



# The SpringDale Messenger

April 2025  
Volume 35 Issue 3



ABN 21 404 220 267

Compiled & Published by the SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre Inc.



## Premier's Spirit of Anzac Prize

The Premier's Spirit of ANZAC Prize 2024 was awarded to 12 students. Local student Owen McCoughtry was amongst the winners. Each received a fully funded 10 day overseas study tour, including accommodation, transport, activities, meals and travel insurance. Below is Owen's Spirit of ANZAC prize winning poem.



### The Drysdale Cenotaph: Honouring Mateship, Honouring Community

Stony finger, full of names, memories and granite,  
Furnished with rings of green beauty one day a year,  
Pointing to the sky showing a rising sun,  
Unveiled in 1919 after the end of the 'great war',  
Found where justice was once upheld,  
Representing town's residents who became part of something much larger,  
A memento for the ones that remember,  
Created for ones that will be remembered,  
To display the courage, endurance, mateship of our soldiers,  
Celebrating the names Anderson, F. Benham, R. Benham, Carlson, Clarke, Davis, Foster, Lyons, Matthews, Moffatt, Thompson, L. Turner, S. Turner, Waterson, Wiffen.  
Who left in 1914,  
Commemorating the names Baglin, Knight, McIlwraith, Martin, Peel, Wolf, Anderson,  
Who left in 1939,  
Recalling the support, resourcefulness, friendship of the community who laboured  
Making sure all knew about the ones who never returned,  
What about the ones who did return?  
One would think with two sides covered none would be unrecognised,  
One would think everyone had been commemorated,  
But no.  
Where is the name Gladys Patricia Bishop?  
One girl born and raised in Drysdale,  
Who served as a nurse posted in 3 different hospitals  
On the West Coast of India



Daughter of George Bishop,  
Who spoke the prayer when our memorial was raised,  
The memorial with a 1: 21 ratio of women to men,  
The memorial where the name of any women who served as nurses cannot be found,  
Women who left and were forgotten by all except family,  
During neither the first nor second bloodshed,  
No boards nor honour rolls recognise their names or efforts,  
Names are overlooked, unglorified, when nurses, signal people, drivers as well as soldiers all witnessed the horrors,  
Then were forced to live with the tale.  
There are bound to be others, the unknown, the unrecognised.  
Men and women whose families are to wield their only recognition.  
Our ANZAC men and women wouldn't have been discouraged,  
They fought or worked with unmatched strength and dedication,  
Fuelled by their mates and family,  
Channelling their feelings and their hope into what we call ANZAC spirit,  
Not to get their names on a block of stone,  
That is not reason enough to serve their country,  
They served to build their country,  
Creating Australia's history through every piece of grit,  
Every sacrifice,  
Shaping who and what Australia would become,  
And for that I am eternally grateful.  
Every member of our community,



**ANZAC DAY**  
FRIDAY 25TH APRIL 2025  
Event details on page 5

Each honoured and local ANZAC that left their home,  
Unknowingly sharing a bond built stronger than any granite,  
Mateship,  
Comradery,  
It is what helped,  
Each squadron,  
Each hospital,  
Each wartime godmother,  
Continue through hard times.  
The knowledge that someone else was there,  
A brother or a sister,  
Holding a shared respect,  
Supporting unconditionally,  
My memorial, our memorial,  
That so many go to each year,  
Allows our Drysdale community to dedicate and remember,  
To honour those who served and are serving,  
To show all what our community contributed to the war,  
Our town recalls our past,  
Acknowledging all who gave up their regular lives to peace-keep and safeguard our future.  
So this year, like the year before,  
I stand before a cold obelisk showing names though I am filled with warmth,  
I stand beside the next generation whose past carries them,  
I stand in the presence of my family who's ancestors served so that I could continue their legacy,  
Our families who displayed mateship, bravery, kindness built by ANZAC spirit if nothing else.  
In Memory of Drysdale soldiers.

# APRIL 2025

## 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.

Tuesday	1	Friendly Cuppa & Chat at SpringDale 10-11am
Wednesday	2	World Autism Awareness Day - Safe space afternoon at SpringDale 2-3pm
Thursday	3-29	Celebrating Oil on canvas at Bellarine Provedore
Saturday	5	Harvest Basket Produce Swap 9-10am The Abduction from The Seraglio - 2pm - Potato Shed Repair Café at SpringDale 9am-12noon
Sunday	6	Daylight Savings ends - Clocks fall back
Monday	7	Clifton Springs Curlewis Coastcare Group - Waterwatch monitoring - Clifton Springs boat harbor car park - 9.30am
Tue-Thu	8-17	Garage Sale - 10am-3pm at SpringDale
Wednesday	9	Polite Mammals - 11am - Potato Shed Ocean Grove Film Society Launch - 7pm - Ocean Grove
Friday	11	SpringDale Dining Group at Wasted Dinner - Feed Me Bellarine 5.30pm - bookings essential
Wednesday	16	Lunch bunch at Drysdale Hotel - 12noon - bookings essential Launching of Curlewis Habitat Restoration Project, Beach Vista Dr - Curlewis. 9.30am
Friday	18	Good Friday
Saturday	19	Drysdale Easter Market Collectables & Crafts 9am-2pm Community Hub Drydale
Sat/Sun	19/20	Bellarine North Rotary Club Easter Art Show at Christian College Drysdale 10am-4pm
Sunday	20	Easter Sunday
Monday	21	Easter Monday Public Holiday
Tuesday	22	Issi Dye - The Vera Lynn ANZAC Tribute Show - 10.30am - Potato Shed
Friday	25	Anzac Day Drysdale RSL Anzac Day Service - March commences 10:50am Anzac Day Exhibit at Bellarine Historical Society 10.30am
Sat/Sun	26/27	Theatre 3triple2 - The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery - SpringDale Hall - Sat - 7.30pm & Sun 2pm
Mon	28	Safe Seats Safe Kids - SpringDale Carpark - 10am-2pm Bookings essential

### Coming up in May 2024

Fri/Sat	2/3	Theatre 3triple2 - The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery - SpringDale Hall - Fri - 7.30pm and Sat 2pm & 7.30pm
Fri-Sun	2-4	Sacrededge Festival - Queenscliff
Sunday	4	Niusia - 4pm - Potato Shed

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



## SpringDale Messenger

Compiled & Published by the SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre Inc. A0024916V.  
17-21 High Street, Drysdale Vic 3222.

### COPY DEADLINE MAY 2025

Bookings/copy required by 1 April.

Dist: 25 April 2024

Circ: 15,000 copies home & shop delivered

Available online for millions to read

[https://docs.springdale.org.au/Msngr\\_2025/3503\\_MsngrApr2025.pdf](https://docs.springdale.org.au/Msngr_2025/3503_MsngrApr2025.pdf)

### Connecting Your Business with our Community

For all Advertising enquiries:

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For all Editorial enquiries:

Email: [messenger@springdale.org.au](mailto:messenger@springdale.org.au)

Phone: (03) 5253 1960

Online: Use the online form to lodge an article at [springdale.org.au](http://springdale.org.au)

**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 Committee 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, Portarlinton, 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

Dear Friends and Friends I am yet to meet

The last 4 weeks have been exciting as I have cooked 5 different batches of the melting moment there are so many things to consider, when creating a biscuit for a competition. Getting the ingredients spot on, using a food processor to combine the ingredients instead of my hands, getting the temperature and cooking time spot on, making the fork marks consistent and avoiding crumbles in the appearance. So biscuit yo-yos in preparation for the Bellarine Show. Who would have thought there could be so many things to consider? It was so much fun honing my skill and getting better with each batch.

If you came into SpringDale during the development phase you might have had a shortbread, melting moment or muffin thrust into and asked to give me feedback. Many people enjoyed this *onerous* task.

Then there was tending the zucchinis to ensure I still had some to display – keeping water up to them and ensuring they grew but not too much. Finding my potatoes that grew late last year and digging them up from under the pumpkin plants. Picking cherry tomatoes before the birds decided to taste them.

Making Plum jam (from my home-grown plums) and tomato relish, my favourite

chocolate cake, lemon and yogurt muffins, mum's date and plain scones and even plum sauce for the first time. I can hardly believe how much joy creating a tasty treat gives me and then asking others to try, and give feedback can be heartwarming, especially if there are good points to my creation.

Lastly some baby jackets in sewing display. I revived mum's baby jacket pattern and made a few jackets for some special people and also decided to enter them in the show. It was a busy lead up to the Bellarine Show but it also gave me great joy and satisfaction.

I'm not very good at competitions but trying to improve techniques and learn new skills is very rewarding. Often, we are racing from one activity to the next – its been good to have something creative to work on and I think most people have enjoyed taste testing my attempts. Thanks to everyone who gave me feedback and helped me along this path.

Now I'll have to start planning for next year's show – so I'm even better prepared.

Looking forward to the rest of the year and looking forward to seeing you soon at SpringDale or elsewhere.

Yours kindly

Anne Brackley for Team SpringDale

## New Opportunities



WORLD Autism Awareness Day

Wednesday 2 April

World Autism Awareness Day

Safe space afternoon at SpringDale 2 - 3pm



JOIN NOW

SpringDale Membership \$12 per year or \$100 for whole of life.

Be eligible to be part of and participate fully in our SpringDale Groups.



Subscribe to SpringDales webmail and stay up to date with Courses, Groups & Events



Friendly Cuppa & Chat

Tues 1 April 10-11am rsvp SpringDale 5253 1960



The SpringDale Lunch Bunch are at the Drysdale Hotel 12noon. Bookings essential ring Margaret 0418 370 857.



SpringDale Dining group are at Wasted Dinner - Feed Me Bellarine, Ocean Grove - 5.30pm. Bookings essential ring SpringDale 5253 1960 or email dining@springdale.org.au

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

An ikigai quote: Nichinichi kore konichi. It means Everyday is a good day or Try to spend each day meaningfully.

