

Brown Hill Community Newsletter

Edition 39, Autumn 2024

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



Is there room on the bike for a kid like me?

Any fan of the wonderful Julia Donaldson books for kids (think - The Gruffalo) may be aware of the amazing broomstick in "Room on the Broom". As the main character, a brave and caring witch, gathers friends throughout her adventures, she adds more seats to her ever-lengthening broom. The characters say, "Is there room on the broom for a [cat/dog/frog] like me".

When I first saw Fi's magnificent bike with two kids on the back at pick-up time at Caledonian Primary School, I thought she had been inspired by 'Room on the Broom'. Not so. However, Fi and her sons, Callum (7) and Rhys (4), certainly have a roomy bike on which they adventure around Ballarat.

Moving to Ballarat over a decade ago, Fi and her husband say they have made some amazing local friends. Getting around by bike allows lots of

opportunities to chat to new people.

Fi says that she has always loved riding bikes and will make up any excuse to ride. She adds, "It can be a cruise around the neighbourhood, commuting to work, taking the kids to the park, going for a mountain bike ride, grabbing some groceries, etc. All kinds of bikes are cool, the best bike is the one you are riding."

I asked Fi why she built such a magnificent bike. She replied, "Most of the places I need to get to are less than five kilometres away, so it made sense for me to ride more than drive. I originally modified a mountain bike to carry both kids on one bike. My youngest son would sit on a front mounted seat and my eldest son would sit on a rear mounted seat and I clamped some handlebars to my seatpost for him to hold onto. Given that kids grow, and fast, we needed something with more seating space

and power. Thus, when my car died over a year ago, we bought a Tribe Evamos long tail cargo bike as our "second car". I changed a few things to make it more comfortable for us, but as a complete package from Tribe bikes it is a very good start for anyone".

How did Fi know how to create such a beautiful cycling machine? She says, "The bike came mostly assembled directly from Tribe Bikes in Newcastle, New South Wales. I have been customising and servicing my own bikes for about 20 years, so assembling a cargo bike was within my capabilities."

Fi and her husband use the bike for most of their short trips, including riding to school. Though riding to Buninyong and back and to Gong Gong Reservoir and back are their favourite longer rides too.

...continued p.13



We acknowledge the Wadawurrung people and their ancestors who have been custodians of the Ballarat area for thousands of years performing age-old cultural ceremonies, celebrations and traditions. We acknowledge the Ballarat Aboriginal community, many of whom were forcibly removed from their families during the Stolen Generations decades and brought to Ballarat. We acknowledge and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

About the Brown Hill Community Newsletter

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

Our volunteer team:

Editor: Sarah Greenwood-Smith

Editorial Advisory Committee: Brian Green, Brendan Stevens, Geoff Dickson and Hazen Cleary.

Editorial Support: Anne Rowland, John O'Brien, Anna Beesley, Dianne Vanderveer, Sally McAlpin and Julie Hayes

Accounts Manager: Brendan Stevens

Social Media: Ellie Thacker, Sherene Mounier and Emma Bannan.

Over 20 wonderful local volunteers distribute the newsletter across Brown Hill with additional copies available at local businesses and community hubs. Electronic copies are available on the Brown Hill Online Community Hub:

brownhill.vic.au/newsletter/ or you can subscribe online or by emailing us: newsletter@brownhill.vic.au.

Contributions are welcome from the Brown Hill community. Articles can be emailed to:

newsletter@brownhill.vic.au

or delivered in hard copy to the reception desk at Caledonian Primary School, Thompson Street, Brown Hill

during school term and school hours.

Edition 40 (Winter) articles are due by **Wednesday 24 July 2024**. Please read the editorial policy regarding contributions before submitting an article or advertising: brownhill.vic.au/newsletter.

The views expressed or information provided in this publication are not necessarily those of the Brown Hill Community Newsletter Committee or the Brown Hill Progress Association, including any officers, members, agents or contractors.

Occasionally, some content included in our newsletters may be upsetting for some readers. If you need support, contact numbers are available here: brownhill.vic.au/new-to-brown-hill/need-some-support/

Printed by Ballarat Mailworks at 512 Dowling Street, Wendouree, on 100% recycled paper.

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Layout using Canva.

ISSN 2209-9050

Brown Hill Progress Association meet at the Brown Hill Cricket Club on the second Wednesday every second month, 7.00 pm. Please note that the next meeting is one week later, on Wednesday 19 June. The August meeting will be on Wednesday 14 August. All welcome.

bhpa@brownhill.vic.au

brownhill.vic.au

PO Box 6008, Brown Hill, 3350

Diary Dates

MAY

Thursday 16: 5.00 pm - 6.30 pm, Brown Hill Splash Park Community Consultation Session, Brown Hill Hall (p.24).

Saturday 25: 10.00 am - 12.00 noon, Brown Hill Kindergarten Open Day (p.8).

Monday 27: 10.00 am - 11.30 am and 5.30 pm - 7.00 pm, When Gaming Meets Gambling, Parent and Carer Information Session, Ballarat East Neighbourhood House, Barkly Square (p.18).

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FREE TAFE INCLUDES

EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAINING

Training to be an early childhood teacher is free under Free TAFE and vocational education and training.

Head to <https://www.vic.gov.au/free-tafe> for further details.

Michaela Settle MP
 Member ~ Eureka

michaela.settle@parliament.vic.gov.au | 5331 7722 | [/MichaelaSettleMP](https://www.facebook.com/MichaelaSettleMP)

Diary Dates

...continued from p.2

JUNE

Saturday 1: 10.00 am - 1.00 pm, Ballarat Wholefoods Collective Op. Shop Market, Barkly Square, Ballarat East (p.20).

Saturday 1: 6.00 pm - 12.00 midnight, White Night Ballarat.
Visit: whitenight.com.au/ballarat

Thursday 13: 11.00 am, LinkedIn Learning for Creatives at the Ballarat Library (p.19).

Tuesday 18: 9.30 am - 12.30 pm, Free Workshop for Community Groups - Managing Difficult Conversations, Ballarat Regional Soccer Facility, 900 Pleasant Street, Redan (p.18).

Wednesday 19: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill Progress Association Meeting, Brown Hill Cricket Club, Reid Court. All welcome.

JULY

Wednesday 24: Edition 40 articles due.

AUGUST

Wednesday 14: 7.00 pm, Brown Hill Progress Association Meeting, Brown Hill Cricket Club, Reid Court. All welcome.

For more, visit: brownhill.vic.au

Welcome

Welcome to Edition 39

We have a new look! In order to enable our volunteers to work on the publication of the Brown Hill Community Newsletter together, we have changed the program we are using for layout. Please let us know what you think.

Whilst pulling everything together for the transition, we had to dig way back into the files for original logos and business cards for some of our advertisers. Several have been supporting us since we first accepted advertising, Edition 7 in June 2017 - that's 7 years! What an amazing contribution these and other advertisers have made to cover the cost of printing almost 3000 copies of this community newsletter four to six times a year. Thank you to all of our advertisers.

We will also be introducing members of the Brown Hill Progress Association Committee in the next few editions, beginning with our President, John O'Brien, known to many people in Brown Hill and across Ballarat already. We hope you enjoy getting to know the team.

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

Brown Hill Milk Bar

Dayle and Mick from the Brown Hill Post Office on Water Street are excited to let people know that they will be opening up the old Brown Hill Milk Bar on Humffray Street North. Whilst the new Post Office will not move, the opportunity presented itself to restore the building alongside the Fish and Chip Shop, Hairdresser and Laundromat and bring it back to the popular thriving hub that it was 15 years ago.

By late-June the Brown Hill Milk Bar will re-open with traditional Milk Bar items along with fast food options including salad rolls and sandwiches, locally made pies, roast rolls, hamburgers, schnitzel rolls, some popular rice dishes, along with some bain-marie favourites.

It will be open from 6.30 am Monday to Friday and 8.00 am on weekends.

As it settles the space will evolve and transform potentially into an evening venue for a pizza and a drink or something similar...

Dayle and Mick have been amazed by the support from locals as they re-opened the Post Office and will be relying on the good people of Brown Hill to once again support this new venture as they re-energise the space.

*Brendan Stevens ,
Brown Hill Progress Association*

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5332 6030**

Catherine KING MP

Federal Member for Ballarat

☎ 03 5338 8123

✉ Catherine.King.MP@aph.gov.au

f [CatherineKingMP](https://www.facebook.com/CatherineKingMP)

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Standing up for our Community!

www.catherineking.com.au

Authorised by Catherine King, Australian Labor Party, 5/9 Sydney Avenue Barton ACT.



