

Brown Hill Community Newsletter

Edition 18, April 2019

*A project of the Brown Hill Progress Association, supported by the Brown Hill Community Partnership.
We are proud to walk this land with the Wadawurrung people and all other First Nations people.*



Eureka Mums volunteer and Brown Hill local, Robert, helps local families by repairing donated equipment. Image supplied.

Diary Dates

See brownhill.vic.au for details.

APRIL

Saturday 13:

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

Monday 15:

12.00 noon - 5.00 pm, Better Flood Planning Project drop-in session, Bridge Mall (p.12)

Tuesday 16: 7.30 pm, Brown Hill Hall Committee meeting (p.15)

... continued p.2

Robert helps local families with Eureka Mums

Brown Hill resident, Robert, has been a volunteer with Eureka Mums for two years. His role is invaluable and very busy!

Eureka Mums is a 'not-for-profit' community service group, established five years ago in Ballarat. It is a sister organisation of St Kilda Mums in Melbourne and Geelong Mums. Eureka Mums collect, sort and redistribute essential nursery equipment, clothing, books and toys for babies and school-age children.

Robert's tasks involve fixing and cleaning all donated equipment. Each item is then reassembled and given a safety check to ensure compliance with current regulations.

When asked why he chooses to

volunteer at Eureka Mums, Robert replied, "I love the challenge of cleaning, repairing and re-assembling all the different furniture, prams and car seats that are kindly donated." Robert said, "I enjoy the good company of the other generous volunteers so much that I really look forward to going to 'work' at Eureka Mums each week."

After beginning in a garage, the group quickly outgrew the space used to house the strollers, prams and cots for redistribution. The facility is now located in an enormous shed in Sebastopol which is stacked to the roof with blanket bags of soft furnishings, cot bedding, sheets and blankets etc.. All of these items have been donated to the group by the local

community for redistribution.

Eureka Mums sort, quality check and safety check all items donated to ensure they meet current Australian Safety Standards. They receive requests from Maternal Child Health nurses and social workers on behalf of families in need. They then try to meet or exceed each request with quality new or pre-loved donations.

Eureka Mums' aim is to give to people who are facing a variety of challenges and hope they feel uplifted when they receive a donation. It is viewed as giving a gift that is packed with love to provide practical support and to show that someone cares.

... continued p.16

... continued from p.1

Friday 19: Good Friday

Sunday 21: Easter Sunday

Sunday 21: 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm,
DancePlus2 dance, Brown Hill Hall
(danceplus2.com)

Monday 22: Easter Monday

Tuesday 23: School Term Two
starts

Tuesday 23: 12.00 noon - 5.00 pm,
Better Flood Planning Project
drop-in session, Bridge Mall (p.12).

Thursday 25: ANZAC Day

Saturday 27: 9.00 am - 1.00 pm,
Brown Hill Market, Brown Hill
Hall (p.5)

Tuesday 30: Round Four of the
City of Ballarat's Community
Impact Grant Program closes
(p.17)

MAY

Wednesday 1: Donations for the
Eureka Mums' project 'From One
Mother to Another' are due to
Brown Hill Kindergarten (p.16)

Tuesday 7: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill
Progress Association meeting,
Brown Hill Hall (rear room) (p.5)

Saturday 11: 8.30am, Men's
Breakfast at the Brown Hill
Uniting Church (p.14)

Saturday 18: 7.30 pm, Wattle Flat
Pootilla Landcare Group AGM and
Talk by Matthew Dowler about
Narmbool Fire Recovery (p.13)

Saturday 25: 9.00 am - 1.00 pm,
Brown Hill Market, Brown Hill
Hall (p.5)

JUNE

Monday 3: Articles for Edition 19
due (see below)

Tuesday 4: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill

Progress Association meeting,
Brown Hill Hall (rear room) (p.5)

Sunday 9: 10.00 am - 12.00 noon,
Pootilla Tree Planting (p.13)

Friday 14: Delivery of Edition 19
begins across Brown Hill

Saturday 22: 9.00 am - 1.00 pm,
Brown Hill Market, Brown Hill
Hall (p.5)

NOVEMBER

Sunday 17: Eucalypts of Slaty
Creek Walk and BBQ (p.13)

For updates, visit: brownhill.vic.au

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About our Newsletter

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

It is published bi-monthly in
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October and November.

Editorial Advisory Committee:
Ange Davies, Geoff Dickson, Brian
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Hazen Cleary and Ange Davies.

Local volunteers distribute the
newsletter to all businesses and
residences in Brown Hill, with
additional copies available at local
businesses and community hubs.

Electronic copies are available on
the Brown Hill Online Community
Hub: brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/
or you can subscribe by emailing
us: newsletter@brownhill.vic.au.

Contributions are welcome from
the Brown Hill community.
Articles are due by the first
Monday 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 19 articles are due by
Monday 3 June 2019. Please read
the editorial policy regarding
contributions before submitting
an article:
brownhill.vic.au/newsletter.

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In this edition

It was National Neighbour Day on Sunday 31 March. We had other plans that day but the week before we visited six of our neighbours with some excess produce from our garden. As we handed over bags of plums, cherry tomatoes and zucchinis, we shared stories with our neighbours and got to know each other a little better.

Several times over the past month, being connected to our neighbours has come in handy. Late one Saturday night, one neighbour discovered a burst water pipe and was unable to find the water mains. After a knock on our back door and two quick phone calls, we had four neighbours with torches helping out. Once the water had been stopped, we stood around for a few introductions and a chat. I was heartened to receive several text messages the next day from neighbours who hadn't previously met, making sure that everyone was OK.

I was also very grateful for being friends with several of our neighbours when I found myself needing to get to hospital and heading home on crutches. Between my neighbours and some great parent friends, both of our kids were collected from

Silver sponsor:



A very enthusiastic Brown Hill volunteer, local newsletter delivery team member, Antanas (5 years old) on Lane Street. Photographer: Sarah Greenwood-Smith

kindergarten and school, I was driven to the hospital and back, heat packs were delivered and I was given a cup of tea and offers of help. What a super village!

Brown Hill is a well-connected community, supported by several active groups and many enthusiastic volunteers. Brown Hill Progress Association committee members prepared a detailed response to the Local Area Plan Scenarios Paper (p.5). You can learn about the contributions of other local volunteers including Robert (Eureka Mums, p.1) and Kate (Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare

Group, p.13).

Thanks again to our **sponsors:**

Silver: Brown Hill Hotel and Brown Hill Market. **Bronze:** ALDON Tutoring Centres Ballarat, Ballarat Health Foods, Ballarat Treeworks, Bakers Delight Bakery Hill, The AFL Store - Ballarat, and Dazzlin' Doggie Country Village.