Anne Brackley - Quote curator

www.springdale.org.au



Tues 8 – Thurs 17 April 10am-3pm at SpringDale DVDs, LPS. Frames & photo frames, toys, and more...

## Be part of the upcoming edition now! Business & Services on the Bellarine 2025/26 Directory



It's all about connecting people

Business & Services On The Bellarine 2025/26 Directory is a tool that other businesses and householders are coming to rely upon for information about local services.



For information about colour display advertisement specifications and costings, please phone SpringDale NeighbourhoodCentre (03) 52531960.

Support Your Local SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre - Advertise Locally

## Alison Marchant Member for Bellarine



It was great to see construction recently begin on the new Barwon Women's and Children's Hospital in Geelong.

Expanding on the women's and children's health services currently available across the region, this build will feature a new neonatal and parent care unit, an expanded special care nursery, extra hospital beds, birthing suites, operating theatres and clinic rooms. This vital investment will provide more local jobs and ensure that families across the Bellarine and Greater Geelong can access expert care and facilities close to home.

This isn't the only exciting local project currently underway, as we work to make our community, facilities and road infrastructure as safe and accessible as possible.

It was terrific to visit Wallington Primary School earlier this year to celebrate construction commencing on their new building upgrades.

School captains, and junior project managers, Nathan, Lily and Brianna gave me a tour of the site that will soon become new classrooms, and they gave it a big tick of approval. It's great to see this \$2.1 million investment take place for an incredible local school that has served the community since 1868.

Recently, I also visited the Queenscliff Coast Guard to celebrate the roll out of the new digital radios for all Marine Search and Rescue units to improve their communication on the water. These radios give them access to

encrypted communication with the Water Police Rescue Coordination Centre, improving connectivity when responding to rescue operations.

There are more projects to celebrate in the Bellarine throughout this year with Collendina Reserve progressing in road safety upgrades that will make it safer for members of the football and cricket clubs, as well as their families and opposing teams, to safely enter and move around the reserve, before further works commence on upgrading their pavilion with support from Federal Government.

Important intersection upgrades are also set to commence in Barwon Heads, delivering a new roundabout, dedicated bicycle lanes, pedestrian paths and improved school bus stops on Barwon Heads Road and Stacey's Road intersection. I look forward to celebrating more milestones throughout the year with the wonderful Bellarine community.

### Keep Up to Date in the Community

If you're looking for regular updates alongside this community column, be sure to follow my social media on Facebook and Instagram, 'Alison Marchant – Member for Bellarine', to see up to date information regarding project milestones, what grants are available in the community, upcoming events and community notifications.

**As your local member of State Government, please contact my office on 03 5250 1987 or via email [alison.marchant@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:alison.marchant@parliament.vic.gov.au) if you require any assistance.**



Drysdale Clifton Springs Curlewis Association

Our next meeting will be looking at the recently released Plan for Victoria [https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0033/739473/Final-Plan-for-Victoria-For-Web.pdf](https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0033/739473/Final-Plan-for-Victoria-For-Web.pdf). If you would like to be part of this discussion please email [dryclifton@gmail.com](mailto:dryclifton@gmail.com)

**Anne Brackley - Secretary DCSCA**

## DRYSDALE EASTER MARKET COLLECTABLES & CRAFTS

**Saturday, April 19 9am-2pm**

25 Eversley St, Drysdale, in Community Hub (Mortimer Hall) next to Police Station

Entrance \$2 per person - children U16 free

Stallholder enquiries to [pbruce2@bigpond.com](mailto:pbruce2@bigpond.com)

Presented by

*Geelong Bottle & Collectables Club*



# Alison Marchant.

**Member for Bellarine**

**Are you, or a member of your immediate family celebrating a milestone birthday or wedding anniversary?**

Congratulatory messages can be arranged for:

- 90th and 100th birthdays
- All birthdays over 100
- 50th, 60th, 65th and 75th wedding anniversaries

**For more information about congratulatory messages, or for assistance with any state matters, please contact my office.**



📍 Wadawurrung Country, Shop G066, Gateway Plaza, 641-659 Bellarine Highway, Leopold VIC 3224

☎ 03 5250 1987

✉ [alison.marchant@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:alison.marchant@parliament.vic.gov.au)

🌐 [www.alisonmarchantmp.com.au](http://www.alisonmarchantmp.com.au)

It's hard to believe that we are already a third of the way through the year, but what is easy to believe is that there are some great shows coming up at the Potato Shed in April that will have you reaching for your telephone or your personal device to book.

Lyster Opera (The Italian Girl in Algiers 2024) return 2pm Saturday 5 April with their take on Mozart's **The Abduction from the Seraglio**.

Belmonte, with his sidekick Pedrillo, sets off to Turkey to rescue his betrothed Konstanze.

This hilarious, action-packed opera focuses on our heroes and heroines and how they outwit their captors, particularly the fiendish Osmin, overseer of the Pasha's harem.

One of Mozart's first successes as a composer, **The Abduction from the Seraglio** is a farcical, colourful romance.

Join us for some school holiday fun 11am Wednesday 9 April when **Polite Mammals** wander into our theatre and into your heart.

Award-winning physical theatre company The Wholesome Hour bring to you their wild, neo-vaudevillian variety show using puppetry and dance, backed with original music.

Meet over 20 animals, including farting skunks, a dancing praying mantis, Frankenstein cockroaches and even a singing bin chicken (that's an Ibis to the uninitiated). This is all ages Aussie comedy at its silliest.

Our April Morning Show time show, 10:30am Tuesday 22 April, is a celebration of the best of Dame Vera Lynn. **Issi Dye presents The Vera Lynn ANZAC Tribute Show**, with the incomparable Leslie Martin giving voice to all

## POTATO SHED

WIN DOUBLE PASS to

**Issi Dye -  
The Vera Lynn Show**  
10.30am Tuesday 22 April

To enter fill out the coupon, send or deliver to:  
SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre High St Drysdale

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPETITION CLOSING 11 FRIDAY APRIL 4PM**

of Dame Vera's greatest war-time hits. Songs such as *We'll Meet Again*; *A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square*; *Land of Hope and Glory*; *There'll Always be an England*; *Anniversary Waltz* will reverberate through the theatre, and Issi will join Leslie to present this cavalcade of the best of war time music.

All our shows are on sale via our website, [potatoshed.com.au](http://potatoshed.com.au) or in person at the Box Office, Monday-Friday 10am – 4pm. You can also call our Box Office on 5251 1998 and book with your credit card.

Our special VIP discount is back (book five or more shows tagged with the VIP symbol and receive \$3 off each ticket (in person at Box Office only).

**We look forward to seeing you at the Shed!**

## ANZAC DAY

FRIDAY 25TH APRIL 2025



The Drysdale RSL sub-branch will conduct an Anzac Day commemoration service at the Cenotaph on High St Drysdale, opposite the CFA station. Anzac Day this year is on Friday 25 April, and will be observed across Victoria as a public holiday.

Drysdale RSL will not hold a Dawn Service, but Geelong, Portarlington and Ocean Grove-Barwon Heads clubs probably will.

Our service will begin with a march at 10:50am from the corner of Eversley and Princess St, along Princess St and disperse at the CFA forecourt.

We request groups and individuals wanting to march, to assemble at the start point at 10:40am.

After the march, we will have the usual respectful activity at the Cenotaph with speeches, flag raising and lowering, Australian and New Zealand anthems, and wreath laying. Groups and members of the public wanting to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph should contact the Secretary before the event so we can coordinate this aspect.

When the ceremony concludes, refreshments will be available at the RSL premises at 13 Princess St, thanks to the North Bellarine Rotary Club.

The traditional Anzac Day clash between Drysdale and Portarlington Football Clubs will be fought at the Drysdale ground. There will be an Anzac Day ceremony on the footy ground starting at 1:30pm. The senior game is scheduled kick off at 2:10pm.

**Harry Paterson** - Secretary - Drysdale RSL - 0423 016 094

# WHAT'S ON



### THE ABDUCTION FROM THE SERAGLIO



**Saturday 5 April, 8pm**

Belmonte, with his sidekick Pedrillo, sets off to Turkey to rescue his betrothed Konstanze. This hilarious, action-packed opera focusses on our heroes and heroines and how they outwit their captors.

Theatre Seating: \$40 Adult  
\$35 Conc \$30 Under 25s

### POLITE MAMMALS



**Saturday 5 April, 8pm**

#### SCHOOL HOLIDAY SHOW

Polite Mammals is a totally wild, neo-vaudevillian variety show the whole family can enjoy. Celebrate animals of all kinds: real, imaginary, sparkly, stinky, polite and rude!

All tickets: \$15.00 each or \$50.00 for family of 4 (under 2 free).

### ISSI DYE - THE VERA LYNN ANZAC TRIBUTE SHOW



**Saturday 5 April, 8pm**

#### MORNING SHOWTIME

Starring Leslie Martin

Join Issi Dye to hear the songs of Dame Vera Lynn, the singing darling pinup girl, of the British and Australian troops during World War II.

All tickets \$20 – Morning tea provided.

41 Peninsula Drive, Drysdale

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

To book scan the QR code, visit [potatoshed.com.au](http://potatoshed.com.au) or with credit card on 5251 1998.



By Cr Elise Wilkinson

Many selfless volunteers work tirelessly to protect the Bellarine Peninsula's beautiful natural environment and coastline, and it's fantastic to see their efforts supported in the latest round of Council community grants.



Clifton Springs Curlewis Coastcare received two grants to support its protection of the area's coastline and waterways.

The group's Community Habitat Restoration project was awarded \$10,000 to assist with a range of initiatives that improve biodiversity and protect the foreshore habitat.

An additional \$2,000 was granted to the group to help cover the cost of tools and safety equipment for the team's various restoration activities.

The group frequently connects with community members to conduct beach clean ups, invasive weed removal and water quality testing to ensure the coastline is in prime condition.

Clifton Springs Curlewis Coastcare is a member of the Bellarine Catchment Network, which comprises a diverse range of community groups working to protect our peninsula's glorious environment.

