

Brown Hill Community Newsletter

Edition 13, June 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.



Amelia (left) and Isabella (right) Year Six Environmental Education Captains 2016 - leading the 'Villa Tree Planting Day' activities in 'The Paddock' - Planting with Fifteen Trees and J. G. Gardner Homes. Photographer: Sarah Page

Diary Dates

See brownhill.vic.au for details.

JUNE

Tuesday 19: 7.30 pm, Brown Hill Hall meeting (p.6)

Thursday 21: Winter solstice

Sunday 24: Pick My Project submissions due (p.6)

Wednesday 27: 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm, Ballarat Wholefoods Collective beeswax wraps session (p.18)

Thursday 28: Fruit tree pruning, Brown Hill Recreation Reserve (p.17)

Friday 29: School Term Two finishes

...continued p.20 (back cover)

Fifteen Trees and The Villa Orchard

Fifteen Trees and St Francis Xavier Primary School: Building thriving relationships blossomed through environmental change.

Written by Bridie, Lucy, Olivia, Sophia (students) and Sarah Page (teacher), St Francis Xavier Primary School.

Recently, we had the honour of interviewing Colleen Filippa, founder of Fifteen Trees, an organisation that plants trees to reduce companies' and individuals' carbon footprint. Colleen, based in Brown Hill, started Fifteen Trees nine years ago and, within these short nine years, the company has spread Australia-wide and even to New

Zealand.

Colleen, an environmentally-minded educator with a passion for creating long-lasting environmental change, first had the idea for Fifteen Trees as she dreamt of improving her local environment. In the early days of Fifteen Trees, Colleen set about to find community groups and schools to help her plant and care for the trees. Her own sons having attended St Francis Xavier Primary School; it was one of the early schools with which she connected.

Over the past nine years, with the help of Fifteen Trees, our school

has planted over 2000 native trees in our picturesque 20-acre setting. Part of our grounds was previously used for farming and the local environment was cleared. As part of our 'Environmental Education' program, we discovered the importance of biodiversity and wished to revegetate this land. With the help of Colleen and local businesses, we have been able to successfully do just that.

Last year, Fifteen Trees helped us to continue to follow our dreams and we created 'The Villa Orchard'. Brian and Maree of

... continued p.2

...continued from p.1

Harrison Funerals donated 40 mature fruit trees which we planted on the edge of our 'Perma Patch' to create a beautiful orchard.

Together, Fifteen Trees and St Francis Xavier Primary School have created a carbon-neutral natural wonderland where biodiversity flourishes. Long-lasting, thriving relationships and environmental change like this are only possible when someone brave enough follows their dreams. We thank Colleen for being such a great role-model by following her dreams. We also thank those who already act for environmental change and encourage local businesses to reach out to Colleen and help us revegetate our local schools, parks, creeks and homes, one tree at a time!

In this edition

We were delighted to receive this feedback from the Top Katz Rockers' Joyce, "Your newsletter is amazing. So enjoy reading it."

Along with Joyce's group, one of the many which use the Brown Hill Hall, contact details for 161 local businesses and community, education, sport and activity groups and six venues are

included in Edition Two of the Brown Hill Directory (p.3). We hope you find it useful!

The Brown Hill Local Area Plan is progressing well, with 41 people giving feedback through a survey and 30 locals participating in the first Working Group session (p.5).

The exciting Brown Hill Hall refurbishment project is soon to be underway. Read about it on p.6. Alternative venues for hire in and around Brown Hill are listed on p.7.

In response to the article about starting a Brown Hill Community Garden Group, local Sue Walker has connected with Caledonian Primary School as a starting point for this project. Read about the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program (SAKG) at the School and how you can get involved (p. 8 and p.12).

With the newsletter going from strength to strength, we are seeking a volunteer or two to help out with administration and photographic support. If you are interested, please contact us via newsletter@brownhill.vic.au.

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

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

Give a little. Change a lot.

Celebrating Brown Hill's
Volunteers

On Sunday 20 May, the eve of 2018 National Volunteer Week, Brown Hill had its first Volunteer Celebration. Around 100 people enjoyed a scrumptious afternoon tea at the Brown Hill Cricket Clubrooms, catered by local, Penthea from Vegas and Rose. All volunteers were awarded a certificate of recognition presented by Federal Member Catherine King MP and City of Ballarat Mayor Samantha McIntosh.

Brown Hill's volunteers make sure our fantastic suburb has a wonderful community hall and pool, many different sporting activities, an annual community festival, a kindergarten and primary school engaged with the community, a variety of support groups, this community newsletter and more. Volunteers also raise funds through our local service and church groups to invest in local activities.

City of Ballarat Mayor Samantha McIntosh said she was impressed to learn that some 350 people give their time, their skills and energy to community groups which

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Volunteer Jeff Ellerton, from Russell Square's East Point Junior Football Netball Club, accepting a certificate of recognition from Federal Member Catherine King MP, as Brown Hill Community Newsletter founding member, Ian Westerland, watches on. Photographer - Nigel Stevens

operate in Brown Hill. "People who volunteer don't often count the cost of their giving; but the difference their volunteering makes is profound. In fact, we depend on it. It's a big part of what transforms places like Brown Hill into a genuine community."

The volunteer celebration allowed locals to meet each other, with newsletter delivery volunteer, Susie, saying, "I'd love to come along to meet more volunteers." It was heartening to see volunteers from Brown Hill's community, education, sporting and activity

groups introducing themselves and chatting about their volunteering experiences.

Federal Member Catherine King MP mentioned how much she enjoyed being a part of the celebrations and another newsletter delivery volunteer, Sue, wrote, "Thank you for organising the lovely afternoon tea today. I am really glad I came and was able to connect with some of the amazing volunteers from around the area of Brown Hill. It is very inspiring to hear what everyone does. We are certainly a

very blessed neighbourhood."

To see photos of the celebration, visit: brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-progress-association/celebrating-volunteers/

The celebration was coordinated by the Brown Hill Progress Association, Brown Hill Lions and Brown Hill Lioness Clubs and the Brown Hill Cricket Club and received funding from the City of Ballarat through the Community Impact Grants program.

Thanks to our suppliers, Penthea from Vegas and Rose for catering, Nigel Stevens Photography, Ballarat Mailworks, the City of Ballarat for a great certificate design and the Brown Hill Cricket Club and Eureka Athletics for use of their shared clubrooms.

We would also like to thank volunteers Brendan, Barry, Glenis, Phil and Sarah for coordinating the celebration.

