

Brown Hill Community Newsletter

Edition 12, April 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.



Steve Burns, manager of the Ballarat Market at Lake Wendouree, is bringing the market to Brown Hill later this year.

Brown Hill Market is coming!

We're excited to announce that the Brown Hill Market, based at the Brown Hill Hall on Humffray Street North, will kick-off in the second half of 2018.

Market manager and Ballarat local, Steve Burns, has been managing the Ballarat Farmers' Market at Lake Wendouree twice a month for nearly four years and says, "It's time for a change." Steve's plan is to keep the Ballarat Farmers' Market at Lake Wendouree on the second Saturday of each month. The change will be in moving the market to Brown Hill on the fourth Saturday of each month, later in 2018.

Steve says, "There are over 70 active stallholders attending the

market at Lake Wendouree and they are very excited about the move to Brown Hill once a month." Currently, about a third of the stallholders attend every market at Lake Wendouree, with the rest attending seasonally or once a month.

At Lake Wendouree, the market held on the fourth Saturday is the bigger of the two, having over 50 stalls in peak months. Mr Burns says, "Once-a-month markets do very well because people in the local area make a special effort to set that day aside to come along. Although the markets at Lake Wendouree have been growing steadily over the last few years, research suggests that splitting one market away from the site will be a benefit to both markets.

Diary Dates

See brownhill.vic.au for details.

APRIL

All month: Active April (p.22)

Saturday 14: 9.00 am - 12.00 noon, Brown Hill Uniting Church Annual Mini-Fair and Car Boot Sale (p.19)

Sunday 15: 8.45 - 10.30 am, Brunch with Brown Hill Birds (p.15)

Monday 16: School Term Two begins

Tuesday 17: 7.30 pm, Brown Hill Hall Committee meeting. Brown Hill Hall (rear). All welcome. (p.8)

...continued p.2

Also, although the Lake Wendouree precinct is a magnificent location on a good day, the cold wet weather in mid-Winter hits us badly."

Steve told us that, "The fourth Saturday in March this year was a perfect example; we had 90 minutes of rain in the early morning and the market was very quiet for the day. If we'd had sufficient undercover space, not only would most of our stallholders have traded unaffected, but we'd have had extra customers, because people would know that we are an all-weather event and would have come to us instead of other outdoor markets. We've been

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Wednesday 18: 7.00 - 8.00 pm,
Beeswax Wraps Workshop,
Ballarat Wholefoods Collective,
Brown Hill Cricket Club (p.15)

Wednesday 25: ANZAC Day

Saturday 28: 8.30 - 10.30 am,
Men's Breakfast, Brown Hill
Uniting Church (p.19)

Saturday 28: 10.00 am - 12.00
noon, Brown Hill Kindergarten
Open Day (p.9)

MAY

1-31: Plate Up Ballarat - Food
Festival. See:
plateupballarat.com.au

Tuesday 1: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill
Progress Association meeting,
Brown Hill Hall (rear). All
welcome

Wednesday 2: 11.00 am - 1.00 pm,
Ballarat Wholefoods Collective
Open Day and 'Meet the
Producers' event (p.15)

Wednesday 9: 5.00 pm,
expressions of interest for Ballarat
Local Area Plan Working Group
due (p.3)

Wednesday 9: 6.00 - 8.00 pm,
Boomerang Bags Ballarat
Workshop, Brown Hill Cricket
Club (p.16)

Sunday 13: Mothers' Day

Sunday 20: 2.00 - 4.00 pm, Brown
Hill Volunteer Celebration (p.5)

Monday 21 - Sunday 27: National
Volunteering Week (p.5)

Tuesday 22: Kindergarten to Prep
(2019) Transition information
evening for families, Caledonian
Primary School (p.10)

Saturday 26 - Sunday 27:
Ballarat Heritage Weekend. See:
ballaratheritageweekend.com.

Tuesday 29: 6.00 - 8.00 pm, first
Community Working Group
meeting for Brown Hill Local Area
Plan (p.3)

Thursday 31: 5.00 pm,
Applications close for the Solar
Communities Program (p.19)

JUNE

Monday 4: 5.00 pm, Brown Hill
Local Area Plan Community
Survey closes (p.3)

Tuesday 5: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill
Progress Association meeting,
Brown Hill Hall (rear). All
welcome

Tuesday 5: Submissions for
Edition 13 of the Brown Hill
Community Newsletter due (p.18)

Monday 11: Queen's Birthday

Wednesday 13: 6.00 - 8.00 pm,
Boomerang Bags Ballarat
Workshop, Brown Hill Cricket
Club (p.16)

Friday 15: Edition 13 of the Brown
Hill Community Newsletter
distribution begins

Saturday 16: 8.00 pm Top Katz
Rockers present, 'Who Was That
Cat?', Brown Hill Hall (p.21)

Friday 29: School Term Two ends

JULY

Monday 16: School Term Three
begins

Tuesday 31: 6.00 - 8.00 pm,
second Community Working
Group meeting for Brown Hill
Local Area Plan (p.3)

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 Hall
(p.18)

Brown Hill Lionesses Club: first
Monday - business meeting

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.15)

Caledonian Playgroup: 9.00 am -
11.00 am during school term,
Caledonian Primary School. See:
[brownhill.vic.au/directory/caledo-
nian-playgroup/](http://brownhill.vic.au/directory/caledonian-playgroup/)

Brown Hill Uniting Church: 1.30 pm,
mid-week Communion in the Hall
followed by afternoon tea (p.19)

Brown Hill Lions Club: 7.00 pm.
Second Wednesday - business
meeting. Fourth Wednesday -
social dinner meeting.

Thursdays

Brown Hill Uniting Church: 1.30 pm -
3.30 pm, Craft Group on the first
and third Thursday each month
(p.19)

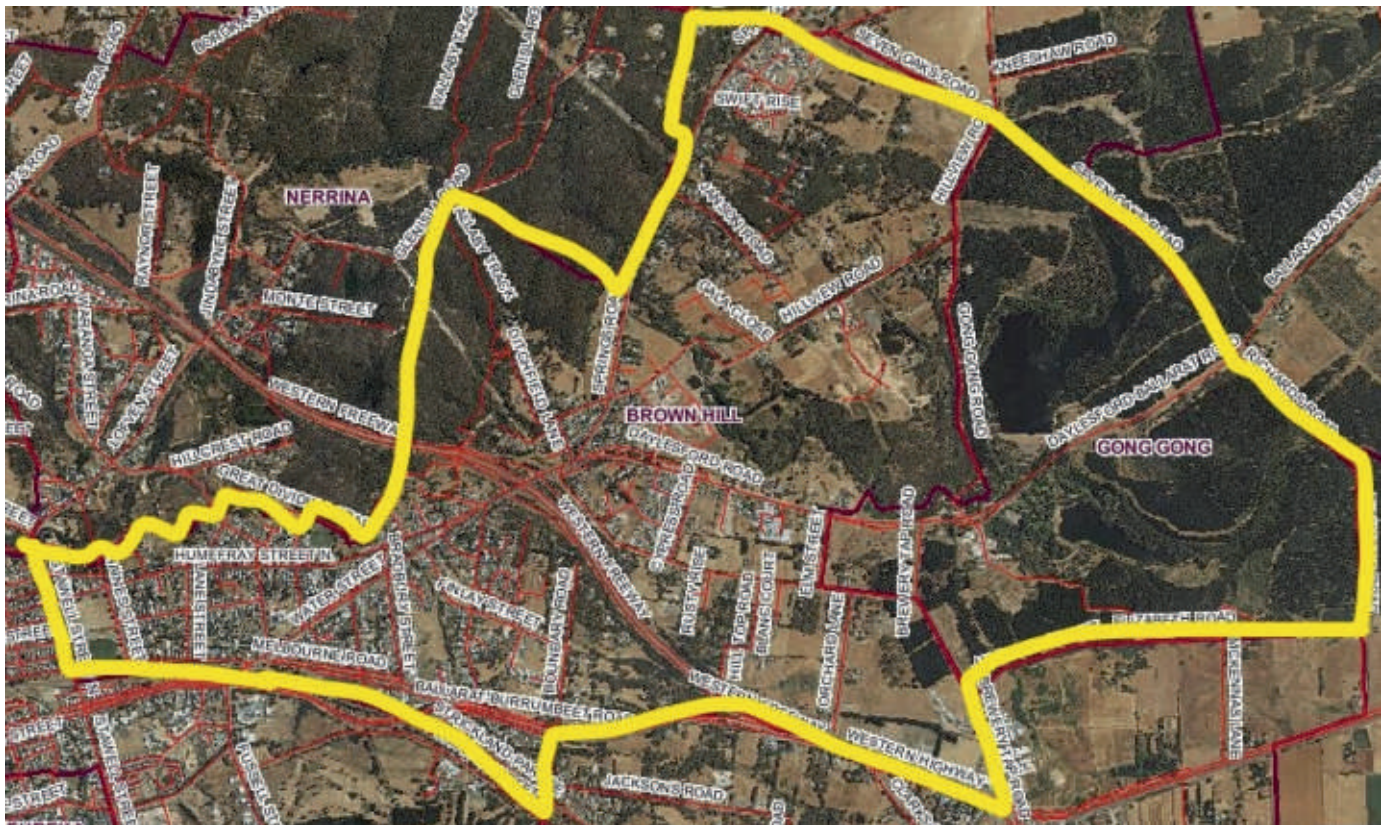
Brown Hill Uniting Church Op. Shop:
9.30 - 12.30 pm. Corner of
Humffray Street North &
Thompson Street (behind Church)