The network was granted funding for its Nature Mentors program, with \$8,700 supporting the connectivity of environmental volunteer groups across the region.

These mentorships are designed to empower volunteers with skills to best support their various sustainability projects.

In total, this round of community grants funding awarded \$70,300 to 11 projects and groups in the Environmental Sustainability category.

Council recognises how integral these grassroots efforts are to the protection of our environment, and we understand that we all have a significant part to play in ensuring the future of our precious coastlines, waterways and ecosystems.

Our efforts have been outlined in the Environment Strategy Action Plan 2024-26, which includes our progress to reach our sustainability goals.



Thank you

The Bellarine Show was held recently at the Portarlington Recreation Reserve, the 33rd year the Show has been held. The theme for 2025 was Wool.

The Show provides an opportunity for city-based individuals to experience all that is wonderful about country life, in a not so country landscape. Attractions included a woodchop display by the Western Victorian Axemen's Association Inc, Jack Briscoe and his working dogs in action from Futura Kelpies, Jenkins and Son Seafood Gumboot Toss and Guess the Weight along with tractor/trailer and horse and cart rides with the final competition of the day being the highly contested Community Bank Bellarine Dog Jump.

The Show Committee would like to thank everyone who came together to ensure the 2025 Show was a success. From its sponsors and advertisers, volunteers, competitors and the public who attended on Sunday; a heartfelt thanks to you all.

On a final note, the Committee would like to acknowledge and thank its long-standing supporter, Laura Cockerell. Laura and her husband Geoff were original sponsors of the Bellarine Show when it started in 1989 and was held at Lake Lorne Reserve in Drysdale.

As exhibitors in the Cattle competition and then members of the Committee, Laura then took on the role of provider of the rosettes and ribbons handed out to all competition areas. Now in 2025, Laura has decided that this will be her last year and leaves a very big hole for the Committee to fill. Laura exemplifies the true meaning of community spirit, and the Bellarine Agricultural Society will be forever grateful for her commitment to it and the role she has played over the years.

The Committee salutes you Laura Cockerell and thanks you for the many hours of tireless work you have put in to provide this keenly sought after competition prize from the Bellarine Show.

Advertisement

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Authorised by Libby Coker, Australian Labor Party, 26/500-540 Torquay Road, Armstrong Creek VIC 3217

SCAN ME





**lee martin.**  
Director.  
0400 957 839

**andrew kibbis.**  
Director.  
0411 424 412

**now open in drysdale @ shop 5/8 high street.  
P: 03 5297 3888**

# Live Theatre returns to SpringDale!

Theatre 3triple2 are proud to present *The Fardale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society Murder Mystery!!!*

This play is set in the drawing room of Checkmate Manor. The family gathers for the reading of the will of the late Sir Reginald Bishop. However, someone else has designs on the Checkmate millions, and will stop at nothing to get them. The extended Bishop and Knight family (and their retainers) gather for the reading of their recently departed patriarch's will. In quick succession, many of them succumb to the dastardly plan of our mystery murderer, determined to reduce the too-large pool of potential beneficiaries.

It appears everyone has a motive, and everyone is a suspect in a classic whodunit farce. Along the way, the production does not go according to plan.... as the curse of AmDram strikes.... The scenery falls down, sound effects add a strange note, cues are missed and those quick changes are just too slow. Through this adversity the ladies soldier on, determined to provide a good evening out for their audience (which also includes a Film and Fashion Show and Murder Mystery Quiz - complete with prize) The crunch comes in the final denouement when the murderer is about to be revealed ..... and the final twist to the plot is revealed.



Tickets on sale now at [www.theatre3triple2.com](http://www.theatre3triple2.com) or call 5251 3687  
BYO Basket Supper & Drinks - Table Seating.

April 26 - 7.30pm, April 27 - 2pm  
May 2 - 7.30pm, May 3 - 2pm & 7.30pm



**CREATORS & CRAFT MARKET**  
**BANNOCKBURN**

**Sunday 4th May, 2025**  
From: 10.00am - 2.00pm

New Venue - Lions Club Parkland  
Geelong/Shelford Rd, Bannockburn

Stall holder enquiries  
contact Noeline on:  
0427 923 934 or [f](https://www.facebook.com/ccbanno@bigpond.com) or [ccbanno@bigpond.com](mailto:ccbanno@bigpond.com)

# S.N.O.W.

Sustainable Housing for Older Women  
Bellarine

## Re-imagining Housing For Seniors:

*"Why don't we try to get some people together who are willing to put some money into buying a decent sized block of land and building two duplex's which can be rented out to older women (or men) at an affordable rate?"*

This was one of the suggestions offered up when I was sharing at a local club a few weeks ago.

Sometimes we can't really help on our own, but when we band together so much more can be achieved.

American Philosopher and educator, William James once said,

**"The great use of life is to spend it for something that will outlast it."**

I know when times are hard that it's often difficult to think about others, but imagine if some of us who have a little more than we need, actually decided to do what this dear lady was suggesting, and "spend it for something that will outlast us!"

There are many older couples here on The Bellarine who live constantly with the fear that if anything happens to either one of them, they'll never be able to pay their rent on a single pension. There are many single women who are already in this position.

If you would like to join the conversation – or perhaps **you have an idea to do something that will outlast your life – but you need others to join with you**, please reach out. We would love to talk and explore your dream with you.

Dianne Bennett

[diannebennett4@hotmail.com](mailto:diannebennett4@hotmail.com)

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- Sale contracts – Section 32 preparation

**Shannon Calder**  
Manager – Bellarine Office



**Heritage Cameo Conveyancing**  
*'Professional and Personal Service Guaranteed'*

**Bellarine Office:**  
8 Murradoc Road, Drysdale, Vic 3222  
E: [shannon@heritagecameo.com.au](mailto:shannon@heritagecameo.com.au)  
T: 03 5251 3950



Contact your local friendly conveyancer Shannon for all your conveyancing needs and questions.



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# Upstairs BELLARINE

APRIL 3RD - 29TH  
**LINDA NALL**  
CELEBRATING OIL ON CANVAS

Please join us for the her opening night...  
Thursday 3rd April 5:30 - 7pm  
...and come check out Bellarine Provedore &  
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### Experience

Fiona Barber is the managing director with over 20 years experience in the conveyancing industry working for law firms, banks, and conveyancing offices around Victoria.

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### Fiona Barber

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3 Brown Street Portarlinton



Retirement is generally thought of as a time of relaxation. After many years of work, looking after children and general work-life pressures, this new chapter should be “your time”. Yet for many, retirement brings unexpected stress and anxiety. After years of routine, responsibility, problem-solving and pressure, the mind doesn’t automatically switch off. Instead, it continues scanning for issues, creating what I call “worry ghosts”—lingering anxieties of a life you have retired from that haunt this new quieter lifestyle. Without the daily distractions of work, these worries may latch onto small, insignificant concerns, simply because the brain is accustomed to, and oddly looking for, stress.

Left unchecked, this residual stress can be really unsettling and have some health consequences. Chronic worry triggers the body’s fight-or-flight response, keeping cortisol levels high. Over time, this can lead to sleep disturbances and digestive issues amongst other symptoms, or perhaps your sensitivity to your health increases and becomes overwhelming. Mentally, stress can contribute to anxiety, depression and a sense of purposelessness.

But “they” said retirement should be a time of enjoyment, not unnecessary stress!

If you have begun retirement, and feel that the worry ghosts are getting in the way of enjoying the ease you have around you, here are three ways to leave them behind and embrace a peaceful, fulfilling retirement:

### 1. Rewire Your Mind into Being Comfortable with Calm.

Mindful and reflective practices can help to retrain your subconscious to release old patterns of stress and cultivate a

relaxed mindset. You may like to try some mindfulness practices, like deep breathing and meditation to keep you grounded in the present, or connect to the movement of your body with Yoga or Qi Gong, to bring your mind away from spiralling into unnecessary worry. Counselling or Hypnotherapy may also be of support to let these old thought habits go.



### 2. Redefine Purpose and Routine

Retirement anxiety may stem from a loss of identity. Find new ways to bring meaning into your days, look into new hobbies, volunteering, learning, or travel. A gentle routine, including daily exercise, helps maintain structure whilst allowing flexibility and freedom.

### 3. Consciously Let Go

When you catch yourself worrying, ask, “Is this a real problem or just a habit?” Visualise releasing unnecessary worry like a balloon, trusting that not every thought needs action. Over time, your mind will learn that peace, not stress, is your new default.

Retirement is your time to breathe, enjoy and truly live—free from the ghosts of working worry.

**Kim High** - Clinical Hypnotherapist  
BSc DipEd MEnv DipClinHyp  
Family Hypnotherapy



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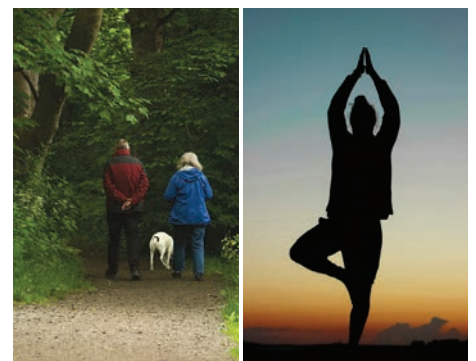
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# Every Brushstroke Counts

## at the 46th Annual Bellarine North Rotary Club Easter Art Expo!

Get ready, Bellarine! It's that time of year again-time for the beloved Bellarine North Rotary Club Easter Art Expo, a highlight on the local calendar that's back and better than ever. Celebrating its 46th year, this vibrant event is set to dazzle art enthusiasts and casual visitors alike.

Hundreds of stunning artworks from both established and up-and-coming artists will be on display. Each piece is available for sale, offering an opportunity to take home a unique piece of creative work while supporting our community. Over the past 45 years, your generous support has helped raise nearly \$340,000 for vital local and international projects.

There will be a photography display from the Bellarine Camera Club and a glass display and demonstrations by the Festival of Glass, showcasing captivating works.

