

The Waterline News

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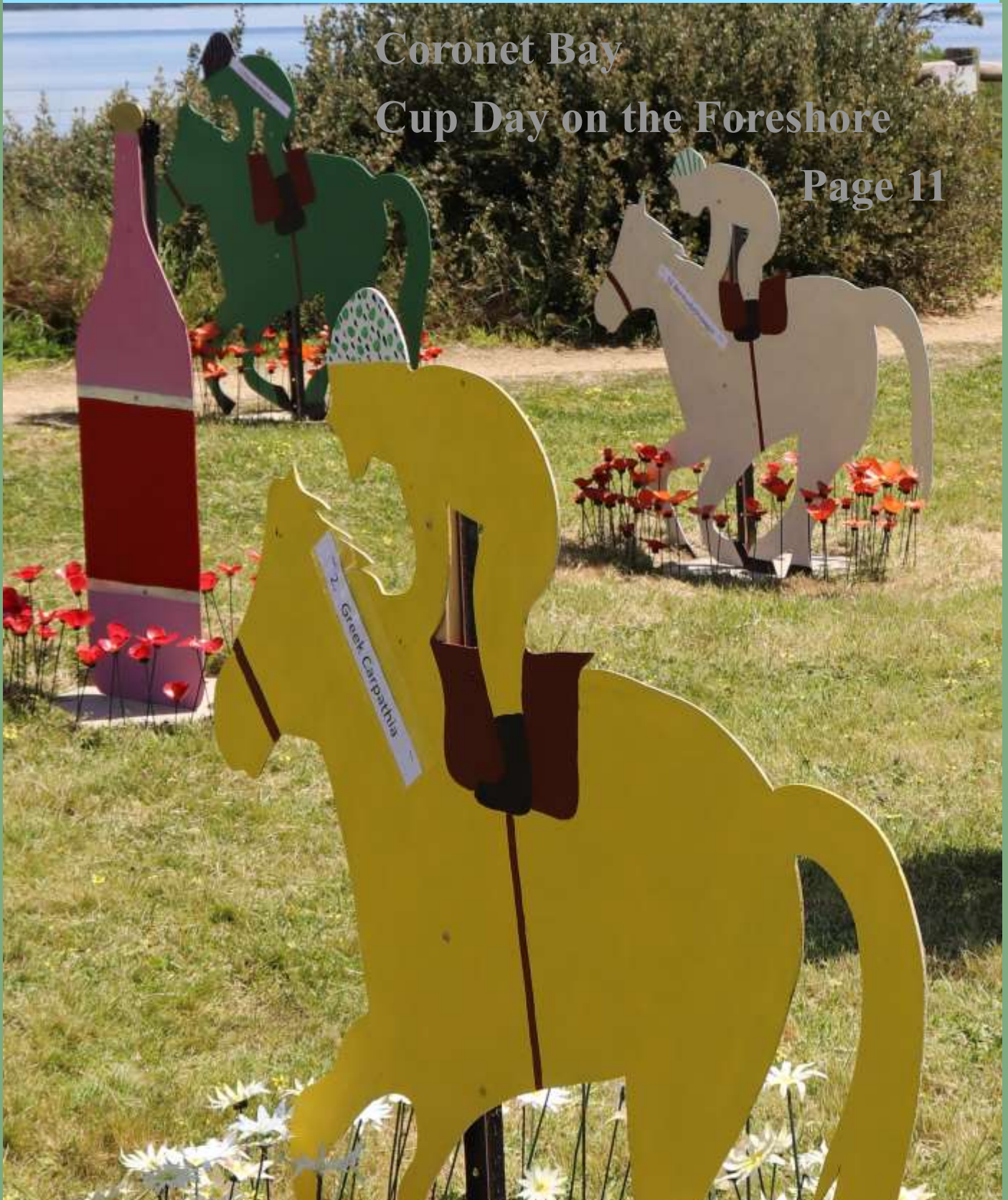


Volume 6 #10 NOVEMBER 2020

Coronet Bay

Cup Day on the Foreshore

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From the Desk

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THE WATERLINE NEWS
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Welcome to the November 2020 edition of the Waterline News. It's been a really tough year. As the COVID19 numbers drop and restrictions ease, this month we focus on members of our community getting out and about.



We have included two pages from a great project called Coastal Connections. The aim of the project is to support a process of community reconnection, resilience and recovery, bringing people together in creative ways.

There is increasing evidence of the impact of isolation and uncertainty on people's mental health and we have included information about some activities that are being organised by Wellways for mental health education of our community.

The Coronet Bay Luminous Galleries continue to delight and inspire us with ever changing displays and the hard working team behind this project have refreshed last years magnificent Cup Display and they encourage everyone to go down to the fore-shore and (COVIDLY compliantly, of course) immerse themselves in the Cup atmosphere.

Remembrance Day will be a bit different this year and details of the Bass Valley Friends of the RSL commemoration are on page 20.

The annual celebration of NAIDOC has been moved to November 8-15 and our local NAIDOC Art Celebration has shifted into Wonthaggi ArtSpace. There will be virtual presentation of pieces by several local artists and visits will be under strict COVID protocols.

As the restrictions ease I hope you can spend some time with your family and you can enjoy a coffee or a meal with friends. As local businesses get up and running again I can see that we need to support the people who have supported us over many, many years.

Good luck with the Cup.

Geoff Ellis

Editor/Publisher
 Waterline News.



Deadline for December is November 24

Christmas in Grantville.

After much deliberation the Grantville Business and Community Association has decided that it is not practical to host a COVID-safe *Christmas Carols in the Park* at Grantville this year.

Instead the committee is working hard alongside other local associations on a new idea to still spread some Christmas spirit across the region. We hope to make an announcement about this in the near future.—Neroli Heffer, President GBCA.

KernArt

The KernArt committee has been successful in obtaining a grant from Gippsland Primary Health Network which will allow the running of the KernArt Prize 2020.

With COVID 19 restrictions still in place, the art show will take on a different format with a digital online art exhibition. While we will miss the crowds that usually attend in person, the benefit of a digital show is that the exhibiting artists will gain exposure to a world wide audience of art lovers and art buyers while also able to sell to the local audience.

There will be prizes awarded for 2D and 3D art in several categories and the work will be judged by a well respected professional artist. The committee is looking at having KernArt up and running for a December exhibition and artists can enter online and send images of their work via email.

Details are still to be confirmed and expressions of interest can be sent to kernartprize@gmail.com

Janice Orchard –KernArt Committee

Transgender Day of Remembrance

(TDOR) is an annual observance on November 20 that honours the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence. TDOR was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honour the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998. The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence since Rita Hester's death, and began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance.

<https://www.glaad.org/tdor>



STOP PRESS!



Vale Dr Mangrove - Tim Ealey

Our community was greatly saddened to learn about the death of **Dr Eric Herbert Mitchell 'Tim' Ealey**. As well as being a local environmental champion, Tim was the first Australian to circumnavigate Antarctica, had a large glacier and a tiny marsupial named after him and among his many accolades, Tim received a medal of the Order of Australia for coastal conservation. He also helped set up the first Australian grad school for environmental science. The December Waterline News will include a tribute to his life and work.

DANDY PREMIX QUARRIES PTY LTD APPLICATION FOR A PLANNING PERMIT

The land affected by the application is at 1381-1395 Bass Highway, Grantville, Vic, 3984. It is the Dandy Premix Sand Extraction site on the eastern side of Bass Highway opposite Deep Creek St.

Dandy Premix wants its existing permit amended,
* to expand its pit, which involves taking out a huge amount of native vegetation (the wildlife corridor/biolink between The Gurdies Nature Conservation Reserve and the Grantville Bushland Reserve and the Grantville Nature Conservation Reserve),

* to deepen their pit below the water table,

* to set up a sand washing facility,

* to take more underground water,

* to increase truck movements and operational hours.

* the right for trucks to make a right-hand turn onto the Bass Highway instead of having to go to Queensferry Rd to do a U turn to head to Melbourne.

The application and supporting documentation is available at:

www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/planningads or

<https://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/search?q=120388>

The application reference number is 120388 – 1 and

keywords are – Dandy%20Premix

Any person who may be affected by the granting of the permit may object or make other submissions in writing to the responsible authority-Bass Coast Shire Council.

Submissions are required by Tuesday November 10, 2020.

Support Local Businesses for your chance to WIN!