Sarah Greenwood-Smith, Brown Hill Progress Association's Newsletter and Festival Coordinator

Brown Hill Directory

We are pleased to have published Edition Two of the Brown Hill Directory. Included are contact details for 95 businesses which are based in Brown Hill or are owned by a local. We have also listed 34 community, eight education and 18 sport and activity groups, in addition to six venues for hire. What an amazing collection of businesses and groups locally available!

We have printed 3000 copies of the Directory, to be delivered

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...continued from p.3

with, or soon after, this edition of the Newsletter. Additional copies will be available at the Brown Hill Kindergarten, Caledonian Primary School, various local businesses and the Brown Hill Market (with the potential to start on Saturday 28 July, see p.9). We encourage you to stick it on your fridge as a handy reference.

Edition One of the Brown Hill Directory was published with Edition Four of the Newsletter, with 67 businesses, 27 community, eight education and 19 sport and activity groups. It was eight pages.

The printing of Edition Two has been possible through the generous sponsorship of the following:

* **Gold Sponsor** – Woodman's Hill – A Campus of Ballarat Secondary College.

* **Silver Sponsors** – Ballarat Golf Club, Glen Park Primary School and Warrenheip Primary School.

* **Bronze Sponsors** – ADM Coolrooms, Boronia Exclusive Florists, Bronislaw Sozanski Piano Tuition, Le Chic Skin and Beauty, Mihiri Yeluri Family Day Care, The Laundry King and Tribe North Café.

Our thanks also to Joshua Morris MP, State Member for Western Victoria, for his support.

All 161 organisations listed in the Brown Hill Directory are also listed on the Brown Hill Community Online Hub – brownhill.vic.au, with additional information available.

Any Brown Hill organisation that is not listed can email directory@brownhill.vic.au or submit their information through



the Online Hub.: brownhill.vic.au

We would like to add:

Ballarat Groundworks

0438 337 709

landscaping@ballaratgroundworks.com.au

ballaratgroundworks.com.au

Brown Hill Bookkeepers

Michael

0437 578 774

Down 'N' Dead Pest Control

Service both commercial and domestic.

5334 7452, 0417 056 534

downdead@bigpond.com
downdead.com.au

Stor-It Ballarat

A unique self storage business that provides a range of units to fit your particular requirements.

5383 0448

enquiries@stor-it.com.au

211 Melbourne Road, Brown Hill
stor-it.com.au

Out of the Blue

A message from Police Pro-Active Unit

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

Police attending burglaries on properties are still seeing firearms being stolen due to non-compliant storage options. Firearm owners are reminded to take all reasonable precautions to ensure their firearms are kept safe and do not come into the possession of a person who is not authorised to possess the weapon.

Securing firearms in storage that is compliant with licensing requirements will help prevent removal by thieves. Practice all the basic burglary and theft prevention techniques, such as locking all of your doors and windows. Consider using hardened steel padlocks, shackle protectors and chains on areas where firearms are stored.

If you see people loitering in or around rural properties and believe they are up to no good:

1. Record descriptions, e.g., height, build, clothing, & distinctive features – tattoos.
2. Vehicle details, e.g., registration numbers, colour, make, model and
3. Ring 000 immediately for police assistance.

Donna Parsons

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

Contact: 5338 9221,

donna.parsons@police.vic.gov.au

A red campaign poster for Catherine King MP. At the top left is the Australian coat of arms. To its right is the text 'Catherine King MP Federal Member for Ballarat'. Below this is a portrait of Catherine King. To the left of the portrait is the text 'Standing up for the Brown Hill Community'. At the bottom, the address '5 Lydiard St North, Ballarat 3350' is listed, followed by the phone number '5338 8123', the email 'catherine.king.mp@aph.gov.au', and the website 'www.catherineking.com.au'. At the very bottom, in small text, it says 'AUTHORISED BY CATHERINE KING, AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY, 59 SYDNEY AVENUE, BARTON ACT'.



Participants at the first Brown Hill Local Area Plan Community Working Group session. Photographer - Lisa Kendal, City of Ballarat.

Our Local Area Plan

Brown Hill Local Area Plan and Infrastructure Assessment follows on from the community-led City of Ballarat Engaging Communities Program.

An online survey collecting thoughts about Brown Hill was completed by 41 people between mid-April and early June. Results will be collated by the consultant team and integrated into the framework plan.

On Tuesday 29 May, the first of the Brown Hill Local Area Plan Community Working Group sessions was held at Caledonian Primary School. A group of 30 people, mostly residents and some business owners, gathered for a couple of hours to discuss the things that are important to them about Brown Hill. The Council-run session gave participants the opportunity to identify the issues that concern them and their aspirations for Brown Hill's future.

Rebecca Finn from Tract, a consultancy firm engaged by

Council, gave a presentation about their initial findings but reiterated that this session was really focused around listening to the community. Max Hardy, a facilitator and part of the consultant team, led the group through an exercise where participants imagined they were showing friends through Brown Hill in the year 2028. The detailed itineraries highlighted the imagined new and improved parts of the community, in addition to emphasising those parts of Brown Hill that should not change.

The Local Area Plan and Infrastructure Assessment will be a blueprint for the future of Brown Hill – an integrated and holistic land-use and framework-plan to guide local development and infrastructure provision.

The Brown Hill community had the opportunity to join the Working Group earlier this year. The second Community Working Group session will be held at the end of July. There will also be

opportunity for broader community input as the project progresses in the second half of this year.

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.

Rebecca Finn, Associate Urban Designer, Tract Consultants

Ed. - Please note an electronic version of the presentation is available on the Brown Hill Community Online Hub:

brownhill.vic.au/partnerships/local-area-plan/

Questions raised include:

1. Water Street is so wide. What are the opportunities?
2. Are footpaths important? Should the landscape reflect the natural landscape?
3. Is the vegetation along the ridge line important to retain?
4. Is infill development at the rear of lots good? How could it be better?
5. Are the Brown Hill shops the centre of Brown Hill? What would make it feel more like a neighbourhood centre?
6. Are parks and open space important to you? How would you improve them?
7. What character elements are key to maintaining the charm of Brown Hill?

What do you think? Keep an eye on future editions of this newsletter and the 'Making Brown Hill' Facebook page for your opportunity to give input to the Local Area Plan.

Brown Hill Hall

Online updates

The Brown Hill Hall website has been moved over to the Brown Hill Community Online Hub: brownhill.vic.au/hall/

As part of this move, a calendar of existing bookings is now available. It is hoped that this will improve availability of information about which groups are using the hall and when. An online booking system will be developed in the future.

Refurbishment

The Brown Hill Hall refurbishment will be underway once Council approves the preferred contractor. The project is scheduled to take place between July and December 2018.