Make sure to visit our Café for a delightful treat. Enjoy freshly brewed coffee, tea, and scrumptious scones while soaking in the creative atmosphere.

Event Details:

- Location: Christian College Centre for Music, Sport and Performing Arts, 40 Collins Street, Drysdale
- Dates: Saturday, 19th April & Sunday, 20th April
- Time: 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Join us for a weekend of creativity, community spirit, and endless inspiration. We can't wait to see you there!

For more information, visit our website here <http://www.bellarinenorthrotary.org.au>



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# COURSES

## @SpringDale

We are an Autism Friendly Organisation

Improve your skills - Expand your mind  
SpringDale is offering a number of new classes  
this term. The new classes have **Red Headings**.

More information and bookings can be made via our  
website <https://home.springdale.org.au/learning-master-guide/>  
or email [office@springdale.org.au](mailto:office@springdale.org.au) or phone 5253 1960.

**Term 2**  
April-June  
2025



All classes held at SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre 17-21 High Street, Drysdale, unless otherwise stated.

## Being Creative

### Express Yourself through Collage Art

'Mindful Collage Art will help reawaken your creativity and nurture your imagination. Learn to express your ideas, thoughts, and emotions in this workshop. Enjoy the process as you learn about design, patternmaking, dimension, and composition to help you grow in confidence whilst expressing yourself'.

**Instructor:** Peta Henshelwood

**Dates/times:** Sat 7 - 28 June 10am-12.30pm

**Fee:** \$160

### Intro to Gelli Printing

Learn to make papers for collage, card making and other mixed media art with Gelli Printing.

**Instructor:** Libby Hildebrandt

**Dates/times:** Thurs 1 May 10am-12noon

**Fee:** \$20

### Gelli Printing

Learn to make papers for collage, card making and other mixed media art with Gelli Printing.

**Instructor:** Libby Hildebrandt

**Dates/times:** Thurs 8 May - 26 Jun 10am-12noon

**Fee:** \$100 or **Conc** \$80 8 weeks

### Art Fundamentals - Discover the Artist Within

#### The starter or restarter course

An introductory or refresher course using drawing media for adults. This is a great starter course or refresher course for returning artists, but no previous experience is required. The course awakens and sharpens art perceptions, the skills of seeing as an artist "sees" using drawing exercises. It also introduces concepts of colour awareness, surface texture and composition.

**Instructor:** Annette Playsted

**Dates/times:** Tues 29 April - 17 June 1-3pm

**Fee:** \$160 or **Conc** \$85 (8 sessions)

### Art Media Intermediate

#### Learning all the painting and drawing media

To help you develop further as a potential artist, this course is designed for those who have completed Art Fundamentals. Explore the wide range of Painting and Drawing media, and all the methods of application. Increase your media knowledge in the techniques and processes of each medium.

Increase your skills and confidence in various processes of painting and drawing. Improve your media knowledge. Prepare for the next stage of exhibiting or for exhibiting again.

**Instructor:** Annette Playsted

**Dates/times:** Mon 28 April - 23 June 1-3.30pm

**Fee:** \$160 or **Conc** \$85 (8 sessions)

### Advanced Art Workshop - Develop the Artist Within

Preparing to exhibit. Developing an Art based small business. This workshop program is designed to further develop your knowledge and broaden skills and perceptions. It is for hobbyists or art students who have studied the Art Media Course or have a mature knowledge of media applications. Challenges are set to encourage the building of ideas to improve conceptual development and encourage the experimental use of media to broaden and develop unique approaches to artmaking. Participants will prepare to exhibit artworks and participate in exhibitions.

**Instructor:** Annette Playsted

**Dates/times:** Mon 28 April - 23 June or Tue 29

April - 17 June 10am -12.30pm

**Fee:** \$160 or **Conc** \$85 (8 sessions)

### Cards with Lizzy

Let's get crafty with cards. Perfect for beginners. Come along and have a go.

**Instructor:** Lizzy Free

**Dates/times:** Wed 23 Apr - 25 Jun 1.30-3.30pm

**Fee:** \$5 per session

## All Abilities Art

A studio based program for people of all abilities to explore their creative self, using a wide variety of art materials. Discover your creative language to express yourself in a safe, supported and relaxed environment.

**Instructor:** Celia Adams

**Dates/times:** Fri 2 May - 4 July 10am - 12noon

Bookings essential. 10 weeks

**Fee:** \$300 or **Conc** \$200

## Textiles

### NEW - Repair what you wear

Learn 4 sewing techniques useful in mending garments, homework and toys - Back, Herringbone, and Ladder stitches plus sewing buttons on correctly. Suitable for left/right-handed participants. Materials supplied.

**Instructor:** Claire Duffy

**Dates/times:** Expression of Interest

**Fee:** \$20 or **Conc** \$10

### NEW - Sew Clothes for hypersensitive skin

Recognise sensitive skin friendly fibres. Enjoy a trip to Rathdowne Fabrics in Brunswick to choose suitable fabric. Pick up tips on finding and using commercial patterns. Sew a garment using your chosen fabric.

**Instructor:** Claire Duffy

**Dates/times:** Expression of Interest

**Fee:** \$120 (Plus Fabric cost) or **Conc** \$50

### Teenage Sewing Classes

Learn to sew. Learn how to complete small projects with new and different techniques in each class. Learn to make your own personalised gift. Short projects you can take home on the same day. Utilise sewing machines, accessories, and haberdashery. Sewing machine provided or if you prefer, to bring along your own.

**Instructor:** Denise Kent

**Dates/times:** Sat 26 Apr, 10, 24 May, 14, 28 Jun, 10am-12noon

**Fee:** \$20 per session

### The Language of Sewing Patterns

Learn to enjoy it. All brands of sewing patterns include a great deal of useful, mostly vital, info. Plan ahead of actually cutting/sewing - sit with a cuppa and read the inclusions, as if it were a book or magazine. Let's have a look at this together.

**Instructor:** Denise Kent

**Dates/times:** Thurs 29 May 12.30-2.30pm

**Fee:** \$20 or **Conc** Free Booking essential

### Things I wish my Grandmother taught me

Draping my hankies and tea towels over the lavender bushes to dry in the sun, having Distilled lavender water in the steam iron. Sewing buttons on-with a thread 'shank' when needed, darning a hole, rather than tossing it out - All these and many more hints and tricks to discuss and make life easier and better.

**Instructor:** Denise Kent

**Dates/times:** Thurs 15 May 12.30-2.30pm

**Fee:** \$20 or **Conc** Free Booking essential

### Sustainable Wardrobe Workshop

Learn how to update or upcycle a garment. Update something you found at a recycle shop or blend with something from your wardrobe. Upcycle or re-purpose items you already possess. You will learn how to replace a button, to mend a 'worn spot', to repair fallen hems, shorten (or lengthen) a garment or even a sleeve, to enjoy more wear from a favourite garment.

**Instructor:** Denise Kent

**Dates/times:** Thurs 12 Jun 12.30-2.30pm

**Fee:** \$20 or **Conc** Free Booking essential

## Music

### Intro to Harmonica

Would you like to learn how to play that harmonica in your drawer? Come and have a try.

**Instructor:** Jack Meredith

**Dates/times:** Thurs 1 May (1 Week) 10.30-11.30am

**Fee:** \$20 or **Conc** \$10

### Beginners Harmonica

Would you like to learn how to play that harmonica in your drawer? This course maybe for you.

**Instructor:** Jack Meredith

**Dates/times:** Thurs 8 May - 26 Jun 10.30-11.30am

**Fee:** \$90 or **Conc** \$80

### Acoustic Jam Session

**Instructor:** Steve Williams and Susan Norris.

**Times:** 3rd Wednesday each month 7:30pm at SpringDale Hall.

**Fee:** \$5 Feel free to bring your own refreshments.

### Beginners Ukulele

Come and start your ukulele journey with us. Learn a few chords and strumming techniques and get started making music.

**Instructor:** Jan Paradise

**Dates/times:** Classes will be offered in Term 3

### Beginners Guitar Playing

Playing the guitar can be an extremely satisfying pastime and one that you can enjoy and improve your skills in for years to come. But everyone needs to start somewhere and this course will hopefully provide enough knowledge and skills to get you started.

**Instructor:** Steve Bayly

**Dates/times:** Classes will be offered in Term 3

## Languages

### French With Serge

Designed for enthusiasts of the French language. The course focuses on vocabulary, comprehension, pronunciation and some grammar. This course is designed for those with an intermediate level of knowledge of the French language. Join a friendly and supportive group with ongoing lessons.

**Instructor:** Serge Botans

**Dates/times:** Tues 29 Apr - 1 Jul 11.30am-12.45pm

**Fee:** \$150 or **Conc** \$135 (10 weeks)

### Latin

The language of Catullus and Cicero for the beginner or for someone who has some previous Latin learning. A range of internet resources are used in the course. Enquiries to Neil email: [neilbell@ozemail.com.au](mailto:neilbell@ozemail.com.au) or phone 0419 037 147

**Instructor:** Neil Bell

**Dates/times:** Saturday mornings by arrangement

**Fee:** \$35 per term

## Wellbeing

### NEW - Developing Self-Compassion

'Developing Self-Compassion uses art-based experiences to help you prioritise self-care, engage in positive self-talk, celebrate your achievements and identify goals to nurture your overall health and wellbeing'.

**Instructor:** Peta Henshelwood

**Dates/times:** Sun 8 - 29 June 10am-12.30pm

**Fee:** \$160

### Strength and Stretch

Encourage older adults to move in a fun and supportive environment. Learn simple exercises to maintain and improve muscle strength and flexibility.

**Instructor:** Irene Everett

**Dates/times:** Wed 23 Apr - 25 Jun 11.30am-12.15pm

**Fee:** \$5 per session

## Introduction to Ikigai - last time in 2025

Ikigai is the Japanese wisdom of living a joyful, meaningful life. This introductory workshop looks at the meaning of Ikigai, why you may want it and where to find it.

