


The Waterline News

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JULY 2020

An aerial photograph showing a dirt road that winds through a dense, green forest. The road starts from the left, curves upwards, and then continues towards the right. In the lower part of the image, there is a cleared area with some structures and a road intersection.

**END OF
THE
ROAD**
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www.waterlinenews.com.au

From The Desk

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THE WATERLINE NEWS

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July 2020,

When I started to put this edition together COVID19 restrictions were being eased. Now the number of infections in Melbourne is spiking. Many of us have loved ones in Melbourne and the decisions around visiting just got harder.

The Waterline News isn't here to tell people what to do, we can only provide information and pass on advice. I have been told that it's time for people to ensure they maintain social distancing, consider the necessity of errands and outings and think of our families.

Please stay safe, we need everyone.

Geoff Ellis, Editor.

The Waterline News received a large number of emails about the Holden Proving Ground and the Grass Tree Forest of Grantville so this month the "Your Say" column returns. I have also used a different format to include articles by Rob Parsons and Robyn Smith so the images included are shown to their best advantage.

August contribution deadline: July 25



BASS COAST ARTISTS SOCIETY

<http://basscoastartists.org.au/bcas/contact/>



A re-invigorated GADFC held a Working Bee in Malcolm Drive Grantville. Seven Committee and GADFC Friends plus a superb rollup of 16 local volunteers turned out. The project, which is ongoing, aims to restore the overgrown vegetation to a more manageable state.

The day was highlighted by attendance and direction of Jye Anderson from Bass Landcare who showed which plants are indigenous to the area and should be promoted, as compared to those which are undesirable and should be culled.

Those of us who are gardeners could see that certain plants that are in our gardens can be so easily spread by birds into areas where they become a real problem.

The undergrowth was damp due to the wet winter thus far, though this did not dampen the enthusiasm of the volunteers, and much progress was made.

It just shows how, with a little neglect, undesirable weeds and vegetation can take over. We thank Jye for his knowledge and involvement on the day.

A previous project earlier in the year by the GADFC had seen the use of an excavator to re-align the collapsed concrete sea wall which had suffered badly over many years due to tides and the strength of the continual buffeting along the Bass Coast we are all witnessing.

This was done in the hope that by layering the collapsed sea wall, the power of the incoming tides would be lessened thus slowing down the significant erosion occurring along the Grantville beach.

For more information contact:

peterabrahammoran@gmail.com

This current Working Bee saw GADFC/Friends/Volunteers come together to assist the beach area returning to a much safer area and compliant to OH&S standards.

This included the removal of protruding iron and placement of rocks behind the newly placed concrete sea wall allowing a sandy waterfront. These rocks, large and small, are being scattered by the tide making the pleasant walk along the beach somewhat dangerous and, to a degree, an obstacle course. Once again, this project will require continual observation and maintenance but to-day's exercise has contributed greatly.

Many thanks to Shannon and the Grantville General for opening their store and being available to supply the morning coffees which allowed the volunteers to relax after some hours of work and to get to know fellow Grantvillians, some of whom have never met before.

Others on the day wheelbarrowed their way along the beach front towards Pioneer Bay collecting all that rubbish that finds itself on the beach whether from incoming tides or just general human activity. Amazing just how much unwanted debris turns up just pushing a barrow along the beach.

As well as trying to improve the beach and foreshore areas, this project was also about involving community and getting each of us to know our neighbours and feel pride in the area in which we live. Thanks to Kelly's Meats in Tooradin for the supply of the very tasty sausages that were BBQ'd on the day.



DG Nurse Practitioner
Grantville Transaction Centre
Cnr Bass Hwy & Pier Rd
Grantville, 3984

Hours
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri
6.00 am - close

Bulk Billing
 All consultations bulk billed
 May have fees for some procedures*

For appointments phone
5616 2222
 or
0467 841 782
Same day appointments available

Services available include
Fluvax
Immunisations
Men's Health

Throughout the day COVID restrictions and distancing were strictly adhered to, which was obviously welcomed by the volunteers who attended.

The GADFC is working towards being once again a vibrant and relevant body within the Grantville area and no doubt in the future working on maintaining this re-invigorated step.

So look out for fliers, digital news and please feel free to visit the GADFC Website and Facebook pages.

Environment

“Mayday, Mayday, come in ...” and that’s when it went dead!

No, I was not in ‘a sinking tinny’ off the Jam Jerrup foreshore, for COVID-19 had seen to that! I was at home surrounded by newspaper cuttings dealing with climate change and foreshore erosion.

Twelve months earlier, May 29th, I’d stood at the base of the Jam Jerrup cliff that underpins the Foreshore Road and the dwellings overlooking the sea. At the time, a very cold and wet group of officials gazed up at the crumbling cliff. They seemed to be shuffling from one foot to another as if not one of them wanted to be the first to make a commitment to fix the problem.

So what’s happened since then?

The press clippings and an online search indicate Jam Jerrup is a forgotten “hamlet”. Basically, it has been left to fend for itself, for it would seem there are more important erosion issues confronting the Bass Coast Shire.

For example in *The South Gippsland Sentinel-Times* (March 2019 to April 2020), I found twenty-five news stories about Inverloch’s erosion issues with headings such as:

“Erosion ‘emergency’ rocks Inverloch” – an extract: “Inverloch residents Keith Godridge and Robin Bowman are attempting to inject a note of urgency into the response to Inverloch’s critical beach erosion problems claiming \$180 million worth of coastal real estate, as well as the surf club, road and sewerage plant are at risk. They’re advocating the construction of a 2km rock wall.” (October 29, 2019)

“Build it and the erosion will stop” – an extract: “Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) Acting Regional Manager Gippsland, Land and Built Environment Programs, Jeremy Neilson, said the works are an additional method of erosion control that will complement the wet-sand fencing trial that is already in place.” (February 11, 2020)



“Erosion response still a priority” – an extract: “Inspecting the wall last week, Bass Coast Mayor Cr Brett Tessari said the community of Inverloch could rest assured council wouldn’t let the state government-funded project drop off the radar, despite the COVID-19 response taking precedence over everything else in recent weeks.” (March 31, 2020)

Compare this to *The South Gippsland Sentinel-Times* coverage of Jam Jerrup’s erosion problems for the same period – there are only two stories:

“Concerns over Jam Jerrup erosion” – an extract: “The recent approval of a new dwelling on Foreshore Road, Jam Jerrup, has highlighted a gap in Bass Coast’s planning and building policies when it comes to the implications of coastal erosion.” (March 11, 2020)

“No council funds for Jam Jerrup rock wall” – an extract: “But last week, a council spokesperson said, “there are no current plans for council to fund a rock wall in this area” and that it would be up to a local community group to raise the funds for the wall.” (March 17, 2020)

It would seem, just like the receding cliff, the handful of residents and ratepayers and the Lang Lang Foreshore Committee trying to help them are running out of options, for as Cr Geoff Ellis said in the *Bass Coast Post*: “In Jam Jerrup, Western Port edges closer to the power lines. The beach access steps have been washed away. The road is apparently doomed. A DELWP rock wall protects half the hamlet and there are unfunded plans for an extension that will hold back the tides. The only tangible response has been physical closure of the beach.” (April 3, 2020)

This raised the question then: why didn’t ‘the authorities’, when they had the chance, build the rock wall and its backfill to the full length of the foreshore?



At this point I thought I’d finished for the day, when suddenly the loudspeaker crackled into life!

“Mayday, Mayday, come in Jam Jerrup!”
“Mayday, Mayday, Jordon calling!”

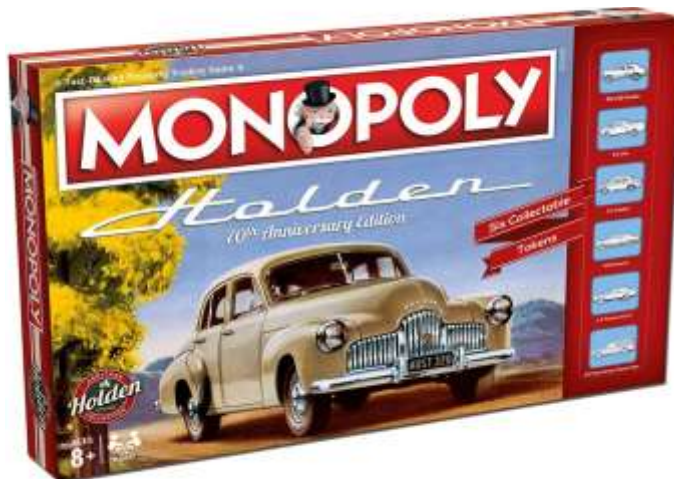
“I’m very pleased to announce that our State Government is providing \$500,000 to scope and commence a hybrid natural and built solution at Jam Jerrup to stabilise erosion and reduce the environmental impacts of traditional engineered coastal defence.”

“Over ...”