Simply visit and spend at any local business in the Grantville and Waterline area for your chance to win a voucher to spend at that business. There are two ways that you can win:

- 1) Spend \$10 or more at a local business and put your name, address and phone number on your receipt and place it in the Competition Entry Box at Endeavour BP in Grantville for your chance to be randomly drawn out to win a voucher to spend at the business where your entry came from

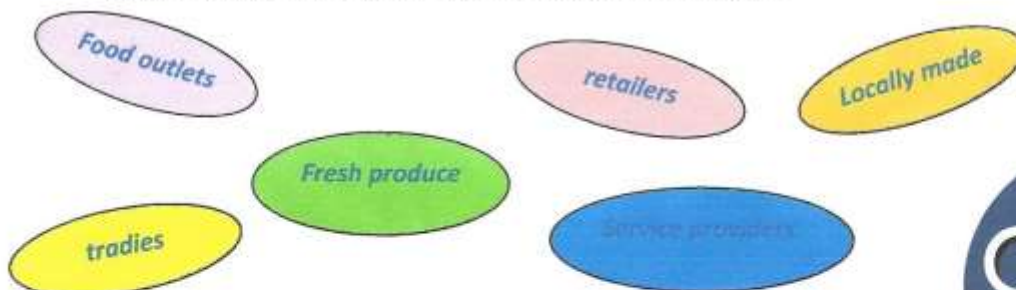
PRIZES: 1st place \$150 voucher 2nd place \$100 voucher

*competition runs between 5th Oct & 13th Dec with winners drawn on the 15th Dec

- 2) Like and follow the **Grantville Business and Community Association (GBCA)** Facebook page and watch out for a post each Monday asking you to comment to win. Follow the instructions and post a picture and comment about one of your favourite local businesses and one person will be randomly selected each week to win a \$100 voucher to spend at that business

PRIZES: 10 x \$100 vouchers

*one each week between the 5th Oct. and 13th Dec.



This competition is brought to you by the Grantville Business and Community Association and made possible through a resilience grant and the support of the Bass Coast Shire Council

PO Box 181 Grantville 3984 e: thegbca1@gmail.com

Full T&C's available on our Facebook page "Grantville Business and Community Association (GBCA)"



Grantville Business and Community



Update from the Grantville Business and Community Association (GBCA)

This month the GBCA is thrilled to see the new Community and Business Information wall established within the Endeavour BP store in Grantville. We are grateful for their support.

This wall provides a place for members to advertise their businesses and space to display community information.

There is also a public use section where any individual can advertise 'For Sale' or 'Wanted' items for just \$2 a card.

More information will be added as time goes on and we look forward to seeing the local community engage with this new space.

Our Facebook and receipt drop competitions are underway with \$100 being given away every week for ten weeks to one lucky local shopper. Please see the flyer and our Facebook page for details of how to enter.

By entering not only do you get the chance to win a voucher to spend at your nominated local business, but it enables us to give that business the \$100 cash and so is a way that you can directly support for your favourite local business.

We welcome both new community and business members and encourage you to email us for more information.

FULL CONTACT DETAILS:

GBCA – Grantville Business and Community Association

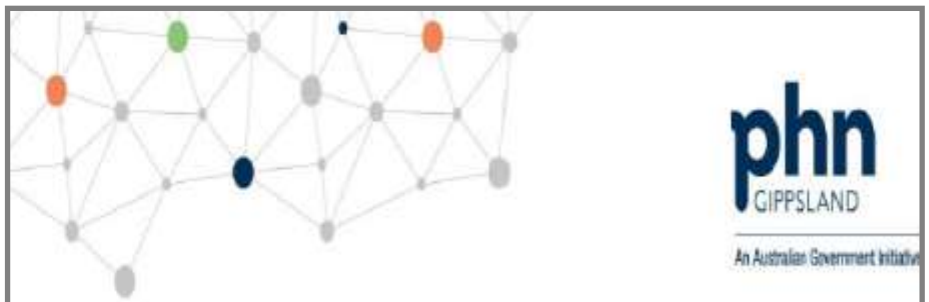
Contact email: thegbca1@gmail.com

Mail: PO Box 181 Grantville 3984

Facebook:

@Grantville Business and Community Association – GBCA

President:	Neroli Heffer
Vice President:	Les Ridge
Secretary:	Dianne Goeman
Treasurer:	Lester Harris
Ass Secretary:	Sandy Ridge



Tell Gippsland PHN...about Dementia



We would like to hear from;

- People living with dementia or are worried about their memory
- People who care for someone with dementia or have a family member with dementia
- People who work with dementia services and supports

Help us understand what is needed most by participating in an interview to share your experiences.

Non-professionals will receive a \$50 supermarket voucher for participating.

Visit the Tell Gippsland PHN website at

<https://www.gphn.org.au/tell-gippsland-phn/> or phone (03) 5175 5444.

The National Dementia Helpline, 1800 100 500, is available for anyone affected by dementia. It operates 8.00am to 8.00pm Monday to Friday excluding public holidays.



Mental Health First Aid- Community Course

Learn how to provide mental health first aid to friends, family members, co-workers and other adults.

Workshop details



Date & session time:

Initial self-paced e-learning (5 – 7 hours)
Plus 2 facilitator led sessions on-line (Zoom).



Location:

Facilitator Led Online Sessions:

- o 19th November 1:30pm to 4:00pm.
- o 26th November 1:30pm to 4:00pm

Email mdebenham@wellways.org
for any queries.



Click [HERE](#) to find out more,
register and fill out the EOI



AN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

wellways.org | 1300 111 400



**MENTAL
HEALTH
FIRST AID**
Australia

The Standard Mental Health First Aid course will teach you how to provide initial support to other adults who may be experiencing a mental health problem or mental health crisis until appropriate professional help is received or the crisis resolves, using a practical, evidence-based Action Plan.

This course is based on guidelines developed through the expert consensus of people with lived experience of mental health problems and professionals.

Mental health problems covered

- Depression
- Anxiety problems
- Psychosis
- Substance use problems

Mental health crises covered

- Suicidal thoughts and behaviours
- Non-suicidal self-injury
- Panic attacks
- Traumatic events
- Severe psychotic states
- Severe effects from alcohol or other drug use
- Aggressive behaviours

Note: This course is not a therapy or a support group.

Visit mfha.com.au



WELLWAYS 2020

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

Wednesday 10am - 4pm.
Contact kylie@boomerangbagspisp.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 Diane Glanz 0417 610 611

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 Suzi.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

Quinn Cox

In my footsteps...

By Kat Cox

REM's song *Losing my Religion* epitomises my life as a mother of a child with a rare genetic disorder TCF20, of which she is the only one in Australia.

"That's me in the corner, that's me in the spotlight, losing my religion; trying to keep up with you, and I don't know if I can do it; Oh no, I've said too much... I haven't said enough..."

All children are unique, but Quinn Cox is set apart by the uniqueness and rarity of her condition. To understand her struggles, we need to consider Quinn's journey through her six years of life.

Quinn presented with a multitude of health and behavioural issues from birth, forcing me, Kat Cox, to scramble for answers down a path of medical jargon and evolving diagnoses. Quinn was diagnosed with hypotonia at birth (abnormally low muscle tone) which led to torticollis (neck spasms that cause the neck to twist to one side). After a lengthy and emotional investigation into her delayed development, Quinn was diagnosed with romosome microdeletion 6q22.1, autism, TCF20 gene mutation and generalised overgrowth syndrome.

The TCF20 gene mutation may have accounted for her developmental delay, but it came with a prognosis of variable intellectual impairment, and further diagnoses of behavioural abnormalities and autism.

At the time of Quinn's diagnosis, she was the only child known within Australia to have a TCF20 gene mutation, making the extent of her needs unknowable.

Earlier this year, Quinn was admitted to the Oasis Neuropsychology Unit at Monash Children's Hospital for cognitive and behavioural assessment.

Her IQ was measured at 75 – a score recognised as cognitively-impaired yet considered too high functioning to qualify for a special development school or an aide.

An IQ of 70 is the current cut-off for a child to be educationally funded as special needs. But what happens to children who fall outside of this cut-off? Are they left to slip through the cracks? Every child has a right not only to education, but an education that meets their needs. Anything less is state-sanctioned childminding.

Quinn currently attends Bass Valley Primary School, where her performance falls well below the expected level, despite her transition to school being guided by a care team. Quinn's speech development is delayed, her articulation – which is vital to literacy development – is limited and she is difficult to understand.

Quinn's fine motor function is also underdeveloped, requiring her to attend occupational therapy for hand strengthening and her ongoing development is guided by a paediatrician and psychiatrist. She requires medication to help modify her behaviour and her dosages are regularly reviewed.

