



# The SpringDale Messenger

February 2021  
Volume 31 Issue 1



ABN 21 404 220 267

Compiled & Published by the SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre Inc.



SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre acknowledges the first Australians and pays respect to elders, past, present and emerging. We continue to seek more knowledge about the heritage of the area and we continue to be interested in the thousands of artefacts discovered during the building of the Drysdale Bypass. We look forward to the stories they will tell of life here more than 25,000 years ago.

Ocean Grove celebrated 50 years since gazetting as a town, in 2008. This sparked our interest about the heritage of the other towns of the Bellarine. Drysdale, Portarlington and Queenscliff all celebrate 160 years since proclamation on Thursday 25 February. This information becomes part of our Community Development Timeline – a project we have been working on for a few years. Each story helps to complete the picture of our heritage.

Anne Brackley

Photography Courtesy George Stawicki

*Time for Reflection*



festival of  
**glass** **VIRTUALEXP02021**



# FEBRUARY 2021

## Community Calendar

SpringDale Community Calendar is a SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre initiative to support the whole community. If you wish to place your event in the calendar and further issues of The SpringDale Messenger please email, write or call the event details to our office.

SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre Opening Hours Monday to Friday 9am-5pm and by appointment.

Mon-Sat	11 Jan to 20th Feb - Festival Glass Treasure Hunt
Monday	1 Kinship Carers 10am-1pm at SpringDale
Tuesday	2 Friendly cuppa and chat 10.30-11.30am at SpringDale World Wetlands Day
Thursday	4 Jigsaw Group 10-12noon at SpringDale World Cancer Day
Saturday	6 Harvest Basket Produce Swap 9-10.30am at SpringDale Free replacement anti-theft number plates screws at SpringDale Car Park 9-11am Felting Group 10-3pm at SpringDale
Tuesday	9 Dining group Portarlington Golf Club 130 Hood St Portarlington 6pm
Wednesday	10 Days for Girls Sewing 9am-1pm at SpringDale
Sunday	14 Free Bottle Appraisal 10am-3pm at Drysdale Court House
Wednesday	17 Lunch Bunch at Café Zoo meet at midday High St Drysdale
Saturday	20 World Day of Social Justice
Monday	22 World Thinking Day

Reminder  
Bookings &  
copy required by  
1 December for the  
February 2021  
issue

## SpringDale Messenger Website

We now have a website devoted to all the SpringDale Messengers from the last 30 years. Thousands of hours have been invested in helping this website come to life. We are still seeking a couple of copies of old SpringDale Messengers to help us make this website the best it can be - April 1992 and May 2007.

Please let Springdale know if we can borrow these phone 5253 1960.

<https://www.messenger.springdale.org.au/>

*We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Wadawurrung People of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, Elders in our community and our emerging leaders.*



**SpringDale  
Messenger**

Compiled & Published by the SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre Inc. A0024916V.

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Postal Address PO Box 80 Drysdale

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**Editorial:** All contributors are asked to provide their articles as Word doc, PDF, email or online for ease of processing. Contributions are still accepted as written copy but need to be submitted in the week prior to our copy deadline.

**Editing of Contributors Material:**

Contributors should note that the right to modify submitted articles is retained by The SpringDale Messenger as per our policy. Views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the publisher, the SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre Inc.

**Images:** Please supply high resolution images, minimum 300dpi at print size or larger than a 1mg attachment. Images placed in Word files will **not be accepted**.

**Distribution:** Distributed throughout Drysdale, Clifton Springs, Portarlington, Indented Head, St Leonards, Ocean Grove and selected businesses on the Bellarine Peninsula.

**Art & Design by Jo Aspland Graphic Design 0438 055 679**

**The SpringDale  
Messenger is a  
locally produced  
publication.**



This copy is one of almost 2 million community newspapers printing annually by members of Community Newspaper Association Victoria



**United Nations  
Association  
of Australia  
Victorian Division**



SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre Inc. acknowledges the support of:





# Coordinator's News

Anne Brackley



I love the journey that I am on with you. The path takes many turns and goes up and down and sometimes it turns back on itself but it continues to be interesting if you take the time to take a deep breath and enjoy the scenery, the people, the sunshine and rain, the clouds and the stars.

Over the last few weeks, I have taken time to continue my love of growing things. Reinvigorated during the Herbs to Help project, now we are actually growing vegetables at home! I've built 2 raised garden beds, used the contents of the bokashi bucket to improve the soil and by the time you read this, we will have planted the garden beds! So excited. Although Stirling, our son, thinks that supermarket vegetables are better. I think that's probably because he helped me move soil.

Herbs to Help project helped me through last year and it was great to be able to deliver more than 200 baskets of herbs and 90 other plants and trees to Bruthen, Clifton Creek, Buchan and Sarsfield. Eleven cars made the trip carrying these special gifts. East Gippsland was the destination for most of those cars and volunteers – this made the people we visited feel very special and loved. Thank you to everyone who helped make this project happen. Every donation, basket, seed, potting mix, and those who gave their time to nurture, care for and deliver the plants. It was definitely a community effort. Jan's Engraving donated little tags to go on or in each basket, which read - SpringDale community cares. Thanks so much.

While we were working on the Herbs to Help project, I heard of a project that I think the Gisborne CWA carried out after the Black Saturday fires – to make Keep Sake Treasure boxes and yes I'm wondering whether this might be a project for this year? Every time I think about losing everything – the ribbons off mum and dad's wedding car, the leftover pom poms from a beach jacket mum made, the apostle teaspoons in the drawer, the hanky that was my grandmother's and the glass I bought overseas – all of these thoughts bring me to tears.

Perhaps we could make Memory Magic and share some of our pieces of lace/ribbon, old teaspoons, small glasses, doilies, and other things. Curate them in a special box – maybe a shoebox that we have made special with decoupage. Happy to hear your thoughts on this idea. Perhaps we could have another excursion to our adopted towns.

Hoping that we can all enjoy life's journey together again this year and hoping to see you at SpringDale for a class, a group or a special event sometime this year. We continue to hope to see each person here at least once a year and if we are not providing something for you – please let us know What would bring you through the SpringDale door?

Please accept my sincere wishes for a safe and happy year – I'll be looking forward to talking to you next time about my favourite word for this year – joy. I'm hoping that we can work together as a community this year not just being happy but bringing joy to each other.

Yours truly **Anne Brackley** for Team SpringDale



Thank you to Drysdale Mowers  
- (previously Stihl Shop Drysdale)

Thanks Matt for your generous donation.

The SpringDale Messenger February 2021

## Term 1 Courses

Grab a Course Guide & get learning. Guide available to download or book on the website. Pop in a pick up a copy or we can post or email you.