-Neil Daly



END GAME



By Catherine Watson

A coalition of environmental and citizen groups is calling for urgent action by Bass Coast Council and the state government to protect the rare coastal woodlands of the Holden Proving Ground.

The clock is ticking with a national real estate company privately circulating a sales brochure for the 877-hectare site between Lang Lang and The Gurdies.

The coalition seeking protection includes representatives of the Victorian National Parks Association, Bass Coast Landcare, National Trust Bass Coast Branch, the Phillip Island Conservation Society, South Gippsland Conservation Society, Bass Coast Climate Action, the Healesville to Phillip Island Nature Link, Coronet Bay Ratepayers & Residents Association, the Tenby Point Ratepayers & Residents Association, the Western Port Swamp Landcare Group and the Cardinia Environment Coalition.

A local member of the group, Meryl Tobin, says time is running out. The Gurdies resident urges concerned Bass Coast residents and others to contact Bass MP Jordan Crugnale, Environment Minister Lily D'Ambrosio and Premier Daniel Andrews asking them to act urgently to protect the site.

Group member Tim O'Brien says this is the last remaining significant pocket of preserved coastal forest in the whole of the Western Port Region.

He wants the council to begin the process of rezoning the site or adding environmental, heritage and landscape overlays on it. Although it's a long process, he says beginning it would send a signal to prospective buyers.

The Victorian National Parks Association is also seeking government support to preserve the site as part of a wider Western Port Biolink or national park.

GM-Detroit announced earlier this year that it was pulling out of the Australian market and would sell its Australian assets, including the proving ground, which was used to test generations of Holden cars in Australian conditions.

Established by Holden in 1957, the proving ground is surrounded by a high fence and woodlands in an effort to keep the latest model secret from the prying eyes of motoring journalists and rival car companies.

The need for secrecy produced an unexpected result: most of the site is remnant coastal forest, now rare in West Gippsland. Holden worked with Bass Coast Landcare to manage and monitor the forest, which is home to several rare and endangered native species.

Holden enthusiasts are floating the idea of crowd funding to buy the site as a museum of the much loved Aussie car.

A rumoured sale to Linfox, the transport firm owned by Lindsay Fox, seems to have fallen through.

Another prospective buyer is VinFast, a Vietnamese automobile company that has been recruiting Australian engineers following the demise of this country's automotive manufacturing industry.



The sales brochure lists 18kms of perimeter fencing, 44kms of vehicle testing tracks, lab and proving ground infrastructure, potential depreciation benefits and vacant possession from July 2020.

My question to GM Holden on the price range and interest received a one sentence response: "The GM Holden proving ground at Lang Lang is for sale and is currently the subject of a competitive and private sale process."

Last month, Bass Coast councillors unanimously supported a motion to ask the State Government to buy the site for the preservation and recognition of its "environmental, cultural and coastal habitat values".





Time to save the Grantville Grass Tree Forest.

Grantville is home to a magnificent Grass Tree forest, as well as individual examples of this iconic plant that can be considered as living fossils.

Some of the Grass Trees of Grantville would have been there long before European occupation. First Nations people valued grass trees as a varied food source.

Apart from local walkers and people living in the Adams Estate off Stanley Rd, few people were aware of the Grass Tree forest before last spring.

Then, following the February 2019 Grantville bushfires, flower spikes shot up en masse in the Grantville Conservation Reserve and the Sand Mine adjacent to it.

The bulk of this grass tree forest is not protected as it is on land leased for sand mining and the rest appears to be in a buffer zone next to it. Trees in this buffer zone are protected but can't be accessed by the public until after sand mining ceases and the area rehabilitated. A Work Authority demands translocation of significant flora but experts point out that grass trees do not like being relocated.

It is time authorities rectified this situation so this iconic plant, found only in Australia, has a better chance of survival.

The magnificent Grass Tree Forest should benefit our community indefinitely.

- Meryl Brown Tobin
Photographs by Hartley Tobin



Anyone interested in joining the South Gippsland Conservation Society and reactivating the dormant Bass Valley & District Branch should contact Meryl Brown Tobin on h-mtobin@bigpond.com.



They Found Grandma's Tractor

Threats to Western Port seem endless.



In 1967 the State Electricity Commission wanted to build a nuclear power plant on French Island.

Western Port seagrass was sacrificed and almost wiped out to provide insulation for Melbourne homes in the 1970s.

The Hastings container port has been halted but now AGL wants to park a floating storage and regasification unit at Crib Point. Rising sea levels and accelerating coastal erosion are becoming imperatives and the need for a long-term management plan for Western Port is obvious.

Stretches of cliff at Settlement Point, Corinella, have slumped and exposed the contents of an illegal dump. The 'tip' probably started as a sink hole that provided a convenient dumping point when the area was a collection of farms and fishing shacks.

The refuse is not old enough to be of interest to antique hunters or historians, it is just rubbish, lots of it, from last century.

As the tides scour the cliff, refuse spews into Western Port.

This is yet another threat to birds and fish, as well as children. Locals are desperately trying to gather the lighter pollutants but the site is only accessible for short periods at low tide.

As well as decades old household refuse, parts of tractors and cars from mid-last century are tumbling down the cliff face and into the water.

The locals say that urgent action is required and are asking two questions: which authority is accountable and when will definitive action be taken?

QUIZ?

1. Who wrote 'The Red Badge of Courage'?
2. What is the longest river in Australia?
3. Who allegedly killed officer J.D Tippit?
4. What does a Bibliophile enjoy?
5. What are the Benelux countries?
6. What character did Liza Minelli play in the movie 'Cabaret'?
7. Who was executed by firing squad in Utah in 1977?
8. What name did Pablo Picasso sign to his paintings?
9. What is the largest organ in the human body?
10. What two Japanese cities are spelled with the letters K,O,O,T and Y?
11. Who did Frank Sinatra marry at the Sands hotel in Las Vegas in 1996?
12. Where did 913 people die together in South America in 1978?
13. What is the nickname of artist Kevin Charles Hart?
14. What is the chemical formula for table salt?
15. Where does Alfred Hitchcock appear in Lifeboat?
16. What Jewish holiday is the Day of Atonement?
17. What invasion was code named Operation Overlord?
18. What kind of animal is a Bunyip Bluegum?
19. Where is the line of life?
20. Who wrote and illustrated 'The Magic Pudding'.
21. What is the northernmost country in Continental South America?
22. What superstar porcine character is in love with a frog?
23. What kind of animal is a brumby?
24. How many balls are used in a game of billiards?
25. Who discovered New Zealand in 1642?
26. What month were you born if your birth stone is sardonyx?
27. What country are you in if you woo in the Wu dialect?
28. What's the most frequently-broken bone in the human body?
29. How many tusks does an Indian rhinoceros have?



GRANTVILLE

The Lions Op Shop which is located within

GRANTVILLE GARDEN
SUPPLIES

Bass Highway
Grantville

Is open from 10am to
3pm

Mondays,
Thursdays
and Fridays

0416 024 356

COVID19

PROTOCOLS

APPLY

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Stephen Crane. 2. The Darling. 3. Lee Harvey Oswald. 4. Books. 5. Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg. 6. Sally Bowes. 7. Gary Gilmore. 8. Picasso. 9. The Liver. 10. Tokyo and Kyoto. 11. Mia Farrow. 12. Jonestown, Guyana. 13. Pro. 14. NACL. 15. In a newspaper ad. 16. Yom Kippur. 17. The Normandy Invasion. 18. A Koala. 19. The Palm. 20. Norman Lindsay. 21. Colombia. 22. Miss Piggy. 23. A wild horse. 24. Three. 25. Abel Tasman. 26. August. 27. China. 28. The clavicle, or collar bone. 29. Two.

Corinella and
District
Community
Centre



48 Smythe St
Corinella
5678 0777

Saturday art group is back. This is a small group that meet and chat as they work on their paintings. Numbers are limited due to physical distancing requirements however the group would welcome additional members. Please contact the centre on 5678 0777 between 10am-4pm Monday to Thursday to find out more.



We have had a number of loaves of bread donated and these are in our freezer and available as part of our food pantry. If you need a food parcel to get you through the week you can pick one up from the centre between 10am -4pm

The centre is gradually reintroducing our programs. Our Wednesday Crafties group is back on the second and fourth Wednesday in the month. Numbers are restricted to up to 12, physical distancing and hygiene practices are in place. The group is now meeting in the Art/ Multipurpose space. Whether you are into knitting, crochet, or sewing please contact the centre if you would like to know more about this group. Please note, groups cannot currently take drop ins so please call 5678 0777 .



