikes and fixed over 15 bikes for their own use and for other students. Re-Cranked finished off with students taking a leisurely ride around Nerrina.

Students have also taken advantage of our bumper crop of cherry tomatoes grown in our vegetable garden this term!

We are now taking enrolments for 2024 and I encourage families to phone me on **5332 6317** to arrange a tour and discuss their child's educational needs.

Anthony Tait

Principal, Little Bendigo Primary School, 5332 6317

*littlebendigo.ps@education.vic.gov.au
littlebendigops.vic.edu.au*

Advertise

*For advertising and sponsorship opportunities in the quarterly
Brown Hill Community
Newsletter, please contact us:
newsletter@brownhill.vic.au*

Advertisement



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



BALLARAT EAST MEDICAL MEDICAL WELCOMES DR FRANKLIN BUTUYUYU

Dr Franklin's interests include skin health, complex care and caring for families. He is taking new patients.

He joins Dr Rodney Allen in supporting the ongoing physical and mental health of our current and future patients.

Caledonian Primary School

From the Principal's Desk

To the Brown Hill Community,
2023 is fabulous! Students are settling in to learning in an even better way than they did before the pandemic!

There is much discussion in the media regarding schools currently and I am not sure we want to let the secret out but all our staff and students love school. Caledonian kids are happy, have friends, get to learn in a safe environment and get to do some pretty fun stuff. Our teachers come to work with a smile on their face, support each other and, while it does get busy, they love working at our school. Sure, on occasion things go wrong, yet the strength of a wonderful learning environment is how quickly we can solve problems and move on! It's a fabulous school

and we are incredibly proud of all we achieve for our students together with our families.

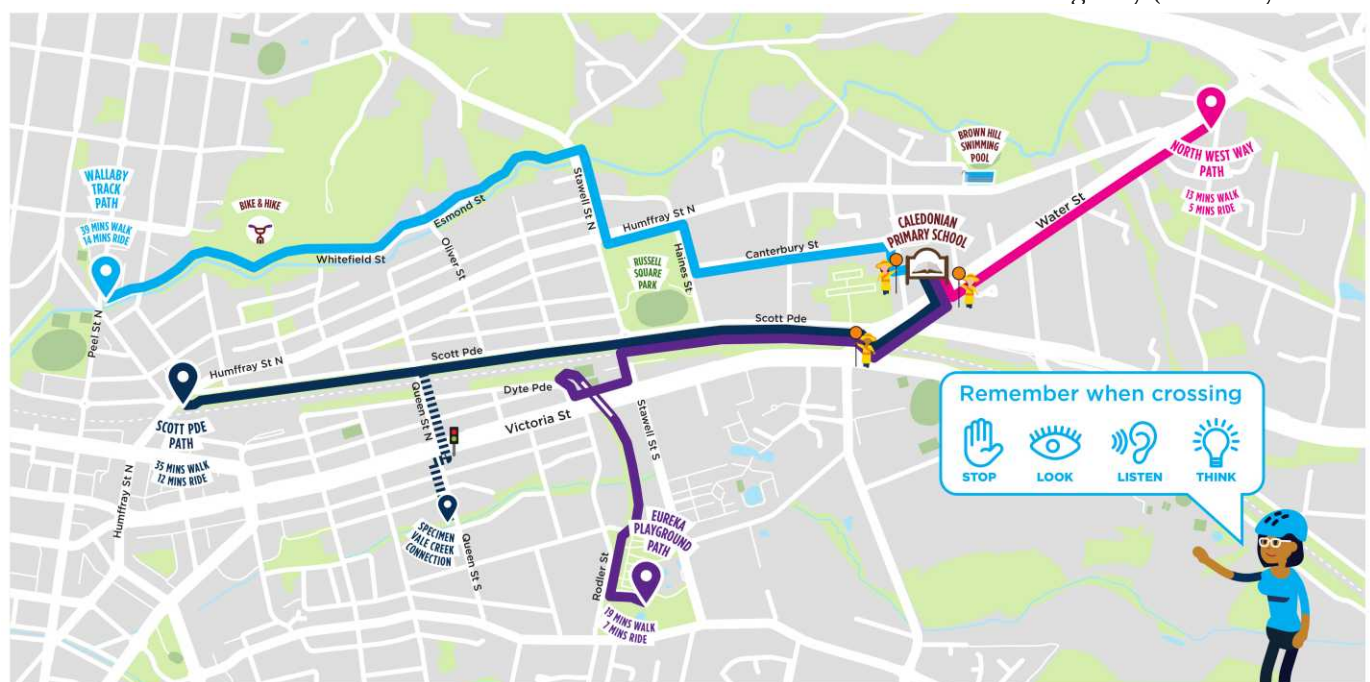
There has been so much change at our school over the past few years, changes both to the physical environment and the learning, and we are seeing the rewards of this work. Landscaping, resurfacing our courts and new classroom furniture is now complemented by new playgrounds and all the external parts of our school being freshly painted. Things are looking wonderful!

