



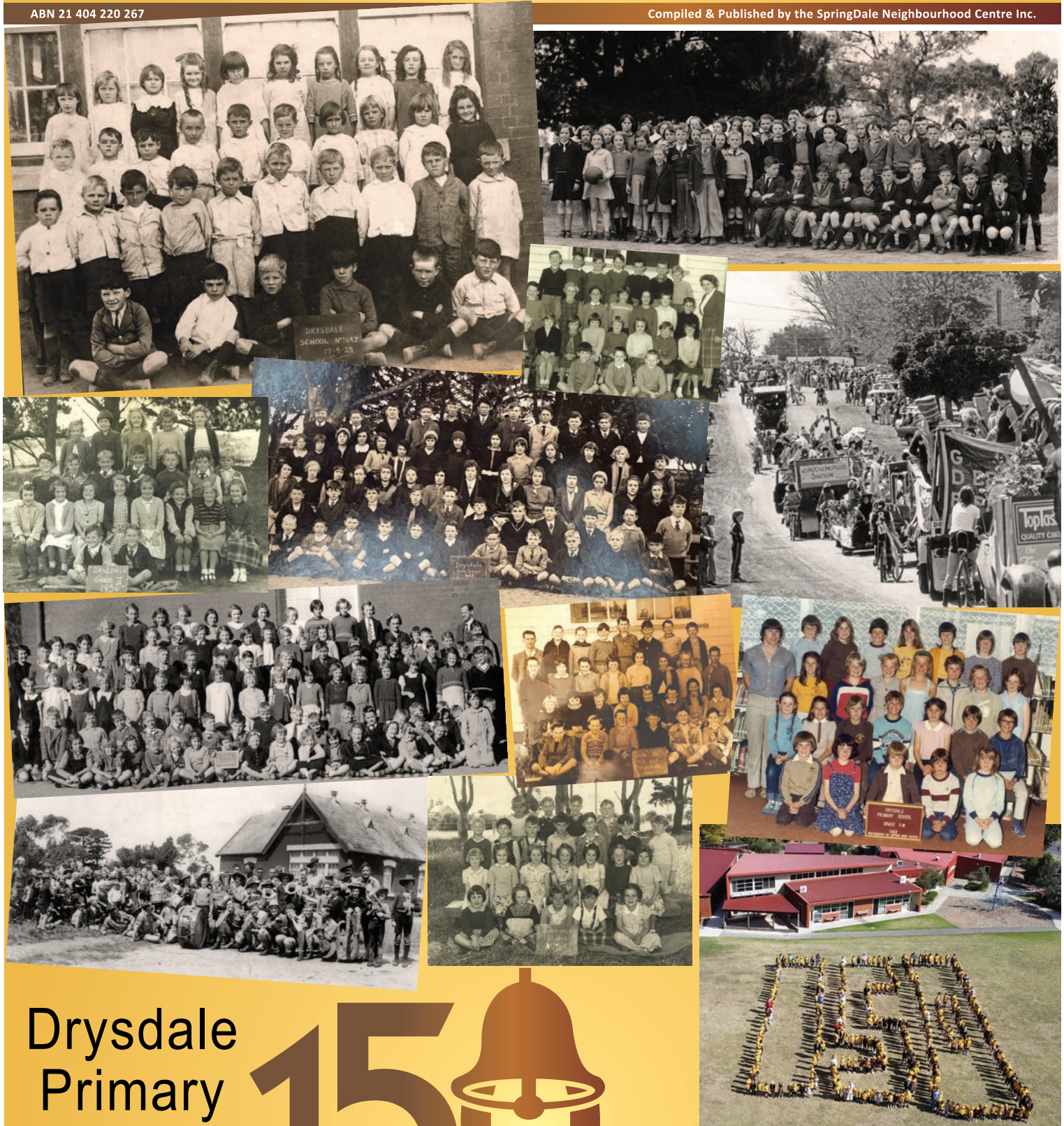
The SpringDale Messenger

August 2025
Volume 35 Issue 7



ABN 21 404 220 267

Compiled & Published by the SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre Inc.



Drysdale
Primary
School
Celebrating

150 Years

What's your decade - 1920s, 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, 2000s, 2010s or 2020s. Can your family go back to the 1870s, 1880s, 1890s, 1900s or 1910s.

Do you have a photo or story to share about the Drysdale Primary School? Please send to messenger@springdale.org.au or ph 5253 1960 or drop into SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre 17-21 High St Drysdale

AUGUST 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.

Don't miss in July

Sunday 27 10am - 1pm National Tree Day community planting at Curlewis clifftop. Meet opposite 17 Beach Vista Drive. 1000 plants to go in the ground and free BBQ for everyone.

August

Friday 1-18 City of Greater Geelong community engagement about footpaths in Drysdale and Curlewis via CoGG website in person sessions

Saturday 2 Harvest Basket Vege Swap 9-10am at SpringDale
Repair Café at SpringDale 10am - 1pm
Stickybeak - 3pm - Potato Shed

Monday 4 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day

Tuesday 5 Welcome Morning Tea at SpringDale 10-11am

Wednesday 6 International Day - Physicians of the World for Peace

Friday 8 Happiness Happens Day

Sat-Sun 9-17 National Science Week - a variety of activities

Saturday 9 International Day of World's Indigenous Peoples

Monday 11 Science Week activity at SpringDale 2pm - 3pm - FREE

Tuesday 12 SpringDale Dining Group - Pretty's Place Ocean Grove - 6pm bookings essential
International Youth Day
Money For Nothing (And Your Chicks For Free) - 10.30am - Potato Shed

Wednesday 13 Science Week activity at SpringDale 2pm - 3pm - FREE

Thursday 14 Science Week activity at SpringDale 10am - 11.30am - FREE

Saturday 16 An Evening with Up There Cazaly's Mike Brady and Special Guest Issi Dye - 8pm - Potato Shed

Sunday 17 Garage Girls - 4pm - Potato Shed

Tuesday 19 World Humanitarian Day

Wednesday 20 SpringDale Lunch Bunch - Souva Bar Drysdale - 12 noon - bookings essential

Thursday 21 Daffodil Day

Saturday 23 International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition

Fri-Sat 29-30 Legally Blonde The Musical Jr - Potato Shed

Sunday 31 Festival of Glass 10am - 4pm 21-27 Eversley St Drysdale

Reminder
Bookings &
copy required by
1 August for the
September 2025
issue



**SpringDale
Messenger**

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

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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 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**.

