

# Brown Hill Community Newsletter

## Edition 44, Winter 2025

*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.*



Jake and his selection of waste and recycling bins. Image supplied.

## Jake is a Brown Hill waste warrior

Hi my name is Jake,

I am seven years old, I live in Brown Hill in the City of Ballarat and I am passionate about waste collection.

On Wednesday nights I put my bins out and many of my neighbours' bins also. On Thursday mornings I get up early and video my green waste collection because I like to see it gets emptied. Before I leave for school, I set up my iPad at the window so it can record the red bin getting emptied. When I get home from school, I watch the video as soon as I get in the door.

When the truck comes, I go down the street and pick up bins that have fallen down to help the Garbo out.

In the summer and spring when my and my neighbours' bins are dirty, I organise a suitable day and time and clean them with a pressure washer.

In November the City of Ballarat are getting Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) bins. I'm so excited!

Then on 3 November we are getting purple bins to stop glass smashing in our red bins and to stop so much glass going into landfill. We do not put glass in our recycling bins anymore!

I would like to remind everybody to put the right things in the right bins.

*Jake, Brown Hill Resident*

### ***FOGO and glass bins - on the way***

Residents will soon receive:

- A kitchen caddy to collect your food scraps, which you can then add to your FOGO (current green waste) bin (and caddy liners suitable for composting).
- A new lime green-lid bin for the properties which don't already have the green waste service.
- A new 140 litre purple-lid glass bin.
- An information pack explaining the new services, including what can and cannot be put in your FOGO and glass bins.

For more information, visit:  
***[ballarat.vic.gov.au/get-ready-your-fogo-and-glass-bins](http://ballarat.vic.gov.au/get-ready-your-fogo-and-glass-bins)***



*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 the Brown Hill Community Newsletter

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

Our volunteer team:

Editor: Sarah Greenwood-Smith

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Editorial Support: Anne Rowland, John O'Brien and Peter Morton.

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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 school hours.

Edition 45 (Spring) articles are due by **Friday 17 October 2025**. Please read the editorial policy regarding contributions before submitting an article or advertising: [brownhill.vic.au/newsletter](http://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 online:

**[brownhill.vic.au/new-to-brown-hill/need-some-support](http://brownhill.vic.au/new-to-brown-hill/need-some-support)**

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

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Layout using Canva.

ISSN 2209-9050

Brown Hill Progress Association meet at the Brown Hill Cricket Club on the second Wednesday every second month at 7.00 pm. In 2025, meetings will be on Wednesdays 15 October (AGM) (*please note this is the third Wednesday of the month*) and 10 December. All welcome.

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

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

**PO Box 6008, Brown Hill, 3350**

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# Welcome

We were delighted to include an article by seven-year-old Jake (p.1) about his dedication to waste and recycling collection in Brown Hill. What a champion!

Heidi and Rovin at Caledonian Primary School (p.11) and Maddison, Harriet, Stevie and others at Woodmans Hill Secondary College are also doing great things.

The dedicated Junior Volunteers at Ballarat Fire Brigade are training hard (p.5). What a bright future they have supporting our community.

In addition to these fabulous young people, our Seniors are also doing good, such as John and Co. helping at Auskick (p.23). If you know an older person in Brown Hill making a difference to our community, you may consider nominating them for a Ballarat Seniors Award (p.18).

There are lots of positive things going on in Brown Hill: work on the Splash Park, a new water fountain at the Brown Hill Recreation Reserve (p.24) and conversations with the City of Ballarat about the priorities for local residents (p.4). Enjoy the read!

*Sarah Greenwood-Smith,  
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and Directory Committee  
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# Brown Hill Splash Park

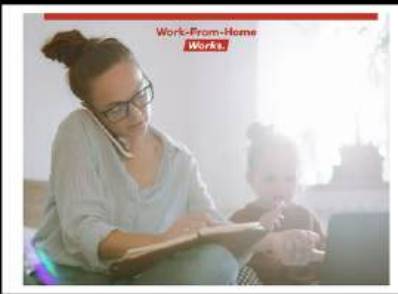


Progress at the Brown Hill Splash Park site.  
Image supplied by the City of Ballarat



Progress at the Brown Hill Splash Park site.  
Image supplied by the City of Ballarat

Progress is tracking well at the Brown Hill Splash Park site. The sub-base for the splash pad features has now been completed. The next stages will involve the installation of pipework, followed by the concrete pour for the slab. Exciting times ahead as the project continues to take shape! *City of Ballarat*



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**Michaela Settle MP**  
Member for Eureka

[michaela.settle@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:michaela.settle@parliament.vic.gov.au) 5331 7722 [/MichaelaSettleMP](https://www.facebook.com/MichaelaSettleMP)



# Brown Hill Progress Association

## *From the Secretary's Desk*

The winter months see reduced activity and several of the committee escaping for winter holidays. So, the Brown Hill Progress Association (BHPA) was most grateful to the staff and CEO of the City of Ballarat, plus Mayor Tracey Hargreaves and our local Councillor, Ted Lapkin, who came out on a cold wintery evening to attend the "Come and Chat" session held in the local hall in the first week of July.

The project managers were able to share the current progress of constructions happening around Brown Hill. These included the Reserve and Splash Park precinct and the extensions to the Brown Hill Kindergarten. It was great to see several community members also drop in to "chat" and have enquiries listened to and answered.

As a follow up to this session the BHPA invited Mr Robbie Burns and Cr Ted Lapkin to a follow up meeting in late July with some detailed answers to specific questions. This meeting was very productive in clarifying with us the layout and inclusions for the first stage of the Reserve upgrade - the Splashpark - and the timeline. Cr Lapkin also discussed the 2025-26 Capital Works Program in which Council is proposing to undertake traffic management works at the



intersection of Humffray Street and Thompson Street. The project includes: (1) Construction of a pedestrian refuge island in Humffray Street North on the west side of the intersection, incorporating pedestrian crossing laybacks on the north and south side of Humffray Street North and (2) linemarking of vehicle traffic and bicycle lanes.

These works are to provide a safer environment for pedestrians/school children to cross Humffray Street North at this intersection. The works will most likely commence early 2026.

The BHPA committee also had a lengthy internal discussion about our role in the community going forward. We remain committed to being the conduit between the City of Ballarat and the Brown Hill community and local organisations. We have good rapport with local council and also state and federal members and we hope these channels remain open and clear. Although many of our members are aging, we also commit to assisting other local groups with hands-on support if possible, especially local sports clubs, churches, schools and kindergartens.

As a registered incorporated association, we are willing to auspice small, unregistered groups applying for grants or permits and need the backing of an incorporated body. This would need to have full and frank discussion prior. What we will not be able to do in the future, without major recruitment and an increase in numbers, is manage or run events or programs on our own. New members are always welcome!

May I also remind everyone that patience is a virtue. The Reserve upgrades and Splashpark will come, a pedestrian refuge island will appear, the Brown Hill Kindergarten will be a third larger in 18 months or so and we have now got a water/drinking fountain adjacent to the playground after five years of tapping Central Highlands Water on the shoulder. We will just keep our channels open and press the right buttons for improvements.

Our AGM is on Wednesday 15 October at the Brown Hill Cricket Club, Reid Court, from 6.30 pm, followed by a General Meeting. Everybody is welcome to attend. The final meeting for 2025 will be from 7.00 pm on Wednesday 10 December. All welcome.