Memoirs of Isolation - an update
We are giving you the chance to show us how life in isolation has been for you through sharing of stories, photos, paintings or poems recording how you are dealing with life in isolation. It can be as simple as a line expressing your thoughts, or artwork that has kept you sane while the ...world went crazy. Tell

us your experiences, what are you doing differently, what are you doing that you wouldn't have done before Covid19. CDCC will mount an exhibition of all we have done as a celebration of the end of restrictions. So start posting and sharing your thoughts or if you prefer you can send them by email to us at corinellaartshow@gmail.co

CORINELLA BOWLING CLUB INC.
22 Balcombe Street, Corinella
Ph. 5678 0497



Follow and like us on facebook
Corinella Bowling Club Inc
Dave Burzacott,
Tournament Secretary
0423 593 227
or Steve Bray,

San Remo Bowls Club inc.
Wynne Road,
San Remo
(03) 5678 5558



Website:
sanremobowlsclub.teamapp.com

**CWA
WOODLEIGH VALE
BRANCH**



**ALL MEETINGS
POSTPONED.**
WATCH THIS SPACE
If you'd like to know more,
Ring Carol on (03) 5678 8041

**GRANTVILLE COUNTRY
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION.
FRIENDSHIP
SHARING and CARING.**



The Grantville branch of the Country Women's Association Meets on the second Monday of each month at Grantville Public Hall at 12:30pm.

The Craft and Chat group meet on the 4th Monday of the month at 10 am
Theatre, Lunches, Shopping etc
Call Betty on 0418 396 863
**ALL MEETINGS
POSTPONED.**

WATCH THIS SPACE



Community Group Directory

Artists' Society of Phillip Island

56-58 Church Street Cowes

For more information <http://aspi-inc.org.au/>

Australian Red Cross

Woodleigh Vale Branch

Contact Sheila Campbell 5678 8210

Bass Coast Community Baptist Church

Minister - Barry MacDonald 5995 3904

Bass Coast L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program

Wonthaggi

Leanne Tilley 5672 3731 or 0467 590 679

Bass Coast Strollers

Contact Liz Hart 5678 0346

Website <http://basscoaststrollers.org/>

Bass Friends of the RSL

Secretary Trish Thick 5678 1071

Mobile 0409 851 599

Bass Valley Community Group

Monday - Friday 5678 2277

Bass Valley Landcare

2-4 Bass School Rd, Bass 5678 2335

Boomerang Bags Phillip Island & San Remo

- Wednesdays 10am - 4pm.

Contact kylie@boomerangbagspistr.org

Cape Woolamai Coast Action

Email capewoolamaicoastaction@gmail.com

second Saturday Monthly. 8.00am to 10.00am Marg Dumergue 0419007758

Corinella & District Probus Club

First Wednesday of each month Bass Hotel.

Heather Reid 0421 012 519

Corinella Boating & Angling Club

Website www.corinellafishing.com.au

Corinella Bowling Club Inc.

Balcombe Street Corinella.

Jacquie Carter 5678 0596

Corinella & District Community Centre

48 Smythe St Corinella. 5678 0777

Website www.corinellacomunitycentre.org.au

Corinella & District Men's Shed & Woodies Group

Corinella Road

Contact Ken Thomas 0427 889 191

Corinella Foreshore Committee

Contact Barbara Oates 0427 780 245

Coronet Bay, & Surrounds Playgroup (0-4yrs)

Coronet Bay Hall

Wednesdays 10am - 12noon

Contacts Catherine 0416 112 629

Coronet Bay Adult Social Club

Tuesday 7-10pm Coronet Bay Hall

Ann 5678 0341

Country Women's Association of Vic inc. Bass Group.

Cowes Lorraine 5952 2165

Glen Alvie Libby 5678 3280

Grantville Annie 5678 8037

Loch Val 5659 4268

Woodleigh Vale Carol 5678 8041

Cowes Table Tennis Group

Barbara Parrott 0425 885 834

Grantville & District Ambulance Auxiliary

Contact - Shelly 0417 593 497

Grantville Business & Community Association

Secretary Sandy Ridge

Email thegbca1@gmail.com

Grantville & District Foreshore Committee

Contact: Barbara Coles

Email bacoles@bigpond.net.au

Grantville Recreation Reserve Committee

Pat Van 5997 6221

Grantville Tennis Club Inc.

Contact Pat Van 5997 6221

Lang Lang Bowling Club

Ian Painter 5997 6554 M: 0419 646 040

Email langlangbowling@bigpond.com

Lang Lang Cricket Club

Secretary: Sharon May 0459 368 431

Lang Lang Playgroup

(0-Preschool) Thursdays 9.30am

Contact: Leah Dyall 0418 463 963

Amanda Gray 0458 195 258

Lions Club of Bass Valley

First Tuesday each month 6pm

Grantville Transaction Centre then third

Tuesday each month, Dinner at Bass Hotel.

Lyn Renner 0416 024 356

Nyora Youth Group

Contact Michael Felton

Email nyorahall3987@outlook.com

Phillip Island Bowls Club

Dunsmore Avenue, Cowes.

New members welcome, Free coaching

Contact George Mol 0407 851 065

Phillip Island Camera Club

Meet at the Heritage, Cowes.

Contact Susan 0408 136 717

Phillip Island Community Art & Craft Gallery Inc.

Cowes Cultural Centre Thompson Ave

All Enquiries Call Aleta 0419 525 609

Phillip Island Indoor Carpet Bowlers

Come and join the fun. Phillip Island

Celebration Centre 6 Lions Court, Cowes

Contact Jack 0434 944 380

Phillip Island & District Railway Modellers Inc.

The Phillip Island & District Railway

Contact Peter 5956 9513

Phillip Island Bicycle User Group

Meets Wednesdays 10am Amaze'n'Things

Secretary Ruth Scott More information at

Phillipislandbicycleusergroup.com.au and Fb

Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL)

56-58 Church Street, Cowes 5952 1131

Email Linda Morrison manager@pical.org.au

Phillip Island Patchworkers

Meet on a Monday night from 7.30.

Contact - Lyn Duguid 0427 593 936

Email phillipislandpatchworkers@gmail.com

Phillip Island-San Remo - Bass Coast Vegan Community

Find us on Facebook under our title as above

Phillip Island Senior Citizens Club

Phone bookings 5952 2973

Email piscc123@gmail.com

Phillip Island World Vision Club

Second Wednesday each month 1.30pm

St. Phillip's Church Cowes

Enquiries - Thelma 5678 5549

Pioneer Bay Progress Association

Zena Benbow Email: pbpa@bigpond.com

Probus Club of San Remo

Second Monday of the month (except

January) 10am at the Newhaven Public Hall.

Visitors Welcome.

Enquiries Bob Andrews 0437 526 757

Rhyll Community Association.

Secretary Cheryl Overton 0427 680 483

South Coast Speakers - Toastmasters

Meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday

from 7.30 to 9.30pm at the San Remo Hotel,

145 Marine Parade, San Remo.

Contact Patricia 0412 339 795

Email info@southcoastspeakers.org.au

South Gippsland Arthritis Support Group

Contact: Adam 0408 353 785

Marg 0417 154 057

Diane 5658 1443

South Gippsland Mental Illness Carer's Group

Maggie 5658 1781 Rosemary 5662 4352

South Gippsland Parkinson's Support Group

Third Friday each month 10am for 10.30

Leongatha RSL

Meeting/Guest Speaker/Lunch available.

Email Suzy.marshman@hotmail.com

South Gippsland Support after Suicide

Phone 9421 7640

Email southgippslandsas@gmail.com

Survivors of Suicide

Raising awareness to aid prevention

Jillian Drew 0413 056 165

St Pauls Anglican Church Bass

HC at 12.30pm every Sunday

Contact Sandy Ridge 5997 6127

St Georges Anglican Church Corinella

Op Shop open Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri

10am - 2pm Saturday 9am - 12.30pm

Tenby Point Residents Association

President Jean Coffey 0419 500 593

Wonthaggi Genealogy Inc.

Family History Centre, Library Complex.

Murray Street, Wonthaggi 5672 3803

Tues & Thurs 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-1pm

secretary@wonthaggigenealogy.org.au

Woolamai Racing Club

Contact the Secretary (03) 5678 7585

SILENCE IS DEADLY

IS THERE A WORKING SMOKE ALARM IN YOUR BEDROOM?

We have all retrieved our heaters from hibernation. Winter is the highest risk period for residential fires due to the increased use of heating equipment.

Having your heaters checked and in good working condition, together with careful and correct use, will greatly reduce the danger these appliances present.

CFA attends a large number of avoidable house fires. These fires have devastating consequences, significant injuries and tragically, some fires result in deaths.

Poorly maintained gas fires could cause deadly carbon monoxide poisoning.

There can be no greater reason to have your gas heater inspected and serviced than to ensure the safety of loved ones.

Another common mistake is people drying clothes indoors near heaters and fireplaces, which can be dangerous.

Clothes should be kept at least one metre from the heat source.

Every household should consider their fire safety practices and examine the potential risks around their home.

There are a number of ways people can prepare for winter:

□ Turn off all portable heating and extinguish open fires before leaving home.

□ Ensure heaters are installed, maintained and operated according to manufacturers' instructions.