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



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Victorian Division**



SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre Inc. acknowledges the support of:



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.



Coordinator's News

Anne Brackley



Dear Friends and Friends I am yet to meet

How lucky am I, to have been at SpringDale for more than 20 years and to have seen so much change in our community. Not only seen it, but to have had a hand in creating change, with the help of our community.

There have been so many different engagements with various levels of government and some have come to fruition. Watching how the Walkability and Centre of Drysdale engagement by City of Greater Geelong happened in 2007 and then the Drysdale Clifton Springs Structure Plan in 2008-2009. After watching these unfold, I realized that the community needed to be aware and prepared for engagements so that we could get the best outcomes.

Then there was the Urban Design Framework engagement in 2010, I had the opportunity to sit with the traffic management consultant and asked him to ensure that whatever he reported/designed, was done knowing that the Drysdale Bypass was in place. Although he didn't believe this could ever happen, I assured him that the community was sick of developments happening in a piecemeal manner, we need big picture thinking.

In 2011, SpringDale and DCSCA partnered to hold a 4 day summit for our community. During this Friday - Monday summit, more than 460 responses were recorded. People attended the summit, completed surveys and helped prioritise more than 20 issues that were affecting life on the Bellarine. The results of this summit and the completed surveys, showed us the priorities of the community and gave us a mandate to pursue.

In the last 14 years, together we have made the Drysdale Bypass a reality, made the North Bellarine Aquatic Centre a reality with stage 2, the indoor pool elements, about to be started. More recently we have been working on trying to find Sustainable Housing for older women and with the help of our community we did get another woman housing this month. We are also working on footpaths for the older parts of Drysdale-Clifton Springs, this has been a goal for more than 30 years and hopefully our residents are going to be ready to help this become a reality.

The other big project that is happening at the moment is bringing information about the 150 years of Drysdale Primary School together. We are collecting stories about education, families, special events, fund raisers, teachers and photos of classes. This information will be published in a book available on the celebration weekend Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 October 2025. Please contact me if you have information / photos to share. We have photos from 1923 onwards, but we would love more. Friday afternoons in August and September, 3pm - 5pm will be devoted to collecting information and names to go with photos, so the book can be as comprehensive as it can be. Yesterday I received a bag full of photos from 4 generations of a family, who attended Drysdale PS over the last 70 years.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make these dreams come true and thank you to all levels of government who have helped to support these projects. What could you help the community to achieve?

Looking forward to seeing you at SpringDale
Anne Brackley OAM for team SpringDale

At SpringDale

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Tues 5 Aug 10-11am rsvp SpringDale 5253 1960



The SpringDale Lunch Bunch are at Souva Bar Drysdale Wednesday 20 Aug 12noon.
Bookings essential ring Margaret 0418 370 857.



SpringDale Dining group are at Pretty's Place Bar & Grill Ocean Grove Tuesday 12 Aug 6pm.
Bookings essential ring SpringDale 5253 1960 or email dining@springdale.org.au

QUOTE OF THE MONTH


"Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood."

Marie Curie, first person to win a second Nobel Prize, and she is the only Nobel Prize winner who is also the mother of another Nobel Prize winner - Irène Joliot-Curie, daughter of Marie Curie and Pierre Curie.

Anne Brackley - Quote curator

www.springdale.org.au

How will you science this National Science Week?



national science week
9-17 AUGUST 2025
scienceweek.net.au #scienceweek

DECODING THE UNIVERSE

- Exploring the unknown with nature's hidden language

Science Week activity at SpringDale

Monday 11 August - the language of flowers 2pm - 3pm - FREE
Wednesday 13 August - the science of seeds 2pm - 3pm - FREE
Thursday 14 August - Brain Break Morning Tea 10am - 11.30am - FREE

SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre 17-21 High Street Drysdale

Alison Marchant

Member for Bellarine



Last year, we proudly opened the dedicated Children's Emergency Department at University Hospital Geelong. This purpose-built facility features a paediatric triage system, assessment and waiting areas, and treatment rooms designed specifically for children and their families. Located just 100 metres from the main Emergency Department entrance, it's a vital addition to our local healthcare services.

In the recently announced 2025/26 State Budget, further investments have been made to expand and strengthen urgent care services across Victoria. I want to take this opportunity to outline the range of free healthcare resources available to Bellarine residents:

Victorian Virtual Emergency Department (VVED)

The VVED offers free, online emergency care for non-life-threatening emergencies. Consultations are conducted via video and accessible from your smartphone or computer. Currently the VVED delivers care to more than 600 callers every day, and with the State Government's recent investment, this number will nearly triple in size.

Available 24/7 www.vved.org.au

Nurse-On-Call

This free helpline will connect you with a registered nurse who can provide expert medical advice on whether to seek further

medical assistance and what is available locally.

Available 24/7 1300 60 60 24

Urgent Care Clinic

Urgent Care Clinics provide GP-led care for conditions that require urgent care but aren't emergencies such as mild infections, burns, sprains, or suspected fractures. Many clinics also offer onsite or nearby pathology and imaging services. The closest clinic for the Bellarine is in Belmont.

Open daily: 7.30am-9.30pm

75 Roslyn Road Belmont

03 4206 7366

Community Pharmacy Program

The Community Pharmacy Program started as a pilot program with pharmacists delivering free consultations for uncomplicated UTIs, resupply of some oral contraceptive pills, mild skin conditions and travel vaccinations at select pharmacies.

As part of the recent 2025/26 Budget this program will expand and become permanent from 1 July 2025. Over the next two years, additional common health conditions will be introduced into the program including nausea, minor wound management, allergies, reflux and school sores.

Most consultations will remain free for patients, helping local residents access the care they need here on the Bellarine without the cost of GP or consultation fees.

Find out what local pharmacies are involved in the program at www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/community-pharmacy-pilot

1800 My Options

A free and confidential service offering advice and referrals for contraception, pregnancy options including abortion services, and sexual health.

www.1800myoptions.org.au

1800 696 784

Available: 9am-5pm Monday to Friday

The Orange Door

A free service that coordinates family violence and child wellbeing support without needing a referral.

www.orangedoor.vic.gov.au

1800 312 820

Available 9am-5pm Monday to Friday

If you need any assistance with any state matters, please contact my office on 03 5250 1987 or via email alison.marchant@parliament.vic.gov.au

Come in for a Free chat

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Alison Marchant.

