

# Brown Hill Community Newsletter

Edition 11, February 2018

*An initiative of the Brown Hill Community Partnership, supported by the Brown Hill Progress Association and the City of Ballarat. We are proud to walk this land with the Wadawurrung people.*



*Ellen Burns from The Hidden Orchard with Brown Hill local Pat Green, and her fig tree that will soon be harvested.*

## Hidden Orchard Helps

*Read more - the extended article is available on [brownhill.vic.au](http://brownhill.vic.au)*

*We interviewed Ellen Burns, a Brown Hill local and one of the founding members of The Hidden Orchard. Ellen introduced us to Pat Green who has a fabulous fig tree in her Brown Hill backyard.*

### **Tell us about The Hidden Orchard**

The Hidden Orchard (THO) is a group that harvest unwanted fruit from trees on public land or private properties (with permission of course!) and redistribute it to the Ballarat community.

It was started in early 2017 by four food-waste warriors - Kris Thomas, Sandra Hawkins, Steve Burns and his daughter (me!) Ellen

Burns, after the Ballarat Local Food Forum brought them together.

One of the speakers that day was a member of 'Growing Abundance', a Castlemaine group that harvest unloved fruit and redistribute it to their local community, as well as running workshops and pruning days.

There are a couple of similar groups in Victoria that we know of, including the Darebin Fruit Squad, but we are the first in Ballarat and hope that other Victorian communities follow suit!

The Hidden Orchard is being auspiced by the Ballarat Permaculture Guild (BPG).

## Diary Dates

See [brownhill.vic.au](http://brownhill.vic.au) for details.

### **FEBRUARY**

**Saturday 17:** 8.00 pm, Top Katz Rockers Dance - Pirates and Wenches Night, Brown Hill Hall.

**Monday 19:** 6.00 pm, Aquatic Zumba, Brown Hill Pool (p.5)

**Wednesday 21:** 6.00 pm, Ballarat Boomerang Bags Sewing Bee, Brown Hill Cricket Club (p.17)

**Monday 26:** 6.00 pm, Aquatic Zumba, Brown Hill Pool (p.5)

**Wednesday 28:** Applications close for the City of Ballarat's

*...continued p.2*

### ***On a broad scale, what has been achieved?***

The Hidden Orchard has only been around for less than a year and the group has already harvested and re-homed over a tonne of fruit. This was achieved with a very small group of fairly disorganised volunteers, so just imagine what could be achieved once we get up and going!

We have, so far, been successful in receiving a City of Ballarat Community Grant and also a Rainbow Serpent Community Grant, which has given us the funds to purchase our initial equipment, such as 'Joey Fruit Picking Bags', eskies, fruit-pickers and secateurs.

*... continued p.22*

...continued from p.1

'Community Impact Grant' program (p.13)

## MARCH

**Sunday 4:** 11.00 am - 3.00 pm, Ballarat Community Garden's 2018 Harvest Festival (p.18)

**Sunday 4:** Clean Up Australia Day. See: [cleanupaustraliaday.org.au](http://cleanupaustraliaday.org.au)

**Tuesday 6:** Brown Hill Progress Association meeting, Brown Hill Hall (rear). All welcome.

**Tuesday 6:** 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm, Woodmans Hill Information Evening (p.10)

**Saturday 10 - Monday 12:** Ballarat Begonia Festival. See: [ballaratbegoniafestival.com](http://ballaratbegoniafestival.com)

**Tuesday 13 - Tuesday 20:** National Coeliac Awareness Week (p.12)

**Wednesday 21:** Harmony Day. See: [harmony.gov.au](http://harmony.gov.au)

**Sunday 25:** Neighbour Day. See: [neighbourday.org.au](http://neighbourday.org.au) (p.15)

**Thursday 29:** School Term One finishes

**Friday 30:** Good Friday

**Saturday 31:** Easter Saturday

## APRIL

**Sunday 1:** Easter Sunday. Holy Communion service, Brown Hill Uniting Church (p. 14)

**Sunday 1:** Daylight Savings Time ends

**Monday 2:** Easter Monday

**Tuesday 3:** Brown Hill Progress Association meeting, Brown Hill Hall (rear). All welcome.

**Tuesday 3:** Submissions and advertising for Edition 12 due (p.21).

**Sunday 8:** Ecumenical Choir,

Brown Hill Uniting Church (p.14)

**Saturday 14:** 9.00 am - 12.00 noon, Brown Hill Uniting Church Annual Mini-Fair and Car Boot Sale (p.14)

**Monday 16:** School Term Two begins

**Saturday 28:** 8.30 am - 10.30 am, Men's Breakfast, Ballarat Uniting Church (p.14)

## MAY

**Tuesday 1:** Brown Hill Progress Association meeting, Brown Hill Hall (rear). All welcome.

**Sunday 20:** Brown Hill Volunteer Celebration (p.8)

**Monday 21 - Sunday 27:** National Volunteering Week. See: [volunteeringaustralia.org/nvw/](http://volunteeringaustralia.org/nvw/)

## OCTOBER

**Friday 26:** 5.00 pm - 7.30 pm, 2018 Brown Hill Community Festival. See: [brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-community-festival/](http://brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-community-festival/)

## WEEKLY

### Mondays

*Brown Hill Senior Citizens' Club:* 1.30 pm - 4.00 pm, Brown Hill Public Hall (p.14)

*Brown Hill Lioness Club:* First Monday - business meeting. (p.3)

### Tuesdays

*Ballarat Highland Dancers:* 4.30 pm during school term, Federation University Pipe Band Hall

### Wednesdays

*Ballarat Wholefoods Collective:* 9.00 am - 11.00 am and 5.00 pm - 7.00 pm during school term, Brown Hill Cricket Club (p.17)

*Caledonian Playgroup:* 9.00 am - 11.00 am during school term, Caledonian Primary School. See:

[brownhill.vic.au/directory/caledonian-playgroup/](http://brownhill.vic.au/directory/caledonian-playgroup/) (p.9)

*Brown Hill Uniting Church:* 1.30 pm, Mid-week Communion in the Hall followed by afternoon tea (p.14)

*Brown Hill Lions Club:* 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start. Second Wednesday - business meeting. Fourth Wednesday - social dinner meeting. (p.3)

## Thursdays

*Brown Hill Uniting Church:* 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm, Craft Group on the first and third Thursday of the month (p.14)

*Brown Hill Uniting Church Op. Shop:* 9.30 am - 12.30 pm. Cnr Humffray Street North & Thompson Street (behind the Brown Hill Uniting Church) (p.14)

## Fridays

*Brown Hill Uniting Church Op. Shop:* 9.30 am - 12.30 pm. Cnr Humffray Street North & Thompson Street (behind the Brown Hill Uniting Church) (p.14)

## Saturdays

*Ballarat Community Gardens:* first Saturday of the month, 9.30 am, Local Produce Swap. Corner of Queen Street and Dyte Parade, Ballarat East (p.19)

# Subscribe

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# In this edition

Happy 2018 Brown Hill!

We have certainly started the year on a high, with loads of local celebrations.

Australia Day saw hundreds of people visit the Brown Hill Recreation Reserve and Pool to enjoy food, drink, entertainment and activities organised by several of our dedicated local groups (p.3-4). This was followed a couple of weeks later with the inaugural 'Toys at the Pool Day' (p.6). Both days were fantastic examples of the success that comes from community groups working together.

It's been a great season at the Brown Hill Pool and this edition is full of stories about the fun and games that have been had by young and old (p.4-7).

We chatted to some really interesting Brown Hill locals, who are making wonderful contributions to our community, including Ellen from 'The Hidden Orchard' (p.1) and Suzanne from the Ballarat Support Group of Coeliac Victoria/Tasmania (p.12). We also met Ivy and Mabel as they started school (p.24).

Thanks to Tania and Penthea who won this month's 'Brown Hill Buddies' competition (p.15). Chat to your neighbour or a Brown Hill friend and send us your story by **Tuesday 3 April** to be in the running to win.

We hope you enjoy this edition!

*Sarah Greenwood-Smith, Volunteer Editor, Brown Hill Community Newsletter Committee*

newsletter@brownhill.vic.au  
brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/



*The Brown Hill Lioness' stall serving tea, coffee and drinks for the children at Australia Day. Image: Barry Davis*

## Australia Day Breakfast

*Brown Hill Lions Club - working in the local community.*

Brown Hill Lions held another successful Australia Day Breakfast at Brown Hill Recreation Reserve.

We served approximately 450 egg and bacon sandwiches, free-of-charge, to the Brown Hill community.

Locals also enjoyed the spinning wheel, with many prizes to be won.

Free-of-charge face painting by Leanne Westblade (Fab2see Faces) was again a big hit with the children, along with Lion Ed Bawden's famous annual Treasure Hunt.

