

Brown Hill Community Newsletter

Edition 40, Winter 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.*



Gareth Jones - helping to improve local vegetation through the Urban Ripples project. Photographer: Sally McAlpin

Urban Ripple for Brown Hill

Gareth Jones, gorse eradicator and tree planter, has been a resident of Nerrina for the past 15 years. Gareth has recently taken on the role of co-ordinator for Brown Hill in the Urban Ripples Project, a new two-year initiative through the Ballarat City Council.

I caught up with Gareth to find out more.

When did your interest in landcare begin?

During the first COVID lockdown I began clearing a small patch of land which borders the Nerrina wetlands behind our house. This grew to a rather large area along with my satisfaction and sense of purpose in the activity. I was shocked how the area changed quickly with relatively little effort, so much so that the bird

life increased and kangaroos moved into the neighbourhood (photo, p.6).

Is part of the attraction that you work alone?

Yes and no. It's lovely to be on my own in the peace and quiet (Gareth is a primary school teacher at the Ballarat Specialist School by trade) but there is something special about working alongside neighbours to care for our local environment. The combined effort of a few people working together is amazing to see.

How did you get the co-ordination role for the Urban Ripples Project?

I recently completed a Nature Stewards course run by the Ballarat City Council during which I put my hand up to work on the project.

Can you tell us what the Urban Ripples Project is about?

Twenty-five years ago there was a huge regeneration project which transformed the Yarrowee River. As you walk along you can see thousands of trees planted from this time. The Urban Ripples Project is aimed at increasing the diversity of vegetation along the river to enrich the habitat for wildlife but also to provide the opportunity for community involvement and investment in the local environment.

This sounds like a bigger project than Brown Hill. Who else is involved?

Absolutely, the project co-ordinator is Jules White. She has a massive job as there are 13 sites altogether along the Yarrowee.

...continued p.6



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 41 (Summer) articles are due by **Wednesday 9 October 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 online:

brownhill.vic.au/new-to-brown-hill/need-some-support

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Brown Hill Progress Association meet at the Brown Hill Cricket Club on the second Wednesday every second month at 7.00 pm. The remaining meetings for 2024 will be on Wednesdays 14 August, 9 October and 11 December. All welcome.

bhpa@brownhill.vic.au

brownhill.vic.au

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Welcome to Edition 40

Have you been watching the Olympics? Of course the timing is a little tricky but we have been managing to squeeze in a juggle between the live broadcast and replays. Not quite enough sleep going on at the moment...

With all the replay options, it can feel a bit overwhelming – swimming, kayaking, hockey, gymnastics, skateboarding, athletics, basketball, to name a few – there are so many amazing performances from which to choose.

I keep getting emotional when the athletes and their families speak about the years of training and effort; so many people have committed to get each person to Paris 2024. I think of the BMX rider who raced alongside her brother until he had a significant accident. She won gold in the women's BMX event with him cheering her on. The moment when Molly won gold in the pool and pulled silver medalist, Arnie, up on the dais to sing the National Anthem together. Harry Garside who went out earlier than expected in the boxing and spoke about how important it is to learn how to navigate when what you expect to happen, doesn't.

Australia piling up the medals is amazing (and very exciting to watch) and I find the stories of people giving it their best effort really inspiring.

On these dark, freezing (literally) days of mid-Winter, it can be extremely tempting to stay inside (watching the Olympics). One of the awesome things about Brown Hill is the wide variety of activities on offer for everyone. Russell Square hosts a bunch of sporting groups including the Brown Hill Netball Club (p.23), Ballarat North United Soccer Club (p.24) and many more.

The Brown Hill Hall (p.22) is also a hive of activity, with a host of activities including dancing, seniors' exercise groups and martial arts.

We are lucky to have several great tracks to walk/run/ride/scoot around Russell Square, along Scott Parade or along the Yarrowee River Trail, to name a few. You can get active around Brown Hill solo, with friends or join a group such as parkrun or one of the many based at Russell Square or Brown Hill Hall.



Kerbside soft plastics recycling collection
Pilot program in Ballarat from July 2024

You can now recycle your soft plastics by collecting them separately in City of Ballarat-supplied orange bags and placing them in your recycling bin. The soft plastics you recycle will be used to develop a circular solution that will turn them back into quality products or packaging.

To register or for more information
call 5320 5500, scan the QR code or visit ballarat.vic.gov.au/property/waste/recycling-ballarat



This City of Ballarat is running this 12-month pilot collection service in partnership with the Australian Food & Grocery Council (AFGC) with the support of many Australian brands and companies.

If you're like me and watching the Olympics is as close as you will get to a gold medal, remember to keep moving by taking up one (or more) of the amazing opportunities available in Brown Hill to be active.

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



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Michaela Settle MP
Member for Eureka

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



Brown Hill Progress Association



From the Secretary's Desk

Since the last newsletter the Brown Hill Progress Association (BHPA) has been humming along through the winter months doing what we can to assist community groups. We try to stick to our association's Aims and Objectives on the front page of our Constitution. They may sound basic but that is what guides us in activities. They are:

1. To promote the economic, social and cultural development and progress of the community of Ballarat as a whole and of Brown Hill in particular.
2. To raise funds to further these aims.

So what have we been up to?

Brown Hill Recreation Reserve

We continue to liaise with the Project Management Team from the City of Ballarat on the Brown Hill Recreation Reserve upgrade and in particular the Splash Park. The community information session held on 16 May was very well attended and informative and we thank the Council team and



Brown Hill Recreation Reserve Splash Park Concept Design.

Source: City of Ballarat

members of the community who came along that night. Since then, tenders for the construction work have been advertised and a construction company should be in place by mid-August. Fingers crossed that the major works will be happening soon.

Caledonian Primary School

The cooperative relationship between Caledonian Primary School and BHPA also continues. The Community Public Address (PA) System that was used extensively at the Pool is now permanently housed at the school for their use.

We will never forget the fun at Water-Zumba but the PA System was gathering dust and is much

more useful at the school. We have also assisted financially with the purchase of library books and helping out at the Breakfast Club.

Brown Hill Playgroup

Members of BHPA volunteer to support Jane and Aimee with the Brown Hill Playgroup which is hosted at Caledonian Primary School on Monday mornings (see p.7). We also cover the cost of the annual Toy Library Membership and Playgroup Victoria Membership to keep the Playgroup free of charge for participants.

The Playgroup is looking for a few volunteers to help it keep running beyond the end of 2024 when Jane

...continued p.5

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Authorised by Catherine King, Australian Labor Party, 5/8 Sydney Avenue, Ballarat ACT.



...continued from p.4

and Aimee will move on. If you are interested in finding out more about volunteering with the Playgroup email: playgroup@brownhill.vic.au or call Brendan (details below).