Fridays

Brown Hill Uniting Church Op. Shop:
open, as above.

Saturdays

Ballarat Community Gardens: 9.30
am, first Saturday each month,
Local Produce Swap. Corner of
Queen Street and Dyte Parade,
Ballarat East (p.12)



Map of the project area for the Brown Hill Local Area Plan and Infrastructure Assessment project, including the suburbs of Brown Hill and Gong Gong. Supplied by Stephanie Durant, City of Ballarat's Strategic Planning Team.

In this edition

Welcome to Edition 12, jam-packed with interesting news and stories about Brown Hill. From the excitement of a monthly market coming to the Hall (p.1), to the next step of engaging our community through the Local Area Plan project (p.3), there is never a dull moment.

All Brown Hill volunteers are invited to join the celebration on the eve of National Volunteer Week (p.5). Come and be recognised!

We hope you like the new design of our Brown Hill Community Online Hub (brownhill.vic.au). Have a look at the online directory too. Hard copies are coming soon (p.11).

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

Local Area Plan

Brown Hill Local Area Plan and Infrastructure Assessment

Following on from the work achieved through the community-led 'Engaging Communities Program', the City of Ballarat will continue to partner with local residents to develop the 'Brown Hill Local Area Plan and Infrastructure Assessment' project (the Plan).

The Plan will provide an integrated framework for the provision of infrastructure, open spaces and other key community assets to help better protect valued community and environmental features and manage the rapid growth occurring in the area.

Key Objectives

The key objectives of the project

are to:

1. Develop a comprehensive, integrated and realistic Local Area Plan that builds on identified community values, landscape character and a detailed understanding of issues and opportunities.
2. Develop a strategic vision based on achieving liveability, resilience and knowledge of local issues.
3. Develop and test future growth option scenarios with consideration of appropriate character, form, density, infrastructure needs and staging of development.
4. Develop a framework, infrastructure and prioritised implementation plan for a preferred growth option scenario.
5. Recommend regulatory and non-regulatory measures to protect values where required.

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6. Document local planning scheme policy and controls to implement the vision and plan, as required.

Project boundaries

The geographic scope of the project is defined by the suburb boundaries of Brown Hill and Gong Gong. Gong Gong has been included due to the strong environmental linkages between the two suburbs and because of the several significant land uses which straddle the shared boundary between them.

Get involved

The community is encouraged to share their thoughts about Brown Hill and complete a short survey. The survey closes at 5.00 pm on Monday 4 June 2018.

Surveys are available online at <https://mysay.ballarat.vic.gov.au/> and hard copies can be obtained from City of Ballarat Customer Service Centre, located at The Phoenix building, 25 Armstrong Street South, Ballarat.

Expression of Interest

Brown Hill Local Area Plan Community Working Group

Council is also seeking expressions of interest in being involved with a community working group for the Local Area Plan. The purpose of the community working group will be to provide in-depth feedback at two key stages in the project. Council is looking to establish a group that represents a broad cross-section of the community including residents, developers, business owners and members of local community groups.

The community working group

will consist of a maximum of 30 people and members of the group will be required to attend two two-hour focus group sessions on Tuesday 29 May 2018 and Tuesday 31 July between 6.00 and 8.00 pm at a location in Brown Hill.

If you would like to be considered for selection, or wish to nominate someone else to be part of the community working group, please register online at <https://mysay.ballarat.vic.gov.au/> or call 5320 5689.

Expressions of interest close at **5.00 pm on Wednesday 9 May 2018.**

For more information, please contact Stephanie Durant from the City of Ballarat's Strategic Planning Team on 5320 5689 or stephaniedurant@ballarat.vic.gov.au.

*Stephanie Durant, City of Ballarat's
Strategic Planning Team*

Engaging Communities Review

On Thursday 5 April, the City of Ballarat launched a report summarising the achievements of the City of Ballarat's Engaging Communities Program, in which Brown Hill took part. Over two years \$200,000 was invested in Brown Hill to seed a number of community-inspired and community-led projects. Several of the projects were used to leverage funding from other sources, bringing the total investment in Brown Hill to \$745,217.

Six members from the Brown Hill Partnership attended the review, held at the Community Hub in Lucas. Brown Hill Progress

Association's Vice President, Ian Fullerton, was the guest speaker, highlighting the success of the program in Brown Hill. He spoke about the way in which the Program helped to bring together individuals and groups in Brown Hill for the good of the community, through projects such as the Brown Hill Community Newsletter, Online Hub, Festival and Hall Redevelopment.

The City of Ballarat's Mayor, Cr Samantha McIntosh, spoke about the success of the Program. She said, "It's a story of community empowerment and achievement over the past six years. Back in 2012, council decided to take a different approach to working with local communities across the municipality. One of its most important aspects was an emphasis on listening to those communities and what they wanted to see happen in their local areas."

The Mayor said, "The benefits of this are obvious: everyone takes ownership of the projects, local knowledge can help solve problems before they arise and community input can refine works to make sure they hit the mark."

The feedback about the Program reflects the difference this approach made. One participant said, "Now council will go out and ask, 'What do you want?' before starting something, instead of coming out with a developed plan and asking, 'What do you think?'"

Mayor McIntosh spoke of one of the intangible but very real benefits of this program. She said, "In all the locations in which the Engaging Communities Program has been introduced, the benefits did not stop when the buildings



Brown Hill Progress Association's Vice President, Ian Fullerton and the City of Ballarat's Mayor, Cr Samantha McIntosh with the report. Supplied by Cr McIntosh.

were painted, the trees planted and signage installed. Members of the partnership groups have told us that the connections forged through the program have had an enduring impact on the places where they live. One participant said the program "... had brought about a sense of renewal which had nothing to do with the money." And another "... things are still happening even though the program has finished, because people now know each other. Often some people didn't know their neighbours." This sense of optimism and these connections might have started at a BBQ or in a community hall, but they might endure for years to come."

To find out more, visit:
brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-partnership/

Give a Little. Change a Lot.

2018 National Volunteer Week, from Monday 21 until Sunday 27 May, will see thousands of events held across the country, including Brown Hill, 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'.

From **2.00 - 4.00 pm on Sunday 20 May**, the eve of National Volunteer Week, there will be an event to celebrate Brown Hill's wonderful volunteers. There are over 350 people who generously contribute their time, energy and skills for the many community groups which operate in Brown Hill. All of these volunteers will be invited to attend the afternoon tea.

We are proud to announce that the Brown Hill Progress Association, in collaboration with the Brown Hill Lions and Lionesses clubs have been successful in securing \$2,278 (excluding GST) for our event: 'Give a Little. Change a Lot - Celebrating Brown Hill's Volunteers'. The City of Ballarat will invest \$1,278 in the event through the Community Impact Grants program and the

Brown Hill Progress Association and the Brown Hill Lions and Lionesses clubs will donate a total of \$1000.

If you are a volunteer within the Brown Hill community, this celebration is for you! Come and be recognised. If you are a local volunteer, but you are unable to come along, please register your details and we will print a certificate of appreciation for you.