Other stalls included the Lioness' stall with tea, coffee and drinks for the children as well as pancakes organised by the Brown Hill Uniting Church.

This year, Power FM were on site for a live

'outside broadcast', which helped to promote the event. Their music was enjoyed by all in attendance.

It was great to see the support of all the locals who enjoyed the morning.

The Brown Hill Lions and Lioness members enjoy what they do - volunteering. You too can be involved in serving the Brown Hill community.

Contact the Lions Secretary Barry on 0418 580 970 or Lioness Secretary Glenis on 0439 777 188 for further information.

*Barry & Glenis Davis*

*Secretaries, Brown Hill Lions and Lionesses Clubs*

See: [brownhill.vic.au/directory](http://brownhill.vic.au/directory)



*Brown Hill Lions Club members cooking up a storm!*

## Brown Hill Pool

For the latest updates from the Brown Hill Pool, visit: [brownhill.vic.au/swimming-pool/pool-news/](http://brownhill.vic.au/swimming-pool/pool-news/) and follow the 'Brown Hill Community Pool' Facebook page.

The Brown Hill Community Pool is independently managed by the Brown Hill Progress Association with the support of the local community and the City of Ballarat.

## Pool Visits

In December 2017 there were 1610 visits to the Brown Hill Community Pool (403 adults and 1207 children). Three school groups from Ballarat used the pool for end-of-term activities and Physical Education classes.

In January 2018 there were 4490 visits to the pool.

## The calm before the storm

The Brown Hill Progress Association (BHPA) once again hosted the annual 'Australia Day Pool Party'. It started out as a perfect day weather-wise...

After the fantastic breakfast provided by the Brown Hill Lions and Lioness' Clubs and the Brown Hill Uniting Church and the promotion through the airwaves thanks to Power FM, there were

families lined up at the pool gate at 11.30 am, jostling to get the best shade for the afternoon's festivities.

Our fabulous group of sausage and onion cookers, kiosk volunteers and the ever-present pool lifeguard crew had everything up and humming at 12.00 noon. We all settled into a fun-filled afternoon, with kids enjoying the water and local parents and grandies soaking up the shade.

The wonderful Leanne Westblade painted faces and bodies with an 'Australiana' theme - there were emus, echidnas and koalas displayed beautifully on all parts of kids' and adults' faces and bodies.

There were plenty of lucky draws and give-away items, such as vouchers from McDonald's and Bakers Delight, thanks to donations from local Brown Hill businesses. These made the day even more special.

Glenn and Kerry from Bakers Delight Bakery Hill donated 15 loaves of bread for the 250 sausages, which disappeared pretty quickly along with the usual kiosk fare, so none of our 300 or so patrons went hungry.

The biggest 'bomb-off' made a splash and everyone had a great time.

But there was more splash to come... We had to empty the pool just before 4.00 pm, due to lightning. The heavens opened up as families scrambled to their cars. Never mind, the party was almost over anyway.

Our dozen or so volunteers huddled in the steamy kiosk, with the power going on and off until the rain passed, then cleaned up

and locked up. It was our quickest evacuation ever! Thanks to the dedicated BHPA committee volunteers for helping out on the day.

We will do the same next year, hopefully without the storm!

The Brown Hill Progress Association would like to thank Weightmans Meats in Humffray Street North, Bakery Hill Bakers Delight in Victoria Street and all of the local businesses that donated prizes for our raffle. Here are the results:

1. 2018-19 Brown Hill Pool Pass (Brown Hill Progress Association), \$130 - Jack S
2. Hamper of goodies donated by various groups, \$40 - Lily M
3. Grounded Pleasures pack (exquisite drinking chocolate), \$20 - Winnie
4. AFL Store (Central Square) voucher, \$20 - The Kales family
5. Early Childhood Resources set, \$20 - The Zuidland family
6. The Littlest J, two pairs of Australia Earrings. \$20 - Millie



Facepainting at the pool by Leanne Westblade. Image: Rachel Zuidland



# VicSWIM

The VicSWIM program was lots of fun for the families involved. 124 children participated over the two weeks.

Thanks to the Brown Hill Uniting Church for funding each child for one week of lessons.

Thanks also to volunteer Vince for being an excellent Milo Man, keeping a saucepan of Milo warm on the BBQ, ready to warm up the children as they finished their lessons!

## Gettin' splashy

'Flo' (Lorenne Ramanauskas), our fantastic Aquatic Zumba teacher, started her 45-minute classes in the pool on Monday evenings from late January. At \$2 a head, it is a fantastic way to get active and have a laugh.

The first class saw 53 people in the pool 'getting splashy with it'. The second class was cancelled due to rain, but the third and fourth also had approximately 50 participants. What a great activity for Brown Hill!

Depending on the weather, there will be Aquatic Zumba classes at the Brown Hill Pool on Monday 19 and Monday 26 February. No booking required. \$2 per head. Updates on the 'Brown Hill Community Pool' Facebook page, or you can call the pool kiosk between 12.00 noon and 7.00 pm most days on 5338 8663.

## Lifeguard Kate

*We had a chat to this season's Lifeguard Manager, Kate Schulze.*



*Image: Brown Hill Pool's 2017-18 Lifeguard Manager, Kate Schulze. Image supplied.*

Kate has been a lifeguard at the Brown Hill Pool for 5 seasons, starting in 2012, when she was 17 years old. To become a lifeguard, Kate did a 3-day course in Melbourne. She was also required to have her CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and first-aid certificates. Kate first heard about the Brown Hill Pool from a friend who had worked there. She said, "I thought I'd give it a go and I've stuck around since then!"

When asked, "Is it fun being a lifeguard at the Brown Hill Pool?", Kate said, "Definitely! I think I'm very lucky to work at a pool that has such a nice atmosphere. I have loved getting to know the community over the years."

We wondered if Kate had a favourite food from the kiosk. She said that she likes a packet of Doritos, but her favourite food is the 'icy twist' icy-pole on a hot day. She said, "It's the perfect way to cool down." When asked by

three-year-old Polly if she liked beetroot, Kate said, "I love beetroot, especially in a good burger."

Kate's favourite pool in Ballarat is the Brown Hill Pool. However, her favourite place to swim is in Phuket, Thailand, at a resort with a swim-up bar.

Kate said, "The Brown Hill Pool really is a special place. We make sure your swim is enjoyable and safe. All the lifeguards and volunteers make it a happy, friendly place to be and there is such an amazing community at the pool."

## Lifeguard Jai

*It has been Jai David's first season as a lifeguard at the Brown Hill Pool. We asked him what he thought...*

He said, "It has honestly been the most enjoyable pool I have worked at. All the local community members and patrons have made every day so enjoyable."

Jai has been a lifeguard on and off for about eight years. Similar to Kate, Jai completed his lifeguarding accreditation and did a first aid course. Then he was ready to go!

When asked why he wanted to work at the Brown Hill Pool, Jai responded, "I wanted to lifeguard at an outdoor pool to enjoy the sunshine and, being five minutes away, the Brown Hill Pool is ideal."

We wondered if Jai had a favourite food from the kiosk. He said, "I would have to say, without a doubt, the 'Big Boss' lollies and the 'Zoooper Doopers' are the best on hot days." However, in answer to Polly's question about beetroot, Jai

responded, "I don't like beetroot at all, especially after my mum made beetroot chocolate cake!"

Jai's favourite place to swim is Wategos Beach, Byron Bay. He didn't grow up swimming at the Brown Hill Pool, because he didn't grow up in Ballarat.

We asked Jai, "Why should people come to the Brown Hill Pool?" and his response was, "The relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere, and of course because I lifeguard there!"



*Image: One of Brown Hill Pool's 2017-18 lifeguards, Jai David. Image supplied.*

## Toys at the Pool Day

The Ballarat Toy Library, in conjunction with Brown Hill Progress Association, held the inaugural 'Toys at the Pool Day' on Saturday 10 February.

As the hot sun peeked out between patches of rain, 55 people from families who live across Ballarat brought their swimming gear (and raincoats) and joined in the fun. They played with toys from the Ballarat Toy Library and



*Several members of the Brown Hill Progress Association Committee at Toys at the Pool Day, L-R: Sarah Greenwood-Smith, Peter Fisher, Brendan Stevens, John O'Brien, Ian Fullerton and Rachel Zuidland*

enjoyed the pool. We even had a party. Hudson enjoyed celebrating his 8th birthday with his family and friends by the pool.

The Brown Hill Progress Association volunteers cooked a sausage sizzle, with meat from Sinclair Meats provided at a discount and bread, tomato sauce and napkins purchased with gift cards donated by Woolworths and Coles.

