

# Brown Hill Community Newsletter

Edition 38, Summer 2024

*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.*



*New Woodmans Hill Secondary College Principal, Graham Broadbent with Year 7 students.  
Image supplied.*

## Diary Dates

### FEBRUARY

**Saturday 17:** Ballarat Lifestyle Village Open Day, Scott Parade. (p.9)

**Saturday 17:** 8.30 am - 10.30 am, Classic Cars, Brown Hill Hall. (p.24)

**Wednesday 21:** 10.00 am - 12.00 noon, Free Workshop - Running a Successful Community Group, Barkly Square. (p.21)

*...continued p.2*

## New Principal for Woodmans Hill Secondary College

### *From the Principal's desk*

I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Principal of Woodmans Hill Secondary College (WHSC). I started my career as a Physical Education and Science Teacher in the north of England and moved into school leadership in a range of roles both in England and here in Victoria. I moved to Australia at the start of 2013 following my first Principal (Headteacher) role back in England. Woodmans Hill is my third Principalship, having being Principal in Carrum Downs in the South-Eastern suburbs of Melbourne. Since then, I have also worked for the Department of Education as a Senior Education Improvement Leader, education consultant, Principal and leadership mentor and coach and school reviewer.

I feel at home in a school and my

work over recent years has kept me involved with schools, but from a relative distance. I decided the time was right to return to a school to enable me to have a direct positive impact on student learning and wellbeing. The rapport, connections and fostering of positive working relationships with students, staff and community members is important to me in my work. That has been a focus of the first few days of term for all staff and will continue throughout the year.

The Woodmans Hill values of respect, determination and excellence resonate deeply with me and if I am leading the school well, I would hope to instil these and empower others to adopt these in their everyday lives too. Our students as a group have demonstrated their openness in welcoming me to the school. They too are described by staff as accepting

and engaging young people. They are indeed! I hope to help them to build their connection and feeling of pride being a member of our wonderful school; our new House teams will assist (more on that in future WHSC newsletter articles).

The students and a highly dedicated staff team make Woodmans Hill a thriving, vibrant and diverse place to be. Every school is unique, but Woodmans Hill has a very special feel to it. I feel privileged to be able to lead the school in the next phase of its development and look forward to building on current and future community links.

*Graham Broadbent  
Principal*

*Woodmans Hill Secondary College  
5336 7264*

*woodmans.hill.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au  
woodmanshill.net.au*

...continued from p.1

**Wednesday 28:** 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm,  
Free Workshop - Running a  
Successful Community Group,  
Online. (p.21)

## MARCH

**Friday 1:** 10.30 am, Morning  
Melodies, Victoria Bowling Club.  
(p.5)

**Tuesday 5:** 10.00 am - 11.30 am,  
Free Workshop - Grant Writing for  
Community Groups, Buninyong.  
(p.21)

**Saturday 16:** Men's Breakfast at  
the Brown Hill Uniting Church.  
(p. 19)

**Saturday 23:** Annual Brown Hill  
Uniting Church Fair. (p.19)

## APRIL

**Friday 5:** 10.30 am Morning  
Melodies, Victoria Bowling Club.  
(p.5)

**Wednesday 10:** 7.00 pm, Brown  
Hill Progress Association meeting,  
Brown Hill Hall. (p.4)

*For more, visit: [brownhill.vic.au](http://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.

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**Social Media:** Ellie Thacker,  
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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/](http://brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/)  
or you can subscribe online or by  
emailing us:  
[newsletter@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:newsletter@brownhill.vic.au).

Contributions are welcome from  
the Brown Hill community.  
Articles can be emailed to  
**[newsletter@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:newsletter@brownhill.vic.au)** or  
delivered in hard copy to the  
reception desk at Caledonian  
Primary School, Thompson Street,  
Brown Hill during school term and  
hours.

Edition 39 (Autumn) articles are  
due by **Wednesday 24 April 2024**.  
Please read the editorial policy  
regarding contributions before  
submitting an article or  
advertising: [brownhill.vic.au/](http://brownhill.vic.au/newsletter)  
newsletter.

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Occasionally, some content  
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you need support, contact  
numbers are available here:  
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[hill/need-some-support/](http://brownhill.vic.au/new-to-brown-hill/need-some-support/)

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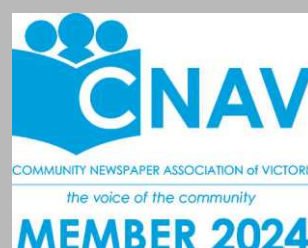
**Brown Hill Progress**

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

**[bhpa@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:bhpa@brownhill.vic.au)**

**[brownhill.vic.au](http://brownhill.vic.au)**

**PO Box 1863, Bakery Hill 3354**



## From the editor

I'm starting something new this month. I've joined a community choir. I love music, musicals and singing, although I'm not particularly talented in this area. I suspect some parts of being new in a choir may be tricky or uncomfortable - although I have been assured that there is no pressure to sing solo, thank goodness. I know it will make me feel happy and I'm sure I'll learn a lot from the others in the group. There will certainly be some new experiences and laughs along the way.

It was lovely to read about the feelings of excitement from the new Preps (p.12-13) and their willingness to have a go at new challenges such as writing their names and counting the trees in the pile and writing it down. With these challenges of trying something new come the wonderful benefits, such as playing in the playground and making new friends. So much fun!

We welcome Graham Broadbent as the new Principal at Woodmans

Hill Secondary College (p.1) and look forward to sharing his stories.

We also welcome Ryan and Phil Knowles, well known through their years of involvement in and contribution to the Brown Hill Cricket Club, who have taken over management of the Brown Hill Hotel (p.11).

There are lots of opportunities to get involved in the Brown Hill Community. You could join the parkrun crew for a run, walk or to volunteer on a Saturday morning (p.23) or help out the environment with the Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group (p.22).

The Brown Hill Progress Association and Newsletter team are also looking for new volunteers (p.4) as are the Brown Hill Playgroup (p.14).

One of the many things I love about calling Brown Hill home is the friendly and connected community. There is a lot on offer. If you've got a spare hour or two, try something new.

*Sarah Greenwood-Smith, Volunteer Editor, Brown Hill Community Newsletter and Directory Committee*  
[newsletter@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:newsletter@brownhill.vic.au)  
[brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/](http://brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/)

## The SoupBus requires donations

Can you help us? Our cupboards are pretty bare! We need the following urgently! If you can help us thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Canned meals with ring tops (Tom Piper etc); Small tins of tuna; Chunky soups; Canned fruit; Pasta; Pasta sauce; 420g tins of spaghetti; Cereal; Milo; Sugar; Nescafé in the large size; Long life custard (one-litre); Muesli/snack bars.