You can register online:
brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-progress-association/celebrating-volunteers.

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

For more information, please email: bhpa@brownhill.vic.au.

For information about National Volunteer Week, see:
volunteeringaustralia.org/nvw/

If you are unable to register online, please complete this form:

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Please cut out and return this form by **Friday 11 May** to the Coordinator of your group. Alternatively, it can be handed in at the Brown Hill Kindergarten or Caledonian Primary School.

Brown Hill Volunteer Celebration

First Name:

Last Name:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Group with which I volunteer:

I am interested in attending the celebration on 20 May (circle):

Yes

No (but I would like a certificate)

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Members of the Orchard Estate community in Brown Hill get together on Neighbour Day. Image: Victoria Rushton.

Orchard neighbours meet

Thanks to an article in the last Brown Hill Community Newsletter about National Neighbour Day on Sunday 25 March, the Orchard Estate Community held a very informal neighbours get-together.

Around 50 toddlers, children and adults braved the blustery winds to meet, greet and chat at the Orchard Estate Playground on the Sunday morning. It was a great turn-out and neighbours enjoyed the opportunity to get to know each other.

The many toddlers and children enjoyed exploring the playground, dam and nearby Yarrowee River trail.

This year's National Neighbour Day theme of 'The importance of a supportive neighbourhood for children and young people' was certainly expressed. Neighbour Day is celebrated on the last

Sunday in March every year, with the aim of fostering strong personal connections that last the whole year round. Every day can be neighbour day! To find out more about National Neighbour Day, see: neighbourday.org.

Merrilyn Harlock, Orchard Estate Resident and delivery volunteer for the Brown Hill Community Newsletter

Smoky outside?

Planned Burns and protecting your health

There have been some 'planned burns' around the Ballarat region in recent weeks. Where required, planned burning takes place when local weather conditions are suitable (including Autumn). Planned burns are part of Forest Fire Management Victoria's bushfire fuel management, aiming to reduce bushfire risk. This is done by reducing fuel loads – the shrubs, bark and leaf litter that fuel bushfires – through planned burning and other activities, such

as slashing, mowing and creating fuel breaks.

Stay informed - planned burns

For more information about CFA burns in Brown Hill, contact our local CFA District Office, District 15 Headquarters: 19 Learmonth Road Wendouree, 5329 5500. Visit: cfa.vic.gov.au/about/planned-burns; The Planned Burning Notification System (PBNS) (pbns.vic.gov.au/notifications/) is an opt-in system that you can customise to suit your particular notification needs. The system notifies people when a planned burn in a park or forest is close to being ignited. Find out more: ffm.vic.gov.au/bushfire-fuel-and-risk-management/planned-burns; For information on private burn-offs contact VicFire on 1800 668 511.

Smoky conditions and protecting your health

Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) is warning Victorians that smoky conditions are a threat to people's health, even far away from the bushfires that create the smoke. EPA Chief Environmental Scientist, Andrea Hinwood, says smoke is especially dangerous to vulnerable groups in the community, but there are measures you can take to protect your health. "Any smoke can be hazardous, but summer bushfires produce large amounts of it and it's not uncommon for it to affect communities a hundred or more kilometres away," Dr Hinwood said. "Smoky conditions are particularly hazardous to people with asthma and other lung conditions, those with heart conditions, smokers, children under 14, adults over 65 and pregnant women," she said.

Stay informed - smoke

EPA's website offers advice on protecting your health in smoky conditions, as well as links to the State Government sites that provide official emergency warnings. You can find EPA's 'Smoke' page at:
epa.vic.gov.au/your-environment/air/smoke



The pool season that was

How quickly does Summer come and go?

Our great band of volunteers tidy, trim, clean, scrub, vacuum, stock shelves, bag lollies and price everything up for sale at the kiosk. Fifteen weeks flies by and we pack it all up again!

This summer was blessed with reasonable weather and there were 8218 visits to the pool. It was one of our bigger seasons and we thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts. Without numbers through the gate, we have no evidence to keep the pool operating. This season's count shows great support.

A big thanks to:

- * All of our lifeguards who keep the pool safe and full of positive vibes
- * Volunteer Peter Fisher, who keeps the pool-plant operating and the water clean
- * Our kiosk volunteers who bag-up and sell enough sugar to keep the

energy up in those active youngsters who drag Mum, Dad, Nanna or Grandpa down to keep an eye on them as they cool off.

Winter won't take long and before you know it, the first Saturday in December will be around again and we will throw the gates open! We look forward to it.

Thanks again.

The Brown Hill Community Pool Committee of Management

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.

Brendan Stevens, Secretary, Brown Hill Progress Association

bhpa@brownhill.vic.au

Visit: brownhill.vic.au

Become our advertising manager

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

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Brown Hill Market is coming!

...looking for a second location with a good-sized hall, a strong local community, adequate parking and good growth potential. Nowhere else around the Ballarat district stacked up like Brown Hill. The Brown Hill

Hall has capacity for at least eighteen stalls in the main hall, so the Market will be able to operate regardless of weather conditions, while the outdoor stalls and farmers trucks will be a beacon to bring the shoppers in."

When does it all start? Due to the Brown Hill Hall Renovations, which will increase the amenity of the market in the long-term, the start date for the Brown Hill Market is yet to be confirmed. Steve says that he "... is hoping for a July launch, but, based on the renovations, August might be more realistic."

For further information and updates, read future editions of this newsletter and follow the 'Making Brown Hill' Facebook page.

In the next edition we'll profile some of the stallholders who will be coming to the Brown Hill Market. Steve says, "In the meantime, go and check them all out at the Lake Wendouree Market on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month, from 9.00 am until 1.00 pm. Tell them you will see them later this year in Brown Hill!"



Renee Durham

**All female waxing
Tinting
Lash Extensions
Lash Lifts
Spray Tanning
Shellac Nails**

belladaisebeauty@icloud.com
0438 329 716
359A Humffray Street North,
Brown Hill



Reunion at Cockington Green: Wendy (Norma's daughter), Brian Green, Norma Moulton, Doug Sarah, Brenda and daughter, Sally, who manages Cockington Green. Image supplied.

Reconnecting - reunion

Norma and Doug reconnect

We reported in Edition 11 that former Brown Hill resident, Doug Sarah, now of Ulladulla in the Australian Capital Territory, caught up for a phone chat with long-time Brown Hill resident, Norma Moulton. They had not seen each other for over 50 years and had found each other due to an article in Edition 7.

In early April, Norma travelled to Canberra to see Doug again. They met at Doug's family business, Cockington Green.

Norma, Doug and members of their families had a wonderful

time catching up and telling stories about Brown Hill.

Brian Green, Brown Hill Community Newsletter Committee

Brown Hill Hall

The City of Ballarat is currently evaluating tenders received for the Brown Hill Hall Redevelopment Project. The next step is to select the preferred tenderer, then a committee from the City of Ballarat will approve the tenderer. After that, works will commence.

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

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

Please note the updated email address.

Defibrillator

The Brown Hill Progress Association's defibrillator has been moved back to the Brown Hill Hall. It is in the central room, mounted on the wall by the kitchen. This is where it will remain until the pool opens again in December.



0417 370312

WWW.BALLARATTREWORKS.COM.AU

YOUR TREE CARE & MAINTENANCE PROFESSIONALS

Brown Hill Kindergarten

Open Day

Most kindergartens in Ballarat will be open on **Saturday 28 April**, 10.00 am – 12.00 pm, to enable interested families to visit the kindergartens and talk with staff. It is hoped that this will help parents choose which kindergartens they wish to nominate as their preferred options on the enrolment forms. Interested members of the community are also welcome. For more information please check on the City of Ballarat website.

Clean-Up Australia/Brown Hill

We started bush kinder at the end of Term One and incorporated a Clean-Up Brown Hill activity on the way. We have discussed with the children why we need to keep our environment free of rubbish and why we need to 'protect nature'. The children were full of information about why we should pick up our rubbish and not throw it on the ground – they were very concerned about the animals and that they might choke or get sick!

The children were very excited to finally get to bush kinder and it was fantastic to watch and listen to them exploring and discovering what bush kinder can be.

Living Safely with Pets program

In February, Cecilia from the Victorian Government's 'Responsible Pet Education' program visited the pre-school group children, with her dog Bronson. Together, they demonstrated how to safely meet and greet a real dog. Each child was then given the opportunity to

participate in the meet and greet with Bronson. For some children, this was their first interaction with a dog.