Keep warm. Cheers, Brendan.

*Brendan Stevens, Secretary,  
Brown Hill Progress Association  
0409 018 867, [bhpa@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:bhpa@brownhill.vic.au)*

## Catherine King MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BALLARAT

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### *Standing up for our community!*

(03) 5338 8123   [Catherine.King.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Catherine.King.MP@aph.gov.au)   [CatherineKingMP](https://www.facebook.com/CatherineKingMP)   [@catherine\\_kingmp](https://www.instagram.com/catherine_kingmp)

Authorised by Steve Stakos, Australian Labor Party, (Victorian Branch), 438 Docklands Drive, Docklands VIC 3008.



# Ballarat Fire Brigade: Country Fire Authority



Ballarat Fire Brigade Members celebrating 15 years of continuous running of their Junior Development Program. Image supplied.

This quarter has been both a special and busy one for our members here at the Ballarat Fire Brigade. Since June, brigade Volunteers have responded to over 100 calls for assistance in our community, ranging from community service calls to fires and motor vehicle collisions. Of these 100 calls, 35 were a motor vehicle collision or a rescue. We encourage our community to drive safely and considerately, have patience and plan your journey. We can expect to see many more cold and frosty mornings ahead, so be on the lookout for black ice on the roads in your area.

Last month we celebrated 15 years of

continuous running of our Junior Development Program. This program is designed for 11- to 15-year-olds and teaches a variety of life skills, including basic fire fighting skills, navigation and first aid. The program also focuses on teaching leadership, teamwork and building self-esteem. We are grateful for the time our Junior Leaders put in and thank them for their continued support.

If you have an 11- to 15-year-old who may be interested or want some further information on CFA's Junior Development Program, please visit [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au), go to 'Volunteers & Careers', 'Volunteer with CFA' and 'Junior Volunteers'.

It is a good time to start preparing your property for the summer season ahead. We encourage you to review your bushfire fire escape plan and prepare your home. This includes, but is not limited to, cleaning gutters, pruning and clearing litter around trees/bushes and mowing or slashing grasslands. If you plan to burn off, we recommend you consult the CFA website and check your local municipality by-laws before doing so and register your burn off with Triple Zero online via Fire Permits Vic on the CFA website or by calling **1800 668 511**. We also encourage you to think about your escape plan and putting together a 'Bushfire Go Bag' – some items to include in this are: food and adequate water; clothing, toiletries and kids' favourite toys; first aid kit; medication and prescriptions; copies of important medical and personal documents; phones, laptops, chargers and woollen blankets for fire protection. [cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/how-to-prepare-your-property](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/how-to-prepare-your-property).

*Captain Nathan Cook and the members of the Ballarat Fire Brigade*

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# Glen Park Fire Brigade: Country Fire Authority

The volunteers at Glen Park Volunteer Fire Brigade have been very busy over the past few months even though the weather has been cooler.

We would like to welcome three new members to our brigade. Rory, Dean and Jessie have now completed their general firefighting training and become active members of our brigade. We would like to say a big welcome and thank you for joining our volunteer family and we look forward to working with them in the future.

Before the cold weather set in our volunteers assisted some members of the community with fuel reduction burns and, over winter, we kept busy with training and community engagement. Our volunteers did a campfire safety presentation to one of our local scout groups and assisted them in obtaining one of their badges. Our brigade was very honoured to be invited by the Ballarat Bangladesh Community to attend the 2025 Eid Festival. Four of our members attended the festival and were very happy for the welcome we received. We were very grateful to be able to support diversity in our community.

Now that we are coming towards the end of winter and the weather is slowly starting to improve, it is a great time to start preparing your



Glen Park Fire Brigade Members, Linda Craske, Lee Webber and Josh Bradshaw at the 2025 Eid Festival. Image supplied.

property for the upcoming fire season. Make sure to remove all debris and fuels from around your house and clean out your guttering. Don't wait until summer is here.

Our members train every Sunday at 9.00 am at our station on the corner of Longs Hill and Ralstons Roads, Glen Park. We would love to see some new faces.

Did you know our station is only

eight kilometres from the Brown Hill Post Office? If you are interested in helping your community and joining a great team of volunteers, please call in and say hi or give us a call on **5334 5524**. If firefighting isn't for you, don't despair as we have many varied roles in our brigade.

*Tracey Webber, Captain  
Glen Park Fire Brigade  
[tracey.webber@members.cfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:tracey.webber@members.cfa.vic.gov.au)*



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**New  
Members  
Welcome**

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# Ballarat State Emergency Service: SES

Since its formation in 1975, the Ballarat State Emergency Service (SES) has grown from a small band of dedicated locals into a thriving team of more than 70 volunteers. Remarkably, some of our founding members are still active today — an incredible testament to their commitment to the community.

Our response area stretches far beyond Ballarat itself — west to Beaufort, north to Clunes and Creswick, south to Enfield, and east as far as Millbrook — making our unit one of the largest by response area in the state.

In 2024 we responded to 794 requests for assistance, making Ballarat SES one of the top five busiest SES units in Victoria. Over the past 18 months, that number rises to more than 1,500 calls for help — everything from storm damage and search and rescue to assisting other emergency agencies.

Our volunteers come from all walks of life — representing a wide range of backgrounds, genders, life experiences and cultures, including neurodiverse, LGBTQI+ and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) members. This diversity makes our team stronger and ensures we better reflect and connect with the community we serve.

Alongside responding to



**Victorian SES Volunteers in a training session. Image supplied.**

emergencies, our volunteers are also actively involved in community engagement — from sharing advice on how to prepare for and respond safely during storms, to offering flood preparedness education and attending events including SpringFest, the Ballarat Show and welcome sessions for new residents.

There's always plenty happening at our unit and we're on the look out for new volunteers to join our amazing team!

***Want to know more about volunteering with SES?***

Each of our volunteers receives accredited, recognised training as

part of their role ranging from first aid, general rescue, chainsaw operations, community education, media training and much more.

Our volunteers assist our local community, on the front line, in emergency planning and strategy centres and by providing education to help community members understand what to do when an emergency strikes. We respond to our communities 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year.

For more: [ses.vic.gov.au/join-us](https://ses.vic.gov.au/join-us)

*Sam Lomholt  
Ballarat State Emergency Service  
(SES)*



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# Little Bendigo Primary School



**Little Bendigo Primary School Grade Five students attended the Sovereign Hill Costume School. Image supplied.**

It has been an exciting term so far at Little Bendigo Primary School!

A number of our Grade Five students attended the Sovereign Hill Costume School early in the term. Our students were most excited to participate in costume and experience life at school in the gold rush era. It also gave them an opportunity to explore the park and catch up with some old friends and meet new friends from other local schools.

Our school runs a comprehensive and engaging STEM program, incorporating science, technology, coding and robotics. This term students have attended EarthEd and

Ecolinc with a focus on endangered animals and indigenous plants.

Our Grade Five and Grade Six students recently learnt about Australian endangered animals at Ecolinc in Darley. They made dioramas, clay models and produced stop-motion movies about the animals they investigated.

Students in Grades Three, Four and Five visited Ecolinc to learn about indigenous plants. They were taught how to propagate, plant and care for plants. This knowledge will support the native garden plantings that we have at the school.