As it stands, Quinn's only hope for funding is to be assessed as having a severe behavioural disorder, given that her IQ of 75 precludes her funding for the assistance she requires.

Her behaviour is often aggressive and erratic, which may be attributable to the abnormal behaviour outlined by the diagnosis of a TCF20 gene mutation.

She is unable to access funding on grounds of her impaired speech, as that resource requires an IQ of 85.

Fortunately, Quinn is a member of a loving family, a supportive community and a school that assists her within the limitations of their funding.

She also has access to the limited services available within her rural community. But love and support are not enough.

As I write this letter, Quinn is currently back on the waitlist for an OT and speech pathologist due to the lack of resources in Bass Coast.

These are very crucial years for my child. This is not at all a result of COVID-19 as this issue has presented itself well before COVID-19.

As the manager of Grantville Pharmacy, I have been unfortunate to lose many beloved customers to areas with more facilities.

As this is the time where people are wanting to get into the Bass Coast electorate, I am asking on behalf of all the people who are struggling with children with autism, or with depression, or any special need that cannot be facilitated in Bass Coast to email me kitecox@gmail.com so that I can be the voice to pass onto the council and Jordan Crugnale.

Jordan has been instrumental in Quinn's progression along with my workplace and the Bass Valley Children's Centre.

"I thought that I heard you laughing, I thought that I heard you sing, I think I thought I saw you try..."

Now is the time for us to raise our voice for our community that we love so much and make sure that we have said enough.
Kat Cox, Grantville



COVID-19 UPDATE FOR VICTORIANS

www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus
1800 675 398 - 24 hours, 7 days



Health
and Human
Services



Mental health education for community groups

Wellways are looking for groups interested in having a Well Together workshop

Workshop details



Date & session time:

11th November at 9:30am to 12:30pm

25th of november 1-4pm



Location:

Via Zoom Please send expression of interest to email below...

Gatekeepertraining@wellways.org or press submit at the bottom of the



Simply phone 1300 111 400 or visit www.wellways.org/our-services/well-together



Click [HERE](#) to fill out the EOI.



An Australian Government Initiative

wellways.org | 1300 111 400

Well Together is an initiative funded by the National Disability Insurance Agency and delivered by Wellways Australia.



WV994_05/2020



Would your group benefit from exploring how to respond to the specific mental health needs of people in your community?

Workshops are suitable for 10-15 participants. The training is delivered online via Zoom in the current COVID-19 climate. There is no cost involved and times are flexible.

Workshops, run by a qualified trainer, include a presentation from someone with their own lived experience of mental health challenges and recovery.



Chocolate Lily (*Anthropodium Strictum*)



Yellow Rush-lily (*Tricoryne elatior*)



Eucalyptus Melliodora (Yellow Box)



Hibbertia – Fasciculata



Goodenia Ovata – Hop Goodenia



Fringe Lily (*Thysanotus Buberousus*)



Walking through the Gate

WALKING THE GURDIES

I walk in the bush
And find its boundless beauty
Enhancing my joy.

Whipbirds, kookas call,
Piercing the silent morning
The bush awakes.

Mauve and blue gems
Fringe and chocolate lilies
Swaying in the breeze.

Ah, a glint of gold
Yellow rush lily twisting
Its head to the sun.

Native bees flit by
Settling and pollinating
Delicate flowers.

Yellow Box in flush
Flowering, attracting bees
Honey scented gum.

Shaded fern gully
Fringed by Hop Goodenia
Bracken fern waves tall.

Among the grasses.
Peeping out, its fine tendrils
Reaching for the sky.

I pause, gaze in awe
Hibbertia's delicate beauty
Fills my soul with more.

Homeward now I go
Refreshed, blessed and meditative
Opening the gate.....

Name: Margaret Lee

Special Place: The Gurdies Conservation Reserve

Medium: Photographs and Botanical Names



The Bass Hills are an incredibly, re-juvenating place for a country drive. With three hundred and sixty degree panoramic views of Mornington Peninsula, the Dandenong's and Wilson's Promontory, the vista includes sea, bay, rolling hills, farm-lands, hamlets and islands.

After tree clearing of the Bass Hills in the 1800s for fuel, building materials and bark-tanning to supply the surrounding countryside and Melbourne, the hills remained bald and lacking appeal for most of the twentieth century. With Landcare and the farmers' help with re-planting of trees, the hills and gullies are now re-gaining their aesthetic beauty, albeit different to the original natural bushland. Today the sky-line is once again boasting 'trees' and 'tree-lines'.

Sitting atop the hills looking out over the view, especially at sunset, is a great place to unwind, re-group and catch your breath before resuming the challenges of daily life refreshed from your country drive.

Name: Lynne Cook

Special Place: Bass Hills

Medium: Photograph

Corinella

LEADBEATER LIFTERS: THE NEW NORM

Leadbeater Lifters, the Corinella Strength Training group, is getting used to a new normal - exercising at the Harold Hughes Reserve in Corinella.

Pre-COVID-19 they used to meet for an hour twice a week at the Corinella and District Community Centre.

Thanks to early COVID-19, the Centre closed so sessions ceased. When the restrictions were relaxed, the Leadbeater Lifters were able to return to the Centre but they had to keep their number down to 10 or less plus a trainer.

They also had to observe strict social distancing and hygiene rules. Then those sessions too were stopped.

Undeterred, trainer Sarah Reitsma learnt to operate Zoom and participants in her sessions learned to exercise remotely via Zoom once a week.

Once exercising sessions with up to 10 members and trainer were allowed to exercise out of doors, classes started up again twice a week, weather permitting. Exercising with masks proved a problem for those with glasses and, from time to time, some members experienced breathing difficulties because of exercising with masks on. Participants have a lot of fun. Once small children using the playground nearby got used to seeing ladies in masks exercising, some were happy to chat and show off their own athletic abilities as well.



Practising ribbon exercises with Trainer Sarah Reitsma: Lyn Niddrie, Judy Horsfield, Meg Renfry, Margot Middlin, Judy John, Ann Brown, Marg Ryan, Jeannie Coffey



Leadbeater Lifters, Jeannie Coffey, Marg Ryan and Trainer Sarah Reitsma enjoying strength training out of doors.

Words and Photographs courtesy of Meryl Tobin

BASS GLASS

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Glass Balustrading

Glass Replacements - Glass Splashbacks

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Mirror Wardrobe Doors

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Graeme Jones

(03) 5678 0642

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82 Agar Road

Bass, Vic. 3991

www.bassglass.com.au

Coronet Bay Community Cup 2020



“We encourage everyone to go down to the Coronet Bay Foreshore and immerse yourself in the Cup atmosphere.”

CORONET BAY RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOC INC (CBRRA)

President: Chris Petrie M:0400789700

Facebook: Coronet Bay Ratepayers & Residents Association

CBRRA welcomes new members who live in the Coronet Bay locality. Meetings are usually quarterly in Coronet Bay Hall but on hold due to COVID. The committee continues to meet regularly via Zoom. A recent survey has gone out to members to seek interest in participation in online meetings. Annual subscription is \$10 per person. Members receive updates on local issues and minutes of meetings. At meetings we discuss community concerns and interests, usually with a local ward councillor presenting council matters. We represent members on all matters important to them about our town and surrounds.

Coronet Bay Community

Garden The Poly house is starting to take shape and hopefully will be completed shortly which will give us a place to propagate our seedlings and also grow some plants all year round. We have started a spoon garden so feel free to come on down and place your masterpiece there as well.

The Coronet Bay Luminous Gallery

folks were extremely busy with their Dutch themed project. The CBRRA committee would like to acknowledge the sterling efforts of the Coronet Bay Luminous Gallery Group for their outstanding creative display of luminous flowers and windmills at the Coronet Bay foreshore reserve.

We are in awe of their efforts in making over 2,000 flowers from recycled plastic bottles which they have cut, glued and painted in an array of vibrant colours. The final arrangement I'm sure you'll agree is stunning. (The materials used for this display will be further recycled or put towards future displays.) Congratulations go to the entire Luminous Gallery team for their commitment, collaboration and execution of what must have been at times a difficult task during isolation. A huge thank you to all involved with this awesome exhibit. You are all a credit to our community

If you are able to visit the foreshore to witness this display, don't miss the opportunity. **Bring a picnic and immerse yourself in the experience.**



**CORONET BAY
RATEPAYERS
& RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION**



Coronet Bay

The Rainbow Garden was a marvellous display that used hundreds of plastic bottles donated after a call went out to the Coronet Bay Community.

With the help of a happy band of artisans and Volunteers and a couple of talented tradesmen who gave freely of their time and Bass Coast Council Support, the foreshore became a site to behold .