<https://home.springdale.org.au/learning-master-guide/>  
E: office@springdale.org.au or P: 5253 1960



## New

Ballroom Dancing Lessons  
Parent Information Session  
Home Schooling or Learning Needs or Kick Start Primary School Students Reading  
Crafts with Lizzy - Card making, Mosaic, Sea glass art, Crystal upcycling  
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Banjo L1 - L2 - L3  
Cheese Making  
Sourdough Bread Making Workshop  
Fermenting Workshop  
Espresso Coffee Making  
Teenage Sewing Classes  
The Language of Sewing Patterns  
Things I wish my Grandmother taught me  
Sustainable Wardrobe Workshop

## Languages

Latin Intermediate French

## Wellbeing

Mindfulness in the Age of Uncertainty  
Yoga Tai Chi (Beijing 24 Form) Chi Gong

## Autism Plus

Talking about Autism

## Digital Technology

Introduction to Computers or try Beyond the Basics  
Smart phones, iPhones, tablets, iPads  
Buying and Selling on eBay

## Future Direction

Confidence Through Cookery  
Focusing on the Future  
Joy of Volunteering  
Introduction to Event Management  
Returning to Learning  
Returning to Earning  
Help SpringDale help yourself  
SpringDale Strategic Planning

## Accredited Courses

Provide CPR Provide First Aid  
Provide an emergency first aid response in an education and care setting

## Non SpringDale Activities

Days for Girls Sewing  
Bellarine Woodworkers Inc.  
Pilates - Bookings on (03) 5251 2958

[www.springdale.org.au](http://www.springdale.org.au)





## News from Lisa Neville MP

Member for Bellarine

### Police and emergency service workers thank you.

In writing my first column of 2021, I would like to first and foremost thank all our police and other emergency service workers for their work over the holiday summer period.

While most people were enjoying their well earned break our police, para medics, fire fighters, coast guard crews, life savers and SES workers were all either on the job or "on call" for any emergency that may arise.

The Bellarine is very fortunate to be served by so many quality and professional emergency service personnel, who are all fully committed to their work of making our communities safe.

Importantly, over the summer months Victoria

Police have been carrying out their operation "Summer Safe". In doing so, police resources have been significantly boosted across the Bellarine Peninsula and Surf Coast, allowing the extra police to undertake proactive, high visibility patrols and response.

On a permanent basis, since 2015 there have been fifteen extra police allocated to the region. In addition, late last year an extra nine police were permanently assigned to the north Bellarine area based in Portarlington. These extra officers will further enhance policing in the area including Drysdale and surrounds.

As both the Member for Bellarine and the Police and Emergency Services Minister community safety is of course very important to me.

And locally for example, I always enjoy working closely with community representatives and the local police through the Bellarine Community Safety Group, established to develop community safety strategies.

I thank the Group for their ongoing work and recommend to locals the Groups "BSafe" website as an important community safety resource to be utilised.

### Clifton Springs Boat Ramp Upgrade

In late 2020 I was pleased to announce \$250,000 to further upgrade of the Clifton Springs Boat Ramp. The ramp due to its popularity does suffer from significant traffic congestion during peak boating season.

The State Government funded upgrade will include the development of a new asphalt parking area for cars and boat trailers, walking paths, open space areas and a temporary storage area for dredge spoil.

Over recent years the Clifton Springs has seen a number of upgrades with the most recent being in 2019 when \$320,000 of State funding saw the jetty double in length from 35 metres to 70 metres

**As always, please don't hesitate to contact me if there are any matters that I may be able to assist you with directly.**

**Hon Lisa Neville MP - Member for Bellarine**  
lisa.neville@parliament.vic.gov.au  
Twitter@Lisanevillemp Ph: 5250 1987



The Bellarine Agricultural Society has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2021 Bellarine Show.

**Bellarine Agricultural Show  
Sunday 13 March 2022**

**Portarlington Recreation Reserve**

The theme will be "Wood". Wood is an important element in Agriculture, from use in fencing to providing essential trees for shade and for soil stability. All going well the 2022 show will feature a spectacular wood chopping competition and creative chainsaw sculpting (with the carvings up for auction later)

[www.bellarineshow.com.au](http://www.bellarineshow.com.au)

### Thank You

I live in Clifton Creek which was impacted by fire 12 months ago and would like to thank your organisation for the donation of herb baskets which were much appreciated by myself and I know other residents that were fire impacted. Although 20 acres of my property and about 800m of fencing was burnt my house and sheds were not damaged due to a lucky wind change at midnight.

Once again thank you all for your generosity

**Michael Padula**



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Funded from the Parliamentary Budget



## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ON THE NORTHERN BELLARINE 2021

Don't miss this year's IWD celebration on Tuesday March 9 with keynote speaker inclusion expert, Robyn Smith, presentation of the 2021 Monica Hayes Award, and a two course luncheon hosted by Bennett's on Bellarine.

**If you know a woman who is active in her community, then why not nominate her for the 2021 Monica Hayes Award?**

The Award, established in 2017, honors the life of Portarlington resident Monica Hayes, a feminist, community leader and activist who died in 2016 from Motor Neuron Disease.

Eligibility for the 2021 Award is extended to all women living across the Northern Bellarine, Drysdale, Clifton Springs, Curlewis, Portarlington, Indented Head and St. Leonards.

Nominations close on Friday, February 26th 2021 and nominations forms are available at the Springdale Neighbourhood Centre 17-21 High St Drysdale.

**Guest speaker at the IWD luncheon on March 9, Robyn Smith, is Chief Executive Officer of Sport Inclusion, Australia and global Vice-President, VIRTUS: World Intellectual Impairment Sport.**

Save the date and celebrate this year's IWD on the Northern Bellarine on March 9.

Bookings are essential - on-line at Try Booking.

For event booking please email Veronica Noonan [veronica\\_noonan@bigpond.com](mailto:veronica_noonan@bigpond.com) and forward enquiries to Jenny Wills's [jeni.wills@bigpond.com](mailto:jeni.wills@bigpond.com) or tel. 5259 2032.



## POTATO SHED

We are back !!!..... Yes, the Potato Shed is open and ready to deliver another year of exciting theatre and events! We opened in January with the return of our school holiday production, Hansel & Gretel, along with two amazing outdoor concerts on our new open-air stage!



The season is starting later this year with our main productions starting in March; but keep an eye out on our webpage and social media for a few pop-up events and music sessions on our outdoor stage. This year we will not be producing our usual booklet with everything listed - but we will be producing some postcards and brochures with list of the shows over a three-month period.

As a teaser we will have some great productions including Margaret Fulton The Musical, The Merger, The Magnolia Tree, Mental as Everything, Newk, The Jeannie Little Show, Issi Dye and a stack of comedy legends including Richard Stubbs, Dave O'Neil and Anthony Lehmo. Music features with tributes to Carole King, Julie Andrews, Elton John and David Bowie just to name a few!!! We have dance, ballet and burlesque!

The theatre will be managed in a way that you will be able to feel safe and still enjoy all the pleasure only live theatre can bring. We will be presenting most of the season in cabaret style - this way patrons can stay in their personal bubble with safety and security whilst complying with the current social distancing! (and bring some nibbles along)

To stay up to date with what we have on offer please continue to check: [www.geelongaustralia.com.au/potatoshed](http://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/potatoshed) or Facebook/Instagram / [potatosheddrysdale](https://www.facebook.com/potatosheddrysdale)

**We look forward to seeing you back at The Shed in 2021!!!**

# 2021

## POTATO SHED

[WWW.GEELONGAUSTRALIA.COM.AU/POTATOSHED](http://WWW.GEELONGAUSTRALIA.COM.AU/POTATOSHED)



[/potatosheddrysdale](https://www.facebook.com/potatosheddrysdale)





By Mayor Stephanie Asher

Happy New Year to the Drysdale and Clifton Springs community! I suspect we are all hoping that 2021 will be a more positive experience than the turbulence of last year.