Our Grade One and Two students

visited EarthEd and participated in the STEM Academy. They explored the diverse field of STEM through a series of hands-on activities that focus on key skills including critical thinking, problem solving and collaboration. In this program students used VR (Virtual Reality) to explore gravity to engage in engineering challenges; built simple electric circuits to solve problems and explored the use of robots in simplifying tasks for humans.

We have a number of events later this term that students are looking forward to, including gymnastics, GALS (Girls as Leaders in STEM program), Responsible Pet Ownership and the school disco!

We do have some capacity to enrol Foundation students in 2026. Please contact me at the school on **5332 6317** to arrange a tour.

*Anthony Tait, Principal,  
Little Bendigo Primary School*



**Ecolinc excursion. Image supplied.**



7 Sawmill Close  
Brown Hill  
0434 522 477



# St Mary's Primary School - Clarkes Hill: School Camp



**St Mary's Primary School students and staff show courage at "The Edge" at Eureka Skydeck, Melbourne. Image supplied.**

Camp 2025 saw the years three to six students from St Mary's, Clarkes Hill head to Urban Camp in Melbourne.

Catching the train on Wednesday morning they spent the last three days of Term Two exploring many of Melbourne's attractions including Eureka Skydeck, ACMI, The Melbourne Museum, IMAX Cinema

and the Queen Victoria Market. A wet wintry welcome to Melbourne meant zero visibility at Eureka Skydeck, but we were fortunate enough to be able to return on Thursday morning where every student (and staff members) demonstrated our school value of **courage** by experiencing "The Edge."

By the end of camp, after trains,

trams, buses, thousands of steps, a Lygon Street restaurant experience and Queen Victoria Market's famous jam donuts, exhaustion was clear as happy but weary faces boarded the train back home to Ballarat.

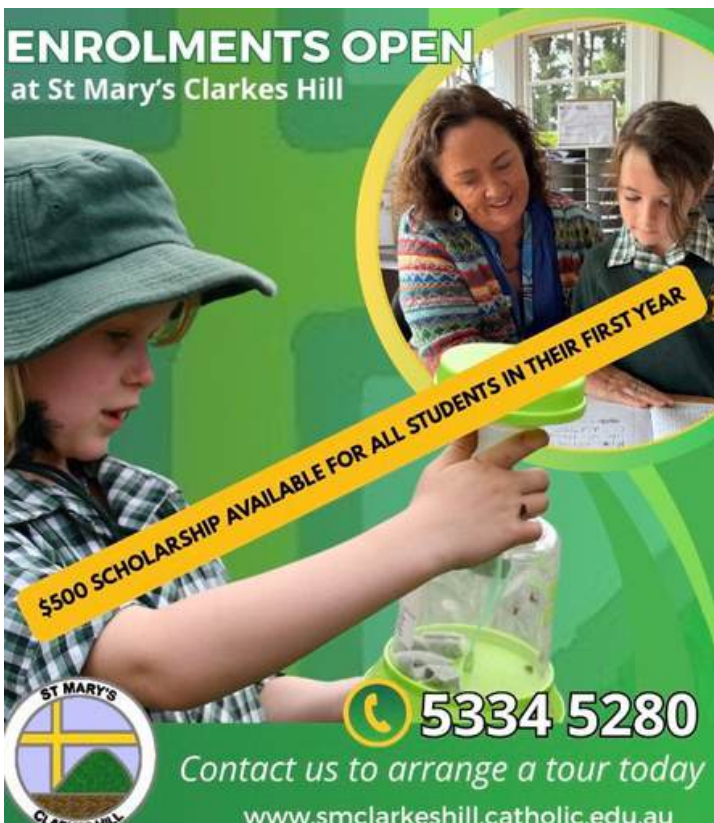
The consensus from students and staff alike was that Urban Camp 2025 had been a huge success, filled with new experiences, strengthened friendships and memories to last a lifetime.

Contact us:

- Email: [cscanlon@smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cscanlon@smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au)
- Phone: **5334 5280**
- Website: [smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au](http://smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au)

*Clare Scanlon,  
Principal,  
St Mary's Primary School  
131 Powells Road, Clarkes Hill*

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# Warrenheip Primary School

This year we are celebrating our 150<sup>th</sup> year of providing exceptional education to students in Warrenheip and surrounds.

We are also giving our great little school a well-deserved facelift. In the past year we have:



**Resurfaced our basketball court**



**Installed a state of the art filtration system and two new water tanks**



**Built a new sports equipment shed**



**Built a new Gaga pit (for ball games)**



**Begun painting the interior of our great old building**



**Constructed a 7-bed veggie garden**



**Installed artificial turf in an outdoor learning space**

Please pop in to have a look at all our improvements!

*Jo Reyntjes, Principal  
Warrenheip Primary School*

5334 7294

[warrenheip.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:warrenheip.ps@education.vic.gov.au)



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# Caledonian Primary School

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

To the Brown Hill Community,  
Every year there is a little testing period you may have heard of... NAPLAN. Now, this is a nation-wide assessment of core skills in Reading, Writing and Mathematics which allows us to track the impact of teaching and learning at our school and see how we are faring when measured against other schools. Basically, a way for us to see how we are going!

For several years now, and 2025 is no different, we have exceeded our expectations and performed above similar schools, network schools and the state averages in nearly all areas and this year we have been incredibly pleased to find our "medium and high growth" measures (that is how much children have learned over a 2-year period) were well above the state average.

This really indicates the hard work of teachers in applying the Caledonian PS Teaching Model with fidelity and consistency and the constant drive to improve our practice, even a little bit, each week, term and year.

Yet this is only a single test. There are so many more things that make a school great! Such as the whole school 'tiggy' game that has started up again with about 100 kids playing, or the 30 new trees we have to plant that were donated by families as part of our tree drive, or the way our students look after each other on a camp! We had Grades Three and Four camp and Grades Five and Six camp this term and they were great.

On a more personal note about what makes our school great, we have six shade sails up for sun protection and one of them was blue. Over the



**One of the Grade Six Environmental Leaders, Heidi, with one of the School Captains, Rovin and the bird boxes they made with Dave.  
Image supplied.**

holidays this has been pulled down and will be replaced so all our shade sails will match!

We have had new wellbeing programs running to support our students this term. 'Say it Sister' has been designed to support our girls to develop stronger voices and 'Stressbusters' has been focussed on understanding and reducing worries for children. Our new school-based 'Thrive' sessions have also been launched after much planning and children involved will be engaged in a wide range of activities to connect with peers and build confidence. The Thrive program is one I am excited about as one of our staff has designed the approach to involve children's voices and give them a super positive experience!

For some time now Caledonian Primary School kids in the upper year levels have had the chance to engage in 'Woodwork with Dave'. This is a highly sought-after program with Dave helping them

build pencil boxes from scratch. A new addition to Woodwork with Dave is a collection of bird boxes designed by one of our Grade Six Environmental Leaders. We expect to see some painted tree houses up around the school soon!

Lastly, we are so excited with Spring around the corner! Our bulbs have all started to pop up so soon we will start to see the blossoms on the fruit trees and the veggie garden start to be edible!

It is our favourite time of year at Caledonian Primary School.