The flowers in this display were created from used and cleaned plastic bottles that would otherwise go to re-cycling (one hopes) or discarded in some other way. They are cut into required shapes to make each type of flower, glued together and then painted for protection and colour. After the display these flowers are to be stored for another occasion that may require them.

Many of the Volunteers were surprised at what they could achieve with a little guidance from Joann.

Everyone was able to make the flowers in their homes and gave them a cheerful hobby to occupy the Winter days and let their imagination fly. The group achieved 2000+ flowers of all types. If you visit Luminous Galleries Facebook Page you will find tutorials and more information. All of the Artisans and Volunteers by name: Joann Gan, Monica Bloetz, Paul Sandford, Fred Bloetz, Judy Johns, Steve Ambry, Claudee Murphy, Carolyn Little, Sally Ong, Josette Dorey, Helen Marie Jordan, Christine Beasley, Lisa Hurford, Daphne Reynolds, Michelle Andrea Harrison, Jan Berg-Welch and Diana Lutz



Coronet Bay

KICKING GOALS IN CORONET BAY

In late May 2020, the committee of the Coronet Bay Ratepayers and Residents Association (CBRRA), were thrilled to announce a successful grant from Metro Trains, for \$1500.

Arthur Kokkinos, a diligent CBRRA member, applied for this grant on behalf of the CBRRA, towards funding a Reserves Committee of Management's initiative, to install a set of AFL goal posts and a soccer goal at the Fred Gration Reserve, Coronet Bay. The goals are now installed and with the hint of warmer weather on the way, we know they will be seeing plenty of action.

On behalf of the association, I praise Mr Kokkinos for his initiative and thank him sincerely for his show of community spirit. Mr Kokkinos said that he will keep an eye out for future community grants to apply for. We thank Mr Kokkinos very much for his good work and community mindedness.

We also extend our gratitude to Metro Trains for their support of select community groups, organisations and charities via grants such as this being available for community projects. With this win under our belt, the CBRRA will be sure to also keep an eye on future community grant opportunities.

What a wonderful piece of news in these days of not-so-good news.

Regards
Chris Petrie
President - CBRRA

Main Photo left to right: Kevin Brown (Vice-President – CBRRA), Arthur Kokkinos (CBRRA Member), Evan Bekiaris (Treasurer – CBRRA), Greg Noakes (President – Reserves Committee of Management), Levinus Van Der Neut (Committee Member CBRRA) and Chris Petrie (President – CBRRA).



Vote of thanks to the community

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for their ongoing support over the past 4 years. It has been very enjoyable meeting and embracing the varied communities and people across the Western Port Ward. We have endeavoured to meet, reach and be available and to be a voice for the community on Council. We care greatly for the different towns and communities and we love where we live and work and we want to say thank you.

Cr Clare Le Serve, Cr Bruce Kent & Cr Geoff Ellis - Western Port Ward Councillors 2016 - 2020 (Bass Coast)

We're getting ready for the bushfire season

You may see some brigade
activity in the coming weeks.

We're completing critical training in a COVID-safe
manner in preparation for the fire season.



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Corinella Illuminated Gallery. Art by Lyndell Parker. Photo courtesy of Anna Carson



<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Community-Organization/Corinella-and-District-Community-Centre-Art-Show-1896024730656250/>

Art with Janice Orchard

Drawing or Painting With Pastel, Which Is It?

With reference to Richard McKinley

The true nature and definition of pastel is “to be dry.” It is not a wet medium like most forms of painting. Its dry, stick-like quality allows pastel to have a close association with drawing, which can be used as both a verb and noun. As a verb, it describes the physical act of mark-making to create the appearance of an image, form, or shape. As a noun, it describes the produced image.

Painting, on the other hand, is defined as the application of paint, pigment, or colour to a surface. It commonly relies on a brush for application, although other means of application are utilized. Painting can also be used as a verb or noun, signifying the act or end result of the action.

The definitions of drawing and painting have evolved over the years. Most working artists today associate the act of drawing to mark/line making with a dry media like charcoal, pencil, pen and ink, chalk or pastel and the act of painting to shape configurations that consist of value and color applied wet with paint on a brush. It is easy to see how these two can overlap in definition. An artist can easily use coloured lead pencils to create a piece of artwork that represents a realistic portrayal of shapes, values, and colours and another artist can easily utilize a brush filled with paint to make definite marks and lines.



Image:

The marks of pastel that are akin to drawn lines next to larger swipes of pastel that relates to brush marks.

Some have drawn the line, no pun intended, between a pastel drawing and painting by the amount of paper or flat surface allowed to show. If the tone of the paper/surface plays a major visual role in the final appearance of the artwork, it is a drawing. If the paper/surface is completely covered with pastel, it is considered a painting. These differentiations can become even harder to make when pastel is made wet, a process often employed at the beginning stages to set an underpainting or tone to the paper/surface.

So how do you define pastel artwork? Is it drawing or painting? It is a perplexing question. My observation is that if we stick to the dictionary definition, pastel is a drawing medium. It is pigment in a dry stick form. But, when placed in the hands of an artist who applies it with the intent of creating an image that communicates to the observer with the symbolic use of shape, edge, value, and colour, it can be considered a painting medium.

While the definition debate will inevitably continue, for most of us it is of little concern. What matters is if the artwork has successfully communicated our intent and we enjoy the medium. As an artist friend once said, “I let others label what my artwork is, as long as they see it as beautiful”.



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maryemutsaers@gmail.com

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The Centennial Centre
1 Bent Street Wonthaggi

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in the event of Covid restrictions,
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www.naidoc-art.com.au

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One of the feature artists, Safina Stewart working on her 2020 pieces.



Remembrance Day



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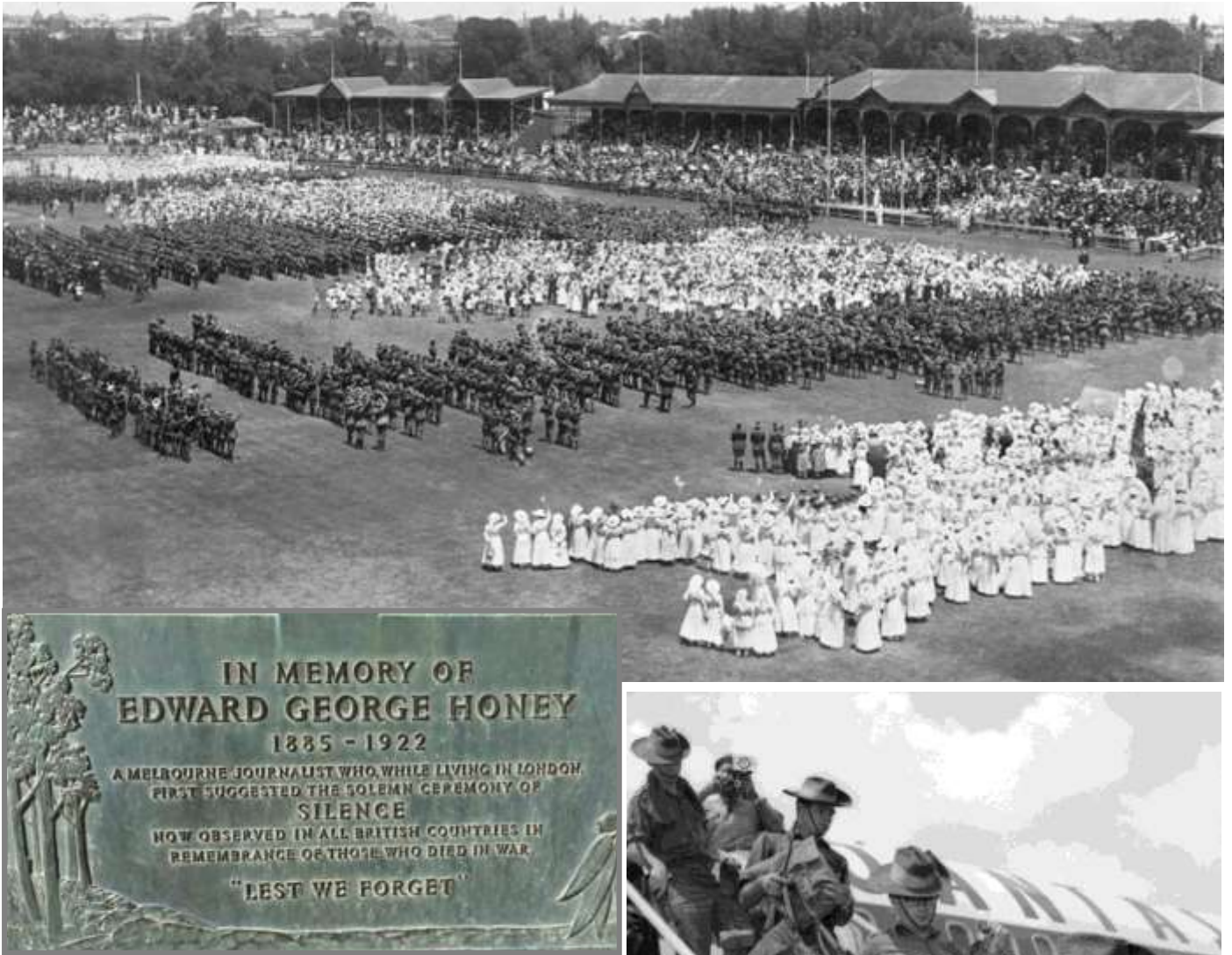
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YOU ARE MOST WELCOM TO LAY

A WREATH OR FLOWERS



Remembrance Day



Across the road from the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne, a humble plaque set in a constellation of rocks reads:

In memory of Edward George Honey who died in 1922, a Melbourne journalist who while living in London first suggested the solemn ceremony of silence.