However, among the high hopes for a prosperous and healthy future, there is simmering discontent in our local community resulting from a recent planning decision.

The independent panel report on Amendment C363 represented a difficult decision for our councillors. More important is the impact on the neighbours and property owners involved.

As former chair of the Planning Committee, my objective was always that no decision should leave some property owners happy and others deeply unhappy. Planning policy is grey, therefore compromise is always possible - and definitely preferable over a win/lose outcome.

The greatest challenge with C363 is the community impression that this decision signals that 'green areas' are up for development. That's definitely not the case. We are passionate about protecting the Bellarine.

The parcel of land involved has actually been proposed as residential for decades in the Drysdale-Clifton Springs Structure Plan. However, the community is quite

right observing that the structure plan dates back to 2010, which feels like it doesn't reflect the intensive development during the past ten years. Context is everything.

I appreciate that government must work within the policy, but this is one of those grey areas where the policy, timeliness and processes aren't aligning with broader community expectation.

Adding to the situation is the state government Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) policy, for which the Bellarine is still awaiting detail.

Council officers advised us that the DAL 'is expected to reinforce the policy of directing growth to within the town boundaries', however the perception remains that rural living is giving way to residential density.

As a community representative we always need to understand the context and listening to the community is our role. Hence, I did not support the recommendation.

I believe structure plans should be current and the state government must act in a timely manner with critical policy issues, so we don't face such misalignments. The community deserves better.



The Drysdale RSL started in 1952 and is located in Drysdale at 13 Princess Street behind the Springdale Neighbourhood Centre. The club's main purposes are to provide services and information to ex-military folks, and for friendship and camaraderie. We have a modest library of mostly military reference books and novels, and memorabilia. We don't have pokies.

The club has a small but active membership of about 60 in what is becoming a vibrant growth area of the Bellarine Peninsula. To keep the club strong we are seeking new members of all ages. If you are new to the area and want to meet like-minded men and women, or if you haven't thought about joining an RSL, please contact the President or Secretary for more information.

When the Corona virus permits, the club meets at 2pm on the second Thursday of each month. We plan to hold our next full meeting for all members on Thursday 11 February 2021, and it will be followed by an Annual General Meeting. Afternoon tea is served after each meeting and our bar is open for those wanting to have a beer and a chat.

The Ladies Auxiliary is planning a meeting for all of its members on Tuesday 2 Feb 2021, with an AGM in March.

Don't forget there is a bowls day at Clifton Springs Bowls Club on Sunday 31 January.

Nominate at the Bowls Club or with President Geoff Zanker if you are interested.

**Harry Paterson** - Secretary

M. 0423 016 094 E. drysdalersl@outlook.com

**Don't travel to high risk areas on Extreme Fire Danger Rating days.**

If you plan to travel through Victoria during fire season, it's important to check the Fire Danger Rating every day. If the rating is Extreme or above, avoid travelling to high risk bush or grassfire areas. It's safer to travel to cities or towns for the day.

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As promised the Drysdale Clifton Springs Curlewis Association (DCSCA) Committee indicated that we would keep you up to date on the progress of the C363 Development.

In August 2018 we submitted a "Pick my Project" application, nominating City of Greater Geelong as project partner. The proposal was successful in obtaining \$200,000 from the Victorian Government for the Springs Dell Boardwalk.

The construction of the boardwalk will provide safe walking access around a difficult coastal pinch point at Clifton Springs. The site is the location of the heritage mineral springs area which is experiencing coastal erosion and deterioration through walkers climbing over the site. The boardwalk will also provide opportunities for interpretive signage that will inform visitors of the area's significant cultural heritage.

We lobbied to have the Boardwalk constructed of recycled materials in line with COGG's aspiration for a "circular economy".

**Mercedes Drummond** - President DCSCA



## END TRACHOMA PROJECT

Encouraging hygiene has become the focus of the latest combined Rotary Clubs Trachoma Project. Things that we take for granted up until now have not been available to the aboriginal communities. This is a third world problem that we have on our first world doorstep.

**Trachoma** is an infectious eye disease causing a roughening of the inner surface of the eyelids leading to pain in the eyes, a breakdown of the outer surface or cornea of the eyes, and eventual blindness.

Colourful bags have been filled with individual toiletries. The Rotary Club of Drysdale will be donating thirty-one of these bags to pupils at a school in Finke Northern Territory and the pupils will be taught how to take care of their hygiene helping to stop the spread of this awful disease.

Notes have been added to the bags by pupils from a local Primary School. So, we are hopeful of maybe establishing ongoing writing to one another. I remember having a pen pal in New Guinea when I was growing up. What an awesome way of finding out about different cultures etc.

Members of our Club made donations to cover the costs of soap dishes, toothbrush holders etc.

The attached photo shows what is in the bag and some ladies who supplied materials, sewing and putting the bags together.

Barwon Water generously donated water bottles to the cause, the individually named

drinking bottles that will also go a long way to stopping the spread of the disease.

This project came to us via word of mouth and member Rae ran with it, pulled the volunteers together and got the whole club on board.

We are constantly looking for new projects big and small and welcome suggestions from you our community.

Secretary/Publicity Officer - **Caroline Rickard**  
Rotary Club of Drysdale 0408 989 221

*Pictured: Wendy, Rae & Christine*



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# Free Bottle Appraisal Day

The hunt for rare antique bottles is on again on the Sunday 14th February at the Drysdale Court house from 10am to 3.00 pm This annual free bottle appraisal day is held a week before the Festival of Glass Expo at Drysdale and is conducted by the Bellarine Historical Society in conjunction with the Festival of Glass and ABCR Auctions

Experienced and highly regarded collector David Bruce from ABCR auctions assisted by his father Paul will conduct the appraisals, previous days in the past two years have attracted 70 -80 participants with some real treasures being unearthed, a few of which were consigned to auction with excellent results.

To speed things up bookings can be made on 0427338098



## The Bellarine Probus Singers

Do you have a couple of hours to spare on a Thursday and are an accompanist piano/keyboard player??

We are calling on someone to fill this position.

The Bellarine Probus Singers are searching for an accompanist piano/ keyboard player to play for two hours on Thursday mornings.

The singers, a mixed group of 17 members from three Probus clubs on the peninsula and have been performing for 12 years.

They meet in the Uniting Church on Ash Road, Leopold on Thursday mornings and perform concerts in aged care facilities around the district about once a month.

If you are able to help us out that would be fantastic contact Deanne on 52505076 or Sandra on 0409212993

## Springdale Trivia 43rd Edition

by Drysdale Girl Guides

1. In which Australian state or territory would you find the municipality of Port Augusta?
2. What is the name of the team that represents Hobart in the Big Bash cricket league?
3. Which five countries are larger than Australia (in terms of land area)?
4. Why did chocolate producer Cadbury alter their recipe to suit Australian conditions?
5. What gem is the town Cooper Pedy famous for?
6. How many Australians have won an Oscar for best actor or best actress?
7. What do the points of the Federation star on the Australian flag represent?
8. True or False, Australia has had 29 Prime Ministers (as of 2/12/2020)
9. At the 2016 Olympics Australia won gold in which team sport?
10. Where is the easternmost point on mainland Australia?

