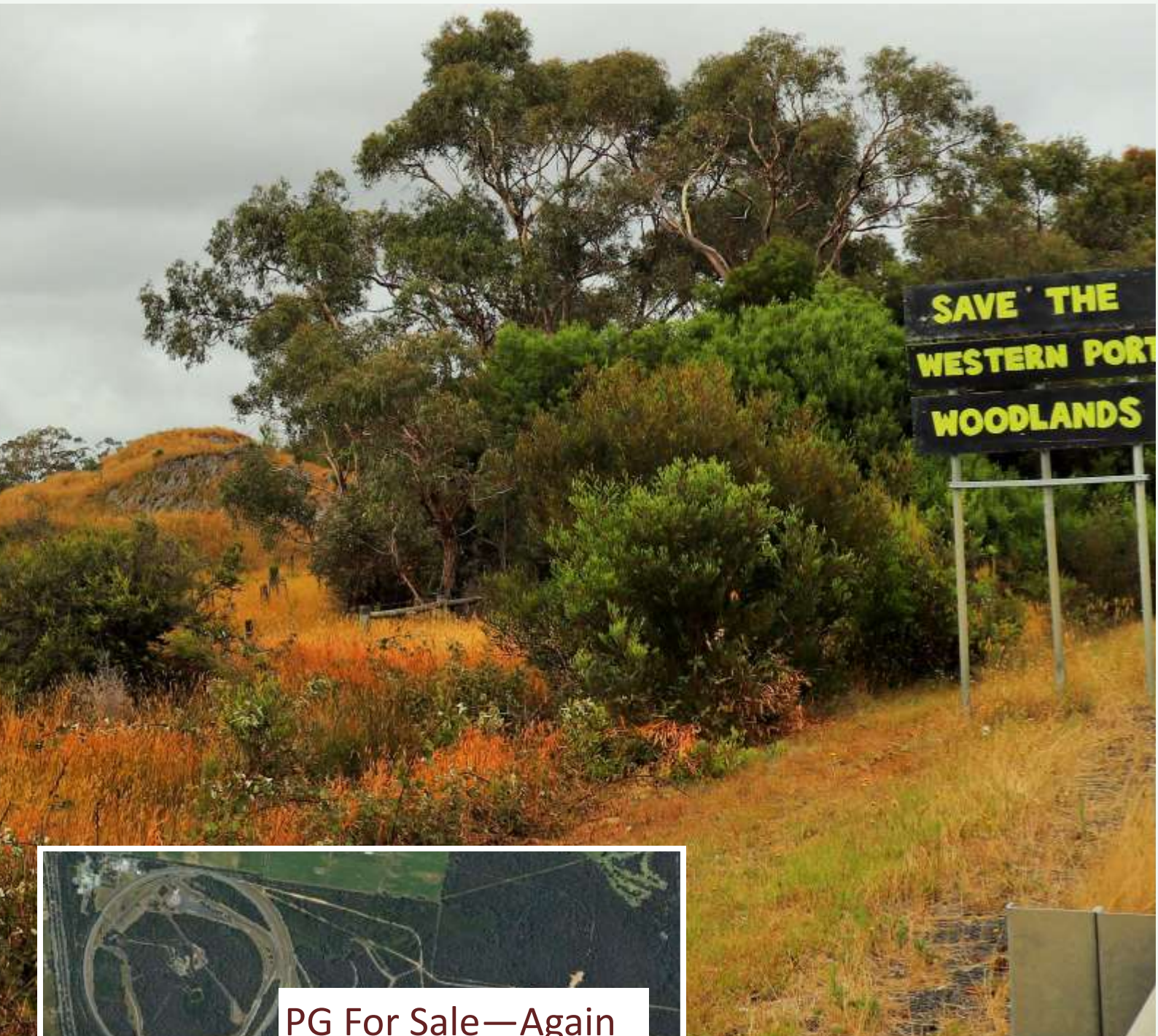


# The Waterline News

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



## Signs of the times... more on page 4



PG For Sale—Again

No more circle work in  
Lang Lang ?—Page 11





# THE WATERLINE NEWS

Publisher - Waterline Publishing

PO Box 324, Wonthaggi, 3995

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Anne Heath Mennell, Copy Editor.

Website: [www.waterlinenews.com.au](http://www.waterlinenews.com.au)

ABN 97 336 380 867

## Happy New Year from the WN Team

Once again it's time to look ahead.

Given the numbers and the uncertainty around public events I have to include a disclaimer that events advertised in the Waterline News may not go ahead due to changes in restrictions.

So, we are unlikely to be able to print copies for the foreseeable future.

Given the number of people who now read the Waterline News on their phone rather than a computer the electronic version is evolving.

Could you please answer these questions?

On which device(s) do you read the WN ?

Do you think the current format meets your needs ?

How can we improve your experience ?

Please send your feedback via email to [wpwbcge@gmail.com](mailto:wpwbcge@gmail.com).

I look forward to hearing from you. Welcome to 2022.

Salutations  
Geoff Ellis, Editor/Publisher

*The Waterline News is produced on the lands of the Bunurong, Boon-wurrung, members of the Kulin Nation who have lived here for thousands of years. We offer our respect to Elders, past, present and emerging and through them, all First Nations People.*

All previous editions of the Waterline News can be read or downloaded from:

**[www.waterlinenews.com.au](http://www.waterlinenews.com.au)**



# Newhaven College



## Surfing Academy

Newhaven College Surfing Academy offers a structured, sequential competency based program for all surfing levels from first time beginners to elite competitors.