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

# Woodmans Hill Secondary College



**Maddison Wright.**  
Image supplied.

## ***My life changing experience at Magic Moments***

*By Maddison Wright*

In July, I had the opportunity to attend the Magic Moments Youth Leadership and Business Summit in Sydney, a week that completely shifted how I see myself and what I am capable of.

This program focuses on leadership, entrepreneurship, health and wealth, with challenging daily workshops run for young people aged between 14-17 years. It pushed me far outside my comfort zone, helping me grow not just in confidence, but in how I lead and connect with others. One of the most memorable moments was being voted “Leader of the Week” by my group, the ‘Shining Stars’. That recognition meant a lot—it showed me that leadership isn’t about being the loudest, but about stepping up when it counts.

A major highlight was pitching a business idea on stage in front of a panel of judges. Our concept was an app that detects fake news and I ended up doing most of the talking.

Standing under the spotlight, I realised I could speak up under pressure and actually thrive. That moment was surreal. I felt proud, capable and genuinely seen.

Beyond the leadership challenges, the friendships I made were just as impactful. Meeting people from all over Australia and New Zealand opened my mind and made me more curious—not just about others, but about the kind of person I’m becoming.

Overall, Magic Moments was more than just a leadership summit—it was a turning point. The experience was that impactful. It lit a fire in me to keep growing, leading, and discovering what else I can do. I came home with new skills, new friends and a deeper belief in myself. It felt like I only scratched the surface of what I am capable of and that’s why I am determined to attend the graduate program next year. I am grateful to have had the chance to represent Woodmans Hill Secondary College and I hope more young people get to experience something as empowering as this.

I’m especially thankful to Community Bank Buninyong and its partners: the Buninyong Mount Helen Lions Club, the Lions Club of Sebastopol and District and the Ballarat Soroptimists group. These organisations made this experience possible by investing in future young leaders like myself and providing a full scholarship to attend. Their support made this life-changing opportunity possible.

## ***Girls in STEM Program***

*By Harriet Strait*

As one of the student leaders in the Girls in STEM program, I had the opportunity to help guide an incredible group of students



**Harriet Strait.**  
Image supplied.

through two days packed with creativity, teamwork and problem-solving. Honestly, I couldn’t be prouder of how it all went.

Even though I knew what the activities were ahead of time, seeing everything unfold and watching everyone get involved was amazing. Their faces lit up with anticipation and the energy, enthusiasm and support they showed each other were truly inspiring.

We kicked off the program with the Alien Invasion Challenge, which sent teams all over the campus, following a precise pathway to avoid aliens and crack codes. It was fast-paced and chaotic—in the best way—and really set the tone for how fun and hands-on the day would be.

One of the absolute highlights was hearing from Celene Meraz-Belevante and Emma Barnett, two women working in the space industry. Their stories were incredibly inspiring. They spoke about their journeys in STEM, the challenges they’ve faced, and the importance of staying curious and pushing boundaries. You could feel the room light up. I could see how much their words affected the students.

*...continued p.13*



# Woodmans Hill Secondary College

*...continued from p.12*

I also helped out with the Sphero Coding Challenge, where teams guided a robot through a map of Ballarat. There were a few “Sphero disasters” (as expected!), but it was amazing to watch the students problem-solve, fix mistakes and cheer each other on when they succeeded. Then came the Lego Headset Activity which really tested everyone’s communication skills. It’s harder than it looks to describe a Lego structure when you can’t see what the other person is doing!

At the end of the program, the winning teams were announced and will be heading off to VSSEC (Victorian Space Science Education Centre)—an incredible opportunity. But honestly, every student walked away having achieved something. Whether it was building confidence, making new friends or discovering a passion for something new. Everyone grew in some way.

As a student leader, this experience meant a lot to me. It reminded me why STEM is so important and why encouraging more girls to get involved truly matters. I feel lucky to have been part of it and I can’t wait to see where these girls go next.

## ***Future Shapers***

*By Stevie McNicol*

This term, the Student Leadership team had the privilege of meeting some amazing people who were part of the Future Shapers program. If you haven’t heard of it, the Future Shapers program is a bit like the Boys and Girls in STEM program—but for adults. The participants learned a lot about leadership through the people they met and the experiences they had during the program.



**Stevie McNicol.**  
**Image supplied.**

We were lucky that Jess, one of the staff members at the Tech School, completed the program last year. She thought it would be a great idea to invite some of her friends from the program to talk to us, share their experiences and explain what leadership means to them.

The people we met were really kind and we had some great conversations about leadership—though we got sidetracked quite a few times! My group got so deep into our discussion that we completely forgot about our task: to make a presentation about ourselves and what we talked about. We had to come up with something in the last fifteen minutes! On the bright side, we were even treated to some delicious dried mango from the Philippines!

Everyone we spoke to had valuable leadership experiences and hearing their perspectives was really interesting. For me, it was eye-opening to learn that being a leader isn’t just about taking charge of a big group or doing something huge—it can be as simple as helping someone out and sharing your knowledge.

## ***From the Principal’s Desk***

Well done to Maddie, Harriet and Stevie for their great achievements and thanks for sharing your stories.

A shout out to Millie Czyzewski for winning a **Gold** medal at the recent Worldskills Expo. Millie was showcasing her second-year Salon Assistant skills.

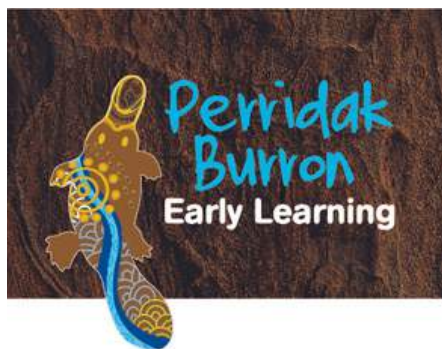
A special mention to our select group of Year Nine students who participated in the recent **Rotary Club Science and Engineering Challenge**. They represented our school with maturity, creativity and teamwork. We’re thrilled to share that they won the bridge-building challenge. An outstanding achievement that reflects their problem-solving skills and persistence under pressure. Well done to all involved and thank you to the staff who supported them on the day.

We would also like to congratulate the students who have been named as finalists in the **2025 City of Ballarat Youth Awards**: Amelia Bennetts, Maxine Farrell, Ashton Crawford, Ruth Carter, Ruby Merrett, Saskia McCarthy and Adele Hepburn-Swadling. Being recognised at this level is an outstanding achievement and we are incredibly proud of the way these students contribute to both our school and the wider community.

*Shannon Ross, Principal*  
*Woodmans Hill Secondary College*  
5336 7264  
[woodmans.hill.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:woodmans.hill.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
[woodmanshill.net.au](http://woodmanshill.net.au)

*Thanks to Jess at the Ballarat Tech School for sharing the articles written by Harriet and Stevie, first published in their e-newsletter.*

# Perridak Burron Early Learning



Hello to the Brown Hill community from your neighbours at Perridak Burron.

Did you know that at Perridak we offer both three-year-old and four-year-old kindergarten programs? Our four-year-old children, our Parrwang Mob, have been super busy during Term Three. We have ventured out to the Ballarat Library, *by bus*, to engage in all of the deadly activities celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day on 4 August. The bus was a real highlight for our burron, but we were also able to make some hairy echidnas using grass seeds and stockings. We carefully transported them back to Kinder and will observe them as they change and grow with the season. We also head out to Ngarrwa Dja once a week which means 'Learning on Country'. We really value getting out and about in Community; you may see us along your travels wearing our bright yellow Perridak high-vis vests!