But it is on the “insides” of the school that we see exciting things starting to emerge. Last year we trialled a new model in English instruction Prep-Grade Two which incorporated greater emphasis on phonics and explicit instruction. While we knew the research behind these approaches was in strong support of this model, we were very carefully monitoring development through the year.

We are incredibly pleased with the

results we have achieved in reading and writing and this year we move to embed these practices for our students. I won't say it was easy, for some of us it was a completely different way to teach, but having an incredible teaching team here we have all dived in and made this happen. Better results for our students make us feel really positive about our work!

Daily review is a new thing we have started this term. Daily review is a strategy we are using in mathematics to review a broad range of mathematical concepts every day. Schools have historically done maths learning in “chunks” - such as three weeks on fractions. The challenge here is we then may not look at fractions for six months and much of what is learned can be forgotten. Daily review seeks to address this through repeated exposure to the maths concepts. It's great and so far our teachers are loving it as it means we can get daily feedback from our students on what they are finding easy (as in they have





interviews in which parents can meet with me, see our school and ask any questions they like. We do have limited capacity at Caledonian so if you would like a tour, please contact our office to secure a time.

Finally, in the next few months, you may drive past and see the outside starting to look fresh. The painting works started at the end of 2022 and continue until the entire outside of our school has been painted. We are very pleased that our school will look polished as we all love being here!

Hope everyone has a great Easter break, Ben.

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

Brown Hill Auskick

Registrations are open!

This is a fantastic opportunity for kids aged 5 -12 years to come along and enjoy honing their football skills in a family-friendly environment. It runs at the Brown Hill Reserve 5.00 - 6.00 pm Fridays in term two, starting 28 April 2023, with a week off for the King's Birthday weekend. The BBQ is fired up each week which makes for an easy Friday night dinner!

Numbers are limited so please register without delay at Brown Hill Recreation Reserve Auskick Centre Registrations | PlayHQ. To keep up on the latest Auskick information or to ask any questions we can be found on facebook by searching 'Brown Hill Auskick'.

learned it well) and what they find hard (we need to review and reteach).

A few fun things have happened as well. Two new playgrounds - the junior one in full operation and the senior one very close to completion - have appeared in our yard! We also have a new playtime club. Skateboarding is now a mainstream sport and four playtimes a week I am skating with a group of students on our basketball court. This is a sport that is not competitive in the traditional sense and is fantastic for building confidence. My favourite part is seeing more capable students helping less capable kids master the basics.

We are also super impressed by the number of students who are using active transport to travel to and from our school. Check out our ActiveMap (p.20) - designed by senior students with support from Bicycle Network and the City of Ballarat.

We held our annual athletics day this term and it was a massive success. The students had a brilliant time running, jumping

and throwing things! A day like our athletics day cannot happen without the support of volunteers. We source two types of volunteer, parents and Woodmans Hill Secondary College students. Parents, as always, are a wonderful support and we would not be able to run an athletics day without them. The Woodmans Hill students are amazing!

This year they helped round up preps, supported students in every way possible and gave 100% all day to help make it a success. My favourite thing, seen multiple times, was the Woodmans' students running along when a child was struggling with a distance, providing encouragement to keep them going. As someone who has never won a ribbon at athletics, I found the compassion for our students, students who struggle with sports, demonstrated by the Woodmans Hill big kids very impressive!

We are beginning to get busy with enrolment tours for 2024. It seems like we have been through a time warp but here we are talking 2024! We do our tours as a personalised

Woodmans Hill Secondary College

From the Principal's desk

As Term 1 draws to a close, it's pretty humbling to look back on it and reflect on how many amazing things have happened at Woodmans Hill so far.