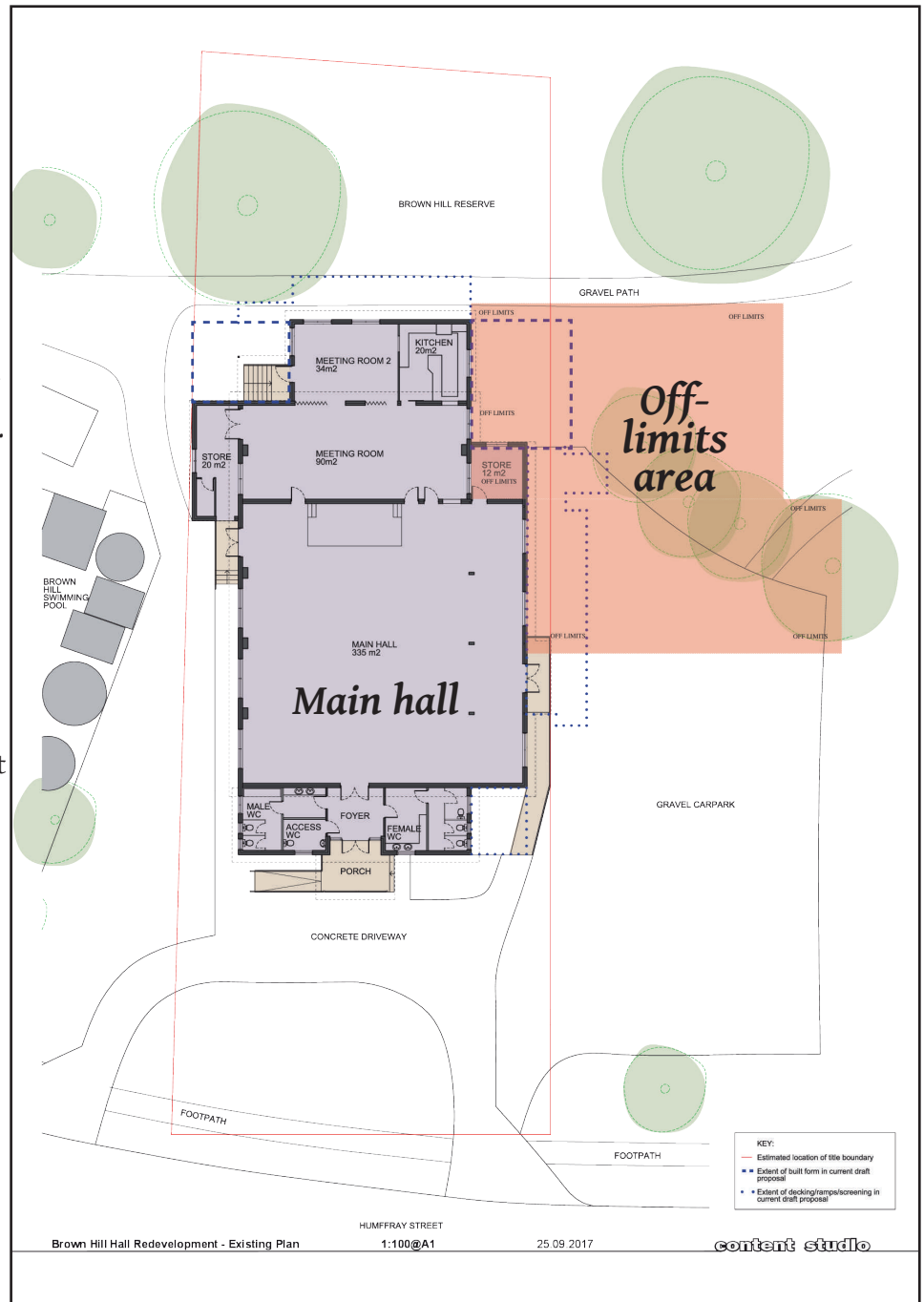
During the works, existing Hall bookings will continue. However, due to the uncertainty of the effect of the works on Hall users, no new bookings will be taken until the works are completed.

Hall users and those using the car park and Brown Hill Recreation Reserve should note the following:

Stage One – Creating a new entrance and toilets on the east (Brown Hill Hotel side) of the building.

The rear section of the car park (from the main hall side-entrance towards the north - Yarrowee River/Brown Hill Oval side) and the storage room closest to the kitchen, will be off-limits.

Stage Two – Removing the existing toilets. The existing toilets and front entrance will be off-limits. Please note that the



Map of the Brown Hill Hall refurbishment project plan – Stage One and Two. Supplied by the City of Ballarat. Available: brownhill.vic.au/partnerships/hall-redevelopment/

new entrance and toilets will already be complete.

Hall users are expected to obey any signage and not block access to the work-site. Those using the hall should be mindful that there will be noise and the normal inconvenience that comes with building works (i.e., dust, etc.).

For more information and a map of the works, visit:

brownhill.vic.au/hall/

Please note that the contact for the Brown Hill Hall Committee is: **hall@brownhill.vic.au**

The next Hall Committee meeting is on **Tuesday 19 June** from 7.30 pm at the back of the hall. All welcome.

Scott Antonio, President, Brown Hill Hall Committee

Venues for hire

As the Brown Hill Hall is not taking new bookings until after the refurbishment is complete, here is a list of alternative venues for hire in or close to Brown Hill:

***Brown Hill Cricket Clubrooms**

Reid Court

Contact Phil Knowles: 0407 399 971
phillip.knowles1960@gmail.com

Capacity: 90 seated. Tables and chairs available.

Kitchen and separate bar available.

Regular bookings:

From September to February:
Brown Hill Cricket Club

From March to August: Eureka Athletics Club

9.00 – 11.00am and 5.00 – 7.00 pm
Wednesday during school term,
Ballarat Wholefoods Collective

***Brown Hill Uniting Church Hall**

Corner of Thompson Street and Humffray Street North

Contact Ann: 0402 627 913. Groups hiring the hall require public liability insurance.

Capacity: 70 seated. Limited chairs and tables available.

Regular bookings:

Mondays

10.00 am – 12.00 noon: Bible Study group

4.00 pm: Eureka Butterfly Guides

6.45 pm – 9.15 pm: Ecumenical Choir

Tuesdays

6.30 pm – 8.00 pm: Kenpo Karate

3.30 pm – 5.00 pm: Three weeks

each term, 'Kids' Club'

Wednesdays

1.00 pm – 3.30 pm: Church Service

7.30 pm: Private Booking

Thursdays

1.30 pm – 3.30 pm on the first and third Thursday each month:

Brown Hill Uniting Church Craft Group. All are welcome.