Honey, who served during World War I, was the first to publicly suggest silence as a vessel to hold the sorrow and loss of war — and even thoughts of triumph. The idea came to him after November 11, 1918 — when news of the Allies' victory sparked rowdy euphoria in the streets of London. Rather than celebrating, Honey's thoughts turned to the colossal cost of the Great War.

Under the pen-name Warren Foster, in the May 8, 1919 edition of the London Evening News, Honey wrote:

"Can we not spare some fragment of these hours of Peace, rejoicing for a silent tribute to these mighty dead? "Individually yes! Too many of us know we will for our own kith and kin, for the friend who will never come back. But nationally? I would ask for five minutes, five little minutes only. Five silent minutes of national remembrance. A very sacred intercession."

But the letter seemed to fall on deaf ears. A few months after Honey's letter was published, South African author and politician Sir James Percy FitzPatrick made the political moves that established the tradition.

On October 4, 1919, FitzPatrick wrote to a friend in the British Cabinet suggesting a period of silence.

The missive eventually made its way to King George V.

Ahead of the first anniversary of the Armistice, FitzPatrick and Honey were reportedly called in for a rehearsal at Buckingham Palace.

"The Grenadier guards are there, and they are going to practise this," says Dr Meleah Hampton, a historian at the Australian War Memorial.

"They decide to take up his five-minute period and they find it is a very long time. Even for men who are used to standing on parade for an extended period of time.

"They settled on two minutes' silence, which is long enough for old people to stand in the street."

And days before the first anniversary, King George V formally decreed the two minutes' silence.

"It is my desire and hope that at the hour when the Armistice came into force, the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, there may be for the brief space of two minutes a complete suspension of all our normal activities," the decree read.

"During that time, except in the rare cases where this may be impracticable, all work, all sound, and all locomotion should cease, so that, in perfect stillness, the thoughts of everyone may concentrate on reverent remembrance of the Glorious Dead."

Today silence and remembrance are almost inseparable.

Honey died a young man, just 36, and is buried in an unmarked grave in Northwood Cemetery in Greater London. To remember him is to remember what he called for — and let silent contemplation be your offering.

Article courtesy of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

Bass Valley Community Centre



The Bass Valley Community Centre is once again crawling out from under the Covid 19 isolation restrictions.

Our Hadden House Op Shop has now been open for some weeks. Our community bus is running again on its Tuesday trips, picking people up from their homes and taking them to Wonthaggi for shopping or other appointments.

And slowly but surely our Friendship Group program is getting back to full strength. We have had to limit the numbers attending to meet ongoing Covid 19 restrictions as well as limiting pick-up number on our bus.



We have held a number of our meetings of the Friendship Club outdoors in our gazebo.

It's interesting to look back to the start of last century when tuberculosis was a major threat. It led to the development of many outdoor classrooms for schools with students in the winter well wrapped up.

There is some wonderful news, however, which is dispelling the general gloom and frustration of the virus.



The Council's State sponsored Jobs Victoria program has been wonderful for the Bass Valley Community Centre.

We have had Kerryne in the office churning through a reorganising of a lot of our policy documents and digitising much of our former hard copy information.

In addition we have had Carl, Sheldon and Will attending to long-neglected maintenance of our grounds and buildings. In particular, they have painted the inside of the Bass Hall. This is a job that has been a long time coming. We were fortunate some time ago to receive a Council Grant to buy paint for the Hall, but plans for the painting have till now been fruitless. The Bass Hall is now resplendent with its new paint and the honour boards all rehung. Drop by and have a look. We are hoping to be back to hiring out the Hall when the restrictions subside.

Corinella and District Community House





I'M finding that fresh fish are getting too expensive in the supermarket for me these days. So, this week I decided to do a fish dinner with a large tin of tuna, and it was very delicious. I thought I would pass it on.

TUNA & RICE CASSEROLE Serves 4-6

Ingredients

¼ cup minced onion
¼ cup chopped celery
6 tablespoons of butter
3 tablespoons of flour
ground black pepper to taste
½ teaspoon of mustard powder
1 teaspoon of Worcester sauce
2 cups of milk
250g of grated sharp cheddar cheese)
425g can of tuna (drained and flaked)
1½ cups of cooked frozen or canned peas (drained)
salt (to taste)
3 cups of hot cooked rice
1 cup fresh breadcrumbs

Method

Heat the oven to 200 degrees.
Lightly grease a large cooking dish.
In a large pan over medium heat, cook onion & celery in 4 tablespoons of the butter for about 5 minutes.
Stir in flour, pepper, and dry mustard. Continue cooking, stirring, until smooth and just bubbly.
Add Worcestershire sauce and gradually stir in milk. Cook, stirring, until thickened. Add about half of the cheese to the sauce mixture; stir until melted. Add flaked tuna and peas. Taste and add salt, as needed.
Spoon half of the hot rice into the prepared baking dish and spread about half of the remaining cheese over the rice; top with half of the hot tuna mixture, then repeat layers. Melt remaining 2 tablespoons of butter and toss with the breadcrumbs. Sprinkle crumbs over the top.
Bake in the preheated oven for 20 minutes or until the bread crumb topping is lightly browned and the casserole is bubbly around the edges.



The first of the broad beans are appearing. Once the season is in full swing we will freeze some, along with the peas that Bert grew. They do freeze well and last a few months in the freezer.

However, I really love them cooked then cooled and served in a salad. This one is especially nice.

MINT, BEAN AND FETA SALAD

Ingredients

200 grams of broad beans
250 grams of fresh or frozen peas
3 zucchinis diced
1 tablespoon of olive oil
1 lemon juiced and zested
A handful of torn mint leaves
100 grams of feta, crumbled (or use Persian feta which is marinated)

Method

Steam the beans for 3 minutes and the peas for 2 minutes and put in a bowl to cool.
Cook zucchini in a frying pan with a little oil.
Add to the bowl and cool.
Add zest, mint and feta.
Whisk the lemon juice and olive oil and season.
Pour over the vegetables and toss well.



I GUESS like me you are all looking forward to some warmer weather very soon. I have been baking when I cannot get out in the garden because of the weather.

This is a delicious and very easy cake. Blueberries are so good for you and at the moment they are reasonably priced and very delicious whether in a cake or a fruit bowl.

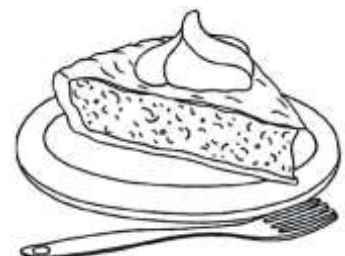
APPLE & BLUEBERRY CAKE

Ingredients

½ cup (225 g) self-rising flour, sifted
¾ cup (165 g) of caster sugar
125 grams of butter, softened
1 teaspoon of vanilla extract
2 eggs
½ cup (125 ml) milk
1 apple cored, thinly sliced
¾ cup of fresh or frozen blueberries

Method

Preheat the oven to 160° degrees
Place flour, sugar, butter, vanilla, eggs, and milk in the bowl of an electric mixer and beat until just combined.
Spoon the mixture into a greased 22 cm springform tin lined with non-stick baking paper.
Top with the apple and blueberries and sprinkle with sugar.