Member for Bellarine

As your state member, it is important that I hear directly from you.

Contact my office for support for state matters including:

- Transport infrastructure, road safety & public transport
- Local healthcare services
- Early childhood, primary and secondary education
- Applying for state government grants
- Cost of living pressures

Scan the QR code to find out more about local Bellarine updates.



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

☎ 03 5250 1987

✉ alison.marchant@parliament.vic.gov.au

🌐 www.alisonmarchantmp.com.au

POTATO SHED

It still may be a bit on the cool side, but that hasn't stopped us from programming some great entertainment for all ages at the Potato Shed.

Nosey neighbours and suburban mayhem kick off August when The Beaks present **Stickybeak**, 3pm Saturday 12 August. A multi-character laugh-out loud physical comedy set on a street everyone will recognise.

On Saturday 16 August from 8pm, join legendary Australian musician and raconteur Mike "Up there, Cazaly" Brady for an **Evening with Mike Brady**, as he takes you on a journey through his extraordinary career, from his first band, circa 1960s, MPD LTD, to his annual AFL Grand Final anthem. Special guest Issi Dye rounds out this night of classic Australian entertainment.

A switch of gears has **Garage Girls** taking over our black box theatre, 4pm Sunday 17 August. It's 1920s Melbourne. Meet Alice Anderson. Mechanic. Trailblazer. Entrepreneur. Part history, part farce, part who-done-it, **Garage Girls** shines a light on one remarkable young woman's short but eventful life.

Bellarine Jongleurs return with their take on the bright and bubbly **Legally Blonde the Musical Jr**. Based on the award-winning Broadway musical and the smash hit 2001 film of the same name, **Legally Blonde the Musical Jr** is a fabulously fun journey of self-empowerment and expanding horizons. Pink outfits optional.

Our Morning Showtime show for August, **Money for Nothing (and your chicks for free)** is a celebration of the music of Mark Knopfler.

Meticulously researched by local historian Colin Mockett, with music performed by Geoff Sinnebeck and Adam Parsons. From 10.30am Tuesday 12 August, with our delicious morning tea included in the ticket price.

All of our shows are available to purchase via our website, 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.

We're looking forward to seeing you all at the Shed.



POTATO SHED

WIN DOUBLE PASS to

Garage Girls

Sunday 17 4pm

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

COMPETITION CLOSING 8 FRIDAY AUGUST 4PM

Tax Help

Comences 1st August at Springdale Phone 5253 1960



WHAT'S ON

POTATO SHED

CITY OF GREATER
GEELONG

STICKYBEAK

Saturday 2 August,
3pm



A hilarious comedy about the neighbours. Take a sneak peek at suburban mayhem at it's finest.

Cabaret \$45 Adult \$40 Conc \$25 Under 25s
Theatre \$40 Adult \$35 Conc \$25 Under 25s

MONEY FOR NOTHING (and your chicks for free)

Tuesday 12 August,
10.30am



Colin Mockett tells the stories and Geoff and Adam perform the songs of Mark Knopfler and Dire Straits.

All tickets \$20, morning tea provided.

AN EVENING WITH MIKE BRADY WITH SPECIAL GUEST ISSI DYE

Saturday 16 August, 8pm



Join Mike Brady for a night of musical hits spanning Mike's 60-year career, with his long-time friend Issi Dye.

Cabaret \$45 Adult \$40 Conc \$25 Under 25s
Theatre \$40 Adult \$35 Conc \$25 Under 25s

GARAGE GIRLS



Sunday 17 August, 4pm

It's 1920s Melbourne, and Alice Anderson is blazing a trail across the city. Mechanic, entrepreneur - Alice defies convention and makes her mark.

Theatre \$40 Adult \$35 Conc \$25 Under 25s

LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL JR presented by Bellarine Jongleurs

LEGALLY
BLONDE
The Musical

Friday 29 August, 7pm
Saturday 30 August, 2pm & 7pm

Based on the award-winning Broadway musical and smash hit motion picture, Legally Blonde the Musical Jr is a fabulously fun journey.

\$20 Adult

\$18 Conc

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WITH WHAT'S ON
AT THE POTATO SHED



Scan the QR code and sign up to our e-newsletter, Spud News for special offers and more.

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Re-imagining Housing for Seniors - Changing Our Culture.

We are making progress in our quest to tackle the ever present, quiet but urgent crisis in our community — the rising risk of homelessness among single women over 55 on the Bellarine

Many older women in our area face losing secure housing through no fault of their own. After years raising families and caring for others, many have little or no superannuation, minimal savings, and few job options later in life. When a marriage breaks down — which is common in this age group — the family home is often the only asset to divide. After settlement, too many women are left without enough to buy again, forcing them into a tough rental market at a vulnerable age.

Modern homelessness often looks invisible: couch surfing with friends, sleeping in cars or garages, staying in caravan parks, or even camping in the bush. Sadly, this is happening right now on the Bellarine, which can result in negatively affecting job prospects, mental & general health and food security.

Nationally, the federal government spends just 0.6% of its budget on housing, while 64,000 people are on Victoria's public housing waiting list, with a 12 to 15 year wait time! But older women want to stay connected to their community — near friends, family and vital support networks.

S.H.O.W.'s vision is to help make that possible. With a newly elected Committee and loyal supporters, the group's incorporation is well underway, opening doors to funding, partnerships with the goal of building small, secure cottages for older women who need them most. Promising leads on land are being investigated, but the need is urgent, and the challenge is large.

To succeed, S.H.O.W. needs land, capital, and community partnerships. With local support and determination, we can help ensure every woman has a safe, stable place to call home as she ages.

If you can help in any way, please contact **Diane Bennett** at diane.bennett4@hotmail.com.



Only seems like yesterday, that I was writing the very first article for the Messenger for 2025 now August already.

Being a kinship carer is not a easy journey, we need patience then more patience thrown in just to survive. But survive we did.

Most of the families in our group are just that, a family doing their best to survive.

The reason some of us are called upon to be kinship carers varies from family to family. Of all the now over 95 families in our group, there is not one family with the same story as the next family, which makes for a complex situation to explain to others.

But each family in our group, totally gets it - we get the frustration, we get the confusion, we get the heartache, we get the uncertainty, and we totally get how a new a kinship carer feels.

Many families in our group have experience

in the area of kinship care and the trials and tribulations that each new carer experiences. We totally get it.