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



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Our Local Area Plan

The consultation period for the Brown Hill Local Area Plan (LAP) Draft Scenarios Paper has now closed.

Thanks to all community members and stakeholders who completed the online feedback form or sent in their comments.

There were over 500 visits to the Brown Hill Local Area Plan mysay webpage and of that number 44 submitted the questionnaire survey. In addition, there were a number of individual submissions and altogether this has been an invaluable response.

The wide range of comments received will be carefully considered in the preparation of the Draft Local Plan in the next few months.

There will also be an opportunity for further consultation on this next stage before a Final Local Area Plan is completed.

John Dyke, Strategic Planner Heritage, City of Ballarat



Local Area Plan Response

The Brown Hill Progress Association submitted a detailed response to the City of Ballarat's Brown Hill Local Area Plan Scenarios Paper.

The following are a few extracts from the submission. To access the full submission, visit the Brown Hill Community Online

Hub:
brownhill.vic.au/partnerships/local-area-plan/BHPA_response_to_LAP/

Road issues (4.9 in infrastructure report)

PRIORITIES (Intersection of Water and Victoria Streets):

Instigate a comprehensive study to develop an intersection design that addresses the issues and involves community members throughout the process. Ensure that resources are allocated, at least tentatively, for future capital works.

PRIORITIES (Intersection of Humffray and Water Streets):

Introduce traffic management solutions for the intersection of Humffray and Water Streets e.g. slow the traffic with a reduced speed limit and investigate a round-about. This intersection is **not** suitable for a Town Square or Plaza. Use this 'space' to improve the safety of the intersection and shop accessibility. Consider increased parking.

PRIORITIES (Intersection of Springs and Daylesford Roads):

The proposed orbital or interconnected road network does not address the existing problem that all traffic will still funnel into Springs Road and the intersection with Daylesford Road.

PRIORITIES (Western Freeway and Water Street interchange):

A traffic management strategy should be developed and implemented that incorporates Springs Road, the freeway interchange, the intersection of Water and Humffray Streets, the shopping precinct and possibly

include the hall/pool/reserve as one precinct. Consider installing pedestrian crossings in key areas: shops, schools, hall/pool/reserve precinct. Investigate more 40km zones.

Civil infrastructure and services (4.8 in infrastructure report)

Stormwater/potable water/sewage infrastructure

From the report there appears a strong indication that the water infrastructure/delivery systems are at capacity for the **current** level of housing, i.e. if further intensive land development occurs in the upstream catchment, a stormwater management strategy will be required to cater for the increased flow. A future Drainage Scheme for 'Emerging' Brown Hill is essential.

PRIORITIES: Until the following (see full submission) has been addressed, further approval of residential development should be restricted to ensure that there is sufficient capacity of the infrastructure and services to be able to accommodate any further expansion. This is to apply to both the established and emerging areas of Brown Hill.

Bushfire and other emergency risks (4.5 in infrastructure report)

As almost the entire study area falls within the bushfire-prone zone, increased development heightens the risk to life and property in this heavily vegetated area. Additionally, there is a conflict between bushfire controls and habitat objectives. The scenario and other documents provided to the community, at

this stage, do not provide any recommendations/options regarding the risk or conflict.

PRIORITIES: Prepare a Brown Hill Evacuation Plan and identify 'places of last resort', including walking and vehicle egress this side of the railway line and also preferably one north of the freeway.

Public realm/commercial growth/community facilities

PRIORITIES: Water Street - a grand boulevard. That's OK, but Water Street has a road reserve that could easily accommodate a **separate** and **shared** cycling/walking lane.

A multi-use path along Springs Road. We **disagree**. It is difficult to see how such a path can be accommodated. This is an 80km speed limit area and there are major safety concerns. It would have to be separate from vehicle lanes.

GREATER PRIORITY: Pedestrian connections. Footpaths should be provided on both sides of all new residential streets.

Footpaths should be constructed on both sides of all existing streets with a classification of a 'collector' street or higher.

PRIORITIES (Strengthen the Humffray Street Centre (Opportunity 4):

The scenario paper includes the option of putting a Town Square

Silver sponsor:

for Brown Hill in the underutilised right of way at the intersection of Humffray and Water Streets. We **disagree strongly** and suggest that this is not the place for such a public space. The town "square" or centre is already evolving at the Brown Hill Reserve and this is what needs developing. More facilities for children and teenagers would be useful.

The Brown Hill Progress Association is proud to be well-connected to the Brown Hill community and to help our local residents have a voice in this and other important projects. If you would like to come along to a meeting, please join us from 7.00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month in the back room of the Brown Hill Hall (access via the rear steps). Dates for the remaining 2019 meetings are: 7 May, 4 June, 2 July, 6 August, 3 September, 1 October, 5 November and 3 December. All welcome.

Improving our pool

The Brown Hill Progress Association is working with the City of Ballarat to develop a strategy for the Brown Hill Pool.

Ballarat has four outdoor pools, in Brown Hill, Black Hill, Buninyong and the Eureka Pool in Ballarat East. There are also outdoor water play facilities in Ballarat North (Midlands), Sebastopol and at the Eureka Pool. Ballarat's indoor pool is the Ballarat Aquatic and

Lifestyle Centre in Lake Gardens.

The Brown Hill Pool was built in the 1960s and is a fantastic local asset. We hope to continue to improve the pool for the Brown Hill and Ballarat communities.

The City of Ballarat's role is to provide facilities but also to increase participation and health and well-being outcomes. Through the Brown Hill Progress Association, the City of Ballarat aims to achieve this in partnership with the community.

On 26 February, members of the Brown Hill Progress Association Committee met with two City of Ballarat representatives, Neville Ivey, Director Community Development and Allan Glenwright, Aquatic Services Coordinator. We had a tour of the Brown Hill Pool and highlighted the increasing useage of this wonderful local facility with around 9400 visits in the 2018/19 season, including 82 children who took part in the Learn to Swim program. We highlighted some key areas for improvement associated with the toddlers' pool, the toilets and the kiosk.

If you have ideas about ways in which we could improve the Brown Hill Pool facilities and increase participation, please email: pool@brownhill.vic.au by **31 July 2019**.

Brendan Stevens
Secretary, Brown Hill Progress Association
bhpa@brownhill.vic.au

BROWN HILL MARKET			
April 27	May 25	June 22	9am – 1pm
Come see our NEW stalls! Bring a friend for a fun day out!			
Brown Hill Hall 375 Humffray St Brown Hill		www.ballaratmarkets.com.au	

Brown Hill Kindergarten

Clean up Australia/Brown Hill

On 19 and 21 March, children from Brown Hill Kindergarten went outside the kindergarten to clean up and collect rubbish. The children were very enthusiastic about collecting the rubbish and working out which bag to put it in – recycle or rubbish. Everyone wore gloves to pick up the rubbish. We were surprised how much rubbish we found around the kindergarten carpark and the cricket club car park but pleased there was not much around our bush kinder site.