The Ballarat Toy Library volunteers organised a raffle, with generously donated prizes. The winners were:

1. Pool toys donated by Toyland and a \$20 voucher donated by The

AFL Store, Ballarat - Sarah

2. Pool toys donated by Toyland and a Ballarat Wholefoods Collective annual membership valued at \$50 - Rachel

3. A \$50 voucher from Brown Hill-based 'Essential Care by Wendy' - Lisa

Bakers Delight Bakery Hill and McDonald's also donated vouchers.

Ballarat Toy Library's Sally Tuck said, "Everyone got to try out two of the wonderful new 'WOW Toys' purchased for the Library through a City of Ballarat Community Impact Grant. The toys included a



*Fun and games at the first 'Toys at the Pool' Day*



huge at-home-construction set called 'Quadro', which had little ones on it almost non-stop. A beaming Aoife said, "It doesn't matter if it rains!". The children also enjoyed the new 'Dragon' jumping castle, which is available for hire and is "just coooolllll" according to one three-foot tall official jumping castle tester."

Not only was \$126.25 raised for the Ballarat Toy Library, but a great day was enjoyed by all.

You could win one of three vouchers for a special offer to joining members of the Ballarat Toy Library. You could get not just four toys, but five. That's over 60 toys a year. To be in the running, email [newsletter@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:newsletter@brownhill.vic.au) with the reasons why you think a membership of the Ballarat Toy Library would be fantastic. Competition closes on Wednesday 28 February 2018.

*Brendan Stevens, Secretary, Brown Hill Progress Association*

[bhpa@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:bhpa@brownhill.vic.au)  
Visit: [brownhill.vic.au](http://brownhill.vic.au)



*10-week-old Abel's first swim (and sleep) at the Brown Hill Pool. Image: Stephanie Blyth*



*Family Fun Day at the Brown Hill Pool*

## Family Fun Days

This summer, Ballarat Central Uniting Church ran three family fun days at the Brown Hill Pool.

During the school holidays, Ballarat Central Uniting Church hold what we call 'Family Fun Days'. These are days in the holiday calendar when we put on an activity for any of our families who haven't gone away during school breaks.

In the past, we have had indoor activities, such as puzzles, crafts, movies and games. We have also had outdoor trips, such as bush walks and picnics.

Over the recent summer holidays, we held three 'Family Fun Days' on three consecutive Thursdays at the Brown Hill Pool.

Brown Hill Pool, with its friendly and relaxed staff and volunteers, really made our 'Family Fun Days' a great success. The set up, with its shaded areas and BBQ facilities, in addition to free-of-charge tea and coffee, was perfect for our large group.

However, it was the overall

feeling of a relaxed, friendly, well-looked-after community pool that made our time there special. The team working at the pool over the summer really made us feel welcome and were on-hand to deal with any questions or issues we had. Children and adults alike had a great time playing around in the water or relaxing in the shade for a chat, a drink and a snag.

Our time at Brown Hill Pool was perfect and, as the organiser of our 'Family Fun Days', I could not have been happier with how our large group of families was received.

Thank you. We will definitely be back.

*Andy Gault*  
Youth and families worker, Ballarat Central Uniting Church  
[bcuc.org.au](http://bcuc.org.au)  
[youth@bcuc.org.au](mailto:youth@bcuc.org.au)

# Celebrating our volunteers

2018 National Volunteer Week, from Monday 21 until Sunday 27 May, will see thousands of events held across the country to say thank you to the 6 million Australians who volunteer their time. The theme of the week is: 'Give a little. Change a lot.'

On **Sunday 20 May**, the eve of National Volunteer Week, the Brown Hill Progress Association will be hosting an event to celebrate Brown Hill's wonderful volunteers. Those who generously contribute their time, energy and skills for the many community groups which operate in Brown Hill will be invited to attend the afternoon tea.

Brown Hill's volunteers make sure our fantastic suburb has a wonderful community pool, many different sporting activities, an annual community festival, a variety of support groups and a community newsletter, to name a few. Volunteers also raise funds through our local service and church groups to invest in local activities.

If you are a volunteer within the Brown Hill community, this celebration is for you! Come and be recognised.

Registration details will be distributed during April through Brown Hill's community groups.

For more information, please email: [bhpa@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:bhpa@brownhill.vic.au).

For information about National Volunteer Week, see: [volunteeringaustralia.org/nvw/](http://volunteeringaustralia.org/nvw/)

## Advertising manager needed

The Brown Hill Community Newsletter is proud to be self-funded through advertising. We are seeking a volunteer to manage this aspect of the newsletter. Please get in touch if you are interested.

Contact us:  
[newsletter@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:newsletter@brownhill.vic.au)

## FireAware

**Being prepared for the fire season is a shared responsibility.**

*Did you know that nearly 50% of people living in a Bushfire Prone Area (e.g. Brown Hill) don't understand the threat bushfires can be to them and their family?*

*Did you know that the highest bushfire risk is from ember attack? A build up of unattended embers can set a house on fire, leading to the greater risk of house-to-house fires. When a bushfire is in an area, fire brigades are at the bushfire. They have not got the resources to attend individual*



Fire Aware Mascot, Penny Platypus

house fires in the suburbs.

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

What to do:

\* Get to know your neighbours: share your bushfire plans and find ways to work together. Even three or four households working together could do much to lower the fire risk to themselves and their neighbours.

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

\* Watch the weather!

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

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

For more information, visit the Brown Hill Community FireAware Network web pages: [pleanetwork.com.au/fireaware-network-be-prepared/](http://pleanetwork.com.au/fireaware-network-be-prepared/) or contact Hazen on 0408 690 493.

Hazen Cleary, Brown Hill Community FireAware Network Coordinator

[brownhill.vic.au/directory/brown-hill-fireaware/](http://brownhill.vic.au/directory/brown-hill-fireaware/)



# Reconnecting

*Norma Moulton reconnects with a neighbour through our newsletter.*

Former Brown Hill resident, Doug Sarah, now of Ulladulla in the Australian Capital Territory, caught up for a phone chat on the weekend with long-time Brown Hill resident, Norma Moulton. They had not seen each other for over 50 years!

Doug and his family moved to Canberra in the sixties and, in 1979, established a tourist attraction called 'Cockington Green Gardens' ([cockingtongreen.com.au](http://cockingtongreen.com.au)). Doug and his wife, Brenda, still own the business, which is run by their children.

Doug said, "Up until my early-thirties, I lived at our family property on, Melbourne Road, Woodmans Hill. Our friends included Norma and Dick Moulton. I played cricket for many years with Dick, for the Warrenheip Cricket Club."

Doug's sister Betty, who passed away recently, lived in Nerrina for more than 60 years. In June, Betty's son Bruce, who also lives in Nerrina, told Doug about the article featuring Norma on the front page of Edition 7 of the Brown Hill Community Newsletter. Doug contacted the Newsletter Committee and we helped to put Doug and Norma in touch.

We are proud to have played a part in connecting old friends!

*Brian Green, Brown Hill Community Newsletter Committee*

## Go Yellow to Green

This year, go from yellow to green by cancelling the delivery of the Yellow Pages to your address. It can be done in a few simple steps online here: [directoryselect.com.au/action/home](http://directoryselect.com.au/action/home)

## Playgroup visits the Wildlife Park

On Wednesday 20 December, 16 adults and 20 children from Caledonian Playgroup, Brown Hill, enjoyed their end-of-year celebration at the Ballarat Wildlife Park in Ballarat East. The group was taken on a tour, first visiting the large crocodile, Crunch, who was having a snooze in the sun, and his friend, Bella who was having a swim. The group saw the new little penguins and enjoyed

seeing the Tasmanian devils at feeding time. The children loved patting Georgia, the baby wombat, and the many friendly kangaroos roaming around, which like to be fed with special pellets.

To find out more, visit: [wildlifepark.com.au](http://wildlifepark.com.au)

**Caledonian Playgroup** meets between 9.00 am and 11.00 am in the multi-purpose hall at Caledonian Primary School on Wednesday mornings during school term. Families with babies, toddlers and pre-school-aged children are encouraged to join. Please bring a gold coin donation and a piece of fruit to share. We are a very welcoming group and have a great space for the children to play, with a range of toys, including several from the Ballarat Toy Library.

Contact: Caledonian Primary School: 5332 6955 or [playgroup@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:playgroup@brownhill.vic.au)

[brownhill.vic.au/directory/caledonian-playgroup/](http://brownhill.vic.au/directory/caledonian-playgroup/)



*Caledonian Playgroup member, Sam, feeding one of the kangaroos at the Ballarat Wildlife Park. Image: Dianne Hill.*

## Recycle your toothbrush waste

Did you know that you can recycle toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, toothpaste caps, floss containers and their outer packaging materials?

Colgate® has partnered with TerraCycle® to help provide a second life for these items, diverting them from landfill.

Brown Hill Kindergarten, located at 1 Reid Court, Brown Hill, is a collection point for this program.