- Year 5-6 Water Safety - Two day 'at the beach' awareness, safety, and skill development program.
- Year 7-12 SM Surfing - An elective for timetabled sport in Terms 1, 2 & 4.
- Year 10 Outdoor Recreation (Surfing) - An elective which develops ocean awareness, safety and skills and sees the students help administer and judge Surf Academy events and competitions.
- Year 10 Surf Camp at Lorne (Term 1).
- Performance Training Squad (after school Wednesdays, Term 1, 2 & 4 ).
- Bi-annual Surfing Australia H.P.C. trip - Elite training for established surfers.
- The opportunity to compete in a range of competitions for various abilities.



Surfing Academy

## Enrolment opportunities are available for 2022

*Please contact our Registrar Belinda Manning*

P: 5956 7505 E: [belinda.manning@newhavencol.vic.edu.au](mailto:belinda.manning@newhavencol.vic.edu.au)  
1770 Phillip Island Rd, Phillip Island [www.newhavencol.vic.edu.au](http://www.newhavencol.vic.edu.au)





## Blink and you miss them.

For the second year running, holiday makers flocking to Bass Coast have been welcomed by signs calling for the cessation of sand mine expansion and promoting natural assets rather than being 'Melbourne's Quarry'.

A Save Western Port Woodlands crew was on the road early on Boxing Day erecting signs along a 20 kilometre stretch of the Bass Highway.

The hand-painted signs were designed to alert the travellers to the threat posed by sand mining and the number of mines that are hardly hidden behind a thin veneer of vegetation.

The signs didn't please everyone. By next morning they were mostly gone. Clearly the message hit a nerve.

"It was a massive effort to get the signs up. We like to think it was even harder to remove them in the dead of night." said Catherine Watson, spokesperson for the group.

"We reached our target audience, we informed them about the extent of the sand mines and we gained many supporters."

"If they keep tearing the signs down, we'll keep putting more up."

Visit <http://www.savewesternportwoodlands.org/> for more Information.









**Cr Bruce Kent**

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Phone: (03) 5671 2156  
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0467 841 782**



**CAN WE FIT?**

If you think the gap is  
too small.....  
it probably is.

THROUGH YOUR GATES?

UNDER YOUR TREES?

CAN WE TURN AROUND (30 metres)?

Fire trucks and other Emergency Services Vehicles  
require unrestricted access to properties at all times.

# COMMUNITY AT HEART

**jordan  
crugnale mp**

STATE MEMBER FOR BASS

jordan.crugnale@parliament.vic.gov.au

P 03 5672 4755 ⓘ JordanCrugnaleMP



Authorised by J Crugnale 9 McBride Street, Wonthaggi.  
Funded by Parliamentary Budget.



*Artwork by Brenna Gaunlan*

Bass Coast Edible Gardens presents

## Open Food Gardens Weekend

Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th February 2022

10am to 4pm

*A wonderful weekend visiting food growing gardens in Bass Coast  
and learning how to create your own.*

*Visits may include chickens, bees and passionate growers - you've been warned!*

**<https://www.basscoastediblegardens.com/>**

**Co-ordinated by Bass Coast Adult Learning**



# EDIBLE GARDENS 2022

**What are you doing on Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th February?**

**Do you love freshly grown food?  
Do you love gardens? Do you love the idea of productive food gardens?**

*Well this is sure to interest you...*

After being inspired by a visit to the Baw Baw Shire's *Creative Harvest* weekend in 2020, Bass Coast's Maddy Harford knew that something similar would be a great addition to our local calendar of events.

Maddy collected a group of like-minded enthusiasts, had a chat with the *Creative Harvest* brains trust, won a grant from the Bass Coast Shire Council and voila!

The inaugural Bass Coast Edible Gardens Open Weekend was born.

Hosted by local gardeners, coordinated and curated by Bass Coast Adult Learning (BCAL), this two day event will showcase some of Bass Coast's finest Edible Gardens.

These gardens will provide a rich tapestry of inspiration with many different approaches, many different sizes and shapes; they are all run by keen gardeners who are happy to impart their passion and expertise in growing food.

You will be able to visit a diverse selection of gardens including community and backyard gardens as well as acreage properties; all producing a range of foods.

To assist visitors to navigate the 2 day event, we have divided the shire into 3 clusters:

Phillip Island/San Remo;

Waterline and Hinterland;

Wonthaggi/Inverloch and surrounds.

This will help you schedule your visits so that you can visit as many gardens as possible.



**This event is designed to give you access to experts, to provide insight and to show what's possible.**

Whether you are a beginner, an experienced gardener or just looking for a bit of inspiration, come along and have a chat with people who are cultivating their own edible gardens.

15 edible food gardens across the shire have generously joined us and will be open to the public - you can check them out and book your tickets here: <https://www.basscoastediblegardens.com/>

You can book to visit individual gardens for \$5 per person or you can get a multiple gardens ticket that is valid across the weekend for \$20 per person for as many gardens as you like.

**Of course an amazing event such as this doesn't happen without community support.**

We are seeking volunteers to assist for a few hours at the front gate of individual gardens.

It doesn't matter where you are in the Bass Coast Shire, there will be an edible garden near you looking for assistance...

Volunteer duties would include welcoming visitors to the garden, checking tickets and assisting people to 'check in'.

Full training and support will be provided to all volunteers as well as a complementary multiple garden access pass giving you the opportunity to visit some of the most interesting and inspiring 'grow your own' food gardens in the Shire.