In order to make sure that I take the time to stop and value what has been happening around me, I've taken to writing a weekly Principal's Celebration page for the school community. In it, I share what's been going on that week, what's planned for the following week, as well as celebrating the achievements of both staff and students. It's helped me pause and recognise the good that surrounds me.

We give power to what we focus on and the sharing of good stories has meant that more positives are being reported, more merits are being awarded and school staff are sharing their gratitude for each other's work like never before. That doesn't mean that everyone at Woodmans Hill has been issued with rose-tinted glasses, it's just that we are making ourselves more open to speaking up about the positive differences we make on a day-to-day basis within our community.

There have been so many high points this term, it is really quite humbling to think about them now. The school values shown by our students in Athletics and Swim Sports was incredibly reaffirming. One of our values is 'determination' and this was certainly shown by those students



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

who gave everything a proper go and pushed themselves beyond their limits. However, they found some inner strength from their peers who cheered equally the student who persevered to finish an event as they did the first-place winner.

This 'have-a-go' mentality was epitomised by our Year 7s on camp in Anglesea. There were so many students mastering new skills and taking every opportunity to grow. I think, though, the highlight of my week was seeing students who had never surfed before, catching a wave...

...and actually staying on their feet for the first time

...and then coming up out of the water, looking for someone else who might have seen what they had achieved just to prove that it had actually happened.

...and then... their smile on seeing my massive grin and thumbs up to confirm this new reality!

Our senior students showed that they are also capable of pushing themselves beyond their limits on the Year 12 VCAL hike to Creswick. Carrying massive packs

on their backs, with rising temperatures, our students stuck in, supported each other and managed to push through the pain barrier. Talking to them along the trail, it was pretty inspiring to hear what their dreams and aspirations are for the future. I think the future is in very safe hands if our senior students are anything to go by.

Across the board, our students have shown real leadership throughout the term and have organised so many events and represented the school in a multitude of ways. They have attended a Student Leadership Conference in Melbourne, volunteered at sports days for local primary schools, worked with the Western Bulldogs, ran events for International Women's Day, organised Harmony Week to underline our assertion that we are an inclusive school, ran fund raisers to secure resources to build a bike shed and organised the barbeque for our Welcome to Woodmans Hill event for all new families. On top of that, they played a massive part in ensuring our Year 6 Information Evening was the best attended ever.

Woodmans Hill students are our greatest asset, and they speak so passionately about our school that it is infectious. Our students want to be the change within their school, and this is, perhaps, most striking working with our First Nations students who, under the guidance of Trish Fox, are going to make a massive difference over the course of the next twelve months to their school and their community.

Our older students have been on this journey with us from Day One

and have been witness to the incredible changes that we have gone through to get to this exciting point. Who better, therefore, to meet our local MP, Michaela Settle, and our Premier, Dan Andrews, on their visit to our school to discuss how we will use the \$8.6 million investment that the Victorian government have pledged to our school. Our vision of creating a Year 7 Centre, and developing our existing Senior Centre, underlines our commitment to getting these two critical transition points right. Our students need the best start and end to their time at our school - the rest we can take care of.

And that's the short version of 2023 so far. I've only scratched the surface - apologies for anything I have omitted. It's a great feeling to be in the heart of it, seeing families, students and staff pull together to learn together.

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

Bronze Sponsor



Ballarat

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

YOUR TEAM YOUR STORE

Supporting Refugees and Asylum Seekers

In late March, the Ballarat Refugee and Asylum Seeker Support Network (BRASSN) had a stall at the Harmony Day Market at Barkly Square. They sold tea, coffee and amazing cakes and slices - thank you, Maureen and Margaret for catering for our ever-present need for refreshments! The odd plant was also on offer.

BRASSN is a community group of hard-working volunteers, settlement workers, church groups, community agency workers and people from a refugee background who meet monthly in Ballarat and work together to provide support and advocacy for people from refugee backgrounds in the Ballarat and Grampians region.

Many people from refugee backgrounds face uncertainty and

hardship and lack family and other support networks which were lost when they fled persecution in their home country. Some are not eligible for the usual welfare and safety net support in Australia.