For each approved item received, the kindergarten will receive a cash donation from TerraCycle®.

Please collect your used oral care products and bring them into the kindergarten between 8.00 am and 3.00 pm on weekdays.

Please note that any brand of oral care products can be collected – not just Colgate.

## Is your child one or two?

A reminder that children can be enrolled for kindergarten from 1 January in the year they turn two. See the City of Ballarat's Central Kindergarten Enrolment Scheme page on their website.

*Christine Sullivan, Education Leader,  
Brown Hill Kindergarten (a Eureka  
Community Kindergarten Association  
[ECKA] Kindergarten)*

5332 7973

[brown.hill.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au](mailto:brown.hill.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au)

*Please note: Ballarat is within the  
**Central Fire District**. Access 'CFA  
local' website and bookmark for  
'Brown Hill'.*

## Woodmans Hill in 2018

2018 is bound to be an exciting year at Woodmans Hill. Last year we saw the re-introduction of Year 12 students at the school after many, many years at a different campus. As we farewell our graduating class of 2017 to tertiary education, we welcome our Year 12s for this year.

This year will see Stage Two of our multi-million dollar building program begin. The next stage involves the development of a science and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) hub and a performing arts and food technology area.

The Science Hub will see three brand-new science laboratories built, with one accessible for STEM education. The performing arts



**LEAVE  
EARLY**

**THE REASONS ARE  
BLACK AND WHITE**

There's no questioning the facts. Bushfires can start quickly and threaten lives within minutes. When it comes to fire, what you need to do is black and white. Check Fire Danger Ratings in your district daily, and monitor conditions. Most bushfire deaths happen close to home, **so on high-risk fire days, leaving early, before a fire starts, is always the safest option.**

**emergency.vic.gov.au**  
Download the VicEmergency app



Authorised by the Victorian Government,  
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne





and food technology area will see the full refurbishment of the existing hall (next to Victoria Street). The development of new instrumental music rooms and music classrooms will support our growing performing arts program and our performers will be able to demonstrate their skills in the 270-seat theatre. We also hope to be able to engage and support the local Brown Hill community with this space!

An addition to the building will house a brand-new food technology centre and canteen. The students and staff will be able to access an indoor café.

Following this work, Stage Three will include extensive work to the technology and arts area of the school. It is envisaged that all building works will be completed by the end of 2019 and at this time most of the learning spaces in the school will be brand new! It's a very exciting time for our community as we strive to be the school of choice in the Ballarat East and Brown Hill areas.

In conclusion, it would be our pleasure to invite all prospective parents in the Brown Hill community to our 2018 Information Evening on Tuesday 6 March from 6.00 pm until 7:00 pm. The evening will showcase the programs and educational opportunities available to all students at Woodmans Hill.

More details are available on our website at [woodmanshill.net.au](http://woodmanshill.net.au) or by contacting our general office on 5336 7264.

*Shannon Turnbull*  
Assistant Principal, Woodmans Hill

## Brown Hill Hall

### Tenders for redevelopment

The City of Ballarat is currently seeking tenders for the Brown Hill Community Hall Redevelopment Project.

Upgrades to the Brown Hill Community Hall, which can accommodate approximately 200 people in the Main Hall, will undergo works to provide user groups with better quality amenities.

Works proposed at the Humffray Street North site include a new access ramp and foyer as well as upgraded toilet facilities at the rear of the building.

The design for the project has been developed by Content Studio Architecture and Design, in consultation with the Brown Hill Hall Committee and user groups.

If you know a business that might be interested in submitting a tender, ask them to visit: [tenderlink.com/ballarat](http://tenderlink.com/ballarat) (All Current Tenders). Tenders are due

late February.

Updates will be made available on the Brown Hill Online Community Hub: [brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-partnership/](http://brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-partnership/) and the 'Making Brown Hill' Facebook page.

*City of Ballarat*  
5320 5500

### Updates for Hall users

The Brown Hill Hall Committee will be in contact with all groups that currently book the Hall, regarding and potential effects of the Hall redevelopment.

## Join the Hall Committee

With over \$400,000 being invested in the redevelopment of the Brown Hill Hall, the committee is seeking more volunteers.

The committee needs help with a variety of tasks.

If you are interested in getting involved with the Brown Hill Hall committee, please contact Scott Antonio by sending an email to:

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

*Please note the updated email address.*



'Wisteria' by Andrew Berkin - A finalist in the 2017 Brown Hill Community Festival Image Competition. See: [brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-community-festival/image-competition/](http://brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-community-festival/image-competition/)

# Living with Coeliac Disease

*Read more - the extended article is available on [brownhill.vic.au](http://brownhill.vic.au)*

Coeliac Awareness Week runs from 13 - 20 March annually to highlight a disease that affects approximately 1 in 70 Australians.

Coeliac disease (pronounced seel-ee-ak) is a medical condition where people experience an autoimmune response to dietary gluten. Gluten is the protein portion of wheat, rye, barley, triticale and oats. When this protein interacts with the small intestine it attacks the surface causing damage.

We spoke to Brown Hill local, Suzanne Damen about living with coeliac disease.

Suzanne was five years old when she was diagnosed with coeliac disease. Being diagnosed so young, Suzanne said, "I hadn't really experienced all there was to eat. That meant I didn't miss what I had never tried. However, it was tricky as a child being told I couldn't eat particular foods."

She said, "It was quite difficult, as there wasn't the gluten-free food available as there is now. You had to cook and bake everything yourself." As the one buying, preparing and cooking the food, Suzanne said that, "Eating at home is easy, cooking with fruit, vegetables, meat and dairy. You need to check labels on all processed foods unless marked gluten-free. Knowing how to read labels is a must." Suzanne's eating motto is, "If in doubt, leave it out."



*Suzanne Damen (front row, second from right) with members of the Coeliac Victoria/Tasmania Ballarat Support Group, February 2018. Image: Sarah Greenwood-Smith*

Times have certainly changed, according to Suzanne. When she was diagnosed, Suzanne said, "There was nothing in the supermarkets, and only limited food in the health-food shops." Most supermarkets now have a gluten-free section. However, Suzanne said that, "IGA has the biggest range."

When a person with coeliac disease eats out, they have to be careful. Suzanne says, "Cross-contamination can be a big issue." In the past, Suzanne said, "Eating out was impossible as no one knew what coeliac disease or gluten-free food was." However, she said, "The gluten-free diet has come a long way over the last 50 years, so we don't really miss out on much." In Ballarat, Sue enjoys eating at Sebastiaan's Cafe on the corner of Lydiard and Mair Streets, the CBD Café Sturt Street, the Lake View Hotel, the Red Lion and the Ballarat Leagues Club.

In Suzanne's opinion, "People's attitudes have slowly changed

over the years, which is important to those with coeliac disease, as we need to adhere to a strict gluten-free diet."

Suzanne has been a member of Coeliac Victoria/Tasmania since the 1970s. Her mother was one of the support contacts for Ballarat for many years. Suzanne has been involved with the Ballarat Support Group for about 19 years and enjoys helping the newly-diagnosed. Being part of Coeliac Victoria/Tasmania is very important if you are diagnosed with coeliac disease. Information and support is only a phone call away and the quarterly magazine keeps you up-to-date with everything about coeliac disease. If you are medically diagnosed and a member of the Coeliac Victoria/Tasmania Society, Suzanne said, "We would love to see you at our bi-monthly gatherings at Ballarat Health Services."

[victas.coeliac.org.au](http://victas.coeliac.org.au)  
9808 5566



## Local Police Matters

We asked our local Ballarat Police if they had some messages for the Brown Hill community.

Too often we hear tragic news of children being hit in driveways or making errors of judgement when crossing the street. Before the age of ten, children have not yet developed the skills and knowledge to handle risky situations. Their impulsive actions often take drivers by surprise. It is a mistake to assume that children can handle traffic risks by themselves, without help from parents.

Therefore, as the school year begins, police are urging drivers to be vigilant and aware around schools once again. We need to do our part to keep kids safe as they walk or ride to or get dropped off at school.

School opening and closing hours are busy times for pedestrians and vehicles outside schools so we ask that you:

- \* Obey 40km/h school zones, which operate on gazetted school days
- \* Park safely, even if it means walking further to the school gate
- \* Observe all parking signs. They are planned with children's safety in mind
- \* Never double park as it puts children at risk
- \* Slow down near the school crossing
- \* Avoid dangerous manoeuvres such as U-turns and three-point turns
- \* Always give way to pedestrians

particularly when entering and leaving driveways

Did you know... it's an offence to leave a vehicle unlocked when the driver is over three metres from the vehicle and there is no-one left in the vehicle. Penalty: \$159.00

Children should never be left inside an unattended vehicle.