Being a kinship carer and a part of Bellarine Kinship Carers you are never alone on your kinship journey - all 95 families in our group stand with you to support you in any way we can.

If you are a kinship carer or know someone who is sitting at home all alone thinking that you are all alone, come join our group. We talk too much, we sometimes cry, we laugh heaps, but we will support you.

Bellarine Kinship Carers meets on the first Monday of each month (not during school holidays) from 10am to 12noon at SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre.

Stay safe everyone.

Jeanette Hanley-Heath
0414 308 257

50 years service to Lions Australia

The President of our Portarlington-Drysdale Lions Club, Dianne Porter, asked me to send through details of one of our recently deceased members, Colin Hutchesson, who a little earlier this year achieved the remarkable milestone of 50 years service to Lions Australia.

Colin started out working in a Bank which had him moving all over Victoria. At some point in this process he decided to leave the bank and bought a Post Office franchise. This led him to Natimuk where he joined the Lions club there in 1975.

A further move was made to Bacchus Marsh in where he also became involved in the Lions Club. Colin served as Club President twice and also as Membership Chairperson and Welfare Officer a number of times. He also served as Zone Chairman.

In 2011 Colin moved to Portarlington with his wife Meryl and transferred to the Portarlington-Drysdale Lions Club where his friendship and experience were greatly valued by all.

Colin was recently awarded the Lions Club's 50 Year Service Medal. This was presented to him in a small ceremony with his family and Lions friends present.

In 2016 Colin was awarded Life Membership in recognition of his long and outstanding service. Colin was also given the prestigious Lions Melvin Jones Award.



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By Cr Elise Wilkinson

There is no denying that we are living in a period of economic upheaval, so I'm proud that Council has updated its Financial Hardship Policy to support our residents who are doing it tough.

The policy gives the City of Greater Geelong a guide to providing financial relief to customers impacted by significant life events, such as job loss, family crises or natural disasters.

As a Council, our revenue from municipal rates, fees and charges helps us to maintain the delivery of our important services.

But it's critical that we are compassionate when we consider how these rates and charges are collected. We must acknowledge that in times of emergency and financial hardship, our residents need support, rather than additional duress caused by unpaid fees. 'Hardship' is a broad concept, and this policy helps to determine whether the payment of rates and charges may be detrimental to a person's quality of life.

The Financial Hardship Policy is a framework that our rates team can implement through the deferral of fees, rates and charges, payment plans, fee waivers and other means to remove the burden of an unpaid debt.

Our team at the City are fantastic at managing hardship arrangements and other flexible payment options where possible for those in distress.

The updated policy requires the City to consider an application for financial hardship



relief confidentially and objectively. After receiving an application and the required supporting information, our team has 14 business days to respond to the application.

The team at the city are very compassionate and we want to ensure our community feels supported. We don't want to increase levels of stress in our community.

If you think the Financial Hardship Policy might be applicable to your situation, please visit geelong.link/financialhardship

Footpaths for Health

Five in-person, information sessions will take place on Wednesday 13 August 2025 at Boronggook Drysdale Library between 10am and 7.30pm.

And for anyone who is unable to attend the in-person sessions but would still like to attend one, we will also hold on-line sessions on:

- Monday 11 August at 10 - 10.30am.
- Monday 11 August at 6 - 6.30pm
- Tuesday 12 August at 2 - 2.30pm; and
- Tuesday 12 August at 6 - 6.30pm

Thanks Alison

RIP Jasper a furry SpringDale Messenger helper

A couple of our volunteer deliverers will miss their darling dog Jasper, who helped deliver Messengers over the last 3 years, on footpaths and on terrain without footpaths.



Over the last 3.5 years we have been collating articles about footpaths and their role in health and safety. Our articles that have been published during that time are accessible from this link on the SpringDale Website <https://projects.onthebellarine.org.au/>

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BETTER
TOGETHER

Drysdale Primary School - 150 years

Recollections of Drysdale Primary School (1948-1953)



I attended Drysdale Primary from 1948 to 1953 when it was only a three-room school with under 100 enrolments. Grades 5 to 8 were taught by the principal, Mr Mortimer; Grades 3 and 4 were taught by Mrs McAdam; kindergarten to Grade 2 were taught by the formidable Miss Martin. At this time, it was possible for students to complete all their education at the school without going on to a secondary school in Geelong, but very few took the option to enroll in Years 7 and 8. Life and schooling were still adjusting to peacetime conditions. Teaching methods were simple with few aids - although I do recall an ancient 1930s radio receiver which was trundled out occasionally for relevant broadcasts. Material from the blackboard was copied down using a steel-nib pen dipped in an inkwell, making it impossible for a left-hander like me to get high marks for neatness. I walked to school alone, or with other kids, from our house at 25 Princess Street, crossing the busy intersection of roads at the old post office. After school I often wandered around the town with others for half an hour or more before arriving home. Unimaginable today!

The principal, Mr Mortimer, whose descendants still live in the district, was both a good teacher and a wise and sensitive man. I still recall his deep sadness on the death of King George VI in February 1952. He felt a strong emotional attachment to the royal family, telling us that he was a similar age to the late King, married around the same time, and with two children of similar age to the King's children. Mr Mortimer's main defect was that he barracked for Essendon at a time when that team and Geelong were competing for premiership glory. If Geelong defeated Essendon I always raised this at the regular Monday Morning Observation, where we had to talk about any recent event. But Mr Mortimer seemed to take it all in good spirit. A motivation to do well in tests was that Mr and Mrs Knight, who operated the general store in

High Street, offered the top student a block of Cadbury's chocolate - and you got to choose the flavour!

The provision of core education was excellent, but co-curricular activities were almost non-existent. The only regular inter-school sport I can recall was an annual athletic carnival held at Queenscliff, where we competed against other schools on the Peninsula. Lloyd La Beach, the Panama sprinter who won bronze medals at the 1948 London Olympics, gave a demonstration run at one meeting. We did eventually play a cricket match against Portarlington Primary. This was when a turf wicket had been newly installed at the Drysdale Oval, with assistance from my father who was Shire Secretary and a cricketer with Wallington (Drysdale did not have a team). For what was meant to be the inaugural match, we excitedly awaited the arrival of the regular bus from Portarlington, but to our disappointment there were no children on board -- Mr Mortimer had forgotten to notify Portarlington! Another match was soon arranged and both sides turned up. As a project in Grade 6 we cleared land in the Recreation Reserve near Wyndham Street and then planted pine trees, trundling down in Mr Mortimer's ancient car. I suspect this was a project designed to raise funds for the school.