I wrote something once about my own situation, coming from another country 12,000 miles away. I came to try another way of living. I was not running for my life, leaving behind everything I knew. I left family and friends but I knew I could return to see them again. For many of the refugees here in Ballarat, that will never be an option. It is hard to leave behind everything you have known and loved. I have been lucky enough to travel the world and have seen how alike we all are. We want the same things; a safe place to live, family and friends to share it with and a way to support our basic needs.

For more, contact Hee Young at the Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council: brmc.org.au.

Sheilagh Kentish

Bronze Sponsor

Boarding Kennels & Cattery

Marie
(03) 5334 7455
mobile: 0438 689 297
email: marie@dazzlindoggie.com.au
231 Melbourne Rd,
Ballarat, Victoria 3350

"Where your pets are loved"
www.dazzlindoggie.com.au

Bronze Sponsor

The days are getting shorter... and colder... just the right conditions for our delicious SCONES. We bake 4 varieties fresh everyday - DATE, BLUEBERRY & WHITE CHOC, CHEESE & CHIVE and CHOC MUD.

So come on in to the Bakery and purchase a 4 Pack of SCONES for only \$8.00 and we'll throw in any loaf of Bread up to the value of \$5.20 for FREE

Simply bring in this coupon to redeem the offer. One per customer per day. Expires 31 May 2023. Valid at Bakers Delight Bakery Hill only.

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



Term 2, 2023: Calendar

Mondays

Tuesdays

Wednesdays

Thursdays

Fridays

The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House staff and volunteer office and our Community Room are on Wadawurrung Country, downstairs at **Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly Street, Ballarat East.**

We are available from **9.00 am - 5.00 pm Tuesdays to Fridays** (closed Mondays, Public Holidays and school holidays).

Please ask for us at the Barkly Square Main Reception (near the Barkly Street entrance).

All activities and prices require registration, agreement to the activity terms and conditions, are subject to change without notice and require minimum participant numbers (usually 7 people). Please contact us to register and confirm start dates.

Drawing Group

with Jenette
1.00 pm - 3.00 pm
Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Community Room, Barkly Square
\$80, 9-week course
BYO supplies
From 24 April

Playgroup with the Toy Library

with Jane
10.00 am - 12.00 noon
Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Community Room, Barkly Square
FREE
From 2 May

Tai Chi

with Jeni
10.00 am - 11.00 am
Eureka Hall
\$70, 8-week term or
\$10 per class
From 2 May

Sewing Skills

with Christine
12.30 pm - 3.00 pm
Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Community Room, Barkly Square
\$70, 8-week course
Learn Local Course
From 2 May

Limited sewing machines available to lend - bookings required

Waste-Free Lifestyle

with Julie
7.00 pm - 9.00 pm
Online

FREE, 8-week course
From 2 May

We are also delivering this course (over 9 weeks) on Friday mornings at the Ballarat North Neighbourhood House, 6 Crompton Street, Soldier's Hill, from 28 April. Both funded by a grant from Sustainability Victoria.

Be Connected Improving Digital Skills

with Greg
1:1 sessions
9.30 am - 10.30 am
10.30 am - 11.30 am
Barkly Square
FREE
From 26 April

Walking Group

9.30 am - 10.30 am
meet outside 1816 Café, Barkly Square for a walk along Specimen Vale Creek
FREE
From 26 April

Alexander Technique

with Julianne
10.00 am - 11.00 am
Tower Room, *Eureka Centre*
\$70, 8-week course
From 26 April

Chatty Wednesdays

10.30 am - 11.30 am
1816 Café
Barkly Square
FREE
From 26 April

Winter Woollies

with Sandra
1.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Community Room, Barkly Square
FREE

From 26 April
Often also on during school holidays - contact to confirm

Be Connected Improving Digital Skills

with Greg
1:1 sessions
9.30 am - 10.30 am
10.30 am - 11.30 am
Barkly Square
FREE
From 27 April

Tai Chi

with Jeni
10.00 am - 11.00 am
Eureka Hall
\$80, 9-week term or
\$10 per class
From 27 April

Intermediate Auslan

with Jane
9.30 am - 12.00 pm
Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Community Room, Barkly Square
\$70, 8-week course
Learn Local Course
From 27 April

Writing Group

with Melissa
12.45 pm - 2.45 pm
Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Community Room, Barkly Square
\$160, 9-week course
From 27 April