For more information about being part of this exciting event contact Leslie Adams at [leslie.adams@bcsl.vic.edu.au](mailto:leslie.adams@bcsl.vic.edu.au)

***This event will comply with the Victorian Government COVID Safety directives in place at the time of the Open Garden weekend.***





## CCAV Annual Awards

Above and Beyond Award 2021: Allan George, Grantville Cemetery Trust. Allan has been a member of the trust for 51 years and Secretary/Treasurer for 21 years.

Allan is a compassionate person who spends many hours with grieving families. He has been known to spend many hours with a family in the morning and then return in the afternoon as their thoughts and requests have changed. Allan knows, and has often stated that people at these difficult moments in their lives need as much time as they need. His thoughtfulness and patience shine through.

He dedicates many hours on the telephone on Cemetery Trust business, liaising with funeral directors, stonemasons, manufacturers, other cemeteries, answering requests for information, organising burial sites, ashes and interments which he sees as a normal part of his role as a member of The Grantville Trust.

This massive commitment is completely voluntary. As well as donating his time, Allan does not claim reimbursement for the many items he has given to the cemetery.

Allan has often used his engineering skill and initiative to ensure that the best outcome is achieved for both the family and the Cemetery.

Allan George, Secretary/Treasurer, his sister Mary Rodda, Kathy Power, Administrator and Trust Members, Bill Blackmore, Barbara Stewart and President David Garry

## QUIZ—Answers page 23

1. What is Elvis Presley's middle name?
2. Who is the singer of The Counting Crows?
3. Who was the Queen of Soul?
4. What is the lowest male voice?
5. Which famous group was once known as The Quarrymen?
6. What was the name of AC/DC's lead singer who died in 1980?
7. What is Madonna's full name?
8. What is the name of the Irish singer who won the Eurovision Song Contest twice?
9. What is the noisy invention of Louis Glass in 1890 called?
10. Who is the front man of The Prodigy?
11. Who is the drummer of Metallica?
12. Which group had a hit with the Macarena?
13. Who won the most Grammy Awards in the 80s?
14. How many strings has a mandolin got?
15. What is the biggest hit of Bing Crosby?
16. What is the surname of the singer Rihanna?
17. Which British pop group had a hit called Angel Eyes in the seventies?
18. How many lines has a music staff (or music stave) got?
19. Which singer was nicknamed the Voice of Europe after having won the Eurovision Song Contest three times?
20. Who composed the music for the spaghetti western The Good, The Bad and The Ugly with Clint Eastwood?





## ***The Gondoliers,*** **29 January 2022,** **Corinella Public** **Hall 7pm at** **\$25.00pp**

At the fifth attempt *Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Victoria* will sing music back to life with their joyous concert production of Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Gondoliers* on Saturday January 29 at 7pm in Corinella Public Hall.

Set in Venice and a balmy isle in the Mediterranean, *The Gondoliers* is the quintessential story of babies mixed-up at birth, set to 'the happiest music ever written by an Englishman' including the Cachucha, Fandango and Bolero. Sullivan was inspired to write delicious Italian and Spanish melodies while Gilbert's satire of Republicanism remains as fresh as ever to Australian ears, for 'When everyone is somebody, then no one's anybody'.

To secure your seats go to  
[https://  
www.trybooking.com/BVGOP](https://www.trybooking.com/BVGOP)

The concert of song and narration with piano accompaniment will be held under safe conditions in compliance with applicable guidelines with limited seating capacity and all patrons and performers fully vaccinated.

**\*\*Proof of double Vaccination will be a requirement upon entry.**

### Reviews

'The partnership of Robert Ray and John Ferguson...made in G&S heaven" *Theatre Australia*.

'Australia's foremost exponents of light opera' *The Age*.

### About The Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Victoria

Founded in 1935, The Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Victoria Incorporated is one of Australia's oldest continuously operating arts groups. The Society stages up to four productions per year and fosters the appreciation and study of Victorian & Edwardian era operetta. For further information visit [www.gsov.org.au](http://www.gsov.org.au).

***Brought to you by Bass Valley Music Festival Inc.***



# Circle Work at the Lang Lang Proving Ground



VinFast reportedly paid \$36 million for the Holden Proving ground. They had big plans for the local market as well as the U.S. Last November they decided to ditch the local operation and set up offices and factories in California, U.S.A.

VinFast cited COVID19 as the reason as it is now too difficult for engineers to commute between countries.

The Lang Lang Proving Ground is once again on the market and, given the number of local jobs and environmental assets behind that fence many people are waiting to see who shows an interest and what happens next.

Bass Coast Shire Council (BCSC) has expressed disappointment at this turn of events. The BCSC website states that

“We (BCSC) were disappointed to be advised that Vinfast is exiting operations in Australia, impacting on its vehicle testing operation in Lang Lang. The decision will directly impact the 48 permanent and 10 casual staff employed at the Lang Lang facility.

“We (BCSC ) are working with the Federal Government regarding worker transition support for the existing workforce. The loss of another operator at the facility will have significant impacts on the local economy with the current operation contributing approximately \$30 million in economic output each year.

“The 877-hectare site was first opened in 1957 by Holden and includes 44km of sealed and unsealed test roads, skidpan, high-speed circular track, emissions testing facility, vehicle workshops and laboratories. There is extensive native vegetation onsite and Council is aware of the community interest to protect the environmental significance of the site.

“The site was listed in 2021 for sale via an expression of interest campaign. We are in the process of determining our approach to the site, balancing the needs of community, environment and our economy.”



# PHOTO QUIZ



Clockwise from top left:

For which mode of transport is this toolkit intended.

Which plant is that?

Type of camera?