Brown Hill Progress Association

From the Secretary's Desk

The Brown Hill Progress Association (BHPA) has kept busy over the Autumn months, mostly acting as the conduit for information from Ballarat Council and other Government Departments.

Over March and April we have had several discussions concerning the Reserve and Splash Park redevelopment with the Project managers and are very pleased to see the announced Community Consultation taking place on Thursday 16 May from 5.00 pm - 6.30 pm. There are several designs to be presented to the Brown Hill community so please take this chance to have a say in the layout of the new parkland area. Bring the whole family - BHPA will have a sausage sizzle outside the Hall to feed hungry mouths.



Council and Central Highlands Water (CHW) have also sought input from BHPA and ParkRun representatives on the placement of a drinking water fountain near the playground in the Reserve. We are hopeful for this installation in the second half of 2024.

CHW also invited BHPA to peruse the Stage 3 Major Sewer/storm water upgrade plans for Brown Hill that will take place over 2025-26. This very large project will cause some discomfort on roads and streets over the two years but is vital as the population of Ballarat expands.

The BHPA will continue to publish the Brown Hill Community

Newsletter delivered by our fantastic volunteer delivery team across Brown Hill to share local information. We also share updates on the Brown Hill Community Online Hub and Brown Hill Community Newsletter and Brown Hill Community Notice Board Facebook pages. Please keep an eye out for the project updates.

We continue to build on our relationships with local schools, the Brown Hill Lions Club and parkrun volunteers to work towards future events in Brown Hill.

It's great to see Ryan Knowles settling into the management role at the "local" Brown Hill pub. Ryan took over as manager in early February and we wish him and his staff all the best.

...continued p.5

A recruitment advertisement for Victoria Police. The top half features a photograph of two female police officers in uniform, smiling and talking to a woman. The text "Made for more purpose" is overlaid on the left. The bottom half has a dark blue background with white text describing the benefits of a police career, a search bar for "police careers", and the Victoria Police crest and logo.

Victoria State Government

Made for more purpose

At Victoria Police, you will enjoy a purposeful career making a real difference in your community. With more benefits including a generous starting salary, 9 weeks paid leave, and access to ongoing training and support. Start your career with Victoria Police today.

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

MADE FOR MORE

Brown Hill Progress Association

May I just share a heartwarming anecdote? I am a regular parkrun participant and several weeks ago I volunteered as tail-end-walker. I shared the walk on a lovely Saturday morning along Wallaby Track with a newly-settled young Chinese couple. The husband and I walked and talked and the wife, who had very limited English, drifted along quietly behind us looking up into the trees. After about 45 minutes, she spoke to her husband and he translated. She said how lucky I was to live so close to the bushland and be able to enjoy these activities. She had only ever seen forests on TV when they lived in a big Chinese city of Hangzhou. They aim to walk every bush track around Ballarat, to listen to the birds and smell the bush as often as they can.

How lucky are we to live in this wonderful suburb of Brown Hill?

The best way to get in touch with BHPA is via email or phone (details below). You could also come along and say hello at our bi-monthly meetings at the Brown Hill Cricket Club. Everyone is welcome.

Upcoming meetings: Wednesdays 19 June and 14 August.

Meet the Committee

President: John O'Brien

Born in 1937, John is 86 years old and has lived in the Brown Hill area since he was married in 1962. That is a total of 62 years to date! Starting in 1960, John was the local postie working in the area for Australia Post for a number of years.

John played for the Brown Hill Cricket Club from 1960-1984. Over the 24 seasons, he played in all grades and was also Captain in a number of grades. John was made a life member



John O'Brien in May 2024

in 1979 and recently the Best Cricketer in the Second-Eleven Cricket Team for the Brown Hill Cricket Club Award was named after John.

After retiring from cricket, John started Cricket umpiring in 1984 and continued until 2017. He is a life member of the Ballarat Umpires Association and a member of the Hall of Fame of the Ballarat Cricket Association.

John also played football. When he retired from that, he coached junior football with the YCW football club in Ballarat. Over winter, John helps out at Friday night Auskick by cooking the barbeque for hungry kids. He has also helped out with the barbeque at the Big Bash, parkrun and other local events.

When the City of Ballarat first decided to close the Brown Hill Community Pool in the 2000s, John, with many of the local community, advocated for the community and convinced the Council to retain the pool. As volunteers, John and other members of the Brown Hill Progress Association managed the pool for around 15 years. Local kids will know John from VicSwim at the Brown Hill Pool. He was tasked with warming up the Milo and managing the biscuit supply!

At the 2023 Annual General Meeting of the Brown Hill Progress Association, John was voted in as President. In this role, John will continue as he has throughout his time with the Brown Hill Progress Association, looking for ways in which we can work together with and support other local organisations, including community groups. Examples include funding the annual Ballarat Toy Library membership for the Playgroup and financially supporting several activities at Caledonian Primary School such as a Speedcubing Club and biscuits for the 2024 ANZAC Day ceremony.

With other local community members, John regularly volunteers at Caledonian Primary School athletics day and other special events. In 2023, he was invited by the two co-coordinators of the Playgroup to help out during the weekly sessions.

After John's wife, Lynn, passed away in late 2017, John would take his dog (Casey) for his daily walk. He began to stop at the school's entrance as many of the children enjoyed patting Casey. He says, "I am sure that Casey enjoyed the interaction as well".

Sadly Casey passed away but John continues to walk to and from the school, sometimes with local children and their parents who have got to know him well over the years. He enjoys saying good morning to everyone and this puts smiles on the kids' faces before they head into school for the day.

If you see John around, stop and say g'day. He would love to have a yarn with you.

Keep well, Brendan.

*Brendan Stevens, Secretary,
Brown Hill Progress Association
0409 018 867
bhpa@brownhill.vic.au*

Ballarat Fire Brigade

Reflecting on the last newsletter highlights how quickly things can change. When writing the last article, grass and vegetation was still very green. This changed rapidly with several large bushfires occurring across the region which saw property loss. Ballarat Fire Brigade assisted with these fires with appliances and crews attending fires at Pomonal and another near Beaufort. During this time the brigade had approximately 40 firefighters from New South Wales at the station for a tour.

Now the weather has started to cool it is important that we ensure that our houses are fire safe. This can be done by:

- Having a working smoke alarm
- Never leave cooking unattended and keep grills, fans and cooking surfaces free from grease and residue
- Keep clothing, curtains or toys one metre away from heaters
- Never overload powerboards
- Keep candles, incense and oil burners away from anything flammable
- Clean the lint filter on your clothes dryer after each load and let the dryer complete its cool down cycle before stopping
- Know what to do if a fire starts at home

Every family needs to develop a home fire escape plan and practise it. Your plan should include two ways to escape each room of the house and a designated safe meeting point such as the letterbox.

If you deadlock doors when you're at home, always leave keys in the lock

Ballarat Fire Brigade Volunteers at the Fire Station on Barkly Street



to avoid becoming trapped.

More information on home fire safety can be found at:

cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/fires-in-the-home/home-fire-safety-checklist

For the 20th year we collected for the Good Friday Royal Childrens Hospital Appeal with another very successful year. This year we collected just under \$9,558.00 bringing our overall total to \$232,781.55 and we would like to thank everyone who continues to support this great cause. A special mention is made for our Junior Brigade who collected \$1,260 of this year's tally.

This may be my last article as Captain of the Ballarat Fire Brigade. After ten years in this position, I have made the decision to not stand for election again. The brigade recently held its biennial elections and I have taken on the role of 3rd Lieutenant. Our current 2nd Lieutenant Nathan Cook will take on the role of Captain and Officer in Charge of the brigade for the next two years.