□ Always use a fire screen in front of an open fire.

□ Chimneys and flues should be cleaned annually.

□ Keep wood and other combustibles at least one metre from fire.

□ Children must be supervised near all types of heating.

Is your chimney & flue fit for the colder weather?

Heaters are the major cause of fires, especially during the winter months.

- Ensure all home heating, including flues and chimneys, are regularly cleaned and serviced by a certified technician.
- Turn off all heating and extinguish open fires before leaving home or going to sleep.



For further
information
www.cfa.vic.gov.au



The Bass Valley Community Centre is slowly starting to open up again.

It's all been a little slow due to the need to ensure that each step taken is safe to take. Both our clients and our volunteers are for the most part either people with health conditions or are older and are thus more at risk of the consequences of the Covid-19 coronavirus. We have been ensuring that every step we take is sanctioned and follows the dictates of the various bodies setting the rules for responding to the virus.

Our first opening was the Hadden House Op Shop which came back on Tuesday 9th June, the day after the Queen's Birthday holiday. Many people had rung us over the preceding weeks regarding opening the shop. A number of them said it was a big hole in their life not being able to have their regular visit to the op shop. And it definitely seemed to be the case as we were inundated by customers.

We have also returned to accepting donations and are very appreciative of those who are now bringing donation in as well as those who held off while we were closed.

We have precautions in place for the op shop. The volunteer staff are on the lookout for numbers being too high in the shop (in the event, for example, that a bus turns up full of eager op shop shoppers) and we warn patrons not to crowd the individual rooms of the shop.

We also have a hand sanitizer dispenser available at the door and encourage people to use it. We have instituted a system of collecting people's names and phone numbers as they come to the shop and packing them away with the date they attended.

We are doing this so that in the event that we get a call from someone who tests positive or a health authority identifying a date when an infected person was in the shop, we can ring all the people who attended the shop on that day. They can then get tested themselves and make their contribution to stemming the coronavirus tide.

Our next service to return, and again, this was eagerly awaited, has been the Community Shopping Bus that we run on Tuesdays. It ran its first run on Tuesday 23rd June.

We are taking precautions as advised by the State Government. The number of shoppers we can take on the bus is limited.

We can't have passengers sitting next to each other and no one can sit up front with the driver. We have hand sanitiser available for use (after shopping in particular).

We ensure that the air-conditioning/heater is not set to recirculate the air of the bus.

We are now hoping that the environment will be right to get our other activities back on track, and in particular our Friendship Group.

As indicated above, we are very careful about what we are doing due to our clients and volunteers being particularly at risk. We have let those who feel nervous about returning know that we fully support them. For the most part our experience has been that people are feeling so shut in from the lockdown that coming back here is like a holiday.

Well so far they haven't been able to go on holidays so it might as well be considered as one.

**Bass Valley Community Group Inc.
2-4 Bass School Road
Bass Vic 3991**

Ph: 5678 2277



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Domestic Commercial

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REC# 28295

CORONET BAY RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOC INC (CBRRA)

President: Chris Petrie M:0400749700
president@coronetbayrra.org.au
secretary@coronetbayrra.org.au
treasurer@coronetbayrra.org.au
Website: www.coronetbayrra.org.au
Facebook: Coronet Bay Ratepayers &
Residents Association
[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/2417412888502820/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2417412888502820/)

CBRRA welcomes new members.

Meetings are currently on hold in consideration of the COVID-19 situation but are normally quarterly at the Coronet Bay Hall. Annual subscription is just \$10 per person. We update members with news on the latest local issues and minutes of meetings. At meetings we discuss community concerns and interests, planning and development proposals, with a local ward councillor presenting council matters.

Having your say is as simple as joining and coming along. We represent our members on all matters important to the liveability of our town and surrounds.

CBRRA were recently very grateful to receive a \$1,500.00 grant from Metro Trains. Our member Arthur Kokkinos applied for this grant on behalf of the wider community. The monies will go towards goal posts at the Coronet Bay Recreation Reserve and will no doubt bring smiles to the faces of many locals. Thank you Arthur so much for your initiative and thoughtfulness.

Social distancing stopped our general meetings so we organised a survey that included CBRRA members and the wider Coronet Bay community, to seek their thoughts on a walking track project with Bass Coast Shire Council, for wetlands at the end of Norsesmens Road.

The survey was to seek clarification on views held by the majority for how they wanted the project to continue. After collating these anonymously they are to be presented to Council, CBRRA members and the community.

At the time of going to press this was still underway so we hope to have an update to share in the next edition.

In the meantime if you would like more details please check our website listed above.

We wish you all good health in these changing, challenging times.

CORONET BAY COMMUNITY GARDEN GROUP



Email: coronetbaygarden@gmail.com
Progress of the Coronet Bay Community Garden Group, since forming early last year, has been wonderful to see. Cr Geoff Ellis officially opened the group on 1st February 2020.

The Group never expected to face the COVID-19 situation and social distancing rules, however they have moved forward with optimism, one at a time, two by two and even with three shouting to each other across the garden.

They have many achievements under their 'spades' including: harvesting of crops of tomatoes / cucumber / pumpkin / beans / pepinos and many herbs, erection of a Code of Conduct sign, creation of a substantial windbreak at the back of the garden thanks to many donations of soil, starting new plantings of snow peas / cauliflower / radish / bok choy / spinach and many others.

The windbreak will be grassed and planted with trees and shrubs.

Council sent a work detail to create a car park for both the Garden Group and the Bike Track, which was greatly appreciated, as it was getting very wet under foot.

Garden beds are now clearly numbered and records are being kept of what is planted where and when. This will assist with a more scientific approach to crop rotation, by compiling and referencing reports on success or failure.



The French Island News



FRENCH ISLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

secretaryfica@gmail.com

EMERGENCY SERVICES

There is no regular police or ambulance service on the island.

French Island has a Country Fire Authority (CFA).

There is one fire engine stationed permanently on the island.

Calling 000 is always the best option in an emergency.

For non urgent health issues islanders may utilise the Department of Health's Nurse on Call service: 1300 60 60 24

AMBULANCE

Membership Enquiries 1300 366 141 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm, Sat 9am-5pm).

Membership is advised as Air Ambulance is used from the island. If local support is required ask Ambulance to request CFA support on the island.

FRENCH ISLAND FERRY

<http://westernportferries.com.au/>

Make French Island your next weekend getaway destination, with a free shuttle bus service on weekends and public holidays from the Ferry to the Store your transport needs are taken care of. At the Cafe there's an extensive menu, bike hire available, accommodation and locally made and grown products for sale. You can cycle your way around looking at Koalas and enjoy a day of adventure or cosy by the fire in the cafe for a relaxing lunch.

Visit www.figsfrenchisland.com.au or Facebook/figsfrenchisland for more information.

289 Tankerton Road, French Island, 3921
(03) 5980 1209



FRIENDS OF FRENCH ISLAND NATIONAL PARK (FOFI)

Secretary: Meredith Sherlock.

Phone 0438 077 329

secretary@fofi.org.au

FOFI Project Days

Third Saturday each month

Membership enquiries and

More details - www.fofi.org.au

French Island Landcare

For more information on Landcare
filandcare@gmail.com.

Landcare Nursery

Glenys 0437 914 663

or Judith 0412 178 617



The BARGE

Spirit of French Island operate the vehicular barge from Corinella to the barge landing on French Island. It accommodates two standard size cars or a larger truck. **It is advisable to book as far in advance as possible, as the barge schedule and is limited by times and tides.** As a guide, the barge runs approximately every half hour for a few hours either side of high tide. Foot passengers can take the barge but they should arrange transportation at either end as there are no other facilities.

For information about fees or to book call 0428 880 729.



The French Island General Store is the only shop on the island.

It's also a café, a tourist destination and a gathering place for the French island community in times of stress. Assistance to the community is on offer as needed, right now and into the future. The shop itself is unscathed. It remains open and tourism will continue unaffected.

French Island is the largest coastal island of Victoria, located in Western Port, 61 km southeast of Melbourne. In 1997, about 70% of the island was declared the French Island National Park, administered by Parks Victoria, and was listed in the former Register of the National Estate in 1984.

The island is an unincorporated area, which means that it is not part of any municipal council, and is a declared locality of Victoria having its own postcode.

Community issues are dealt with by the French Island Community Association. The island is administered by Department of Infrastructure.

The population of the island in 2011 was around 116 people, of which about 60 were permanent residents.

French Island is relatively isolated and undeveloped. There are no mains water, mains electricity, or medical services on the island.

There is one general store and post office located on Tankerton Road about 3 km from Tankerton Jetty.

Many of the locals actively promote environmental tourism. Visitor accommodation includes camping, bed and breakfast, guesthouse and farmstay.