Western Port's Gentle Warrior

By Neil Daly

In John Clarke's closing remarks in the video 'Western Port – Cherished and Challenged', he says, "The problems are quite easily identifiable. They're not going to be easy to fix, but we have to do it. We caused them; it's up to us now."

This quest began when the late John Clarke and the late Professor John Swan helped forge and launch the *Western Port Seagrass Partnership* (WPSP). Its purpose was to champion the community's desire for "independent advocacy and fearless protection of the wonderful ecosystem of Western Port through education, awareness, partnership projects and scientific knowledge."

Alongside his dedication to foster and implement WPSP's work and its objectives, in 1999 John and his wife Helen McDonald purchased an eight-hectare property adjoining the Ryhl Inlet and the Ramsar wetland. Here they set about revegetating its degraded environment and creating a sanctuary for native flora and fauna and migratory birds.



At the time, the property was "already under a conservation covenant – a legally binding agreement that permanently protects the native vegetation – with Trust for Nature."

And as *The Sydney Morning Herald* went on to say, John and his family "continued the conservation work on the property begun by previous owners, encouraging the regrowth of indigenous grasses, orchids and swamp paperbarks, eradicating weeds and allowing fallen wood to accumulate for habitat."

In the true sense of the meaning, John was a 'passionate conservationist' who encouraged a holistic approach to securing a future not only for Western Port, but also for his beloved Phillip Island.

As he said in the *Phillip Island & San Remo Advertiser* just before his death in April 2017, "All I see on the island is development."

"The island is unique. It's one of the most compact and beautiful natural wonderlands in the country."

"But it's no use complaining about what is happening on the island. You need to get together and plan about what should happen and act on it."

"The lesson I would like the public to understand is they need to act."

Earlier this year, in memory of John, Helen donated the property to Trust for Nature, a not-for-profit conservation organisation.

In talking to the *Sentinel-Times*, Helen said, "This is very much about leaving a legacy. "John would have loved to know this land is going to Trust for Nature. It's the natural choice for me. It really is my heart's desire."

When thanking Helen and the family for the gift, Ben Cullen, Manager of Trust for Nature Port Phillip and Western Port commented in the *Sentinel-Times*, "This is such a significant part of the landscape and it's a gift that gives new hope for threatened species in the area."

"John and Helen have already done such an incredible job of rehabilitating the land and we look forward to continuing this work, incorporating traditional owner knowledge. We are very grateful."

Now that John is no longer with us, we are fortunate to have his legacy and his 'environmental footprint', but unfortunately Western Port is now deprived of his presence and drive to secure its environmental future.

In the void that now exists, let's hope the next 'environmental warrior' is not too far away, for as John's daughter, Lorin Clarke said in an ABC News report, "It's quite an incredible area, Western Port Bay, and my mum and dad were quite involved, they ended up learning quite a lot about that area and why it's particularly special and needs to be protected."



Courtesy of: Trust for Nature

In his closing message in the *Phillip Island & San Remo Advertiser*, John said, "These kind of areas should not be allowed to come to harm and to do that you need good science, an argument and never give up."

Thank you John, we will push on.



Gardening

GARDENS FOR ALL

For those of us in Bass Coast lucky enough to have a garden, we're probably full of plans for planting, tending and developing our plots before the onslaught of summer.

Spare a thought for those increasing numbers of people who have no gardens at all or only a tiny courtyard or balcony. Often lacking the space or sunlight necessary for plants to grow, they miss out on most of the benefits of gardens and gardening. Research is demonstrating the many ways in which gardens and gardening can improve our physical and psychological health, when other forms of outdoor activity don't always have the same benefits.

While we're at it, spare a thought for all the other life-forms out there in the natural world. Native birds, mammals, amphibians, insects, bats, plants, fungi, bacteria - many of them are struggling to survive. Loss of habitat is one of the main factors and this is where our gardens can play a role. With a little bit of thought, they can be refuge islands for a variety of species. Remember, *every* environment is home to some forms of life and your garden might be the difference between surviving or not for some of them.

We all want different things from our gardens. Some people want space for children to play, to entertain friends or to park vehicles or boats. Others want to plant vegies and fruit trees to feed themselves, to house specialist plant collections such as orchids or roses, to grow cut flowers for the house or to provide privacy and a sanctuary. Maybe your garden needs to accommodate several of these activities.

You don't need to give over the whole of your garden to wildlife as long as you have a space which can be protected from dogs, cats, foxes and similar predators. You can still plant non-indigenous and exotic plants however, a variety of native species will be necessary to support some animals and insects.

A first step is to provide a few permanent, safe water sources which are not on the ground. If some of them are shallow, they will protect insects like bees from drowning. If you are worried about mosquitos, remember insects of all kinds have a role to play in a healthy system, even mozzies. They will be food for some birds, lizards and other predatory insects such as spiders.



If you can avoid or minimise the use of chemicals and take precautionary measures, you will help to keep things safe that you can't even see, like bacteria, fungi and protozoa in the soil and water and amphibians such as frogs which are very vulnerable as their natural wetland habitats are drained and developed.

Chemical sprays can disrupt the complex connections both above and underground which we are only beginning to understand. Once the balance has been disturbed it may be difficult or impossible to restore, especially in the short term.

As well as water, all living things need food and shelter. Some species have flexible requirements but others have very specific needs, which is where we can help. In terms of food, a diversity of plants providing seeds, nectar (sugar) and pollen (protein) will support birds and useful pollinators. Some native plants have developed to attract or deter certain insects.

Conversely, some birds and insects are attracted by certain colours or have developed beaks or mouths which match with certain flower shapes. Cultivars, hybrids and exotic species may lack the flower shapes, colour frequencies and nectar, pollen or scent cues which attract those pollinators. Food sources are needed all year round so do think about flowering and fruiting times when preparing new plantings.

Shelter requirements are as varied as the critters you want to attract. If you have mature trees in your garden, especially if they have hollows, then celebrate them! Even dead trees can provide homes and food for insects, mosses and fungi. They can also provide perches for hunting birds like kookaburras which need to have some height in order to spot prey on the ground.

A paddock without trees is a green desert for these birds. In my garden I have a palm, planted by a previous owner. I'm not a great fan of palms but, at this time of year, I often see a bird, upside down on the fibrous trunk, picking away at the fibres to carry away and build a new home. It can take ages to prise one from its hold and I watch in awe, admiring their tenacity.

If you are lacking trees and have the room, plant some, especially varieties which will form hollows eventually. In the meantime, put up a variety of boxes to suit a variety of potential occupants including birds, mammals, reptiles and bats and perhaps build an 'insect hotel' which will provide homes for a variety of insects.

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Plant in layers, both horizontal and vertical, using dense, clumping and thorny plants to provide varying levels of shade and protection for smaller birds.

Add in some sunny spots on rocks, crevices and mulch (for basking amphibians), logs and dead wood (for insects and bacteria), clay and muddy areas for burrowing in (frogs and certain bees) and dusty areas for birds to bathe in. Dust baths are vital for healthy feathers and a lack can affect birds' flight abilities.

There are benefits for us gardeners in this process. Do you, like me, have spider webs around your windows and under the veranda or carport roofs? If you do, stop worrying about them or making plans to spring clean.

Apart from their primary use of catching insects, many native birds use webs in nest-building so leave them be, at least through spring. We gardeners can also get away with less maintenance in the form of spraying, (avoid) pruning (leave as long as possible), mowing (many species are seed eaters), weeding (some butterflies will use stinging nettles as larval food sources and the local Meadow Argos will use capeweed) and tidying (leaf litter can be home to many insects and invertebrates).

In return, we can enjoy seeing and hearing a multitude of visitors and helpers. They will help to keep a healthy balance in your garden and to keep intact the vital connections in the web of life we humans are still learning about.

As the quote says, 'Build it and they will come'.

Anne Heath Mennell

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.



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

Cape Woolamai



On Saturday 10th October Cape Woolamai Coast Action

were once again able to conduct a community working bee under strict Covid guidelines provided by the BCSC, with all 10 volunteers wearing masks and social distancing. It was also a great opportunity to welcome four new members to participate in our ongoing restoration and maintenance program at Cape Woolamai. We managed to undertake the planting of a further 120 indigenous species along the Broadwater access path adjacent to Cleeland Bight in order to help maintain the stability of the sand dunes in this area. The plants for this working bee

were all provided by the BCSC who oversee our maintenance program and were supplied from the Barb Martin Bushbank.

Following the working bee we enjoyed a morning tea at the newly refurbished gazebo and picnic area at Cottesloe Ave. Many thanks to the BCSC and the council workers who have worked on this project during the lockdown period.