Auslan Exercise Group

2.00 pm - 3.00 pm
1816 Café
Barkly Square
FREE
From 27 April

Gentle Yoga

with Kate
7.45 am - 8.45 am or
9.00 am - 10.00 am
Tower Room, *Eureka Centre*
\$80, 9-week course
From 28 April

Beginner's Auslan

with Jane
9.30 am - 12.00 noon
Ballarat East Neighbourhood House, Barkly Square
\$70, 8-week course
Learn Local Course
From 28 April

Watercolour

with Tegan
10.00 am - 12.00 noon
Workshoppery, Barkly Square
\$160, 9-week course
From 28 April

Hypnotherapy/ Meditation

with Clare
12.50 pm - 2.00 pm
Barkly Square
\$80, 9-week course
From 28 April

Still-Life Drawing

with Tegan
1.00 pm - 3.00 pm
Workshoppery, Barkly Square
\$160, 9-week course
From 28 April

Exploring Watercolour

with Christine
2.30 pm - 4.30 pm
Barkly Square
\$120, 9-week course
From 28 April

To book or find out more: ballarateastnh.org.au, 0422 612 052, facebook.com/BallaratEastNH or reception@ballarateastnh.org.au

For the most up-to-date version of this calendar: ballarateastnh.org.au/classes/activities

Updated 30 March 2023

Our local Neighbourhood Houses

Ballarat East Neighbourhood House

As part of our Strategic Partnership project with the City of Ballarat, we are delivering two great (and free) workshops for community groups in Term 2.

Workshop 4: Learning the Law for Community Groups

Monday 15 May 2023 -
Victorian Law Week

Session 1: 10.00 am – 12.00 noon:
Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre,
11 Tuppen Drive, Sebastopol

Session 2: 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm:
Online via Zoom

Presented by Ballarat &
Grampians Community Legal
Service and Consumer Affairs

This session will cover the basics
of understanding the law for
community groups and where and
how to access resources online.

Workshop 5: Managing difficult conversations and situations.

Session 1: Tuesday 6 June 2023,
10.00 am – 12.30 pm: Ballarat
Regional Soccer Facility (900
Pleasant Street, Redan)

Session 2: Tuesday 20 June 2023,
2.36.00 pm – 8.30 pm: Online via
Zoom

Presented by Pirooz Jafari –Track
C Consulting

Come and learn some tips and
tricks for tricky situations!

For more and to register, visit:
ballarateastnh.org.au/community-governance/community-groups
or call us on 0422 612 052.

*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

Over the past 12 months we have
brightened up our little
community room a little to create
a relaxed community atmosphere,
where people can come and catch
up with friends, do a little online
work or study, or just sit and read.

Join us for the supported internet
café, Fridays during term from
10.00 am - 12.00 noon. Greg will be
here to answer your IT questions.

Stay for Chatty Café from 12.00
noon - 2.00 pm, have a cuppa and
catch up with others from the
community. Fiona, our local
Salvo's Chaplain, often makes a
yummy afternoon tea treat to
share!

For those wanting to improve
their online skills, we are running

a couple of short taster courses.
One in ProCreate and the other to
supporting beginners to use their
iPads. So, if you are feeling a little
creative or wanting to use the iPad
you are yet to take out of the box,
come and join a class!

If you are not IT inclined, then you
are welcome to join our gardening
group, which will be focussing on
developing new rich soil and
creating spaces for community
members to enjoy the garden. You
may wish to join the Thursday
gardening class, or sign up as a
volunteer and come along at a
time that suits you.