Several committee members have been very active assisting the Brown Hill Cricket Club every Friday evening with the BBQ/Sausage Sizzle at Auskick. Between 100 and 130 snags, bread and onions were handed out to hungry participants and their families who were watching, for a very reasonable \$2 each. The atmosphere at Auskick was electric with all the kids having a great time and learning skills under the guidance of the volunteer coaches. Big thanks go to John, Bernie, Brendan and especially Phil from the Cricket Club who all worked tirelessly to make sure it went off without a hitch.

Another big thanks must go to the people who responded to help deliver the newsletters after the last edition went out. Many hands and feet make light work.

The BHPA would also like to congratulate Mick, Dayle and families on the fantastic effort to refurbish and reopen the Brown Hill General Store (p.18). Countless hours went into the building and fit out to get the shop compliant and open



Brendan Stevens, Secretary and John O'Brien, President of the Brown Hill Progress Association cooking a sausage sizzle for AusKick at the Brown Hill Cricket Club. Image supplied.

again, so please support them to keep the shop viable and a permanent fixture in our little hub.

Remember our ageing but young-at-heart committee could always do with assistance. If you would like to get involved the secretary, Brendan, can be contacted at bhpa@brownhill.vic.au or on **0409 018 867**.

We meet every two months at the Brown Hill Cricket Clubrooms, Reid Court, Brown Hill. Meetings for the

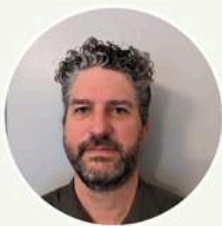
rest of 2024 will be from 7.00 pm on Wednesdays:

- 14 August
- 9 October
- 11 December

All welcome.

Keep well, Brendan.

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



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Urban Ripple for Ditchfield Reserve

...continued from p.1



One of the aims of the Urban Ripples project is to improve habitat for native wildlife. Image supplied.

So, you're looking for volunteers? What would they be signing up for?

We need people to assist with planting out tube stock of grasses and bushes along the river in four areas from the freeway to the Nerrina wetlands. No prior experience is necessary and families would be very welcome.

...and what do the volunteers get out of this?

Through Landcare I have gained a whole new appreciation of the area because I have invested time and effort and noticed the positive changes in my local environment. Once you have planted a tree in the ground, it's as if you have invested in the future of the land and you want to see it flourish and be there for future generations to enjoy.

That sounds exciting, how do people sign up?

Contact Gareth Jones either email garethforge@gmail.com or phone **0478 222 734**.

Thanks for your work Gareth, and the investment into our local environment. Good luck with the project.

Sally McAlpin, Nerrina

As many cyclists, walkers and runners will tell you, Ditchfield Reserve is a magic place - a highlight along the popular Yarrowee River Wallaby Trail. On spring and summer days you'll be greeted by robins, honeyeaters, fairy-wrens, finches, scrubwrens and a host of other small birds. On any day you might come across a wallaby, kangaroo or large bird of prey. Bats and possums occupy the evening canopy.

So, it's with great excitement that Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group announces that we have been funded, as part of a large local partnership headed jointly by Bunanyung Landscape Alliance and Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group, to undertake environmental improvements in the area. We'll be working over the next two to three years to remove large woody weeds and clean up and revegetate a major gully leading into the Yarrowee River near Hearn Road.

Be part of the project or just keep in touch by emailing wfpplc@gmail.com. Ask to be added to our Newsletter distribution list or better still, become a member by requesting



A year-round resident at Ditchfield Reserve, a male Superb Fairy-wren begins the transition to his bright blue breeding plumage.

Image: D Wilson, July 2024

information and a membership form. We love welcoming new members and you and your family will love being part of an active Landcare group with a valuable project right on your doorstep.

*Stephanie Davison
Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group
0437 071 317
s.davison2013@gmail.com*



Ditchfield Reserve, Brown Hill. Orange lines show the area where weed control and revegetation will occur over the next two - three years.

Source: Google Maps.

Ballarat Flood Modelling



Extract from interactive flood map for Brown Hill. Source: City of Ballarat.

New flood modelling for Ballarat has been released - find out if your property is affected.

The City of Ballarat and the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority have updated flood modelling for 11 waterways across urban Ballarat. The updated flood modelling factors in new developments such as drainage works and includes predicted increases in storm events and rainfall for a one in 100-year (one per cent AEP [Annual Exceedance Probability]) flood event.

Do you know what a one in 100-year flood event is?

First, let's clear up a common misunderstanding about what a one in 100-year event means. It does not mean the event will occur exactly once every 100 years or that it will not happen again for another 100 years.

For meteorologists, the one in 100-year event is an event of a size that will be equalled or exceeded, on average, once every 100 years. This means that over a period of 1,000 years you would expect the one in 100-year event would be equalled or exceeded ten times. But several of those ten times might happen within a few years of each other and then none for a long time afterwards.

Identifying flood-prone areas is important to ensure flood risk is considered when guiding land use and development planning decisions, flood mitigation works and to assist in emergency management. It also assists residents and authorities to plan for the impact of possible large flood events in the future, especially as scientists forecast an increase in sudden heavy rainfall events. The City of Ballarat is working with the Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) to raise awareness about people's flood risk and to provide guidance on how to prepare for a flood.

The updated flood modelling includes some additional properties in the flood-prone areas due to drainage works and improved modelling techniques. There are also several properties no longer identified as flood affected. Use the interactive map to see if your property is affected: mysay.ballarat.vic.gov.au/ballarat-11-waterways-flood-modelling

Have a read of this Conversation article as well: theconversation.com/what-is-a-1-in-100-year-weather-event-and-why-do-they-keep-happening-so-often-157589

Hazen Cleary, Brown Hill

Playgroup



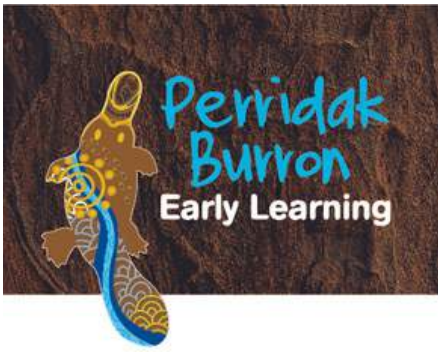
Brown Hill Playgroup at Caledonian Primary School is back to meeting weekly for Term Three. Since the last newsletter, Brown Hill Playgroup has changed days, now meeting weekly on Mondays from 9.00 am - 11.00 am during school terms. We would like to thank all our families for supporting this change and we are so pleased to see some new and returning families come along to playgroup. All the children are growing fast and four-year-old kinder children will quickly become school children.

We would like to welcome any families with Prep children attending Caledonian Primary School in 2025 to drop in and meet some other school families. All families with babies and young children from Brown Hill and surrounds are also welcome to come along to our large indoor play space and enjoy playing, making new friends and for parents/carers to join in with a chat and hot drink.

All major costs for 2024 have been covered by the Brown Hill Progress Association, so our Playgroup is free and there is no commitment to attend each week. We welcome you to come along to Caledonian Primary School multi-purpose room - please enter via Thompson Street - for the remainder of the school year.