*Captain Mark Cartledge AFSM
Ballarat Fire Brigade
Corner of Barkly and East Streets
facebook.com/BallaratCFA/
cfa.vic.gov.au*

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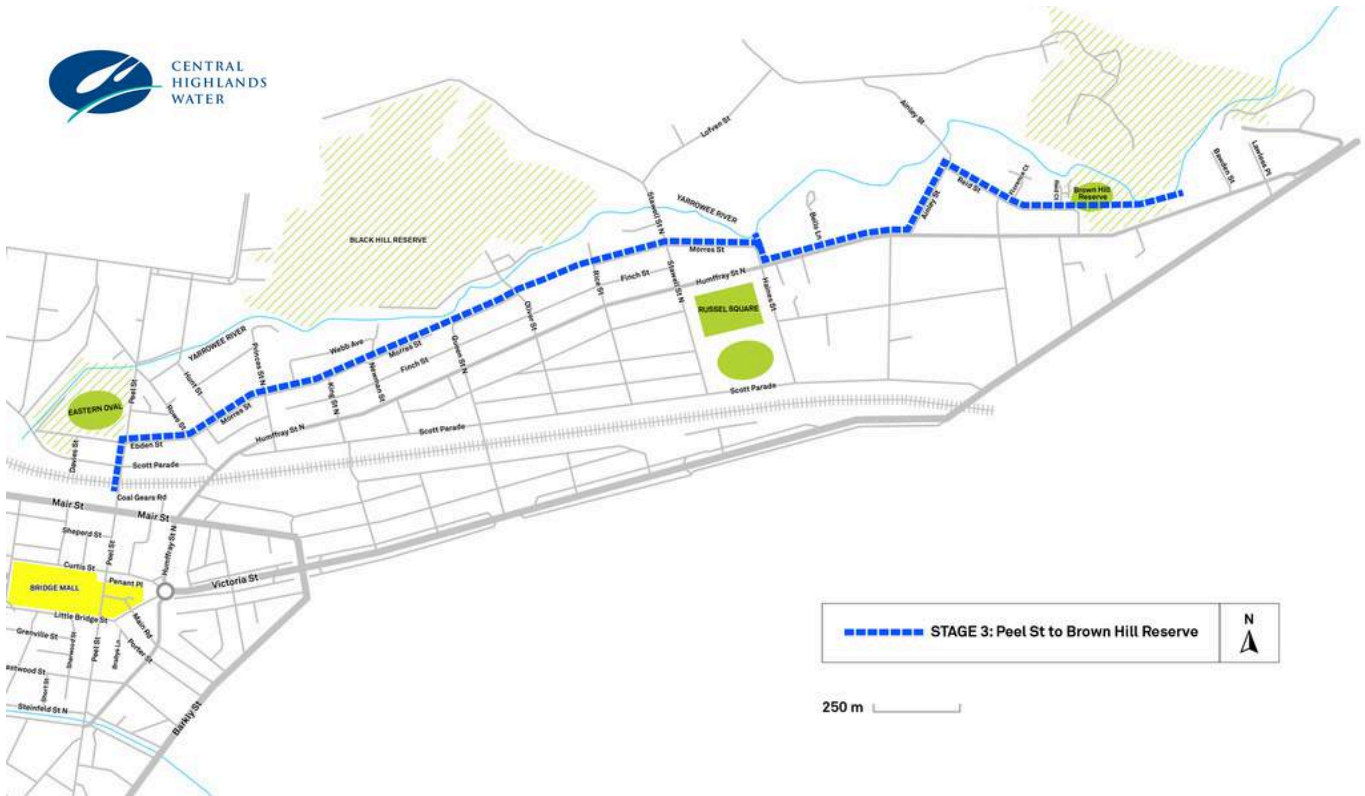
Buy any product and receive 4 free traditional rolls.

Offer valid until 2 June 2024.

Only valid at Bakers Delight Bakery Hill.

One coupon per customer per day.

Ballarat Sewer Build



Stage 3 gearing up in Brown Hill

Planning is now underway for Ballarat Sewer Build Stage 3, which will commence in 2025 and travel from Peel Street to Brown Hill Reserve.

The Central Highlands Water (CHW) project, which commenced in 2021, represents a \$25 million investment in the future waste management of our city. Once complete, Ballarat Sewer Build will duplicate Ballarat's two largest sewer lines, Ballarat East and Ballarat South, which were constructed 100 years ago.

At present you will see CHW and their partners completing cultural heritage assessments and geotechnical studies in the Brown Hill area. They have also started conversations with the Brown Hill Progress Association and Brown Hill Cricket Club to learn more about ways they can minimise the impact of works, particularly in the Brown Hill Reserve area.

CHW is also collaborating with City of Ballarat to ensure their program aligns effectively with the Brown Hill Recreation Reserve Masterplan projects.

Above is an image of the proposed

alignment of the pipeline detailing where works will be undertaken.

Residents and businesses will be communicated with further as construction commencement nears.

The CHW team will endeavour to maintain traffic flow throughout the project and keep any disruptions to a minimum.

If you would like to stay informed visit the CHW website or sign up to receive project updates directly via email.

sewerproject@chw.net.au
chw.net.au/sewerbuild



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Brown Hill Playgroup

In many editions of the Brown Hill newsletter we have celebrated the achievements of local community groups. The Brown Hill Playgroup has been running within the community for more than 33 years. During this time, it has been housed within the Uniting Church (corner of Humffray and Thompson streets) and the local primary school. There have been around six volunteer coordinators over the years, welcoming families into the community and supporting them through the early years of their children's lives.

The Playgroup has played an important role in the community, working with the Brown Hill Progress Association, Brown Hill Kindergarten and Caledonian Primary School. These relationships have kept the playgroup running and given families a free, indoor, reliable and safe space to meet, play and have a cuppa.

After 33 years the changing lifestyles of families have led to a decline in volunteers. Due to this, and a mixture of other factors, this will be the Playgroup's final year. We would like to take this opportunity to highlight the efforts of the coordinators, volunteers and families that spent their time together during the early years of parenting.

Over the next few editions of the Newsletter, we hope to share some playgroup stories with the community before it comes to a close

in December 2024. If you have a Brown Hill playgroup story or have been involved in the past history of Playgroup, please contact the current coordinators Aimee and Jane.

Jane Griffin and Aimee Knight
Brown Hill Playgroup
Co-Coordinator
playgroup@brownhill.vic.au
facebook.com/brownhillplaygroup

Brown Hill Kindergarten

It was a busy first term for Brown Hill Kindergarten. The children have settled into their routines fantastically and have begun to form friendships with their peers. On Wednesday 6 March we held an early evening family picnic at the Brown Hill Reserve. Many families brought along their dinner and enjoyed the opportunity to meet and spend time with other Kindergarten families.

This Term we will be commencing our Bush/Nature/Community walks with our four year-old groups. We look forward to engaging in the Bush/Nature walks, learning about the wildlife around our local area and having discussions about caring for our environment. We also look forward to continuing to explore and connect with our local community.

We will also take part in the 'Responsible Pet Education Program'. Each year we participate in this program to give the children an opportunity to learn about being safe around dogs. We learn that the safest way to deal with an unknown dog is – stop, stand very still, keep your hands down, look at the ground, then when the dog has gone away slowly back up and get help from an adult. We also learn to respond this way to snakes.

We will be having an open morning on Saturday 25 May from 10.00 am – 12.00 noon. Please check the ECKA website for more details.

Debbie Perkins
Service Leader
Brown Hill Kindergarten,
a Eureka Community Kindergarten
Association [ECKA] Kindergarten
Reid Court, Brown Hill
5332 7973
brown.hill.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

Delivery Volunteers Needed

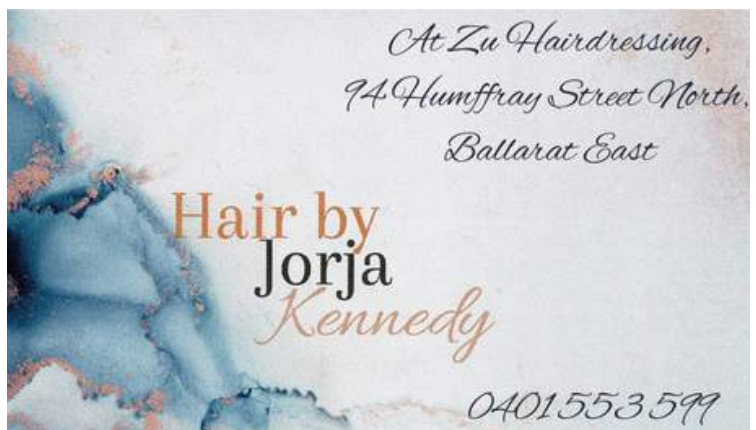
Do you have around one hour to spare four times each year, the Brown Hill Community Newsletter delivery team would appreciate your help. Each volunteer delivers around 100 copies of the newsletter. Interested?