We talked about why we need to look after nature and to clean up the rubbish and how rubbish can be a problem for the birds, animals and the oceans. The children were shocked to think that rubbish can get into our waterways, hurt wildlife and fish and even enter our food chain!

Recycling dental care products

Colgate®, a global leader in oral care, has partnered with TerraCycle® to help provide a second life for toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, toothpaste caps, floss containers and their outer packaging materials.

Help divert landfill waste by sending your oral care products to TerraCycle.

A past kindergarten parent has arranged to be a collection point and we have placed a box in the foyer and would encourage you (and your friends and family) to collect your used oral care



Brown Hill Kindergarten children clean up along the Yarrowee River. Image supplied.

products and bring them into the kindergarten to be recycled. *Please note any brand of oral care products can be collected – not just Colgate.*

Thank you to the kindergarten families and members of the community who are bringing toothbrushes and related items to the kindergarten.

*Christine Sullivan, Educational Leader
Brown Hill Kindergarten (a Eureka
Community Kindergarten Association
[ECKA] Kindergarten), 5332 7973
brown.hill.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au*

Enrol your child in kindergarten

Children can be enrolled for kindergarten from 1 January in the year that they turn two. Kindergarten places are offered on the basis of the date they are enrolled. For more information: ballarat.vic.gov.au/pc/family-and-children/kindergartens

Families are most welcome to visit the kindergarten prior to enrolling. Please contact us to arrange a visit.

Caledonian Primary School

From the Principal's desk

It has been such a fantastic term at Caledonian Primary School (CPS). The staff and students have been exploring various aspects of Wellbeing.

As part of our 'School Wide Positive Behaviour Framework' (SWPBF) we have been explicitly teaching Social and Emotional learning. This learning supports students to develop skills they need to build resilience and effectively manage their emotions, behaviour and relationships with others.

During the last week of term we celebrated the learning we had undertaken in Term One, with a visit from Hugh from The Resilience Project (see p.8). The highlight of this visit was listening to students speak about gratitude and kindness after listening to

Hugh's stories. Around 100 parents and community members also attended an evening presentation with Hugh in which he discussed a range of strategies to support our emotional wellbeing.

We also launched our 'School Wide Positive Behaviour Matrix' during a whole-school assembly in the last week of term. The Matrix displays the expected behaviours under the headings of Respect, Responsible and Resilient. The students are acknowledged for displaying these behaviours with points they can exchange for participating in a range of special activities in the school, such as having lunch with their teacher or spending extra time helping in the school vegetable garden.

Research has shown that having a SWPBF is successful in reducing problem-behaviour, improving school culture and increasing academic performance.

Thanks Pam Barby

On Wednesday 3 April, we farewelled Pam Barby from CPS. Pam has worked as an Education

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Hugh van Cuylenburg, Founding Director/Facilitator of The Resilience Project with Angelo, one of Caledonian Primary School's School Captains. Image supplied.

Support staff member at our school for many years and will be missed by staff, students and parents. We wish her well and hope she enjoys her well-earned retirement.

Prep Enrolments for 2020 are being taken. Please contact me to

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arrange a school tour,

Wishing our community members a safe and happy holiday period.

Brea Terris

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

...continued p.8

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...continued from p.7

The Resilience Project

On Tuesday 2 April, Hugh from 'The Resilience Project' came to speak to the students of Caledonian Primary School about resilience. He shared with us stories from his travels in India and when he embarrassed himself in front of famous people. Hugh told us about the three tricks of happiness that he had learned from a boy in India named Stunzin. Hugh's tricks to being happy are:

1. Being **G**rateful
2. Being kind (showing **E**mpathy),
3. Practising **M**indfulness

You can remember them by using the acronym **G.E.M.**

The Resilience Project is a program that provides emotionally and mentally engaging stories. Its goal is to get people to have a different and more positive attitude. Not only does Hugh speak to students, he also speaks to athletes and businesses.

We asked a couple of grade five and six students what they thought about The Resilience Project. One student said, "It was good because it teaches kids to be more respectful, resilient and grateful. Another student said, "We learned how to be a bit nicer to people and to treat people with more respect".

We think that it was tons of fun. We would like to have them come to Caledonian Primary School again because Hugh was so funny and his stories taught us something while being a fun experience for kids and educational too.



Central Highlands Water's Michelle Murphy talking with Junior School students about water quality as part of their 'Water Works' Science Unit. Image supplied.

Thanks Hugh!

*Alexis and Angelo, Grade Six,
Caledonian Primary School*

To find out more, visit:
theresilienceproject.com.au

Water Works

Junior school students from Caledonian Primary School enjoyed a visit from Central Highlands Water's Michelle Murphy in March. Michelle is a microbiologist who has two children at Caledonian, Xavier in Grade Two and Laine in Grade Five.

Inviting a guest speaker was part of the Grade One and Two Term One Science Unit – 'Water Works'. World Water Day is also in March and is an annual UN observance day that highlights the importance of freshwater.

Here are some of the children's comments:

Lylee said, "Today Michelle came to our school. She was talking about water. She explained about

what an E. coli was. I liked it when she told us about E. coli!"

Aidan said, "I liked it the most when Michelle showed us the bacteria in the water under the blue light. We could see the bacteria in the water that was in the tray. The bacteria in the water was yellow. After, she showed us algae. I think it is good to test water."

Madeline said, "I liked that Michelle came to visit us to teach us about water. It was very cool when she showed us the trays of water comparing the differences of colour under the blue light. Also, she showed us the algae in the bottle plus all the other bottles that had different things in them."

Harry said, "Today Michelle came to tell us about water. We learnt about bacteria and chlorine too. She showed us samples of water."

Thanks to Michelle for coming to teach us about water quality.

*Kate Bond, Junior School Teacher,
Caledonian Primary School*

Woodmans Hill Secondary College

From the Principal's desk

As I complete my first term as Principal of Woodmans Hill Secondary College, I can recognise the massive strides forward that our community has made in their journey of improvement.

When I see events organised by

our student leaders such as the recent 'World's Greatest Shave', that saw our school community come together to make a difference in the lives of others, I know that we have a culture that cares. Over \$530 was raised by students for young people battling leukaemia and the event saw teachers dyeing their hair, male staff and students getting their legs waxed and one student shaving his below-shoulder hair to donate.

Our students excelled at athletics this term and showed excellent support for one another, being prepared to just have a crack and be part of something. It was also great to hear back from our primary partner-schools about how well our students lived out our values by umpiring at their athletics competitions.