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

Perridak Burron



Funded three-year-old and four-year-old Kindergarten in 2025

Perridak Burron Early Learning offers a three-year-old and four-year-old Kindergarten program. The kindergarten program runs by term and children are able to attend during school holidays.

The curriculum is guided by the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework and references the eight Aboriginal Ways of Learning to influence program and practice.

Register your child for Kindergarten through the City of Ballarat website kinder.ballarat.vic.gov.au.

If you wish for more information, please contact Perridak Burron Early Learning on **5334 4727** or via email admin@perridakburronel.com.au

Glen Park Primary School

From the Principal's Desk

Last week we had a visit from local (Springs Road) author Yvonne Horsfield who read her latest book to us.

'Liu Jo Wei: A Chinese Boy on the Goldfields' is the story of one of Yvonne's ancestor's journey to Australia in the gold rush era and his struggle to assimilate to a

completely different culture and language.

Yvonne has also written a book for adult readers on the same subject as well as her 'Miss Molly' series. She left her latest book, 'Miss Molly's Surprise', for us as a gift.

Yvonne's books can be bought directly from her or ordered from Collins Books in Bridge Mall or via Amazon.

*Tony Shaw
Principal,
5334 5360*



Local author Yvonne Horsfield. Image supplied.

Warrenheip Primary School

Our school is a "Great little school for Great little people." Our students have been engaged with their learning and making really pleasing progress. They enjoy a wide range of subjects including explicit teaching of Literacy and Numeracy, Science and Technology, Arts and Languages to name a few.

At Warrenheip Primary School our students are explicitly taught the behaviours we expect to see at school, through the School Wide Positive Behaviours program (SWPBS). Every time our students demonstrate a school value that reflects their SWPBS learning they receive a token. When they have collected 50 tokens, they are able to choose a massive box of Lego to keep! As a result, students are extremely motivated to achieve their personal best.

Warrenheip Primary School also offers before and after school care through our OSH Club which runs five days a week. Why not pop in for a tour and have a look for yourself, you won't be disappointed.

*Jo Reyntjes, Principal
Warrenheip Primary School
5334 7294*

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Caledonian Primary School

School Leaders' Report

101 Days Of School

On Friday 26 July the two Prep classes at Caledonian Primary School celebrated 101 days of being at school. What an amazing day it was!

The day consisted of 101 dalmatian-themed games and activities. The Prep students also showcased a well-practised performance at our fortnightly assembly, singing and dancing to their set parts.

Wheels-a-thon

On Friday 24 May many people rode their bikes to school for the Wheels-a-thon. There was a sea of bikes across the courtyard of many colours and sizes.

First, the Junior students wheeled their bikes over to the oval. They rode laps of the oval while madly ringing their bells. After they did their laps they all got a sausage, kindly cooked by the Ballarat Lions Club.



As soon as the Senior students got on their bikes, there was a fair bit of competition.

When the bikes were put away and people picked them up after school, they were surprised to find their bikes all fixed up, with tyres pumped up and the chain oiled, all thanks to a kind parent and local bike mechanic, Fi. Thanks Fi and everyone else who made the day as wonderful as it was!

Thanks also to VicRoads for a Community Road Safety Grant which funded the Wheels-a-thon.

Olympics Terrific Teams Day

Caledonian Primary School had a Terrific Teams day, also called Caledonian's Olympics Day.

On Thursday 1 August students celebrated the Australian athletes by dressing up in green and gold.

During the day students split into multi-age teams and rotated through fun Olympics-inspired activities. Students made and designed their own medals and mascots and participated in minute-to-win-it games. There were also activities based outside, with a baton race and other games.

A big thank you to the teachers and staff for organising and setting up the day. We couldn't have done it without them! A special acknowledgement to the Sport Captains also needs to be made. They worked hard to prepare and run the minute-to-win-it games. Thank you and well done!

*Ivy, School Vice Captain and Harry, School Captain
Caledonian Primary School*

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*caledonian.ps@education.vic.gov.au
caledonianps.vic.edu.au*



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Woodmans Hill Secondary College

We, the Woodmans Hill Pride Leaders, Ash and Ruth, were invited to speak at the Academy of Teaching and Leadership, Ballarat, about a Youth Art Collage for which we submitted photos. The Collage was centred around the importance of identity to young queer-identifying people. The Collage was made with local schools, including Mount Rowan and Phoenix College with the support of the Academy and The Y's youth sector staff.

The Queer Youth Photo Collage is a colourful representation of all of the different kinds of people you will meet in your local community, and it now hangs proudly on a central wall of the Academy. This art piece is important to us and many other young LGBTIQA+ students around Ballarat because in a few photos and drawings it illustrates diverse experiences and offers a recognised safe space to all.

As students, our goal in the community is to educate others about diversity and improve the inclusivity that queer people experience. This is perfectly captured by this project and many others we do within Woodmans Hill. A goal for the future is to eventually pass on to someone else many of the things we do such as this article - designed to inspire others to step up in their community and get involved.



As part of this, during my speech I (Ash) told my own story of coming out to my family, a tearful tale of a scared child hoping to inspire others to open their doors to further education and acceptance, to prevent fearful experiences such as mine. Any movement made to support others is one that should be made with immediate effect. Love and acceptance are easy ideals to spread with a little bit of effort and I believe more people in our own community should reconsider just how much power they have in providing safe spaces for others.

So please encourage community events even if you are not queer yourself, as these young people we aim to inspire can then become role models and examples of "it does get better" to others, those who may not

be able to express themselves in such a manner. A display such as this represents all of the happy, loud and proud moments possible with a bit of active support. Acts of support are crucial in bringing in that sense of mutuality and belonging the LGBTIQA+ community deserves to have, wherever they can find it.

Speaking on a stage about art we were involved in was nerve-wracking but we will always take a bit of anxiety if it means we get to speak out for others in our community who cannot. Thanks to the Academy of Teaching and Leadership for providing space for this collage and the community newsletter for providing space for our stories.

*Ash and Ruth, Pride Leaders,
Woodmans Hill Secondary College*



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New Members Welcome

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Ballarat Fire Brigade

The Ballarat Fire Brigade has had a busy June/July period with 76 calls including structural fires, car accidents, car fires, other rescues, grass and scrub fires, alarms operating and the mass power surge in Ballarat North that saw some 300 houses affected.

The new financial year also welcomed a new Brigade Management Team including a new Captain and, for the first time, a 5th Lieutenant. The 5th Lieutenant position has taken on the much-needed position of welfare officer, along with mentoring recruits and assisting with operational running of the brigade.

The brigade has not only been occupied operationally. We have also been working in many community support aspects. One major event coming up is the 11th annual Melbourne Firefighter Stair Climb to be held on 7 September. This year we have 13 of our members participating in this event, raising much needed funds for the 000 Foundation, Lifeline and the Peter McCallum Cancer Foundation.

Our members will take on the 28 floor Crown Metropol wearing 25 kg worth of full structural turn-out gear. That's a massive combined team effort of 364 floors and 325 kg being worn.