Turn to page 19 to find the answers.



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### SPONSORS



# Cyril & Eva Deeath Community Development Timeline Continued

1960 Eva started training as a Marriage Guidance Counsellor (MGC) and continued to work in this profession for 20 years. Under the auspices of Victorian MG Council she became administrator of the Geelong Centre and she undertook the education component – trained Nurses at the Geelong Hospital and Secondary School Students in human relations. She was an advisor with the Citizens Advice Bureau and also helped train the initial Lifeline counsellors. Being a trained Sister, she also took an interest in the Drysdale Bush Nursing Centre and Shannon Park. In 1964 Eva and Mrs Norma Mortimer were responsible for the creation of the Drysdale Kindergarten, which originally started in the Drysdale Court House. Also, around this time Eva was the administrator and a host family for the Harold Blair holiday scheme for aboriginal children. The idea of this scheme was to give outback aboriginal children from Queensland Mission Stations holiday boarding with white families by the sea, many local families participated in this initiative. In general, the children had a great time, but some did get a bit homesick, so Eva would organise group family outings which included places like Luna Park, You Yangs, Stieglitz and the local beaches – this way the children would be able to catch up with their siblings and friends. Such a lot of fun was had by all, good old-fashioned fun...

In 1974 she was appointed a Marriage Celebrant and married at least two and half thousand couples ranging in ages 17 to 85. She was also appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1975.

August 25th 1987 Cyril died suddenly at the age of 86.

Eva finally retired in 1994 at the age of 73

After retirement, Eva put away her boots, hung up her many hats and retreated to the privacy of her home, family and close friends.

Eva Died on December 12th 2005

Thank you, Eva Deeath, for your extraordinary selfless contribution to our community and surrounds, you were loved and cherished by so many, you will never be forgotten.

Story told by **Rayna & Ross Deeath**, collated and written by **Lesley Whitcombe**.



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## Sessional Kindergarten Play Based Learning

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- Clifton Springs Preschool is a not-for-profit community Kindergarten offering an Inclusive program since 1980!
- Independently managed Kindergarten run by Volunteer Committee of Management
- An experienced team of Educators who are child focussed and provide engaging and positive learning experiences
- Exceeding rating with the National Quality Standards
- Outdoor play area with large trees, resident pets and native animal visitors
- 15 hours of 4/5 year old Program and 5 hours of 3 year old (Joey Group) Program  
*(3YO and 4YO Programs fully funded by Victorian State Government 2021)*
- Sessional Kindergarten has a positive impact on children to be 'school ready'
- Allows children to become confident learners in a safe and supported environment
- Regular daily routines practiced to encourage independence
- Consistency of having the same classmates attending the same hours

**Education focussed - Literacy, Creativity, Nature Play and an emphasis on embedding Australia's First Nation's People's Culture into the Program STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics)**

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Timetable  
Registration Form  
Parent Handbook

## Group Master Guide

<https://home.springdale.org.au/groups/>

**Games - Cards, Crosswords, Jigsaws, Majong & Scrabble**

**Fitness - Badminton, Line Dancing, Pole Walking, Volleyball & Wheelie Riders**

**Creative - Drama, Felting, Genealogy, Girls Shed, Scrapbooking & Write About**

**Cooking - Men's cooking**

**Music/Singing - Singers and Bellarine Singers**

**Community Groups - Bowling/Spectrum, Dining, Friendly Cuppa, Harmony, Kinship, Lunch Bunch & Herstory**

**Other - Sci Fi, Harvest Basket & Business Group**



The SpringDale Lunch Bunch are going to Cafe Zoo High St Drysdale Wednesday 17th February meeting at midday, bookings are essential. Please phone Margaret 0418 370 857



SpringDale Dining Group are going to Portarlington Golf Club Tuesday 9th February meeting at 6pm. Please ring SpringDale on 5253 1960 to reserve your spot.

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Over the holidays you might have watched the film – *The man who invented Christmas*. I did (twice) and I loved it. The movie inspired a new corner in the Messenger this year  
**Inspirational Quotes.**

“ Our first is by Charles Dickens

*No one is useless who lightens the burdens of another.*

Anne Brackley Quote curator

[www.springdale.org.au](http://www.springdale.org.au)





## 'WEEKLY TIMES - YOUNG FOLKS PAGE'

In 1893 the Weekly Times started a 'Young Folks Page' where children could write in their thoughts, observations, stories etc to "Auntie Connie" & "Uncle Ben". As most farmers read this newspaper, many children from our farming communities wrote them letters. This continued for 30 years until 1923. This is a small selection of these from our district:

30 January 1909, page 37

MAY E. HAYES, Drysdale

Dear Aunt Connie- Drysdale is situated 12 miles from Geelong, and 10 miles from Queenscliff . It is partly surrounded by hills. Drysdale has one hotel, one post office, three grocers, and two drapers' shops, two bakers, and one butcher's shop, three churches, two schools— one State and one private— and one railway station, which is about a mile from the township. Four trains call at the station daily all the year round, while in the summer-time there are many special trains going from Geelong to Queenscliff that call at Drysdale. About two miles and a half from Drysdale there is a place called "Clifton Springs," which consists of a very large hotel (see pic). It is a favourite place for visitors during the summer months. It is so called on account of the many different kinds of spring water about it. It is very nice to go there for a picnic. There are four out of our family going to school. I have left as I am nearly 16 years of age.

15 February 1919 Rhoda C. Rigby, Fairview, St. Leonards

Dear Aunt Connie, We live on the main road between Portarlinton and St. Leonards. Our farm consists of 47 acres. We have one horse, three cows, and three calves. We milk the three cows, and have a large separator, and separate the cream from the milk. My father has a boat and goes fishing as well. I have two sisters younger than myself and no brothers. My sister and I attend the St. Leonards school, which is about 2 ½ miles from my place. There are about 24 children attending our school. I am in the fourth grade, and my sister Katie is in the second grade. My father has been taking "The Weekly Times" for seven years. My age is 10 years.



# Bellarine Family History Group

Find out the secrets from your family's past and learn how to research and build your family tree

Our Family History Group will teach you all you need to know. As we all learn at different speeds, especially as we get older the group have developed four “one on one” learning sessions.

- The sessions are between you and your tutor and are held at SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre Mondays, 1:30pm to 3:00pm.
- Each session is for 90 minutes. In the first 45 minutes they will show you the various sources of information that are available for you to gather data on your ancestors, both recent and in the past.
- It is not unusual for most people to forget some of what they are told in the first sessions so they will go over the data at your pace which is the advantage of “one on one” sessions.
- For the remaining 45 minutes of each session they will help you to start your own family tree. So after each session your family tree will begin to grow.
- Each session costs \$3.00.

The Family History Group meet each Monday at SpringDale Hall from 1:30 pm to 3.00 pm. Once you have completed your "one on one" sessions you can come along and continue to work on your family tree and there are people available to help you if necessary.

If you would like to participate, call the SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre on 5253 1960 and we will arrange for a Family History Group member to give you a call.







## "UNCLAIMED"

by John Reid and James Dennis.