Notices for the French Island News should be sent to: waterlinepublishing@gmail.com

Just one sip

It was only a sip
But still, it held its grip
As it slipped between my lips
I used it to cover my unease
And thought that was the way
to please.
But enjoy it, I did indeed
The throaty taste with its
bouquet, I inhaled
It warmed my desire
But truly, this hold I must break
For it would be a mistake
To yield to my enjoyment
And to hold onto this lust
For surely that would lead to my
mistrust.

Clara McPherson



Blood lily

Haemanthus Coccineus

In autumn, the season of Easter
the artist daubs arid soil with
slashes of scarlet before ragged
bulbs send forth fat stems

Red petals encase pollen-tipped
brushes of stamens

Broad flat-leaf pairs flare on
opposite sides as flowers wither
Translucent clumps of fleshy berries
nourish purple seeds which
shrive and fall to earth

Nurtured by nature
tiny bulblets form

Death births new life

© **Maree Silver**



Zoological Treat

He was a bright little man eager to
explore all the wonders the big
wide world could offer.

His parents on the one hand were
prepared to assist in the three year
old's endeavours whilst realising
his exuberance must be somewhat
restrained.

The promise of a trip to the zoo to
encounter the strange, exciting
world of wild life was a delight to
savour. It was, however, condi-
tional on his good behaviour.

He did try, there was no denying
it. But when his father entered the
bathroom to find young son, hand
basin, taps and accessories liberal-
ly coated with the contents of a
toothpaste tube, he was moved to
demand, "You know what this
means, don't you?"

Soulful blue eyes looked up and
from the baby mouth issued the
sigh, "No ooze."

And instantly his daddy's heart
melted.

E E Caldwell

*Published with many thanks
to Maree Silver who types up
Betty's contributions for the
Waterline News.*



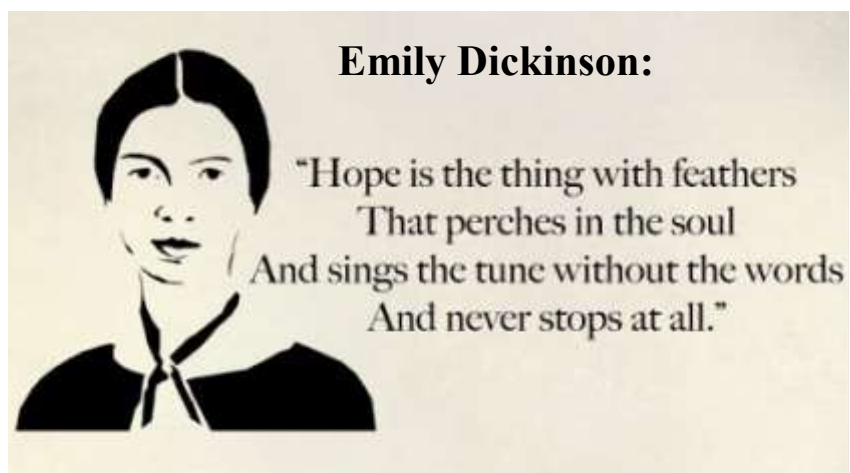
**Betty Caldwell has been writing
for the Waterline News since
July 2015.**

After retiring from fulltime
employment in 1983, Elsie
Elizabeth (Betty) Caldwell took
up voluntary occupation with the
Adult Migrant Education as a tu-
tor of English as a second lan-
guage.

From there, she went on to join
the Stories on Aging group of
writers, The Society of Women
Writers Victoria and the U3A
City, Melbourne.

Her collection of fiction includes
Home is the Teacher and its se-
quel Back to Coverdale, and Lily,
and approximately 160 short sto-
ries, plus a similar number of arti-
cles covering a wide range of sub-
jects.

Betty appeared in the Inaugural
State Edition of Who's Who in
2008.



Emily Dickinson:

"Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul
And sings the tune without the words
And never stops at all."

Gardening



GARDEN TOOLS

Humans have tilled the soil since the Neolithic period when the domestication of plants began. The earliest record of garden tools goes back at least 10,000 years.

The first multi-tool was developed around that time. It consisted of a small sharp stone blade that was set into a handle made of wood, bone or antler. It resembles a small spade and can be used to dig, clip and cut plant material and was probably also used to clear land.

Other gardening tools, including the hoe, plough and scythe then developed. All were made the same way consisting of a stone shaped tool attached to a handle made from natural materials.

The Bronze Age saw the development of the smelting process which separated tin, copper and iron into their ores. The purified ore was turned into metals that could be worked easily. Tools made from this new material were solid, sharper and lasted longer.

In the 3rd century BC in China, a wooden seed drill was developed. In the 2nd century BC, China also developed the wheelbarrow which has not changed much ever since.

The first cast iron shovel was created in America by John Ames and consisted of a broad blade on a long handle.

The Industrial Revolution brought automated tools and mass production. This started in the 19th century with the invention of machinery powered by steam and electricity. Horses and manpower were replaced with steam power and steel became the most common material for garden tools. Mass production and mass transportation made tools more widely available.

Today, garden tools can be found in many different versions but they have all evolved from humble beginnings.

Rake

In China, around 1100 BC, a rake was being used to gather and harvest hay and grain and to clear fields of leaves and plant refuse.

In 18th century America, this simple agricultural tool was very expensive and became a very important possession for many families. Today, there are many different designs of rakes. A new invention is the telescoping handle which allows the gardener to reach areas that, in the past, were impossible to reach such as removing clippings from the top of a shrub.



Garden Weeder

There are two types of weeder, the daisy grubber and the corkscrew weeder. The daisy grubber consists of a wooden handle that is about two inches long which then splits into two forming a fork shape. To use, simply place the fork around the base of the weed and push down hard on the handle. This action cuts through the stem of the weed and kills it.

The corkscrew weeder is an early 20th century invention from Britain. This tool is an open steel spiral on a wooden handle. To use, place the screw at the base of the weed and turn so that it cuts through the roots of the plant. When the screw is removed from the soil, the plant will come up with it.

Garden Knife

The garden knife can be seen in Roman art although it looks more like a scythe. It was believed that a pruning knife contained magical powers and could tell the gardener when to harvest and which plant to harvest.

Seeder

A seed dibber has a conical end that makes a hole in the ground. The seed is dropped in the hole and covered. Some models have an end that can be used to rake the soil back over the seed.

Watering Can

The first evidence of this tool is from 1692 when Lord Timothy George wrote the term 'watering can' in his garden diary. They can come in many different styles. The Haws watering can was patented in the 1880s. This design moved the handle from the top to the rear of the can which made the watering can easier to handle. Over time, the spout has also moved from the side to the bottom which allows the watering can to drain completely.

Garden tools have a unique history that is directly tied to human development. They have served mankind well and will continue into the future.

This article has been edited from an article by Mindy McIntosh-Shetter who writes an agriculture/environmental blog.

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Bass Coast Prize

2020 Bass Coast Prize for Non-Fiction

Catherine Watson

WHILE these are grim times for the arts community, for many writers, artists, musicians it's also a time to step back from the usual noise and bustle and actually create.

The second Bass Coast Prize for Non-Fiction has been brought forward to take advantage of the COVID-19 lockdown when many writers have more time for writing.

Entries are now open for the 2020 Bass Coast Prize, one of the richest competitions for non-fiction in Australia, with a total of \$10,000 in prize money. The first prize winner will receive \$5000, second \$3000 and third \$2000.

Given the cancellation of exhibitions, concerts, plays and arts festivals, including our own Phillip Island Story Gatherers Festival, the non-fiction prize keeps the literary flame burning in Bass Coast.

The prize is sponsored by Phillip Island writer and activist Phyllis Papps to encourage and support local writers of non-fiction in a time of diminishing opportunities for mainstream publication.

It's open to writers living, working or studying in Gippsland, or who have a strong connection with the Gippsland region.

While the generous prize money is important, most important to many writers is a deadline and a guarantee that their work will be read.

Julie Constable, who won second prize in the inaugural competition, said her essay *Pittosporum flowering* began by threading together journal entries about her garden.

"The Bass Coast Prize with its long form framework gave me the opportunity to reflect upon and explore the personal, environmental and historical stories that surfaced — digressions which became integral to the fabric of the essay."

The inaugural competition last year attracted 42 entries from throughout Gippsland. Ms Papps said the judges were gratified by the response from writers and impressed by the very high quality of the work submitted.

Entries can be in the form of prose or poetry but must pertain to the Gippsland region, issues or people. The required length is 4000-10,000 words.

The prize is auspiced by the *Bass Coast Post* and the *Waterline News*. The three judges are *Bass Coast Post* editor Catherine Watson, *Waterline News* editor Geoff Ellis and local writer Anne Heath Mennell.

Entries close on September 4, 2020 and prize winners will be announced in November 2020.

The winning entries will be published in the *Bass Coast Post*. For more information and entry criteria visit Bass Coast Prize for Non Fiction at basscoastprizeforfiction.weebly.com or email Phyllis Papps at p.m.papps@waterfront.net.au.