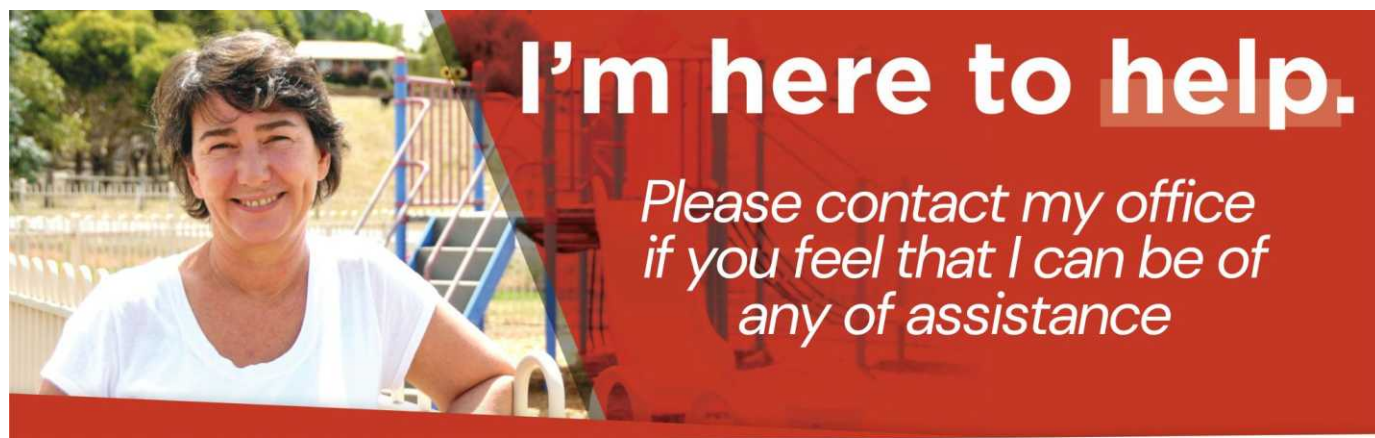
*Please ensure that all tins have ring pull tops.*

They can be dropped off any Wednesday between 9.30 am and 11.00 am (corner Fussell and Eureka streets - behind the Ballarat East Men's Shed) or every first and third Saturday of the month same time and place.

Advanced Cabinetry (Fussell Street) have very kindly offered to be a drop-off point for donations. Please check their opening times. Please support small local business when and where you can.

*The SoupBus Family*

### Advertisement



**I'm here to help.**

*Please contact my office if you feel that I can be of any of assistance*

**Michaela Settle MP**  
STATE LABOR MEMBER FOR EUREKA



15 Main Road, Bakery Hill VIC 3350



[michaela.settle@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:michaela.settle@parliament.vic.gov.au)



5331 7722



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

Authorised by M Settle, 15 Main Road, Bakery Hill.



# Brown Hill Progress Association

## From the Secretary's Desk

The Brown Hill Progress Association (BHPA) committee returned from the Christmas/New Year break with a meeting on Wednesday 14 February. The next meeting is scheduled for 7.00 pm on Wednesday 10 April. It will be held in the back meeting room of the Brown Hill Community Hall. Everyone is welcome to come along. Our small and aging group is always seeking assistance from community-minded people who may have a couple of hours a month to give our team a hand, no matter how small.

We watched with heavy hearts the dismantling of the old pool. After running it each summer for 15 years we did actually know every lump in the concrete and drip of a tap. What we miss most is the terrific interaction with local families and watching the kids grow and mature each year. Some of the early troublemakers became our best lifeguards in the later years and we hope they have continued to become responsible adults.

### Advertisement



What we do look forward to is the completion of the demolition site and full clean-up. Once this stage is done there will be consultation with park/landscape architects to work on the final design and layout of the splash park, surrounding playground structures and the parkland seating and shelters.

The committee has salvaged approximately 100 of the original hand-moulded bricks from the change room structure. They have been cleaned and are stored in the backyard of one of our members. We are not sure what we will do with them as yet but did not want to lose them to the waste heap. We are thinking of using some of them to make a small structure and memory board to honour the hard work of the original Brown Hill volunteers who built the change rooms in the late 50s, early 60s. The committee would also be very grateful for any old photos of the pool and/or memorabilia that we could use on the display. We also plan to bury a time capsule at the site. Please watch future editions of this newsletter, Online Community Hub and Brown Hill

Community Facebook page for updates.

This year we will continue to liaise with the community and the City of Ballarat on the Reserve re-development. We also are trying to increase our involvement with Brown Hill's schools, including Woodmans Hill Secondary College and Caledonian Primary School. We hope to engage some young members of the community in the Reserve project and production of the newsletter.

We will also continue working alongside other community groups, such as the Uniting Church, Brown Hill Cricket Club, Lions and parkrun, assisting in the provision of a range of social activities.

The Brown Hill Progress Association will continue to be the voice for the Brown Hill Community to the City of Ballarat.

The best way to get in touch with BHPA is via email, **bhpa@brownhill.vic.au** or phone the Secretary, Brendan, on **0409 018 867**. You could also come along and say hello at our meetings. Everyone is welcome.

Keep well, Brendan.

*Brendan Stevens*  
Secretary,  
Brown Hill Progress Association

**Catherine**  
**KING MP**  
Federal Member for Ballarat

☎ 03 5338 8123

✉ Catherine.King.MP@aph.gov.au

f CatherineKingMP

🐦 @CatherineKingMP

**Standing up for our Community!**

**WWW.catherineking.com.au**

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



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Saturdays: 7.00 am - 5.00 pm



**1 Melbourne Road**  
**Brown Hill**  
**5332 6030**

# Ballarat Fire Brigade

On writing this we are nearly halfway through February. However, it feels like Spring with mild days, cooler evenings, rain and grass that continues to grow.

With the current weather conditions, we have seen grass and vegetation grow where it would normally lay dormant at this time of the year. This is a good reminder that we all should monitor our properties, especially vacant land and those that haven't been cut since last year. We have seen significant growth occur which may dry out if we receive any more hot windy weather. This may result in an increased fire risk.

The Fire Danger Period is still in force and remains in force until 1 May 2024 unless otherwise notified.

For information on what you can and can't do please visit:  
[cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-bans-ratings-and-restrictions/can-i-or-cant-i](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-bans-ratings-and-restrictions/can-i-or-cant-i)

The Ballarat Fire Brigade has started the year off reasonably busy with 81 calls received up to 7 February and although we haven't responded to too many grass and



*A Ballarat Fire Brigade truck on site. Image supplied.*

bushfires, we have had a number of structure fires and road crash rescues. Members have also been busy undertaking community education and fundraising for the brigade.

As a part of our community education and engagement programs, we will be opening the station to the public for the City of Ballarat Heritage Week - final details and further information will be published on our Facebook page closer to the date.

*Captain Mark Cartledge AFSM  
Ballarat Fire Brigade  
Corner of Barkly and East Streets  
[facebook.com/BallaratCFA/](https://facebook.com/BallaratCFA/)  
[cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au)*

## Friday Morning Melodies

*At Victoria Bowling Club  
231 Victoria Street, Ballarat East*

10.30 am start  
\$20 for lunch and show

\* 1 March: Col Thomson & Venessa Waara

\* 5 April: Sandie Dodd

\* 3 May: The Long & Short of It

\* 7 June: Frankie

Bookings essential.

Contact Lindsay Johnston on  
0488 788 218.