### Part 1.

Tension simmers in the radio "shack" of the Mars force mining operations base. At the semi circular control desk the controversial figure, Captain Rosten stands tense at the shoulder of Lt. Kristen Johnson, Officer in Charge of radio communications. She is seated at the desk, crouched forward over the primary transceiver.

Rosten, "Come on, what is she waiting for?"

Kristen instantly responds with sharply lifted hand.

"Quiet !"

The radio crackles into life...

"A.S.S.U. 1 to Mars Force base..."

"Base receiving go ahead one."

The clear bell like tones of Lt. Ashley Shannon, slightly distorted by the radio...

"We are currently aground at the mining camp. All machinery is stationary and there is no sign of life observable from here. I am about to investigate on foot. Over"

Kristen..." Roger Ashley. Better report back in one hours' time whatever your status. Over..."

Understood base. Stand by."

At the controls of the Aerial Survey and Support Unit, looming ghostly near the silent and deserted mining camp Lt. Shannons' taut nerves jump as Rosten takes over...

"Listen Lt., just watch what you get up to out there. I don't mind losing you but I don't want to be authorizing a Unit replacement requisition to M.A.R.S. earth base just now. If you get into trouble..."

"Thank you Captain Rosten, that is most encouraging. I'll do my best to return your unit undamaged. A.S.S.U. 1 clear."

At the foot of the ladder, Lt.Ashley turns to her accompanying security guard.

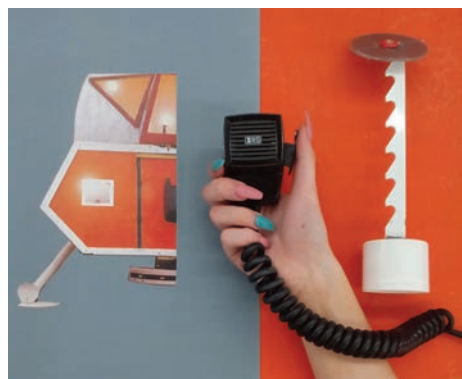
"Better stay with the Unit. I'm sure Rosten would think I was more expendable."

The anxious guard watches her draw her laser pistol and disappear behind a silent crawler.

Then... a wild scream...

Next month...What did she find?

John.



## There is no such thing as a little garlic!

Garlic is a major ingredient in many cuisines.

It can be hard to stomach for some people.

Roasting it in olive oil makes it easier to digest.

The flavour of roasted garlic adds depth.

It's easy to store it in the olive oil - use the cloves as required.



If you can smell garlic... everything is alright!

Roasted garlic has been proven to lower blood pressure and cholesterol. It is an anti-inflammatory and has lots of vitamins & minerals researchers say may help reduce the risk of cancer and strengthen the immune system.



## Savoury Marmalade

### Ingredients

- 1.5 Kg onions, chopped 1 ½ cups vinegar
- 5-10 cloves garlic, minced 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp black pepper ½ tsp. mustard seeds
- 1 tsp hot chilli flakes 1 cup honey
- ½ cup brown sugar 1 orange, juice and zest
- Add onions, vinegar, garlic, salt, pepper, mustard seeds and hot chilli flakes to a pot.
- Stir fry until sizzling and fragrant.
- Add honey, orange juice, zest and sugar.
- Return to the heat and allow to boil for 3-5 minutes, stirring constantly.
- Remove from heat.
- Ladle the hot marmalade into prepared jars.

**Serving suggestions:** Use as a glaze for meats like chicken, ham & pork • Top grilled steak, pork, chicken, turkey & seafood • Add on top of cheese or cream cheese as an appetizer • Mix yoghurt or sour cream to make a dip for crackers, vegetable sticks.



## Marinated Garlic

- Separate cloves of garlic from the head. Stir fry cloves in olive oil until just golden. Drain and put them in a jar.
- Drizzle fresh extra virgin olive oil & vinegar (two parts oil to one part vinegar) to cover.

Or Cut a whole head of garlic in half.

- Place it in a ramekin and completely cover with extra virgin olive oil and bake (200C) for about 20 minutes.
- Store in a jar with a bay leaf.

## Podiatry appointments available

Warmer weather and open-toe shoes are here!

If you have been neglecting your foot care needs during COVID restrictions, there is no better time than now to see a podiatrist.



**Appointments available - Drysdale, Portarlington & Point Lonsdale**



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The Springdale Messenger February 2021

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[www.springdale.org.au](http://www.springdale.org.au)

# Resolution to "mantra"

Did you make grand (maybe guarded) promises for 2021? I hear that 80% of New Year's resolutions have failed by the second week of February. It takes at least 66 days to form a new habit; so this 2 and-a-bit month rule does make some sense. It is after that we can see if the habit is actually automatic, or if you have just been clinging on with will power to get to that point... perhaps exhausted!

So I propose a mantra instead.

You don't have to use it in deep meditation or to focus and clear your mind, but through practice; repeating the same words can become automatic, and take less effort than quitting chocolate or sticking to a strict budget!

A mantra is a word or phrase that evokes meaning for you; repeating it strengthens your belief in yourself. Repeating it allows it to settle deeply into the subconscious and change negative beliefs into positive ones.

Use your mantra resolution in a way that works easily for you;

- Set a time to use it- when you wake up, or while you brush your teeth
- Write it in a place where you see it often
- Chant or repeat it in your mind as you walk or run
- Start your meditation practice with it
- Repeat it in the shower

Here are some possible mantras to use in 2021. But it can be fun to create your own.

I am calm about who I am. Instill acceptance and ease in your strengths and weaknesses. Calm gives us clarity to be our best.

I am optimistic about the future. The future hasn't happened yet. Looking forwards with optimism allows the best possibilities to find



us. You can then interpret what is ahead to the best of your ability and resources.

I am relaxed and confident in daily life. Even if you aren't yet... shouldn't you be? Everything is more manageable with calm confidence.

I look forward to challenge and change. Change is a certainty and this mantra offers trust in your own internal resources to handle and embrace what may come.

Then REPEAT. And repeat. And repeat.

**Wishing you the best of you in 2021!**

*\*How are habits formed: Modelling habit formation in the real world\**

Phillippa Lally, Cornelia H. M. van Jaarsveld, Henry W. W. Potts, Jane Wardle

First published: 16 July 2009

<https://doi.org/10.1002/ejsp.674>

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Business on the Bellarine

BOB is a local business group meeting weekly in Drysdale to network and help promote each other's businesses.

BOB is all about fresh ideas, sharing, building confidence and supporting each other. It's also about gaining a different perspective on where and how your business can evolve, while strengthening business connections.

Please come along. You'll get to meet new people and learn about other businesses that are part of our community.

We meet on Tuesday mornings 7.50am to 9.15am visitors welcome.

Drysdale Cricket Clubroom  
Drysdale Recreation Reserve,  
Granville Street, Drysdale

Contact Aaron Kelleher-Jones on 0431 160 905 for more information.



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# Clifton Springs Garden Club

Gardening - Community. You might ask why I join these two words. 2020 didn't allow us to enjoy our normal monthly meetings and outings but it did allow us (with restrictions) to still enjoy and share our gardens and whilst doing so connect to Community.

I feel very privileged to be the Secretary of the Clifton Springs Garden Club as it has given me great opportunities to be involved with people who share my love of gardening and to share the garden with others.