It was a carefree period, but education was narrow in scope.

Ross Williams AM



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www.centralbaptist.com.au

Drysdale Uniting Church

22-24 High Street, Drysdale 3222

P.O. Box 240 Drysdale 3222

E: drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au

Minister Rev. Karen Eller (0407519759)

E: drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au

www.drysdale.unitingchurch.org.au

Clubs/Groups

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M: 0407 529 205

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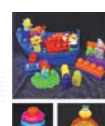
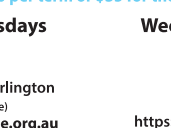
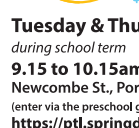
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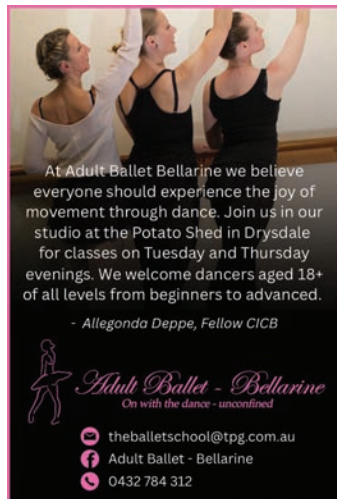
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Drysdale RSL Sub-branch



The Drysdale RSL is very appreciative
of the generous support of the local businesses
and general community through the annual Anzac
and Poppy Appeals. The funds raised go to help
our local veterans.

Our club also organises the main commemorative
services on Anzac Day and Remembrance Day in
Drysdale near the High St cenotaph. We are
grateful for the participation of local schools in
those events and in turn we help in their activities.

We have about 70 members who enjoy getting
together once a month for a cup of tea and a bun.

***New members are very welcome, and we have a
very active Women's Auxiliary.***

The club meets in our Princess St clubrooms on
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Check out our Facebook page (Drysdale RSL)
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Directory

On the Bellarine Directory

We have been publishing this self-sustaining directory supporting our community of new, and long standing residents. Another SpringDale community capacity building initiative. For online listings published during 2025-6 or to be listed in 2026-7 Directory please email
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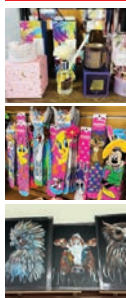
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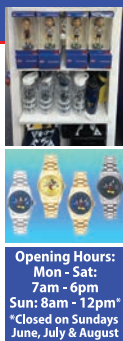
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Celebrating Woodlands of The Bellarine

Bellarine Landcare Group is collaborating with Artisans of Australia to celebrate biodiversity on the Bellarine by hosting an exhibition of nature-inspired works by local artists. This free, fully accessible exhibition runs from Wed 16 July to Monday 11 August and is part of Geelong Nature Festival.

The Woodlands of the Bellarine Peninsula are precious patches of native vegetation where we can observe plant communities which have evolved here over millennia.

Before colonisation, the Bellarine was mostly open woodland, with scatterings of trees such as Red Gums and Bellarine Yellow Gums on the heavier soils, and Manna Gums on the sandy soils, as well as She-oaks, Banksias, Swamp Gums and various Wattles. Around the coast, on alkaline soils rich in shells, the Moonah woodlands flourished. The understory of the woodlands contained many kinds of native grasses, herbs, orchids and lilies. The Wadawurrung people skilfully managed these woodlands to maintain an incredible diversity of plants and animals.

Since 1835, much of the landscape has been cleared and modified, resulting in the loss of many of the original plants and animals. Today many groups and individuals are working to restore this native vegetation, which is habitat for native animals. Once again, the Wadawurrung are actively contributing to the preservation and management of our remnant woodlands.

You can catch a glimpse of the Bellarine's former glory in these special places: Ocean Grove Nature Reserve; Murrk Ngubitj Yarram



Portrait of Moonah by
Zahidah Zelda Zeytoun Millie

Yaluk; The Basin Reserve; Edwards Point Reserve; Buckley Park Foreshore Reserve; and Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve.

We would like to thank Artisans of Australia, Bellarine Catchment Network, Geelong Nature Festival, Zahidah Zelda Zeytoun Millie, and Monique Harpur Photography for their generous support of this exhibition.

To learn more about woodlands and Bellarine Landcare Group, visit our bellarinelandcare.org.au or contact our facilitator, sophie@bellarinelandcare.org.au. We welcome new members at any time.

Kate Simpson, Bellarine Landcare volunteer



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EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE ON TARGET FOR AWARDS NIGHT

One of the Bellarine North Rotary Club most significant events of the year was held at the Portarlington Golf Club. Now in its eleventh year the Service Excellence Awards acknowledges the amazing local businesses and the service they provide from all styles and types of business. The energy and the fun in the room was tangible.

Members of the public submitted their feedback on many types of businesses on the northern Bellarine, milk bars, cafes, computer shops, vehicle service and many others were all recognised for further encouragement. In all, the Bellarine North Rotary Club presented 53 certificates. This event lets the businesses know how much they are appreciated by their customers and continue to encourage excellence in customer service.

This year's overall winner was Healthy Society, a very professional, customer focused and always welcoming, always positive business and fun to be around. Their professionalism, knowledge and genuine passion for health and fitness stood out. Congratulations.

There were two Highly Commended winners this year, The iPhone Guy, who's time, care and never give up attitude were shown out by nominators. The second Highly Commended was Total Martial Arts who's principal goes beyond teaching martial arts, she fosters a supportive environment a welcoming space where children of all abilities build confidence.

Most Voted was Bungalow Restaurant, where the service is great and staff are friendly, always kind and helpful no matter how busy with friendly staff, relaxing vibe and yummy options.

There were also forty-three other award winner nominations from their satisfied customers with many positive comments about the businesses being read out on the night which demonstrated how much our local businesses are appreciated and provide excellent service.

The night ran very well, and feedback from attendees was very positive. There was lots of conversation and laughter. We thank the many businesses who supplied donations of

vouchers and gifts for our raffle, these were very much appreciated by the winners.

Are you a business who would like to get customers saying these lovely things about you and your business or the service you provide? Why not encourage your customers to submit an entry for next year's Awards.

As a customer, you have ten months to start noticing the business or person who impacts you as being on target for providing Exceptional Service. We look forward to your nominations next March.