*Donna Parsons*

*Leading Senior Constable 24836 / Western Region Div 3 – Crime Prevention*

Contact: 5338 9221,  
[donna.parsons@police.vic.gov.au](mailto:donna.parsons@police.vic.gov.au)

## Found

A watch was found at the Brown Hill Festival. It is at the Brown Hill Kindergarten. Please contact Christine on 5332 7973 if you know who owns it.

## Community funding

Round 3 of the City of Ballarat's 'Community Impact Grant' program is now open for applications.

Not-for-profit community organisations in Brown Hill are encouraged to apply for funding to assist with projects, programs and small neighbourhood events that provide benefit to the community of Ballarat.

Applications close on Wednesday 28 February 2018.

For more information visit:  
[www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/pc/grants.aspx](http://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/pc/grants.aspx)

*Sandra Kennedy, City of Ballarat's Engaged Communities Team*  
5320 5746



**#SURVIVETHEHEAT**

**Our valuables should never be left in the car**

On a warm day, the temperature inside a parked car can be 20°C to 30°C hotter than outside. The impact of heat on a child's body is almost immediate and can be fatal. So keep your children with you and safely out of the heat.

# Brown Hill Uniting Church Events



\* Easter Sunday is on 1 April, when Reverend Peter Morton will lead a Holy Communion service at Brown Hill Uniting Church at the usual time of 10.00 am followed by morning tea. The Ecumenical Choir will lead us in worship the following Sunday 8 April.

\* Ballarat Uniting Churches Holy Week services for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday will be advertised in the Courier.

\* Mid-week Communion in the Hall each Wednesday at 1.30 pm has started again for this year. This is followed by afternoon tea.

\* The Craft Group meets in the Church Hall on the first and third Thursday of the month at 1.30 pm until 3.30 pm. Bring along anything you are working on or

just come for a chat.

\* The Op. Shop reopens on Thursday 15 February at 9.30 am. Income helps to support the Australia Day pancakes, the Brown Hill Festival pancakes and the Christmas community BBQ as well as the Learn-to-Swim program at Brown Hill Pool.

\* The Annual Mini-Fair and Car Boot Sale will be held on Saturday 14 April, 9.00 am - 12.00 noon. Proceeds will go towards sponsorship of the Learn-to-Swim program. There will be a \$1 Op. Shop sale, cakes, produce, plants, books, a coffee van, BBQ breakfast, Devonshire tea and fête food.

Sites cost \$15. For site bookings please phone Barb on 0409 812 470. Pre-registration is essential. There will be no sites available on the day.

We were delighted to participate in the annual Lion's Club Australia Day breakfast again. We thank the community for supporting us, for loving our pancakes and for your donations that support the Learn-to-Swim campaign at the Brown Hill Pool.

*Liz Mason, Brown Hill Uniting Church*

# Men's Breakfast

All men, young and old, are invited to our next Men's Breakfast on Saturday 28 April from 8.30 am to 10.30am. Only \$5 for cereal and cooked breakfast and an opportunity to hear a super speaker.

*Louise Wright, Brown Hill Uniting Church*

[brownhill.vic.au/directory/brown-hill-uniting-church/](http://brownhill.vic.au/directory/brown-hill-uniting-church/)

# Brown Hill Seniors

We celebrated the end of the year with a lunch at the Early Settlers.

We have started the new year by planning day-trips, guest speakers and our regular activities, including bowls, cards, bingo and community singing.

*Doreen Braebrook, Brown Hill Seniors Coordinator*  
5331 2157

[brownhill.vic.au/directory/brown-hill-senior-citizens-club/](http://brownhill.vic.au/directory/brown-hill-senior-citizens-club/)

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Present this Advertisement at **BAKERS DELIGHT BAKERY HILL** and receive a **FREE** Traditional Loaf (White, Wholemeal or Wholemeal Country Grain) when you purchase any 6 Pack of our delicious **HOT CROSS BUNS**

**Shop 6, 73 Victoria St, Bakery Hill Shopping Complex**  
Valid at Bakers Delight Bakery Hill only.





Image: One of Penthea's favourite things, her dog Franky.

## A Brown Hill Buddies Story

So I was nervous – it's a hard task knocking on a neighbour's door and interviewing them. My first impression was, "Wow, this is what their garden looks like from the front porch." I sat down with Penthea for 10 minutes and I have to say, having not met her before, it was really nice. I can at least say hello should our paths cross. I may not be knocking on her door borrowing sugar anytime soon but it was lovely to sit down with Penthea and get to know her a little. Tania

### **Where do you live in Brown Hill?**

We have lived close to one of my favourite buildings, the Barber shop, for three years. Previously, I lived overseas and in various states of Australia.

### **Why do you live in Brown Hill?**

We felt like we had to grow up and buy a house. We liked the houses and architecture. The people are fabulous here.

### **What makes living here different to Melbourne?**

You can be anywhere in five minutes in Ballarat.

### **What do you like most about Brown Hill?**

The creek, being able to walk down there or bike-ride near the train line. Also the Brown Hill Pool

- it's awesome, and great to not have to rely on our car to get there.

### **What do you like least about Brown Hill?**

The subdivisions in the area and lots of daggy and unattractive architecture.

### **As someone who knows about good food, where would you recommend I go to eat?**

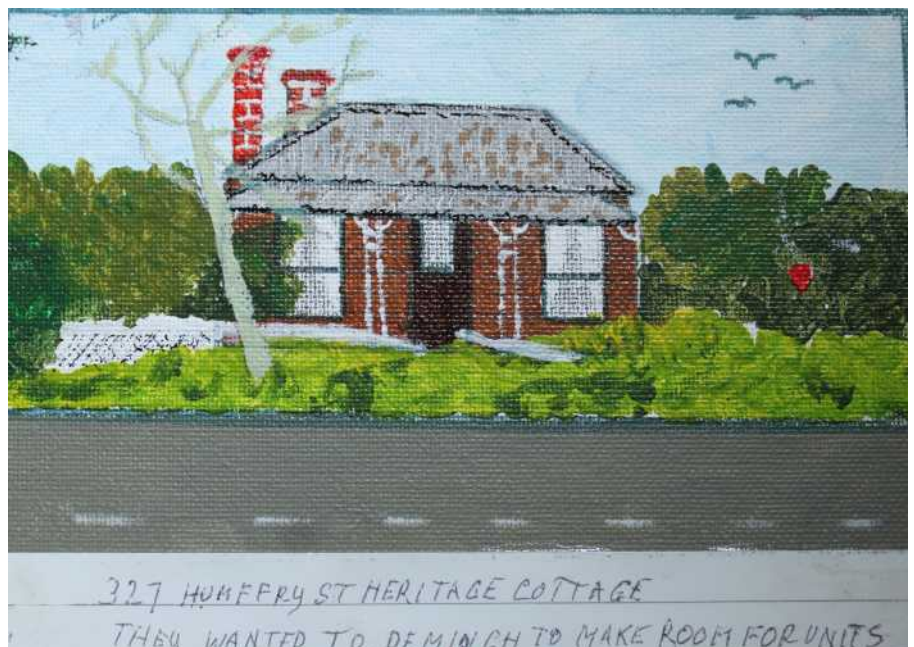
For an incredible meal: Catfish or Nouvelle Orleans.

For excellent coffee and a bagel: Fika.

For a great breakfast: Websters.

Tania and Penthea will both receive a voucher from Bakery Hill Bakers Delight. Find out more: [brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/brown-hill-buddies/](http://brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/brown-hill-buddies/)

**Sunday 25 March is Neighbour Day.** See: [neighbourday.org](http://neighbourday.org).



'327 Humffray Street North Heritage Cottage', painting by Brown Hill local, John Steenhuis. A finalist in the 2017 Brown Hill Community Festival Image Competition. John won a \$20 voucher donated by Thornton Richards Camera House. See: [brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-community-festival/image-competition/](http://brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-community-festival/image-competition/)

# Getting to know our Councillors

Brown Hill falls in the City of Ballarat's North and Central Wards. The North Ward is north and east of the Western Freeway and the Central Ward is to the west.

The six Councillors for Brown Hill are:

**Central Ward:** Belinda Coates, Mark Harris and Samantha McIntosh (Mayor).

**North Ward:** Amy Johnson, Daniel Moloney and Grant Tillett.

In late 2016, soon after the Council was elected, Caledonian Primary School grade five and six students came up with some questions for our Councillors, to help us learn more about them. We have included answers from five of our Councillors in previous editions. Read on to hear what our Mayor, Cr McIntosh has to say...

## **1. "What are your plans to clean up pollution and litter around Ballarat?" - Dylan**

It's really important that our parks and public spaces are clean, free from litter and pollution, and able to be used by everyone. We have crews that do regular clean-ups around our parks and waterways. But, just like at school, litter is something that we are all responsible for and can help with. If you see some papers on the ground at the park, you can always put them in the nearest bin. But if you see a really big mess at a park or in one of our creeks, you can always let Council know by calling our customer service team on 5320 5500.