Playing in the bush.  
Image supplied.

There are still vacancies for 2026 Kindergarten enrolments within both of our programs and also some availability for long daycare within the younger years. Feel free to drop in for a yarn.

If you would like more information, please contact Perridak Burron Early Learning on **5334 4727** or via email:

[admin@perridakburronel.com.au](mailto:admin@perridakburronel.com.au).

## Ballarat Libraries



**Author Michael Brissenden.**  
Image supplied.

### *Author Talk with Michael Brissenden*

Join award-winning journalist, and now best-selling author of crime fiction, Michael Brissenden, in conversation with Ballarat's own Della Vreeland.

Michael will talk about his new release, *Dust*, his writing inspirations and the real-world issues that shape his storytelling.

Michael was an ABC journalist for 35 years, working on programs such as Four Corners, 7.30 Report and as a defence and security correspondent.

This will be a great event!

Friday 5 September – at 2.30 pm - at Ballarat Library

FREE tickets:

[events.humanitix.com/author-talk-michael-brissenden](https://events.humanitix.com/author-talk-michael-brissenden)

### *Good with Money / An Adult Learners Week event*

Be part of this free program designed to strengthen your financial wellbeing – no matter your starting point.

Facilitated by the team from the Women's Information and Referral Exchange (WIRE), these sessions offer practical tools, supportive guidance and real-world strategies to help you manage money day-to-day and plan for what's ahead.

Thursday 4 September - 10.30 am - 2.30 pm (lunch break included) at Ballarat Library.

Part 1: Money Basics: everyday money skills to help you feel more in control.

Part 2: Future Finance: Plan ahead and build financial security for your future.

FREE tickets:

[events.humanitix.com/adult-learners-week-2025-good-with-money](https://events.humanitix.com/adult-learners-week-2025-good-with-money)

### *Information session / ThinkUKNow: eSafety for parents and grandparents*

Hear from law enforcement officers about how to keep your young people safe online and responsible users of technology.

Please note: *This presentation is not suitable for children to attend due to the topics discussed.*

Wednesday 10 September - 5.30pm - 7.00 pm - at Ballarat Library

FREE tickets:

[events.humanitix.com/thinkuknow-esafety-for-parents-spring-2025-ballarat-library](https://events.humanitix.com/thinkuknow-esafety-for-parents-spring-2025-ballarat-library)

To find more programs and events visit: [libraries.ballarat.vic.gov.au](https://libraries.ballarat.vic.gov.au) or phone **5338 6850**.



# Ballarat East Neighbourhood House



## Power Saving Bonus



The new \$100 Power Saving Bonus for Victorian concession card holders is now open. Households with an eligible concession card can apply for a \$100 payment by visiting the Victorian Energy Compare website: [compare.energy.vic.gov.au](https://compare.energy.vic.gov.au).

To get help to apply, call the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House on 0422 612 052 to make an appointment or drop in to see us in Room 102 at Barkly Square during school term:

- 10.00 am - 12.00 noon Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays or Fridays
- 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm Tuesdays

To apply for the \$100 payment, applicants will need to hold an eligible concession card, have a recent electricity bill and be the account holder. For identification, you will need your Drivers Licence or Medicare card and your bank account details to receive your payment. Only one payment is available per household.

Community Bank  
Buninyong



## Good Governance Support for local community groups continues

We are excited to announce that the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House is partnering with the Community Bank Buninyong to continue to offer governance support to local community groups. Over the past four years, through a Strategic Partnership Grant from the City of Ballarat, we developed a series of engaging workshops to support community groups with some of the trickier elements of running an organisation. Workshops covered topics such as Writing and Acquiring a Grant, Introduction to the Child Safe Standards, Marketing and Promotion, Recruiting and Managing Volunteers, Conflict Resolution, Running Meetings and more. All of these are important aspects of running a community group and being across them reduces risk and helps to make groups more resilient. Together with the Community Bank Buninyong, we will continue to support local community groups through offering Workshops and also by providing 1:1 support to community groups with specific issues.

Supporting this project, the City of Ballarat engaged the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House to continue to deliver Workshops supporting the Community Impact Grant Program for 2025-26.

To join our Community Group mailing list or enquire about 1:1 support visit:  
[ballarateastnh.org.au/community-governance/community-groups](https://ballarateastnh.org.au/community-governance/community-groups)

## Proposed Term 4 Activities

### Movement Activities

*Tuesdays (Barkly Square)*

4.00 pm - 5.30 pm

Tanzpro (Dance of Life) for Children (aged 6-12) with Liz

*Wednesdays (Barkly Square)*

9.30 am - 10.30 am

Walking Group with Jack (FREE)

2.00 pm - 3.00 pm

Feldenkrais with Lynden

3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Tai Chi with Jack

*Thursdays (Barkly Square)*

11.00 am - 12.00 noon and

1.00 pm - 2.00 pm

Qigong with Klyti

*Fridays (Eureka Centre)*

7.30 am - 8.30 am and

8.45 am - 9.45 am

Gentle Yoga with Kate

### Craft Activities

We have Mend-along Art and Craft-a-noon with Liz on Monday afternoons and Winter Woollies with Sandra on Wednesday afternoons. Come along and join in!

### Digital Skills Support

Digital Mentors are available who can support people aged 50+ with their digital skills through the free Be Connected Program.

### Auslan courses and Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing community activities

We offer a range of Community Auslan courses and two free Auslan Practice Groups. All welcome.

For more information and to register:

[ballarateastnh.org.au/classes/activities](https://ballarateastnh.org.au/classes/activities)

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/BallarataEastNH/](https://facebook.com/BallarataEastNH/)

[ballarateastnh.org.au](https://ballarateastnh.org.au)

# Ballarat Wholefoods Collective



With Spring at our fingertips, we're looking forward to longer days and the change in seasonal produce. That's something uniquely special about our wholefoods collective, as you will know the season based on the fruit and veg we are selling! That's because we support local farmers and low air miles. Not only does that mean we're supporting a healthier environment, but we're also supporting healthier people because fresh produce retains nutrients better than produce that has been shipped and stored for a long period of time. You will notice this also by the taste!

We apply this philosophy across our range of products and so many of the foods we stock have been selected based on a combination of locality, ethics and sustainability. A new product we're very happy to stock is a local, ethical and sustainable milk by Inglenook! It's a great product and to know we're supporting this kind of producer makes us feel good. It also tastes so good!



Wendy Aston, founder of Ballarat Wholefoods Collective.  
Image by Vegas and Rose Photography

This Spring, we're very excited to host the next pre-loved fashion sale and puzzle swap on 6 September (and look out for the last one of the year on 22 November). Stall bookings are available for just \$5 but hurry, spaces book out quickly! Whether selling or buying, the event attracts many stall-holders selling a range of clothing, accessories and even homewares, so you are guaranteed to find something special and at bargain prices.

Thursday of the month and showcases three local organisations that are doing great things in the climate, environment or social space. It's a chance to get informed, get inspired, network, socialise, eat good food and get activated! If you haven't been to one yet, then do make sure you can!