Contact us: bhpa@brownhill.vic.au




Ballarat East Heritage Garden Party
Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th May 2024, 10am - 4pm
25-39 Barkly Street, Ballarat East
Phone (03) 5333 8600 for more information



At Zu Hairdressing,
94 Humffray Street North,
Ballarat East

Hair by
Jorja
Kennedy

0401553599

St Mary's School, Clarkes Hill

Embark on your child's education journey with us! St. Mary's School in Clarkes Hill is a wonderful school that values and strengthens the relationships between the students, teachers and families. Focusing on positive relationships and the well-being of every child underpins the school's dedication to creating a nurturing and supportive environment. Small classes and personalised teaching allow the staff to provide each student with the attention and support they need to succeed. Every child has a chance to shine at St Mary's! Every child has the opportunity to speak at assemblies. Every child can be heard. Every child has a computer or iPad! Every child gets a turn!

Traditionally, our students came from the local Catholic families in the district; however now we have many families who are local to the Clarkes Hill area and several families that travel from Ballarat and surrounding areas, just so they can be part of a small country school experience. The students at St Mary's are exposed to a broad curriculum in an environment that is inclusive and respectful of all.

With Clare Scanlon stepping in as the new principal at St. Mary's School in 2024, the school is poised for continued excellence in education. With over 35 years of experience in the field of education, Clare brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to



Students from St Mary's School, Clarke's Hill on an adventure.

her role. Her leadership is characterised by a deep understanding of pedagogy, a commitment to student success and a passion for fostering a supportive learning environment.

The well-appointed facilities and the beautiful country setting provide an ideal backdrop for learning and growth. Being a smaller, rural school allows students to have many opportunities. Before a golf clinic was held in a neighbouring paddock this week the cows were moved on so the clinic could begin. The whole school climbed to the Lone Pine tree on top of Clarkes Hill to commemorate ANZAC Day recently. Cooking lessons for everyone, whole school excursions and sporting opportunities with other schools are other activities that the students love.

If you're considering St. Mary's School for your child, call the school to arrange a tour so you can see firsthand what the school has to offer. It's a chance to explore the classrooms, meet the teachers and staff and get a feel for the overall atmosphere of the school. We are sure you'll be impressed by what you discover during your visit!

St. Mary's School in Clarkes Hill
5334 5280



ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Just 11 km from Brown Hill
131 Powells Road, Clarkes Hill
5334 5280

principal@smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au
smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au



We are a small country school close to Brown Hill and aim to provide learning to suit your child's individual needs. Enrolments across all year levels are now open. Please book a personalised tour at a time that suits you.

Warrenheip Primary School

From the Principal's Desk

Warrenheip Primary School looks beautiful this time of year with the stunning trees full of autumn leaves. It is the perfect setting and we are looking forward to supporting our students to grow academically, socially and emotionally. We have some major developments on the horizon to improve our results and environment.

In 2023, it was a delight to watch our two Grade Six boys mature. I appreciated the way they stepped up to any challenge set for them such as supporting our younger students in putting together Ikea flatpacks. Ryder and Casey worked together to improve our little school and to add their final touches to their Primary School before they moved on.

Throughout 2023, Ryder and Casey have worked alongside Cam to make the most amazing 'Street Library'.



Cam, Ryder and Casey with the Warrenheip Primary Street Library.

During this process they learned about making mistakes and overcoming them. They realised that things don't always go to plan and that's okay - you just reset and try again. It is often about the journey and not the final result; this journey with the boys was not only a great learning experience but it also produced something for us to remember them into the future.

On behalf of the Warrenheip Primary School and community, thanks Ryder and Casey for your wonderful contribution!

Jo Reyntjes

Acting Principal,

Warrenheip Primary School

5334 7294

warrenheip.ps@education.vic.gov.au

whps.vic.edu.au

BEWARE



A BUS WEIGHS AS MUCH AS 13 HIPPOS

DON'T CUT IN FRONT OF BUSES

Little Bendigo Primary School

From the Principal's Desk

I would firstly like to thank Woodmans Hill Secondary College for supporting Little Bendigo Primary School in term one with relocations. Our students and staff had to relocate several times to Woodmans Hill Secondary College due to extreme fire danger. Thank you to Principal Graham Broadbent, the staff and students who welcomed and supported our school during these moves.

There is a lot to look forward to here at Little Bendigo Primary School with some very exciting news. Federal Member for Ballarat and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, The Hon. Catherine King, visited Little Bendigo on Wednesday 27 April. Minister King announced the exciting news that the school has been approved for funding of \$803,232 for an Undercover Basketball Sports Court through Schools Upgrade Fund Round 2. Our school and community couldn't be more excited about this announcement. Works are estimated to be completed by June 2026. Stay tuned.

We have had a busy start to term two. Our whole school participated in the Smile Squad Oral Hygiene Education session conducted by Grampians



The Hon. Catherine King, with Little Bendigo Primary School students.

Dental Health. Smile Squad deliver oral health promotion, dental check-ups and treatment to Victorian government school students at school. Our student's were fascinated to learn about good oral health and the prevention of dental problems.

The whole school were also fortunate enough to attended the Nerrina Park and Wetlands for an "Immerse Yourself in Nature" program run by the Leigh Catchment Group. Students participated in a guided walk and not only identified native plants and animal species but also utilised the Wadawurrung language app to create

unique artwork that captured the essence of the native flora and fauna in both English and Wadawurrung. Thank you to Bianca Environmental Projects Officer/Landcare Facilitator of Leigh Catchment Group for conducting these sessions. The students really enjoyed them.

Janet Tuaine,
Acting Principal
Little Bendigo Primary School
5332 6317
little.bendigo.ps@education.vic.gov.au

An advertisement for Nigel Fitzpatrick, Finance Broker & Director at Gain Finance. It features a portrait of Nigel, a puzzle piece graphic with a key, and contact information for Western Victoria.

Nigel Fitzpatrick
FINANCE BROKER & DIRECTOR

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www.gainfinance.com.au

An advertisement for Ballarat Treeworks, featuring a background of trees and the company logo.

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YOUR TREE CARE & MAINTENANCE PROFESSIONALS

Caledonian Primary School

From the Principal's Desk

To the Brown Hill Community, Caledonian Primary School this year has been a place of pure joy! Our students are more settled into learning and play than I have seen in any previous year. I feel an overwhelming sense of pride in our staff for the incredible efforts they put into planning and delivering learning while matching those efforts in the care and nurture they provide children in our school. Our students consistently demonstrate that same care for their peers while getting on with the all-important purpose of school - learning.

I am always noticing the little things that make our school a wonderful place to be and at our recent cross-country event two of our students, who may not be the sort to really enjoy running three kilometres, stuck together, encouraged each other and gave it a red hot go with grins on their faces. In skateboard club, older students often help younger kids get on a board, hold their hands and wheel them along, not because they are asked to but because they are keen to help others.

When I am out in the yard and I find a little person on their own, they may walk with me for a minute or two before a group will come over and invite them into their game, again not asked to. The kids just notice their peers and include them in their game.



**Aylah and Holly. Victoria (Blue) House Captains.
Winners of the 2024 house cross country.**

After the fires near the Grampians, a Year One student tells me he is planning to donate toys. Little kids on monkey bars get stuck and Years Five and Six kids help them down. Someone gets hurt playing and friends will always go with them to sick bay for a band-aid or ice pack (although that can be for the fun of visiting our office staff to say hello). Arriving and leaving school, our students have amazing manners with the crossing supervisors. No one asks or tells them to do these things, they just do them. Little things matter!

We often hear about all the things kids do wrong. In the news you will see articles about bullying with teenagers out of control and involved in crime. I am here to remind our Brown Hill community that the number of wonderful, thoughtful, considerate and kind primary-aged children in our community is the overwhelming majority.

In more conventional school news, our initial National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy

...continued on p.13

MT XAVIER



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**New
Members
Welcome**

Find us on 

Caledonian Primary School

...continued from p.12

(NAPLAN) results are in and once again it appears our school and students have performed well. No surprises there really as our school has amazing teachers. Our grounds are alive with lovely autumn colour. The oval is once again rich green after the dry of summer. Kids are laughing and playing and getting down to their learning every day and our team continues to work hard to reflect on our processes and practices, making improvements where needed - all's well!

Our Year Six students hosted and ran our ANZAC ceremony this year with pride. Public speaking can be challenging yet our Year Sixes stepped up to contribute to the event which was fully student-led. Granted not all had a speaking role, however every one of them was involved.

We have had a large number of enrolments already for next year and I do encourage any reader who has a child or grandchild not yet enrolled to collect a form and come in for a tour. The earlier we know the number of Prep students for next year, the better prepared we can be.

Finally, another word on our Cross Country event down at Russell Square. This and other similar events are great opportunities for our students, but cannot happen without support and volunteers from both our school and the broader community. I once again thank all those who helped make our event a success.