### Bronze Sponsor

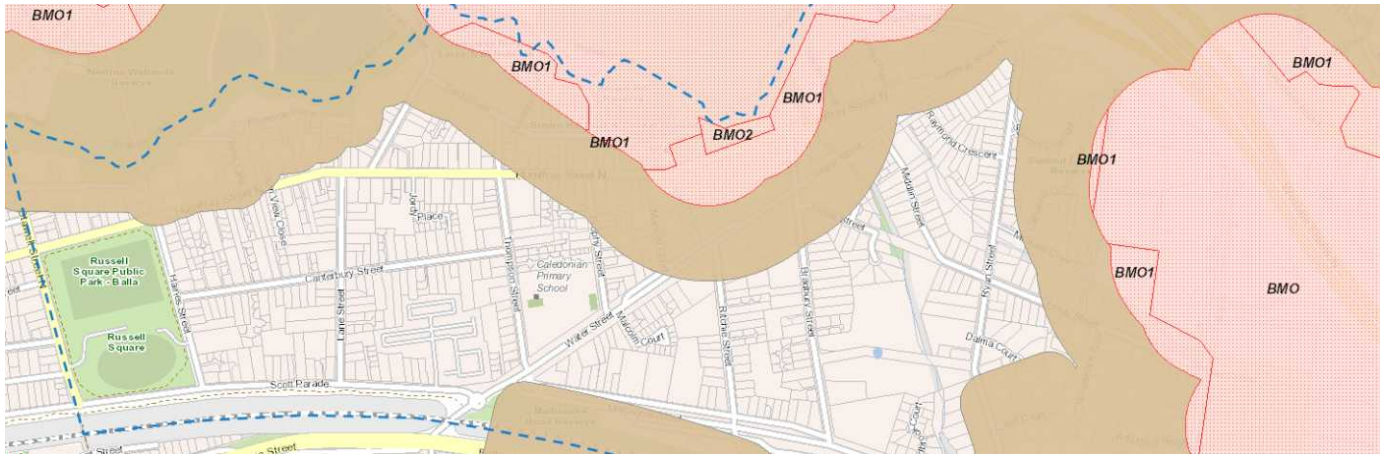
The logo for Ballarat Tree Works features a green tree silhouette. Below the logo, the text 'CALL 0417 370 312' and 'WWW.BALLARATTREWORKS.COM.AU' are displayed. At the bottom, a green banner reads 'YOUR TREE CARE &amp; MAINTENANCE PROFESSIONALS'.

### Bronze Sponsor

The advertisement for N.V. Pollard Plumbing features a cartoon plumber character. The text 'If it leaks, we'll fix it' is at the top, followed by 'N.V. POLLARD PLUMBING' in large red letters. Below this, the name 'Neil Pollard' and phone number '0484 002 533' are listed, along with '4333 8065' and email 'nvpollard@gmail.com'. A blue oval contains the text 'Prompt &amp; Reliable Service'.



# Brown Hill FireAware Network



*Brown Hill's Bushfire Prone Area. Image supplied.*

## **What is a Bushfire Prone Area (BPA), BMO and BAL rating?**

Did you know that the highest risk areas of Ballarat to a bushfire threat are Nerrina, Invermay and Brown Hill? Are you familiar with the above bushfire terms in relation to your house location and building construction? Here are some basics...

**Bushfire Prone Area (BPA):** An area identified to be subject to, or likely subject to, bushfire attack. It is recognised by the presence of, and proximity to, bushfire-prone vegetation and includes both the area containing the bushfire-prone vegetation and a **100m buffer zone immediately surrounding it. The majority of Brown Hill is within a BPA.**

The two shaded areas of this map are showing the BPA for the more

established part of Brown Hill south of the freeway. ALL of Brown Hill north of the freeway is a BPA area. To view the map in detail and identify your property, visit: [mapshare.vic.gov.au/vicplan](http://mapshare.vic.gov.au/vicplan).

Even though this is the “official” designation of the BPA for Brown Hill, remember that embers can travel many kilometres from a fire front and can start spot fires that may cause a house fire. A significant part of our two major access roads, Humffray and Water streets, are within the BPA.

## **What is the difference between a Bushfire Prone Area and a Bushfire Management Overlay?**

The Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO) is different to a Bushfire Prone Area (BPA). BMOs are regulated by the Planning and

Environment Act. BPAs are regulated by DELWP. The BMO applies to land that may be significantly affected by a bushfire. If you are building a new home or renovating an existing home within a BPA then you will come under the BMO regulations.

**What is a Bushfire Attack Level (BAL)?** A BAL rating is a means of measuring the severity of a building's potential exposure to ember attack, radiant heat and direct flame contact. It's measured in increments of radiant heat (expressed in kilowatts/m<sup>2</sup>). A BAL is the basis for establishing the requirements for construction of buildings in a Bushfire Prone Area, to improve protection of building elements from bushfire attack.

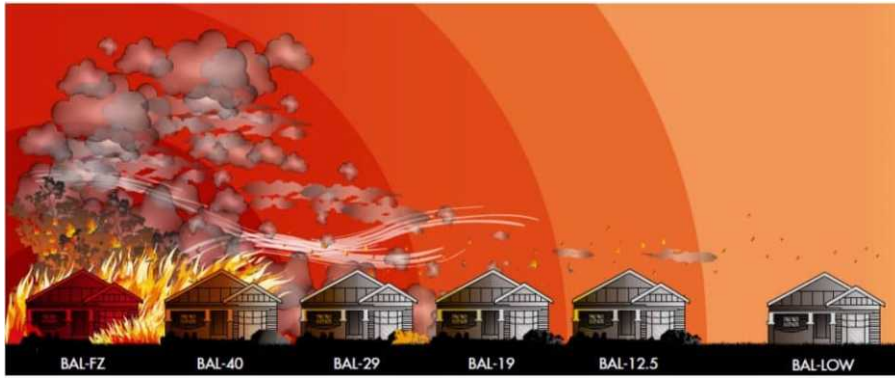
*...continued p.7*

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**BAL – Low:** There is insufficient risk to warrant specific construction requirements

**BAL – 12.5:** Ember attack.

**BAL – 29/ 19:** Increasing levels of ember attack and burning debris ignited by windborne embers, together with increasing heat flux.

**BAL – 40:** Increasing levels of ember attack and burning debris ignited by windborne embers, together with increasing heat flux and with the increased likelihood of exposure to flames.

**BAL – FZ:** Direct exposure to flames from fire, in addition to heat flux and ember attack.

...continued from p.6

**When weather forecasts indicate a hot dry summer the risk of bushfires is increased.**

**Here are basic questions to check your level of risk to a bushfire impacting your home:**

1. Do you live within a couple of streets of bushland?
2. Do you have many trees and shrubs around your home?
3. Is your Bushfire Survival Plan more than one year old?

If you answered 'Yes' to one or more of these questions, then you and your family may be at risk in the event of a fire. You need to have a Bushfire Survival Plan. Here is a good checklist to get you started from the "CFS SA Bushfire Survival Plan Checklist" from the South Australian Country Fire Service. Visit: [cfs.sa.gov.au/plan-prepare/before-a-fire-be-prepared](http://cfs.sa.gov.au/plan-prepare/before-a-fire-be-prepared)

### Fire Season checklists

In preparation for the bushfire season, it's important to prepare your property and your family.

- Prepare your property
- Prepare your kits
- Prepare and practise your plan

**Preparing your property** (delete out things that don't apply to you, add anything specific to your property)

CFS Recommends:

- Check that trees and shrubs still have space between them (horizontally and vertically) so they don't form a continuous canopy. Prune if needed.
- Remove dead vegetation from around your home and prune lower limbs of trees.
- Check with your council to see if a permit is required to burn off garden waste, or dispose of the material through mulching or at a council rubbish dump.
- Remove bark, heavy mulch, wood piles and any other flammable materials close to your home and sheds.
- Ember-proof your home: seal gaps and areas under your home, verandahs or balconies; repair any loose tiles or gaps in your roof; cover windows, crevices and vents with fine wire mesh or flywire;

repair or fill nooks and crannies where leaves or embers could gather.