Freemasons Victoria (Wonthaggi & Phillip Island) Powlett Lodge No. 611

Meets at the Wonthaggi Masonic Centre

Woolamai Daylight Lodge No. 277

Meets at the Wonthaggi Masonic Centre

Phillip Island Lodge No. 512 Meets Phillip Island Masonic
Centre, Church Street Cowes

Membership & visitor enquiries - Glen Richards 0419518351

Your Say

HOLDEN PROVING GROUND

I am writing to seek your support to recognise, protect and preserve the Holden Proving Ground (HPG) for the people of Victoria. The HPG is currently for sale so the matter is urgent.

Background

The HPG site covers 877 hectares, roughly 100kms south east of Melbourne, just off the Bass Highway, in Bass Coast Shire. It was opened in 1957.

To ensure security, the site has 18 kilometres of fencing and consequently has been undisturbed for the past sixty years.

The site is unique in providing a variety of ecosystems and high quality habitat for rare and endangered flora and fauna and is the last significant parcel of coastal forest in the Western Port region.

General access to the HPG has been impossible for most of this time and very few people have any idea of its environmental, cultural and habitat values.

Nevertheless, a coalition of many environmental and community groups, stakeholders and concerned individuals are fighting hard to ensure the protection of this special place.

Threats

- Currently zoned 'Farming', there are no significant protective overlays in place.
- Potential for inappropriate usage, clearance or development.
- Potential conflict between commercial (sand mining) and environmental needs.
- Possibility for the site to be overlooked in the Distinctive Areas and Landscape Program currently under consideration by the State Government.

Benefits of Protection

This unique and valuable site would be an asset for all Victorians, especially the Western Port, Bass Coast and South Gippsland regions.

A significant number of endangered fauna and flora has been identified within the boundaries of the site which would assist with research to improve our knowledge of these ecosystems and how best to ensure their survival into the future.

Protection of undisturbed habitat for endangered indigenous plant and wildlife species and could allow the recovery and return of wildlife that once thrived there.

Coastal forests form an important part of the environmental health of bays and shorelines but have been mostly cleared from the region. This parcel of coastal forest is uniquely valuable and would help preserve the habitat and biodiversity in the region.

Acquisition of the site would protect a key link in a significant bio-link corridor, linking other small remnant stands of woodlands in the area, extending into Cardinia Shire.

The site would enhance the natural attractions of the area and improve the economic and environmental future for the whole region. It could be an additional destination to include in the State's tourist attractions to increase visitor numbers to the State and to enhance its environmental credentials.

Action?

The sale of this important site is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to preserve priceless eco-systems which have survived undisturbed by sheer good luck.

The community is requesting:

- *Permanent protection.**
- *Purchase by the State government for the people of Victoria**

These actions would be consistent with other protections in place in the environment around the Ramsar wetlands of Western Port, the UN Biosphere, the declared Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Program for Bass Coast and other scattered reserves in the area.

In May, the Bass Coast Shire Council unanimously supported a motion to ask the State Government to buy the site for the preservation and recognition of its 'environmental, cultural and coastal habitat values'. Council is awaiting a response.

It is unfortunate that the sale is happening while the State Government is focused on managing the pandemic, protecting the economy and supporting the community.

Nevertheless, the site is a valuable asset which will be priceless to future generations. If no action is taken it could be lost forever.

I'm hoping you will hear the community and support our efforts to protect this hidden treasure.

Thank you for your time,
Anne Heath Mennell
Tenby Point

This letter was sent to the Premier, relevant ministers and politicians

Western Port Ward Councillors

Cr Clare Le Serve



clare.leserve@basscoast.vic.gov.au

Mobile:

0448 083 286

And follow on facebook !

Cr Bruce Kent



bruce.kent@basscoast.vic.gov.au

Mobile:

0428 741 843

Cr Geoff Ellis



wpwbcge@gmail.com

Mobile:

0428 840 868

And follow on facebook !

Out and about.....



Cape Barren Geese are thriving on Phillip Island after being introduced in the 1980s.

The above photo, taken on French Island is entitled Protecting Her Eggs and was supplied by Clare Le Serve. (Page 36 as well).

The pair in the top right photo have been spotted in their travels around Coronet Bay, near the contentious Agars Rd 'safety zones'.



CHASE COMPUTERS

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A Cook's Journal — Jan Cheshire



WE'VE been enjoying lots of fresh figs this year. They are so versatile served either as a dessert, or our favourite fig dish, baked with blue cheese with a salad or as an entrée.

The fig tree is thought to be the first crop to be domesticated for human consumption, well over 11,000 years ago. The fig was prominent in Greek, Egyptian and Roman culture, and of course, is famous for its association with Adam and Eve in the Bible.

BAKED FIGS WITH WALNUTS (serves 4)

Ingredients

12 ripe figs
3 tablespoons of caster sugar
1 tablespoon of orange juice
65 grams of walnut halves
1 tablespoon of honey
1 teaspoon of orange flower water (optional)

Method

Arrange figs (halved or quartered) in a buttered dish.
Sprinkle with 2 tablespoons of sugar and the orange juice.
Bake for 20 minutes at 200 degrees basting with juices.
Add walnuts and remaining sugar.
Turn oven down to 150 degrees and bake for a further 10 minutes.
Arrange on a serving dish.
Add the honey and orange flower water to cooking juices in a saucepan and warm over low heat.
Spoon over the figs.
Serve warm or cold with yoghurt.

BAKED FIGS WITH GORGONZOLA AND PROSCIUTTO (serves 2)

Ingredients

6 figs
100 grams gorgonzola or other blue cheese
6 thin slices of prosciutto
200mls thickened cream
Rocket to serve

Method

Preheat the oven to 190 degrees and line a baking tin with paper.
Trim the figs and cut a cross in the top. Gently squeeze the top of each to open slightly.
Place a small piece of blue cheese in each cross.
Wrap a slice of prosciutto around each fig.
Place on baking tin and bake for 10 minutes.
Make a sauce by heating the cream gently in a pan and whisking in any remaining cheese.
Season.
Serve with rocket leaves.

I HOPE you are all staying well and enjoying life regardless of the weather and the government! Our garden has been good to us this year, with plenty of vegetables, apples and rhubarb. Quite honestly, we don't water it or feed it and it still keeps us on our toes.

WE had amazing crops of pink lady and granny smith apples this year.

I've been wracking my brains as what to do with them all. I have dried them, made cakes, tarts, crumbles, etc. I have even frozen them.

The best thing I made was this lovely and easy cake from a book titled *Now for Something Sweet* by the Monday Morning Cooking Club. I hope you'll like it too.

APPLE & JAM OIL CAKE

Serves about 10

Ingredients

6 eggs
345 grams caster sugar
250ml oil
1 teaspoon of vanilla extract
300 grams of self-raising flour, sifted
¼ cup of strawberry jam (I used plum jam)
3 large granny smith apples, peeled and sliced
1 tablespoon of cinnamon mixed with 1 tablespoon of caster sugar

Method:

Heat the oven to 180C. Grease and line a 24cm round spring-form cake tin.
Using an electric mixer beat eggs and caster sugar until pale and creamy.
Add the oil and vanilla and beat till combined. Gently fold in the flour.
Pour half of the batter into the tin and dot with the jam. Cover with half of the sliced apple. Sprinkle with the cinnamon and half the sugar
Top with the remaining batter and the remaining apples slices.
Sprinkle over the remaining caster sugar.
Bake for 1 hour then reduce temperature to 160C and bake for 30 minutes until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean.

ENJOY!



A History of Corinella Probus, Part Two



A History of the Probuc Club of Corinella and District Inc.
A Historical Report written by Rob Parsons, Past President 2019-2020.

Part II From Corinella to the George Bass Hotel.



2002 August. When the Probuc Club was first formed all the meetings were held at Corinella Community Hall and remained there for the first 10 years. A newsletter was produced, with the first edition starting in September 2002.

Photo Left:
Corinella Public Hall

2006 April. While Marian Brennan was President of the Club the first "Corinella Currents" was produced for

Meeting 42 on the 5th April 2006, and was named, produced and edited by Les Ridge. Very fortunately the Corinella Currents has been able to provide a factual history of the movement of venues of The Probuc Club of Corinella from its inception.

2011 October. During the Presidency of Peter Thick it was reported that the kitchen in Corinella Public Hall needed repair and renovation. Funding for such works would be from current hirers, including the Probuc Club. Consequently, the Corinella Community Centre was considered as a possible club meeting venue. Various aspects and requirements were discussed in detail and it was decided that the issue would be aired at the October Committee Meeting, with a vote to be held in November.

2011 November. The plight of the Club Members who served in the kitchen during Club meetings was discussed. Some of the points raised were: The ineffectual and impractical heating of the kitchen, making the whole area most uncomfortable during the colder months; Ovens and food warmers that required constant supervision in order to prevent food from being either undercooked or burned; That the kitchen volunteers inevitably missed hearing the guest speaker. Indeed, one of the major Problems with the Corinella Hall was that those members that were arranging morning tea and lunch in the kitchen could not hear the meetings and so missed out on what was going on. Even though a "Baby Alarm speaker system" was hooked up, they still felt that they missed out.