Parents also had the opportunity to participate in a 'Children and Dogs' safety session. We learnt that children aged zero to four are at the greatest risk of dog attack and 80% of dog attacks are by a known dog.

Each year we participate in this program, to give the children an opportunity to learn about being safe around dogs, before we start bush kinder. As well as being an important general safety issue, we realise that dealing with unknown dogs may be an issue at bush kinder. The children learn that the safest way to deal with an unknown dog is – **stop, stand very still, keep your hands down, look at the ground, then when the dog has gone away slowly back up and get help from an adult.** We also teach the children to use this same procedure to deal with snakes, which are a hazard we talk with the children about before we start

the bush kinder program and continually remind them each week.

The session and the ongoing discussions around it provided a positive and educational experience for each child. In their play, the children have been practising the concepts that they learnt.

To find out more, visit: agriculture.vic.gov.au/pets/community-and-education/responsible-pet-ownership-for-children

Family picnic

On Thursday 15 March, we held an early evening family picnic at the Brown Hill Reserve. Many families brought their dinner and stayed for an hour or two. It was great to see so many people attend and take the opportunity to meet other Kindergarten families.

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

5332 7973

brown.hill.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au



Learning pet safety with Bronson. Image supplied.

Caledonian Primary School

Principal's Report

It has been such a busy Term One at Caledonian Primary School!

We have welcomed our 2018 prep students who have settled in very well. They are enjoying the routines of school and have been learning so much. You should see their writing! The prep students should be very proud!

All of the students have been very engaged in their learning this term. We are currently focusing on independent reading, with all of the classrooms introducing a classroom library for the students to use during their literacy sessions.

There have been many extra-curricular activities on this term, with athletics, grade five/six camp and our family picnic evening.

We have had many families, staff members and community members helping us get our garden beds and hot-house up and running! A huge thank you to everyone who has helped us. The garden area is looking fantastic.

Next term we will be starting a cooking program. Our aim is to use the produce from the garden for cooking.

In Term Two, we will begin our transition program for children moving from Kindergarten to Prep in 2019. An information evening for families will be held on **Tuesday 22 May**.

If you know any families who have children starting Prep in 2019, encourage them to call the school



2018 Caledonian Primary School Preps. Photographer: Brea Terris (also seen in *The Courier*)

and book in for a tour to see the students in their classrooms.

I look forward to writing a small piece in each edition of the Brown Hill Community Newsletter to keep you up-to-date with what is happening at Caledonian Primary School.

Brea Terris

Principal - Caledonian Primary School
5332 6955
caledonian.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
caledonianps.vic.edu.au

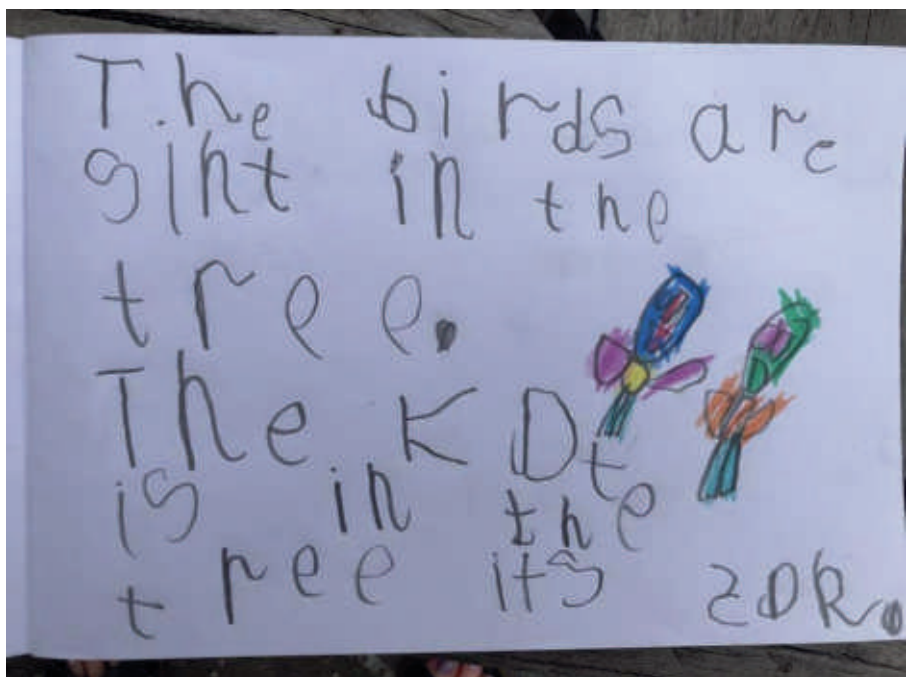
Farewell Mrs Romeril

After 14 years at Caledonian Primary School, Helen Romeril is leaving. She will be missed by many current and former Caledonian families. We asked some current students to come up with some questions for Helen.

1. When did you start at Caledonian?

I started at Caledonian in 2004. I had a Grade One/Two and Mrs Lawlor was my mentor and did a great job looking after me. We

Writing by a Caledonian Primary School Prep student. 'The birds are sitting in the tree. The kite is in the tree. It's stuck'. Image supplied.



liked to eat chocolate in our office! 2004 was a busy year for me as I also got engaged, built a house and got married.

2. What job did you do at Caledonian?

I started out teaching in the Prep/One/Two grades, but I spent the majority of my teaching time in the Five/Six area (about seven years). I also taught the Grade Three/Four students for a few years too. I was a specialist teacher for two years as well, teaching dance, design technology and mentoring staff in science.

As well as teaching, I used to look after the Junior School Council/Safety Club, was the Senior Unit Leader, Concert Coordinator, Curriculum Coordinator, Science Specialist teacher and organised camps and excursions. I even spent a term being the Principal in 2016!

3. What is your favourite thing about Caledonian?

My favourite thing is the school community. I have taught many students and families over my time and I have loved getting to know all of them. The best thing is seeing the students once they have grown up and seeing what they have achieved.

My second favourite thing would be our fantastic science program in which all of our students from Prep to Grade Six are involved. It is awesome!

4. What is the funniest thing that has happened in your 14 years at Caledonian?

Ooo! This is a hard one as I've had lots of laughs, but I think it is always funny when Mr D. laughs at something - you can't help but



Helen Romeril in 2017

laugh with him! There have also been many laughs on school camps during the talent shows.

Making the film-clips for the staff items at the concert has also been funny and fun to make!

5. What do you like about Brown Hill?

I really like the community of Brown Hill. At Caledonian we have been fortunate to be connected to the Kindergarten, Playgroup and the Secondary College at Woodmans Hill.

The Brown Hill Community Festival has also been great. I enjoyed the chance to connect with past parents and students.

6. Why are you leaving?

I'm leaving because I got a job at another school as their Assistant Principal. I have been doing lots of study, as I wanted to be in leadership ever since I got to be Principal at Caledonian when Mr Parry left in 2016.

7. Which school are you going to now?

I am going to Pleasant Street Primary School, so I won't be too far away and hopefully will be able

to pop in for lots of visits.

Thanks for all that you have given to the Brown Hill community through Caledonian Primary School, Helen. We wish you the best of luck in your new role.

Brown Hill Directory

Brown Hill has many businesses, community groups and sporting groups listed on the Brown Hill Community Online Hub (brownhill.vic.au/directory/).

In 2016, the first Brown Hill Directory was printed. Since then, there have been many more businesses added and details updated on the Online Hub.

We are hoping to print the 2018 Brown Hill Directory soon. We would like to thank volunteer, Angela Davies, for contacting all of the organisations listed to ensure that the information is as current as possible.

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 Online Hub, please let us know so that we can include them. New groups and updates to existing groups should be sent to directory@brownhill.vic.au

Advertise with us!

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



Fruit collected by volunteers from The Hidden Orchard. Image: Ellen Burns

Hidden Orchard Helps

In Edition 11, we interviewed Ellen Burns, a Brown Hill local and one of the founding members of The Hidden Orchard, a group that harvest unwanted fruit from trees on public land or private properties (with permission) and redistribute it to the Ballarat community. Ellen introduced us to Pat Greene, who has a fabulous fig tree in her Brown Hill backyard. Read the original article on the Brown Hill Community Online Hub: brownhill.vic.au/news/.