This sense of giving their best was also exemplified by our students who took part in the Wonthaggi Energy Breakthrough Competition. We are really proud of the team's dedication in the lead-up and the grit shown over the course of the weekend.

Our teachers have also been working tirelessly to build our learning culture and strive to make ourselves better at meeting the needs of our students. We feel confident that our current work around developing effective 'Professional Learning Communities' will create the right conditions so that all students get the chance to grow.

Year 7 enrolments - 2020

Enrolments are being accepted for students who will be in Year 7 in 2020. We encourage prospective parents and students to participate in the open events, school tours and other information programs.

Please contact the school to register your interest.

Stephan Fields, Principal
Woodmans Hill Secondary College
woodmanshill.net.au

5336 7264

woodmans.hill.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
1 Fussell Street, Ballarat East

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SCHOOL**

5332 6955

Wholesome Wholefoods

Member Profile: Mandy Falkingham

Mandy has been a member of the Ballarat Wholefoods Collective (BWC) since it's early days in Wendy Aston's back shed. The BWC was established as a volunteer-based not-for-profit group which offers a range of seasonal, organic and local staple foods.

I interviewed Mandy to find out a bit more about the BWC and why she has been a member for so long.

What motivated you to join the BWC Mandy?

I wanted to buy local organic produce with minimal packaging. Having joined, I enjoyed the sense of community, the personal and social shopping experience and the high quality of the products. It has also introduced my children to an alternative way of shopping which they will take with them as they grow.

What role do you think the BWC plays in the broader community?

The Collective has many roles. It plays a powerful educative role to raise people's awareness of where food comes from, who grows it and what it takes to produce it. It demonstrates the cost to the environment of wasteful packaging and how shopping in supermarkets perpetuates the waste. It shows what ethical food production is. It creates a place where like-minded people are brought together and can support each other. It builds relationships directly with suppliers/growers



which benefits the members by cutting out the 'middle man' and keeps costs down. It makes buying sustainably a viable option not just a luxury.

What role do you play at the BWC?

I volunteer once a month as a shopkeeper which means I process people's orders. We do that with an iPad now which makes it very easy. The Collective is run totally by volunteers so there is a requirement that members donate two hours of time per year. The volunteering is fun so it is not a difficult commitment. Other people volunteer as helpers to assist shoppers, tidy, pack up, collect produce from suppliers and generally doing what needs to be done. Members with particular skills have also conducted workshops such as sourdough breadmaking and making your own beeswax wrappers.

What are your favourite products at the BWC?

Mandy became very animated when recalling her favourites!

Too many to mention but almonds, currants, maple syrup (which is cheaper than Aldi's), rolled oats, peanuts and of course choc coated pumpkin seeds are some favourites. The products

taste so different to what we are used to from the supermarket, so fresh. And then there are the baked goods: brownies and savoury muffins from Vegas and Rose; Basilio sourdough bread, fruit loaf and a wholegrain variety; and the dairy products we have now, the Inglenook yogurt is another favourite!

How can people get involved?

The BWC is online (details below). People are also welcome to pop in for a visit on Wednesdays (times below) at the new Barkly Street premises in the old School building co-housed with Ballarat Group Training (BGT) opposite the old Fire Station. Membership costs \$50 to join, with an annual renewal of \$20.

Sally McAlpin
Ballarat Wholefoods Collective
Member

Grant success

The Ballarat Wholefoods Collective was successful in securing a grant for \$3,047 through the City of Ballarat's Community Impact Grant program.

This funding will assist with the purchase of a new refrigerator, food storage containers and shopping trolleys for their new location.

Opening hours are:
9.00 am - 11.00 am and
5.00 pm - 7.00 pm Wednesdays
(school term time only, closed during school holidays).

Wendy Aston
President, Ballarat Wholefoods
Collective
Barkly Street, Ballarat East
0419 898 286
ballaratwholefoodscollective.org
Find us on Facebook

Hidden Orchard Storage Space

Brown Hill's Hidden Orchard have a new storage space - just up the corridor from the Ballarat Wholefoods Collective.

The absolute legends at Ballarat Group Training (BGT) have donated a storage space for The Hidden Orchard (THO) team in their new home, located along Barkly Street in the old Ballarat Secondary College building.

This building was originally the Ballarat Girls' School and then used as a School of Mines Ballarat satellite site. We are thrilled to be a part of this building and its rich history.

BGT have subleased other parts of the building to the Ballarat Wholefoods Collective and the Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council, among others, and we're very excited to be in such good company.

We hope to work with the other groups and collaborate as much as possible.

We are so excited to have a central storage space for all of the THO equipment that can be easily



(L-R) Steve Burns (THO), Leo Rennie (THO), Suzanne Ogilvie (BGT) and Ellen Burns (THO). Photographer: Lee Palmer (THO)

accessed by all of our Harvest Leaders.

It will be especially useful for items that we don't use frequently such as jars, jam-making equipment and pruning gear.

We are so grateful to BGT for their support of The Hidden Orchard.

Every new connection we make and every new supporter makes our job that much easier and is such an encouragement!

Ellen Burns
The Hidden Orchard
thehiddenorchard@gmail.com
hiddenorchard.org

Brown Hill Community Online Hub

Do you want to support Brown Hill businesses? Find a local dance or sporting group? Contact the playgroup, the kindergarten or make a booking at the hall?

Loads of information about Brown Hill's businesses, kindergarten and schools and sporting, activity and community groups is available free of charge online:

brownhill.vic.au

This important community tool has been created by volunteers from the Brown Hill Progress Association.

Bronze sponsor:

BALLARAT HEALTH FOODS

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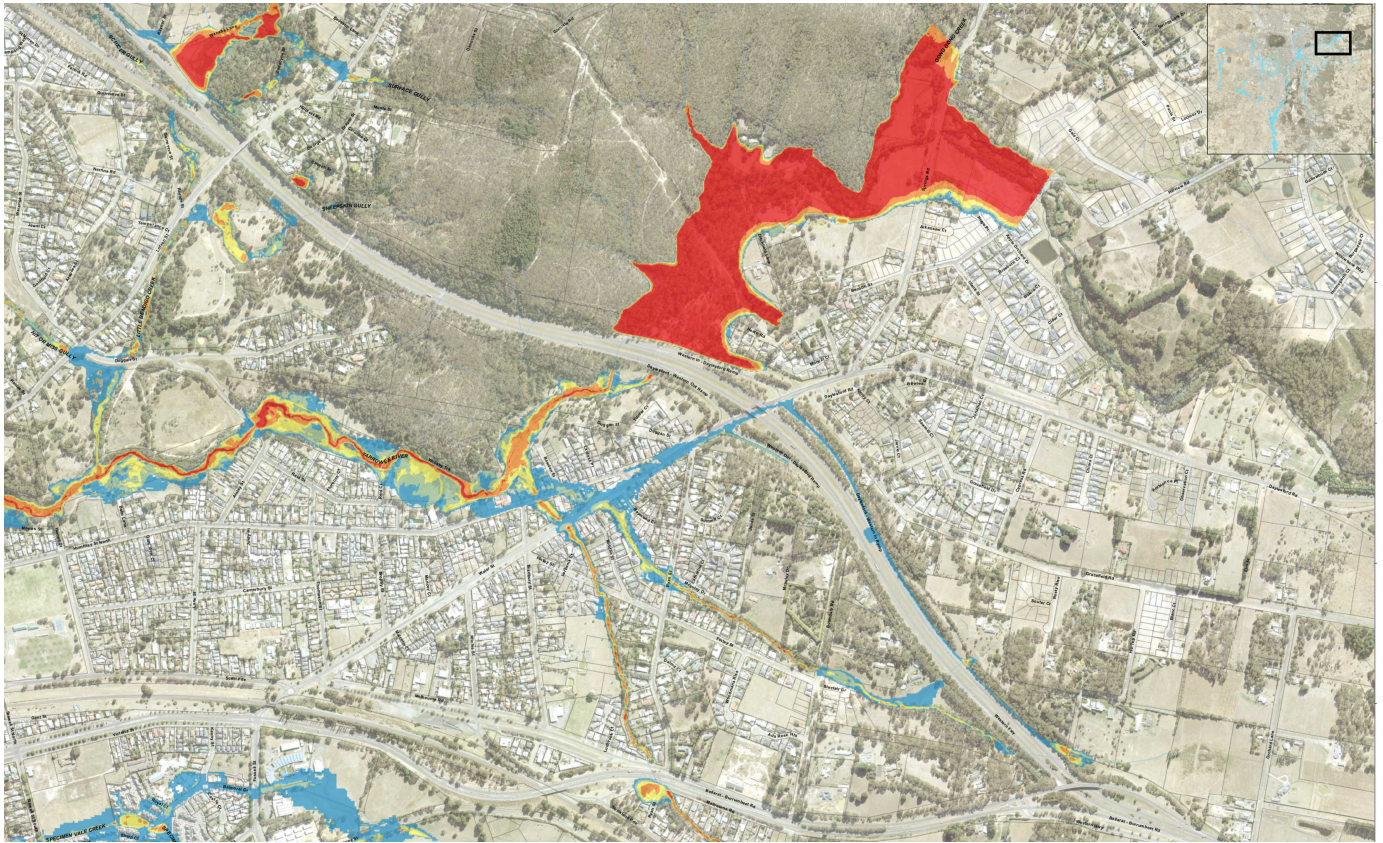
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Tutoring Centres

BALLARAT

Contact Christine Phillips on 0417 593 416



Flood planning map of Brown Hill indicating predicted areas of flooding. For the full image in colour, including the legend, visit: brownhill.vic.au/partnerships/flood-planning. Image supplied by the City of Ballarat.

Brown Hill flood planning

The City of Ballarat is looking to minimise the impacts of flooding on the Ballarat community.

To do this, they need our assistance to better understand flooding in Brown Hill in order to help them improve planning and development decisions.

The City of Ballarat has started this process by seeking insights from everyone – business owners, shoppers, residents, visitors, students and families – to inform the Better Flood Planning project.

You can find out more by visiting mysay.ballarat.vic.gov.au/better-flood-planning, where you can find out if your property has been identified to be at risk of flooding.

The Better Flood Planning project (which was identified as a key priority of the Ballarat Strategy and Council Plan 2017-21) will

identify and understand the precise nature of flood risks and aspects of flooding behaviour for 11 waterways across the City of Ballarat, including these waterways in or close to Brown Hill: Yarrowee River, Little Bendigo Creek, Hit or Miss Gully, Warrenheip Creek and Ryans Drain.

This project will assist the City of Ballarat to understand the effects of flooding on properties and introduce appropriate planning controls so that residents and businesses are informed and better equipped to manage flooding when it occurs.

The information will also be used to help plan and prioritise infrastructure improvements, flood mitigation and flood emergency management in the future.

As part of this project, the City of Ballarat is also working with the community and key agencies such as the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority to confirm flood modelling data. This will inform a Planning Scheme Amendment to introduce necessary planning controls to improve flood planning and management.

On Tuesday 2 April, 40 people attended the drop-in session held at the Brown Hill Hall. The final drop-in sessions will be held at the City of Ballarat Strategic Planning Shopfront (16 Bridge Mall, the old JayJays shop on the corner of Coliseum Walk) on **Monday 15** and **Tuesday 23 April**, 12.00 noon – 5.00 pm. For more information, call 5320 5500 or email: strategicplanning@ballarat.vic.gov.au

brownhill.vic.au/partnerships/flood-planning

Kate leads the way in environmental volunteering



Kate Martin, President of the Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group, displays one of the Wildflower Bingo cards she developed for Slaty Creek. Image supplied.

Kate is a young woman on a mission. Since she took her first toddling steps, she has spent as much of each day outside as she can and has developed a lifelong passion for the native plants and animals of Australia. She is determined to make a difference and do all she can to protect and enhance our unique flora and fauna.

Kate grew up in the Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group – her parents were founding members and like other young families encouraged their children to be active members of the group.

Older members watched on with delight as they witnessed her growing interest in the environment. Kate was always the first to front up to tree plantings and working bees and would always bring a group of friends from primary and later secondary school along for the day.

No-one was surprised when Kate went off to study Conservation and Land Management after finishing school. She now works in the environment sector on restoration and rehabilitation projects protecting endangered and threatened species on the

basalt plain grasslands and rivers around Melton.

Volunteering her knowledge and skills through involvement in Landcare remains important to Kate. She enthusiastically took on the role of WFPLG President in 2018 and continues to lead the group in undertaking environmental work and community education programs in the district. Under her leadership the WFPLG is currently planning tree plantings, working bees and a community Eucalyptus identification workshop for later in the year. Landcare is not known for its youthful membership, let alone leadership, but Kate is proof that Landcare provides a satisfying choice for those with a passion for local on-ground biodiversity works.

Diary Dates

Contact wfplcg@gmail.com

Saturday 18 May, 7.30pm: Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group AGM and Talk by Matthew Dowler about Narmbool Fire Recovery. All welcome. Contact: 0419 091 601.

Sunday 9 June, 10.00 am – 12.00pm: Pootilla Tree Planting. Contact: 0409 986 619.