*Image: Mayor Cr Samantha McIntosh. Image supplied.*

## **2. "Do you have any plans to make a new playground or improve current playgrounds?" - Laylah and Hayley**

We sure do! Laylah and Hayley, if you have a skateboard or a scooter, you'll be happy to know that we are working on a new junior skate park, especially for upper primary school kids, at the Len T Fraser Reserve, Main Road, Ballarat East. It will be separate from the main skate park at the same reserve and we're planning to open it by the middle of this year. Last year, we put in new equipment at eight playgrounds across Ballarat. We also keep an eye on the other playgrounds to make sure they are working well. If something is broken at a playground, you can always get your parents to call Council on 5320 5500 to let us know and we can send someone out to fix it.

## **3. "Do you plan to make Ballarat bigger?" - Jonnie and Zac**

All the information we have suggests that Ballarat is growing and will continue to grow in the

future.

As Mayor, I don't control that, but what the other Councillors and I keep an eye on is how well we, as a city, are planning for that growth. So we've tried to make sure that in areas where lots of new houses are planned, there are also plenty of the things that make those places good places to live. That means things like playgrounds, sports ovals and community buildings. It's also about making sure that trees get planted early along streets and parks and that they are looked after, so that there is plenty of shade just like in other parts of Ballarat.

## **4. "Do you support anyone in the Ballarat Football League?" - Jonnie and Zac**

We lived in the Ballarat East and Brown Hill area for several years, particularly in our children's primary school days. My sons played for East Ballarat and went to school at Villa Maria. So I guess I've always followed the red white and blue!!!

## **5. "What do you think of the kids of this generation?" - Xander**

In a way that's hard to answer, because everyone is different. One thing that stands out is that most young people understand technology in a natural way, whereas people of my generation have had to learn about and adapt to it – I'm still learning! That can help you build up really useful skills that you'll use as an adult, and can lead to new and better ways of doing things. While that's great, I think it's also important for kids to take time out from technology as well. Make sure you get some time to walk outside, be active or play sport.



**6. "What do you like about Ballarat?" - Ben**

Where do you start, Ben? I love our heritage buildings, our beautiful tree-lined streets and Lake Wendouree. I love that we have all the services and shops that are in a big city, but with less traffic!

I love that even though we are a growing city of more than 100,000 people now, Ballarat still has a country town feel. One of the things I am most passionate about is that we make sure we retain these things that make Ballarat great even as our city grows.

**7. "Are you going to introduce any more big events to Ballarat?" - Abbie and Emily**

We're always looking for great events to bring to Ballarat. Perhaps you were able to go to the Western Bulldogs AFL match at Mars Stadium last year, or maybe White Night, when our beautiful city buildings were lit up with colour? These were held for the first time in 2017 and both are back this year, so that's great. In January we had the Cycling Road Nationals in Sturt Street and at Buninyong, which were really exciting too. If you've got ideas about what sort of events Ballarat should have, please let us know!

**8. "What new ideas do you have for Ballarat?" - Abbie and Emily**

My Councillor colleagues and I want to make Ballarat an even better place to live and work in the future. That means we want to see more jobs and more businesses invest in our city, so, for instance, we're working to attract new businesses to our 'Ballarat West Employment Zone'. It also means

we want to be a city where it is easy to be fit, healthy and active, so we are investing in projects at our sports grounds and facilities across the city. We want to be a city that respects our heritage and keeps the things we love about our city while we grow. These might not sound exciting to you right now, but I hope that when you have finished school or university, they will be things that make it easy for you to stay or perhaps move back to Ballarat!

**9. "Are you going to improve the pathways around Ballarat? It would really help people to get around more and become more fit." - James**

I couldn't agree more, James. Every year Council builds new footpath sections across the city, as well as fixing up some of our older paths. How do we work out where to put new paths? We give priority to areas where we expect there will be lots of people walking through, like near schools and shops. We also work with VicRoads, which manages some of the major roads in our city, to add things called 'tactile ground surface indicators' (bumps that look a bit like Lego) on paths across the city. These bumps are used to inform vision-impaired people that they are nearing an obstacle, such as an intersection or step.

**10. "Could you build elevated tram lines around Ballarat?" - James**

Did you know that many years ago Ballarat had trams that ran along Sturt Street and some of our other central Ballarat streets? Council looks after local roads, but public transport, such as buses and trains, is run by the State Government, so you'd need to talk

to them about that. At the moment we have buses that I think do a pretty good job of getting people around Ballarat.

Contact Mayor Cr Samantha McIntosh: 5320 5528  
samanthamcintosh@ballarat.vic.gov.au

## Wholesome Wholefoods

### BWC Members

With an added bonus of also being able to shop at Creswick Wholefoods, joining the BWC is a great investment. The initial cost of membership is \$50, with a \$20 renewal every June. Members are required to volunteer 2 hours of their time assisting with the running of the BWC per year. New members are always welcome.

### New vacuum

In 2017, the BWC was included in Grill'd Ballarat's 'Local Matters' program. As a result, BWC received a voucher for \$100. It was invested on a new cordless vacuum and steam mop, which will make cleaning easier for members.

### Boomerang Bags

Boomerang Bags Ballarat will have their launch on Wednesday 28 February at the Healthy Hub Wellness Centre.

Their next sewing-bee will be on Wednesday 21 February from 6.00 pm at the Brown Hill Cricket Clubrooms, 1 Reid Court. All welcome! Join us if you can sew, iron, pin or make coffee. Material donations are also welcome to be dropped off at Hattie and the Wolf (218A Skipton St, Ballarat Central), The Healthy Hub Wellness Centre (100 Bridge Mall, Ballarat),

Merimu (2A Michaels Drive, Alfredton) or BWC (details below).



The new Ballarat Wholefoods Collective recipe book. Image: Sophie Welton

### New Wholefoods Recipe Book

Here are two great recipes from the recently-released Ballarat Wholefoods Collective (BWC) recipe book, which costs \$15 for members and \$18 for non-members. The recipe books are for sale from BWC. If local business owners are able to put the recipe books into their businesses, that would be fantastic. Please call 0419 898 286 to arrange a drop off.

### Tzatziki Dip

Recipe by Magic Meadows

#### Ingredients

- \* 3 large cucumbers, dice, salt and leave overnight
- \* 3 cloves garlic (roasted is best) or garlic chives
- \* 30 mls apple cider vinegar
- \* 40 mls olive oil
- \* 1 tbsp dill
- \* 500 mls pot-set Greek yoghurt – full-fat (Inglenook yoghurt is available from BWC)

#### Directions

\*Once cucumbers are left to drain overnight, mix all other ingredients together then add to yoghurt.

Great to use instead of butter in a sandwich.

### Pasta Ponza

Recipe by Moonambel Gap

#### Ingredients

- \* 2 cups cherry tomatoes
- \* Sea salt and pepper
- \* 1 tsp Moonambel capers
- \* 1/2 cup dried breadcrumbs
- \* Olive oil



Tomato season! Image: Sophie Welton

- \* Penne pasta
- \* 1 & 1/4 cup parmesan cheese, grated

**Annual Harvest Festival**  
**Ballarat Community Garden**  
**Corner of Queen St & Dyte Parade**  
**Ballarat East**  
**Sunday 4th March 2018**  
**11am until 3pm**

**Enjoy a fun family day out with music and food, plants and produce, artworks and gardening talks. Learn about wood craft and bees and a whole lot more.**

ballaratcommunitygarden.org.au



\* Parsley, to garnish

#### Directions

1. Place halved cherry tomatoes in buttered baking dish, season with sea salt and pepper.
2. Top the tomatoes with capers and breadcrumbs. Drizzle with olive oil.
3. Bake at 200°C for 30 minutes, giving a golden brown crust.
4. Boil the pasta in salted water.
5. Mix the cheese and baked ingredients into drained pasta and toss.
6. Serve with a drizzle of olive oil and garnish with parsley.

*These recipes were first published in the Ballarat Wholefoods Collective recipe book, released in 2017*

Seasonal Local Organic Wholefoods  
Brown Hill Cricket Club  
9.00 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 7.00 pm  
Wednesdays (school term only)  
[ballaratwholefoodscollective.org](http://ballaratwholefoodscollective.org)

Wendy Aston, Ballarat Wholefoods  
Collective

## Harvest Festival

Ballarat Community Garden's 2018 Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday 4 March from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm. This is our open day to allow visitors to view our gardens, and talk with our gardeners. On this day, we invite the wider community to come and celebrate gardening and the bounty of the harvest with garden members. This event is a fundraiser for us, but more importantly, a chance to spread the word of the joys of gardening and associated activities. We will have food and



Image L to R: Sarah (friend), Louise Jones (nee Busija) (manager), James (2), Kathryn (officer), Lewis (2 ½), Natasha (friend), Felicity (2 ½), Shahan (friend).  
Photographer: Louise Jones.

drinks, entertainment, a raffle, a plant sale, a produce sale, kids' activities and demonstrations.