Ben Moody,
Principal,
Caledonian Primary School
5332 6955
caledonian.ps@education.vic.gov.au
caledonianps.vic.edu.au

...continued from p.1

I wondered how long Fi had been riding from Ballarat East to Caledonian Primary School in Brown Hill. She says, "If I count my modified mountain bike and the cargo bike, I have been riding with two kids on one bike for about one year. My eldest son now rides his own bike to school, but still jumps on the cargo bike for family rides with Dad as the pilot. I will continue to ride with my youngest son on the bike for a while yet."

Fi says "I love that I get to spend more time chatting with my kids. I still have to focus on riding and crossing some roads, but overall I can devote more time to listening than when I am driving. There is plenty of room in the basket for school bags, rocks, sticks and other cool things. We can park right at the school gate."

What do the kids think? Callum says, "I like everything about it! I like sitting with my brother and playing games while we ride." Rhys adds, "I like sitting at the back, it's cool and I like riding on it!"

If they ride straight to school, it takes Fi her boys about 15-20 minutes going "the long way" (three kilometres). If they leave with plenty of time, they sometimes stop for a play at Russell Square. Fi says, "We try to only ride on the shared paths, but if it is a quiet back street we will ride on the road."

To help carry all that load, Fi says the bike has an electric motor and the front rack and basket are mounted to the frame rather than the forks, so it is very stable under load. Clever.

Keep an eye out for Fi's super bike!

Sarah Greenwood-Smith

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69 Water Street, Brown Hill

Riding With Children

Information for families about riding with children from the VicRoads website:

vicroads.vic.gov.au/safety-and-road-rules/cyclist-safety/adult-bike-ed-riding-with-children

Riding can be great family fun, either as an outing or a way to get around. Riding with children also allows you to teach them safe habits from an early age. Even if you are comfortable riding yourself, it can be quite a different experience when riding with young children.

Starting out – parks and trails

Once children are riding their own bikes, there are lots of great off-street places to ride.

Riding with children is an opportunity to teach them about road safety, even before you get near the road. Skills and behaviour they learn before getting on roads prepare them to use roads safely later.

Here are some suggestions on how to 'teach' children while you are riding together:

- Model good riding behaviour to children. Ride on the left, give way to people walking on footpaths and shared paths, ring your bell and slow down as you approach others.
- Practise riding skills together.
- When riding on footpaths, teach your children to be aware of hazards like cars coming in and out of driveways. Adults are allowed to ride on the footpath when riding with children who are aged 12 years or younger.
- Start small when introducing new information and skills.

The best way to build children's bike skills and confidence is to make riding a regular activity.



Moving from off-street to on-street riding

When you ride with your children on streets, you can teach them safe riding behaviour. You will also be able to tell when they are ready to ride on their own.

When riding on streets with children:

- Choose low-stress routes that suit their skill level, confidence and maturity. Use quieter local streets and ride in bike lanes where available.
- Use the footpath to avoid any stressful or complex sections along the route such as crossing a busy road.
- If there are two adults, have one ride in front and one at the rear, with children in between.
- If there is only one adult, ride at the rear to keep an eye on the child (or group). Ride slightly to the right of the group so vehicles pass further away.
- Call out any instructions well in advance so children have plenty of time to respond.

Practise safe riding behaviour together:

- Be visible – use your lights.
- Be predictable – ride in a straight line away from parked cars or one metre out from the kerb.
- Be aware – anticipate what is happening, scan around you, look for obstacles.

- Communicate – use your bell and hand signals.
- Be in control – be able to stop even if you have right of way.
- Make sure all helmets are adjusted correctly – teach your child how to adjust their own helmet.

Preparing children to ride on their own

The more a child rides from an early age, the more capable they will be to ride safely on their own or with friends.

Each child is different. When deciding whether your child is ready to ride on their own, you will need to consider:

- their age and maturity
- how 'child-friendly' the local area is to ride (e.g. look for quiet streets and marked road crossings)
- their riding skills
- their understanding of road safety
- the benefit they will receive from travelling without an adult.

Try the following to help prepare children for independent riding:

- When you ride together, model safe riding behaviour. Talk about what you are doing and why, and what to look out for. Examples include checking for cars backing out of driveways and giving way to people walking.
- Ride together along routes that children may then ride on their own or with friends so you are both confident they are familiar with the area.
- Start small and local. For example, let them ride to the playground, then to the shops or to school.
- Talk about the whole trip, including where and how they lock their bike.
- Talk about strategies for what to do if something goes wrong, like getting a flat tyre.

Woodmans Hill Secondary College

STEAM Program

We were delighted to welcome Lou Ridsdale, Founder and Director of Food Is Free Inc. as a guest speaker for our Year Seven STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) program on 23 April. This incursion was designed to complement learning from Term One during a unit titled 'See Me Grow', when students learnt about soil and how to test that it is healthy using scientific methods. Students also learnt about pollinating insects and applied their creativity to design and build ceramic vessels appropriate for use as plant pots with the intention of combining their learning to produce 'plant pets'.

Lou's wonderful presentation added depth to the students' learning by supporting them in determining the health of plants and soil in our school's garden beds through a range of hands-on and observation strategies. She also supported the class in considering how their learning can be used to support the broader community and encouraged them to consider the ethical dimensions of growing food.

Discussions from the day have led to the formation of a 'Soil Health Team' - a group of volunteer STEAM students who will produce some natural fermenting fertiliser using weeds from the school grounds to



revitalise the soil in the Hands-on Learning Garden beds.

Our STEAM program is designed to improve student achievement and participation in science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics by helping participants understand how the skills and knowledge in each connect to each other and the real world.

Through partnerships with local experts and organisations, the

program highlights for students how their learning can be applied and supports them in becoming active citizens in our community.

Siobhan Finn
STEAM Leader,
Woodmans Hill Secondary College
woodmans.hill.sc@education.vic.gov.au

To learn more about Food Is Free Inc. visit: foodisfree.com.au

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BROWN HILL HOTEL

OPENING HOURS

BISTRO		BAR
Monday	CLOSED	Monday- CLOSED
Tuesday	Lunch- Closed Dinner- 6pm-8pm	Tuesday- 3pm - Late
Wednesday	Lunch- 12pm-2pm Dinner- 6pm-8pm	Wednesday- 12pm- Late
Thursday	Lunch- 12pm-2pm Dinner- 6pm-8:30pm	Thursday- 12pm- Late
Friday	Lunch 12pm-2pm Dinner- 6pm-8:30pm	Friday- 12pm- Late
Saturday	Lunch- 12pm-2pm Dinner- 6pm-8:30pm	Saturday- 12pm- Late
Sunday	Lunch- 12pm-2pm Dinner- 6pm-8pm	Sunday- 12pm- Late

Adventures of an Overseas Tour Guide

Les Ferguson, interviewed by Maria Simms

Many interesting people live in Brown Hill and Les Ferguson is definitely one of them. His career as a tour guide has taken him to some of the most fascinating and dangerous places in the world.

After growing up in a small Tasmanian fishing village called Stanley, Les decided, at the ripe old age of seventeen, to begin an apprenticeship at Savage River on the rugged west coast of Tasmania. Then, with a Fitter and Turner's certificate in his pocket and adventure in mind, he set off for mainland Australia.

'I scored a job at a mine in Mount Isa, overhauling the mine's diesel engines. A year later I took up a job on the construction of the new Ghan railway from Adelaide to Alice Springs. I planned to head for New Zealand next,' said Les. 'But a friend said, "Bugger that, you can go there when you're [older]. Let's go to Pommie land.'"

In London, Les scrubbed pots in a restaurant kitchen, moved furniture and spent six months looking after calves on a farm in Cheshire. Les was



only twenty-four when the adventure really began. He saw an advertisement in *The Australian Express* asking for people with mechanical experience to drive overland tours across Africa, Asia and South America.

'Within a few weeks I was in Nairobi, Kenya, with £3,000 in my pocket, looking to buy a truck. I was to pick up passengers who'd been stuck in Nairobi and drive them back to London. There'd been a snag because the truck sent from London to collect them had broken down somewhere in the middle of Africa,' Les said. 'So, I bought a Bedford RL from a tour operator in Kenya. But, as I quickly found out, it was also worn out!'

Not a week later the truck was sitting in the middle of the Sahara Desert. With the passengers looking on, Les had to strip the gearbox, fix the leaking radiator, the water pump bearings and synchro rings. The trip back to London took 16 weeks. After Les got the stranded passengers back to London he was sent off to South America.