Sunday 17 November: Eucalypts of Slaty Creek Walk and BBQ. Contact: 0437 071 317. leighcatchmentgroup.org/wattle-flat-pootilla

Bronze Sponsor:



Brown Hill Uniting Church



*Thought for the month: Jesus said:
"Treat others as you would want to be
treated yourself." Matthew 7:12a*

Prayers for members of the community

Each Sunday we pray for those members of our congregation who are unwell or facing difficulties. We would like to extend this to members of the Brown Hill community. If you would like a prayer for a member of your family or yourself in a particular situation, please drop a note into the letterbox at 16 Thompson Street before 9.15 am Sunday. The Uniting Church has a privacy policy; it is up to you how much personal information you give us. It would be helpful to know if there is a timeframe for your request. Examples of requests could be: "Please pray for my mother Jan who is unwell this week. (Signed) Mary." "Please pray for the next 3 weeks for my sister Ella who is to have a serious operation. (Signed) Tony."

Morning Worship

10.00 am each Sunday. Holy Communion on the first Sunday each month. Visiting other churches on the fifth Sunday.

Easter Sunday

Celebration with Holy Communion at 10.00 am on 21 April. Other



Brown Hill locals enjoying Shrove Tuesday pancakes. Image supplied.

Ballarat Uniting Church Holy Week services will be advertised in the Courier.

Midweek Communion

In the church hall each Wednesday at 1.30 pm, followed by afternoon tea. All welcome.

Annual Mini-Fair and Car boot sale

Saturday 13 April 9.00 am - 12.00 noon. Proceeds to sponsorship of the Learn to Swim program. \$1 Op Shop sale, cakes, plants, books, BBQ breakfast, coffee van and Devonshire tea.

Craft Group

Meets at 1.30 pm until 3.30 pm in the church hall on the first and third Thursday of each month. Bring along anything you are working on or come for a chat.

Op shop

Open 9.30 am - 12.30 pm Thursdays and Fridays.

The Church Manse is currently occupied by a Presbytery Minister and his family. We would like to thank Tianna and the team at Ray White

Ballarat for their efficient management of the property while it was leased.

Liz Mason, Brown Hill Uniting Church

Men's Breakfasts

At Brown Hill Uniting Church will be held on the following Saturdays from 8.30 am in the church hall:

- * 11 May - Speaker to be advised
- * 10 August - Michelle MacGillivray from Lifeline
- * 12 October - Rod Soar

Shrove Tuesday

Our Shrove Tuesday Pancake evening was a great success and delicious too! Many members of the community came out on a warm, sunny evening to catch up, chat and devour our pancakes.

Louise Wright, Brown Hill Uniting Church

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AUSTRALIAN MADE AND OWNED

Brown Hill Seniors' Club

The year is already moving too fast! Our club is having a good year so far.

We enjoyed our Club birthday celebrations, well attended by both members and guests.



Brown Hill Seniors' Club member, Marj Wittaker, cutting the Club birthday cake. Image supplied.

Our first bus trip was to Portarlington where we had lunch at the Golf Club, which we highly recommend. The next trip will be on Monday 17 April to the sand castles at Riddells Creek.

Our normal Monday sessions are going well with bowls, cards, bingo and community singing.

Doreen Braebrook
Brown Hill Senior Citizen's Club
Coordinator, 5331 2157

Brown Hill Hall

Are you interested in booking a space at the Brown Hill Hall for your next meeting or event?

We regularly host markets, exhibitions, workshops, talks and fundraisers such as trivia nights. The hall is also ideal for private functions such as birthday parties (sorry, no teenage, 18th or 21st birthday parties), weddings, anniversaries, reunions, meetings and dances.

Overlooking the beautiful Brown Hill Reserve and cricket ground, with a gazebo, barbeque and children's playground, the hall is well suited to family events.

The hall has an online website where all new bookings can be made:

hall.brownhill.vic.au

Click on 'Hire the Hall' and select a 'Weekday' or a 'Weekend' event.

During the week until 5.00 pm on Fridays you may choose to book one or more of the three spaces: Main Hall, Meeting Room One or Meeting Room Two.

From 5.00 pm Fridays to 10.00 pm on Sundays, your booking includes access to all facilities at a reduced rate. Rooms are not available for

individual bookings on the weekend.

The large **Main Hall** (18m x 18m) includes stage, heating, cooling (fans and air-conditioning), 215 chairs and 18 tables. It seats 144 people at tables and 215 people seated in rows.

The small **Meeting Room One** (6m x 5m) includes heating, seating and tables, dedicated external access and opens on to Meeting Room Two and the commercial kitchen. It seats approximately 20 people.

The medium-sized **Meeting Room Two** (14m x 6m) includes heating, cooling (fans) and opens on to Meeting Room One and the commercial kitchen. It seats 56 people at tables or up to 80 people seated in rows.

For all enquiries or to inspect the hall, please send the Brown Hill Hall Committee an email to **hall@brownhill.vic.au**. The venue can be inspected on Tuesdays from 5.30 pm – 6.00 pm or Thursdays from 5.00 pm – 5.30 pm by appointment only.

Scott Antonio

President

Brown Hill Hall Committee

hall@brownhill.vic.au

hall.brownhill.vic.au

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...continued from p.1



Their vision is a future where we waste less, share more and care for every child. Its underlying mission is to rehome pre-loved nursery goods to support Victorian families in need while saving the Earth's precious resources.

Robert also volunteers his time to look after the Eureka Mums 'Brown Hill Staging Post'. If you have donations to drop off locally in Brown Hill please email donate@eurekamums.org for address details.

Trinsa, the Eureka Mums Operations Manager, welcomes any inquiries about the supply of recycled goods to families. Eureka Mums are always looking for new volunteers. You can volunteer on site or from home. They offer a fun and supportive environment no matter how you choose to help. You may also choose to volunteer with your workplace in the corporate volunteer program. For more information, email: teamwork@eurekamums.org

If you would like to know more about Eureka Mums and what preloved items they accept please visit eurekamums.org or their Facebook page.

Rhonda Lyons, Brown Hill resident with Bridget Veld, Brown Hill resident and Eureka Mums volunteer.



Let a mother know you're thinking of her on Mother's Day. She might be living in a refuge, her house may have burned down or she might be homeless. You can help her feel supported this Mother's Day. Your gift might be the only one she receives.

Brown Hill Kindergarten will have a donation collection box available until **Wednesday 1 May**. The Kindergarten is open from 8.30 am until 4.30 pm. Closed on school holidays and ANZAC Day.

Ideas include: a toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, hairbrush, hair ties, comb, shampoo, conditioner, soap, tampons/pads, sunscreen, body and face moisturiser, cotton buds, cleanser, eye makeup remover, body wash, tissues, hand cream, lip balm, deodorant, face wipes, paw paw cream, band-aids or a basic first-aid kit. Please don't include sharps like razors and nail scissors in your bag. Toiletry bags are also appreciated to bundle up all of the products.