## Get in touch

For further details about our collective, membership, pre-loved fashion sale or workshops, pop in and see us on the lower level of Barkly Square or online: **[ballaratwholefoodscollective.com](http://ballaratwholefoodscollective.com)**

*Grace Darke,  
Member*

*Ballarat Wholefoods Collective &  
Ballarat Preloved Fashion  
[ballaratwholefoodscollective@gmail.com](mailto:ballaratwholefoodscollective@gmail.com)  
[facebook.com/ballaratwholefoodscollective](https://www.facebook.com/ballaratwholefoodscollective)  
[ballaratwholefoodscollective.org](http://ballaratwholefoodscollective.org)  
Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly Street,  
Ballarat East*

We've also been proudly supporting the new Thursday Twilight Talks (TTT) with yummy food. This free event is held at Barkly Square on the first



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# Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group

## *It's been busy down at Ditchfield...*

Since our last update in May another 600 local native trees, shrubs and groundcovers have been added to the gully at Ditchfield Reserve by large teams of volunteers and Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group (WFPLG) Members. Thanks to those who've come along each time, it's been a fabulous effort. It's great to see the gully vegetation being restored to its original biodiversity and density with plants that would have been there many years ago before being overtaken by introduced gorse and other woody weeds. The many little forest birds that are resident or visit Ditchfield Reserve will be most grateful as the plants begin to grow and provide habitat, shelter and a rich abundance and variety of foods.

But there's more to come. Now that the gully floor is densely planted, we've moved on to stabilising the gully walls with several hundred more plants. If you'd like to join our next planting day, we'd love to welcome you. In a major break with WFPLG tradition, our next Ditchfield planting will be on a Thursday morning. So if you're free, grab a friend and come on down. It's always a very sociable day.

We've also been having fun and enjoying getting better (slowly) at identifying birds through their behaviour and calls during our seasonal Bird Surveys around Creswick Forest, Wattle Flat and Newlyn. No Birdo experience required - we're all learning, but on the other hand if you're an expert, come along anyway because your skills would be very useful! (Thanks Mike!).

If you'd like to book your team of family and friends in to one of these Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group events, search for them on



TryBooking or scan the QR code below.

### **Ditchfield Reserve Planting Thursday 4 September**



### **Wattle Flat Planting Sunday 14 September**



### **Spring Bird Survey Sunday 2 November**



Stephanie Davison,  
Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group  
[wfplc@gmail.com](mailto:wfplc@gmail.com)

## **Community Grants**

*Applications are now open for Round 1 Community Impact Grant Program (CIGP) 2025/2026.*

This Program 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.

Funding is available from \$500 up to \$20,000 (excluding GST) and for Council's priorities of:

- A healthy, safe, connected and welcoming community for all.
- Projects that progress our community's aspiration to be a community where people feel safe, valued and welcomed.
- Projects that encourage community participation, address health priorities, and promote social connectedness.

Round 1 will close on Sunday 14 September 2025.

To apply for the Community Impact Grant, visit: [ballarat.vic.gov.au/grants](https://ballarat.vic.gov.au/grants) or call Customer Service on: **5320 5500**.

# Ballarat Society of Artists Inc.



**Artist, Audrey Darrell, sharing her art practice with members.  
Image supplied.**

We have continued to be very active over the past months and the Brown Hill Uniting Church Hall (BHUCH) has been a hive of activity with our artists! Our monthly meetings, held at 10.30 am on the first Saturday of the month are now alternating a General Meeting one month and Social Gathering with a guest artist the following month.

The Lake Wendouree Museum has kept our artists busy on a Sunday. Our current exhibition is on until the end of October, and it's called 'Beyond the City Limits'.

On Saturday, from May to September, artists get together to create in the BHUCH. We also run workshops and we are looking forward to Glynis Bryden running a Zentangle workshop in September.

In October, we are planning an artist meet up on Thursday 16 October, 5.30 pm - 7.00 pm at the new Ballarat Performing Arts Community (BPAC) building on Neill Street (former Uniting Church). We will also be present at the Senior's Expo at Mt Rowan on Wednesday 22 October from 10.00 am - 2.00 pm.

We continue to be a creative and busy group! Come see us at one of

the events coming up or at our monthly meeting at the Brown Hill Uniting Church Hall.



Ballarat Society of Artists Inc. (BSA) is keen to be involved with the local art community. Contact us with any questions or ideas: [events.bsainc@gmail.com](mailto:events.bsainc@gmail.com) and visit: [facebook.com/bsa.ballarat](https://facebook.com/bsa.ballarat). For membership information, contact: [membership.bsainc@gmail.com](mailto:membership.bsainc@gmail.com).

*Susan Clarke, Assistant Secretary,  
Ballarat Society of Artists Inc.*

## 2025 Ballarat Seniors Awards

The annual Ballarat Seniors Awards acknowledge and celebrate inspirational people aged 60 years and over and First Nations people 50 years and over who are making a significant volunteering contribution to the Ballarat community. Nominations are open!

There are five award categories:

- Community Service Award
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Award
- Healthy and Active Living Award
- Community Teamwork Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award

Nominations close at 5.00 pm on Wednesday 10 September.

This is a great opportunity to honour the volunteers and quiet achievers whose generosity and community spirit help make Ballarat a stronger, kinder and more connected place to live.

Contact City of Ballarat - Ageing Well Services on 5320 5500 or visit: [ballarat.vic.gov.au/community/ageing-well-ballarat/ballarat-seniors-awards](https://ballarat.vic.gov.au/community/ageing-well-ballarat/ballarat-seniors-awards)

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# Brown Hill Community Hall



I am very pleased to announce that the Hall's Audio-Visual Systems are up and running in Meeting Rooms One and Two.

Groups hiring these meeting rooms will be able to plug their computers into our projector and audio systems and utilise an automatic visual screen in Room 1 and the wall in Room 2. This new Audio-Visual upgrade will allow user groups more flexibility and convenience for their presentations.

Data gathering for the Hall's Annual Report to the City of Ballarat has shown that over 42 different casual users have booked the hall for family celebrations and memorials, dances and balls, religious gatherings, cultural events, exhibitions, workshops, classes and meetings.

Seventeen weekly groups utilise the hall for classes, social gatherings and meetings and the Hall is a busy hub for Brown Hill and surrounds.

Please note:

The Hall will be unavailable from Friday 26 September to Monday 29 September due to repair work being carried out on the floor. The surface of the Hall floor is a priority for the committee who try to maintain it to a high standard for our many dancing groups.

Over the course of the Royal South Street Competitions the Hall will be

being utilised by some out-of-town dance and calisthenic troupes for preparation and practice before competing at Her Majesty's.

As part of Seniors Week celebrations, the Ballarat Rockers are hosting a 'Come and Try' Rock and Roll at the Hall on Friday 3 October from 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm.

*Merrilyn Harlock*

*Secretary Brown Hill Community Hall Advisory Committee*  
*hall@brownhill.vic.au*  
*hall.brownhill.vic.au*

## Brown Hill Senior Citizens

The year 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 saw the Club welcome new members, but many more of our older members no longer attend. This could be due to their health and mobility and no longer being able to drive. The Club numbers are decreasing with 29 registered members and average weekly attendance of 20.

Club members continue to enjoy indoor bowls, euchre, Hoi and sequence, with Scrabble being 'put on the shelf' in favour of Rummyking. Some members only attend on the first Monday of the month to play Hoi as well as enjoy luncheons.