The over one hundred attendees learnt about what our Club of volunteers has done both here and overseas and on chatting to a couple of business owners they commented on how impressed they were to find out about the extensive list of what the Bellarine North Rotary Club have achieved. We have held our Annual Easter Art Expo again, we have done BBQs at markets and Bunnings this season, but we have also supplied Books for Newborns, added another program to our list collaborating with an organisation called 123Read2Me supplying free books to kindergartens, schools and day care centres. We have again dismantled Playgrounds to be sent overseas for kids in third world countries.

There was a call to action to see if we can further increase our membership, by inviting the businesses to consider employees joining our community supporting, fundraising, fun loving Club.

Are you looking to give something back to your community while forming lifelong friendships and having a lot of fun on the way then, we need you!!



Caroline Rickard - Bellarine North Rotary Club - 0408 989 221



Recycled water update

Increasing access to recycled water on the Bellarine

As part of our goal to recycle 100 percent of the wastewater treated at our water reclamation plants, we're maximising the use of recycled water to support agricultural production, tourism and regional prosperity for the Bellarine.

To reduce the salinity of the recycled water and nearly double the amount of recycled water used on the Bellarine, we're upgrading the Portarlington Water Reclamation Plant (WRP) on Grassy Point Road. Works are progressing well, and we expect the lower salinity recycled water will commence flowing to customers during the 2026/27 irrigation period (weather dependent).

To effectively manage the brine (saltwater waste) from the new treatment plant, we're designing and constructing a new 11-kilometre brine pipeline from the Portarlington WRP to our pump station in Clifton Springs. It will transfer the waste into our existing sewerage network.

1300 656 007 | info@barwonwater.vic.gov.au
www.barwonwater.vic.gov.au

The brine pipeline will likely travel along Coatsworth Road, Scotchmans Road, Panaroma Court and High Ridge Drive. Construction will commence in late 2025. We'll continue engaging with local landowners over the coming months as we finalise the design and alignment of the pipeline.

Learn more

For more information about this work, and to stay up to date, visit www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/bellarine-recycled-water or scan the QR code.



The foundations for the upgraded Portarlington Water Reclamation Plant



The Secret I'm Glad I Shared

We talk about almost everything; love, lives, dreams, fears, bad dates, politics, even money. But when it comes to the stuff that really matters, like our end of life wishes, we go quiet. Or we just forget.

'The Secret I'm Glad I Shared' is the message behind this year's **Dying to Know Day**, because saying it now can save a lot of stress later. This message calls out the absurdity of keeping your final wishes a secret, because if nobody knows what you want, they never will. Share them now. When final wishes go unspoken, our loved ones are left to make decisions in the dark, grieving, confused, and guessing. This campaign is a reminder that saying it now is a gift!

It's not morbid. It's not taboo. It's human. And it doesn't have to be heavy.

You can talk about your wishes at the pub with your mates, in the salon chair, at the park, basically anywhere you'd talk about literally anything else. And it's not just for old folks; it's for all of us, at any age. It's just another conversation.

Dying to Know Day has been a national day of action, originally on August 8 extending throughout the month of August with hundreds of hosts around Australia holding gatherings aimed to normalise conversations about death, dying and grief. We encourage individuals to learn about, discuss, and plan for their own end of life, and to support others in doing the same. To help you make decisions and share your wishes Compassionate Hearts on the Bellarine is holding an information session covering a range of topics such as Advance Care Plans, legal matters, spirituality and other end of life issues.

Compassionate Hearts supports people on the Bellarine Peninsula to live well with life-limiting illness by providing volunteer home care support and by encouraging community conversations about death and dying.

Date: Wednesday August 6

Time: 1.30-3.30pm (Afternoon tea included)

Place: Drysdale Library

To register email paulinenunan@gmail.com or call 0417 433 142



SUPPORT FOR LIVING, DYING AND GRIEVING

Expressions of Interest

Compassionate Hearts on the Bellarine is a registered not-for-profit charitable organisation run by a Committee of Management. Our trained volunteers provide non-medical, good neighbour support for people living at home with a life-limiting illness, their family and carers.

The Committee is currently seeking new members with skills and experience in governance and administrative matters.

If you have expertise and time to be involved with a very worthy community group please contact:

Pauline Nunan 0417 433 142,
or paulinenunan@gmail.com



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SpringDale Trivia

by Drysdale Girl Guides

1. What is the largest bone in the human body?
2. Which are the four colours used by the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles for their eye masks?
3. Mount Fuji is the highest point located in which country?
4. If someone was participating in the Tour de France, what mode of transport would they be utilizing while racing?
5. Pig is what breed of dog in the children's books by Aaron Blabey?
6. What is the meaning of "fn" on your computer keyboard?
7. What breed of cat typically does not have fur?
8. What is the name of the longest line of a right-angle triangle?
9. What non-alcoholic drink is named after a red-haired child actress from the 1930s?
10. What is the chemical symbol for the element mercury?

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.



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Sustainability News

Our evening session on June 23rd on the Harmful Impacts of Gas in the Home and Alternative Cooking methods was a great success. Thanks to the large group who attended.

The two Doctors for the Environment explained about the triggers for asthma which included nitrogen dioxide and other nitrogenous oxides which are produced by gas cooking and heating. Australian Research shows that 12% of childhood asthma is attributable to gas cooking stoves and for a child with asthma living in a house with gas cooking 30% of their risk is from the stove which is equivalent to having a smoker inside the room. Further concerns were raised about other products from gas cookers and heaters, eg formaldehyde, carbon monoxide, benzene and fine particulate matter which also have adverse health impacts.

To minimise risk it is essential to have excellent air extraction systems venting outside the house and to have the heater, cooker and gas supply system checked frequently (Every two years) as small leaks are quite common and are impactful.

Induction cooking is an easy alternative and one can experiment with a portable unit costing less than \$100 that runs off an ordinary electric socket. This is what I did for a few months with a \$49 IKEA unit until I was convinced I didn't need the gas top. My son-in-law bought two units and placed them into holes cut into a thick polished timber board and placed on the old stove top and connected to two sockets which looks very professional. Treevore explained that induction cooking is quick, very responsive and controllable and much safer. Many units have boil-over and dry pot protection and the pans and "stove" top do not get very hot which is very reassuring and beneficial for the absent-minded, children, disabled and aged. They are also more efficient as the heat is transferred to the food in the pan directly through the base and there are minimal losses to the surrounding air. They use electromagnetic induction so the pans must have a magnetic base. This can easily



be checked as if a fridge magnet sticks to the base it should work. The samples made were produced quickly and were very tasty, including chocolate nuts made directly on the cooktop.