- Slash or mow long grass and remove cut material (unless it can rot down before summer).

- Remove weeds.

- Cut back trees overhanging your home.

- Remove fallen branches and other debris.

- Remove leaves from gutters.

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

- Check insurance is still adequate.

- Prepare / check your emergency kit (see kit section).

- Check your fire clothes still fit (see clothing section).

- Review, update and practise your Bushfire Survival Plan.

Think about what else you might do to prepare.

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

If you don't have a plan go to the Brown Hill Community Hub: Be Bushfire Ready page -

**[brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-are-you-bushfire-ready/](http://brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-are-you-bushfire-ready/)**


Hazen Cleary

Brown Hill Community FireAware Network Coordinator

0408 690 493

## Advertise

**For advertising opportunities in the Brown Hill Community Newsletter, please contact us: [newsletter@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:newsletter@brownhill.vic.au)**

A man with a beard is sitting in the driver's seat of a car at night. He is holding a yellow and orange breathalyzer device in his mouth and blowing into it. The device has a red screen and the number '96' and 'SV020' on it. The background is dark, with some blurred lights visible through the car windows.

# **Stop kidding yourself. If you drink, don't drive.**

Thinking about driving after a couple of drinks? Think again.  
If you blow .05 or over, you could face serious penalties,  
including fines, losing your licence, getting an interlock installed  
in your car and having to blow zero for three years.





# Ballarat Lifestyle Village

Open Day - 17 February 2024

We're excited to announce that Stage Two of Ballarat Lifestyle Village is complete and we are celebrating our growing village by holding an open day on Saturday 17 February 2024 from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm!

This stage of our land lease development offers our largest sites and they are selling fast! This is a great opportunity to come and check them out before they are all sold. We have affordable, quality, brand new 2-bedroom homes available from as low as \$289,000 (as at February 2024), as well as "off the plan" options that allow you to customise your forever home if you see a particular site



Ballarat Lifestyle Village home.  
Image supplied.

that you love! Our village also offers great facilities including an indoor spa, an outdoor swimming pool and a clubhouse where our residents love catching up over a cuppa or enjoy activities such as fashion parades, live music and shows from time to time.

Ballarat Lifestyle Village offers a laid-back and relaxing lifestyle with plenty of convenience, but

without all of the hustle and bustle. It is the perfect community-focussed, pet-friendly and affordable lifestyle solution, allowing retirees to downsize their home and upsize their lifestyle.

We can't wait to show you the Ballarat Lifestyle Village Community!

*Quality, affordable, pet friendly, over 55's living*

**BALLARAT**  
LIFESTYLE VILLAGE



## OPEN DAY

**Saturday 17th February 2024 | 9 AM - 4 PM**

**263 Scott Pde, Brown Hill 3350 | 03 5332 2009**

# Brown Hill & District Lions Club



BBQ at PINARC. L- R: President Marg Crilly, members Charlie Phillips and Glenis Davis and Secretary Barry Davis. Image supplied.

Pre-Christmas was again a very busy time for our members with BBQs, record Christmas Cake sales and our normal meetings.

Our annual wheelbarrow of groceries special effort achieved an excellent result.

Local Community BBQs were held at:

- \* The Y Swim/learn Centre for their breakup.
- \* A Christmas-themed BBQ at PINARC Client Services where our members enjoy the company of staff and clients over lunch.
- \* Caledonian Primary School's celebration day which was a very busy day - we loved serving sausages in bread to the many excited students.

After holding a couple of successful BBQs at the new IGA at Victoria Street, we will now hold monthly BBQs on the last Friday of the month. Come along to say hello and buy a snag. All the money raised will go back into the local community.

On Saturday 17 February, at the Open Day for the new Lifestyle Village in Scott Parade, our Club will have a sausage sizzle. Visitors can check out their new houses - they are amazing.

We have again donated an annual award to a Grade Six student at Caledonian Primary School to further their education at secondary school.

Our first Business Meeting is 14 February at Lions Wing PINARC in Otway Street. It is at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start. We would love to see some potential new members come along.

**President Lion Marg Crilly**  
0427 822 340, [info@lions.org.au](mailto:info@lions.org.au)

**Secretary Lion Barry Davis**  
0418 580 971  
[barglen9@bigpond.net.au](mailto:barglen9@bigpond.net.au)

## Advertisement

# BROWN HILL POST OFFICE

- \* Open from 8.00 am until 6.00 pm, Monday to Friday
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- \* Post Office Boxes
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**69 Water Street, Brown Hill**



# Brown Hill History - Literary Institute

The Ballarat Star (Vic. : 1865 - 1924) / Thu 20 May 1875 / Page 3 / Advertising

## Soirees, &c.

**A GRAND TEA and CONCERT** will be held at the Brown Hill Literary Institute, next Friday, 21st inst, in aid of the funds of the Library. Tea, 6 p.m. Concert, 8 p.m. John James, M.P., Esq., Chairman. Speeches, Recitations, and Readings. A talented Company of Vocalists. Conductor, W. Cross, Esq., Professor of Music. Miss H. E. Curnow, Pian'iste. Enoch Richards, President.

Did you know that Brown Hill had a Literary Association formed in 1858?

It had various names such as, 'The Brown Hill Literary Association', 'Brown Hill Literary Institute' and the 'Brown Hill Literary Institute and Public Library'.

On 6 February 1865, James Oddie, Joseph Young, Joseph Nicholson, William Cross, Alexander Jarvie, Daniel Kelly and Enoch Richards, became trustees of one acre of land set apart for literary association purposes at Brown Hill. A hall was eventually established in 1865 in Thompson Street, costing over £300. At the annual soiree on 16 August 1865, a report read by Mr Richards, the secretary, indicates that the library contained about 500 volumes. During the year nearly 1000 issues of books to members

had taken place, some 20 new members had been enrolled, 50 lectures on various subjects had been delivered and 60 volumes had been added to the library.

The hall was also used for 'public' meetings held by council members and local members of political parties. And was also known as the 'Literary Hall'.

Following are a selected few titles of lectures that were presented to the Association. These titles were located on the online TROVE Newspapers and Gazettes database.

'Philip the Second of Spain and the Spanish' presented by J. James M.L.A (February 1876)

'The future and prosperity of our adopted country' presented by Mr. W. Luplau (March 1875)

'Physical structure of Australia'

presented by Mr John Hoskings (March 1875)

'Minor Poets of Scotland' presented by Rev. James Dick (August 1876)

'Civil War in America' presented by Mr R. O. McCoy, M.A. (September 1864)

'Abraham Lincoln : life and lessons' presented by Rev J. C. Macdougall (October 1878)

While researching my husband's family history and in particular his fourth cousin Enoch Richards, I came across the existence of the Brown Hill Literary Association and thought I would share what I had found. I am by no means an historian, just someone that does family history research.

*Gaida Stevens, Brown Hill resident*

*Image: Ballarat Star, 1875*

## Bakery Hill

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# A big step for 2024's Preps



## Tex

Glen Park Primary School

**Prep teacher:** Tony.

**Most fun thing about going to school:**

Having fun.

**Feelings on the first day:**

Happy and nervous.