CFA BALLARAT

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Our members have been tirelessly training and preparing for the climb this year and working towards our fund-raising goal. If you would like to contribute, please donate online: firefighterclimb.org.au/station/cfa/ballarat. Every little bit counts and we are greatly appreciative of all the support we receive.

Don't forget to also follow our Facebook page to keep up to date.

Georgia Cook,
Community Safety Coordinator,
Ballarat Fire Brigade
Corner of Barkly and East Streets ,
Ballarat East
facebook.com/BallaratCFA/
cfa.vic.gov.au

Ballarat Wholefoods Collective

Creative Kraut Workshop

Join Geraldine and Sam from the Wholefoods fermenting group for our next workshop where we will make the classic ferment, sauerkraut. Learn how to make this delicious, nutritional, simple ferment and explore some interesting flavour combinations. We will also discuss ways to ensure that your ferment is successful and provide suggestions for how you can use sauerkraut to spice up your cooking.

You will take home a jar of sauerkraut. Jars and Recipes will also be provided.

At Barkly Square, Ballarat East, on 31 August, from 1.00 pm to 2.30 pm.
Ballarat Wholefoods Members: \$50
Non Members: \$55

These workshops fill very fast. To secure your space please text Wendy on 0419 898 286.

Op. Shop Sale

The next Op. Shop Sale will be at Barkly Square, Ballarat East on Saturday 31 August from 10.00 am - 1.00 pm.

Ballarat Wholefoods Collective
ballaratwholefoodscollective@gmail.com
facebook.com/ballaratwholefoodscollective
ballaratwholefoodscollective.org
Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly Street,
Ballarat East



Shop 6, 73 Victoria Street
Ballarat 3350
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Offer valid until 31 August 2024
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Rickey's Rock, Brown Hill

If you have ever walked, run or cycled the picturesque Gong Gong end of the Yarrowee River Trail you will, no doubt, have noticed a rock monument marking the location of Rickey Bros Quarry.

On the rock is a marble plaque which reads:

This was the site of Rickey Bros Quarry from 1970 to 1983, which supplied basalt aggregate for concrete and road surfacing use at Ballarat and surrounding district.

The sloping green land with grazing sheep that we see there today, along with the flora reserve and constructed wetlands, is all that is left of the quarry.

Also on the rock are three brass plaques which read:

Cuthbert L. Rickey - 13th Feb. 1974
Age 64;

A. Hewitt Rickey 12th Jan. 1983 age
68, and a more recent plaque,

In Loving Memory of Sylvia G. H.
Rickey, 4. 8. 1925 – 5.7.2022 age 96.

So, who were the Rickeys, what happened to them, and why do we have a memorial there?



Frank circa 1970s. Image supplied.



Rickey Bros Quarry. Image supplied.

Cuthbert Lytle Rickey (better known as Frank) was the older brother of Angus Hewitt Rickey (better known as Hughie). Hughie was Sylvia's husband. They married in 1946, not long after she turned 21.

In 1966, Hughie purchased the 22 acres of land that would eventually become the quarry. He first became aware of the land as a teenager. Even then he was determined to one day purchase it and at some stage recognised its potential as a basalt quarry. The quarry itself started life as an apple orchard operated by Sylvia, but the quarry soon took over from the apple trees.



Hughie circa 1980. Image supplied.

Hughie was an entrepreneur in every sense of the word and employed a large number of people. Indeed, he had three businesses operating simultaneously – the quarry, a water-boring business and a long established earth-moving business. He was actually engaged to dredge Lake Wendouree for the 1956 Olympic rowing, canoeing and kayaking competitions and also to blast the Daylesford Road cutting 300 metres east of Kirks Reservoir.

Sadly, Frank died in 1974 when a fish-bone got caught in his throat. Despite driving himself to hospital, he had a heart attack and could not be saved. Nine years later, tragedy again struck when Hughie was electrocuted in a farming accident. The report in the Courier at the time stated:

An attempt to beat the drought ended in tragedy yesterday when a Ballarat man was electrocuted while drilling for water near Creswick. Angus "Hewey" [sic] Rickey, 68, of Napier St, died instantly when the derrick he was erecting came into contact with overhead powerlines.

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Police said the accident occurred at 1:30 pm on a Scrub Hill property on the Daylesford road. Mr Rickey and a team of workers had been contracted by the owner of the property to drill for water in a last ditch attempt to survive the dry conditions.

Following Hughie's death, Sylvia wound up the businesses. She was able to have a road in Wendouree named after her husband - Rickey Court.

Fast forward to 2005. Two years after the official opening of the Yarrowee River Trail, Sylvia had the marble plaque mounted on the rock in memory of her late husband and the quarry. The brass plaques for Frank and Hughie come from the Ballarat Crematorium. Sylvia also scattered their ashes around the base of the rock in that year. (Scattering someone's ashes honours their memory and celebrates their life.)

On Boxing Day 2023, Sylvia's plaque was added - placed next to her husband's and her ashes were also scattered around the base of the rock.

If you are wondering why there is a picture of a cow on Sylvia's plaque, that is because she grew up on a farm near Hamilton where, even as a young girl, she had to hand milk at least 40 cows every morning before walking 6 kilometres to school. When she got home she had to milk them again. In her memoir, Sylvia recalls that it was a hard life growing up on the farm, but clearly it made her resilient.

A special thanks to Sylvia and Hughie's daughter, Della, for providing the photos of her parents, uncle and the quarry and for the background information.

Paul Miller, Brown Hill


Note: Additional information about Rickey Bros Quarry can be found online on the website of the Geological Survey of Victoria. There is a map of the quarry that can also be found in the reports that are listed from the 1970s and 1982.



Rickey's Rock 2024. Image supplied.



Sylvia at age 96. Image supplied.



7 Sawmill Close
Brown Hill
0434 522 477

The Hidden Orchard

The Hidden Orchard and Ballarat Permaculture Guild (BPG) have been awarded a \$107,593 City of Ballarat Partnerships grant to build a community orchard in Ballarat East.



The Hidden Orchard

The project includes a netted anti-aviary which will be home to a variety of fruit trees and edible plants and a shed that will be home to a cool store for fruit, equipment and BPG's extensive library.

The orchard will be on Dyte Parade, along from the Ballarat Community Garden.

As well as growing food for the community, the project will also provide a meeting place and venue for workshops on growing your own

food, caring for fruit trees, pruning, grafting and composting.

Volunteers recently planted the first ten fruit trees generously donated by the City of Ballarat and Brown Hill social enterprise Fifteen Trees.

The Hidden Orchard and Ballarat Permaculture Guild are starting a new subcommittee of volunteers to start a working group to deliver the rest of this exciting project.



The Hidden Orchard volunteers with a pear harvest. Image supplied.

The Hidden Orchard have had a record-breaking season this year, harvesting over 4 tonne of fruit to redistribute to the community - and the year's not over yet!

Citrus is ripening now and The Hidden Orchard are looking to recruit more volunteer harvest leaders to help organise and run the harvests.