The Community Garden's 'Local Produce Swap' is a wonderful opportunity to meet people and do some great produce swapping. Swaps are held on the first Saturday of the month at 9.30 am at the Community Garden, corner of Queen Street and Dyte Parade, Ballarat East.

Sheilagh Kentish. Ballarat Community  
Garden volunteer

A place to connect, grow and learn  
[ballaratcommunitygarden.org.au/  
the-harvest-festival/](http://ballaratcommunitygarden.org.au/the-harvest-festival/)

Ballarat Community Garden

## Celebrating Brown Hill Business

Long-time Brown Hill resident Louise Jones celebrated a milestone recently with the first birthday of the Ballarat Family Guide (BFG). Providing information to local & visiting parents, the Ballarat Family Guide

offers an online hub of information and publishes a quarterly magazine.

What originally started as a hobby through her networks as a youth mentor and school tutor, quickly became a passion, taking her I.T. career on a whole new adventure. Now through advertising and sponsored content the BFG is able to support local charities and organisations close to her heart each month. Most recently they have donated school supplies to Woodmans Hill and the Ballarat Toy Library.

Working with a team of three, Louise says the Ballarat Family Guide and the magazine have evolved from a simple blog to an informative, inspirational and empowering publication for mums and dads all over Ballarat. But with Brown Hill in her heart, there will always be a slight bias towards the east of Ballarat.

If you'd like to check out the guides or read the magazine online, visit [ballaratfamilyguide.com.au](http://ballaratfamilyguide.com.au) or keep an eye out for the magazine in some local businesses around Brown Hill.

# Brown Hill Businesses

In the April 2018 edition of the newsletter, we plan to print a summary of the 87 Brown Hill businesses, 41 community groups and 20 sporting groups that are listed on the Brown Hill Community Online Hub ([brownhill.vic.au/directory/](http://brownhill.vic.au/directory/)). If you have a business or group listed, please check that the details are up to date before **Tuesday 3 April**.

If there are businesses or groups that are based in Brown Hill (or businesses owned by a Brown Hill local) which are not listed on the Hub, please let us know so that we can include them.

Updates should be sent to [directory@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:directory@brownhill.vic.au) by **Tuesday 3 April**.

Here is the current list of those businesses included on the Brown Hill Online Community Hub ([brownhill.vic.au/directory/](http://brownhill.vic.au/directory/)):

## Businesses

**Accommodation:** Ballarat Family Accommodation, Ballarat Primavera, Gateway Lifestyle Ballarat - Holiday Park and Retirement Village. **Animals:** Dazzlin Doggie Country Village - Kennels and Cattery, Golden Leash Dog Walking & Pet Services. **Art:** Fairweather Studio. **Automotive Services:** Carthy's Car Detailing and Car Care Products, M & J Automotive Upholstery, Rick Penhall Smash Repairs. **Building Materials Suppliers:** Barton Engineering & Construction, Brown Hill Glass & Glazing D.M. Beaumont Pty Ltd - Sheet Metal Fabricators & Air Conditioning

Engineers, B Craggs Concreting, Excavation and Tipper Hire.

**Building Services:** Classic Building Solutions, Josh Ryan Carpentry, Ludbrooks Joinery, RG & SJ Damen - registered building practitioner, Tinetti Building Services. **Business Services:** AC Accounting & Business Solutions, Barbara Berndt, Finance Broker, Carly Burke - Property Lawyer, Ballarat Lawyers, Plus One Bookkeeping & Business Solutions.

### Domestic & Commercial

**Earthmoving:** AB Earthmoving & Civil, DL Earthworks Pty Ltd.

**Education:** Early Childhood Resources: Handmade, Recycled.

**Electrical Services:** Austrel Switchgear Pty Ltd, GL Szalontai, Graham Greene TV, Hodge Electrical, Wynter Electrical.

**Environment:** Fifteen Trees.

**Equipment Hire:** Arrow Home Entertainment. **Family:** Ballarat Family Guide, Leanne Westblade Facepainter. **Farm & Pet**

**Supplies:** Mega Merch Rural & Pet. **Farm Machinery:** Cervus Equipment Ballarat - Local John Deere Dealer. **Fitness:** Lisa

Paterson - Personal Trainer. **Floor coverings:** Floored by Hagen.

**Florists and Nurseries:** Boronia Exclusive Florists, Emoh Ruo Plant Nursery, Jeanette Cubitt - Florist - weddings & receptions, Reus Nursery - specialising in wedding and reception flowers. **Food -**

**Catering:** Emz Cakes & Catering, Small Stuff 103, Baker's Delight Bakery Hill, Brown Hill Fish and Chip Shop, Brown Hill Hotel, Little Square's Garage. **Food and drink:** Olde Ballarat Fresh Country Eggs, Queens Head Hotel, Start Cafe, Vegas and Rose Online Shop, Weightman's Quality Meats Wilson's Fruit and Vegetables.

**Furniture:** Penny Lane Recycled Furniture. **General Stores:** Brown

Hill Mixed Business, Humffray Street General Store. **Gifts and**

**greeting cards:** Independent Phoenix Trader, Julie's Quality Haberdashery and Giftware, The littlest j Handmade Jewellery.

**Health and beauty:** Belladaise Beauty, Brown Hill Barber, Dhyana Yoga Studio, Essential Care by Wendy, Sanative Massage, Topaz Hair Design, Zu Hairdressing and Beauty Bar. **Health Services:** A

Way With Words - Speech Pathologist. **Home help service:** Flat Pack Mack. **Home**

**improvement:** Shannon Berriman Fencing. **IT and Graphic Design:** Buzzing Designs, Michael Blythe Communication Arts, Sturm Software Engineering.

**Laundromat and clothing:** Brown Hill Laundromat, Peppercorn Clothing Alterations.

**Machinery:** Eureka Trailers - Sales & Service. **Mowing and gardening:** Adrian Gardening and Mowing, Ballarat Treeworks, Bruce Wilson Grass Slashing. **Music Teachers:** Jess Schaefer, Piano Teacher, Jock and Sasha Freeman Piano Teaching.

**Photography:** Rebecca McLean Wedding & Portrait Photography.

**Plumbing:** Jason Carey LAB Plumbing, K & S Foyster Plumbing.

**Storage:** Ballarat Advanced Self Storage. **Transport:** Caledonian Transport.

## Community Groups

**Art:** Ballarat Society of Artists.

**Church:** Ballarat Full Gospel Fellowship, Brown Hill Uniting Church. **Community:** Alcoholics Anonymous, Brown Hill & District Lioness Club, Brown Hill & District Lions Club, Brown Hill Community



Newsletter Committee, Brown Hill Partnership Group, Brown Hill Progress Association (and Swimming Pool Committee), Brown Hill Public Hall, Brown Hill Senior Citizen's Club, Brown Hill Uniting Church Opportunity Shop, Coorabin Estate Community Group, Orchard Estate Community Group, Russell Square User Group.

**Education:** Brown Hill Kindergarten, Caledonian Primary School, Glen Park Primary School, Little Bendigo Primary School, Saint Francis Xavier Primary School, St Alipius Primary School, Warrenheip Primary School, Woodmans Hill. **Environment:** Ballarat Environment Network, Brown Hill Community FireAware Network, Friends of the Yarrowee River, Wattle Flat – Pootilla Landcare Group, Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group. **Family:** Ballarat and District Multiple Birth Association Playgroup (members only group), Caledonian Playgroup. **Food:** Ballarat Wholefoods Collective, Brown Hill 'Food is Free'. **Music:** Federation University Pipe Band, U3A (University of the 3rd Age) - Recorder Group. **Youth:** Eureka Butterfly Guides (6-11 year olds)

**Venues:** Brown Hill Public Hall, Brown Hill Uniting Church Hall, Caledonian Primary School Multipurpose Hall, Russell Square Hall.

## Sporting and Activity Groups

**Athletics:** Eureka Athletic Club. **Bowls:** Bungaree Bowling Club, Victoria Bowling Club. **Cricket:** Ballarat Cricket Umpires

Association, Brown Hill Cricket Club Inc., East Ballarat Cricket Club. **Dance:** Ballarat Highland Dancers, Ballarat Rockers (Rock & Roll Dancing), Boots-N-All Line Dance, Eldorado Line Dance, Parents Without Partners Dance, Top Katz Rockers, Wendouree Dance Club Inc.. **Fitness:** Anywhere Personal Training, Heart Moves. **Football/Netball:** Ballarat Masters Football Club, Ballarat Touch Football Association, East Point Bulldogs Junior Football Netball Club. **Martial Arts:** Ballarat Kenpo Karate Concepts, GKR Karate, South East Australia Taekwondo. **Soccer:** Ballarat North United Soccer Club. **Venues:** Brown Hill Reserve, Russell Square.