Our next scheduled Working Bee is on Saturday 14th November.



Dianne Egan spotted this wonderful display during a recent stroll through the Wonthaggi Wetlands



Please stay safe during these unprecedented times.

Contact my office should you need any assistance.

Edward O'DONOHUE MP
MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

51 James Street Pakenham 3810
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As your local member I am keen to assist you with any State government matters.

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9 McBride Avenue, Wonthaggi VIC 3995

Vale Harry Walker

Harry Walker, 'a nice bloke' Meryl Tobin

Grantville identity, Henry Robert Walker, known as Harry, passed away at Banfields Aged Care in Cowes on September 6 after a short stay at Wonthaggi Hospital.

Born February 26, 1937 at Werrimull 79 km from Mildura, he was the third child and second son of Tom and Margaret (Rita) Walker. He was brother to Irene, Thomas, Kathleen, Richard and Andrew.

He grew up in a small house with mud flooring on a wheat and sheep farm in Bambill South, 10 km from Werrimull, in the Sunraysia region.

All children worked on the farm and their jobs included moving the sheep closer to the house away from the foxes and keeping the fire outside burning so they could keep warm as they ate their breakfast of porridge outside each morning.

An adventurous boy, Harry enjoyed the simple life and the outdoors. He and his sister Kath used to go bird nesting together.

Harry attended the local primary school and then went to Werrimull Secondary School until he was 14. He was a good student who enjoyed maths and running. Each day he would run to beat the school bus to its last stop before the school. Then Harry would jump on the bus for the last part of the journey.

In 1951 the family purchased a rundown farm in Grantville and moved there. In those days young people were encouraged to join the workforce early so Harry left school and assisted his father Tom with the day-to-day running of the farm. As Tom had a side business cutting and selling firewood, Harry would help him with cutting timber. A skilled axeman, Tom taught his son all he knew. Apart from contributing to helping put food on the table, Harry also earned enough money to buy a racing pushbike.

When he was 18 Harry got a job with the Country Roads Board as a tractor operator assisting in maintaining roads.

When he was 21 he got a job as a test driver at the General Motors Holden Proving Ground, Lang Lang.

One day Harry's sister-in-law Margaret, wife of his brother Tom, set up a blind date between Harry and a young girl with whom she worked. Jan agreed to the blind date as long as Margaret and Tom went with them. So the four of them went off to dinner and the Motor Show.

Though they came from different walks of life, from the first time they met, Jan said they had a strong connection. Harry was gentle and kind and treated her very well.

As they both enjoyed the outdoors, they went bushwalking, garfishing, spotlighting and water-skiing. After a year they got engaged and a year later they were married. For their honeymoon they drove to Queensland in the Borgward, 'Harry's pride and joy, that oozed sophistication and elegance, just like his bride'.

On their return they shifted into their new house in Grantville and Harry continued working for GMH. A good worker with a strong work ethic, Harry gained promotions and became a leading hand and foreman in charge of one of the shifts.

Harry also assisted his father Tom who got a contract to cut the white posts on the side of the road in half as a safety measure.

In 1968 Harry and Jan's first child, daughter Kim was born. In 1970 son Trevor followed. While Jan took care of the children and the house, Harry worked six days a week at GMH.

In 1979, Harry and Jan decided to purchase 40 acres and build a new home. With the slab just laid and the frame on the ground, Harry was retrenched at 42. He had worked for GMH for 21 years.

Timing wasn't great but this allowed Harry eight weeks to work on the house before he started work as a concrete batching plant operator with Donmix at The Gurdies.

While the new home was being completed, the family lived in a caravan parked at Harry's parents home for eight months. Harry loved the property with the bush at the back of the block where he could spend his free time cutting firewood and being in the bush which he loved so much.

After 18 years of employment with Donmix, Harry became unwell with no known diagnosis and was forced to retire. Harry's brother Andy offered him, and Jan, work at his caravan park in Warburton for five days a fortnight. Together Harry and Jan lived out of a suitcase going backwards and forwards for 15 months.

One day after work Harry, Jan and Andy decided to have a hit of tennis. Harry had a bad fall and suffered a severe head injury. After eleven days in intensive care at the Austin Hospital and weeks of rehabilitation at Royal Talbot, Harry was forced into retirement at 63.

From this time he suffered ongoing health issues.

Along with his property, his place of serenity where he farmed his cows and calves and a pet sheep, family was everything for Harry. He and Jan were always their children's biggest supporters. They became Trevor's pit crew for his off-road endurance racing and supported Kim with all her 'adrenaline adventures'. Harry always said 'there was no such word as can't' and this thinking was instilled in his children and later his grandson Riley, son of Kim and her husband Hardy.

Harry and Jan enjoyed their involvement in the Australian Rare Fauna Research Association, researching the Tasmanian Tiger and big cats and following up reports of sightings of unusual creatures. Some fitted the descriptions of Tasmanian tigers, panthers and pumas.

The family loved holidays at a Venus Bay holiday house and enjoyed fishing, clamming and boating. Jan and Harry also enjoyed adventurous holidays to Tasmania, the Grampians, the Blue Mountains and the Snowfields.

Kim and Trevor spoke highly of what an amazing teacher their dad was while they were growing up. He taught them many skills and showed them so many opportunities and life lessons, from driving by the seat of their pants, literally, sharing and instilling his love for cars, building sheds and where to find the best sapphires and other treasures.

Sadly, after suffering years of ill health, Harry passed away when he was 83.

Harry will be remembered as an honest, supportive and sensitive gentleman, 'a nice bloke'. He had old fashioned values, was a real man on the land type fellow with a 'leave no stone unturned' attitude to live. A man with a quiet disposition, he was often deep in thought, and a man who lived for his family. And, if you ever wanted to know anything about the history of Grantville, he was the man to ask.

The songs chosen for the service reflected the sort of man Harry was. Peter Chapple's rendition of 'Whatever You Believe', The Seekers' 'I'll Never Find Another You' and John Williamson singing 'Home Amongst the Gumtrees'.

Local florist Lynette Burton of Blossoms on Woodland created a magnificent casket spray from flowers grown especially for Harry. Apart from proteas, the spray included many native flowers such as waratahs and banksias and gum leaves and other green foliage, gum nuts and bark.

Democracy: What is it good for?

Sonia Randhawa

I used to be an election junkie. They would make my pulse quicken. I've spent days mourning in my bedroom, and after an election in 2018, in my birth country, Malaysia, I grinned for months, even though I was firmly ensconced in a new life in Australia.

That moment of joy was also a moment of awakening. Malaysia has been failed by democracy since its independence in 1957. It has had economic growth, yes, if that growth had been coupled with good governance, and not siphoned into corrupt schemes, it could have been more impressive. As its natural wealth dries up, the inequality is causing increasing unhappiness. So after a particularly corrupt Prime Minister stood for re-election on a 'scratch my back, I'll scratch yours' platform, the country experienced its first transition of power since Independence.

It was heady. The new government had a clear manifesto, based on good governance and respect for human rights. There were, of course, concerns, particularly as the new Prime Minister was an old Prime Minister, who had presided over the erosion of the independence of the judiciary and the shackling of the media.

But, everyone agreed, for positive change to happen, the old government had to go. It was a start.

And that was all it remained. There was no genuine reform. Very good people were appointed to important positions, but there was no institutional change.

For two years, civil society pushed, but no legislative change occurred. Change seemed to be impossible. There was the sluggishness of the bureaucracy, the fear of a tidal change at the next election, and an unwillingness to trust in their own success.

And then in May 2020, as the pandemic began to hit, there was a legal coup, a change in government as a number of members of Parliament apparently withdrew support (it was complicated!). The glacial reform process was halted.

The lessons from this episode were not new, but never before had I felt them so deeply. First, politicians care, first and foremost, about re-election. The promises they make in the run-up to the election are immaterial, and discarded almost as soon as the government takes office. When Kevin Rudd won in 2007, the Financial Times' Monday headline was that he would have to break promises and be 'more

responsible' now that he was in power.

Second, this concern with re-election is inherently conservative, in the sense that it works against radical change in favour of the status quo, in favour of not rocking the boat.

Even when radical change is both necessary and supported by both the election results and opinion polls of the population.

These two points – which we all know – exploded the key myth that keeps the electoral cycle running. Elections do not hold politicians accountable.

Which leaves me asking, if elections aren't holding politicians to account, what exactly are they good for?

Sonia Randhawa is a former journalist who worked most recently for ABC's Radio Australia. She is a co-founder of the Coalition of Everyone and works for the Sortition Foundation. Email her at sonia@coalitionofeveryone.com.