For more info and to register, head to their website: hiddenorchard.org.

If you are interested in getting involved, please email: theorchardproject@ballaratpermacultureguild.org.



Michael McKenna (committee member of Ballarat Permaculture Guild), Ellen Burns (President of The Hidden Orchard), Karen Elford (Secretary of The Hidden Orchard) and Amanda Collins (Harvest Leader for The Hidden Orchard). Image supplied.



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Brown Hill Lions Club



Many members are involved in the running of the Club - from setting up the rooms, to bookkeeping, coordinating activities and events and fundraising. Well done to all volunteers, in particular the Committee members.

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 Senior Citizen's Club
5331 1769 or 0428 379 979*

The Brown Hill and District Lions Club recently held their annual dinner and changeover at the Brown Hill Hotel. The installation of office bearers for 2024/2025 was conducted by Past District Governor (PDG) Ron Thomas. Current president Marg Crilly will serve a second year with PDG Barry Davis as vice president.

The Brown Hill Lions Club meet at the Lions Wing Pinarc, 222 Otway Street South in Ballarat East.

Their Secretary, Di, can be contacted via email: secbhlions@outlook.com

A Facebook page as 'Brown Hill and District Lions Club' has also been launched with the hope of bringing in new members and broadening the scope of the club.

Brown Hill Senior Citizen's Club

The Brown Hill Senior Citizen's Club has had a busy year, turning 53 along the way!

Information about upcoming events and what we are involved in, including contacts, can be found on the page.

Members continue to enjoy a range of activities, including indoor bowls, euchre, Scrabble, Hoi and Sequence.



Dianne Eden, President, with cupcakes for the 53rd birthday of the Brown Hill Senior Citizen's Club. Image supplied.



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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

Brown Hill Uniting Church



“One kind word can warm three winter months.” – Japanese Proverb

Grief Support Group

Ballarat Community Health is willing to provide a Grief Support Group for the community in the Brown Hill Church Hall. Grief counselling can help to develop strategies to deal with or manage grief, either for yourself or to help others you may know experiencing loss.

The group would meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month commencing in October and finishing in the second week of December. The meeting would run for an hour and a half starting at 1.30 pm followed by afternoon tea.

There is no cost to attend.

Please contact Jane Measday:

0459 819 982

jane.measday@gmail.com

May Men's Breakfast

On Saturday 25 May, Wallace Martin from ReCranked, a Y Ballarat-initiative specialising in giving

unwanted bikes new riders, spoke about the evolution of the initiative over the past 11 years. The group has nine volunteers, including young people, who work to rebuild bicycles.

The focus of the group is on sustainability with just about everything recycled, including tyres, that go to the City of Ballarat Recycle Centre where they are shredded and then used in the construction of road and sporting field surfaces for example.

The bicycles are donated from across the Ballarat Community for the group to restore and create fully functional bicycles. About 280-300 bicycles are then distributed annually to local low-income families, including local refugees. Each bicycle comes complete with a new helmet and bike lock. ReCranked has also teamed with Bicycles for Humanity which sends bicycles overseas to very poor communities.

Thanks to the attendees at the Breakfast, the Brown Hill Church was able to make a generous donation to ReCranked to help them to purchase new helmets and locks.

For further information, visit: **yballarat.org.au/recranked** and **[Bicycles for Humanity at b4hregvic.wordpress.com](http://b4hregvic.wordpress.com)**.

Rob Soar

August Men's Breakfast

- Saturday 17 August from 8.30 am
- \$5 for a full cooked breakfast
- Brown Hill Uniting Church Hall

Guest speaker: Andrew Wallace, Ballarat Historical Society, sharing photos and notes of local historical importance. Women are most welcome to come for a cuppa and to hear the speaker. Enquiries, contact Louise: **0407 893 468**.

Wednesday Communion

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 and Chat

First and third Thursdays each month at 1.30 pm in the church hall, unless otherwise notified. Come along if you're interested in any sort of craft or just come for a chat!

Op. Shop

Thursdays and Fridays 9.30 am - 12.30 pm providing our community with very good quality clothing and bric-a-brac at very affordable prices.

Morning Tea

On Sunday 29 September at 10.00 am all are invited to meet in the hall followed by discussions about issues affecting our community.

As 29 September is a fifth Sunday, there is no worship in the church.

Louise Wright

Brown Hill Uniting Church

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City of Ballarat Council Elections

The 2024 City of Ballarat Council Elections will be held this October. The Ballarat Municipality will move from three wards to nine, each of these nine wards will have one elected Councillor. Brown Hill is in the new Brown Hill Ward. Visit: ballarat.vic.gov.au/about-us/council-elections-2024

Local, Ellen Burns, is standing for election. At the time of publication, Ellen was the only candidate of whom we were aware for the Brown Hill Ward. We will publish interviews with other candidates on the Brown Hill Community Online Hub: brownhill.vic.au. We asked Ellen to introduce herself to the Brown Hill community.

1. Tell us a bit about yourself:

I was born and raised in Ballarat on a quarter acre block with a veggie garden, chickens, fruit trees and a pet goat! I went to Warrenheip Primary School, followed by Ballarat Grammar and Monash University.

I then ran my own business for 10 years, We Bar None. My claim to fame was being the first business in Victoria to use certified home compostable packaging.

I am the coordinator of the Smart Living Ballarat workshop series, teaching people how to lower their cost of living and live sustainably. I also help run the Permaculture Design Course for Ballarat Permaculture Guild and work seasonally as Kitchens Manager for Meredith Music Festival.

I am the President and cofounder of The Hidden Orchard, a volunteer group who harvest unwanted fruit and redistribute it to the community. We recently secured a City of Ballarat grant to build a community orchard in Ballarat East, which I am so excited about! I am



also a member of the Food Access Network and the Ballarat Local Food Coalition.

I live with my husband Michael in a house that we are building ourselves, with our blue heeler Tycho. We now have three pet goats!

2. Tell us about your connection to Brown Hill:

I grew up in Warrenheip and moved to Brown Hill when I was 12. I spent my high school years living in Brown Hill before moving to Melbourne for uni, and moved back to Brown Hill in 2015. I recently moved just past 'new Brown Hill' to Glen Park. My mum lives in Brown Hill as well, so it's the place where I feel most at home.

3. What do you love about Brown Hill?

Brown Hill is such a special place. Yaramlock and the Yarrowee walking trail act as a backbone and there is something so special about having the backdrop of leafy ridgelines wherever you go. Brown Hill has the quiet, friendly nature of a country town, while also being close to the centre of Ballarat and with easy access to the highway. It really has the best of both worlds.

4. What do you see as the values of Brown Hill?

Brown Hill is a really family friendly area and there is a really strong community feeling. People want to support local businesses.

Neighbours say hi to each other. Everyone does the 'country wave' when they drive past. The proximity to the bush is a big reason that people love to live in Brown Hill and it's not something that you get everywhere.