We got in touch with Ellen to see what had happened since the first article. Ellen said, "We harvested a total of 25 kilograms of figs from Pat's house over the season. We also harvested 65 kilograms of apples from a tree owned by Brown Hill resident, Daniel. We are pleased to have a couple of medlar trees lined up for harvesting in the next couple of weeks.

The Hidden Orchard have now

harvested over a tonne of fruit this year!

We'd love to hear from any other Brown Hill residents with excess fruit or fruit trees that need gleaning.

Ellen Burns, founding member of The Hidden Orchard
hiddenorchard.org
thehiddenorchard@gmail.com

Ballarat Community Garden 2018 Harvest Festival

Ballarat Community Garden's 2018 Harvest Festival was held on Sunday 4 March. The wider community were invited to come and celebrate gardening and the bounty of the harvest with garden members. This event was both a fundraiser and a chance to spread the word of the joys of gardening and associated activities. Volunteer, Sheilagh Kentish, wrote about the day.

What an amazing day! The weather was perfect. The sun shone down on the garden

members, rewarding them for their months of hard work in preparation for this one day. Let me take you on a tour of the garden and introduce you to all the amazing things that were there.

The brightly coloured tents and displays attracted our usual crowd and then some. The sounds of the 'Thursday Night Choir' kick-started the day with a-capella songs from different countries. The strains of the beautiful voices drifted down the garden towards the sausages and pizzas, tea and cakes and fruit salad. We would like to thank McCains for their generosity in donating just over 150 pizza bases to the Harvest Festival. Pizzas are always a big hit!

Tables groaned with produce, from fresh garden goodies to preserves and craft. The produce stall boasted that all its contents were donated by the gardeners.

John Ditchburn gathered crowds around him while he gave his talks on gardening and best practice for Ballarat. His many years of experience make him somewhat of a guru in this regard.

The ladies from the Ballarat Spinners and Weavers demonstrated their skills in using natural fibers to spin wool and gave tips on how to use garden plants to dye the yarn a variety of colours.

Jenny Ryle brought in some true Ballarat apples from a bygone era. Great to learn about historical botanical Ballarat!

Of course, all the fruit and vegetables wouldn't be half as good without the help of the bees. Angela Enbom brought along a

wonderful display of bees in a frame and lots of information about how the honey is made and how beneficial they are in a vegetable garden.

The children's activity tent was especially colourful this year, with fairy gardens and -related activities to entertain children of all ages! And who can resist the lucky dip, a real festival favourite.

Travelling through the garden to the other end was an uplifting experience, seeing so many garden beds flourishing with a large variety of vegetables, herbs, fruit and flowers.

Arriving at the other end brought more delights to the senses. The aroma of coffee filled the air while people were able to walk amongst some intriguing garden art, created by our talented gardeners. Of course, the Festival wouldn't be complete without the beautiful plants that the Planting Group grow throughout the year to brighten all our lives and gardens.

The music continued all day, with the Singers of the Black Book, Belli Cigani and the U3A Recorder Group. All different sounds, all fabulous, and all of the groups donated their time.

It takes a lot of work to create a day that feels as relaxed and fun as the Harvest Festival but it is all very worthwhile! To see the joy on people's faces when they win the raffle prizes, or savour a pizza whilst listening to great music and enjoying all of the many other attractions of the day. The gardeners do an amazing job but it wouldn't be much without the wonderful people who come along and enjoy themselves. So, thanks to the gardeners but many, many



Ballarat Community Garden Harvest Festival. Image supplied.

thanks to all who came to support us! We look forward to seeing you and your friends next year!

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/

Brown Hill Community Garden

Local Brown Hill Resident, Suzanne Walker, is investigating options for a community garden in Brown Hill. Sue asks, "Would any Brown Hill residents be interested in forming a group to find out about creating a community garden close to the pool? The intention would be to form some plots to bring people together and create a space that is inclusive to everyone. Hopefully, it could be fence-free. We will need a large number of interested people to proceed. I am very keen

on the project, but would need this to be a group effort. Let's get together and gather the Brown Hill community's thoughts about and need for a community garden."

If you are interested in knowing more about this project, please contact Suzanne by email: smwalker1970@yahoo.com.au.

Brown Hill Buddies

Who do you know in Brown Hill? Your neighbour, someone you met through the kindergarten, primary school or church, a fellow dancer from the Brown Hill Hall, one of the local business owners or someone you met at the Brown Hill Pool?

We want to hear their story - and yours!

Have a chat to your friend and, with their permission, write a short story about them. Get them to write one about you too.

A photo would be great.

Bakery Hill Bakers Delight have generously donated 'free product' cards, worth up to \$7.00 in value. The author/s of stories which are published will receive a card each.

More information can be found at: brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/brown-hill-buddies/

Please email your story and image to: newsletter@brownhill.vic.au or deliver to Brown Hill Kindergarten or Caledonian Primary School in school hours. The contact details for both the interviewer and interviewee should be included with your submission.

A Brown Hill Buddies Story

I'm Victoria; I live in Orchard Estate with my husband Jimmy and two kids, Fletcher (4) and Hazel (18 months).

It's only been a few years since we built in Brown Hill and, through a bit of chance during our build, my parents, who were looking to buy, found their new home in the same estate. So, now we are neighbours and I am one grateful mum to have my parents up the road. My kids love it too. Now I couldn't imagine it any other way!

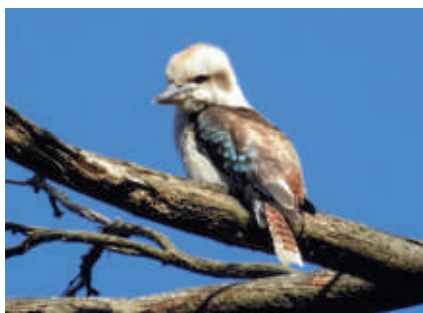
I interviewed my Dad, my neighbour and my friend, George Alexopoulos.

Since moving to Brown Hill my absolute favourite thing to do is wander with the kids through the parks and tracks in the area in every season and almost any condition. We are spoilt for choice over here. The best times to go are when we can tag along with my Dad. He has an eye for spotting the wildlife around us that many people might walk right past. With a vast knowledge of bird-life and a deep appreciation for flora and fauna, on a walk with him we can tune right into nature.

To share some insight, I asked George a few questions about Brown Hill wildlife.

1. What are your favourite spots around Brown Hill for taking in bird and wildlife?

There is a great variety of bird-life around Ditchfield Reserve on the Yarrowee, but there are birds everywhere. When you are moving, the birds seem to disappear. However, as soon as



Kookaburra in Brown Hill.

Photographer: George Alexopoulos

you stop for a bit they come out and continue on with what they were doing.

If someone was to wander the northern section of the Yarrowee Trail where we live, what sort of wildlife and bird-life might they encounter?

Different species like different habitats. Look up high and you might see a Wedge-tailed Eagle, a Harrier or listen for a Whistling Kite. The smaller birds, such as Red-browed Finch and White-browed Scrub Wren, prefer thicker scrub. The Booming Bronzewing feeds on wattle seeds on the ground. Superb Blue Wren seem to be everywhere. White-napped Honeyeater, Yellow Robin and White Throated Tree Creeper like feeding up and down tree trunks. Larger birds, such as the Galah, Sulphur Crested Cockatoo, Magpie and Plover, like open woodland or parks and roadside verges. Anywhere there is a dam or water you will see Swallows, Black Duck and Wood Duck or Heron, Egrets and Coots.

2. What benefit do you get from being able to access the walking tracks from home?

It's great just going for a short stroll, linking up with other tracks across to the Canadian and Creswick forests or riding my bike

into town or to Walter's on Humffray Street North for a haircut. I take friends and family to the Yarrowee River Trail, it's so close and they love it - just like we do. Exercise and nature are great benefits of living so close to the walking tracks.

3. Do you have any tips for being able to spot wildlife that others may miss? As I know, you have a knack for spotting stuff out of nowhere.