Which two towns are linked by this pathway?

In which town was this pic taken ?

Name this famous artist.



## Answers

## Page 23



# MOW, MOW, MOW YOUR GRASS

Grow, grow, grow! High rainfall and warm temperatures have lead to perfect growing conditions. While this is great for our local farmers, it means that property owners need to be vigilant to keep up maintenance, especially coming into the summer bushfire season.

Bass Coast Shire Council is currently carrying out long grass inspections which will continue into the new year.

Under Council's *Local Law No. 1 Neighbourhood Amenity 2012*, property owners need to maintain grass to a height under 30 centimetres, remove or spray weeds, such as blackberries, clear overhanging branches and grass obstructing footpaths and maintain any other vegetation, such as shrubs and trees.

Infringement notices may be issued if these requirements are not being met.


From 1 January 2022, if Officers

deem a property to be unsightly, the owner will be issued with an infringement of \$300, as well as a letter of Notice to Comply within 21 days.

Further infringements may be issued, if the conditions of a Notice to Comply are not met within the required timeframe.

Additionally, under Section 117 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, an authorised officer may proceed to have any required work carried out, in which case, the property owner will be liable for the cost of such works in addition to any penalty imposed.

For more information, please contact Council's Emergency Management Team on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211 or email [emergencymanagement@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:emergencymanagement@basscoast.vic.gov.au).



The cutting edge circa 1950— an early powered hay cutter imported from Italy





Share the adventure. Email:

geoff.bcas.artspace@gmail.com



# Rescue Station Arts

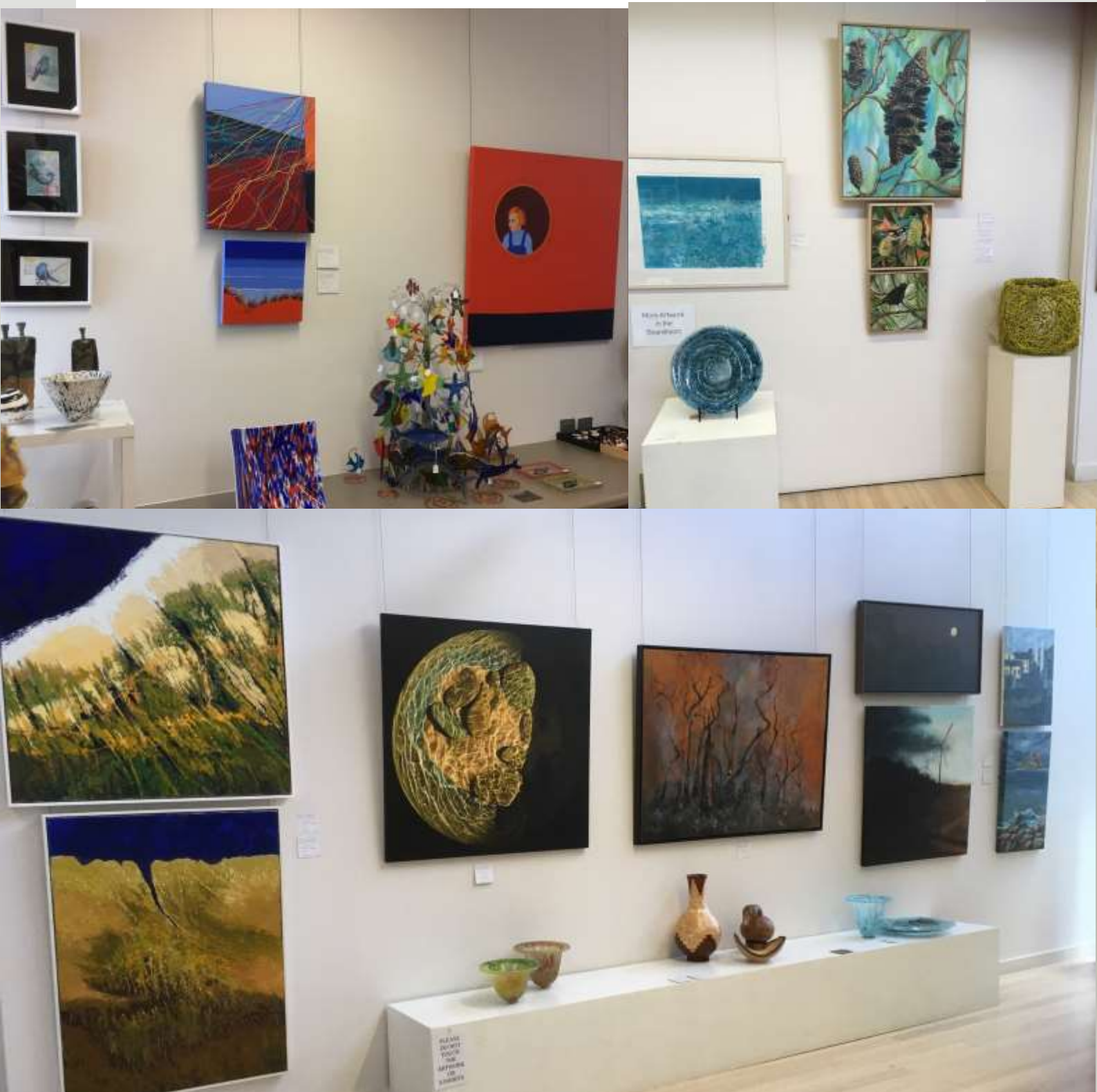
Rescue Station Arts is a welcoming and vibrant local community arts organisation located at the State Coal Mine Rescue Station heritage site in Wonthaggi and on the traditional land of the Bunurong/Boon Wurrung people. Rescue Station Arts offers free open access sessions each week, regular classes, creative workshops, and special events throughout the year.