5. What do you think could be improved in Brown Hill?

Brown Hill hasn't had a representative for a really long time. Brown Hill is the fastest growing suburb in Ballarat, but its infrastructure and services are well behind. Our current council doesn't understand this area or its needs. We need more footpaths, safer roads and better active transport connections. We need to protect our green spaces, canopy coverage and biodiversity. We need to make sure that development is carefully planned and future-proof. I think that having a local representative who really understands and cares about the area would make a huge difference. Brown Hill needs a voice on council.

6. Why are you standing for council?

I am standing for council so that I can make a difference and be a representative for our area of Ballarat. I started being invited to community engagement sessions around 2017, as my position as a business owner and founder of a volunteer group gave me a unique perspective on policy. I found these processes to be both empowering and frustrating, as I saw how much impact these policies and projects could have but also how slow and ineffective they could be. I started wondering how much difference I could make if I was on the other side of things, and inside the decision-making chamber.

...continued p.18

Brown Hill General Store

...continued from p.17

7. *Were you to be successful, what would you hope to achieve as a Councillor?*

The council could do a lot more to ease cost of living pressures, like planting fruit trees and edible plants in reserves, encouraging verge and community gardens, funding home-efficiency programs and offering rebates and interest-free loans on things like solar panels, induction stoves and heat pump hot water systems which will save people money on their bills.

I will strongly advocate for a waste processing facility and circular economy precinct which can recycle our glass, e-waste and green waste. I would like to see this precinct include a biogas digester and 'tip shop' which could use hard rubbish as an income stream to off-set our waste processing costs.

There are a lot of things that I hope to achieve if elected but all of them centre around serving our community and making life a little better and easier for people.

8. *What do you think could be some of the challenges of being a Councillor?*

I think that the challenges of being a councillor are quite similar to those of a small business owner; the work is never done, you are often expected to be everything to everyone, you are a public figure and people can approach you anywhere and at any time to ask a question or make a comment.

These are things that I have become quite used to over the past 10 years. People already often approach me to ask a question about a project or something they have seen me speak about. My biggest challenge is making time for proper rest and

avoiding burnout. I am working on it!

9. *What do you look forward to most if you become a Councillor?*

I absolutely love working with volunteers and community groups. Volunteers give so much to our community and I think one of the best parts of being a councillor will be meeting and working with passionate people in all areas.

10. *How will you juggle all the other things you want to do with your Councillor commitments?*

I made the very difficult decision to close my business of 10 years, We Bar None, to make space for the council campaign and becoming a councillor. Running a small business can be all-consuming and I knew that I wouldn't be able to do both to the level of quality and commitment that they require.

I am ready to step back from some of my other commitments if elected as well and have worked hard over the last few years to set up systems and train new people so that nothing falls apart without me. All of the things I do already centre around making our city a better place and making life easier and better for people, so if elected I will be continuing on with the work that I love, but from a different position.

11. *Anything else you would like to tell the people of Brown Hill?*

I would love to hear from you! If anyone would like to have a chat, ask a question or raise an issue, please email me at ellen.burns@vic.greens.org.au.

Interview by Sarah Greenwood-Smith, Volunteer Editor



After being closed for six months the Brown Hill General Store has reopened on Humffray Street with new owners and a fresh look.

Opening at 6.30 am on weekdays, Dayle and Mick are hoping to entice the tradies back, by offering quick breakfast options to get them back on the road, with a number of breakfast burgers instantly available.

"We also want to get the locals back into the habit of using the milkbar. We have newspapers and milk and a great range of locally home-made slices and biscuits which are very popular" said business owner Dayle Oldaker.

Pies and sausage rolls are also locally sourced, along with yummy cakes and slices.

The stand out for lunch is the chicken schnitzel burger, created using fresh chicken from Davis Meat Co. and a unique bread roll developed by Simon Britt and his team at Bakers Delight Eastwood Street. Also the hamburger, with beef patties handmade daily.

Look out also for the roast rolls, currently available on a Thursday and Friday. They are also open from 8.00 am - 2.00 pm on Saturday and Sunday. Pop in for your paper and milk and check out what they have done to rejuvenate the Brown Hill General Store.

For updates follow Brown Hill General Store on Facebook.

Ballarat East Neighbourhood House



Shortlist for Social Connection

The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House is excited to have been shortlisted in this year's Tidy Towns and Cities Sustainability Awards run by Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria.

We have been shortlisted in the Wellbeing category for 'Social Connection at the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House', with a focus on our free 'Let's Talk Rubbish - Recycle Your Thinking' Social Group which meets every fortnight during school term on Thursdays from 1.00 pm - 2.30 pm at Barkly Square.

The group formed as a result of the Waste-Free Lifestyle Course hosted by the House in 2023 and funded by Sustainability Victoria. Everyone is welcome to come along and share ideas, concerns, tips and tricks for reducing household waste.

Climate Café

5.30 - 7.00 pm

Monday 26 August and

Monday 14 October

At our Climate Café there is no guest speaker, no advice given, no call for action.

Instead, you'll find a supportive, facilitated conversational space for people to gather and share thoughts and feelings in response to the climate crisis. Here you can voice concerns that may not be welcomed or echoed elsewhere in your daily

life. You're invited to share with interested others how you're really feeling at this challenging time.

There may be laughter, there may be tears. There may be fear, there may be anger. Whatever you're feeling is okay and valued. And it's fine just to listen. Sharing, listening and being quiet together are all part of our Climate Café.

Gerry Fahey and Susan Nelson will be the volunteer facilitators, having both completed the Climate Café training provided by Psychology for a Safe Climate.

Contact us to register for this free activity to be held at Barkly Square, Ballarat East.

Community Auslan Practice Group

If you have learnt a little bit, or a lot, of Auslan (Australian Sign Language) and would like to practise with others, pop in to our casual Community Auslan Practice Group which runs from 2.00 pm - 3.00 pm on Thursdays during school term. The group meets in the Café at Barkly Square, Ballarat East.

Voice-Off Community Auslan Practice Group

For those who have more experience with Auslan, we are creating a new Voice-Off session, at the Sebastopol Library from 10.00 am - 11.30 am on the last Saturday of the month. The first sessions will be on 31 August and 28 September.

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 #9 - The joys and challenges of being on a board or committee

- Session 1: 10.00 am - 11.30 am, Wednesday 14 August 2024: Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre, 11 Tuppen Drive, Sebastopol.
- Session 2: 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm, Tuesday 27 August 2024: Online via Zoom.

Thinking of joining a committee or board, or already on one? Not sure what skills are needed and what opportunities are offered? Come along and find out what you need to know.

Workshop #10 - Not-for-Profits: How to PR like a boss

- Session 1: 10.00 am - 12.00 noon, Thursday 5 September 2024: Training Room 1, Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly Street, Ballarat East.
- Session 2: 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm, Thursday 12 September 2024: Online via Zoom.

Are you part of a not-for-profit group and unsure how to get the right media attention? Lou will teach you the tips and tricks of public relations.

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

Ballarat North Neighbourhood House

From the Manager's desk

Huge changes at the Ballarat North Neighbourhood House!