I'm no expert, but I might scan as I walk for shapes, colour and movement, stop for a few moments and listen for bird song or frogs, etc. There are birds and animals all around us but they keep still when we are moving. Kids are great for spotting things. When you are out with the kids ask them what they see or hear. They have better eyes and ears than grown-ups. Look for any outstanding features and look it up on the Museum site on your computer when you get home: museumsvictoria.com.au/discover/filter/science/

Victoria Rushton, Brown Hill resident and delivery volunteer for the Brown Hill Community Newsletter

Thanks Victoria and George. You will each receive a Bakery Hill Baker's Delight free-product-voucher.



Red-browed Finch on the Yarrowee River Trail. Photographer: George Alexopoulos

Brunch with Brown Hill birds

Sunday 15 April 2018, 8.45 - 10.30 am

Join a Birdlife Australia expert for a discovery walk around the beautiful Ditchfield Bushland Reserve spotting Blue Fairy Wrens, Breasted Robins, Grey Fantails, Brush Bronze wings and more.

We will provide a brunch at the end of the walk, giving you a chance to discuss all the marvels you have seen. Bring your binoculars and wear weather-appropriate clothes.

Meet us at Hearn Road Reserve, Brown Hill, corner of Hearn Rd & Ditchfield Lane.

Bookings essential to:
jane@leighcatchmentgroup.org or
0426 873 202

Wholesome Wholefoods

Open Day

Everyone is invited to attend the Ballarat Wholefoods Collective's (BWC) Open Day on Wednesday 2 May at Brown Hill Cricket Club, Reid Court, Brown Hill.

This is an opportunity to check out what BWC is all about. Find out how you can eat well, save money, and support local producers.

* 11.00 am - 1.00 pm: Open Day
Door prize and goodies bag

* 5.00 - 7.00 pm: Meet the Producers event, showcasing several local producers that supply to the BWC, including



Wendy Aston and Rhonda Jacobs from Ballarat Wholefoods Collective as seen in myBallarat Autumn 2018. Image supplied by the City of Ballarat.

Grounded Pleasures, Alex 'Egg Farm' Raglan, Enbom Honey and Manna Hill Olive Oil.

Join us for a cuppa and an informal chat. Kids are most welcome!

You can read about BWC on p.21 of the recent City of Ballarat's 'My Ballarat' magazine (Autumn edition), as pictured above.

Workshops

On Wednesday 14 March, 8 people attended a passata-making workshop at BWC and learnt how to turn a mountain of tomatoes into a delicious sauce.

Beeswax wraps

Wednesday April 18: 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm, Brown Hill Cricket Club. BYO material. \$10 members. \$15 non-members.

Soap-making
Coming soon!

Cookbook

You can now get your copy of the new BWC recipe book, which costs \$15 for members and \$18 for non-members. In Brown Hill, recipe books are for sale from BWC on Wednesdays during opening hours, Start Café and Humffray Street General Store. What a great idea for Mothers' Day! If you are unable to collect a copy, please call Wendy on 0419 898 286 to make an alternative arrangement.

Seasonal Local Organic
Wholefoods

Brown Hill Cricket Club, Reid
Court, Brown Hill

9.00 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 7.00 pm
Wednesdays (school term only;
closed during school holidays)

For a product list and prices:
ballaratwholefoodscollective.org

Find us on Facebook and
Instagram

Wendy Aston, Ballarat Wholefoods
Collective

Boomerang Bags Launch

Boomerang Bags Ballarat officially launched on Wednesday 28 February at The Healthy Hub. Andrea from Hattie and the Wolf, Wendy from Ballarat Wholefoods Collective and Stacey from The Healthy Hub Café and Wellness Centre, have come together, through their collective passion of Ballarat business and sustainability, to form the Ballarat chapter of Boomerang Bags. The plastic and textile industries are two major players when it comes to environmental pollution, and Boomerang Bags tackles both industries, initiating the recycling of material and providing a more sustainable solution to single use plastic bags.

What is Boomerang Bags?

Boomerang Bags is a grassroots, community driven movement tackling plastic pollution at its source. Volunteers from all walks of life get together to make re-

useable 'boomerang bags', using recycled materials, as a means to provide a sustainable alternative to plastic bags. The bags create a platform to start conversations, make friends, up-cycle materials and work towards shifting society's throw-away mentality to a more sustainable revolution of re-use; one community, needle and thread at a time! Boomerang Bags attracts a dynamic group of people, young and old, who are passionate about reducing plastic pollution within their community. The Boomerang Bags community initiative is creating a platform for like-minded people to come together and socialise, whilst making a difference within their community.

How can I be involved?

- * Follow Boomerang Bags Ballarat on Facebook for all of our up-to-date information including sewing bee times.
- * Become a Boomerang Bags Ballarat Volunteer. Sewing experience greatly appreciated.

However, it is not essential as we also have tasks such as ironing and screen-printing. We would love your help at our sewing bees.

* If you are unable to attend sewing bees, you can collect sewing packs to complete at home or to form your own Boomerang Bags community.

* Become an active member of our Ballarat committee. Attend regular meetings and help this wonderful initiative grow.

* Donate material and cotton. You can think outside the box when it comes to material; any clean material such as curtains, doona-covers and table-cloths work well.

* Do you know a business that is interested in incorporating Boomerang Bags within their business?

* Can your business donate promotional printing or equipment? Items such as sewing machines, irons, ironing boards, scissors and printing flyers are useful.

* Do you have a space suitable for our working bees?

* Start the conversation with family, friends and colleagues. Are they aware of Boomerang Bags?

* Look at ways to minimise plastic and textiles within your everyday life. Small changes can have a big impact.

If you would like to pick yourself up a Boomerang Bag or make a donation of material, visit:

* Ballarat Wholefoods Collective on Wednesdays (9.00 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 7.00 pm), Brown Hill Cricket Club, Reid Court Brown Hill

* Hattie and the Wolf, 218A



Wendy from Ballarat Wholefoods Collective, Andrea from Hattie and the Wolf and Stacey from The Healthy Hub Café and Wellness Centre at the launch

Skipton Street, Ballarat Central

* The Healthy Hub Café and Wellness Centre, 100 Bridge Mall, Ballarat

* Merimu, 2A Michaels Drive, Alfredton (material donations only)

Sewing/Screening Bees at Ballarat Wholefoods Collective, Brown Hill Cricket Club:

* Wednesday 9 May: 9.00 - 11.00 am and 6.00 - 8.00 pm

* Wednesday 13 June: 9.00 - 11.00 am and 6.00 - 8.00 pm

All welcome! Join us if you can sew, iron, pin or make coffee.

Stacey-Lea Gibson

Co-founder, Ballarat Boomerang Bags

Vale Roma Norman

A patriotic Brown Hill resident for 61 years, Roma Norman passed away on 13 December 2017, aged 87.

Roma Myrl Richards was born in Stawell, in 1930 and moved to Ballarat with her parents in 1947.

She worked for her father who owned 'The Strand' on Wendouree Parade (near the Lake View Hotel), then a shop in Sturt Street where Brunches Café is now.

In 1951, aged 21, Roma started work at Dickens Self Service grocery store in Bridge Street. Here she met Betty Wilson (nee Ainley) and Ron Norman. Betty invited her to attend Brown Hill Methodist Church and she and Ron introduced Roma to Charlie Norman. Love blossomed and they were married in 1956. They lived in Bradbury Street in a house which Charlie built next to the



Roma Norman. Image supplied by Roma's family.

Norman family home.

In 1957, Debbie was born, followed by Rhonda in 1959 (who sadly passed away in 2013) and Kim in 1966. Liam, Jake and Elysha Wilkinson, Maddison Lawson and Mackenzie Leishman were treasured grandchildren who adored Grandma and Pa.

Roma and Charlie were very involved in the Brown Hill community, as members of the Brown Hill Uniting Church, Brown Hill (now Caledonian) Primary School Council and Mothers Club, Brown Hill Cricket Club (Charlie was a founding member) and the Brown Hill Tennis Club, Roma playing tennis until she was 73.

In 2004, six years after Charlie passed away, Roma moved to Canterbury Street, the street in which the previous Norman family home was located in the 1920s. Roma was determined to stay in Brown Hill near her many loyal friends.

Up until her death, Roma was an

enthusiastic member of the 'Sing Australia' Choir and Probus. Roma wrote these words when delivering her memoirs for Probus: "I had a happy and very harmonious life. My mum and dad were wonderful parents, never a bad word did I hear from them. Also a wonderful forty years of married life. I couldn't have wished for any better."