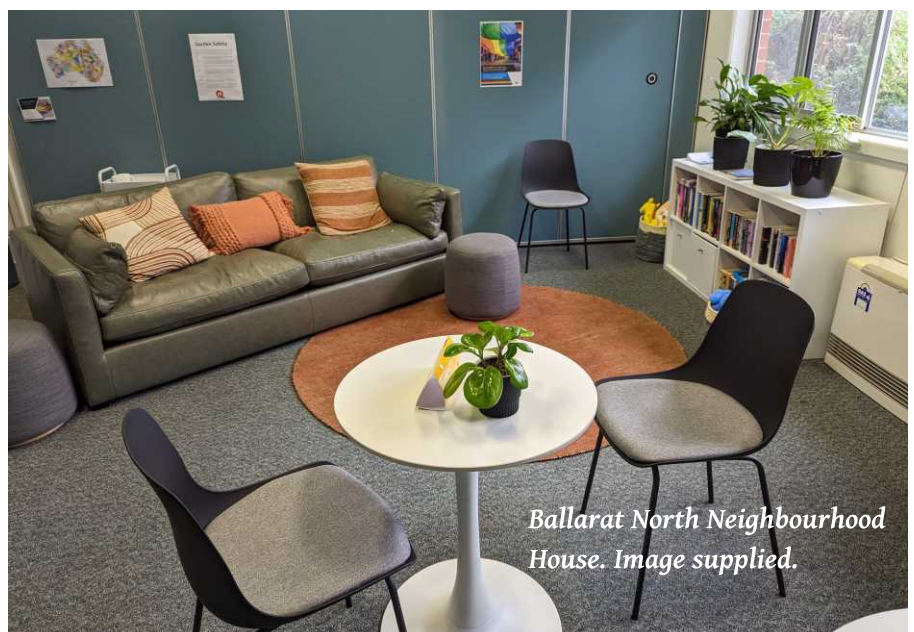
Please do not hesitate to contact
Kristen if you would like to discuss
other class ideas or you are
interested in volunteering!

Our calendar for Term Two has
been released (see link below).

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

*Kristen.sheridan@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***



*Ballarat North Neighbourhood
House. Image supplied.*

Russell Square

New Cricket Nets

The Russell Square Reserve has a new feature – a six-lane cricket net facility.

Home to the East Ballarat Cricket Club, the nets enable the Club to manage training for its 20 teams that provide opportunities for men and women, boys and girls. The nets also include a community net that is available at any time for community use.

A City of Ballarat initiative, the facility is part of a larger plan to increase available car parking and to improve traffic flow and safety.

Cricket Premiership

Congratulations to the East Ballarat Cricket Club with its A Grade team taking out the Ballarat Cricket Association First X1 Premiership. While 7 other Club teams made finals in various grades, it was the A Graders that achieved the ultimate prize.

Batting first, the formidable Wendouree line-up posted a very competitive 9 for 248 from their allotted 80 overs. The standout bowler for East was Hayden Walters with career best figures of



East Ballarat Cricket Club First X1 Premiership A-Grade Team, 2023. Image supplied

6 for 32 from 13 overs. East's reply was a disappointing 144 all out with only opener Harli Givven's innings of 65 showing any real resistance. With a lead of 104 runs, it was Wendouree's premiership to lose. However, the last hour's play on the first weekend was bursting with drama as the powerful Wendouree line-up collapsed losing 5 for 18 with the evergreen Josh Brown claiming 4 wickets in an inspired spell of pressure bowling. East was back in the hunt.

When play resumed on the second weekend, Wendouree never really recovered and was all out for a paltry 74 with Josh Brown

claiming 5 for 21 from 18 overs and Club coach, Adam Eddy, taking 4 for 25 off 20 overs. However, chasing a target of 179 was always going to be challenging. A stand of 71 between openers Harli Givvens and Lewis Hodgins gave East the ascendancy. Despite some nervous moments along the way, a short ball dispatched to the boundary by skipper Jake Evers cemented a most memorable victory for the boys from the east.

Go the Hawks!

Damian Ryan,
East Ballarat Cricket Club
eastballaratcc.vic.cricket.com.au
facebook.com/Eastballaratcc