'I circumnavigated that continent twice. There were tours to the Inca ruins of Machu Picchu in Peru then to Columbia, Venezuela, and Argentina. In Brazil, when I was taking a tour into the Amazon jungle, I had to ship our 1950s bus down the Amazon River on a barge. The whole of Brazil and the city of Rio were just the most amazing places, but also dangerous because of bandits.'

Back in London after South America, Les was sent off to Germany then on to Nairobi. There was some argy-bargy about being reimbursed for a truck he'd bought in Germany. His boss told him to sell the truck as repayment. However, delivering the truck to the buyer in Sudan was an adventure in itself. Les and a girlfriend hitched a ride on a semi-trailer through Northern Kenya. They were lucky enough to arrive at the Sudanese mission a day before the paddle-steamer set off down the Nile River, through a swamp called The Sudd and on to Khartoum.

'Never in my life have I done such hard travelling, but it was an experience I'll never forget. Chugging along the Nile we were followed by naked Dinka tribesmen covered in white ash running along the riverbank. The steamer navigated through the swamp where people lived in huts built on huge reed beds. We watched a huge Nile perch being hauled up onto the riverbank.. These were things most people only read about in a National Geographic!'

...continued p.17



Les and the overland truck.

...from p.16

'It was the summer of 1983 when we returned to London, exhausted and emaciated. I drove tours around Europe in double-decker buses before joining Himalaya Overland taking coach tours between London and Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. I ran those tours through Turkey, Syria, Jordan, Israel, Iran, Pakistan and India. On 31 October 1984 I arrived in Delhi to news that Mrs Indira Gandhi had died. The city was covered in smog from fires lit during the riots. The border with Pakistan was closed so I was stranded in India with the passengers I had to shuttle between Delhi and Kathmandu.'

'When the border opened again, I drove overland tours in Bedford M 4WD trucks with seats in the back and a trailer for the baggage. In 1988 I did a trip with a fantastic group of passengers from Nepal through India, Iran, Turkey and the Middle East, down into Egypt, Sudan and back through Africa to London. Between destinations in East Africa, we'd often come across Masai warriors walking along the road wearing maroon-coloured robes, carrying a spear and club, their hair groomed with animal fat and ochre. I'd stop and let them hop in the back of the truck, much to the surprise of the passengers. That trip took six months to complete and I still have contact with some of the passengers.'

Les also travelled on his own. On one trip he went to Hong Kong, then



Les visiting gorillas in Rwanda.

China and on to Lhasa in Tibet, wearing thongs on his feet! From there he crossed the Tibetan plateau to the Nepalese border and arrived back 'home' in Kathmandu.

What are your most memorable experiences, Les? I ask.

'I would say visiting gorillas in Rwanda, the Carnival in Rio de Janeiro, going white-water rafting in Nepal and meeting Masai tribesmen in East Africa.'

And worst experiences?

'Being held up by African military and several bouts of malaria including one where I was stretchered off an Aeroflot flight at Moscow Airport.'

And favourite places?

'My favourite places are Brazil, Rio, Turkey and Nepal.'

Back in Australia Les became an inspector with WorkSafe Victoria for twenty-two years before retiring in 2021. 'When people hear of my adventures, they often say how lucky I've been. I don't see it that way. I made choices. When an opportunity presented itself I grabbed it with both hands and wrung it dry! It's not as easy these days but there are still opportunities out there if you hunt them down. Old age is finally catching up with me and I now spend my time tinkering with boats and old engines. But when I look back, it's certainly been a busy life.'

Editor's Note: This version of Les' story has been edited for the broad audience of this publication. For an unedited version, visit:

brownhill.vic.au/our-people/



7 Sawmill Close
Brown Hill
0434 522 477

Ballarat East Neighbourhood House

Free digital skills training for people aged 50 and older

Are you aged 50+? Would you like some free, local digital skills training?

The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House is proud to be a Network Partner of the Australian Government's Be Connected Digital Literacy Program which provides free local digital inclusion support.

At Barkly Square, Ballarat East, we have a series of free workshops (see below) and 1:1 digital skills support on Wednesdays from 9.30 am - 11.30 am.

All sessions will be held in the Welcome Room, Ground Floor, Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council [BRMC] building, at Barkly Square, Ballarat East.

Using ChatGPT Safely

Tuesday 14 May, 10.45 am - 11.45 am

Social Media Safety

Wednesday 15 May,
10.00 am - 11.15 am

Exploring MyHealth Records

Tuesday 21 May, 9.30 am - 10.30 am

Advanced Ways to Avoid Scams

Tuesday 28 May, 10.00 am - 11.15 am

Using the Internet for Hobbies

Wednesday 29 May,
10.00 am - 11.15 am

Making the Most of Your Device

Tuesday 4 June, 9.30 am - 10.30 am

Organising and Sharing Your Photos

Tuesday 4 June, 10.45 am - 11.45 am

Mirroring Your Device to the TV

Tuesday 11 June, 9.30 am - 10.30 am

Navigating the Be Connected Website

Tuesday 11 June, 10.45 am - 11.45 am

Five Must-Do Steps to Protect your Device from Hackers

Tuesday 18 June, 10.00 am - 11.15 am



Using your iPad

Thursday 20 June, 10.00 am - 11.15 am

To find out more and register:
ballarateastnh.org.au/support/be-connected-online

When Gaming Meets Gambling - Free Parent and Carer Information Sessions

The Ballarat community lost \$64.3 million on Poker Machines over the 2022-2023 financial year. This equates to \$175,000 per day. Sadly, the figures continue to rise and our young people are increasingly targeted through advertising and gaming.

Our kids are being exposed to gambling through gaming and advertising. Never before has gambling been so heavily promoted and accessible. Microtransactions, found in gaming, is a market that is expected to reach \$117.95 billion by 2027.

Parents and Carers come and learn about the key issues related to gambling and young people and how they can help their young person develop informed attitudes to gambling and healthy gaming habits. Linda and Jo from Ballarat Cafs (Children and Family Services) will present the free session, hosted by the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House on Monday 27 May: 10.00 am - 11.30 am and 5.30 pm - 7.00 pm.

To find out more and register:

ballarateastnh.org.au/support/gambling-harm-awareness

Free Training for Community Groups in Ballarat

The Community Governance Project funded by the City of Ballarat is working to provide support to local community groups. Register now for one or more of the free Workshops.

Workshop #4 - Child Safe Community Groups

- 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm, Wednesday 15 May 2024 - Online via Zoom.

Workshop #5 - Marketing and Promotion for Community Groups

- Session 1: 10.00 am - 11.30 am, Thursday 23 May 2024: Training Room 1, Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly Street, Ballarat East.
- Session 2: 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm, Tuesday 28 May 2024: Online via Zoom.

Workshop #6 - Volunteers: Inducting, Managing and Retaining

- Session 1: 10.00 am - 11.30 am, Tuesday 4 June 2024: Training Room 1, Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly Street, Ballarat East.
- Session 2: 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm, Wednesday 12 June 2024: Online via Zoom.

Workshop #7 - Managing Difficult Conversations

- 9.30 am - 12.30 pm, Tuesday 18 June 2024: Ballarat Regional Soccer Facility, 900 Pleasant Street, Redan.

To find out more and register:
ballarateastnh.org.au/community-governance/community-groups

Sarah Greenwood-Smith, Manager, Ballarat East Neighbourhood House Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly Street, Ballarat East, 0422 612 052
reception@ballarateastnh.org.au
facebook.com/BallaratEastNH/
ballarateastnh.org.au

Open 9.00 am - 5.00 pm Tuesdays to Fridays during school term

City of Ballarat Libraries

Ballarat Library, 178 Doveton Street North, is OPEN.

If you are looking for a free activity, you will find plenty on offer in the newly refurbished spaces.