I have many members to thank. Gloria Kenneth took on the role of Secretary which she has fulfilled admirably, attending and reporting on the Association meetings and keeping the minutes of the Brown Hill Seniors' Committee meetings. Joan Palmer, as Treasurer, keeps immaculate books and reports in depth to the Committee meetings. Joan also collects goods and groceries required in the running of

the club. Joan is not standing for Treasurer or as a committee member for 2025-2026. Thank you, Joan, for the dedication and enthusiasm you have shown. Harry Burt sets up and co-ordinates the bowls with the aid of Barry Goodall. Betty McGarry continues to run the euchre with her hole-punch and 'Oscar' as well as supplying the chocolate bars for the least successful players on the day. Afternoon tea is set up and served by Raelene and Harry Burt and Gloria Kenneth. Barry Goodall clears the tables and collects the tea-money for Joan. Raelene, Joan and Jenny and sell the Lucky Number Cards. With 25 numbers on the cards at \$2.00 each - \$25.00 to win and \$25.00 to the club. This is our only fundraising for the club. Reg Eden is always ready to help set up the meeting rooms and speaker.

A big thank you to all members for continuing to support your club by attending and joining in the activities of the club on a regular basis.

For the first time, the Brown Hill Seniors will not be holding their birthday celebrations on the first Monday in December. Instead, this year, our 55<sup>th</sup> birthday, will be celebrated on 8 September. Committee members felt that December is a busy month with other activities. Simon Carroll will be entertaining us this year which we are all looking forward to.

*Dianne Eden, President*  
0428 379 979

Help us to put  
together the Brown  
Hill Community  
Newsletter

Contact Sarah:  
newsletter@brownhill.vic.au

# Brown Hill Uniting Church



Did you know...that in 1855, Peter Lalor and JB Humffray were elected to Parliament and that Ballarat was proclaimed a municipality?

Did you also know that in 1855, the Brown Hill church began in a tent located on Wadawarrung land? The site, which is now the Brown Hill Recreation Reserve, is on the banks of the Leigh Creek, now known as the Yarrowee River.

We acknowledge and respect that First Nations people practised spirituality on Wadawarrung land for many thousands of years.

On November 15 and 16 2025, Brown Hill Uniting Church celebrates its 170<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

We warmly welcome the people of the community of Brown Hill to help us celebrate this auspicious occasion. There are three opportunities to join in the celebrations. All are welcome to just one or all three.

Saturday 15 November, 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm - Memories with afternoon tea in the hall, music in the church.

Sunday 16 November, 10.00 am - Celebratory worship service with guest Rev John Wilson, followed by morning tea, then a pre-booked lunch at 'The Grand' 203 Dana Street, at 12.30 pm. To book for 2 course lunch, please pay \$20 per head to: BSB 013 520 Account No. 3137 89778 Brown Hill Uniting

Church, including name/s, by 4 November 2025. Drinks at bar prices. Special dietary requirements, please email Liz at [liz.gmason@outlook.com](mailto:liz.gmason@outlook.com).

## Men's Breakfast

On Saturday 24 May, Mr Ray Suttie from the Ballarat Health Services Ballarat Prostate Cancer Support Group shared with the men, and a few ladies, the role of the Support Group. Ray explained that the purpose of the Group is to provide support to members and their families who are experiencing prostate cancer and treatment. It is also their role to respond to opportunities to create awareness of prostate health and the support offered by the group, hence Ray's enthusiastic willingness to attend the Men's Breakfast.

Ray emphasised the need for men, from the age of 40, to ask their GP for a Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) blood test to ensure early detection.



**Ray Suttie from the Ballarat Health Services Ballarat Prostate Cancer Support Group.**  
Image supplied.

***The next Men's Breakfast is on Saturday 30 August*** at the church hall from 8.30 am. \$5 for a cooked breakfast, cereal and/or toast.

Warren Payne from the Community Care Centre Ballarat will inform listeners about how they support the vulnerable with essential household goods such as furniture and appliances, helping them to create safe and stable homes. Ladies welcome from 9.15 am.

**Sunday 31 August Morning Tea** in the hall at 10.00 am, followed by discussions about issues affecting our community. All welcome.

31 August is a fifth Sunday therefore there is no worship in the church.

**Worship On Wednesdays (WOW)** with Communion at 1.30 pm in the church hall for those who seek a midweek opportunity for informal worship and sharing the sacraments. There is an opportunity to share a short time of fellowship over afternoon tea afterwards.

**Craft, Cuppa and Chat** group is meeting on the first and third Thursdays each month at 1.30 pm in the church hall. Come along if you're interested in doing any sort of craft or just come for a chat!

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

For more information, please contact Louise Wright **0407 893 468** or email [louisejw63@yahoo.com](mailto:louisejw63@yahoo.com).

*Louise Wright, Brown Hill Uniting Church*



# Brown Hill Cricket Club

We are looking for girls to join our senior women's team.

Junior training will commence in the first week of Term Four and we are looking for new players for our U17s, U 15s, U13s and U11s.

Woolworths Cricket Blast will commence mid- to late- October. Training details will be made available at a later date.

For any further information please contact Phillip Knowles on 0407 399 971.



Manjula De Zoysa  
Image supplied.

## New Recruit: Manjula De Zoysa

The club is thrilled to announce the signing of Manjula De Zoysa for this coming season. Manjula joins us from Golden Point where he has spent the past seven seasons establishing himself as one of the premier all-rounders of the competition and being instrumental in their premiership victory in 2021/22, making 74 not out in the grand final.

Across his time at Golden Point, he has made 3767 runs and taken 130 wickets in the First XI, last season again leading the batting with 418

runs at an average of 34. Having a player with his skill-set and experience will be a huge addition to our side for the season ahead and we look forward to having him around the club both on and off the field.

Welcome to the Bulls Manjula and good luck for the season ahead.

Phillip Knowles

0407 399 971



Sakun Hettiyahandi.  
Image supplied.

## New Recruit Sakun Hettiyahandi

The club is excited to announce the signing of Sakun Hettiyahandi for season 2025/26. Sakun joins us from Gellibrand Cricket Club, southwest of Melbourne where he's recently had success being a part of a premiership team in 2023/24.

The highly talented batsman will be a welcome addition to our top order having finished second in the league for runs in 2022/23 with 509 runs at an average of 51. Having recently relocated to Ballarat to live we are delighted to have secured his services and look forward to seeing him in Bulls colours this summer.



## Open Garden and Plant Sale

1A Hearn Road, Brown Hill

Open:

9.00 am - 2.00 pm, Saturdays  
11.00 am - 12.00 noon, Sundays  
1.00 pm - 2.30 pm, Wednesdays

Other times by appointment.

Contact Marlie on 0447 423 003

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aflstoreballarat@bigpond.com

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# Victoria Bowling Club

## **Victoria Bowling Club – inclusive & friendly**

*Embrace 2025; try something different, give bowls a go!*

As we come out of a few cold, grey and wet months, the Victoria Bowling Club is looking forward to spring and some warmer sunny days as we plan for the upcoming bowls season in Ballarat.

Following our recent AGM we have some new members joining our club and have a number of new people in leadership who will focus their time on good governance, community engagement, social opportunities and sponsorship collaboration within the Brown Hill environment. We had a very successful year last year in the Ballarat Highlands Bowls Region with which all Ballarat clubs are affiliated. We look forward to a great season ahead. There are Saturday and Tuesday pennant competitions catering for women and men of all ages. This includes a healthy number of junior bowlers who are improving markedly and making their presence known on the greens. Thursday social bowls is also available for non-members to enjoy!