In 2022, we're adding exciting new community arts activities to Rescue Station Art's old favourites! More info? <http://www.rescuestationarts.org.au/>



**The Centennial Centre, 1 Bent St, Wonthaggi VIC 3995  
(03) 5672 5767**

## **Local Artisan Exhibition till 13 March**







## RHUBARB SOUR CREAM CAKE

WE GROW too much rhubarb!! I recently asked Bert to cut the rhubarb back a bit as I can't keep up with it. So of course I got myself a load of rhubarb. However, this lovely cake was so delicious that I didn't complain too much. Try it and see.

### Ingredients

125 grams of butter, softened  
220 grams of brown sugar  
Zest of 1 orange  
2 eggs  
225 grams of self-raising flour, sifted  
75 grams of plain flour, sifted  
1 teaspoon of ground cinnamon  
300 grams of sour cream  
300 grams of rhubarb, trimmed, cut into 2cm lengths  
2-3 stalks of rhubarb, extra, trimmed, cut into 4cm lengths  
1 tablespoon of raw sugar  
Icing sugar, to dust  
Cream or custard to serve

### Method

- 1/Preheat oven to 160C.
- 2/Beat the butter, brown sugar and orange zest in a bowl for 5 minutes or until pale and fluffy
- 3/Add the eggs, 1 at a time, beating well after each addition
- 4/Use a large metal spoon to fold in the combined flour, cinnamon and sour cream in alternating batches.
- 5/Gently stir in the rhubarb.
- 6/Spoon into the prepared pan and smooth the surface.
- 7/Arrange the extra rhubarb on top and sprinkle with raw sugar
- 8/Bake for 1 hour 15 mins or until a skewer inserted into the centre of the cake comes out clean.
- 9/Set aside in the pan for 10 minutes to cool
- 10/Release the cake from the pan and transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.
- 11/Dust with icing sugar and serve with thick cream or custard.
- 12/ENJOY!!

## The Shape of Jazz to Come: Yes it was

Few figures in jazz have been as polarising as Ornette Coleman, the somewhat enigmatic alto saxophonist (and trumpeter and violinist) who influenced jazz of the 1960s and beyond. His approach was unique, pioneering what became known as "free jazz", i.e. jazz that did not follow a designated chord progression. Unlike many other free jazz exponents, however, Coleman always maintained the balance between rhythm, harmony and melody, and built his own music out of the rich traditions of jazz.

His recordings for Atlantic in the late 1950s and early 1960s, were among his best and most influential, and the first of these was *The Shape of Jazz to Come*, recorded on 22/05/59 (yes, another great album from that year). It featured Coleman (alto saxophone) and his main collaborators during this important period, Don Cherry (cornet), Charlie Haden (bass) and Billy Higgins (drums).

Track one is "Lonely Woman", which is suitably melancholy. Haden and Higgins provide a brief introduction before Coleman and Cherry play the theme. Coleman then solos, shifting his tone and feel, as if in a conversation, swinging at times, bluesy at others. Cherry provides a few comments of his own during the solo, then the theme is restated before Haden and Higgins take the track out.

"Eventually" is next, and the influence of Charlie Parker on Coleman's music is on display. This up-tempo number is like a twisted be-bop classic – fast, furious and surprising. Haden and Higgins provide the anchor (at speed) and Coleman's solo is a flurry of cohesive ideas. Cherry then solos and shows off his complementary style to full effect, making use of the fast tempo to create lots of space in his solo. The melody is then restated, and bam – it's over.

The third track is "Peace" and the horns state the melody, once again. Haden is also prominent in this soulful opening (Higgins does not play on this track at all). Coleman then solos with Haden accompanying. Coleman's solo is beautiful and melodic, and (with the benefit of sixty plus years' hindsight) his influence on jazz is there for all to hear. Cherry then solos and maintains the quiet, contemplative feel. "Peace" proves the capacity of this group, under Coleman's leadership, to create a thoroughly coherent, musical and logical composition in the absence of the traditional chord progression. This is rightly the featured track of the album as it is an outstanding example of what Coleman's music at this time was all about.

"Focus on Sanity" is track four. The melody is stated briefly, and is really just one phrase. Then Haden solos with Higgins accompanying. Haden has time to explore different ideas, and his solo is quite contemplative. Higgins dovetails his playing with Haden perfectly. Coleman then solos briefly and shifts gear, playing quite frenetically. Cherry solos next and shifts the feel again, playing in a much more relaxed, swinging style. Higgins then gets a chance to show off his soloing credentials and delivers a well constructed solo with great musicality. The melody/phrase is then stated and the piece is over.

The fifth track is "Congeniality" and the melody is at an easy (congenial?) tempo, but shifts feel between something *like* swing and something *like* bop. Despite its easy feel, the melody is deceptively difficult to play, and the ensemble play it beautifully.

Coleman solos first and he swings throughout, but with an edge to his playing. As with all the tracks on this album, Parker's influence is clear, but Coleman has his own style and a unique tone. Cherry then solos, and makes the most of the cornet's traditional sound, as at times his playing sounds like it's from an earlier period. Again, the two solos complement each other perfectly. The melody is then restated to take the piece out.

The final track is "Chronology" and the influence of Parker and be-bop more generally can be heard in the melody. Cherry solos first and produces another well-crafted offering, pushing the cornet's tonal palette more than in previous solos. Coleman solos next and as usual ups the intensity. Haden walks in support throughout, and Higgins provides just the right accompaniment, playing with great subtlety.