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
members
welcome

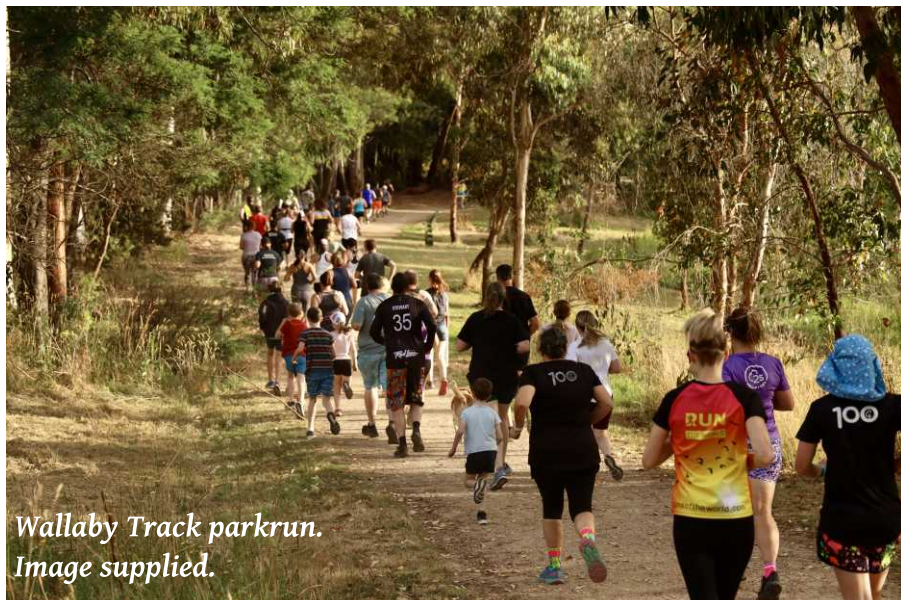
Find us on 

Wallaby Track parkrun

There has been plenty of excitement at Wallaby Track parkrun since the last newsletter with many things to celebrate. It has been so wonderful to see the numbers of people coming to walk/jog/run or volunteer each week continue to grow, with over 1,700 people now completing our parkrun.

In December we celebrated our 3rd anniversary on Christmas Eve. It was a very festive occasion with live Christmas carols, lots of Christmas cheer and a wonderful BBQ put on by the Brown Hill Progress Association (BHPA). We have been very thankful for the support of the Association over the last three years and I'm sure all our participants have enjoyed being able to celebrate their walk or run with a sausage cooked by these amazing people.

We also had another great event in December with the local scouts taking over all our volunteer roles for a week. Kirsti, one of our run directors, organised a large



Wallaby Track parkrun.
Image supplied.

contingent of scouts, leaders and family members to cover all our volunteer roles, many of them first timers to parkrun. It was so amazing that parkrun Australia heard about it and published an article in their Australian newsletter. From what we know, it was an Australian first for parkrun.

More recently we celebrated our 100th event, again with some sausages from the BHPA, where we had over 100 participants for a wonderful morning. Over those 100 events it has been so good to see people complete milestones, achieve PB's, make many new

friendships, support each other through injuries and so much more.

It has been a journey over the last 3 years, navigating COVID, bushfire smoke, floods, track damage and other hurdles. However, we are so thankful for the wonderful community we have, not just at parkrun, but also in Brown Hill. We think we have the best parkrun in Australia - it's a beautiful track in a wonderful community.

Aaron and Laurinda Coulter
Wallaby Track parkrun
coordinatorswallabytrack@parkrun.com
Find us on Facebook
[parkrun.com.au/wallabytrack](https://www.parkrun.com.au/wallabytrack)

Advertisement

Concerns with rising energy costs?

Contact Ballarat Solar Company.

- Solar
- Batteries
- Off Grid Systems

Contact us now for a free quote to cover all your energy needs.

Locally Owned and Operated



Ballarat Solar Company
12/102 Fussell Street
Ballarat East VIC 3350
03 5379 9806

info@ballaratsolarcompany.com.au
[ballaratsolarcompany.com.au](https://www.ballaratsolarcompany.com.au)