### **School programs available**

Victoria Bowling Club hosts an after-school program for St Alipius Parish School students during the warmer months and would love to host other schools to come and be



mentored in the game of lawn bowls. It is a sport that can be played for life, from age 12 – 80+. It caters for all shapes and sizes, does not require exceptional fitness or coordination and can be enjoyed by those with a range of disabilities. Please call Peter on 0418 566 163.

### **Social/barefoot bowls**

Are you part of a family, a business; or a student, a tradie or a professional?

Consider the Victoria Bowling Club for your next social group outing, work break-up, Christmas party or just end of week drinks on a Friday night.

We offer a range of bowls/meals packages tailored to suit your group needs. We offer very attractive rates and have very reasonable bar prices. Please call Darren on 0419 326 709 to make a booking as slots are filling fast.

## **Sponsorship opportunities**

Victoria Bowling Club would like to further develop its sponsor base by engaging with local businesses that could benefit from their brand exposure to the hundreds of bowlers who attend our facilities in Victoria St on a weekly basis. There is also the opportunity to support weekly events during the bowls season and to be a major sponsor of the numerous tournaments we hold from October to March every year. Please call Peter on 0418 566 163.

### **'Turnaround Triples' Tournament**

The next tournament (naming rights are still available) is the AFL Grand Final eve open 'Turnaround Triples Tournament' being held on Friday 26 September, (Public Holiday) from 9.30 am - great prize money, BBQ lunch, casual dress. Please contact Marc 0407 452 252 or Murray 0458 523 268. We also have excellent licenced facilities available for hire: weddings, birthdays etc. (capacity up to 200). Social/barefoot bowls is also available for corporate or family groups. Come and give it a go. We are a family-friendly club.

For general enquiries or to play summer bowls please contact us at:

**victoriabowlsclub@gmail.com**

Phone: **5332 6242**

Address: **231 Victoria St Ballarat East**

*Peter Elshaug, Vice President*

*Victoria Bowling Club*

*0418 566 163*

*victoriabowlingclub.com.au*

*Quality, affordable, pet friendly, over 50's living*



**BALLARAT**  
LIFESTYLE VILLAGE

**OPEN DAY Saturday 13 September 2025 | 10 AM – 3 PM**

263 Scott Pde, Brown Hill 3350 | 03 5332 2009 | ballaratlifestylevillage.com.au



# Victoria Bowling Club

## Morning Melodies

*Bringing the best performers to the Victoria Bowling Club stage*

Morning Melodies is a series of concerts, featuring the best local and travelling performers, right here in Ballarat. Shows start at 10.30 am. Entertainment and meal for only \$20. How could you pass up that value for money!

For more information about Morning Melodies, and to book your tickets, please contact: **Lindsay Johnston on 0488 788 218**



**Morning Melodies**

**Gavin Chatelier**  
Friday October 3, 2025  
Singer Songwriter Guitarist.

Gavin has a wide taste and influence in music from gospel and classical to folk and country rock.

For more information about Morning Melodies, and to book your tickets, please contact  
Lindsay Johnston - 0488 788 218

**\$20 Meal & Show**

Shows start at 10:30 AM

231 Victoria Street, Ballarat East VIC 3350



**Morning Melodies**

**Don Coster**  
Friday November 7, 2025

A multi-talented artist from the Country Music Capital, Tamworth. He not only makes his guitar sing but the keyboard as well.

A great guitarist.

For more information about Morning Melodies, and to book your tickets, please contact  
Lindsay Johnston - 0488 788 218

**\$20 Meal & Show**

Shows start at 10:30 AM

231 Victoria Street, Ballarat East VIC 3350

## Brown Hill Auskick

Brown Hill Auskick has finished for 2025, and what a year it was!

We had an influx of youth with half of the participants being kindergarten and prep children just starting down their Auskick path. The other half were returning experienced Auskickers. Energy and enthusiasm were high each week and it was wonderful to watch kids enjoying themselves as they learnt footy skills.

Auskick is volunteer-run and we owe the success of our on-field program to Coach James Couzens. He was ably assisted every week by a group of excellent young people, Ben, Ed, Sam, Oscar, Ryan, Will and Ed who engage with the kids beautifully, offering encouragement and positivity at every opportunity.

Off-field the stars of the show came from Brown Hill Progress Association who ran the BBQ every week. We thank John O'Brien, Brendan Stevens, Rex Harrison and Bernie Brisbane. Phil Knowles couldn't have done it without you too!

We'll be back in Term Two so please find us on Facebook and click 'Like' to keep up to date with us.

*Catherine,*  
*Brown Hill Auskick Coordinator*  
*[brownhillauskick@yahoo.com](mailto:brownhillauskick@yahoo.com)*  
*[facebook.com/BrownHillAuskick](https://facebook.com/BrownHillAuskick)*

Read this newsletter online:





# parkrun participants enjoy a new water fountain



**Participants in the Wallaby Track parkrun celebrate the new water fountain at the nearby Brown Hill Recreation Reserve. Photographer: Aaron Coulter**

There have been plenty of gloves and beanies at Wallaby Track parkrun over the last couple of months as we've endured some crisp Ballarat winter mornings. Whilst many of these have been accompanied by beautiful sunrises, a few have been a little damp and dark. It hasn't deterred the parkrun faithful though who have continued to turn up each week to get their fix of parkrun fun. Sometimes it's the need to get some exercise that gets people out on those cold mornings, but more often than not it is the social connections and the atmosphere that motivates people to get out the door. No matter the weather, you know there are always going to be some smiling faces and encouraging words to make you feel good.

Perhaps the other thing that is getting people out on these winter mornings is the excitement around the new drinking tap that has

recently been installed in the reserve. We have been working with City of Ballarat and Central Highlands Water for a number of years now to get a drinking tap installed and to see it come to fruition has been fantastic. Every day there are many people who use the reserve, the oval and the track and until now, there has been nowhere to get a drink or to fill up a water bottle. Whilst it's much appreciated already, when it starts to warm up in a month or two I'm sure lots of us (and our pets) are going to get a lot of use out of it. Thanks to City of Ballarat and Central Highlands Water for making it happen.

We are all set now for a busy spring and looking forward to some lighter and warmer mornings. We'd love to see more people come along and give parkrun a try, so why not head down on Saturday morning at 8.00 am to the track just over the bridge

from the playground and join us for a run or a walk.

We love welcoming new runners and walkers to our event. If you've ever thought of coming but not sure if it's for you, why not come and give it a try. Remember it's free, it's every Saturday at 8.00 am and it starts on the Wallaby Track behind the Brown Hill Reserve. If you'd like to take part in parkrun, register at [parkrun.com.au](http://parkrun.com.au), then join us at the Wallaby Track. If you'd prefer to volunteer, email us at [wallabytrack@parkrun.com](mailto:wallabytrack@parkrun.com) or message us via our Facebook page.

*Aaron and Laurinda Coulter  
Co-Event Directors  
Wallaby Track parkrun  
[wallabytrack@parkrun.com](mailto:wallabytrack@parkrun.com)  
[parkrun.com.au/wallabytrack](http://parkrun.com.au/wallabytrack)*