Eureka Mums volunteers will check the items to ensure they are appropriate and your gift will then be distributed by social workers and maternal child health nurses to mums in need. Where necessary, we will combine your gift with other items. Often these gifts are given to children so that they have something special for their mum on Mother's Day.

Local volunteers support breastfeeding mums

New breastfeeding support volunteers a boost for Brown Hill mums

The Ballarat Branch of the Australian Breastfeeding Association (ABA) is hoping to establish a regular meeting venue in or near to Brown Hill to support local parents.

Five new trainee volunteers are providing a boost to new parents in the Ballarat area, by giving breastfeeding support through the local group of the ABA.

Group leader of the ABA Ballarat group, Lyndal Brown, says the new volunteers will be a huge support for local mums.

"We know that over 90 percent of new parents in Australia start out breastfeeding." Brown says. "The rates of breastfeeding drop soon after and research tells us that support is one of the key factors in parents meeting their breastfeeding goals."

The new volunteers will complete a Certificate IV in Breastfeeding Education, which will train them to provide breastfeeding counselling and community education to Ballarat families.

New trainee volunteer Janna Mayall is excited to start supporting other parents in the Ballarat area. She says, "Breastfeeding has been an important part of parenting for me so far and I'm looking forward

Community Impact Grants

Are you a local not-for-profit community organisation that needs funding for projects, new equipment or a community event? Do you want to turn your idea into a reality? Well, the City of Ballarat wants to hear from you!

Round Four of the Community Impact Grant Program 2018-2019 closes on Tuesday 30 April, 2019.

This is your chance to apply for funding to take your community group's ambitions to the next level.

So far, 44 community groups in our city have benefited from a grant allocation from the 2018-2019 Community Impact Grant Program. More than \$170,000 has been distributed to these groups to run projects and events that will benefit the municipality.

Interested in applying? Just download the grant guidelines and budget help sheet at **ballarat.vic.gov.au** or call the City of Ballarat on 5320 5500 if you have any questions. Then you can collate quotes, letters of support and any other important or relevant information.

The application process is online and easy to complete.



ABA volunteers Jo with Charlotte (L) and Pam (R) at a recent event in Creswick. Image supplied.

to giving back as a volunteer.”

“Having a community of other parents around is so important to me when things are going well and even more important when they aren’t. I hope I can create that support in our local community” Mayall says.

The Australian Breastfeeding Association volunteers also staff a

National Breastfeeding Helpline which is supported by funding from the Australian Government.

Katrina Orr, ABA volunteer and Brown Hill local

For more information on the Australian Breastfeeding Association visit
breastfeeding.asn.au
ballarataba@gmail.com
facebook.com/groups/ballarataba



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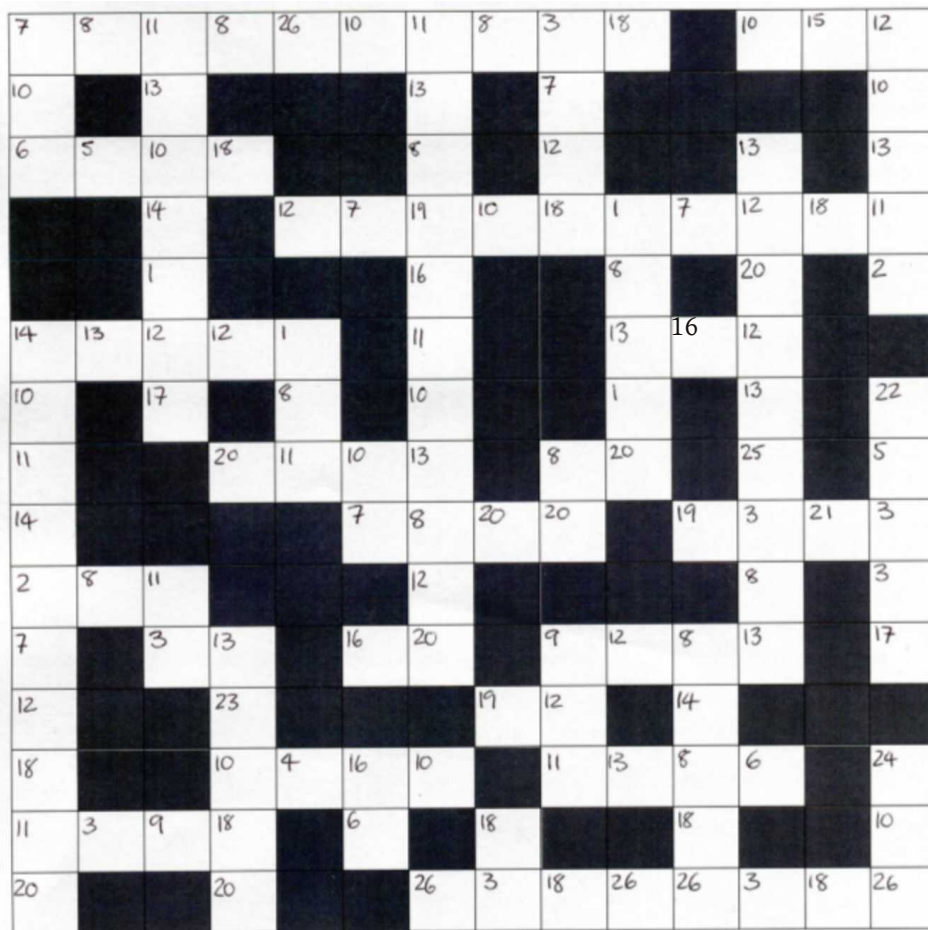
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Brown Hill Cricket Club

Local Cricket Star

Congratulations to Brown Hill cricketer, Tahlia Meier who has been invited to the National Cricket Centre in Brisbane during October after she was the tournament leading run scorer for Victoria Country at the Cricket Australia Under 15 Female National Championships.

Annual Presentation

Brown Hill Cricket Club's (BHCC) annual presentation and wind up was held on Sunday 24 March.