Fridays

9.00 am: U3A Recorder Group

7.00 pm – 10.00 pm on the third

Friday of each month: Probus

Trivia group meeting

Saturdays

10.30 am: Ballarat Society of Artists

***Caledonian Primary School Multipurpose Hall**

Thompson Street

Contact Geoff Dickson: 5332 6955,
caledonian.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Capacity: 100 seated. Limited tables and chairs available.

Large professional kitchen.

Regular bookings:

School days

7.30 am – 8.30 am: Before-school care

8.45 am – 3.15 pm: School activities

3:15 pm – 6.00 pm: After-school care

Wednesdays

7.45 pm – 9.15 pm: Ballarat Full Gospel Fellowship

Sundays

2.45 pm – 7.30 pm: Ballarat Full Gospel Fellowship

***Russell Square Hall**

Stawell Street North

Contact Drew Russell: 5339 4034,
0410 551 940, rhondru@gmail.com

Capacity: 90 seated. Tables and chairs available.

The Russell Square Hall kitchen will soon be undergoing a significant renovation which will affect its availability for hire. Please contact Drew to discuss options.

***Victoria Bowling Club**

231 Victoria Street, Ballarat East (car park entry along Gent Street, off Stawell Street North)

Contact: Michael Walsh, 5332 6242, 0457 111 399,
dennis@giant.net.au.

Capacity: 250 seated with a dance floor. Up to 320 seated total.

Licensed venue. Kitchen available.

***Warrenheip Memorial Hall**

Contact: Angela Beattie, 0409 347 905, angela.beattie5@gmail.com

Situated only 6.5 km from Ballarat, the hall is suitable for a wide range of private functions, including weddings, birthday parties (sorry, no eighteenth parties), community events, school events, fundraisers, presentation nights and anniversaries.

The new kitchen features a caterers-size fridge, pie warmer, microwave, oven with a stove, 80-cup urn, crockery and cutlery for 100 people and a double sink. Seating and new round tables are available on-site to comfortably seat 110 people.

The hall has a stage, electric wall-heaters, permanent fairy lights, ceiling fans and blinds for the windows.

There is a regular booking of the mobile library every Tuesday afternoon from 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm.



Brunch with the Brown Hill Birds.
Photographer: Bianca Fammartino

Nearby to Nature Project

Brunch with the Birds

Enthusiastic bird-lovers braved the unpredictable autumn weather at Brown Hill to enjoy an early morning walk along the Yarrowee River through the Ditchfield Reserve, to relish the delightful songs and colours of the local bird species. Joined by some members of Birdlife Australia and led by Field Naturalist and Bird Observer Roger Thomas, 20 different bird species were recorded, despite the rain. The list included the Flame Robin with its stunning red breast and the Grey

Shrike-thrush with its delightful song. Many thanks to Helen O'Donnell for her hospitality, providing a location out of the rain to enjoy our brunch and discuss the morning sights.

Bianca Fammartino
Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group
leighcatchmentgroup.org

Brown Hill Community Garden Group

In Edition 12, local resident Sue Walker asked for expressions of interest from the people of Brown Hill to be involved in a group to create a community garden. Thanks to those who got in touch.

After reading the article, Caledonian Primary School parent, Aimee, suggested that the group start by getting involved with the recently invigorated school veggie garden, which has recently received funding from the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program (SAKG) (p.12).

If you are interested in being involved in the Brown Hill Community Gardening Group, please contact Caledonian Primary School on 5332 6955, caledonian.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au or visit the school office.

Sue's Garden Journey

Sue Walker wrote to us about her experience with gardening.

I first started my garden journey when I was a young teen, as a means of earning money. I pruned hedges in my parents' ¼-acre English cottage garden in Melbourne. They were knowledgeable about plants but never grew vegetables. They let me have a section of land to grow my first crop of tomatoes, zucchinis, squash and cucumbers. I was also given a small area to grow some flowers. It was in the shade and I planted marigolds. They didn't grow well, of course, so I moved them over to my veggies and from there began my interest in companion planting, at the age of 16.

I would love to share some benefits of gardening at your place, or why not come and join the Brown Hill Community Garden Group?

I still love gardening. It plays a huge part in my well-being and has given me so much joy over the years to get outside, for even a few minutes a day no matter the weather.

Some benefits to gardening

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Authorised by Joshua Morris MP, 211 Dana Street, Ballarat. Funded from Parliamentary Electorate Office and Communications Budget.



Some plants growing in Sue's garden. Photographer: Sue Walker.

include:

- * Exposure to Vitamin D
- * Boosting your mood
- * Exercise – helping to build muscles and stretch joints. But don't over-do it; lift carefully!
- * If done in a group, it can assist with combating loneliness and provide a source of connection with others
- * Affordable food, healthy fruit and vegetables
- * Mindfulness with other living creatures outdoors, taking time to sit in the garden and really notice the plants or just sit and enjoy a cuppa after all that hard work
- * Being outdoors, connecting with the outdoors, working in the garden can be stress relieving and,

after all that fresh air and work, may also assist with a good night sleep!

These are just a few; there are so many more – too many to mention here, but please do consider joining the Brown Hill Community Gardening Group. All welcome.

Brown Hill Market

We asked Brown Hill Market manager, Steve Burns, to give us an update on this much-anticipated addition to our local community calendar.

Since the last edition of this newsletter, I've been overwhelmed with the support

I've received from the people of Brown Hill... loads of very positive comments and several applications from new stallholders who want to join the market when we shift to Brown Hill. I've even found out that several friends and acquaintances of mine live in Brown Hill – when they told me they had seen the story in the newsletter!

The question everyone is asking is, "When are we moving? When is the Market starting?"

The Brown Hill Hall refurbishment project is the big unknown.

The Market can only move to the Hall once we are sure that the building work won't force us to go elsewhere for a month. We want to start on the 4th Saturday of July, but it could be several months later than that.

Once Council has appointed a contractor, I'll talk to them about the sequence of building works, the area they need to cordon off for safety reasons and we'll determine exactly when the market can start. As soon as I know, I'll be posting information to ballaratmarkets.com.au and through social media. Look for further updates in the next community newsletter too!

Contact: Market Manager, Steve Burns, 0409 551 539 or steve@ballaratmarkets.com.au

Brown Hill Market is coming

second half of 2018, depending on hall reno!

more info: ballaratmarkets.com.au

Brown Hill Playgroup at Caledonian Primary School

Developing a best-practice framework for playgroups-in-schools

Each week, the sounds of pattering feet, the joy of laughter and babbling of children can be heard filtering through the doors of Caledonian Primary School's multi-purpose hall. It is the Brown Hill Playgroup at Caledonian Primary School, a gathering of mums, dads, grandparents and their young ones, getting together to play, learn and connect.