2011 December. The vote for the move to the Community Centre was 42 for and 12 against, with 10 votes not returned. Whilst a consensus was never going to be possible, it appeared that a significant majority were in favour of the move. So the Community Centre was booked for 2012 and the first meeting was held there in **February**.

2012 February. Under the Presidency of Peter Thick, the Probuc Club moved to the Corinella Community Centre.

2012 March. Discussions began regarding what to do in the Corinella Community Centre kitchen if a Catering Officer could not be found. A roster system was suggested and later organised.

At this time, Inaugural President Ian Harold Knight was conferred with Life Membership. Ian wrote: *"To all my friends, I was speechless with the honour I received with a Life Membership of our great Probus Club. This award could not have been achieved without the help of my wonderful wife Molly. These awards are usually presented at the end of service, but my service is far from finished. My membership awards are displayed in our living room for all to admire. Ian Knight. A very proud member."* Molly Knight was also conferred with Life Membership. Ian Passed away in October 2018.

2013. September. While Trish Thick was President of the Club, the Committee started to look for an alternative home for their meetings. The Coronet Bay Hall Committee had offered an affordable rent and they also offered to build a cupboard for Probus paraphernalia. The club would be allowed to use their crockery and kitchen. At this venue the kitchen volunteers would also be able to hear the meetings.



Photo above: **Corinella and District Community Centre.**

2013 October. On the 17th October 2013 the Club changed its name to "The Probus Club of Corinella and District Inc" and revised its Constitution to be in line with the Victorian Government CAV* (*Consumer Affairs Victoria).

2013 December. Although voting forms were provided in December regarding the change of venue there is no record as to what happened. The move needed 75% of the members to be in favour.

2014 August. The kitchen staff at the Corinella Community Centre reported that they are concerned about the number of visitors to the kitchen during food preparation time.

2014 November. The committee decided to move back to Corinella Hall. It was reported in the Corinella Currents that the club would be moving away from The Corinella Community Centre and return to the Corinella Hall. Regrettably the fees for the Hall had increased and were more expensive than the Centre, but the move had to be made according to President Trish Thick *"as the kitchen crew are finding it difficult to work in the small confines of the centre kitchen"*.

2014 December. Some purchases were made ready for the change to the Hall and a cupboard was being made available.

2015 May. Bert Allison took on the Presidency in March and Corinella Currents reported that the meeting for May was in The Corinella Public Hall. This would suggest that the Club did not move from the Community Centre to the Public Hall until that time.

2015 November. President Bert Allison announced that they will be voting on a motion to move to the Coronet Bay Hall. Bert resigned from the Club in **February**, reasoning that he did not agree with some of the decisions made. No decision regarding the move was announced in the Newsletter. Membership had declined from 65 to 40 during 2015.

Photo Right: Coronet Bay Hall.

2016 March. New President Phil Kinniff fires up the Club. *Corinella Currents* show that the March meeting was held in the Coronet Bay Hall, so the move from Corinella Public Hall had been made. The Committee had started to meet at the Bistro in Maru.



2016 June. Members were asked to consider a change of venue to the George Bass Hotel.

2016. July. President Phil announced that the Club was "off to the Bass Hotel".

2016 September. *Corinella Currents* showed that the September meeting was held at the George Bass Hotel where we still happily remain today.



Photo Left. The George Bass Hotel.

2016 December. President Phil Kinniff wrote:

"Over the years we started in Corinella Hall. Unsettled, we moved to the Community Centre, back to the Hall, then to the Coronet Bay Hall. After many years of moving around, we seem to have found a more central spot at the George Bass Hotel. Our members seem more at home there. Hopefully this is our final move...."

August 2002 to December 2011:
February 2012 to April 2015:
May 2015 to February 2016:
March 2016 to August 2016:
September 2016 to Present Day:

Corinella Public Hall.
Corinella Community Centre.
Corinella Public Hall.
Coronet Bay Hall.
The George Bass Hotel.

2020 April. Our membership at last count was 79 although Covid19 has thrown up some challenges for membership renewals for this year.

Some of the Foundation Members that are still with the Club some 18 years later are: Clare Caughey, Thelma Churchill, Alex Cole, Celia Hendriks, Sue and Phil Kinniff, Bruce and Margaret Pryor.

Other members that have been in the club for a while, and have seen all these moves include: Helen Hempel (2002), Jim and Elizabeth Forse (2003), Brian and Heather Wheelan (2004), Les and Sandy Ridge (2005), Cathy McLeod (2005), Judi Thurgood (2007), Trish Thick (2007) and Peter Thick (2008).

**For further information about joining our Probus Club please contact
Secretary Heather Reid on 0421 012 519**

Overview of COVID-19 Impacts in Bass Coast



Impact

Family Violence

Vic Police have provided the following advice:

- Bass Coast has a 25% higher rate of family violence incidents compared to Victoria
- Significant increase reported in the rate of family violence
- Overall crime levels have reduced due to restrictions

Food security

Food relief providers have provided the following advice:

- Food providers claim up to 200% requests for food packages

Homelessness

Salvoca have provided the following assistance:

- 21 families and individuals to pay of rents arrears to prevent eviction
- 21 families and individuals to pay rents advance to prevent homelessness
- 13 families to pay relocation costs to prevent homelessness
- Demand and Intake has increased by 90.7% from March to May
- 68 crisis motel placements

Mental Health

South Coast Service Providers Network have provided the following advice:

- significant increase in new clients and many existing clients with mental health issues
- Clients benefiting from telehealth counselling sessions

DHHS have provided the following advice:

- Bass Coasts adults rates of psychological distress (15%) is higher than state average and increasing
- Alcohol related ambulance attendances for drugs or alcohol are 50% higher than the State
- Bass Coast residents spend approx. \$17m on gaming venues annually

Community Groups

Council surveyed 248 **Community Groups**:

- Significant impacts identified: Social (37%), Operational (32%) and Financial (23%)
- 64% identified grants as being the greatest support for their group at this time
- Other impacts included:
 - Sponsorship/fundraising
 - Participation decreasing
 - Fear to engage
 - Inability to pay fee
 - Social isolation

Recreation and Arts Participation

GippSport has provided the following advice:

- 100% of formal club activity has ceased
- Impacts to Clubs include:
 - Sponsorship/fundraising
 - Engagement
 - Fear of spread
 - Fear for future
 - Detrimental health outcomes

Epidemics, Pandemics, Confusion and Fear: A historical perspective. By Robyn Smith



Viral and bacterial infections have always been with us and possibly always will. As a species we have been surviving epidemics since at least 450 BC. While every single death related to COVID-19 is tragic, we will survive.



COVID-19, HIV/AIDS and other pandemics tell a very similar story with a recurrent message regarding spitting and washing hands. They also often reflect false information, conspiracy theories and the need for someone to blame.

Great Plague of Athens: 430-426 BC

This was an epidemic that devastated the city-state of Athens, then spread through Greece and the Eastern Mediterranean. An estimated 75-100,000 died. (25% of the population) It is believed an infectious disease caused it, Ebola and Typhus are two suspects. Thucydides (c.460-400BC)

(An illustration from Thucydides and the Plague.)

A common belief at this time held Apollo responsible as he was the God of Plagues.



The Black Death: 1347-1351

Also known as the Pestilence and the Plague, this was the most fatal pandemic recorded in human history, resulting in the deaths of 75–200 million people in Eurasia and North Africa.

Historians think the disease was brought to England by French ships, and most likely caused by the fleas on rats that lived in the cargo.

Doctors believed herbs would counter the "evil" smells of the plague and prevent them from becoming infected. The beak costume worn by plague doctors had a wide brimmed leather hat to indicate their profession.



Great Plague of London: 1665-1666

The bubonic plague killed an estimated 100,000 people—almost a quarter of London's population, in 18 months. It is thought that the plague was carried to England by Dutch ships trading cotton from Amsterdam.