The arranging and instrumentation of all these tracks is largely traditional. The jazz traditions drawn upon by the players are easily identified too, be it the blues or swing or the innovations of be-bop. The notes selected by the soloists weren't necessarily that controversial either – no shrieks, howls or deliberate dissonance (let alone atonalism) can be heard. Yet despite all this, the playing was fresh, new, challenging and definitely innovative.

And re-listening to *The Shape of Jazz to Come*, (especially if you haven't done so for some time) will remind you of just how influential this approach to jazz would for decades to come.





# Coronet Bay RRA

**NEXT MEETING: AGM followed by General Meeting**  
**10am Saturday, 15th January 2022 Coronet Bay Hall**

**Contact:**  
[president@coronetbayrra.org.au](mailto:president@coronetbayrra.org.au); [secretary@coronetbayrra.org.au](mailto:secretary@coronetbayrra.org.au)  
[treasurer@coronetbayrra.org.au](mailto:treasurer@coronetbayrra.org.au); [vicepresident@coronetbayrra.org.au](mailto:vicepresident@coronetbayrra.org.au)



**Carols By The Bay – Coronet Bay**  
A Truly Combined Community Effort  
What a joyous time we had.



The community rallied together to celebrate Christmas in Coronet Bay. Whether it was to help organise the event or to set up the marquee and pack up at the end, many people contributed. It felt like not only a celebration of Christmas, but a celebration of community and a long awaited release from COVID lockdowns.

Over 100 attendees sang together and cheered our musicians and Don McLeish (Combined Community Group), our Master of Ceremonies. Mike Kelzke (from Coronet Bay Unplugged), led the singing and provided the music backing. Mike's strong, rich voice guided the community with skill. We were delighted to hear locals Judy Johns and Carol Robinson play for us. The mandolin and guitar duo made the community singing special.



Carol's singing of 2 Australian Christmas carols was captivating. Don McLeish master MC, entertained us with jokes and poems (in truth the audience did these!), whilst expertly guiding the proceedings. His task was spectacular, considering he had 1 days' notice for the job! And then Santa arrived. The children and parents thronged around him. Many thanks to Kevin Morris for this role executed with only hours to prepare! The children received gifts donated by Yvonne Jones. All this happening with spontaneity and community drive. If it wasn't for Sue McLeish (Combined Community Group) who put together a songbook, I think the evening joviality and engagement would not have been as rich.

*Ann Brown*

A special note of thanks to Ann Brown who initiated the event this year, encouraged the Combined effort through Sue McLeish to start the coordination, then came in once the Luminous Galleries Christmas display was in place to put together the musical backings and the preparations on the day. Many thanks to all those who helped along the way and getting the Luminous Galleries marquee in place on the hot, windy afternoon and packing up in the chilly evening. Thanks also to Chris Petrie (Ratepayers & Residents Assoc.), for the marketing effort.



## COP1 Coronet Bay

The walking track near Norseman's Road can be a mystical place in the early morning light.

For if you watch the rain gently filtering through the overhanging leaves and pause to breathe in the air from Western Port accompanied by the sounds of its waters, this is the place to be. This is nature at its best.

It was Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup> of November 2021 and while significant environmental events were unfolding at Glasgow, twenty or so local environmentalists, garbed in various forms of wet weather gear, broke the silence - they had come to plant 700 native grasses, eucalyptus and banksia seedlings along the border between the planned Coastal Estates housing development area and the walking track.

Over time, the area had deteriorated and become a muddy swamp.

But thanks to the Coronet Bay Ratepayers and Residents Association (CBRRA) and their dedicated team, they had set up a working relationship with Coastal Estates to progressively rehabilitate the area.

Sponsored by Coastal Estates, the Bass Valley Landcare Group had grown a mixture of plants to be transplanted into what is known as the Banksia Grove, south of Norseman's Road.

"The aim of the project", said Angela a CBRRA representative, "is to increase the biodiversity of the habitat, provide a buffer between the estate and the remanent vegetation along the foreshore track, and for it to become a refuge for wildlife to move along the foreshore corridor."

Those who took part in the planting, including some associated with the Corinella Foreshore Reserve Committee and two Landcare officers, will help the local residents carry out various maintenance activities to ensure the grove becomes and remains an environmental sanctuary for all.

As I had not come fully prepared for the wet weather, I headed for shelter leaving the slightly damp, but very enthusiastic planters to finish the task.

As they 'planted away', they assured me they would be back, for the task is only just beginning.

I left, feeling they had created their own Conference of the Parties (COP) and taken the opportunity to play a part in preserving what's left of this the ever so important, Coronet Bay biosphere.

I'm sure COP2 Coronet Bay, is already being planned.

Neil Daly

The rejuvenated Banksia Grove takes shape.





## Bedtime Stories

**By Bob Middleton,**  
who is greatly missed.

MY TWO daughters came down to catch up for Christmas and the New Year, a sort of two-for-the-price-of-one visit. I'm not that comfortable with the "came down" phrase. Seems a bit of a putdown in some way for us country dwellers but then we do travel "up" to the city. That's if you are nuts enough to want to go there in the first place. And you can't travel "up" both ways so one of us has to give way.

Anyway, somewhere during their visit we got around to talking books or to be more precise we talked about reading. When they were young, bedtime reading was essential if peace was to reign of an evening. I was reminded that many evenings were not readings as such but telling stories constructed on the spot. It's easy to get away with that if your audience is only four or five years old. I seem to remember my *Freddy the Fish* was a best seller in its time.