At present, in conjunction with the Australian Catholic University, Deakin University, Monash University, University of Oxford and Playgroup Victoria, Brown Hill Playgroup families are involved in a research project. The project focuses on developing a best-practice framework for playgroups-in-schools.

Families have undertaken face-to-face and telephone interviews, answering questions about playgroup and the home environments of their children. A six-hour workshop was held at the Australian Catholic University in Ballarat. This was attended by several playgroup parents and staff from local primary schools to help inform researchers developing the framework.

Brown Hill Playgroup at Caledonian Primary School is using this opportunity to ensure our playgroup has best practices in place to be a welcoming, safe



and inclusive group which connects families from and living close to the Brown Hill area.

Through participating in this research project, the connection between Brown Hill Playgroup and Caledonian Primary School has been formalised and enriched. In the future, this will correlate with more shared experiences between the Caledonian Primary School community and families at Brown Hill Playgroup. Ideas which have arisen include Caledonian Primary School staff and students interacting with playgroup families for story-times, tours of the school vegetable garden, Science-Week activities and performances in the school concert.

With winter upon us, if you are looking for a warm and friendly place to take your baby or pre-schooler on a Wednesday morning, come and join in the fun at Brown Hill Playgroup at Caledonian Primary School.

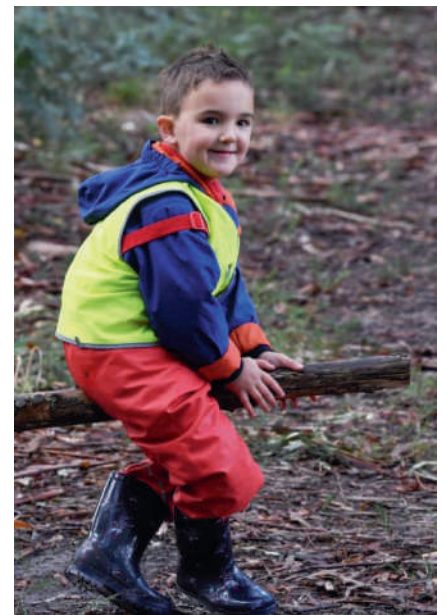
Simply bring a piece of fruit to share and a gold coin donation. 9.00 am to 11.00 am each Wednesday during school term at the multi-purpose hall, Caledonian Primary School, Thompson Street, Brown Hill.

Questions can be emailed to playgroup@brownhill.vic.au or call Caledonian Primary School on 5332 6955. Visit: brownhill.vic.au/directory/brown-hill-playgroup-caledonian-primary-school/ for more.

Aimee Knight, Brown Hill Playgroup at Caledonian Primary School Working Group

Brown Hill Kindergarten

Bush Kinder in the news



Antanas at Brown Hill Kindergarten's Bush Kinder. Photographer: Kate Healy, The Courier

Check out the great photos and article about the many benefits of Brown Hill Kindergarten's Bush Kinder Program in The Courier: (Saturday 12 May, 2018). Images by Kate Healy, The Courier. Here is an excerpt of the article:

'Running free: the green benefits (and fun) of bush kinder

Michelle Smith

At bush kinder the children play with sticks, jump in puddles, climb trees, scramble around logs, dig in the mud and all the things that risk-averse parents usually say no to.

And research says it's doing their mental health, physical health and education the world of good, in addition to building the next generation of nature lovers and the environmentalists of the future.

Ballarat's Brown Hill Kindergarten pioneered bush kinder under its educational leader Christine Sullivan, and every week the kinder pupils spend one of their four-hour sessions in a large tract of bushland along the Yarrowee River a short walk from their centre.'

For the whole article and to see some great photos, visit: thecourier.com.au/story/5395517/running-free-the-green-benefits-and-fun-of-bush-kinder/

Nature Play

During May, Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group staff brought nature into the classroom for Brown Hill Kindergarten students. The children were engaged with stories of local animals and enjoyed looking at and trying to catch live waterbugs. They then made some very creative creatures out of natural materials, giving them the chance to look at interesting features such as how many tails the Damselfly Nymph has (three) and the patterns on the skin of the Spotted Marsh Frog. The children were very interested and they impressed us



Image: Brown Hill Kindergarten children make creations during Nature Play. Photographer: Jane Bevelander

with their ecological knowledge. We were even stumped by the question, "What is a group of frogs called?" Do you know...? (Answer on page 17)

Jane Bevelander, Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group
leighcatchmentgroup.org

Save the date

On Saturday 25 August, the Brown Hill Kindergarten will be running the BBQ at Bunnings Ballarat.

Caledonian Primary School

Principal's Report

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of Term Two at Caledonian Primary School. It has been another full term of learning and extra-curricula events.

Our Grade Five and Grade Six students have been participating in a 'Special Science' program with Woodmans Hill, a campus of Ballarat Secondary College, students have represented our school at Cross Country events and a Robotics tournament. Baker's Delight have partnered with us to run a special-lunch day each month and we continue to have a big focus on our reading program. It has been great seeing how much the students have progressed with their reading this term as teachers begin to write mid-year reports.

Our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden (SAKG) project is up and ...continued p.12



*The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden (SAKG) at Caledonian Primary School.
Photographer: Sarah Greenwood-Smith*

running. Students have been using fresh produce out of the garden to make pizzas, rice paper rolls and pumpkin soup. This initiative links in with our whole-school wellbeing program and also promotes food education. We are hoping as this project grows it will be a link to the wider community. We are seeking donations for the (SAKG) project and for our cooking program. We are looking for cooking utensils, ingredients, such as sugar, flour and non-perishable food items. Donations can be left at the school office.

Thank you to members of the community who supported our 'Spud-drive'. A post on the local Brown Hill Community Facebook page reached over 3000 people! The Trigg family from Caledonian Primary School generously donated a trailer-load full of potatoes and students from one of our Grade Three and Four classes packed most of the potatoes into five kilogram bags and prepared the orders for families to collect. We raised \$650 from the potato drive. This fundraiser couldn't have happened without the

support of the Trigg family! This money will go toward works in our garden.

Caledonian Primary School is currently preparing an application for the 'Pick my Project' grant program. We are putting in an application with a science focus around community engagement with the garden. This grant will be voted for through social media. We hope many local community members will support our grant application!

We have some fantastic community events coming up in Term Three and Term Four. The school will be hosting a Trivia Night as our major fundraiser for the year on Friday 17 August and an Arts Evening on Friday 30 November. We hope you will be able to join us!

Earlier this term, we hosted our 2019/2020 Prep Information Evening. We have had many school tours for 2019 and it is always great to show new families around the school and showcase the fantastic learning that happens at Caledonian Primary

School. If you know of any families considering an enrolment for 2019 or 2020, please encourage them to make a time to come down for a tour of the school, to meet the teachers and see the students in their classrooms.