Anne managed to run 7 air fryers and produced a huge range of samples from scones, pork and potatoes to chocolate cake and all were excellent. The advantages of air fryers are they heat up quickly and only heat a small volume so are much more efficient than an oven. They also are safer as they have automatic temperature and timing controls so can't be left on by mistake.

On 1st July the Federal subsidy of about 30% of the installed cost of home (and small commercial) batteries started which is very generous. The feed-in-tariff will also almost disappear during the middle of the day so the economics have significantly improved. One is therefore able to replace peak rate power in the evening by one's worthless feed-in electricity. One needs to have or going to install solar panels and the installer and the batteries have to be from approved lists. This includes many local installers (and also Geelong Sustainability are currently running an Electric Homes Scheme). The subsidy decreases annually until it is zero in 2030 so don't wait too long.

The China Energy Report for May shows that their electricity demand for YTD May increased by 4% vs last year but wind and solar production increased by 30% so their share increased from 20% to 25%. Coal imports reduced for the third quarter in a row vs the previous year. New solar installations have dramatically increased this year and this year alone is well over double Australia's total installed capacity,

Electric Vehicle sales have increased by 32% and now account for 44% of all sales in 2025. They certainly have the momentum.

Rob Gardner

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Answers to questions about the Jam from a Journalism student.

What is the aim of the event?

Jam for Refugees, has been in existence now for nearly ten years aims to raise both funds and awareness regarding the plight of refugees. Refugees are among the most vulnerable people on the planet, and that as fellow members of the human race, we have a responsibility to give them such help as we can. There are of course many groups of individuals who are vulnerable: the elderly, the young, the poor, the sick, women, and so on; the list is endless. But many refugees have virtually nothing: their fight for survival is so all-encompassing that they have little time or motivation to think of that basic human dignity which ought to be their right.

The refugee problem is a huge problem worldwide, and the temptation is to throw our hands in the air and say, this is too big for

us. But we believe that if we can help in our little corner of the world, and if enough other people or groups think in the same way, then change can be made.

How will this contribute to support of refugees in the region?

At the moment, all money raised by Jam for Refugees will benefit CRAG, the Combined Refugee Action Group of Geelong. The money will go into their legal fund which assists refugees in our local region to navigate, and pay for, the incredibly complicated legal process of trying to stay in Australia. I think it is hard for us to imagine not just the difficult circumstances, but the anxiety and lack of self-esteem which must accompany this situation

When and how did the idea for the Jam emerge?

The first Jam for Refugees was held in All Saints Anglican Church in Ainslie, Canberra about ten years ago. Three annual Jams were held in Canberra, supported strongly by local refugee agencies, by some local schools, and by the church.

When I moved to Geelong, I tried to start Jam for Refugees here. For the first year we were defeated by Covid. The following year we were again threatened with defeat by Covid, but held a Radio Jam, which was a three hour program on local Pulse Radio involving recordings of local artists, and encouraging people to ring in and donate. This raised nearly as much money as a live jam.

In the following years we ran two live jams in

St. Paul's Anglican Church, strongly supported by CRAG and by the church. The following year we were again defeated, this time by a problem with the ceiling of the church which rendered the building unsafe to use for many months.

We have decided that Jam for Refugees needs a new and more exciting format, and so plans are now under way for Jam for Refugees Mark 2.

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Event	Date	Location
3:00pm Sunday <i>The Soft Compelling Flute</i> featuring Elysium Ensemble on period instruments	Aug 10 2025	All Saints Anglican Church Noble Street, Newtown
3:00pm Sunday <i>The Chorus of 1685</i> featuring Terry Norman on harpsichord	Aug 17 2025	Sacred Heart College Chapel Aphrasia Street, Newtown
3:00pm Sunday <i>The Writer's Tale</i> featuring Judy Rankin	Aug 24 2025	St Peter's Anglican Church 35-37 Draper Street, Ocean Grove
3:00pm Sunday <i>Salsa Dance</i> by Geelong Salsa	Aug 31 2025	Parks Hall 67 Newcombe St, Portarlington

For more information and to book:
<https://events.humanitix.com/host/jam-for-refugees>

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Memories of Yesteryear

THE FAMILY HISTORY QUEST 15 BOOKS

Finding relevant books on Family History is often difficult. Many are written in America or England and often have information that is not applicable for Australian researchers. I can recommend three Australian books.

Family History for Beginners and Beyond 16th Edition published by Heraldry & Genealogical Society of Canberra 2020

This is a practical guide to help readers trace their ancestry and family story. This latest edition has been extensively updated and includes five new chapters. Whether you are beginning your research or are beyond the basics, this book is an invaluable reference guide for any family historian.

The Family History Book by Cassie & Shaun Gilmartin 2024

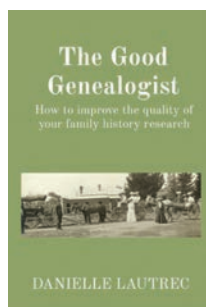
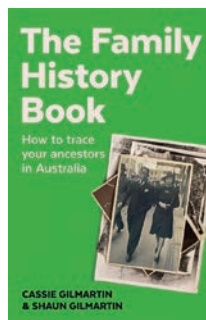
The Family History Book takes you through the steps of researching and building a family tree, finding records of births, deaths and marriages, looking up newspaper archives and probate records, researching immigration and shipping, examining military records, as well as discovering your story through DNA testing. Whether you're just beginning or have already made a start, this book guides you through all the places you can learn about genealogy in Australia.

The Good Genealogist. How to Improve the Quality of Your Family History by Danielle Lautrec 2022

Family history needs to be accurate, otherwise the people you find will not be your family. Most people who research their family history are not trained in historical research, but everyone can be a good genealogist, by learning appropriate skills and techniques. *The Good Genealogist. How to Improve the Quality of Your Family History* is a practical guide for everyone researching their family history. It will help those who are just beginning their journey to start out right and it will help more experienced researchers to reassess and refine their approach. The book focuses on the importance of taking a systematic approach to family history, based on historical research methodology.

Don't forget to also annoy your family members for information on your family tree.