**Instructor:** Kathy Henschke

**Dates/times:** Tues 29 Apr 9.30am-12.30pm

**Fee:** \$30 or **Conc** \$15

## The Ikigai Connection - last chance for 2025

Discover the Japanese wisdom of Ikigai - your reason for being. This course explores its meaning, why it's key to a joyful life, and how to find it. Through practical exercises, learn to align your passions, strengths, and values for a more fulfilling life.

**Instructor:** Kathy Henschke

**Dates/times:** Tues 29 Apr, 13, 20, 27 May & 10 Jun 9.30am-12.30pm

**Fee:** \$125 or **Conc** \$70

## Re-imagining housing for seniors

For those who would like to help or those in need of help contact Dianne Bennett via email [diannebennett4@hotmail.com](mailto:diannebennett4@hotmail.com) or ph 0422 146 604

## SitFit brain and body exercise class

SitFit is a brain and body exercise program. Sitting in a chair we can challenge our core and all muscle groups, as well as our brains. Exercises are fun and inclusive, set to music you'll know and love.

**Instructor:** Virginia Cooke

**Dates/times:** Wed 4 Jun - Wed 2 Jul 9.30-10.20am

**Fee:** \$50 (5 sessions) or **single** \$15

## Pole Walking - Getting started

Interested in seeing Pole Walking in action and starting off in the correct way. Come to a practical information session to help you try or get started Pole Walking.

**Instructor:** Anne Brackley

**Dates/times:** By arrangement

**Fee:** Free session

## Tai Chi for Health - Beginners

Learn basic Tai Chi principles and exercises. Tai Chi consists of exercises equally balanced between ying and yang, which is why it is so remarkably effective. Suitable for all levels.

**Instructor:** Emilia Kurek

**Dates/times:** Tues 22 Apr - 24 Jun 10-11am

**Fee:** \$3 per session

## Tai Chi for Health - continuing

Learn basic Tai Chi principles and exercises. Tai Chi consists of exercises equally balanced between ying and yang, which is why it is so remarkably effective. Suitable for all levels.

**Instructor:** Emilia Kurek

**Dates/times:** Tues 22 Apr - 24 Jun 11am-12noon

**Fee:** \$3 per session

## Autism Plus

### Talking about Autism

A time for sharing helpful and practical information for people interested in the Autism spectrum.

**Instructor:** Anne Brackley

**Dates/times:** 16 May 1.30-3.30

**Fee:** Free Bookings essential

### All Abilities Art

A studio based program for people of all abilities to explore their creative self, using a wide variety of art materials. Discover your creative language to express yourself in a safe, supported and relaxed environment.

**Instructor:** Celia Adams

**Dates/times:** Fri 2 May - 4 July 10am - 12noon

Bookings essential. 10 weeks

**Fee:** \$300 or **Conc** \$200

## Digital Technology

### Introduction to Computers

You will learn how to use your laptop or desktop computer system more effectively.

In this supportive environment created by our instructor, you will be exposed to how to use the mouse, how to set up folders and files, use email, and be exposed to a whole range of things that can be done with your computer.

**Instructor:** Brenda Richardson

**Skill Level:** Beginner

**Dates/times:** Thurs 1 May - 19 Jun 2-4pm

**Fee:** \$165 or **Conc** \$85 (8 weeks)

### Computers - Beyond the Basics

This is a continuance course from the introduction to Computers. This course is designed for those

who have used a computer before and now want to move to more advanced learning such as how to search the internet for information, create more than just a basic document, as well as set up a computer to your preferences and likes.

**Instructor:** Brenda Richardson

**Skill Level:** Intermediate

**Dates/times:** This course will be offered in Term 3

**Fee:** \$165 or **Conc** \$85 (8 weeks)

### Smart phones, iPhones, tablets, iPads

This introductory course is designed to assist you to understand and use your iPhone or iPad confidently. Conducted in a friendly relaxed environment you will learn step by step how to set and use your device.

We will cover issues such as security, keeping in touch with friends and family. Researching the correct apps available for your needs.

**Instructor:** Brenda Richardson

**Skill Level:** Beginner

**Dates/times:** Tues 29 Apr - 17 Jun 2-4pm

**Fee:** \$165 or **Conc** \$85

### Buying and Selling on eBay

This course will navigate you through the process of getting started buying and selling your goods and services on eBay. The first session focuses on buying and the second one focuses on selling.

NOTE: Bring along your email address and password as well as your banking details so you can get up and running while attending the course.

**Instructor:** Ken Brackley

**Dates/times:** Tues 20 May & 3 Jun 4.30-6.30pm

**Fee:** \$55 or **Conc** \$25

### Digital Photography - Sculpting with Light

How to get great results from a qualified teacher and professional photographer. You will learn and understand composition, using colour, posing, lighting techniques using shutter speeds, aperture ISO, Different file formats, downloading images from camera, phone or tablet.

**Instructor:** George Stawicki

**Dates/times:** Tues 6 May - 27 May 7-9pm

**Fee:** \$115 or **Conc** \$105

### Edit videos using Adobe Premier Elements

Expressions of interest

## Hospitality

### Gluten Free Cookery

Christine from The grainfree & happy kitchen will be running gluten-free cooking classes that are delicious and better for you - no bland food here! Whether you're a beginner wanting to gain kitchen confidence and skills or more experienced cook wanting to increase your repertoire, in my classes you will create delicious and flavourful food. Bring your apron and container to take your food home. We cater for allergies, so just let us know in advance. We will be making dishes from around the world and some local treats too.

From international dishes to local treats, who said cooking is boring? Allergies and intolerances catered for. So come along and have fun.

**Instructor:** Christine Ciancio

**Dates/times:** Thur 10 Apr - 8 May 10am-12noon

**Fee:** \$120 or **Conc** \$60 per session (5 Lessons)

### Airfryer Cooking for One or a Small Family

**Instructor:** Anne Brackley

**Dates/times:** Mon 12 May - 16 Jun 3-5pm

**Fee:** \$120 or **Conc** \$60 (5 sessions)

### Korean Cookery - Kimchi

Come along and help make Kimchi which is a traditional side dish of salted and fermented vegetables. There is growing evidence that fermented foods such as kimchi may improve intestinal health and as a result support the immune system and anti-inflammatory responses. Kimchi can also improve levels of good bacteria in the gut, and may support skin, brain and eye functions. Lunch included.

**Instructor:** Jasmine Hong

**Dates/times:** Sat 17 May 10am-1pm

**Fee:** \$60 or **Conc** \$30

### Korean Cookery - Kimchi Pancake, Japchae

With Kimchi, you can make a few other dishes with it. One of the favourites is Kimchi pancake (Kimchi Jeon or Kimchi Buchimgae) and is primarily made with sliced fermented Kimchi, flour batter and sometimes other vegetables, seafood or nowadays even cheese.

Japchae is a savoury and slightly sweet dish of stir-fried sweet-potato noodles (Dangmyeon) and vegetables that is popular in Korean cuisine.

Once a royal dish, Japchae is now one of the most popular traditional celebration dishes, often served on special occasions, such as weddings, birthdays and national holidays, or as a side dish (banchan). You will enjoy the many flavours of the semi-transparent Japchae noodle dish.

**Instructor:** Jasmine Hong

**Dates/times:** Sat 21 Jun 10am-1pm

**Fee:** \$60 or **Conc** \$30

### Confidence Through Cookery

Sri Lankan and other dishes. Taste the dishes and take some home for dinner.

**Instructor:** Marie McLeod

**Dates/times:** Tues 6 May - 3 Jun 10am-1pm

**Fee:** \$120 or **Conc** \$60 5 weeks

### Espresso Coffee Making

How to make your coffee taste like a café using your home or work machine. You will also learn how to get the most out of your coffee machine.

**Instructor:** Sam Chait

**Dates/times:** Thurs 15 May or Jun 19 10am-12noon

**Fee:** \$20 or **Conc** \$10

## Gaining Skills

### Introduction to Egyptology

A beginner's guide to the Ancient Egyptian Culture - covering timelines of the Old/Middle and New Kingdoms, Mythology and funeral customs, basic hieroglyphs, architecture and culture

**Instructor:** Allison Young

**Date/time:** Fri 9 - 30 May 1-3pm

**Fee:** \$160 or **Conc** \$85

### Setting up a Bokashi bucket & garden bed

Many people have purchased or are thinking about purchasing a Bokashi Bucket - but - When do I empty the bucket? How should I dilute the Bokashi bucket juice? What do I do with the fermented food once the bucket is full?

**Instructor:** Anne Brackley

**Dates/times:** Wed 28 May 2-4pm

**Fee:** \$5 or Free for SpringDale Members

### Focusing on the Future

This course is designed to give you a sample of a number of classes running at SpringDale to help you decide on your future direction. Come along and share your ideas, experience and dreams.

Then we will select a range of classes to suit your skills, ambitions & desires.

**Instructor:** Anne Brackley

**Dates/times:** Fri 11 Apr 2-4pm plus 7 other sessions

**Fee:** \$50 or **Conc** Free

### Joy of Volunteering

The joys of volunteering include giving back to the community, using your unique skill set. Many organisations and clubs rely on volunteers to survive. This course looks into all aspects of volunteering.

**Instructor:** Anne Brackley

**Dates/times:** Wed 30 Apr 10am-12noon

**Fee:** Free

### Introduction to Event Management

This course will expose you to all facets of planning and running an event. Areas covered include, where to start, what roles need to be fulfilled, budget required, people needed. Also covering debriefing and follow up.

**Instructor:** Anne Brackley

**Dates/times:** Wed 23 Apr 2-4pm

**Fee:** \$20 or Free for SpringDale Members

### Returning to Learning

If it has been a while since you did any studying, this course is designed to assist you. The course will help with issues like you feel as though you have been left behind or feeling that you may not be able to keep up. You will also develop a career portfolio.