Brea Terris

*Principal - Caledonian Primary School
5332 6955*

*caledonian.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
caledonianps.vic.edu.au*

Lego Robotics

Caledonian students from grades five and six are participating in the extra-curricular activity - Lego Robotics. In the 'Robocup Competition', there are three different options in which to compete, 'Soccer', 'Dance' and 'Rescue'. Students can choose from one of the two robots, named 'Ev3' and 'Nxt'. This year, students doing robotics are competing in 'Rescue' at the Ballarat Robocup event. However, in the state championships, held in Melbourne, students will get the choice between 'Rescue' and 'Soccer'.

In 'Rescue', the rules are quite simple. Students have to program their robot to follow a black line until you reach the 'oil spill' and save the 'victim', which is actually a metal can. In 'Soccer' though, the rules aren't quite so simple. The robot has to be programmed perfectly to keep turning until it senses the special ball. Then it must go forward and try to score a goal.

The third section of the competition is 'Dance'. The programming part is usually simple, but that depends on how students program their robot to dance. When they finish

programming, students have to make their own dance routine so they can dance beside their robot. Students can make a costume for their robot as well.

When students go to the State Championships, they are going to compete against people from all over Victoria. If students win the competition, they are invited to the National Championships, held in Sydney. At this level, students compete against everyone that has won their state championships.

The winners of the National Championships are invited to the International Championships, which could be anywhere in the world. Last year they were held in Tokyo. Participants compete against EVERYONE from different countries who have won both the State and National Championships.

*Connor and Jonah, Grade Six,
Caledonian Primary School*

ANZAC Day Commemorative Ceremony

On Tuesday 24 April, Caledonian Primary School held a special ANZAC Day assembly, during which all the Grade Six students

presented a speech to the rest of the school.

After the assembly, three returned servicemen (two of whom fought in the Vietnam war), Greg, Gavin and Ed, came to talk to us about their experiences with war. The first thing we noticed was that they all had medals. Greg explained that the medals worn on the left side of their body, placed over their heart, were medals they had earned. The medals worn on the right side of their body were those belonging to past family and friends.

The servicemen said that the most pride they had was from each other. They had strong mateship and worked as a team.

One student asked them if they had any injuries but they didn't



(L-R) Greg Green, Ed Bawden and Gavin Sharp at Caledonian Primary School's ANZAC Day assembly with wreaths made by students. Photographer: Ange Davies.

tell us about that from bad experiences. Gavin said that each base was different from the other and that they had to move around quite a lot. Some people had to be sent home due to injury during the war.

It opened my mind to learn more about war. The session was a lot more interesting than I thought it was going to be! Thank you, Ed, Gavin and Greg for coming to talk to us. We really appreciated it!

Izabella, Grade Five, Caledonian Primary School

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Caledonian Primary School's Lego Robotics students. Photographer: Geoff Dickson

Glen Park Primary School Street Library

Street libraries are becoming very popular, especially in the United States of America and New Zealand. They are also starting to be seen more often in Australia, with over 600 officially registered. Glen Park is the first school in Ballarat to have a street library and it is only the fourth in the city.

The Street Library organisation (<https://streetlibrary.org.au>) states on their website, "Street Libraries are a beautiful home for books, planted in your front yard. They are accessible from the street and are an invitation to share the joys of reading with your neighbours."

Street libraries are a window into the mind of a community. Books come and go and no one needs to check them in or out. People can simply reach in and take what interests them. When they are done, they can return them to the street library network, or pass



Image: Glen Park Primary School's Street Library. Photographer: Anthony Shaw

them on to a friend.

We have not had mobile-library visits to Glen Park in many years. Lately, many young families have moved into our area and we wanted to not only provide access to quality junior fiction for those families, but to also showcase our excellent library to the whole of our local community. We value reading and quality literature and we want to make that available to pre-schoolers and those who don't attend our school.

In our street library, situated at the front of our school on Ralston's Road, we currently have brand new classic children's fiction, including books suitable for pre-schoolers and for teens. So if you are passing Glen Park, stop and see what we have to borrow. We will update our library regularly and plan to have an 'adult reading month' every July, with books suitable for adults and a 'family reading month' every September, with books that might be interesting to parents of school-age kids and adolescents.

Anthony Shaw, Principal, Glen Park Primary School
5334 5360,
shaw.anthony.n@edumail.vic.gov.au
glenparks.vic.edu.au and Facebook

If you are considering a small rural school education in 2018 then contact Glen Park PS for an inspection. Contact us via our website or ring 53345360.

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Holocaust survivor – Abe Goldberg

Ed: Please note that some content in this article may be upsetting for some readers.

A local secondary school student shares her recent work.

For Humanities, my class had to do a research project on World War Two. I chose to speak to a man who had survived the Holocaust. With a lot of back and forth messaging and emails I finally got the privilege of speaking with this iconic figure. While it was only a phone call, it was still a very moving and inspirational conversation.

Abe Goldberg, a 14 year-old boy growing up in the heart of Poland in 1933, got tangled up in one of the most significant events in history: the Holocaust. Coming from a very political family, Abe knew what was going on since he was nine years old. He was a junior champion gymnast and a junior champion table-tennis player.

When Abe was 15 years old, he and his extended family (roughly 40 people) were taken to Warsaw, the first, and biggest, ghetto in Germany. Whilst in the ghetto, Abe and his mum hid for four

weeks in a barn. At the time, his mother was 53 and was getting too physically weak to keep having to climb up the ladder. She offered to go and surrender herself, but Abe wouldn't let her. She told him to keep hiding and keep himself safe and she would find help. However, he wouldn't let her leave and he did everything to help her, including helping her up into the loft they were hiding in.

Abe was placed in Auschwitz with his mother in 1940, along with the rest of his extended family. Before Abe and his mother got separated, she said to him, "Do what you can to stay alive, you do what you can to keep yourself safe." Then they were separated and Abe never saw her again. Out of his extended family, Abe and his older sister were the only ones to have survived the whole thing.

When Abe was in Auschwitz, he met his wife Cesia. At first, he didn't even take any notice of her as she was four years younger than him. Towards the end of his time there, when Cesia was 16, they noticed each other. They got married in 1947. On 15 June 2018, they would have been married 71 years.

Abe says, "Coming from a political background, we established underground networks when I was just a young boy, whilst working in a metal factory in the

ghetto." Abe finished his metal and engineering degree and he was made a foreman in the factory.

Whilst speaking to Abe, he mentioned that there was never much food. There were 200,000 people in this particular ghetto and 25% of these people didn't survive due to hunger starvation. Abe said his aim was to survive in such conditions. He said, "All of us were hungry, but the rule was food was given to the children and we would scavenge around and scrape up what food we could."