Hello Community Members,

I wanted to take the opportunity to inform you of the changes that have been taking place here at the Ballarat North Neighbourhood House and a number of changes still to come.

Business as usual!

Before we get into the details, I just want to ensure those of you who have been attending our watercolour, sewing, yoga, IT one-on-one and Procreate classes, it will be business as usual this term. And now for the changes...

The Changes

As some of you may be aware, the management team at the Salvation Army Karinya and myself, with support from Neighbourhood House Victoria, have been working toward the Neighbourhood House becoming an incorporated association that is community-led rather than a program of the Salvation Army.

The new association is called 'Ballarat North Neighbourhood House Inc.'.

The new Neighbourhood House Committee acknowledges the support and resources the Salvation Army has provided this program for over 35 years. This experience and relationship with the local community is something the new organisation will respect and continue to build on for many more years to come.

We have gone through this process because we believed it will create some fantastic opportunities for the House, the Karinya team and the local community.

We have just received State Government funding approval for this change and so we wanted to share with you the reasons why we have gone down this path.

Opportunities for the Salvation Army Karinya

Firstly, it will enable the Salvation Army programs at Crompton Street to consider expanding its services and activities that align with all the fabulous work they are already doing in the area of homelessness. What this looks like will come in time but freeing up office space and management resources would help support this.

Opportunities for the Neighbourhood House Community

This change will allow the Neighbourhood House to have a Committee of Management made up of local community members. This model tends to encourage a higher diversity and number of participants and gives us the opportunity to specialise in areas as directed by the community. It also enables community members the opportunity to develop these skills and connect into the House and their community in a different way.

The House would also be able to run activities from a range of venues, increasing accessibility and opportunities to use resources in a variety of venues. This includes, at this stage, the new facilities at the Ballarat Library and our new office and shared space in Camp Street. It is an exciting time of change for the House.

LGBTIQA+ Specialisation

Another important change to the Neighbourhood House is, alongside the activities we offer to the whole Ballarat North community and surrounds, we will also specialise in providing programs, events and activities for the Ballarat LGBTIQA+

community, their families, friends and allies. It is very common for neighbourhood houses to specialise and focus on specific communities where they perceive a gap or an opportunity. Ballarat has a thriving LGBTIQA+ community with over 11,000 identified community members. This community has expressed a wish for a dedicated, visible space to meet and participate in safe programs that are specifically designed to meet their needs. We believe a neighbourhood house can support this goal, especially here in Ballarat where we have four thriving neighbourhood houses from which Ballarat residents can choose.

What we need from you

Stay in Touch!

In the coming months there will be lots of opportunities for community involvement - in classes, volunteer roles and providing valuable feedback, advice and expertise as we transition into our new community-led organisation. If you would like to be added to our email and newsletter list, please contact us.

Currently, our online spaces are a little outdated as we transition over. If you would like a chat about current programs, please do not hesitate to contact us. We also encourage you to contact us if you have ideas you would like to share. If you are interested in volunteering with the House, especially if you have skills and abilities that would support us in our establishment phase, we would love to hear from you!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email:

Kristen Sheridan
Manager, Ballarat North
Neighbourhood House
kristen@bnnh.org.au

Wallaby Track parkrun



It's been an amazing couple of months at Wallaby Track parkrun, with lots of people braving the cooler conditions of winter and getting along to our event every Saturday morning at 8.00 am.

We have been averaging over 80 participants each week which is great for this time of year. It seems the fresh morning and occasional drop of rain are not a deterrent for those who enjoy being part of the parkrun community and coming to

catch up with family and friends each week.

Once again we've celebrated many milestones, with people reaching 100 and some even celebrating 250 runs. Something else we also celebrate is when someone comes along for their first parkrun. For those who are now regular parkrunners and have experienced the benefits of parkrun, there is an excitement that comes from seeing

someone starting their parkrun journey.

The track has been wonderful through the winter with the recent improvements leading up to the tunnel providing an excellent surface for every season. We are always grateful to have such a beautiful environment right here in Brown Hill that we can enjoy, not only at parkrun but anytime that we want to get outdoors for some fresh air.

If you're keen to experience parkrun, come along any Saturday morning at 7.50 am for the event briefing before the event begins at 8.00 am. There's no cost to be involved, you just need to set the alarm, get dressed and don't check the "feels like" temperature before you walk out the door. Hope to see you there on Saturday morning.

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



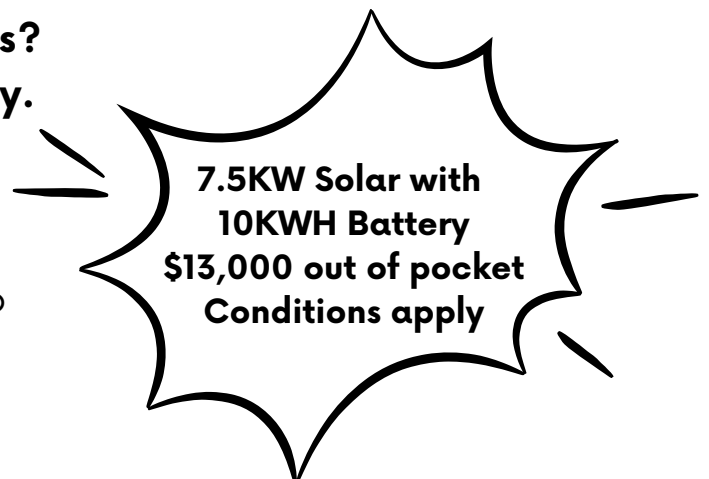
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Victoria Bowling Club



The Victoria Bowling Club Inc was founded in 1907 and currently enters seven teams in the weekend Pennant and four teams in the Tuesday Pennant of the Ballarat Highlands Bowls Region competition.

The Club is looking to build on the success that we have achieved both on and off the green in the past couple of seasons. Six of our seven Saturday pennant teams made the finals with our Division 1 and Division 8 teams winning the premiership last season. Our Division 3 Tuesday team finished as runner-up last season.

The Victoria Bowling Club Inc. has fully accredited coaches available to assist new and existing bowlers to develop or refine their skills. We are seeking to recruit experienced and new lawn bowlers for the upcoming 2024/25 Bowls Pennant season. Whether you have played lawn bowls in the past or would like the opportunity to play in the upcoming Ballarat Highlands Bowls Region pennant season we would welcome the opportunity to welcome you into our Club.

Anyone interested in playing lawn bowls with the Victoria Bowling Club Inc is asked to contact us.

Alan Dennis
Club Secretary
Victoria Bowling Club Inc
0437 369 423

Brown Hill Cricket Club

Pre-season senior training for the Brown Hill Cricket Club will commence on Thursday 8 August 2024, 5.30 pm at Major League Indoor Centre.

Senior Women's training and all junior training will commence in mid- to late-September. The starting dates are yet to be confirmed.

Please note - we are still looking to recruit Senior and Junior players for all of our teams. Old and new players are more than welcome to join the club.