**Favourite school activity:**

Having new friends.

**Tricky things about being in Prep:**

Learning to write.

**Looking forward to at school:**

Reading books.

**When I grow up, I'm going to be:**

A scientist.

*Image: Working with Luca from Grade One to make an emu.*



## Walter

Little Bendigo Primary School

**Prep teacher:** Miss D.

**Most fun thing about going to school:**

Soccer on the oval.

**Feelings on the first day:**

Excited.

**Siblings at school:**

A sister and a brother (pictured).

**Favourite school activity:**

Cool maths games on the tablets.

**Tricky things about being in Prep:**

Counting how many trees are in the big pile then writing down the number.

**Looking forward to at school:**

Soccer and playing cool math games.

**When I grow up, I'm going to be:**

A policeman and a fireman.

*Image: Walter with his siblings.*



## Audrey

Caledonian Primary School

**Prep teacher:** Mrs O'Brien.

**Most fun thing about going to school:**

Playing outside on the playground.

**Feelings on the first day:**

I felt happy because I was going to meet lots of new friends.

**Siblings at school:**

Jack in Grade Five and Bill in Grade Three.

**Favourite school activity:**

On the first day I put all my pencils away and then we did some sitting on the floor where we learnt some letters. Did you know we also have big chairs and

...continued p.13

**Silver Sponsor**



THE HAIR ROOM  
By Elaine

7 Sawmill Close  
Brown Hill  
0434 522 477



...continued from p.12

tables in our classroom? We got to sit on them and draw a picture for Mrs O'Brien. After that we played outside in the sun. I also learnt to line up at the door for music time. My favorite thing we did was playing outside on the playground.

**Tricky things about being in Prep:**  
Learning to write my name.

**Looking forward to at school:**  
I want to get really good at doing work on the computer and learn things so I can be a baby doctor.

**When I grow up, I'm going to be:**  
I really want to be a baby doctor.

**Do you like school?**  
I love my school.

*Image: Audrey on her first day.*



## George

Warrenheip Primary School

**Prep teacher:** Mrs O'Neill.

**Most fun thing about going to school:** Playing inside and playing outside. I like drawing things and playing chess.

**Siblings at school:**

I have a sister called Lilly.

**Favourite school activity:**  
Reading books.

**Tricky things about being in Prep:**

Doing all the activities and doing my name with playdough.

**Looking forward to at school:**  
I'm looking forward to playing on the computers.

**When I grow up, I'm going to be:**  
Either a policeman or a firefighter.

*Image: George having fun at school.*

# Warrenheip Primary School

## From the Principal's Desk

What a lovely start to the school year at Warrenheip Primary School.

This year we have welcomed five new Foundation students to our community. Each one of them has settled in beautifully and they are beginning to learn what school life is all about.

We are looking forward to a successful 2024. There are loads of developments on the horizon for our school as well as the introduction of some amazing programs.

We enjoy watching our students grow and develop, celebrating their learning and achievements with their families and our community.

Jo Reyntjes  
Acting Principal, Warrenheip Primary School, 5334 7294  
warrenheip.ps@education.vic.gov.au  
whps.vic.edu.au

## Advertisement

A colorful geometric advertisement for the Global Harmony Market. The background is a collage of triangles in various colors. At the top, it says 'BARKLY SQUARE' and '25-39 Barkly Street, Ballarat East'. The main title 'GLOBAL HARMONY MARKET' is in large, bold, white letters on a black background. Below this, it says 'Friday 22nd March 4pm to 8pm'. There are four triangular callouts: a green one for 'DELICIOUS FOOD TRUCKS!', a red one for 'FREE KIDS ACTIVITIES!', a blue one for 'SHOPPING FROM LOCAL ARTISANS, MAKERS &amp; CREATORS!', and a yellow one for 'LIVE MUSIC!'. At the bottom, there is a white oval with the text 'To apply for a stall head to www.barklysquare.org.au/markets or email brooke@bgt.org.au'. Logos for 'bgt' and 'JOBS + TRAINING BALLARAT' are at the bottom left.

## Feelings on the first day:

I felt excited and happy and sad. I was sad because maybe I wouldn't see Lilly my sister because she'll be playing with someone else. I was really happy to play outside.

# Y Learn and Swim

*First kinder kids commence at Y Learn and Swim*

Excitement filled the air at Y Learn and Swim as the inaugural kindergarten class commenced its journey on 6 February.

Prior to formally starting, children had attended Orientation in early February, accompanied by their parents and carers, helping to ensure a smooth start to the year. These settling-in sessions saw plenty of smiles as children eagerly tried out the toys and equipment and experienced the indoor-outdoor play setting, a feature of the kinder design.

Y Learn and Swim has been offering Long Day Care and swimming lessons since early last year, with the dedicated free kindergarten program launching in 2024.

Emma Davis, Acting Centre Director, along with the team, were thrilled to welcome the first cohort of kinder children. "It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm! Our programs focus on learning through play and supporting children's social and emotional development and well-being. We love how we can offer a range of accessible environments which cater for individual as well as group learning," she said.

"Children can't wait to be out in our natural play spaces which encourage exploration and discovery. We're really looking forward to extending on this, by offering Bush Kinder later in the year."

"Being an active part of the



*One of the Y Learn and Swim's first kinder children enjoying the orientation session in early February. Image supplied.*

community is also so important. Our smaller groups enable closer partnerships with families and with the long day care and swim school we see siblings of our kinder children in the other programs, which not only makes it easier for families, but builds a lovely sense of community in our centre."

For families taking advantage of the convenience of one location for Early Learning Centre (ELC) and Swim School programs, there's also the additional benefit of a 10% discount on their Swimming Lesson fees.

The kindergarten programs for three- and four-year-olds which operate independently from long day care, are completely free, with sessions on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Wrap-around care for kinder children is also available in the ELC, with before and after kinder and holiday care.

Y Learn and Swim is currently taking enrolments for kindergarten, long day care and swimming lessons. Find out more at [ylearnandswim.org.au](http://ylearnandswim.org.au).

## Brown Hill Playgroup

Brown Hill Playgroup at Caledonian Primary School has been supporting families and entertaining pre-schoolers for over 32 years.

We always have new families joining playgroup.

We are recruiting new volunteers to help keep our playgroup going.

Playgroups are an important outlet and support system for families. They provide a free, safe and relaxed environment for parents to talk, share, laugh and for kids to play.

Our playgroup is all these things.

Our playgroup runs during the school term on Wednesdays from 9.00 am until 11.00 am in the Multipurpose Hall at Caledonian Primary School. Gold coin donation. Tea and coffee supplied.

Jane Griffin & Aimee Knight  
Brown Hill Playgroup Co-Coordinators  
[playgroup@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:playgroup@brownhill.vic.au)  
[facebook.com/brownhillplaygroup](https://facebook.com/brownhillplaygroup)  
Caledonian Primary School, 5332 6955



# St Mary's Clarkes Hill

*Start of the new school year*

The children at St Mary's have settled in quickly for the start of the 2024 school year. Along with our two new Foundation students, Genevieve and Skyler, we also welcomed our new Principal, Clare Scanlon.

Since 2021, Clare taught at St Brendan's Primary School, Dunnstown, as a junior classroom teacher. Before this, Clare taught locally at several of the Ballarat Diocese Catholic primary schools and also in the Kimberley, Western Australia which included time as a Principal at Warlawurru Catholic School, Lunja Community, Red Hill and Halls Creek.