I was so excited when Anne Brackley sent out a note asking for people to nurture Herb baskets for fire affected areas in Gippsland as I had been wanting to do something to help, but didn't know what I could do. This led to my partner and I making the trip to Bruthen, with Anne and others from the SpringDale family, to distribute these herb baskets to communities in and around Bruthen and to participate in the Bounceback BBQ and market hosted by the CFA in Bruthen. The Garden Club had also contributed in a small way by donating a number of other plants to

compliment the Herbs to Help baskets. The Garden Club also contributed some vegetables and herbs to the Drysdale Primary School for their lunchtime garden club through our member Kate Lockhart, another connection to Community.

You don't have to have a large garden, or know a lot about gardening (I am a good example of that) but if you love plants and gardening, then why not come along to a meeting to see if you would like to become a Member.

The new Committee is busy putting together a varied and interesting list of speakers and outings for 2021. Our first meeting will be Monday 15 February 2021, 7.30 pm at Uniting Church Hall Drysdale, with Carole O'Neill giving us a presentation on her visit to the Artic and all the wonderful plants and birds that she encountered.

If you would like further information on the Club contact our Secretary Helen, on telephone 5257 2220 or email hma3152@gmail.com



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# St Leonards Garden Club

Hello Everyone,

Hope you've all had a great Christmas short notice as it was. Phew!!!!!! What a year 2020 has been. Now a new year we can look forward to hopefully happier and healthier days and months ahead of us.

It looks promising that our garden club will be able to resume February or March this year.

I will inform everyone through the St Leonards Community Facebook page as well as the Springdale Messenger of the details as to the date of the resumption and the conditions we need to adhere to. I will contact and invite guests' speakers ahead of this time.

By now fruit trees and vegetable gardens should be giving plenty of fruit and vegetables after the care you have given them. Soon you'll be up to your elbows in tomatoes, maybe making Passata, or preserving apricots and peaches if you're able.

White fly has been everywhere!!!!!! It seems to be really troublesome this year.

Harvest rhubarb. Very tasty with apples in a pie or crumble.

Roses can be dead headed and ready for a new flush of flowers.

By now garlic should have been pulled up. Tie together in bunches of 5 or 10 and hang bulbs down. Place in a well ventilated area out of direct light, for 2 to 3 weeks. You will know when they are ready as the wrappers are crispy and dry, as are the leaves. After the 2 - 3 weeks, cut leaves and roots, leaving about 1 - 2 inches from the bulb.

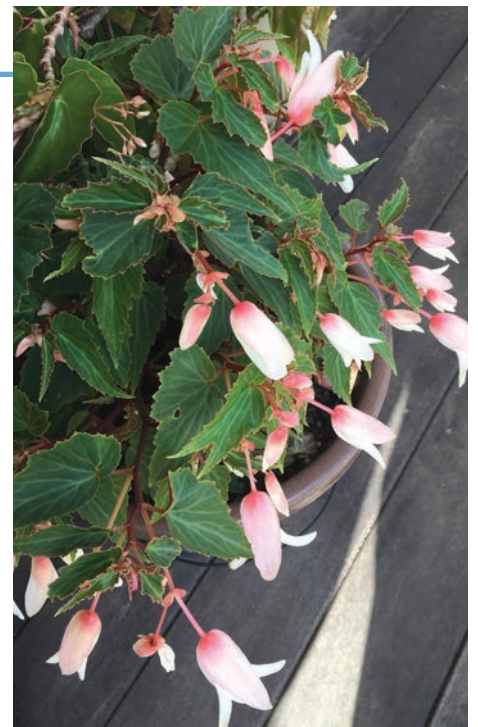
To store garlic, place in a well ventilated container, such as mesh bags, at room temperature out of direct light. Garlic should last between 3 - 6 months. If stored too long the bulbs will dry out and start to sprout. Of course these can be planted in June.

Tomato plants should be thinned out for good air flow, to help stop the caterpillars and to ripen the fruit. Thin out by pinching the small growths from the leaders, making sure not to remove the stems with the flowers. Remove yellowing leaves as the plant begins to die back giving the remaining growth that extra energy.

Fingers crossed we can resume our meetings in the near future.

Stay safe and healthy and happy

**Wilma McLaren**



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## Bellarine Support Group for Kinship Carers

Wow 2021 already, I am so glad 2020 is done and dusted with everything we as Victorians have been through with COVID 19, it is a wonder we survived. But we did.

Sadly, the number of Kinship carers in our community is growing seems like every day.

Currently our numbers stand at 46 carers and 87 children.

Little did I realise that since I started our kinship support group in 2015, that it would get so big.

Our group consists of mainly grandparents caring full time for their grandchildren, but we also have aunts and uncles, siblings caring for their younger siblings, family friends and some single family members. We have all stepped up to take on the role of caring for the children in our care.

We fulfil our roles as kinship carers with love, guidance, support and loyalty to each other but more importantly we treasure the children in our care.

I would like to thank the many people who have assisted our group over the Christmas and New Year period.

We have received so many wonderful donations of new toys for our younger children and gift vouchers for our 9 to 18 year olds.

To each and every one we say thank you.

I would like to make a special mention to a wonderful lady Margi from Cheltenham

whose sister Beth lives in Clifton Springs.

Margi made these awesome dresses for our littlest young ladies in our group.

Your beautiful dresses Margi have made so many little young ladies and their carers so happy. Thank you.

If you are a kinship carer sitting at home thinking that you are all alone in your kinship journey, please come join our support group.

We laugh a lot, we cry a lot and we talk too much but we have a lot of fun.

Our group meets the first Monday of each month (not during school holidays) at SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre from 10am until 12 noon.

Our first meeting for 2021 will be 1st February 2021. Come join us.

**Jeanette Hanley Heath** - 0414308257

Thank you everyone at SpringDale.



Subscribe to our webmail and stay up to date with Course, Group, Event and COVID Safe information.

Autism Spectrum Disorder Parent Support Group on line. Weekly on zoom each Wednesday 1-2pm  
Contact Kerby P: 52725163 or M: 0466950453 or email: kvanderlee@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

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## Helloworld Drysdale - Here for you...

**We wish to thank our clients and community for the support shown to us during a very challenging 2020.** We have been working through the lockdown periods following through every credit and refund for our clients. There's never been a better time to book with a travel agent during these changing times and we are so excited to have our doors open from **11am - 3pm Monday to Friday.**

Our team has over 100 years of travel experience and can help with all areas of travel, so there's not much that we don't know about travel! We can tailor-make small or comprehensive travel itineraries, arrange group travel, organize honeymoons, book car hire and hotels and so much more.

It is often thought that travel agencies only deal with international holidays and are more expensive but this is not the case. We have access to a huge supplier list to source the best deals which also includes domestic and regional travel. You can leave the planning to us, even if it's only one or two nights, we are here to help you get away on a short break or holiday. Many suppliers are also offering a "book with confidence" policy which is alleviating the indecision when booking future travel.

Domestic and regional travel is in demand for 2021 and international travel for 2022 so now is the time to secure your booking to avoid missing out.

So, when planning your travel please think about supporting local business rather than booking online with a foreign owned multi-national company. We are here to provide you the very best of local service and guidance throughout.