I found that speaking to such a significant person really opened up my eyes to how cruel the world can be. I'm so thankful to have been able to speak with Abe and learn and understand what living during World War Two was really like and how lucky we are as a country to have not gone through such a life-changing event.

Kellie Missen, Year Ten

Woodman's Hill – A Campus of Ballarat Secondary College

Ed: Abe, who lives in Melbourne, was a founding member of the Jewish Holocaust Museum and received an Order of Australia in 2013.



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"mates rates" for locals

Ballarat Community Garden

We asked Brown Hill local, Courtney O'Loughlan why she became a member of the Ballarat Community Garden

I joined the Ballarat Community Garden at the beginning of 2017 because I wanted to be part of what looked like, and has turned out to be, a wonderful community of people from all walks of life who share a love of gardening. I had previously been a member many years ago, but had reluctantly given up my plot when life got too busy and I wasn't able to get to the garden as much. I'm so glad that I joined again, even though I wish I could get there more. Each morning, on the way to drop my kids at school, I spy the stinging nettles in my garden plot – a reminder that I could still get there more often!

There is something so positive about gardening; the planning, the planting, the tending and then, if you're lucky and the stinging nettles haven't crowded out everything else, the harvest.

I love being able to have little chats with other gardeners about what's growing, what's not and the best ways to tackle pesky cabbage moths. Being able to share excess produce with others is also lovely. Every time I go to the community garden, I learn something new. Each visit, I feel happier when I leave than when I arrived.

Courtney O'Loughlan, Ballarat Community Garden Member



ShareWaste - the composting system at Althea and Robert's property.

Photographer: Sarah Greenwood-Smith

Ballarat Community Garden

Saturday 16 June

9.00 am, Working Bee (weather permitting!)

11.00 am, Composting workshop – An informal chat about the current composting that's happening at the community garden and what people are doing individually. A collection of ideas and suggestions.

Non-members are welcome at both activities.

First Saturday each month: 9.30 am, Ballarat Local Produce Swap. Everyone welcome!

*Ballarat Community Garden
ballaratcommunitygarden.org.au/
Corner of Dyte Parade and Queen Street*

ShareWaste

Give your waste a second chance

Brown Hill couple, Althea and Robert, have joined 'ShareWaste'. The project is about connecting people who wish to recycle their kitchen scraps with their neighbours who are already

composting, worm-farming or keeping chickens. The idea is that people can divert organic waste from landfill while getting to know their community.

Althea and Robert, who live a short drive off Springs Road, near Coorabin Estate, will happily accept food scraps and clean gardening waste (no ivy, oxalis or other noxious weeds please). Althea says, "We've always gardened, composted and recycled as much as we can. We don't like to see anything go to waste ... or to see valuable compostables wasted in landfill. We have huge compost heaps, a small flock of chooks and a worm farm. Nothing is wasted at our place and other clean waste is always welcome and appreciated."

If you are interested in donating your organic waste, register with ShareWaste online and send a message to Althea and Robert.

Register your compost, worms or chooks

If you want to start accepting organic waste from your neighbours, sign up on the ShareWaste website. There's a

map everyone can see. Once you register your address, the ShareWaste team will put a marker on the map and people from your neighbourhood can send you a message when they're ready to bring their organic waste. You can have a chat with them and tell them when they can come. What a great idea!

To find out more, visit:
sharewaste.com

Compostable packaging

Brown Hill local, Ellen Burns, runs snack-food enterprise 'We Bar None' from her home. Ellen is bringing the war-on-waste into her business.

Being an eco-warrior and a small-business owner didn't seem to match up, as Ellen found herself creating a lot of plastic waste, mainly in the form of her packaging. Luckily, through a lot of research, she found 'PA Packaging', a supplier in NSW that offers plant-based packaging which breaks down safely in home-compost heaps, when buried, or in the unfortunate event that it ends up in a waterway.

A successful online crowdfunding campaign recently enabled Ellen to raise support for her move to home-compostable packaging and

she will be making the switch in July. She says, "I am just one of many Ballarat business-owners changing how we do things to align with our personal ethics and distaste for waste!"

Ellen is also a committee member of The Hidden Orchard (see Edition 11), which harvests unwanted fruit and redistributes it to the community to prevent food-waste and improve local food security.

Ellen doesn't want to see any of her new wrappers entering the waste stream so is encouraging people to use ShareWaste if they don't have a compost bin of their own.

See: webarnone.com.au for more.

Fruit Tree Pruning

As part of the City of Ballarat's Engaging Communities Program, in 2016 several fruit trees were planted in the Brown Hill Recreation Reserve. It is time to give them a prune!

On **Thursday 28 June from 4.00 – 5.00 pm**, Richard Nicholls from the City of Ballarat will run an education session for anyone interested in learning how to prune their fruit trees. All welcome.

Recycling newspapers

The Brown Hill Cricket Club has been recycling newspapers since 1996, as one of its major fundraising activities. However, in recent times the papers have dwindled in numbers.

The club still needs to obtain as many newspapers as possible to support this major source of income, and calls on the Brown Hill community to collect their newspapers (no magazines or phone books please). Newspapers can be placed in a box and dropped at the Brown Hill Cricket Club shed on Reid Court (next to the training nets) or placed on the clubroom veranda. Please contact Club President Phil Knowles with any questions.

Phil Knowles, President, Brown Hill Cricket Club, 0407 399 971

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

Answer from p.11: A group of frogs is called an Army

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Ballarat Wholefoods Collective Members and visitors learning about Enbom Honeys at the Open Day in May. Photographer: Jenine Harris.

Wholesome Wholefoods

We were delighted with the positive feedback we received from our Open Day in May! Special mention was made of how wonderful the Brown Hill Cricket Club rooms looked and how welcome our visitors felt. Some of our producers showcased their products in the evening, including Grounded Pleasures, Enbom Honeys and an egg producer from Raglan.

Our new fridge is working very well and filling up fast with lots of goodies! Organic Cheese, Butter, Inglenook Milk, Cream and Yoghurt. We have close to 200 products on offer. Our website has our product list. See:

ballaratwholefoodscollective.org/

Workshops

Beeswax wraps

Wednesday 27 June, 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm at the Brown Hill Cricket Club.

\$10 for members, \$15 for non-members.

Limited places available. Please email us to reserve your place: ballaratwholefoodscollective@gmail.com

Seasonal Local Organic Wholefoods

Brown Hill Cricket Club, 1 Reid Court, Brown Hill

9.00 am – 11.00 am and 5.00 pm – 7.00 pm Wednesdays (school term only; not during school holidays)

For a product list and prices: ballaratwholefoodscollective.org

Find us on Facebook and Instagram

Wendy Aston, President, Ballarat Wholefoods Collective
0419 898 286

Brown Hill Seniors

We have had a busy time with a number of new members. That is great for another Brown Hill organisation. Our recent trip was to a collectors' venue at Bungaree. We had lunch at the Blue Bell Hotel and then on to the Tram Museum. A great day was had by all.