Clare is highly regarded in her school community and by her colleagues as a professional, compassionate and effective educator. As a community, we can't wait to follow her leadership



St Mary's new Principal, Clare Scanlon, with new students. Image supplied

into the future.

Clare, along with the students and teachers at St Mary's, would welcome any enquiries regarding our lovely country school. Parents and their children are warmly invited to come and visit us.

5334 5280

[principal@smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au)

[smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au](http://smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au)

131 Powells Road, Clarkes Hill

## Interviewing and writing

*We need volunteers to help interview people and write articles for the Brown Hill Community Newsletter.*

*There are so many great stories to share with our community.*

*Please contact us:  
[newsletter@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:newsletter@brownhill.vic.au)*

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[smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au](http://smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au)



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

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# Caledonian Primary School



*School-grown plum jam production at Caledonian Primary School. Image supplied.*

## ***From the Principal's Desk***

On Tuesday 30 January we welcomed our students back to school. While many state schools across the state completed testing and had curriculum days, here at Caledonian we like to get right back into the routine! We have had a fabulous start to 2024 with new students, new staff and plans for a wonderful year of learning.

Following a very successful set of results in the 2023 NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy), where students at Caledonian performed above similar school and state averages in most areas, our team is very focussed on continuing to ensure every child here has the best possible opportunity to achieve.

Over the past two years this has involved a firm focus on structured learning, a more explicit approach to instruction as opposed to inquiry models which tend towards learning sequences with an increased emphasis on

learners discovering information for themselves rather than having the information explicitly presented to them and skills practised.

This remains a fairly big educational debate and one with very strong opinions. Here at Caledonian, we are simply following the evidence - the researched, peer reviewed studies that indicate the best possible teaching approaches to ensure student learning. We are also continuing to reflect on what works here and improve and refine our practice.

However, pedagogical debates aside, we also have some fabulous activities planned that will include old favourites such as Skateboard and Lego clubs, Camps for our grades three to six students, excursions to bring learning alive as well as sports such as athletics and cross country, specific sports clinics and swimming.

We are also super pleased with our haul of plums and have produced

our own school jam! Working with a small group of students Sally and I slaved over a hot stove and created a culinary marvel - I am looking forward to my Michelin star for jam.

Our apple trees have been bountiful this year and soon the pears will be ripe. Our figs are growing very nicely. It has been a good growing season!

This year, Caledonian Primary School will continue to encourage students to use active transport to travel to and from school (walking, riding, scooting, skateboarding etc.). We are grateful for the ongoing support from the Department of Transport and City of Ballarat to build on the work done over the past few years to encourage active transport.

Finally, the unexpected rise of Four-Square! Every few years Four-Square has a resurgence. You may even recall playing Four-Square or handball yourself as a student. Last year some of our students presented me with a plan to get some new courts painted. In the interest of ensuring our students have opportunities to be engaged in decision making, we will be getting new courts painted this term. As a former “Bruthen Primary School” Four-Square champion I am very much looking forward to reclaiming my title here at Caledonian!

I do hope you enjoy the rest of summer.

Ben

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

*...continued p.17*



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## Zach's Big Chop



In December 2023, Zach, who was in Grade Six at Caledonian Primary School, cut his very long locks to help kids with cancer. He had been growing it since early 2022.

When asked why he grew his hair so long, Zach says he was inspired by previous Caledonian Primary School Student, Cayden, doing it a few years before. Zach thought it was a nice thing to do.

When he had long hair, Zach says, "It was mostly hot, sometimes people thought I was a girl."

With help from his twin brothers, his mate James and his mum and dad, Zach's hair was chopped off in a school assembly in December.

When asked what it felt like to have his long hair cut off, Zach



says, "It feels light and a lot cooler. I felt like a kind person to be donating my hair to make wigs."

The hair has been donated to an organisation called Wigs for Kids (See: [wigsforkids.org](http://wigsforkids.org)). They make wigs for kids with cancer.

Zach raised just over \$2700. You can donate here:

[fundraise.kidswithcancer.org.au/fundraisers/zachdavies/wigs-4-kids](http://fundraise.kidswithcancer.org.au/fundraisers/zachdavies/wigs-4-kids)

Donations allow Kids with Cancer Foundation to continue with their financial support of families that have a child suffering cancer.

*Images of Zach by Andrew Wilson.*

## Author Visit

In October, we had Author Dr Sam Lloyd visit Caledonian Primary School. This was a fabulous opportunity to hear from an author, explore the science behind the book and ask many "interesting" questions.

Sam's book "Alight: A story of fire and nature" is a CSIRO published book that shares the story of Australian native plants and animals during a planned fire and the way fire rejuvenates the Australian bush.

Sam says, "The students were engaged, funny, clever and I had one of my best questions ever with the student who asked, 'So isn't it bad then if fire gets into tree hollows?' Such terrific insight."

Dr Sam Lloyd is an award-winning ecologist, environmental manager, author and dance instructor with a passion for the Australian bush. Sam firmly believes in the value of engaging environmental and science-based literature. She has teaching experience, a PhD in ecology and is Principal Scientist with the Qld Fire and Biodiversity Consortium at Healthy Land and Water.



*Dr Sam Lloyd and Principal, Ben Moody. Photographer: Sarah Greenwood-Smith*



## Brown Hill Uniting Church

### *Easter Day Family Service*

Sunday 31 March, 10.00 am

Outdoors 'under the tree' (weather permitting)

BYO picnic if you wish to stay.

### *Op. Shop*

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.

Opening on Thursday 15 February.

### *Wednesday Communion*

A short service at 1.30 pm in the church hall for those who like a midweek opportunity for fellowship and afternoon tea if you wish to stay.

### *Craft, Cuppa & Chat*

Meeting on the first and third Thursdays each month at 1.30 pm in the church hall, unless otherwise notified. Come along if you are interested in doing any sort of craft, or just come for a chat if you're not!

### *Next Men's Breakfast Saturday 16 March*

Andrew Burns from the Ballarat Vintage and Classic Car Club will speak about the club and its activities. He is arranging for a collection of cars to be on display.

A variety of hot and cold food, with gluten-free options, from 8.30 am.

### *Annual Church Fair Saturday 23 March from 9.00 am*

Car boot sale, \$15.00 per site, to book please phone Barbie on 0409 812 470.

Cake, plant, produce and book stalls, BBQ Breakfast and Devonshire Tea.

The Op. Shop will be open.

All proceeds go towards community projects.

CASH ONLY please.

### *Pancakes for Dessert Shrove Tuesday 13 February at 7.00 pm*

Brown Hill Uniting Church

'Under the tree' (weather permitting) or in the hall.

Donations to Uniting Ballarat meals programs.

Louise Wright

Brown Hill Uniting Church

### *Men's Breakfast 28 October, 2023*

Sixteen men attended the breakfast on this occasion. Lack of a guest speaker gave the opportunity for men to speak from the floor.

Barry Davis and John Orton from the Brown Hill Lions Club talked about the Club's role to raise funds that are put back into the Brown Hill Community sponsoring the Skin Cancer Screening Van and an eyeglasses collection service.