**Instructor:** Anne Brackley

**Dates/times:** Mon 28 Apr, Tues 29 Apr & Wed 30 Apr 10am-12noon

**Fee:** \$25 or **Conc** Free

### Returning to Earning

Been out of the workforce for a while and you may not know how to take the first step - then this is the course for you. We will map your skills and help you realise that your life skills are incredibly valuable. Everything that you have been doing has been preparing you for the next steps in your journey.

**Instructor:** Anne Brackley

**Dates/times:** Wed 7 May & 21 May 2-4pm

**Fee:** \$25 or **Conc** Free

## Help SpringDale help yourself

Helping people find jobs for many years and we'd love to help you. Perhaps you would like to know what we do at a Neighbourhood House? Perhaps you would like to help and build your confidence? We'd like to help.

**Instructor:** Anne Brackley

**Dates/times:** By arrangement **Fee:** Free

### Ken & the Art of Bicycle Maintenance

Not just a conversation about bicycles and their care but a workshop where you will learn how to replace a tube and more.

**Instructor:** Ken Brackley

**Dates/times:** Sat 10 May 9.30-11am **Fee:** \$10

### Getting Started Cycling Again

After feedback from Ken's Bicycle Maintenance course, Ken decided to design a course to help people get back onto their bikes. Getting on and off your bike, taking the first push, getting the most through understanding the mechanics of the body, working with your bicycle, using your gears & more.

**Instructor:** Ken Brackley

**Dates/times:** Sat 24 May 9.30-11am **Fee:** \$10



## Safe Seats, Safe Kids Program

**Mon 28th April** in the carpark adjacent to SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre

**Time 10am-2pm**

Bookings Required

<https://safeseatssafekids.com.au/venues-mec/>

Sponsored by

Lions Club of Geelong Breakfast Inc and Ebejer & Associates Lawyers



Ebejer & Associates Lawyers

## Accredited Courses

### Provide CPR Code: HLTAID009

Pre-course work is required and you will be contacted before the course with the details.

**Instructor:** Stayin' Alive First Aid

**Dates/times:** Fri 16 May or Sat 28 Jun 9-10.30am **Fee:** \$65

### Provide First Aid HLTAID011 (Includes CPR)

Pre-course work is required and you will be contacted before the course with the details.

**Instructor:** Stayin' Alive First Aid

**Dates/times:** Fri 16 May or Sat 28 Jun 9-11.30am **Fee:** \$130

### Provide an emergency first aid response in an education and care setting Code HLTAID012

Pre-course work is required and you will be contacted before the course with the details.

The unit of competency applies to educators and support staff working within an education and care setting and will contribute towards approved first aid, asthma and anaphylaxis training under the Education and Care Services National Law, and the Education and Care Services National Regulation (2011).

**Instructor:** Stayin' Alive First Aid

**Dates/times:** Fri 16 May or Sat 28 Jun 9-10.30 **Fee:** \$160

**Raelene Newton - Stayin' Alive First Aid**  
stayinalivefirstaid@gmail.com 0413513046  
(Stayin' Alive First Aid delivers nationally recognised training in partnership with, and under the auspices of, Allens Training Pty Ltd RTO 90909)

## CARPENTER

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## Non SpringDale Activities

### Bellarine Camera Club

We are a friendly group of amateur photographers, enjoying the challenge of improving our photography by actively taking photos, learning by entering competitions and talking to other members and judges about our photography. We meet at SpringDale, at 7:30pm on the first and third Monday of the month.

For further details call in to a meeting, or go to our website [www.bellarinecameraclub.org.au](http://www.bellarinecameraclub.org.au)

President: Debbie Hallows ph: 0400 562 571

### Drysdale Guides

Enabling girls and young women to grow into confident, self respecting, responsible community members. We meet on Thursday evenings at SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre from 7-8.30pm. Contact Anne Brackley for details 0407 529 205.

### Festival of Glass

The Festival of Glass Inc has an all year-round Workshop Programme, including Mosaics and Beadweaving. Check our website for more details on these workshops held at the Drysdale Community Hub, Eversley Street Drysdale. More workshops advertised on our website [www.festivalofglass.net.au](http://www.festivalofglass.net.au)

### Pilates

Open to all ages. Improve your fitness, core strength, posture, flexibility and sense of well being. Classes cater for clients of varying fitness levels, from beginners through to advanced. Small class sizes allow for individualised attention & direction.

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**Venue:** Drysdale Physiotherapy & Sports Injury Clinic, 27-29 High Street, Drysdale

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**Fee:** \$180

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VOTE 1

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- Integrity: Making decisions based on facts
- Equity and accessibility across work, healthcare, education, arts and sport
- Climate action to drive down the cost of living



• More affordable housing for everyone.

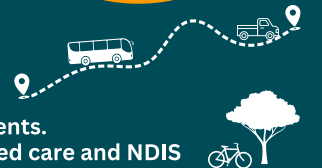
• Social housing for our vulnerable residents.

• Strengthening Medicare, education, aged care and NDIS

• Connecting paths for everyone to safely access local schools & shops.

• Better public transport and roads to improve productivity & reduce carbon emissions.

Yes to cheaper, more accessible renewable power. No to expensive nuclear and no new gas.



Join us: volunteer, donate, stay up to date: [www.katelockhart.au](http://www.katelockhart.au) • Vote 1 LOCKHART, Kate

Authorised by K. Lockhart, P.O. Box 121, Drysdale, VIC 3222.



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Learn more at [vic.gov.au/kinder](http://vic.gov.au/kinder)



Happy April everyone.

Someone asked me the other day a very interesting question: "What is it like to care full-time for your grandchildren? What struggles do you experience, and how has it affected your life?"

I had to think for a minute, then I answered, "Well, after parenting my own biological children, now my grandchild needs me to love, support, and guide her/him to become the best adult they can."

Yes, I sacrificed my career and my high income, but my grandchild needed me to stand with her/him while we traveled the kinship journey together.

The main struggles I, as a kinship carer, experienced were the total lack of support for both my grandchild and myself, but we made the best of the worst situation.

Did I expect to be raising my grandchild at my age? The answer to that question would be a BIG NO. My life has completely changed from being an independent adult to now caring full-time for my grandchild, but would I change my life now? The answer would be a BIG NO.

I do miss my career; it meant a lot to me, BUT my grandchild means more to me. At times, I struggle financially, but we (my grandchild and I) just put one foot in front of the other and keep going. We are happy, and we are a great team together.

The person who asked me the question seemed lost at my response but accepted it with tears in their eyes – my honesty.

If you are a kinship carer, sitting at home thinking that you are all alone, come join our group. We talk too much, we sometimes cry, and we laugh heaps. We support each other in the best way we can.

Bellarine Kinship Carers meets on the first Monday of each month, during school terms, from 10 am to 12 noon at the SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre.

Stay safe, everyone..

**Jeanette Hanley-Heath** - 0414 308 257

## Drysdale Primary School 150 year celebration in 2025



Many people are telling me their tales of Drysdale Primary School. What is your story? How can you help with the celebration? Please contact Anne Brackley (nee Mortimer) c/- messenger@springdale.org.au and please include a photo. Here's one we received earlier.

I am so looking forward to celebrating the 150 years anniversary of Drysdale Primary School.

I was part of the 1965 Grade Six class along with so many others, who are still residents of Drysdale/Clifton Springs/Curlewis and the surrounding area.

Yes, that was sixty years ago - and although we've all celebrated our 70th birthdays during the last twelve months, we're still going strong and most of us have brothers and sisters who are also past students of the school.

We still manage to catch up at least 4 or 5 times a year, and have lots of information, photos and memories to share.

We are all looking forward to the 150 year celebration.

**Dianne Bennett** (nee Gillies)

*Back Row L-R:  
Paul Jones, Rosemary Shepherd, John Edsall, Margaret Noy, John Burt, Margaret Belfrage, Gordon Robinson,*

*Front Row L-R:  
Dianne Gillies, Jenny Shirley, Bibiana Verzer, Heather Boyle*



**bch** Bellarine Community Health

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**AGEING WELL HUB**  
BELLARINE COMMUNITY HEALTH

# SpringDale Trivia

by Drysdale Girl Guides

1. What is the name of the titular character referred to in the title of the TV show Grey's Anatomy?
2. Which vegetable is celebrated during Drysdale Primary School's annual fair?
3. Who was the youngest US president to take office?
4. Which flower does the spice saffron come from?
5. Who was Australia's 'golden girl of athletics' during the 1950s?
6. In which country is the Nobel Peace Prize awarded?
7. What is the name for the Greek goddess of victory?
8. The original lyrics of Waltzing Matilda were written by which Australian poet?
9. With over of 37 million residents, what is the most populous city in the world?
10. What is the chemical symbol for iron?

Turn to page 23 to find the answers.

Drysdale Guides Meet on Thursdays during the school term from 7pm to 8:30pm. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Anne Brackley on 0407 529 205 or go to <https://www.guidesvic.org.au/find-us/> to make an enquiry.



# BELLARINE CAMERA CLUB

The Bellarine Camera Club had a gathering at Queenscliff foreshore. Our first photo competition was an Open Subject. This was judged by Brien Cohn.

Congratulations to members who were awarded the following places:

### Prints

**A Grade:** 1st and Image of the Competition: Nova by Debbie Hallows 2nd: The Predator by Neil Smith 3rd: Storm Surge by Kevin Robley Merit: Me a Fast Car by Ray Farrugia Merit: Nixi by Liz Furey

**B Grade:** 1st: Ghan Sunrise by Chas Taylor 2nd: Female Rufus Whistler by Kevin Bardsley

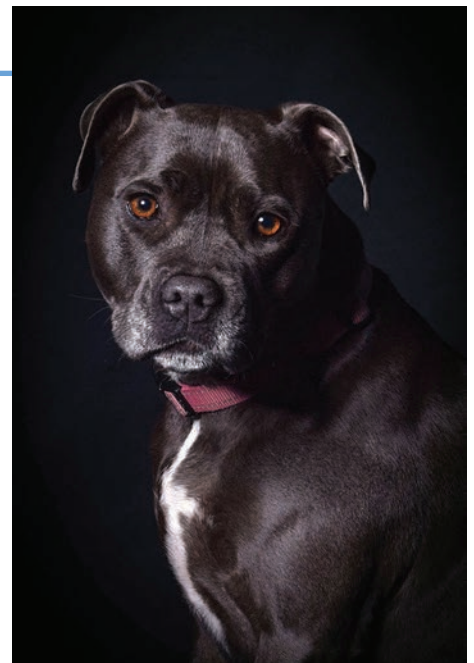
### Electronic Digital Images

**A Grade:** 1st: Feeding Time by Suzanne Fatchen 2nd: The Message by Robyn Curtis 3rd: The Magician by Lynne Pearce Merit: Bygone Days by Kevin Robley Merit: Flinders Ranges by Graeme Addie

Bellarine Camera Club meets at SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre at 7.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.