Deb Wilkinson and Kim Leishman



Boarding Kennels & Cattery

Marie
(03) 5334 7455

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

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www.dazzlindoggie.com.au



Angus LeMarshall from the Federation University Australia Pipe Band. Image supplied.

Third generation piper

Eight-year-old Angus Le Marshall of Brown Hill recently made his first appearance as a piper with the Federation University Australia Pipe Band, at the Ballarat Begonia Festival Parade in March. Angus said, "The experience of playing in the parade in my uniform was awesome!"

Angus is learning the bagpipes from his grandfather, Neil MacDonald, who is the Pipe Major of the band. Neil started learning when he was the same age as Angus is now. Neil was taught by his father, Colin MacDonald.

The band is currently looking for learners from the age of 10, for bagpipes and snare drums. The band's practice nights are Wednesdays from 7.00 pm, either at the Band Room on Reid Court, Brown Hill or at the Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts,

Howitt Street
Wendouree.

To arrange a 'Come and Try' session or for further information, please contact Sue Brant on 0437 981 194 or email: fedunipipeband@gmail.com.

Brown Hill Seniors

With Easter over, we are now settling in to our normal activities.

In early April, we had a lovely day trip. We had morning tea at Maude. Then on to Portarlinton where we boarded the ferry to Docklands. On the way home, we had a stop at the Homy Ped outlet. It was perfect weather for a lovely day.

Doreen Braebrook, Brown Hill Seniors Coordinator
5331 2157

brownhill.vic.au/directory/brown-hill-senior-citizens-club/

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
Contributions are welcome from



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the voice of the community

MEMBER 2018

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 or in hard copy to the reception desk at Caledonian Primary School, Thompson Street, Brown Hill during school term and school hours.

Edition 13 submission are due by **Tuesday 5 June 2018**. Please read the editorial policy regarding contributions before submitting an article. Go to 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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Subscribe

Newsletter subscriptions are free-of-charge and subscribers receive an email when each edition is available online, often before the hard copy is delivered. To subscribe, email us: newsletter@brownhill.vic.au, with 'subscribe' in the subject line or subscribe online: brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/

Brown Hill Uniting Church Events



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.

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 10.30 am. Only \$5 for cereal and a full-cooked breakfast and an opportunity to hear from Michelle Orr, a nurse from Ballarat Community Health, speak about Men's Health and general well-being.

Location: Brown Hill Uniting Church Hall

Enquiries: 0407 893 468 (Louise).

Louise Wright, Brown Hill Uniting Church

brownhill.vic.au/directory/brown-hill-uniting-church/

Solar Communities Program

The Australian Government has released information for their Solar Communities Program – Round 2, which provides community organisations in 'eligible regions' (including Ballarat) with grants from \$2,500 to \$12,500 to install small-scale renewable energy systems including solar photovoltaic panels, storage batteries and solar hot water systems.

Who can apply?

At a minimum, you must:

- * be a community organisation
- * be a legal entity, able to enter into a grant agreement with the Commonwealth
- * be located in an eligible region
- * have an Australian Business Number (ABN).

Other eligibility requirements apply.

Applications close: **31 May 2018**, 5:00 pm AEST

See:

business.gov.au/Assistance/Solar-Communities-Program



Catherine King MP
Federal Member
for Ballarat



*Standing
up for the
Brown Hill
Community*

5 Lydiard St North, Ballarat 3350

5338 8123
catherine.king.mp@aph.gov.au

www.catherineking.com.au

AUTHORISED BY CATHERINE KING, AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY, 501 SYDNEY AVENUE, BARTON ACT

Brown Hill Plastic Waste

We heard from Brown Hill local John Clonan who has a few thoughts about plastic waste.

John has made an early morning walk part of his daily routine. He said, "These walks around Brown Hill alerted me to the varying amounts of drinking containers discarded in gutters, roadside verges, nature strips and drainage into the Yarrowee River catchment."

Over the past six months, John has filled a 6x4 trailer with re-useable/recyclable material.

John said, "Recent publicity has further highlighted the issue of reusable and recyclable waste. Ultimately we are all responsible and, while we are pretty good at recycling, we are encouraged to think beyond recycling to reusable." In particular, John references an article by Peter Cox in The Age (26/2/18), in which he highlights some significant points regarding container deposit legislation. John highlighted one suggestion, which is to have the option for people to encourage consumers to take responsibility for collecting drink containers through the introduction of a drink container deposit scheme. Another suggestion is to encourage people to purchase reusable household products and take-away food and drink containers, then paying people to collect these reusable containers.

John says, "In my walks around Brown Hill I have noticed and been encouraged by folk keeping areas free of rubbish. I can only imagine where a 6x4 trailer of



John's trailer of recycled waste. Image supplied.

drinking containers would have ended up had I not collected them!"

John encourages residents of Brown Hill to help maintain our pristine environment and reflect on how a more meaningful reuse program could bring this about.

Recycle your waste

In Edition 11, we promoted the recycling of toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, toothpaste caps, floss containers and their outer packaging materials through the Brown Hill Kindergarten.

Further to this great service, we have found out that you can drop off not only your toothbrush waste, but also your used Nespresso coffee pods for recycling, at Boronia Florists in Sturt Street.

Julie Collins, Brown Hill local and owner of Boronia Exclusive Florists, offers this recycling service for the Ballarat community.

Drop-off points:

1. Brown Hill Kindergarten, 1 Reid Court, Brown Hill, between 8.00 am and 3.00 pm on weekdays. (Toothbrush waste only)

2. Boronia Exclusive Florists: 428 Sturt Street (between Dawson and Doveton Streets), Ballarat

9.00 am - 5.30 pm, Monday -Friday (also open Saturdays to 2.00 pm).

03 5331 1553

boroniaexclusiveflorists.com.au

Local Police Matters

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

Theft of Motor Vehicles

Car thieves may be either opportunistic or professional.

In either case stolen vehicles may be used to commit further offences and be damaged, destroyed or never recovered.

Most car thefts occur in or around private residences and in many cases, keys have been easily accessed.

Protect your car even when it is parked in a garage, driveway or on a residential street.

Key Crime Prevention Tips

- * Lock all doors and close all windows
- * Secure your keys and never leave them in your car
- * Do not put your name and address on any keys – use a mobile phone number
- * Keep spare car keys in a secure place at home or at work.

Theft of number plates

Over 10,000 number plates are stolen each year in Victoria. These are also often used to commit further serious offences such as petrol drive-offs; avoiding speeding and parking fines; burglaries and drug trafficking.

For more, visit the Victorian Government Community Crime Prevention website:
crimeprevention.vic.gov.au

Key Crime Prevention Tips

- * Secure your number plates with one-way, anti-theft screws
- * Park in a secure and well-lit area
- * Report the theft of number plates to your local police.

Donna Parsons
Leading Senior Constable 24836 /
Western Region Div 3 – Crime
Prevention
Contact: 5338 9221,
donna.parsons@police.vic.gov.au

El Dorado Line Dance Classes

Thursdays at the Brown Hill Hall

- * 9.00 am - Basic Beginner
- * 10.00 am - Beginner
- * 11.30 am - Easy-Intermediate and Intermediate

Everyone welcome for fun and friendship.

Contact: Ella on 0401 017 758.

Who Was That Cat?

The Top Katz Rockers are pleased to present: 'Who Was That Cat?' at the Brown Hill Hall, on Saturday 16 June, for \$18.00 per person. You will enjoy a talented Rock-and-Roll band that have been entertaining people for many

years. These talented musicians will keep your toes tapping and your feet moving!



Roger and Gloria Campbell and Viki Coultard at the Top Katz Rockers' 'Pirates and Wenchies' Night at the Brown Hill Hall in late 2017.

Active Women and Girls' Strategy

Ballarat City Council recently adopted the City of Ballarat 2018 Active Women and Girls' Strategy. The strategy provides a tailored response to priority local issues that may be constraining women and girls' involvement in sport or physical activity, either as leaders or participants.

City of Ballarat Councillor, Belinda Coates says, "It's fantastic to have a strong commitment by City of Ballarat to gender equity. I began advocating for an active women and girls strategy a few years ago so it's great to see it unanimously endorsed by Council. This will have a long term impact on improving female participation in sport and recreation at all levels."

The strategy will guide future initiatives aimed at increasing

female participation in sport and physical activity within Ballarat, while promoting equitable opportunities in the sporting environment.