Sarah proves you are never too old to chase your dream

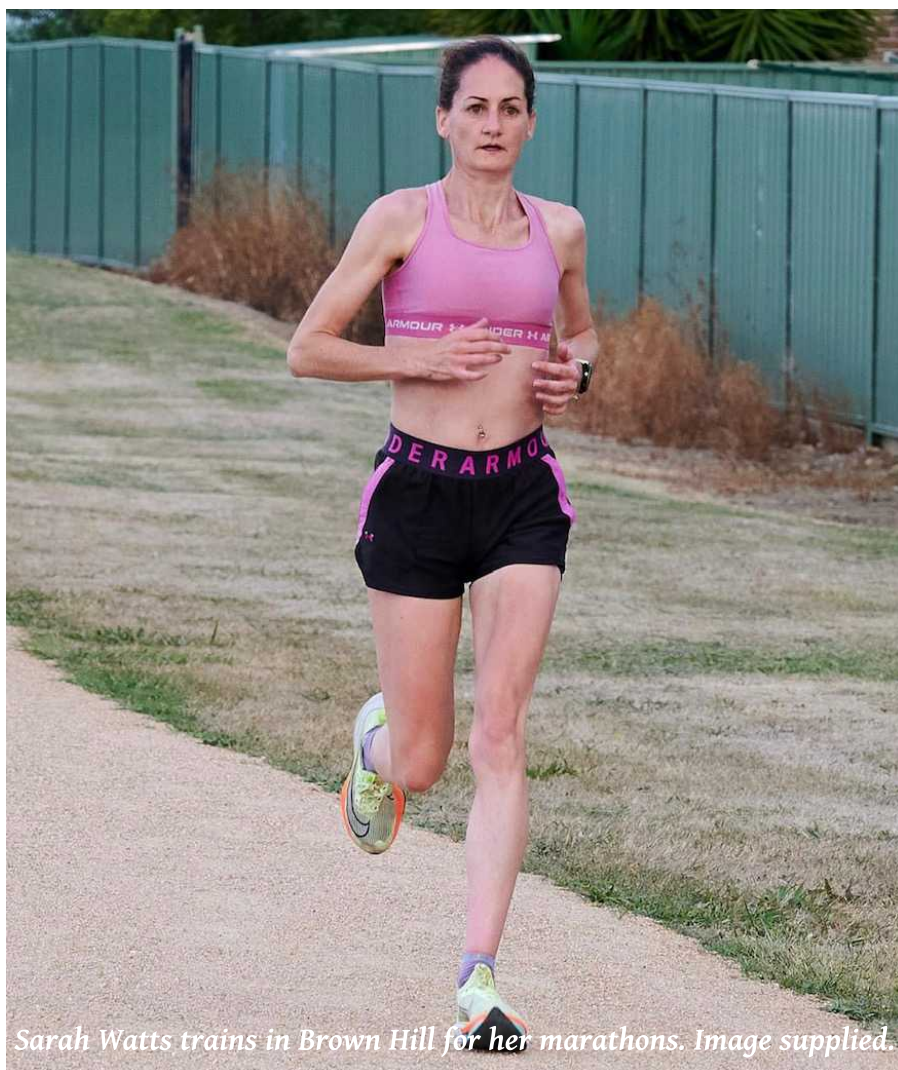
If you had asked me in 2016 what I would be doing in 2023, never in my wildest dreams would I have said, "In the next five years I will have competed in two Melbourne Marathons, two international marathons and have a plan for another four more!"

How did I get into running? Our daughter was in Grade Five when she discovered her love of long distance running and competed for Caledonian Primary School at local, regional and state level competition before joining with local athletics club, YCW Harriers. My husband dobbed me in to also compete for YCW Harriers the following year. The rest is history!

I love everything involved in training for a marathon, the buzz of race day and the sense of accomplishment you feel when you finish and it all comes together.

I completed my first Melbourne Marathon in 2018 (3 hours 32 minutes) and in 2019 ran a time that qualified me to enter the Boston Marathon (3 hours 24 minutes). A knee injury in 2020 meant a long road of recovery, when entries for the 2022 Boston marathon opened - I submitted an entry and was accepted.

I completed the Boston marathon in a time of 3 hours 7 minutes - another personal best (PB) and became hooked on the idea of completing the six major international marathons. An ambitious target to run under 3 hours for the first time, as I once again began training for the Berlin Marathon, was the plan. Just to have the opportunity to race in the same race as Eliud Kipchoge



Sarah Watts trains in Brown Hill for her marathons. Image supplied.

who was attempting to break his own record was going to be amazing. Whilst I didn't quite hit the goal of running under 3 hours, I came EVER so close - finishing the race in 3 hours and 29 seconds!!

Only my fourth marathon and my fourth PB. I owe so very much to my amazing family who put up with my busy training schedule and me never being home - and yes I have to listen to them ask continually when I am taking them overseas with me... I could not have achieved all I have without the support of everyone at YCW Harriers and my coach, Bernard Blood.

So what's next? Fingers crossed for the elusive 3.00 hour barrier in

London on 23 April, then onto the world age-group championships in October at the Chicago Marathon.

Then maybe Tokyo and New York in 2024.

What has this fantastic experience taught me? That you are never too old to chase a dream!

Sarah Watts, Brown Hill Local and member of the Ballarat YCW

Ballarat YCW Athletics Club runs an extensive cross country season from March through to September each year catering for all ages from U6 up. We are a family-friendly club based in Ballarat East and welcome runners of all ages and abilities.

ballaratycw.com.au and Facebook