The club would very much like to welcome Milan Kavindu Liyanaarachchi to the club for this coming season. He is a 21-year-old Sri Lankan top order batsman.

Please contact:

Phil Knowles, **0407 399 971**
phillip.knowles1960@gmail.com

or

Peta Guy, **0438 347 670**
pg@petaguy.info

Brown Hill Community Hall

The Brown Hill Hall was officially opened on 2 December 1966 by the then Mayor of Ballarat Cr. L. Kennedy. It remains a venue well utilised by the local community.

The hall is managed by a special committee on behalf of the City of Ballarat.

Regular users of the hall include Taekwondo, Senior Citizens, Ballarat Rockers, Eldorado Line Dancing, Senior Exercise Classes and more.

Mid-week and weekend bookings are continuing to be made. This includes our regular weekly activities as well as those who book annually. Events such as Festivals, Balls, Birthdays, Fairs and Shows have been booked to the end of 2024.

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

Dianne Eden,
Treasurer/Bookings,
Brown Hill Community Hall
5331 1769
hall.brownhill.vic.au



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Hugh umpires at the School Sport Australia Games



Hi, my name is Hugh and in late July I went to the inaugural School Sport Australia Games (SSAG) held on the Gold Coast over eight days. I was one of 10 umpires from Victoria, including six others from Ballarat Football Umpires Association (BFUA). We made up a team of 22 school-aged umpires from around Australia. It was our role to officiate the boys' and girls' 15-and-under AFL football matches.

Over 2,000 student-athletes from eight states/territories plus Cook Islands and Fiji competed. Six sports were contested: Australian Football, Basketball, Hockey, Netball, Softball and Swimming. The football component has been played for many years, including last year in Ballarat. This is the first year they combined all sports into a mini 'Olympic-style' tournament.

I started umpiring last season with the BFUA, training every week at City Oval. On weekends I run as a boundary umpire in the Ballarat Football Netball League (BFNL), Ballarat Football League Women's (BFLW), Maryborough and Castlemaine District Football Netball League (MCDNFL) and Central Highlands Football Netball League (CHFNL).

We sometimes travel as far as Navarre, Dunolly and Trentham. This year, my dad and sister Ivy have started umpiring and it's good to umpire games together.

I love being involved in umpiring as it develops your fitness and concentration. In some games we can run nine kilometres! Sometimes umpiring can be very hard because (a) all the running and (b) all of the football players - there are a lot of them to move the ball quickly up the ground, and sometimes only two boundary umpires to keep up!

At the Games, I was running a boundary with umpires from Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia. It was great to meet other young umpires. Some are in high-performance squads with the Queensland Australian Football League (QAFL) so I was able to pick up some hints from their training.

At the SSAG, I was put in goal umpiring for the very first time. That was a bit stressful as I had two touched-on-the-line decisions, but it was good to try a new role.

*Hugh,
Woodmans Hill Secondary College*

Brown Hill Netball Club



The Brown Hill Netball Club, the oldest club in the Ballarat Netball Association (BNA), is based at the Llanberris Netball Complex on Barkly Street. This year we are enjoying our 70th birthday celebrations!

Our club caters for players from nine years of age right through to senior competition. Our focus is to develop fundamental motor skills, knowledge of match play and a love of the game. We currently have over 100 members playing in the winter competition and this number more than doubles for the summer season. All club officials and coaches offer their services as volunteers.

With finals just around the corner our teams are training hard and looking forward to the challenges ahead!

The new BNA summer season commences in October. Brown Hill Netball Club registrations will open soon for all junior age groups (9 and under, 11 and under, 13 and under, 15 and under, 17 and under). If your child is interested in joining a team, please keep an eye on our social media platforms and the club website. For more information, contact us.

*Faith Scholten,
President, Brown Hill Netball Club
brownhillnc@gmail.com*

Ballarat North United Soccer Club turns 50!

In 1974 Macarthur Street and St Colomba's soccer teams combined to form Ballarat North United (BNUSC). Situated here in Brown Hill at Russell Square, BNUSC recently celebrated 50 years.

A formal 50th Anniversary Dinner was held at the Ballarat North Sports Club with Archie Thompson, a Melbourne Victory Champion and Socceroos Legend, joining the celebrations. The Miniroos and Juniors teams heard about famous players he's met, where he's travelled and what it takes to play elite soccer. Archie was all smiles as he signed autographs and shared his tips for being the best you can be.

Past and present players, supporters and volunteers arrived to see the room adorned with trophies, medals, championship flags, photographs and memorabilia spanning the past 50 years. Mannequins displayed the evolution of the team jersey from the simple black and white designs in the 1970s, through to the elaborate designs, bold sponsor logos and finishing touches of gold for the new anniversary shirt launched this season.

There were cheers and tears as past and present players made speeches about their time with the club. None so poignant as the 30+ years two past and present players have spent at the club which has had such an incredible influence on the men and fathers they have become. Both are now blessed to cheer on the sidelines as their own children play their first seasons this year.

Stories of generations coming through the club were shared. Siblings, parents, uncles and aunts and even grandparents attended the event as new generations come through the ranks. Life Member awards were given to acknowledge incredible contributions over the years. Grassroots clubs cannot operate without the dedication and passion of volunteers and the life members are a testament to the friendly, welcoming community of the club.



With 50 years past, BNUSC is looking to the future starting with you, the residents of Brown Hill. We have teams likely to make finals so come and cheer us on! Visit Russell Square any Sunday morning to see the Miniroos and grab a bite from the canteen or head to Morsehead Park to cheer the competitive and senior teams.

Ballarat Soccer Finals at Morsehead Park

(follow BNUSC on social media for teams / times)

Elimination Round - 7 September, 10.00 am - 9.00 pm

Qualifying Round - 8 September, 10.00 am - 9.00 pm

Preliminary Round - 15 September, 10.00 am - 9.00 pm

Grand Final Day - 21 September, 10.00 am - 9.00 pm

Words and images supplied.

GIRLS WE WANT YOU!

WESTERN UNITED CUP

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

BNUSC is looking for female players for the 2025 BDSA season!

In preparation we would like to enter teams into the Western United Cup to get the teams training and playing together prior to the 2025 season.

We are looking for current BNUSC and new female players of all ages & coaches/team managers to assist.

AGE GROUPS

U8 BORN IN 2016 7-7	U9 BORN IN 2015 7-7	U10 BORN IN 2014 9-9
U11 BORN IN 2013 9-9	U12 BORN IN 2012 9-9	U13 BORN IN 2011 9-9
U14 BORN IN 2010 11-11	U15 BORN IN 2009 11-11	U16 BORN IN 2008 11-11

YOUTH WOMEN
BORN BETWEEN 2003 - 2007
11-11

4 - 6 OCT
MORSEHEAD PARK
BALLARAT

CONTACT
IF INTERESTED PLEASE REACH OUT TO THE CLUB VIA:
MEDIA.BNUSC@GMAIL.COM