**We look forward to seeing you soon -**

**Sonja, Nicole, Simmone & Melanie**



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Even with state restrictions our members were proactive with their photography during the year. Member participation in competitions throughout the year was very close to the previous year's total, which was great given the state restrictions for several months - members were quite resourceful.

Our image of the year held each December is judged from winners of monthly club competition images, and our aggregate winners were the most consistent for last year. We are looking forward to 2021 and hope that we will be able to hold our meetings again at SpringDale.

## Congratulations to our award-winners for 2020:

**Image of the Year 2020: Breakfast Dive, by Jim Den Ouden**

Aggregate 2020: A Grade: Alex Valkenburg B Grade: Geoff Evans

Bellarine Camera Club usually meets at SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre, Drysdale, at 7:30pm on the first and third Monday of the month (except January), but due to the current circumstances our physical meetings are suspended until further notice. For information on our club please visit our website: [www.bellarinecameraclub.org.au](http://www.bellarinecameraclub.org.au); email [info@bellarinecameraclub.org](mailto:info@bellarinecameraclub.org)

**Lynne Bryant** - President



*Breakfast Dive – Jim Den Ouden*

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## Leanne's wheel life LEARNINGS



A great deal of learning has come from our 2020 experiences - increased gratitude for the small things, appreciation for those you hold dear, a mental shift on what is important in life, and greater community engagement. I am lucky enough to have positive personal takeaways from our COVID inspired journey that outweigh the negatives, but that is not true of everyone.

In March I guiltily appreciated the forced slow-down. After only four months of resettling on the Bellarine while still completing many Melbourne work and educational obligations, and enjoyed social visits, my body and mind needed a rest from the early starts. Abruptly ceasing the one and half hour 'getting ready' marathons, and the associated physical discomforts of long drives and long days, it was time to engage fully in our new home. Enforced restrictions meant we made friendships and acquaintances at five paces while others were walking like us or gardening, painting and general DIY'ing – because of course, everyone was at (or near) their home.

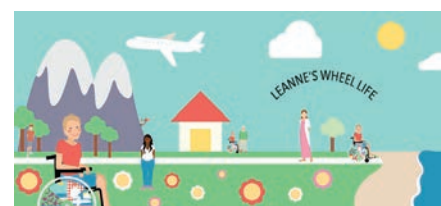
I have also been a beneficiary of the COVID enforced work from home structure. My work has increased, and now I study but work from home – perfect in many ways. Suddenly, everyone was isolated – not just those who are forced into isolation through physical or mental differences – and the world had to find a way to stay connected at work, school, and socially. These flexible arrangements have meant positive changes for many, and have created an accidental platform for workplace equality and inclusion – we are all the same on Zoom!

Yet last year had extra challenges for many people in marginalised groups and continues to do so. For many people with disability and the aged who were already experiencing loneliness and isolation the anxiety-inducing restrictions hit extra hard. Fear of COVID transmission from thinly stretched support staff, more significant social disconnection, heightened health issues from decreased medical and hospital assistance were a few genuine outcomes. We 'were all in this together' but some of us more than others.

So let's bring in 2021 with the insights provided from our whole community's shared experiences into what inclusion, support and equality mean for every one of us. I hope we continue to care for and understand others, offer greater inclusion through flexibility, and awareness that community truly counts - not just when times are hard for all.

**Happy New Year to all of us !!**

**Leanne**





## Helping Reluctant Readers find the Magic of Reading!

'Reading is boring!' you hear your child say more times than you can count. Is your child a reluctant, unmotivated and frustrated reader? As parents, have you found yourself struggling to find books that will finally ignite their love of reading? Do you feel like you are failing your child in developing a 'passion for reading'? Breathe easy because you are not alone.

The reality is that different parts of the brain have to work together as children decode words when reading. There are so many elements to reading, and the more a child reads the more the brain can develop and connect all the processes of:

- **phonemic awareness** - how individual consonant or vowels sound;
- **phonics** - connecting different sounds with different letters, or different groupings of letters;
- **fluency** - reading at a steady speed, showing understanding, and accuracy;
- **vocabulary** - current and newly acquired words, and finally
- comprehending the information in the whole text.

When broken down like that, it sounds exhausting doesn't it? It is therefore totally understandable that they can feel frustrated and lack motivation. They simply feel overwhelmed!

As teachers and parents we need to help each child find books and strategies that are tailored to their specific needs and preferences to boost their confidence, help them feel successful, and engaged, until they discover their own personal reading magic!

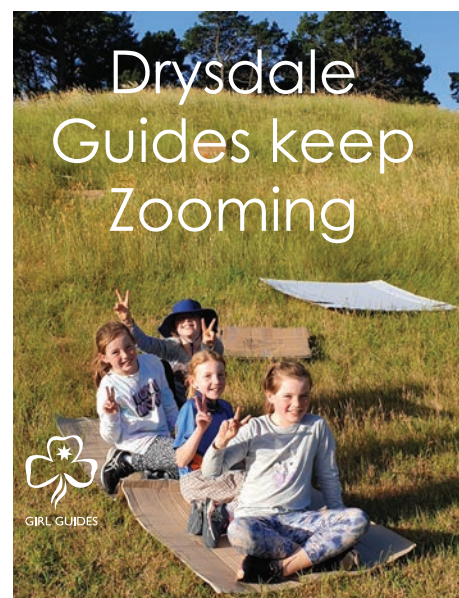
**Some strategies you might like to try include:**

- **Make reading fun!**: When children are having fun they will read - Magazines, cereal boxes, comics, lego or game instructions, movie reviews, Pokemon cards, toy catalogues etc...

- **Graphic Novels**: Don't discount their value. They are full of interesting and engaging texts and have lots of visual support to help the reader understand the characters, plot, conflict, and resolution and feel successful as readers.
- **Get Techy**: E-Books, audio-books and Storybook apps. Explore Commonsense media website and search '20 Apps for Kids who think Reading is Boring' or read their review of other reading apps; also search Scholastic Books online, as they have an extensive book list for reluctant readers too.
- **Go Sport!**: For children who'd prefer to be physically active, seek out Fiction and Non-Fiction books about their favourite sports.
- **Connect them with an ongoing book series**: So they are hooked and want to read more!
- **Amazing-Facts**: Guinness World Records, 500 Awesome Facts about Everything, Ripley's Believe it or Not and Why Encyclopedia's are terrific as they attract children who like facts, statistics and non-fiction information.
- **Reading Aloud**: It allows children of all ages to focus on the joy of books – captivating characters, thrilling plots, funny dialogue, and dramatic events. Spending time reading with your child and discussing books is a simply magical experience. Storylineonline.net is also a great site as famous actors read stories to children.

*If you need further assistance in supporting your child's reading development don't hesitate to contact me.*

Written by **Peta Henshelwood** (B.Ed)  
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com and facebook@TIME2Active8  
*'Creative solutions to improve primary students educational wellbeing.'*



After 8 months of meeting weekly via Zoom, our first outing was to zoom down the Drysdale Recreation Reserve hills. The girls enjoyed scientific testing methods for increasing and reducing speed, working as individuals and in small teams, enjoying the outdoors, recycling and having fun – all in one activity.