Award winners were:

Sullivan Family Trophy
(Best player 1st XI)

- * Winner - Jason Knowles
- * Runner Up - Ryan Knowles

Ron Hearn Trophy
(Best player 2nd and 3rd XI)

- * Winner- Wayne Crooks
- * Runner Up - Nick Theologou

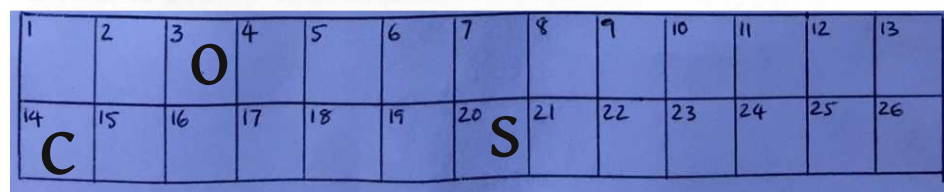
Graeme Dobbin Trophy
(Best player one-day B-grade)

- * Winner - Jack Mason
- * Runner Up - Andrew Peterson

Best Clubman Award
Tom Bourke-Finn

U17 Best Player Award

- * Winner - Kyle Smith



Brown Hill Codeword

In recognition of World Water Day in March, our Brown Hill-focused Codeword puzzle for this edition has a **water theme** (think waterways, reservoirs and anything related to water in Brown Hill). There are also a few random words to fill the gaps.

Thanks again to Caledonian Primary School parent, Zara, for creating these puzzles for us.

Each number represents a letter in the alphabet. Three have been provided to get you started.

The first five people to correctly complete this puzzle and email a

photo of their solution to us at newsletter@brownhill.vic.au, will receive a Bakers Delight voucher.

Congratulations to the winners of the February Codeword: Brooke, Mathew, Caitlin and Darren. Each received a voucher to spend on tasty treats from Glen and Kerryn at Bakers Delight Bakery Hill.

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* Runner Up - Noah Steenhuis

U15 Best Player Award

* Winners - Talia Meier and Max Faulkner

* Runner Up - Will Quinlan

The BHCC Annual meeting was held on 1 April. A new committee was formed with Phillip Knowles being re-elected as President and Treasurer, Steve Blomeley as Vice President and Tom Bourke-Finn as Club Secretary.

Other members of the committee are: Wayne Crooks, Ryan Knowles, Matt Sandford, James Waller, Jason Knowles, Tom Miller, Kyle Smith and Paul Tobin.

Phillip Knowles, President of the Brown Hill Cricket Club

0407 399 971

phillip.knowles1960@gmail.com

Ballarat Orphanage/Children's Home

...continued from p.20 (back page)

School, Barkly Street for girls.

The Primary School was staffed by teachers with specialist qualifications necessary for working with disadvantaged children. The Home staff also necessarily dealt with the social and emotional needs of the children who had been separated from family, friends and community. This they did with dedication and commitment.

In 1972/73 the Primary School was closed and the children were integrated into local schools in the area: Brown Hill, Queen Street, Humffray Street and Eureka Street. Graeme recalls that of all the children transitioning there was only one boy in Prep who did not manage.



Mr Graeme Ragg who was a former Assistant Superintendent of Ballarat Children's Home returned in 1972 to take over the responsibilities of Superintendent of the Home and Secretary of the Board of Management. Image supplied.

Graeme says the main changes he oversaw during his twelve years as Superintendent were the move from campus care to Family Group Homes in the community and the establishment of a Family Aid Service, Youth Unit and Budget Advisory Service.

Campus facilities consisted of 'cottages' of fourteen to eighteen children, separate cottages for girls and boys with two staff members living in each cottage. The boys were mainly cared for by a husband and wife team. Family group homes allowed siblings to be together in a more 'family-like' environment with House Parents being the carers. Previous to the introduction of the 'cottages', siblings were often separated. One story related was of a boy about to leave the campus when being asked if he would like to say goodbye to his sister, he remarked, "I hardly know her. She lives on the other side of the

Orphanage and I rarely saw her."

As the number of children in care continued to decrease due to policies of the Social Welfare Department, the effectiveness of the Family Aid Programme and the increasing number of Family Group Homes, opportunities became available for the small remaining group of teenage girls to receive a weekly allowance and gain experience in budgeting and learning to cook.

Graeme recalls that during the first week of allowances the girls ran out of funds set aside from their allowance for the weeks food supplies and had to 'exist' for the last few days of the week on cornflakes and milk. The following week saw a surplus of cash.

One of the 'features' of the Children's Home remembered by neighbours was the meal siren. When it broke down and was not replaced, the neighbours in proximity were disappointed because they set their clocks and managed their day by the siren.

Mr G. Ragg and Ms. R. Lyons

For more images, visit:
brownhill.vic.au/history/



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The Ballarat Orphanage/Children's Home was pulled down 1960s due to 'poor foundations'. Image supplied.

Ballarat Orphanage/Children's Home

Brown Hill local, Graeme Ragg, was interviewed by Rhonda Lyons, also from Brown Hill, to prepare this select history of the Ballarat Orphanage, later known as the Ballarat Children's Home.

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

The Ballarat Orphanage was opened in 1865 to accommodate children of the goldfields as needed.

Following eleven years in the Banking industry, Graeme Ragg was appointed as the first Assistant Superintendent of the Ballarat Orphanage in 1966. In 1968 the name of the Orphanage was changed to Ballarat Children's Home and the service continues today under the auspices of Child and Family Services (CAFS).

Situated in Victoria Street, Ballarat East, the Children's Home was prominent on the main road to Melbourne.

When Graeme commenced work, his primary responsibilities were the financial management of the Institution. However, in time, some of his duties became more 'people- focussed'.

Graeme tells that another of his major duties was to organise holidays for the two hundred children on campus so they were able to enjoy some fun 'time away' like many other children in the community. Some children went to 'holiday hosts' to stay with a family, some went 'home' to a relative or broader family-member, others to a campsite out of Ballarat. The Orphanage also had a holiday home at Queenscliff where the children could spend time at the beach, away from the main campus.

Ninety percent of the Home's finances came from Government funding. The balance was obtained by fundraising, sundry donations and interest from investments. Every third year the Home conducted a Major Appeal taking turns with the Ballarat Base Hospital and the Queen Elizabeth Centre.

The children were encouraged to join local sporting and community groups such as football, netball, cricket, scouts, guides and other social activity groups. Graeme recalls an initial games night on campus being a disaster as many children had not experienced organised activities. Mayhem

resulted. A later occasion was much more successful.

The children were among the first to have a colour TV in their home, a great talking point at school. A mini-bike on campus was also a source of great enjoyment, ridden around the farm paddock.

The farm was located to the west and rear of the campus and was stocked by a jersey herd. The boys helped with the milking.

For many years children left the home at age 14 but later this was extended to 16 years or in some cases up to 18 years. On leaving they were assisted into jobs and were helped to locate lodgings.

The Social Welfare Department arranged employment and accommodation for the girls with follow up supervision. Most of the children were Wards of the State with occasional Private Placements. Many of the children, now adults, still live in the Ballarat community.

For many decades the children attended the Primary School on campus and then graduated to Ballarat secondary schools: Ballarat Central Technical School for boys and Ballarat Girls High

...continued p.19