John Mathes



"Who am I...Why do they want to kill me...All I can remember is..."

Dossier...

Genre...vintage TV. series.

Producers...Plautus Productions.

Title..."Coronet Blue"

Lead actor...Frank Converse.

U.S. Channel...C.B.S.

Australian Channel...A.B.C.

Released...1967.

Episode of interest..."Six Months to Mars."

Hi there, last month I mentioned this "hidden gem" which is easily accessed on "Google." Anyone check it out ?

Although clearly a relic of the past, the episode "Six months to Mars" tackles the problem of profiling prospective astronauts. This is still relevant today as we start looking towards an actual manned Mars expedition. Frank Converse' Michael Alden has, as the result of an accident, lost his memory. His only link to his past is the apparently meaningless phrase "Coronet Blue."

This has come to the attention of a government department which has been charged with profiling the ideal candidate for a future manned Mars expedition. They are attracted to the concept of amnesia sufferers to crew such trips, as they wouldn't be distracted by emotional "back on earth" connections.

So they place Michael and a fellow (right minded) crewman in a fake capsule for what, to them, will feel like six months, to test them. Number two (played by Hawkeye from M.A.S.H.) ended up deciding he really had been to Mars, and requested a "hot line" to the President.

Michael, on the other hand, started regaining fragments of his memory. So the experiment was stopped.

Retuning Astronauts "Butch" and "Suni" were stuck on the space station for nine months and they didn't crack. But you sure wouldn't want to be claustrophobic.

The Apollo capsule must have been tight. I've seen that cabin. I got claustrophobia just looking into it.

So I guess I failed the test !

John.





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BELLARINE CAMERA CLUB

The recent competition 'Open' was judged by Margaret Zommers. Congratulations to members who were awarded the following places:

Prints A Grade - 1st: "Got It" by Neil Smith 2nd and Image of the Competition: "Move Over" by Suzanne Fatchen 3rd: "Bringing the Catch Home" by Neil Smith Merit: "Survivor" by Darren Henry

B Grade - 1st: "Repeated Motion" by Geoff Evans 2nd: "Just Winging It" by Keith Evans

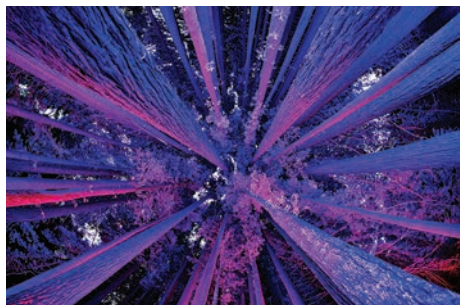
Electronic Digital Images A Grade - 1st: "Mother's Love" by Suzanne Fatchen 2nd: "Buzzard" by Jenny Warren 3rd: "Shimmer" by Suzanne Fatchen Merit: "Guard on the Rock" by Alex Valkenburg Merit: "Kingfisher Lunchtime" by Andrew Leece

B Grade - 1st: "Looking up the Redwoods" by Keith Evans 2nd: "Striking View" by Keith Evans 3rd: "Jellyfish" by Steve Asquith

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 or phone **Debbie** (President), on 0400562571.
New members and visitors are welcome.



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- Hot Stone Massage
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- Dry Needling
- Children's Therapies
- Sports Performance



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Forthcoming Events:

Get to know and care for our fragile coastline and support our Waterwatch monitoring activities on the first Monday and habitat restoration on the third Wednesday of the month. There will be opportunities to chat and have tea and coffee for everyone visiting habitat restoration. Note that we alternate our working bee activities between three locations along the foreshore.



Sunday 27 July, 10am - 1pm National Tree Day community planting at Curlewis clifftop. Meet opposite 17 Beach Vista Drive. 1000 plants to go in the ground and free BBQ for everyone.

Monday 4 August, Waterwatch monitoring, meet 9.30am the Clifton Springs Boat Ramp car park

Wednesday 20 August, Habitat restoration at the Second Dell. Meet 9.30am at The Dell car park, Clifton Springs.

Monday 1 September, Waterwatch monitoring, meet 9.30am the Clifton Springs Boat Ramp car park

Wednesday 17 September, 9.30 - 11.45am, Habitat restoration at Curlewis clifftop, meet opposite 17 Beach Vista Drive.

Hans Heine, and Rob Gardner

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Being a gardener (and I use that term loosely) opens up a whole new world when you are travelling. On our recent trip I was able to visit the Australian Arid Botanic Garden in Port Augusta. I have been wanting to see this garden for a long time. It is an enormous garden that you could visit every week and still see something new. Hundreds of bird species have now taken residence (good luck spotting them, and/or getting a photograph); you can also take a guided tour; all plants are named and there is a wonderful gift shop & restaurant. Although the garden was showing signs of stress from the lack of rain, there was still plenty of plants in flower and beautiful trees. Well worth a visit. I have included some photographs; I hope you enjoy them.

Our Club has been in existence since the 1980's and is still going strong. We have an active membership base, some who have been in the club for 20 years. With the world of gardening changing, with people downsizing, others being time poor, and us all getting older, the club has decided to have a discussion with members about what direction they would like the Club to go; what type of speakers; outings and format for our general meetings. Therefore, our August meeting will not have a speaker, but we will be having a Trivia competition for a bit of fun.

Our annual July dinner meeting was enjoyed by 35 members and guests at the Clifton Springs Golf Club. It is nice to see our new members and some members bringing along their husband/partners to enjoy this evening.

We don't have an outing organised for August due to the cooler weather, but if something interesting pops up we will make sure members know.

Our Club meets the first Monday of the month in the Uniting Church Hall Drysdale at 7.30 pm. Visitors are most welcome. If you would like to keep up to date on upcoming speakers and outings, you might like to go on our mailing list, or contact our Secretary Helen, on telephone 5257 2220 or email hma3152@gmail.com for more information.

Helen Allen

Trivia Answers

1. Femur
2. Red, Blue, Orange and Purple
3. Japan
4. Bicycle
5. Pug
6. Function
7. Sphynx
8. Hypotenuse
9. Shirley Temple
10. Hg

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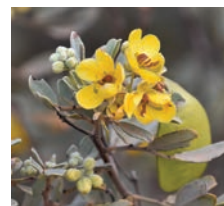
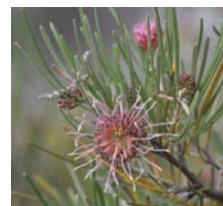
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