Brendan Stevens from the Brown Hill Progress Association spoke about the Association's activities, including the City of Ballarat's construction of a splash park to

replace the swimming pool and provision of lights at the Brown Hill Cricket Club oval. He also spoke about his involvement with the Ballarat Vintage and Classic Car Club. A few classic cars were on display in the church carpark allowing the men to have a look through the vehicles.

Andrew Measday from the Brown Hill Uniting Church talked about the Christmas Community BBQ to be held in December in the church grounds, followed by a family interactive Carols Service.

Rob Soar

Brown Hill Uniting Church

## Brown Hill Community Hall

During 2023 the Brown Hill Hall was in constant use with all our regular weekly and monthly users. The Hall has also hosted weddings, Mystic Fairs, religious groups, birthdays, mothers' groups, mosaic workshops, the Ballarat National Theatre-Julius Caesar production, balls, dance classes, award nights, sewing classes and the model builders and miniature fair.

This activity means that all three rooms are utilised, with different groups able to access the Hall at the same time.

2024 has all our regular users back, with many weekend bookings already made throughout the year. The Committee is pleased to have positive feedback from casual users about the amenities and cleanliness of the Hall.

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If you are interested in becoming involved in running this fabulous community asset by becoming a member of the Committee, please contact us.

To make a booking visit:  
[hall.brownhill.vic.au/bookings/](http://hall.brownhill.vic.au/bookings/)

*Dianne Eden, Treasurer/Bookings*  
*Brown Hill Community Hall*  
5331 1769  
[hall.brownhill.vic.au](http://hall.brownhill.vic.au)

## Brown Hill Senior Citizen's Club

The 53rd birthday of the Brown Hill Seniors was held on Monday 4 December with invited guests, along with our members, listening to the wonderful singing of local 'boy' Jason Wasley and his partner Sarah Landy. Our Mayor, Mr Des Hudson, gave certificates of appreciation to members Betty McGarry and Harry Burt for their running of cards and indoor bowls.

Our final event for the year was held on Wednesday 13 December

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*Ballarat Mayor, Cr Des Hudson, presenting Betty McGarry with a Certificate of Appreciation, with her daughter, Margaret McGarry, assisting. Image supplied.*

and the members enjoyed a traditional Christmas lunch at the Leagues Club. Members were welcomed back to our clubrooms at the Brown Hill Hall on Monday 5 February with Hoi and indoor bowls being played. With a special afternoon tea, members enjoyed a chatty catch-up.

Upcoming activities include

euchre, scrabble, sequence and indoor bowls.

New members are welcome. We are a friendly and supportive club. The club meets at the Brown Hill Hall on Monday afternoons with activities from 1.30 pm to 3.45 pm.

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

# Our local Neighbourhood Houses



## ***Ballarat North Neighbourhood House***

We are running workshops that will assist you to be more creative and confident in using your iPad and iPhone. So, if you (or your children) purchased a new device for you and you are wondering what to do next, this is for you!

Series 1: Thursdays from 12.30 pm. This will focus on iCloud. Sessions are usually \$10 (to be paid on the day). However, your first two sessions are free of charge and for each friend you bring along to participate, you will receive another free of charge session. If you are confused by this we can explain on the day.

Come along and enjoy a relaxed learning space that will boost your confidence and skills. It is also a great opportunity to connect with like-minded people in your local community and check out our other programs that utilise iPads and iPhones, such as our Procreate (Digital Art) class.

This term we also have chair- and mat-based yoga classes, a watercolour social group and

opportunities to help out in our garden.

For future session information and other activities, please visit our website, give us a call or just drop into the Neighbourhood House. We would love to chat with you.

*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*

***Open 8.45 am - 3.30 pm Tuesdays,  
to Fridays during school term***



## ***Ballarat East Neighbourhood House***

### **Free Group Activities**

This year, alongside our low cost courses, we are continuing with a range of great free activities at the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House.

#### *Tuesdays*

10.00 am - 12.00 noon  
Playgroup

3.00 pm - 5.00 pm  
Sewing Circle

#### *Wednesdays*

9.30 am - 11.30 am  
Digital Device Drop-In

9.30 am - 10.30 am  
Walking Group

10.30 am - 11.30 am  
Chatty Wednesdays

1.00 pm - 5.00 pm (*Wednesdays*)

Winter Woollies

#### *Thursdays*

10.30 am - 12.00 noon (monthly)  
Book Group

1.00 pm - 2.30 pm (fortnightly)  
Waste-Free Lifestyle Group

2.00 pm - 3.00 pm  
Auslan Practice Group

Contact us to find out more and register.

### **Free Digital Literacy Help**

Be Connected is an Australian government initiative committed to building the confidence, digital skills and online safety of older Australians. Whether you want to pick up new skills or dive into a new topic, you can access free learning resources online ([beconnected.esafety.gov.au](http://beconnected.esafety.gov.au)) or join a local, free digital skills sessions.

The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House is a Be Connected Network Partner and delivers the program at both Barkly Square and at the Ballarat North Neighbourhood House.

*Ballarat East Neighbourhood House,  
Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly Street*

#### Digital Device Drop-In Sessions

9.30 am - 11.30 am, Wednesdays during school term. Meet Greg in the Community Area near the Cafe. or drop into Room 102 and we will connect you with Greg.

*Ballarat North Neighbourhood House,  
6 Crompton Street, Soldier's Hill*

#### Digital Device Drop-In Sessions

10.00 am - 12.00 noon, Fridays. Meet Greg at the Neighbourhood House. Individual appointments are also available by arrangement.

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The Neighbourhood Houses will also be running sessions including:

- \* *Buying your groceries online.*
- \* *Using Compass (a school-based application for parents/carers).*
- \* *Accessing the Bendigo Bank online.*
- \* *Setting up your VicRoads Digital Driver Licence.*

Contact us for more information and to register for these free digital device sessions.

### Free Training for Community Groups

The Community Governance Project funded by City of Ballarat is working to provide support to community groups in the City of Ballarat, delivered across the four Neighbourhood Houses in Ballarat through a Strategic Partnership.



#### Workshop #1 - Running a Successful Community Group

**Session 1:** 10.00 am - 12.00 noon,  
Wednesday 21 February 2024:  
Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council (BRMC) Building Meeting Room, Barkly Square

**Session 2:** 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm,  
Wednesday 28 February 2024:  
Online via Zoom

This Workshop will cover three main topics: *Meetings:* Kay Miller, Ballarat East Neighbourhood House; *Budgets:* Greg Jakob,

Ballarat Tool Library and *Applying for Charity Registration:* Adrian Tinetti, Ballarat and Grampians Community Legal Service.



#### Workshop #3 - Grant Writing for Community Groups

**Session 1:** 10.00 am - 11.30 am,  
Tuesday 5 March 2024: Buninyong Community House

**Session 2:** 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm,  
Tuesday 19 March 2024: Online via Zoom

Learn to write great grant applications with the team from the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House and Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre, with special guest speakers from the Community Bank Buninyong & District.

Learn about: Finding and developing a great idea for your community group's next project; Determining the need for the project; Documenting the proposed community benefit of the project; Creating a budget and gathering quotes; Preparing for evaluation of the project and setting up a baseline of data.