When I was that young, my burning ambition was to be able to read solo so I no longer had to rely on others. I know my desire for such an achievement was greater than when I reached the driving licence year.

Now one daughter is a librarian and a lover of books of all genres while the other in her busy family and professional life confesses to reading one book a year. I think even that is stretching it a bit. Did I succeed with one and fail with the other in the art of storytelling? They say emphatically no, they treasure the memories of those times, they just put different values on the long-term outcomes. I also hold those memories dear so that's just fine with me.

After they had left, I began to ponder on those days long gone and got to thinking about the nature of love in all its many guises. My love for these two middling-aged women is so far removed from the love I had for those two little girls.

So different that I cannot put it into words but I think they know and understand.

It is strange how so many men shy away from the love word as if it were a finite commodity to be carefully rationed out. Perhaps some see it as an admission of weakness. In part, that may be because we get such little exposure to the concept of love, especially from our daily papers and TV news. And who in their right mind in their masculine world would be interested in stories of the heart when footy and big bash cricket and *Highway Cops* are available?

Mind you, they have a point. Love can be a minefield of heartbreaks of the very worst kind. Nevertheless I quickly reach for the remote when yet another piece of "breaking news" flashes across the screen exposing us to scenes of blood-soaked road crashes, the devastation of war and the unimaginable cruelty of famine. I know only two people who do not and will not own a television and I admire them like I admire those who are vegetarians though I know I have not got the willpower to join them.

There is a line in the song *Cannibals* where the father is taking his young son up the stairs to tuck him in to bed. The father tells him a story as he goes and assures the boy that cannibals are no more so he may sleep in peace. But the child turns to his father and says "Daddy, why do people go to war?" I don't have an answer for that. Some questions are just unanswerable.

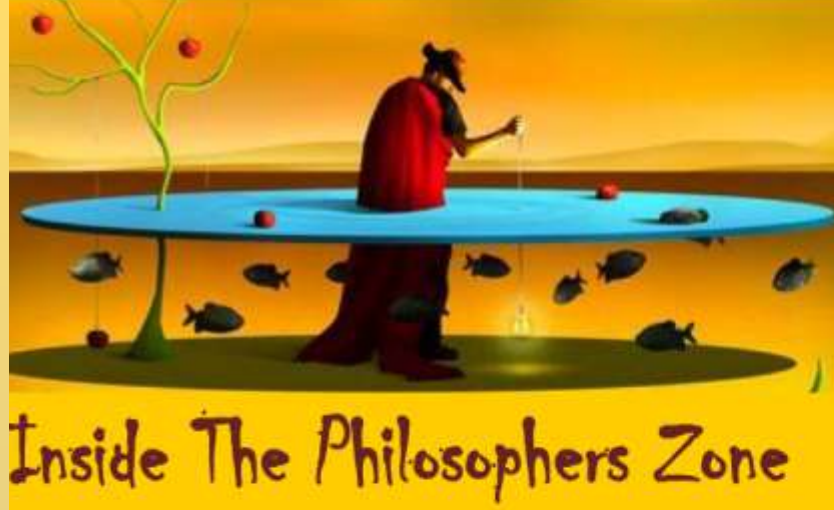
What we need is a TV channel that only gives us the good bits so we can turn away from the reality of this wounded world where love seems to have taken a back seat.

But then that's returning to fantasy land. That's reaching back for those bedtime story days and we know we can never do that.



# Confucius

At different times in Chinese history, Confucius (551–479 BCE) has been portrayed as a teacher, advisor, editor, philosopher, reformer, and prophet.



**"When anger rises, think of the consequences."**

Silence is a true friend  
who never betrays.

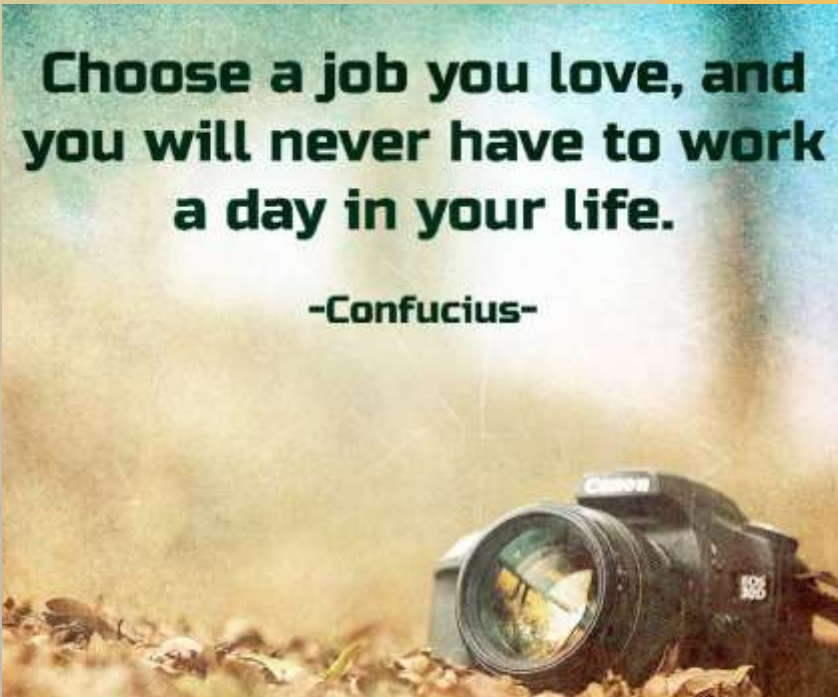
LIFE IS REALLY SIMPLE  
BUT WE INSIST  
ON MAKING IT  
COMPLICATED