In addition to a collection of more than 70,000 items, you can explore:

Children's Library

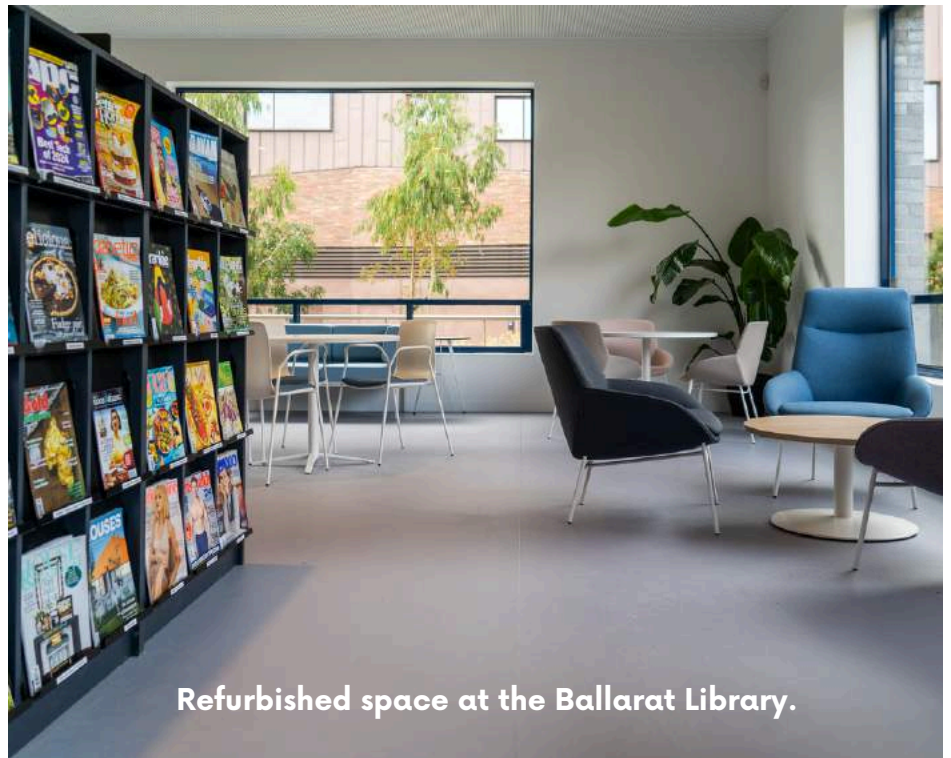
There is a dedicated Children's Library with an adjacent Parents' Room. You will find reading nooks inside tree trunks, cubby houses and a sensory play corner, as well as a Kids Discover Lab with children's computers pre-set for children to safely learn through discovery.

Co-Lab

Featuring a youth lounge and a community kitchen for demonstration workshops, gaming consoles and study and work booths.

Maker Space

The Maker Space is a brand new addition to the library. It is dedicated to learning through experimentation and play and includes 3D printers, vinyl cutter and heat press, sewing machines and digitisation equipment. Introductory sessions are available. Available for people 15+ who have completed their safety induction.



Refurbished space at the Ballarat Library.

LinkedIn Learning

Learn new skills from wherever you happen to be with LinkedIn Learning. This is a new service for Ballarat Libraries and accessible via the library website with your library card. Thousands of free online courses will help you to learn a new skill, find a new hobby and even upskill for a new career. You can book into a session at the Ballarat Library to learn more. Phone the library on 5338 6850 to book your spot or start exploring LinkedIn Learning online.

Visit: [linkedin.com/learning-login/go/ballaratlibraries](https://www.linkedin.com/learning-login/go/ballaratlibraries)

~
LinkedIn Learning for Creatives
This session will highlight the amazing range of creative courses available on LinkedIn Learning.

Thursday 13 June, 11.00 am
Ballarat Library

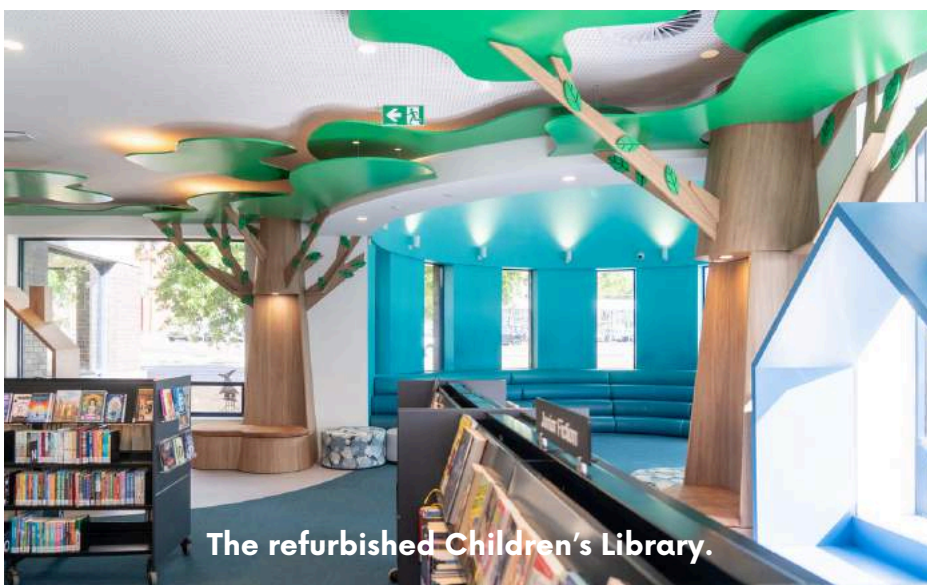
~
Introduction to LinkedIn Learning
This session will help participants understand how to set up an account, browse and search for topics and take courses.

Thursday 11 July, 11.00 am
Ballarat Library

~
LinkedIn Learning for Job Seekers
This session will highlight the courses available on LinkedIn Learning to enhance your job-seeking skills or upgrade your credentials.

Thursday 8 August, 11.00 am
Ballarat Library

~
Julie Stevens
Ballarat Libraries



The refurbished Children's Library.

Ballarat Wholefoods Collective Op. Shop & Vintage Market

This June, the Ballarat Wholefoods Collective will be hosting its seventh Op. Shop and Vintage Market. The event is an excellent opportunity to actively participate in community, sustainability and ethical shopping!

This quarterly event supports the movement of sustainable fashion and helps to reduce pre-loved clothing going to landfill. It's also an opportunity to provide affordable, quality clothing to the community, where your purchase goes straight back into the community!

The markets are a great way for members of the community to make some money and buy items at much more affordable prices. With stall prices being just \$5.00 you're guaranteed to make a profit!

What to expect?

Stalls line the Barkly Square building offering pre-loved clothing, vintage, retro, children's clothes and more! Whether you attend as a shopper or a seller there's something for everyone!

At just \$5.00 a stall, it's a great opportunity to sell some of your pre-loved goods and to grab some bargains as well.

Also we offer a Jigsaw Swap. Bring along your pre-loved jigsaws and puzzles (all pieces present, good condition) to swap!

Why shop second-hand?

Shopping second-hand really can save you money in the short and long term. With the cost-of-living skyrocketing and no signs of it getting easier, consumers are being forced to buy cheap and poor-quality clothing that doesn't last and forcing them to spend more over the long term. Our markets offer consumers the chance to buy more affordable clothing, often clothing designed to last that would otherwise be more expensive if brand new.



Op. shop shoppers. Image by Vegas and Rose Photography

Buying second-hand reduces the need to buy new, decreases demand on the fashion industry and lowering our contribution environmentally. The clothes and fashion industry causes significant global impact in terms of CO2 emissions, land use, pesticide use, water use, the releasing of micro-plastics into the environment and waste.

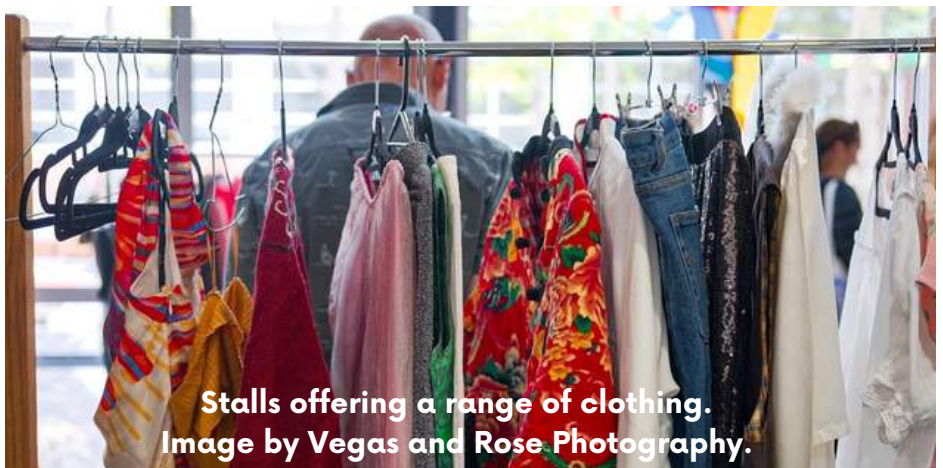
The fashion industry is responsible for 10% of global carbon emissions. Of the 100 billion garments made each year, 92 million tonnes end up in landfill - that's a rubbish truck load every second! In some cases, clothing is only worn 7-10 times before being discarded.