The Plague was caused by the *Yersinia pestis* bacterium, which is usually

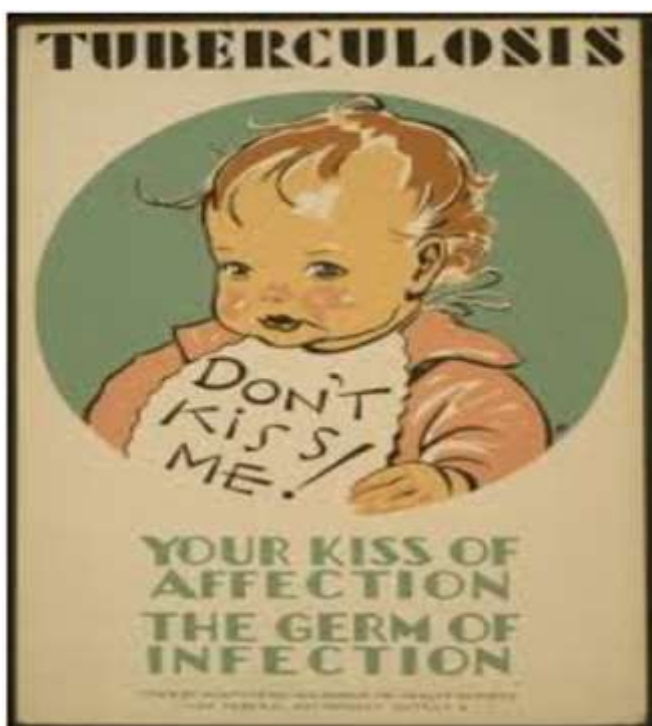
transmitted through the bite of an infected rat flea. The Mayor of London believed cats and dogs transmitted it resulting in the rat's main predator being eliminated.

The population who suffered the most were those living in the most precarious conditions. This is similar with the COVID-19 virus, poverty, overcrowding, squalid living conditions all add to their vulnerability.

Tuberculosis: 1700s to present day.

In the 1700s TB was called “the white plague” due to the paleness of patients. It was commonly called “consumption” in the 1800s even after Schonlein named it tuberculosis.

My cousin contracted TB in the 1960s. She spent months in the Kingston Rehabilitation Hospital in Moorabbin. We were all required to sterilize any cutlery or crockery. As with COVID-19, the authorities followed up as many people as they could to help stop spreading TB. My most vivid memory when visiting my cousin was the large jars of medications she was required to take every day.



TB started reappearing in Australia during the 1970s, brought in, it is thought, mainly by refugees and migrants. I was working as medical librarian for the Commonwealth Dept of Health at the time and remember the distress of the Chief Medical Officer that all the facilities, like Kingston, and Fairfield had been closed.

The WHO estimates that of the 10 million infected, 1.5 million people died from TB. It has been reported on the ABC that a crew member on the Ruby Princess tested positive for TB.



Spanish flu pandemic: 1918-1919

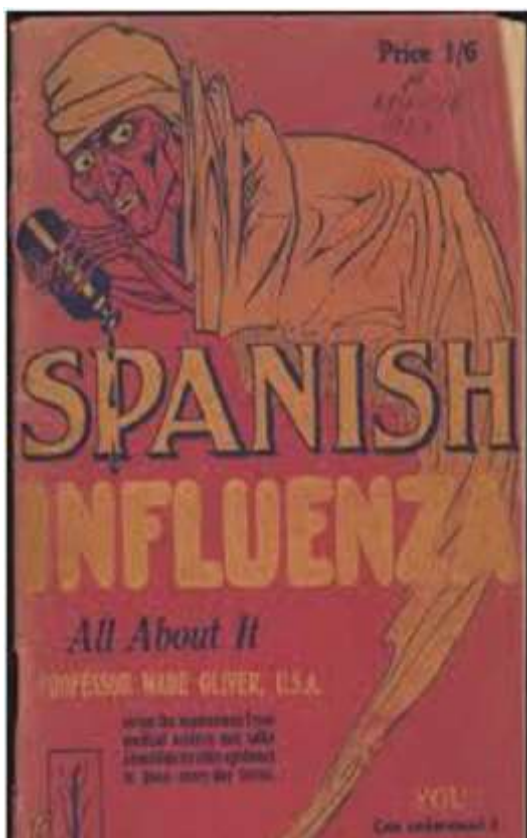
The Spanish flu was an unusually deadly influenza pandemic caused by the H1N1 influenza A virus. Lasting about 15 months, from spring 1918 to early summer 1919, it infected 500 million people – about a third of the world's population at the time.

It's the biggest killer in Australia's recorded history, affecting workers at the Wonthaggi Coal Mines in 1919.

The control strategies were similar to today's efforts; the border between NSW and Victoria was shut down, people isolated and tried to find someone to

blame. There was next to no Government Assistance at the time.

While it's unlikely that the "Spanish Flu" originated in Spain, scientists are still unsure of its source. France, China and Britain have all been suggested as the potential birthplace of the virus, as has the United States, where the first known case was reported at a military base in Kansas on March 11, 1918.



It is spread the same way as many viruses, through coughing, spitting and bad hygiene.

The disease spread from humans to pigs.

The Spanish Flu border stoush between Victoria and NSW was captured in this illustration by Norman Lindsay on the cover of this edition of The Bulletin.





HIV/AIDS: 1981 – to present day

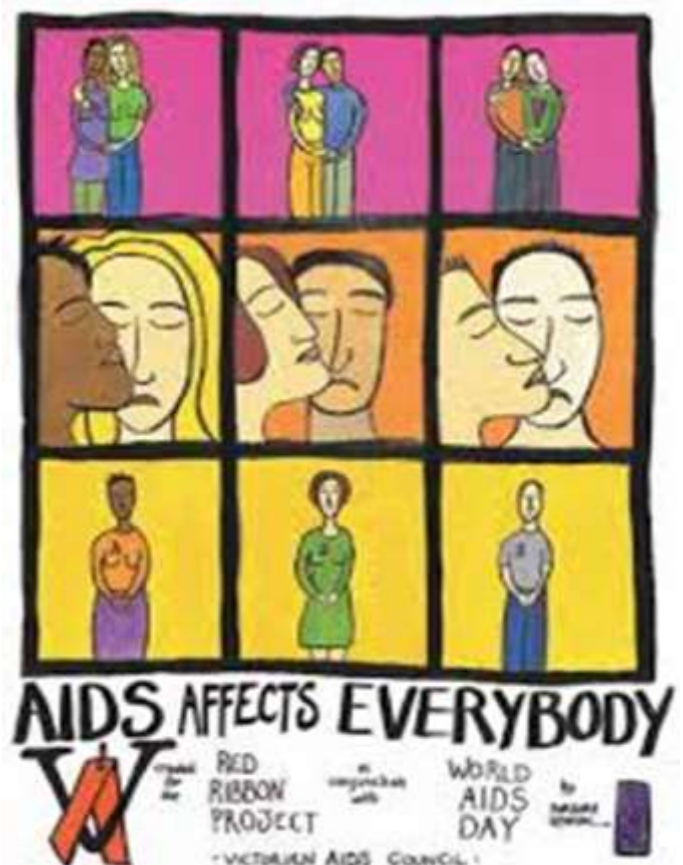
Some authors consider HIV/AIDS, or Human Immunodeficiency Virus, a global pandemic. However, the WHO currently uses the term 'global epidemic' to describe HIV. As of 2018, approximately 37.9 million people are infected with HIV globally. There were about 770,000 deaths from AIDS in 2018.

During the 1980s and 90s I was working as a Medical Librarian for the Commonwealth Department of Health, Housing and Community Services.

The false information, conspiracy theories and discrimination during the current COVID-19 pandemic seem to be repeating the HIV/AIDS experience.

I also worked as an information officer at

Fairfield House, Alfred Hospital. Fairfield House specialises in caring for people living with HIV and cystic fibrosis. The residents of Fairfield House, who used the information centre daily, were men and women facing a horrible death regardless of whether they were gay men, intravenous drug users or haemophiliacs.





Swine Flu pandemic 2009 -10

The swine flu pandemic was an influenza pandemic that lasted for about 19 months, from January 2009 to August 2010. It was a world-wide pandemic first recorded in North America and was the second of two pandemics involving the H1N1 influenza virus.

Swine flu was first recognised in the 1919 pandemic and still circulates as a seasonal flu virus. This influenza

strain may have started in pigs or may have been passed onto pigs, depending on which account suits. Medical opinion during the Spanish Flu pandemic was that humans spread the virus to pigs. A hundred years later the pigs are handing it back.

Symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, chills and body aches. Typical treatment includes rest, pain relievers and fluids. The WHO confirms the virus caused 18,499 deaths in 2009. For comparison, the WHO estimates that 250,000 to 500,000 people die of seasonal flu annually.

Conclusions:

The thing that struck me most during my research was, regardless of which pandemic, how many similarities there are.

The majority are spread through airborne respiratory droplets (coughs or sneezes), touching a contaminated surface (blanket or doorknob) or by saliva (kissing or shared drinks) while HIV/AIDS is transmitted through blood or other bodily fluids.

So, we just need to keep doing what we should have been doing all along.





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- discuss the big questions of philosophy over lunch
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Parkinson's Support Group

Caregivers and family members are welcome!

The South Gippsland Parkinson's Support Group was formed in October 2004 and continues today.

The group meets on the third Friday of each month at the Leongatha RSL 10.00 for 10.30 start.

A short meeting is conducted, then a guest speaker to follow, lunch is also available.

We also try to have another activity each month, which could be anything from a bus trip to a luncheon at the local church. People with Parkinson's and their carers most welcome.

Inquiries:

Email: Suzi.marshman@hotmail.com

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