Throughout the consultation process, four key focus areas were identified to help guide the City of Ballarat over the next four years on projects to be delivered.

1. Participation - initiatives to encourage active participation, athlete pathways and data collection.

2. Culture and environment - initiatives that support women and girls in leadership and governance roles, positive female role models, club education, development and volunteer support.

3. Infrastructure - equitable access to suitable facilities to support participation.

4. Media action - a focus on promotion, exposure and positive messaging to motivate and change behaviours.

View the 2018 Active Women and Girls' Strategy at
ballarat.vic.gov.au



The AFL Store Ballarat

Shop 50, Central Square
Armstrong Street South
Ballarat VIC 3350

(03) 5332 3400

ballarat@theaflstore.com.au

YOUR TEAM YOUR STORE

Russell Square Update

As the season for soccer, football and netball kicks off at Russell Square, the Ballarat North United Soccer Club is looking for nine- to eleven-year-old girls to join their Under-11 Girls' Team. No experience is necessary and training is on Thursdays from 4.30 pm at Russell Square. Games are on Sundays. To find out more, please email info@bnusc.org.au or look online: bnusc.org.au or facebook.com/bnusc/.

Current tenants at Russell Square are:

- * Ballarat and District Multiple Birth Association
- * Ballarat Masters Football Club
- * Ballarat North United Soccer Club
- * Ballarat Touch Football
- * East Ballarat Cricket Club
- * East Point Junior Football Netball Club

The Community Hall at Russell Square is for hire. Call Drew on 5339 4034.

Laurelle Sommers, Secretary, Russell Square Committee of Management
5334 3336

laurelle.sommers@gmail.com

Facebook: Russell Square User Group Ballarat



Mark Ryan, Terry Davies, Damian Ryan and John O'Brien at the Ballarat Cricket Association's E. J. Cleary Presentation Night. Image supplied by John O'Brien.

Hall of Fame Cricketers

Three former Brown Hill cricketers were recently inducted into the Ballarat Cricket Association's 'Hall of Fame'.

Terry Davies, Damian Ryan and John O'Brien, who all have links to Brown Hill, have been recognised for their contribution to cricket in Ballarat.

The men were inducted at the recent E. J. Cleary Presentation Night. Former Wendouree cricketer, David Beames, was also inducted.

After their time with the Brown Hill Cricket Club, both Terry Davies and Damian Ryan moved on to other clubs as coach and captain. They both played a prominent part in local Ballarat cricket and rep. games.

John O'Brien finished his 24-year career playing with the Brown Hill Cricket Club, then became a cricket umpire for a further 33 seasons, retiring from senior cricket umpiring at the end of the 2017/18 season. John hopes to continue umpiring junior cricket in Brown Hill into the future.

Get Active in Brown Hill

Premier's Active April encourages all Victorians to do 30 minutes of physical activity a day during April. It's free, it's fun and it's part of the Victorian Government's commitment to get more people active and healthy. Registrations are open until **30 April** and everyone who registers receives access to a host of special discounts. Local registrants will receive a free 10-visit pass to the Ballarat Aquatic & Lifestyle Centre. The pass includes access to the Health Club, Pool, Spa, Steam Room and selected Group Fitness classes (Age restrictions apply. Full Terms & Conditions are available at BALC). Also, if you sign up to a BALC Membership by the end of April, they will waive the start up fee, valued at \$70! See: ballarataquaticcentre.com/premier-active-april-2018/ for more.

This year, you can search for local activities through the Premier's Active April website: activeapril.vic.gov.au/my-local/

Our fit older adults

Did you know that more than half of all Australian adults are not active enough? According to Australia's Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour Guidelines (health.gov.au), being physically active and limiting our sedentary (sitting or lying down – except for sleeping) behaviour every day is essential for our health and well-being.

The Guidelines state that older adults should aim to accumulate at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity on most, preferably all days.

We are so lucky in Brown Hill to have such beautiful outdoor spaces in which to walk, run and ride our bikes. They include the Yarrowee River Trail, Scott Parade path, Brown Hill Recreation Reserve and Russell Square, amongst others. Just up the road, Gong Gong Reservoir and Kirk's Reservoir are also lovely spaces to get active.

Brown Hill also has many sports and activity groups, including several dance groups, martial arts, cricket, football, netball, soccer and more. Specifically for older adults, Brown Hill local, Stephen Holmes, runs fitness classes three times a week at the Brown Hill Community Hall.

Stephen is a Personal Trainer and says, "The older adult fitness classes attract people from 60 to 90 years of age, and participation is increasing. The classes have become so popular that we have added an extra class on Tuesday mornings at 9.00 am, before the popular 10.00 am class."



Graeme Eyres, Gwenda Ragg, Val Hocking and Bernice Elshaugh participating in an exercise class at Brown Hill Hall. Photographer: Christine Holmes

In addition to the two classes on Tuesday, there is an equipment-based class at 9.00 am on Fridays. New people are very welcome to attend any of the three classes.

Stephen explains that classes are designed for older adults and focus on fitness for everyday life – balance, flexibility, endurance and strength activities using equipment and body weight. There are also fun games using balls and bean bags to develop coordination. "These are great skills for playing with the grandchildren," Stephen says.

The classes are friendly and fun, mixed gender and attract people of varying ages and abilities. All activities can be done at participants' own pace and ability level. Chairs are available for use if needed.

Consider trying one of Stephen's classes free-of-charge during Active April to help increase your physical activity levels and improve your health and well-being.

Class details

- *Brown Hill Community Hall, Humffray Street North
- *60 minute classes
- *9.00 am and 10.00 am on Tuesdays
- *9.00 am on Fridays (equipment-based)
- *Cost \$10.00 per person (or \$15.00 for a couple from the same family)
- Contact: Stephen Holmes, 0447 780 152 or steve@anywherepersonaltraining.com



Kevin Holloway, Jill Farrell and Stephen Holmes at an exercise class at the Brown Hill Hall. Photographer: Christine Holmes

Remembering Brown Hill's BP Service Station



The BP Service Station that was run by Bev and Barry Duffin. Image supplied.

I met Bev Duffin at last year's Brown Hill Community Festival. She has been a resident of Brown Hill for 45 years. We have known each other for over 30 years and we spoke about her late husband Barry and her business on Daylesford Road, right where the Ballarat bypass now crosses. Bev, Barry and their two sons, Rowan and Darren, moved into the business in May 1973.

Bev and Barry came to Ballarat in 1958 after they were married. Barry worked on the railways as a fitter. Ten years later they started their service station life at King and Eureka Street, Ballarat East (now known as Rizzo's Pizza).

They then bought the Brown Hill BP from Mick Kennedy, developing the freehold with the addition of a workshop and cool room. Barry established a motor mechanic business. Other shop

alterations lead to a thriving business. According to Bev, "We sold ice-creams, fireworks and groceries, as well as all the goodies of a mixed business. Over the years we also ran a dry-cleaning agency and sold ammunition. Brian Marks and his son, Russell (a gold medal Olympian), were regular customers. There was full driveway service seven days a week, and we opened every day except for Christmas Day."

Some of Bev's vivid memories include: customers young and old lining up for scoop ice-creams during the warmer months, selling and delivering dusty bags of briquettes and bottles of gas, Big M, Coca-Cola, Yoyos and Paul Hogan on cigarette posters, milk in bottles and cartons, the five-cent refund on soft drink bottles, super and standard (regular) petrol, which both had lead, organising Easter-egg raffles, and

the introduction of the microwave.

The property was sold to VicRoads in 1979 and then leased for about 10 years to Bob and Heather Green.

Barry and Bev moved on to run the Yarrowee Coffee Lounge in Little Bridge Street for a couple of years, then Barry had the opportunity to work for Ernie Auchetel on Melbourne Road (a servo and car yard). The servo was sold to BP and Bev and Barry then ran the site for 14 years.

Bev is coming up to one of those important birthdays this year. She still loves gardening and being organised by her mate Joey, a RSPCA rescue dog. Bev has been a follower of the Bulldogs most of her life and a member since 2005, and has been lucky enough to see them win the premiership in 2016.

Brian Green, Brown Hill Lions Club and Newsletter Committee

More images supplied by Bev for this story are available in the online version: brownhill.vic.au/history/



Bev Duffin, 2018. Photographer: Brian Green.