We have just started to meet with Guides in USA (Girl Scouts) via zoom – they live in houses at least 50 years old. Zoom has brought the world to our doors.

We are looking forward to a great 2021 – we meet at Springdale on Thursdays from 6.30pm to 8pm – new members welcome.

Regards, **Anne Brackley** - 0407 529205

## Trivia Answers

1. South Australia
2. Hobart Hurricanes
3. Russia, Canada, China, USA and Brazil
4. To make the chocolate less likely to melt in our hot weather
5. Opals
6. Five: Peter Finch, Geoffrey Rush, Russel Crowe (born in New Zealand but has lived in Australia since early childhood), Nicole Kidman (born in the USA to Australian parents, but has lived in Australia since early childhood) and Cate Blanchett.
7. The seven states and territories of Australia.
8. True
9. Women's Rugby 7s
10. Cape Byron, NSW



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# Memories of Yesteryear

## The Butcher Family

Another family member who seemed to have a fascination with a man in uniform was Alf and Elsie's youngest child Vonda. At age 18 she married a Geelong policeman named Barrett and in 1940 gave birth to a baby boy, Terry. A divorce followed soon after and mother and child moved to Melbourne to live with her older sister Maisie (Mrs Dennis) and her children in Thornbury.

When the Americans came to Melbourne for R and R during World War 2, Maisie took her sister to Port Melbourne to see the American Ship in town and naturally were in awe of the American sailors in uniform. One particular sailor, Tom Scalise, was in awe of the young blonde Aussie mum and stayed in touch, eventually asking her to join him in Houston, Texas.

She accepted his invitation and left young Terry with my grandparents who began raising him as their own. When Tom's stint in the Navy ended he became a career fireman, swapping a sailors uniform for a fireman's uniform until his retirement.

When Vonda Butcher became Mrs. Tom Scalise, she decided to return to Australia to take young Terry Barrett to Texas where he attended university and became a highway patrol motorcycle cop and yes, his career too was spent in uniform. He also had a name change to Terry Scalise.

My grandparents, Alf and Elsie were heartbroken after raising him to almost teenager status and they certainly missed the interaction with the visits from the many cousins and other relatives in Drysdale.

Life as an American teenager at university in the 1960's was portrayed in the movie "Grease" with John Travolta and Olivia Newton John, and Terry's time at uni would have been much the same. He married his childhood sweetheart Dianne and raised their family of three.

My Auntie Vonnie and Uncle Tom are no longer with us but Terry is still enjoying a well-earned retirement, playing golf and surrounded by his loving American family

**Russell Butcher**

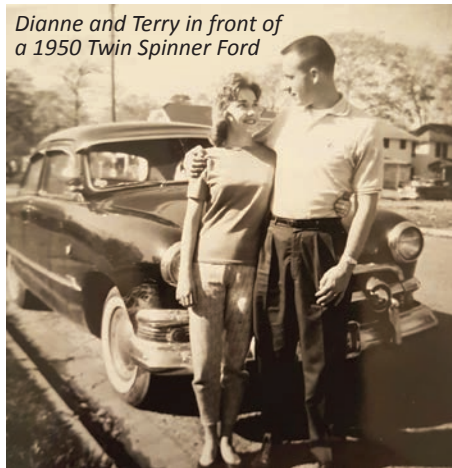
*Terry in Drysdale before he left.*



*Terry and John in America*



*Dianne and Terry in front of a 1950 Twin Spinner Ford*



*(Vonnie) Vonda about 18*



*John Dennis and Terry in front of Grandfather shed in Drysdale*



*Terry on his bike*



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There are two species of Spoonbill in Australia, The Yellow-billed and the Royal. However this article only covers one, the Royal. I will leave the Yellow to another time.

I understand completely why the Royal is so named as whenever I see these beautiful birds they are usually at their most distinguished, striding through the water showing by their carriage, their supreme and imperial rank in the bird world.

Royal Spoonbills are waders. Always found near shallow, fresh or estuarine wetlands. They stride through the water sweeping their head from side to side as their partly opened, sensitive bill detects small fish, aquatic insects, crustaceans and molluscs. Once caught the prey is quickly swallowed. The bird throws its head into the air in order to swallow and then continues the search, diligently sweeping for the minute food.

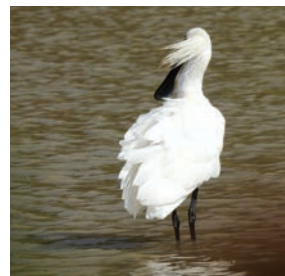
The Royals prefers to be by themselves but at certain times can be sighted in small groups. In these groups they are quite gregarious not trilling a beautiful song to the world but indulging in grunts and hisses. Sometimes you can hear the bill clapping as they communicate.

Their plumage is snowy white and their bill, long, black shiny with tiny creases and pimple like marks all the way down to the spoon shaped end. When breeding, adult plumage is spectacularly white with a dense mane of long plumes. A buff or yellow tinge appears on the breast. I love to see these birds on a windy day when the wind tosses their manes and gives them a most impressive but untidy appearance.

The faces of the Royals are bare. This allows them to search muddy surrounds for food without mud and slime attaching to their feathers. The adult supports a yellow eye patch, like an elaborate eye brow. These birds are found over most of Australia where there is water.

You will be delighted to know that at long last and after a long shut down, the beautiful bird boxes made by Chris Stabbins amongst many others built have been settled in Gippsland to assist birds in fire recovery areas. Breakfast News on the ABC covered the story in November 2020. We will look forward to seeing photos of the new occupiers as they recover and look after their families in 2021.

Carole O'Neill



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# FEMALE FOOTY COME AND TRY DAY

## SUNDAY, FEB 7

Drysedale Football Club  
Mortimer Oval 1.00pm



Be Part Of Something Amazing!

After a relaxing holiday break Drysdale Women's Football Pre-Season is back! The players have been embracing the latest ease of COVID-19 restrictions and have been training hard twice a week in preparation for a strong 2021 season. The club has welcomed back some familiar faces and has also eagerly welcomed some fresh talent.

The team has been affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic and are now keenly seeking new players for the 2021 season. The Female AFL Barwon league continues to grow each year as more women decide to be a part of community football. Being apart of a team sport is an excellent way to meet like-minded people, have fun and get fit. Victoria Health has indicated several health benefits of participation in sport, including 'increased health, fitness, body and bone strength, increased mental health and improved wellbeing and an increase in social connections and enjoyment.'

Many of our Drysdale women have achieved physical and mental goals with the encouragement of their teammates. Sarah White, who has played at Drysdale since 2018, states that, 'physical exercise and setting training goals has always been a focus that's helped me through tough times and struggles with mental health...the team is just as supportive off the field as they are on the field...thanks to footy I've pushed myself both physically and mentally which has helped me set goals that I wouldn't thought I could have achieved previously.'

The Drysdale Football Club is holding a Female Football 'Come and Try Day' on Sunday February 7th 2021 from 1pm at Mortimer's Oval, Drysdale. The day will involve all team age groups, from under 12's to Senior Women's. We encourage female's with all different skill sets to come down, meet the team and join them in a training session. No football experience is necessary!

If you would like more information about training with the team, please feel free to contact our Women's Coordinator, Jessica Case, on 0427 753 723.

Alicia Murray

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