The fashion industry not only contributes to significant water pollution, but it is responsible for 10% water wastage. It takes 2,700 litres of water to make one t-shirt, which is the equivalent of enough drinking water for one person for 900 days!

By choosing second-hand we are prolonging the lifespan of the clothing and reducing our demand on the fashion industry.

Get in touch

Sell or shop! Visit our Op. Shop & Vintage Market on Saturday 1 June from 10.00 am - 1.00 pm to support sustainable fashion. For enquires: ballaratwholefoodscollective@gmail.com



Stalls offering a range of clothing. Image by Vegas and Rose Photography.

Brown Hill Uniting Church

Easter Sunday under the oak tree

Easter Sunday Worship and Communion was attended by around 130 people from the community, Brown Hill and Ballarat Central Uniting Churches, in an outdoor service under the oak tree. The sun shone through the yellowing leaves of the old oak tree as children played with acorns and shared in an Easter egg hunt. Rev Laleti from Ballarat Central led the worship supported by Jim DeJong and a band of musicians leading the congregation with lively, joyful, resurrection music.



Easter Sunday Worship under the old oak tree.

Laleti shared that Easter Sunday reminds us that the gift in Jesus' resurrection is new life, new hope, new promise. May we all live together anew, as one humanity reconciled with God and with one another.

Men's Breakfast, Saturday 16 March

The Church community was amazed by the fabulous turnout of members from the Vintage and Classic Car Club who came in their droves to display

their cars on the Church grounds, listen to their President Andy Burns and share breakfast with Church and community members.

Andy shared news from the club, explained the different classifications from Veteran to Modern Classic and talked through the Red Plate Permit Scheme.

The next Men's Breakfast is on Saturday 25 May from 8.30 am. The speaker is Wallace Martin of ReCranked Ballarat.

ReCranked is a Y Ballarat initiative specialising in giving unwanted bikes new riders. We take old, unwanted, unused, broken or forgotten-about bikes and revamp them into safe and serious modes of transport for those without wheels.

Even though the title implies that only men are welcome, this is not the case, women are also most welcome.

Smile

A kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's artwork. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I am drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat or looking up from her drawing, the little girl replied, "They will in a minute!"

Issues Affecting Our Community

Sunday 30 June, 10.00 am.

All are invited to Morning Tea in the
...continued p.22

ZEN/CONTEMPLATIVE
Meditation
a way of no way

Foundations of personal and community practice

An orientation for those seeking an ongoing practice path

🕒 2pm-4pm

📅 Sunday 26th May

📍 Brown Hill Uniting Church
Cnr Thompson & Hummfray St

"When our minds are not taken up with unnecessary things, this is the best season of our life" - Mmon

Rev. Paul Sanders Roshi is a Uniting church minister, Contemplative and a Zen teacher in the Diamond Sangha

For more information:
📞 0407 833 515

BALLARAT SOUTH UNITING CHURCH

Some attendees shared anecdotes on their experiences with old cars and then the crowd, including a couple of women, dispersed out into the autumn sunshine to look in, over and under, the display cars.

Andy announced that the donation given by the Church to the club will be forwarded to the Peter McCallum Cancer Centre.

Brown Hill Uniting Church

...continued from p.21

Church Hall followed by discussions about issues affecting our community. This being a fifth Sunday, there is no worship in the Church.

Op. Shop

Op. Shop is open on Thursdays and Fridays 9.30 am - 12.30 pm, providing our community with very good quality clothing and bric-a-brac at affordable prices.

Wednesday Communion

Wednesday Communion at 1.30 pm in the Church Hall for those who like a midweek opportunity for casual worship and sharing the sacraments if you choose.

Craft, Cuppa & Chat

Meeting on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 1.30 pm in the Church Hall, unless otherwise notified. Come along if you're interested in doing any sort of craft, or just come for a chat if you're not!

Annual Church Fair

The Church wishes to extend to the local community sincere thanks for support at our Fair on Saturday 23 March. We are

grateful to those who purchased Car Boot sites, supported our many stalls and Op-shop and helped to create an atmosphere of heartwarming community spirit. We were able to raise in excess of \$2,200 which will be used to support programs and projects for the community.

Louise Wright

Brown Hill Uniting Church

Brown Hill Community Hall

Mid-week and weekend bookings are continuing to be made. This includes our regular weekly activities as well as those who have a yearly event. The regular yearly bookings are made a year in advance. Events such as Festivals, Balls, Birthdays, Fairs and Shows have been booked to November.

To make a booking visit:
hall.brownhill.vic.au/bookings/

Dianne Eden,

Treasurer/Bookings,

Brown Hill Community Hall

5331 1769

hall.brownhill.vic.au

Brown Hill Senior Citizen's Club

The Club is continuing with their indoor bowls, euchre, hoi, scrabble and sequence. These activities are popular with members. Hoi is played the first Monday of the month when we also have a special afternoon tea. An extra special afternoon tea is held to celebrate a member turning 90 years of age. A 90th celebration has been recently held for our member Shirley Martin. Shirley is an active Committee Member as well as an enthusiastic euchre player.

This year club members will have regular luncheons at various venues with maxi taxis taking us from the Hall to the venue and return. Some new members have been welcomed to the club. New members are always welcome. We are a friendly and supportive club.

The club meets at the Brown Hill Hall on Monday afternoons with activities from 1.30 pm to 3.45 pm.

Dianne Eden,

President,

Brown Hill Seniors Club

5331 1769 or 0428 379 979



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Brown Hill Auskick

The best time to be had for footy-loving kids on Friday nights is Brown Hill Auskick!

From 5.00 pm - 6.00 pm on Friday nights in Term Two, 5-12 year-olds and their families don their footy colours and gather for skill-based drills in a supportive environment where the focus is on having a go and enjoying a sport with friends.

As the sun sets the BBQ is fired up, with \$2.00 sausages a warming highlight after the kids finish their session.

Brown Hill Auskick is a community-run program and we couldn't operate without the generous support of volunteers, parents getting involved in the drills and local business sponsorship.

We welcome new participants at any time during the term. No special equipment is needed - runners are fine. Our sign up information is here: playhq.com/afl/register/6d11a0

Please follow us on social media: [facebook.com/BrownHillAuskick](https://www.facebook.com/BrownHillAuskick) and get in touch via Messenger if you'd like to join us for a free trial session - all abilities welcome!

Catherine

Brown Hill Auskick Coordinator
brownhillauskick@yahoo.com



Kids have a great time at Brown Hill Auskick!



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Wallaby Track parkrun

Wallaby Track parkrun has been abuzz recently with many people training for the inaugural Ballarat Marathon and incorporating parkrun into their weekly training regime. The Ballarat Marathon has certainly created a lot of excitement and has inspired many people in their running journey. This has meant many new people joining parkrun.

We have celebrated many milestones over the last few months. One of our regular participants recently volunteered for the 100th time and then a few weeks later celebrated 250 runs. Many people have celebrated 25, 50 and 100 runs and it is always great to see these milestones reached and celebrated by the whole parkrun community.

A big thanks to the City of Ballarat for their work to complete the repairs on the track up to the tunnel under the freeway. The path down the hill is fantastic and has made that section much cleaner and safer for all users.



Some of the amazing Wallaby Track parkrun volunteers.

We are grateful for the work the City does to maintain such a wonderful track. We can easily take this track for granted, but when you hear someone say they have done over 200 different parkrun events and Wallaby Track is one of the best they have ever done, it reminds you how lucky we are to have such a great asset in our community.

As we move into Autumn and the weather cools a little, we normally see numbers drop slightly but we are

hopeful that with the uptake in running due to the Ballarat Marathon, we will see steady numbers continue well into the next few months.

If you'd like to see what parkrun is about, come along any Saturday morning at 8.00 am to the track near the Brown Hill Reserve playground.

Aaron and Laurinda Coulter
Wallaby Track parkrun
wallabytrack@parkrun.com
parkrun.com.au/wallabytrack

CITY OF
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Brown Hill Recreation Reserve – Splash Park

We are seeking community feedback

Come along to a community drop-in session to provide feedback on draft concepts for the Brown Hill Recreation Reserve Splash Park.

When

Thursday 16 May, 5–6.30pm

Where

Brown Hill Community Hall

📍 Customer Service: 25 Armstrong Street South, Ballarat

☎ (03) 5320 5500

🌐 ballarat.vic.gov.au