*Please note that, in all cases, Session 2 is a repeat of Session 1 so there is no need to register for both sessions.*

*(Images from Pexels)*



#### Workshop #4 - Child Safe Community Groups

**Session 1:** 1.00 pm - 2.30 pm,  
Wednesday 13 March 2024:  
Wendouree Neighbourhood Centre, 12 Holly Grove, Wendouree

**Session 2:** 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm,  
Thursday 14 March 2024: Online via Zoom

We all want to protect children when they engage with our community organisation or group. Children have the right to feel safe and to be safe all the time but this requires commitment from everyone in the community. The updated Child Safe Standards introduced into Victoria have been applicable from 1 July 2022. The standards support community organisations and groups to become child safe organisations. The Workshop will include a review of each standard and some practical steps that can be taken by community groups to implement them.

Register now for one or more of Workshops in Term 1:  
[ballarateastnh.org.au/community-governance/community-groups](http://ballarateastnh.org.au/community-governance/community-groups).

*Sarah Greenwood-Smith, Manager, Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly Street, Ballarat East, 0422 612 052*  
[reception@ballarateastnh.org.au](mailto:reception@ballarateastnh.org.au)  
[facebook.com/BallaratEastNH/](https://facebook.com/BallaratEastNH/)  
[ballarateastnh.org.au](http://ballarateastnh.org.au)  
**Open 9.00 am - 5.00 pm Tuesdays to Fridays during school term**

# Interested in volunteering for Nature?



Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group volunteers in action. Image supplied.

Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group is a family-based volunteer community environment group who enjoy working together to improve and protect our natural environment. We hold working bees, plantings, wildflower walks, BBQs and other nature-based social events and welcome casual visitors and new members.

We have projects on public land, urban blocks, acreages and farms around Brown Hill, Glen Park, Wattle Flat, Pootilla and Dean to the northeast of Ballarat.

Make contact with us in any way you want. If you would just like to stay in touch, follow our Facebook page or sign up for our email newsletters.

If you want a deeper engagement, join this active group of locals to share knowledge about native plants, weeds, wildlife habitat, revegetation and gardening with native plants. Full membership is \$25 per family each year.

## **No more can crushing!**

You can benefit the environment and your favourite charity or community group by saving and recycling your drink containers.

It's simple: Download the CDS Vic West App. onto your phone and register to create your account. Click on "Charities" on the App. home page then search for your favourite charity, or scroll through the options. You'll be able to click

on each group to find out more about them. When you've made your choice select "Set as payout" for that charity. You can change this preference at any time and as often as you wish.

Each time you go to deposit eligible containers, first open the CDS Vic West App. and scan your barcode at the machine. When you have finished, press "Transfer" on the machine and your donation will automatically appear in the bank account of your chosen charity.

So, start collecting and depositing! Using the CDS App. is simple, fun and a great way to make small change into a big change!

Stephanie Davison  
Wattle Flat - Pootilla Landcare Group  
0437 071 317  
wfplcg@gmail.com  
leighcatchmentgroup.org/wattle-flat-pootilla  
facebook.com/wfplg



No more can crushing. Image supplied.

## **Bronze Sponsor**



**1300 471 291**

**35 MAIR STREET, BALLARAT CENTRAL**





# Wallaby Track parkrun



*The Wallaby Track parkrun in action. Image supplied.*

It's been a busy few months at Wallaby Track parkrun with our first Christmas Day event, our fourth anniversary, our first ever pacer week and a New Year's Day event.

We have also welcomed many first-timers to parkrun over the summer and it's fantastic to see many become regular participants who are now part of the parkrun community.

We all enjoy getting out on a Saturday morning for a run or a walk, but it's the social connections that keep us coming back each week.

This January we had record numbers of people taking part in parkrun all over Australia. Recently we were excited to welcome the 1 millionth participant to parkrun in Australia!

At Wallaby Track parkrun it has been great to see numbers increasing each year and we now have a wonderful community of runners and walkers who come to enjoy the experience each week. This is similar to our neighbour parkruns at Prince of Wales parkrun, Calembeen parkrun (Creswick) and Beaufort Lake parkrun.

If you have never been to parkrun before but would like to know what it's like, we would love to see you on Saturday morning at 8.00 am or you can message us on Facebook for more details.

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

## Local Grants

The City of Ballarat's Community Impact Grant Program (CIGP) builds community capacity and strengthens links between community members and groups by funding programs that advance priority areas for both the City of Ballarat and the community.

Round 1 had unprecedented levels of interest and success, with \$241,549 of the \$300,000 budget for this financial year being allocated.

Interested applicants are encouraged to keep in mind the limited remaining budget (\$58,451) when applying.

Round 2 opened on 1 February and closes on 15 March 2024.

Please check the eligibility criteria and guidelines.

[ballarat.vic.gov.au/grants](https://ballarat.vic.gov.au/grants)

### 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](mailto:mtxaviergolfclub@bigpond.com)  
118 Fortune Street, Ballarat VIC 3350

New  
members  
welcome

Find us on 

# Classic and Vintage Vehicles in Brown Hill



*A vintage beauty like this could be in town. Photographer: Brendan Stevens*

On Saturday 17 February between 8.30 am and 10.30 am, the Brown Hill Hall will be the official launch point for the 51st Begonia Rally for the Vintage and Classic Car Club of Ballarat (VCCC).

Approximately 80 Vintage, Veteran and Classic vehicles will be parked around the Hall as drivers complete their registration and have morning tea before heading out on the day's touring adventure.

The public is very welcome to come along and admire these rare vehicles, take photos and chat to owners and drivers outside before they head off on the first leg of the weekend.

The rally is a two-day event hosted by the VCCC on the third weekend of February annually. Around half the vehicles and owners come from other parts of Victoria and interstate, with the remainder all being locals who look forward to the get-together each year.

The club was started in 1966 to bring together people with a common interest to encourage the

use and preservation of all motor vehicles over 25 years old.

The tour will see participants meandering on mainly secondary roads where travelling at less than highway speeds is not an issue. This year, Saturday will see them venturing north towards the Newstead/Guildford area and Sunday towards Pootilla, Ballan, Mt Egerton and back to Buninyong. On both days the lunch breaks will be set around viewing a couple of amazing private collections and enjoying the rural day out.

Let's hope the sun shines for them!

*Brendan Stevens*

*Vintage and Classic Car Club, Ballarat  
vcccballarat@gmail.com  
vccc.org.au  
facebook.com/VCCCBallarat/*



# Ballarat Wholefoods Collective

*Ballarat Wholefoods Collective Op.  
Shop dates for 2024*

Op. Shops will be held from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm on Saturdays 23 March, 1 June, 31 August and 26 October.

Come and shop until you drop! There will be over 70 stalls of clothing (baby, kids', teenage, adults', vintage etc.).

The first room of Wholefoods will be open for anyone to shop, with lots of fresh fruit, veg., dairy etc. For members, or joining members, the other two rooms will also be open. Pop in, even if you just want to have a look and a chat. We are a volunteer-run Collective so don't forget we are all volunteering our time helping to make this happen.

There will also be Workshops. Visit social media for details.

The Barkly Square Café will be open on the Op. Shop days for a coffee and a bite, as will the Men's Shed and Tool Library.

Ballarat Wholefoods Collective is open:

## Thursdays

9.00 am to 1.00 pm

5.00 pm to 6.30 pm

## Saturdays

9.00 am to 12.00 noon

Closed during all school holidays.

*Ballarat Wholefoods Collective*

*ballaratwholefoodscollective@gmail.com*

*facebook.com/ballaratwholefoodscollective*

*ballaratwholefoodscollective.org*

*Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly Street,  
Ballarat East*