A full list with contact details will be printed in the April edition.

## Advertise with us!

We are pleased to offer limited advertising in the Brown Hill Community Newsletter. Visit [brownhill.vic.au/newsletter](http://brownhill.vic.au/newsletter) to find out more. Contact: [newsletter@brownhill.vic.au](mailto:newsletter@brownhill.vic.au)

## Brown Hill Community Newsletter

This publication is a community project of the Brown Hill Progress Association and is supported by the City of Ballarat through the Engaging Communities Program/Brown Hill Partnership.

It is published bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October and November.

Editorial Advisory Committee: Brian Green, Geoff Dickson, Sarah Greenwood-Smith and Tania Busse. Proof reader: Jock Freeman.

Local volunteers distribute the newsletter to all businesses and residences in Brown Hill, with additional copies available for collection at businesses and community hubs around Brown Hill. Electronic copies are also available on the Brown Hill Online Community Hub: [brownhill.vic.au](http://brownhill.vic.au).

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

**Edition 12 submission** are due by **Tuesday 3 April 2018**. Please read the editorial policy regarding contributions before submitting an article. Go to [brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/](http://brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/) for details. The views expressed or information provided in this publication are not necessarily those of the Brown Hill Community Newsletter Committee, the Brown Hill Progress Association or the City of Ballarat, including any officers, members, agents or contractors.

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*... continued from page 1:*

We held two processing days last year where we made fruit into preserves and attended two markets to raise money and awareness about THO.

### ***Do you visit any properties in Brown Hill?***

At the moment we only have one property that we regularly visit in Brown Hill. Luckily for us, the owner, Pat Green, is happy for us to pick all her lovely figs, as otherwise they get eaten by her dog!

She has a Weimaraner that can stand on its hind legs and reach the fruit and has a tendency to get a little overweight during summer because of it. I'm more than happy to take the figs off her hands, though I always have the dog watching me through the back door!

Pat also has a plum tree that she doesn't want harvested, as she keeps those for herself. She has a persimmon that we will be harvesting for THO when it is ripe.

We recently had another lead for an apple tree in Brown Hill.

### ***What do you do with the fruit?***

The Hidden Orchard follow the thirds rule, dividing the fruit equally between the tree owner, the volunteers, and the

community. However, most of the time, the tree owners have no desire for the fruit and we end up giving more to the community.

Our go-to for small harvests is the 'Food is Free' (FIF) Laneway in Central Ballarat. FIF is a brilliant initiative that we love supporting. When we deliver fruit there we know that it is being accessed by the wider Ballarat community.

We have also delivered fruit to local distribution agencies via Ballarat Community Health, Norman Street Salvation Army, Wendouree Neighbourhood Centre and to school breakfast programs.

Some of the fruit we harvest cannot be eaten fresh, like cooking apples, damson plums, quinces, etc. If we harvest an excess of these kinds of fruits, we keep them and process them into preserves which we then sell to raise money for THO.

### ***What about fruit that is on the ground?***

We try and get to fruit before it drops but sometimes that just isn't possible. Damaged fruit is often collected and taken to a local free-range pig farm, or home to feed volunteers' chickens or add to their compost heaps. We have also delivered some loads of damaged fruit to the Ballarat Wildlife Park.

### ***How frequently do you visit a tree?***

How frequently we visit a tree depends on the type of fruit and the owner. Some trees may only need visiting once a year, when all their fruit ripens at once. Other trees, like figs, ripen slowly in batches and may require a visit every couple of weeks. Often, properties will have more than one type of fruit tree, which need visits at different times.

We often rely on property owners to contact us once their fruit is ripening, but sometimes we see fruit ripening or dropping as we are driving around town and will attempt to contact the owners.

### ***Do you do anything else with the trees? Pruning etc.?***

At the moment we are focusing on harvesting and building up our registers of fruit trees, volunteers, and recipients. When we are fully up and running, we hope to do some pruning training and offer pruning services and workshops, so watch this space!

### ***What is your favourite tree to pick from? Which ones are difficult?***

My favourite tree to pick from is definitely my local fig tree. Figs are quite easy to pick, though they can be a challenge to spot amongst the leaves!



## **PERSONAL TRAINER Stephen Holmes**

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A lot of fruit trees in Ballarat are well-established which means they can be incredibly high. Often, we can't reach the tops of the trees and a little fruit is left for the birds. There is a quince tree in central Ballarat that grows very large fruit. Often, the fruit is too big to fit in our pickers' claws and getting it down can be a challenge!

#### **Any messages for people living in Brown Hill?**

We would love to see some more fruit trees be registered from Brown Hill, as well as more volunteers. Being a Brown Hill local, I'm keen to meet more people from my local community and build stronger relationships here. It would be great to get some local volunteers who can help us with local harvests and see bonds within our community created and strengthened.

The Hidden Orchard is about redistributing unloved fruit, but it's about much more than that - it's about getting people out into their community, getting some

sun and a little exercise, chatting to others that have similar interests in community, food, waste or the environment. It's a free activity that allows you to give back while also going home with new friends and a share of the harvest.

#### **What sort of training do your volunteers need?**

Our volunteers don't need any training or special skills. It is really useful if volunteers are able to climb ladders but we have jobs appropriate for pretty much any skill set.

If anyone has pruning knowledge or even administration skills in areas such as social media, promotion, design, etc., we'd love to hear from them, but we will happily take volunteers of any shape or size!

#### **How can people get involved?**

Through our website, [hiddenorchard.org](http://hiddenorchard.org), anyone who is involved with a community group or food charity that would like to register to receive fruit can sign

up.

People can also register fruit trees that they own or know of on our website and/or register as volunteers.

*Ellen Burns, founding member of The Hidden Orchard*

[hiddenorchard.org](http://hiddenorchard.org)

[thehiddenorchard@gmail.com](mailto:thehiddenorchard@gmail.com)

#### **Food is Free and The Hidden Orchard**

"The connection Food Is Free Inc. has with The Hidden Orchard makes so much sense. They are all such passionate, dedicated lovers of local produce and warriors when it comes to combating waste - just like our dear volunteers at Food Is Free Inc. We love Kris and her team dropping off produce in abundance to our Laneway site, as it ticks all the boxes of food security, community and promotion of a waste-free society. We applaud what they do and recognise them as a vital local group of wondrously community-minded people." *Lou Ridsdale - Food Is Free Inc. Founder & Director, finalist in the 2018 City of Ballarat's Australia Day Awards for Citizen of the Year.* [foodisfree.com.au](http://foodisfree.com.au)



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# Starting school



Image: Ivy at Caledonian Primary School.

## Ivy's first day

On 5 February 2018, the Preps started at Caledonian Primary School. Ivy said that she enjoyed her first day at Caledonian and she especially enjoyed meeting her friends.

**What is your favourite thing so far?**

Just outside my classroom there is a place called 'Developmental Play'. In Developmental Play, there are lots of areas to play in, like the Crafting Area, Lego Area, School Area, and many more, but my favourite area is the Sensory Area where I can touch and play with what's on the table.

**What do you think school will be like?**

I really liked my first day of school

because it was really fun. I think that school will be really fun in the future as well. I think that I will really like reading and writing. My buddy showed me around the school and I think she is very nice.

**What did you do at play time?**

At recess and lunch plays, my older brother Hugh likes to check

up on me. I have made many friends at school. We like to play in the playground and my buddy likes to play with me. My favourite thing to do in the playground is to go on the bumpy slide.

*By Alana & Connor, Grade Six, Caledonian Primary School*

## Mabel starts school

"Hello I'm Mabel and we have a pup called Chloe. She is a 12-week-old French Poodle."

That was the beginning of my quick chat with my five-year-old neighbour who has just started in Prep at St. Francis Xavier Primary School in Ballarat East (Villa Maria).

"I sit next to my new best friend Emily. The most special thing on my first day of school was having

my school photo taken. We have many animals at my school; an outside duck who is "the postman", chickens and three goats." A first for a Ballarat school, I'm sure!

Mabel said, "We play footy at recess times up on the top oval or play in the sandpatch."

When asked what was in her lunch box, Mabel reported, "A carrot muffin and a cheese and bacon roll. Also, my favourite fruits which are watermelon and bananas (but don't eat too many or you will be sick)."

Mabel told me, "We do fun stuff with Ms Conroy, my nice teacher. Art and making a book to take home and read. Can I read to you Brian?"

So the journey begins...

*Brian Green, Brown Hill Community Newsletter Committee*



Image: Mabel's first day at St. Francis Xavier Primary School. Image supplied.