For further details see [www.bellarinecameraclub.org.au](http://www.bellarinecameraclub.org.au) or phone Debbie (president), on 0400562571.

**New members and visitors are welcome.**



# Repair Café

Toss it? No way!

Last month Judith brought a doll, which was in a sad state, to our Repair Café. John decided to take on the challenge of pulling the doll back together, which we succeeded in doing.

Judith came to SpringDale, to pick up her doll, Jill, and she shared the story of Jill.

In early 1940, near the time that Judith was born, dolls were hard to come by. Judith's parents were given parts from 3 dolls and they created "Jill". Judith has known Jill for more than 80 years and was so happy to be able to collect her.

It was a heart-warming reunion and I'm glad to have witnessed it. Thankyou John for your efforts and thanks to the other Repair Café volunteers.



Bringing the light, love & hope of Jesus to our local & greater community.

You are welcome to join us -

- Sunday Family Service 10am
- Children's Ministry
- Play Group
- Youth Group
- Home Groups

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# Clifton Springs Garden Club

And here we are in Autumn. I have noticed driving around the Bellarine, that we have some autumn colour showing itself. I came from North East Victoria, so I am used to lots of autumn colour and I have to say I miss it. But I am lucky I get to visit there every year when the autumn leaves are at their best. When I moved down to the Bellarine, I planted 2 crepe myrtles in my front garden so that I had my own autumn colour. To me that is a big part of my gardening, a conglomeration of people, places and memories.

On a beautiful day recently, a small group of members had a most enjoyable visit to the Geelong Botanic Gardens, purchasing plants from the nursery and just enjoying the sunshine and company.

Our March speaker, was Dimitrij, one of our members' favourite guests. Dimitrij is a most sought after speaker in the district, as he is very knowledgeable and most entertaining. This time Dimitrij spoke on growing potatoes. As some of you will know, a lot of potatoes were grown in this area. Dimitrij's philosophy on gardening is "give it a go", "it will either thrive or die" and if it dies then it isn't the right spot or area for the plant. Potatoes can be grown in the ground or in a bag. You can purchase seeded potatoes from the nurseries or you can use potatoes from your pantry that have gone to seed. You just need a small amount of potato with an "eye" on it. Plant

these into the ground, making sure you have added some sort of fertiliser into the soil, cover them up, give them a bit of water & wait until they shoot. Once they have flowered they will be ready to harvest. Sounds pretty simple.

Our speaker for April will be Carole O'Neill, she will be giving us a presentation on her Father's involvement in the creation of the war cemeteries in New Guinea, which fits in nicely with ANZAC day just around the corner.

Our April outing will be to the Bellarine Springs Retirement village for a talk and tour of their community gardens and some residents gardens.

Our meetings are held on the first **Monday** of the month, at the Uniting Church Hall Drysdale at 7.30 pm. Visitors are most welcome. If you would like to keep up to date on what the Club is doing, please do not hesitate to contact our Secretary Helen, on P: 5257 2220 or E: hma3152@gmail.com or go on our mailing list.



Photographs Geelong Botanic gardens; some specimens on our display table



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- Virtual reality cinema
- Beauty salon





**Intrusive questions,  
intimidation,  
suggestive jokes...**

**Gendered violence comes in many forms.  
All are OHS issues. All are unacceptable.**

**🔍 WorkSafe Gendered Violence**



Reducing workplace harm.





'Until I was about eight years old, I thought I was a star in the sky. I then questioned that a star could actually hit earth. Years later, when I finally awoke, I panicked at the possibility of domestic responsibilities, socially dematerialised and wound up missing the bus.

Still, an earth-space collision may not be as quite as unlikely as I thought. Apparently asteroid 2024YR4 will be paying us a visit in 2032 and a collision is possible. Although, at present it's only a 2.5% chance, according to NASA.

Scene set for Sci Fi unlimited.

Take, for instance, W.E. Johns' 1954 bedtime story, Kings of Space. "...masses of solid matter struck ( the moon ) causing the craters. .... If that could happen to the moon I suppose it could happen to us.

...planetoids crossed the orbit of the earth. Nervous people started talking about a collision. But I don't think we need worry. The chances are about the same as rifle bullet hitting an anti-aircraft shell."

Incidentally, we're told that the historical American Wild West abounded with gunslingers who routinely shot things "out of the air" from the hip and at extended range!

But according to the "Mythbusters" TV, show its eye level, short range and a one in five strike rate!

Meanwhile, Bruce Willis, in the movie Armageddon, was for blowing up the asteroid before it arrived. But we're now told that this could merely break it up, turning one disaster into hundreds!  
John.



# Sustainability News

The wild winds may have highlighted some draughts in your home. There are lots of fairly easy diy ways to fix gaps at a low cost. The large hardware stores have lots of materials available and generally good advice. EcoMaster have videos on "How to do it" and sell a range of good products. The Facebook group My Efficient Electric Home (MEEH) can be very helpful.

I've been in my current house for 4 years and my energy expenses have been:

Year	Electric \$	Gas \$	Total House	Car Fuel \$	Total \$
2021	987	860	1847	1920 (ICE)	3767
2022	389	902	1291	2018 (ICE)	3309
2023	44	438	482	1797 (ICE mostly)	2279
2024	66 (inc EV)	0	66	420 (EV)	486

It has been a series of steps to reduce my energy usage and costs:

- Repositioning (and adding a little) roof insulation (2021)
- Sealing up door and window gaps (2021/22)
- Installing solar panels and a small battery (2022)
- Using my portable induction cook plate for much of the cooking (a good test, 2022/23)
- Underfloor insulation (2022)
- Replacing the gas hot water system with a heat pump (2023)
- Replacing the gas central heating with two air conditioners (late 2023)
- Replacing the ICE car by an EV (BYD Dolphin) and charger (Ocular)(Late 2023)
- Replacing the gas cooktop with an induction cooktop (Late 2023)
- Removing the gas connection. (Late 2023)

I've still work to do on the windows, better sealing between open plan areas and potentially more insulation and also possibly replacing my old third air conditioner (the new ones are much more efficient) and more.

I expect my electricity costs to increase a little as the Feed in Tariff rates are reduced to almost zero on the 1st July 2025. Solar has crushed the generator income and the cost of electricity during the day (it is generally around \$0) so if nuclear reactors with their almost fixed output are introduced, one questions the politics of having to prevent one being able to export or even use one's own power.

However, my car costs may be less depending on how many long trips are taken (2024 included 2 trips to SA and one to NSW), as driving locally (including to and from Melbourne), is at no cost or extremely cheap, as I use my own solar for the vast majority of the power requirements.

Incidentally, EVs will become much more financially attractive for people with solar (or planning to install it) to use their daytime surplus and potentially to use it themselves in the evenings or sell it back to the grid. (A car battery is very much larger than the vast majority of house batteries)

Rob Gardner

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## Clifton Springs & Curlewis Coastcare Group

Another very successful Clean Up Australia Day with over 20 attending and 556 pieces of rubbish counted and collected. Thanks to all the volunteers who all made a difference to our beautiful coastline.

### The major items were:

Cigarette butts 120 (Better than last year but why so many ?)

Hard Plastics (Excl bottles) 117

Soft Plastics 95 (Incl 14 filled dog poo bags)

Plastic bottles 32

Glass bottles 26

Aluminium cans 15 (these plastic, glass and aluminium containers were very significantly less than last year so the 10c refund appears to be working to a reasonable extent)

Glass wine bottles 12 (only item increasing - perhaps due to no 10c refund ?)

and 3 tyres, 2 broken beach chairs and 1 very large plastic drum.

### Forthcoming Events

**April 7th** Waterwatch monitoring at CS Boat Harbour at 9.30am

**April 16th** A family friendly Habitat Restoration session and the official opening of our new site on the Beach Vista parkland in Curlewis. This will be a major preparation for the substantial planting morning on National Tree Day (July 27th)

**May 5th** Waterwatch (as for April 7th)

Thanks **Hans Heine, Rob Gardner**



## JAN'S ENGRAVING & TROPHIES



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WADAWURRUNG COUNTRY | QUEENSLIFF | MAY 2-4

# sacrededge

## 2025

### stories of the edge

## A Celebration of Diversity for ALL

ARTS • MUSIC • STORYTELLING  
MOVEMENT • FOOD • COMMUNITY



INFORMATION & BOOKINGS

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

### Sacrededge Festival - a weekend of diversity & inclusion under one roof

A smorgasbord of 30+ artists sharing their poetry, music, art and stories - all of which are offered by indigenous, refugee, LGBTQA+ and all abilities communities, along with wellbeing and environmental advocates - will greet Sacrededge Festival goers this May.

People will be invited to move beyond being entertained, into listening to and connecting with:

#### First Nations music

Led by award-winning Candice Lorrae, emerging musicians from the Archie Roach legacy project Singing our Futures will tell their stories and perform.

Wiradjuri writer Glenn Loughrey will team up with award winning blues musician Fiona Boyes in a "Blak and Blues" exchange

#### LGBTQA+ supporters

Along with a thought provoking presentation on Ageing with Pride, we will hear from Archie Beetle whose organisation Queer Town provides training for institutions to improve the experiences of LGBTQA+ communities.