We meet on Mondays 1.30 pm – 4.00 pm at the Brown Hill Hall. Participants enjoy bowls, cards, community singing and bingo. Once a month, the group go on a bus trip. New members (55 years old and over) are most welcome to join in.

Enquiries: Doreen on 5331 2157

Doreen Braebrook, Brown Hill Seniors Coordinator

Brown Hill Community Newsletter

This publication is a community project of the Brown Hill Progress Association. 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. Social Media: Rachael Houtsma. Advertising support: Jodi Flower-Russell and Victoria Rushton.

Around 20 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 available on the Brown Hill Online Community Hub: brownhill.vic.au/newsletter.

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 or in hard copy to the main office at Caledonian Primary School, Thompson Street, Brown Hill during school term and school hours. Edition 14 submissions are due by **Tuesday 7 August 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 and Directory Committee or the Brown Hill Progress Association, including any officers, members, agents or contractors.*

Printed by Ballarat Mailworks on 100% recycled paper.



Brown Hill Uniting Church



Men's Breakfast

At the Men's Breakfast on 28 April, we were very pleased that local fitness instructor, Stephen Holmes, who runs an exercise group at the Brown Hill Hall, was able to join us and present a talk to the gathering of men at very short notice. Thank you, Stephen; we are sure you inspired all the men to be as active as they can physically be, and to enjoy it, too!

Michelle Orr, a nurse from Ballarat Community Health, was a late apology for unforeseen reasons and will come another time to talk about her work with men's health.

Next Men's Breakfast is on **Saturday 21 July** from 8.30 am. The speaker is Ivan Thorne, Drug and Alcohol worker with Uniting Ballarat. We look forward to another great morning!

Louise Wright, Brown Hill Uniting Church

Eureka! 60 years of trailers

We discovered that 2018 is the 60th year of Eureka Trailers, so we had a chat to them about their journey.

Eureka! We've made it! 60 years on, Eureka Trailers on the Old Melbourne Road, Brown Hill, are still going strong. David Watts and his son Dean are building 'one-off' special trailers, including a giraffe-float for Ashton's Circus and other tailored trailers for the City of Ballarat, Telstra and the CFA. They also make special trailers for the grandchildren of David's father's clients.

David started in his dad's business in 1978, after an apprenticeship in the railways, then worked at a local business called 'Freighters'. David says, "Dad started in 1958, after building a camper-trailer for a family trip to Phillip Island, selling the trailer to a camper at the island. He started his business in his Eureka Street backyard, where it stayed until he was forced to move to the current site around Christmas 1969. The business employed up to 22 people in its day, sending trailers all over the country."

Currently, Eureka Trailers produce special 'one-off' trailers for tradespeople Australia-wide,

catering for a niche market. David says, "The trailers are good quality for a reasonable price."

Eureka Trailers no longer advertise and the work keeps coming. Obviously, something is being done well! David says, "We are booked out for all of 2018 unfortunately!" Debra, wife and mother to the two dynamos, is the bookkeeper. She makes sure the tax-man is well-fed. They operate Monday to Friday 8.00 am – 6.00 pm and Saturday 8.30 am – 12.00 noon.


Brian Green, Brown Hill Community Newsletter and Directory Committee

Victoria Bowling Club

With the outdoor pennant now finished, we have commenced the indoor season with our ladies playing on Monday nights and men on Tuesday nights.

Happy-hour commences at 5.00 pm every Friday.

Michael Walsh, Victoria Bowling Club
5332 6242, 0457 111 399,
dennis@giant.net.au



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The new East Point Junior Football Netball Club scoreboard. Image supplied.

East Point Junior Football Netball Club

As we move past the first quarter of the season, we have experienced some great results from our teams with some good solid wins and some great maturity and development shown by our players.

We currently have 83 netball players and 186 football players. We also have 561 members on our online 'TeamApp' page.

Our social-media platforms, Facebook and Team App, are updated daily and all club members and supporters are able to access up-to-the-minute information relating to all aspects of our club.

As per our club objectives, having fun is a part of our journey and as I watch many games of netball and football each week, our kids are certainly doing just that – enjoying themselves. Also,

importantly, the way we go about our preparation, development of leadership qualities and sustainable effort and processes all provide smaller measures of how we judge ourselves each week, each quarter and each team in our club.

We are proud of our netball and football players, who have represented themselves and our club with inter-league duties (football: 16 players, netball: eight players).

We recently installed a new electronic football scoreboard at our home ground in Russell Square. We are very proud of this addition, paid for by fundraising at social functions over previous seasons.

Go Doggies, 1, 2, 3 ...Woof!



Glenn McKenzie, Junior Co-ordinator,
East Point Junior Football Netball Club
0408 524 994,
glenn_mckenzie@bigpond.com

Pick My Project

'Pick My Project' is a Victorian-first community-grants initiative, with \$30 million available to fund local projects. Come up with a project idea, vote for your favourites and make our community an even better place to live. Submissions are due by **Sunday 24 June 2018**. See: pickmyproject.vic.gov.au/ for more.

...continued from p.1

Saturday 30: Ballarat Winter Festival begins. See: ballaratwinterfestival.com.au

JULY

Sunday 1: Single use plastic shopping bags removed from some shops at Bakery Hill Shopping Complex

Tuesday 3: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill Progress Association AGM and monthly meeting, Brown Hill Hall

Sunday 8 – Sunday 15: NAIDOC Week. See: naidoc.org.au/about/naidoc-week

Monday 16: School Term Three begins

Saturday 21 July: Brown Hill Uniting Church Mens' Breakfast (p.19)

Saturday 28: 9.00 am – 1.00 pm, potential Brown Hill Market, Brown Hill Hall (p.9)

Sunday 29: Ballarat Winter Festival finishes.

AUGUST

Tuesday 7: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill Progress Association monthly meeting, Brown Hill Hall

Tuesday 7: Submissions for Edition 14 due (p.18)

Friday 17: Edition 14 delivery begins across Brown Hill

Friday 17: Caledonian Primary School Trivia Night (p.12)

Saturday 25: Brown Hill Kindergarten BBQ at Bunnings Ballarat (p.11)

SAVE THE DATE

Friday 26 October: 5.00 pm - 7.30 pm, 2018 Brown Hill Community Festival. See: brownhill.vic.au/brown-hill-community-festival/