*Confucius*



**Choose a job you love, and  
you will never have to work  
a day in your life.**

**-Confucius-**



**"Do not  
let a  
leader  
lead you  
on a bad  
path."**

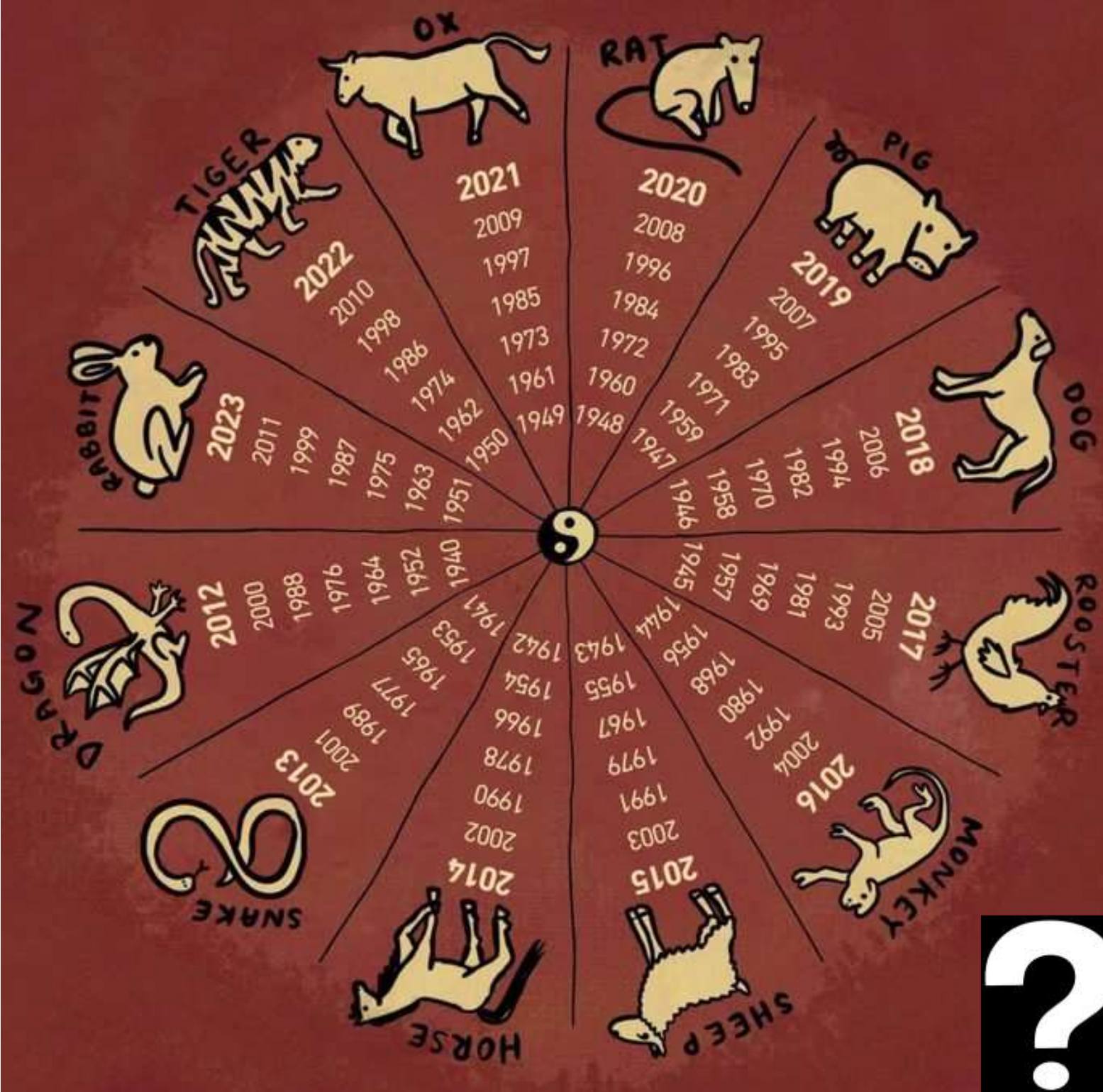


**"If you are the  
smartest person in the  
room, then you are in  
the wrong room."**





# February 1—Chinese New Year



You may have heard that 2022 is the Year of the Tiger, but you might not understand the significance of Chinese New Year and the Chinese zodiac system. While Western astrology is detailed, Chinese astrology is even more complex, incorporating not just the 12 Chinese astrology signs but also the five Chinese zodiac elements—earth, metal, water, wood, and fire—and yin and yang energy. And if you're looking to learn more, google up on the Lunar New Year, Chinese New Year food, and Chinese New Year traditions. Happy New Year on Feb 1.



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 @BronwynPrattGoldsmith



*Quiz Answers:*

1. Aaron. 2. Adam Duritz. 3. Aretha Franklin
4. Bass voice. 5. The Beatles 6. Bon Scott
7. Madonna Louise Ciccone. 8. Johnny Logan
9. Jukebox. 10. Keith Flint 11. Lars Ulrich
12. Los Del Rio 13. Michael Jackson. 14. Eight strings. 15. White Christmas. 16. Fenty
17. Roxy Music. 18. Five lines. 19. Johnny Logan
20. Ennio Morricone

*Photo Quiz Answers:*

- Bicycle*
- Desal Plant*
- Box Brownie*
- Corinella & Coronet Bay*
- Wonthaggi*
- John Mutsaers*



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