Renowned poet Padraig O'Tuama will encourage us to consider issues around social justice, while children and adults alike will be delighted by magician/actor Em Chandler.

#### Refugee stories

We look forward to the return of Awale Ahmed, multilingual writer, storyteller and advocate for social justice and refugee rights

from Somalia, and welcome Selma as she tells her immigration story.

A delicious meal will be offered on the Saturday night by a local Iranian community.

Care for the planet and wellbeing From Deakin University's local Marine Research Centre, Dr Prue Francis will enlighten us with a particular solution to help mitigate climate change.

Geelong Sustainability's Jane Spence and Queenscliff Climate Action Network's Stuart Kent will help us explore ways we can contribute to climate action.

#### All abilities

Local artist Bree-Arne Manley and Associate Professor Lorna Hallahan will speak about advocacy and policy making for all abilities

#### Art on show

An exhibition of Indigenous art from the Torch project will adorn walls, while a visual art exhibition will launch on the Saturday, and a beautiful Ocean Labyrinth will be installed in nearby Citizen Park.

Supported by the Borough of Queenscliffe and Queenscliff Music Festival, Sacrededge will be held at the Queenscliff Uniting Church, Cnr Hesse & Stokes Streets Friday May 2-Sunday May 4. For program or art exhibition information, and festival tickets, go to <https://unitingqueenscliff.org.au>

**Margot Busch** - festival support worker



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# Memories of Yesteryear

## THE FAMILY HISTORY QUEST 11 NEWSPAPERS

Family history is more than just collecting names and dates of family members. To me what is just as important is to put the clothes on the people. In other words, find information on them that make them live again. One way of doing this is researching in newspapers. Within historical newspapers you can find local information such as obituaries, learn about major events your ancestors lived through, and gain context for their lives during the time period.

News stories, legal notices, local personal columns and advertisements may contain nearly all information imaginable, including political or criminal activity, legal and domestic disputes, real estate transactions, business information, social contacts, military service, or information about local disasters, epidemics, or other community milestones which affected the local population.

Newspapers are used to announce births, deaths and marriages and so can confirm other sources of this information. Some early local newspapers can be like the local gossip column, but contain rich family information.

Trove is an excellent resource for family historians, particularly its collection of digitised newspapers and its ability to search pictures and photos held at many of Australia's collecting institutions.

Trove was launched in December 2009, the bright idea of National Library of Australia. The name Trove brings to mind a treasure trove, as well as the French verb *trouver* meaning "to discover". Trove can be found at <https://trove.nla.gov.au>

My family had a bakery in Sebastopol and from the use of newspapers I found out about a fire in the bakery, a robbery and horses bolting sending bread all over the road. Using Trove I also found details of weddings including what the bride wore.

There are English and American newspapers online also, but often there is a cost to access them. The British newspaper Archives can be accessed at <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk>. Some libraries have free access to some newspapers via the Findmypast website on their computers. Trove is free.

Important – make sure you document the newspaper source. For example - article title, name of newspaper, date of newspaper and page number. If using Trove there is also a Trove article identifier and a page identifier number to note.

John Mathes



Bellarine North Rotary  
**Family Violence** "back of the toilet door" campaign is designed to provide simple diagrams to raise awareness of lesser-known factors involved in family violence. These posters are fixed at eye level on the back of the toilet door at eye level. A4 Posters can be sourced from the Bellarine Rotary Club.

Reducing the burden of Family Violence Bellarine North Rotary

**Violence can be by anyone who lives with you or comes into your home**

**Family violence or abuse is:**

- Hitting, kicking, pushing
- Shouting, swearing
- Breaking or throwing things
- When you feel afraid
- Not being allowed to see your own family
- Not being allowed to use your own money
- Being made to do sexual acts you don't like
- Not being allowed to see your own friends

**Family violence or abuse is WRONG**

**1800 RESPECT 1800 737 732 24hr Help Line**

**In an EMERGENCY call 000**

Sexual Assault & Family Violence Centre 5222 4318  
 Orange Door 1800 312 820 • MELI 5278 8122 • MensLine Australia 1300 789 978



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## Travelling for Birds

I told myself as I settled into the aircraft and tried to adjust my mind and body for a long, long flight that it would be well worth it. The first leg over the International Date line and up northward towards Los Angeles was the longest, but then I had another plane ride to Houston and yet another to San Jose. Too many stops, but the only way to get where I wanted to go. My decision for this long flight was to eventually land in the tiny central American country of Costa Rica, renowned for having one of the largest numbered bird species in the world in dense rain forest.

The best time to visit Costa Rica was when migratory birds were resting along their migratory route. Some millions going south, that is into South America, Chile and Peru and some going north to Alaska, Kamchatka and the northern states of America. I told myself I would have seen many of the species previously within Australia, for example the ibis and the spoonbill, but it soon turned out that I was very very wrong, as the ibis sighted were blue, beautiful blue and the spoonbills pink. Wow! And as for the rest of the birds, what a wonderful surprise when they were bright and in many striking colours. Imagine a sparrow with a red, red collar, the first of many surprises!

I landed in San Jose and took a taxi through dense downtown housing all with high fences and concrete walls to my hotel. My hotel room on the third floor looked out onto an acre of gardens and after a good night sleep a wander showed birdlife everywhere. In

bushes, in trees, wandering the paths, on the lawns and even in the carpark and this was just the start of my wonderful birding adventure.

I travelled with a birding group which was made up of enthusiastic birders from New Zealand, United States of America, Canada, England and Australia, assisted by an Australian guide, a Costa Rican guide and an enthusiastic Costa Rican driver. Seventeen days of delight and wonder followed though I must admit I did spend a night (night seventeen) in a very impressive Costa Rican hospital under oxygen. My lungs apparently didn't like the high altitude (up to 3,800 metres) and decided to close up and limit my oxygen intake. It is a country of mountains that assault the senses and as the vehicle climbs higher, teases you into a false sense of altitude. I recovered however and flew out at the end of the trip with my mind full of special memories.

The country of Costa Rica is home to many large and impressive lakes and rivers. The rainforests astride the lakes are thick and birds plentiful though I must admit one has to look hard to see these brightly coloured dwellers within the undergrowth and thick foliage. Both animals and birds can be hard to see, but glimpses gave one the thrill of a lifetime.

Hummingbirds were especially impressive. Some looked dull green however once they turned and were caught in the sunlight, flashes of iridescent met the eye. I took thirty-



nine photos of one bird and found a profusion of different colours within the variety of photos. Not only that, but depending upon the species the beaks stretched as long as the bird's body. A wonderful mechanism for penetrating the longest of blooms. Which leads on to the flowers and plants..... Just to wander through the forest is a joy to those who love orchids and ferns plus many, many other plants that I'm afraid I could not name. As I stated, very special memories.

Carole O'Neill





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# Congratulations!

## SpringDale Felt & Textile Artists News

SpringDale Felt & Textile Artists showcased an impressive and diverse range of work at the 2025 Bellarine Agricultural Show, with the theme centered around all things wool. The members were delighted to receive numerous awards, including several first-place finishes. The public was in awe of the incredible versatility and creativity of wool, with displays featuring felted paintings, mythical creatures, clothing, hats, bags, and vessels. Thank you to Chris & Tegwen for also demonstrating their felting talents, it was a true celebration of the endless possibilities of wool!

## Save the Date!



The SpringDale Felt & Textile Artists are excited to announce their 8th Annual Exhibition, **Through the Looking Glass**, taking place on **June 7th & 8th, 2025**, at the SpringDale Hall. Inspired by the whimsical and thought-provoking theme, the exhibition will feature a diverse array of felt and textile art, from whimsical creations like felted top hats and a Mad Hatter's Tea Party to beautiful scarves, gloves, and needle-felted pieces. Join us for this unique and engaging event, open from 10am to 4pm, where you'll experience the creativity and craftsmanship of local artists. **We can't wait to share our work with you!**

## THE INAUGURAL OCEAN GROVE FILM SOCIETY IS COMING

We are thrilled to announce the upcoming launch of the Ocean Grove Film Society, a new community initiative developed by five locals, who call our beautiful coastal town, home.

As passionate film lovers, we wanted to create a space where people could come together to enjoy quality films, all without having to travel far from home. After months of planning, we applied for a community arts project grant through the City of Greater Geelong – and we're delighted to share that we were successful!

We are now in the exciting process of setting up the Ocean Grove Film Society and are thrilled to announce that our venue will be the Bellarine Training and Community Hub, a fantastic space that's easily accessible for the local community.

Our goal is simple: to create a fun, welcoming environment where everyone can come together, enjoy a great night out. It's not just about watching a film; it's about creating opportunities to have a laugh, share ideas, and form new friendships with people who live right here on the Bellarine Peninsula.

### OUR LAUNCH!

The moment we've all been waiting for our inaugural launch on **April 9th, 2025**. Come and view the 2019 Australian period black comedy film **Judy and Punch**.

**Time:** 7:00pm - check in, chat and light supper,  
7:40pm - welcome and speeches,  
8:00pm - film commences

**Place:** Bellarine Training and Community Hub,  
1 Dory Drive, Ocean Grove

Whether you're looking to enjoy a night out with friends, meet new people, or immerse yourself in the world of film, we'd love you to be a part of this exciting new venture.

Please follow us on socials where you will find links to our membership and stay up to date with our upcoming events. Please share with your family and friends.

Facebook: Ocean Grove Film Society Instagram: oceangrove\_filmsociety

This project has been supported by a City of Greater Geelong Community Grant.

@artsandculturegeelong @cityofgreatergeelong



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## Trivia Answers

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Dr Meredith Grey  | 5. Betty Cuthbert |
| 2. Potato  | 6. Norway         |
| 3. Theodore Roosevelt, who became president at the age of 42 | 7. Nike           |
| 4. Crocus  | 8. Banjo Paterson |
|  | 9. Tokyo          |
|  | 10. Fe            |

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