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Beasts of Burden

By Bob Middleton

FRED Hollows, the New Zealand/Australian ophthalmologist famous for his work in restoring eyesight to thousands of people around the world, and especially to the indigenous people of Australia, was a fan of the author Michael Ondaatje. I recall reading a newspaper article about how angry Fred was when his life was ending and he realised he would not be afforded the time to finish reading *The English Patient*, Ondaatje's most famous novel.

The news item has stayed with me, not just because of my admiration for Fred Hollows but also because of Ondaatje, my favourite writer. His novel *In the Skin of a Lion*, written five years earlier, is at the top of my list. Part of the reason is that, as one reviewer put it, "... it is a poem to workers and lovers".

Ondaatje took the title for his book from a passage in *The Epic of Gilgamesh*: "The joyful will stoop with sorrow, and when you have gone to the earth I will let my hair grow long for your sake, I will wander through the wilderness in the skin of a lion."

Very early in the book Ondaatje tells about a young farm boy watching in the faint dawn light as thirty itinerant loggers carrying lanterns move to the side of the road in hushed politeness to let cows move from pasture to barn for milking. "Sometimes the men put their hands on the warm flanks of these animals and receive their heat as they pass by."

I, too, know that feeling. In my early years I had to rouse cows in the morning darkness, gathering and herding them in their silent protest towards the cow shed. I was assigned the ones that had to be hand milked and was grateful for their warmth on those cold mornings as I rested my head on their flank and enticed them to let down their milk.

Now, after a life time spent elsewhere, I find myself settled down in country inhabited by herds of dairy cows, fields dotted with bales of silage wrapped in plastic coats the colours of the rainbow, disused butter factories or their ruins as I pass through places like Archie's Creek, Kongwak and, on a first recent visit, Glengarry.

I know this is a bit of a stretch but what has prompted these thoughts and memories of my fleeting affair with the dairy industry is the sad news that the once all-powerful Murray Goulburn Co-operative Company is teetering on the edge of oblivion. Due to cut-throat competition, milk prices, commercial performance and other complex issues beyond my ken it now has a binding agreement to sell out to Saputo, the Canadian dairy giant. We are saying goodbye to a company that is 100 per cent controlled by its dairy farmer suppliers and that operates under co-operative principles.

The co-operative commissioned Catherine Watson to research and record their history and her book *Just a Bunch of Cow Cockies* was published in 2000. The title was inspired by one of the 100-plus interviews she conducted during her research. Jim Gemmell, the founding chairman, said "You know, we were as rough as guts when we started out. We were just a bunch of cow cockies who did our best. But look at what we have now!"

Catherine relates a story from their formative days of a meeting held at the Cobram factory. A delegation from the Kraft head office in Melbourne had travelled down to remind the Murray Valley company (as it was known then) that it was set up as a cheese factory and should not be supplying whole milk. After discussing the matter, the Murray Valley directors told them they would adhere to their city milk contracts.



That didn't go down well with the men from Kraft, and their spokesman replied "We're very sorry that's your decision, but I have to tell you we'll break you if we can."

It used to be said that the co-operative was bound to succeed because the directors were too pig-headed to know when they were licked.

Ordinary men and women representing ordinary farmers, sticking together.

The cover of the book pictures a lone milkman hand milking in an old lean-to shed. And I think hey! that looks like me.



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Bass Coast Prize

History with a twist wins non-fiction prize

BASS Coast writer Linda Cuttriss has won the 2020 Bass Coast Prize for Non-Fiction with *At Screw Creek*, part true detective story, part local history, part family history.

The judges commented that this was local history at its best – not just a succession of dates and events but an engaging story with a narrative drive and a search for understanding.

Second prize has gone to Drouin writer Jeannie Haughton for *Who Speaks for the Trees and Creeks?* Part memoir, part polemic, this is a powerful piece of writing, concluding with an urgent call to action and a plea not to give in to despair.

Equal third prize went to Lucinda Bain of Eltham for *Paper Thin* and Max Hayward of North Melbourne for *Sometimes Nothing Can Happen But Fire*.

There were also four Highly Commended awards: Karen Bateman, of Inverloch for *No Place Like Home*; Jillian Durance, of Moyarra, for *Nothing We Liked Better*; Lauren Burns, of Inverloch, for *Cape Connection*; and Fiona Power, of Glen Iris, for *On the Shore of the Wide World*.

The Bass Coast Prize for Non-Fiction is one of the richest non-fiction prizes in Australia, with \$10,000 in prize money.

This year's competition was brought forward to provide an outlet for housebound writers during the COVID lockdowns.

Sponsor Phyllis Papps, who established the prize to encourage Gippsland writers, said she was thrilled with the number of entries and the quality of the writing.

In its second year, it drew 44 entries from Bass Coast, Baw Baw, La Trobe, East Gippsland and South Gippsland.

Judges Geoff Ellis, Anne Heath Mennell and Catherine Watson were impressed by the standard of entries and the breadth of topics. The winners tackled some meaty issues and topics – climate change, the bush fires, COVID – in an engaging manner.

With the prize now well established on the local writing scene, the team behind the prize will seek sponsorship and partnerships for the 2021 Prize.



JUDGES' COMMENTS

First

Linda Cuttriss (Pictured) *At Screw Creek*
Local history at its best – not just a succession of dates and events but merged with a family history, a detective story and a search for understanding. At 9000 words, it has plenty of heft but it's engaging and the story moves along. The judges were impressed by the way she sought understanding of the pre-European history of the land that five generations of her family have called home.

Second

Jeannie Haughton *Who Speaks for the Trees and Creeks?* or *RUN If You Hear The Word Peri Urban*. The author mourns the loss of a beloved avenue of old trees and embarks on an investigation in which she discovers the Kafkaesque world of environmental law where native vegetation can be listed on a Register of Protected Trees – and still be chain-sawed for one more suburban estate. The story is familiar but she builds a powerful narrative: heartfelt, persuasive, illuminating. This is a polemic but a restrained one, concluding with an urgent call to action.

Third (equal)

Lucinda Bain: *Paper Thin*
From the first line we see a real writer at work: "I thought I knew something of death. Until, on the 20th of May 2016 – my 34th birthday – I found myself breastfeeding my third baby in the same room as my dead grandfather." A slice of memoir becomes a meditation on the trajectories of births and deaths, from breath to breath. Beautifully written.

Third (equal)

Max Hayward: *Sometimes nothing can happen but fire*
The author calls this "a personal essay". It combines family memoir with recent history – the 2019-20 bushfires – and a persuasive argument to rein in the European determination to dominate the landscape and to learn from indigenous land management practices. Well researched and engagingly written. There is wry humour: ("My family are beachcombers and fast walkers. We are indoctrinated early on by our mothers ...") and insight ("Indigenous people of Australia are already living in a post-apocalyptic world.")

Highly Commended

Karen Bateman: *No place like home*

An exploration of home. Can we ever know a place that we didn't grow up in, or do we need the stories and traditions we grow up with? The author wrestles with a sense of alienation and the conundrum of knowing that to her children this IS home. She broadens it by including other people's experiences, a friend who is a third generation Bass Coaster and a Bunurong elder who gives her some sage advice. Amusing and thought-provoking.

Jillian Durance: *Nothing We Liked Better*

The story of a house and its inhabitants, anchored by two old trees: a pine and a pear. It weaves memoir, local history and natural history. A great feat of imagination and beautifully written.

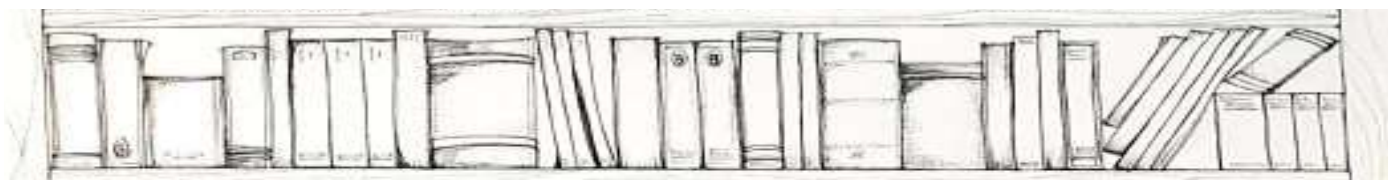
Lauren Burns: *Cape Connection*

Impressive memoir interweaving a personal journey of discovery with a "coming home" to Bass Coast. Lovely use of language: "I began to frequent the beach for a daily lesson in change." The writing is fresh, with no clichés, struggling successfully to describe a very unusual situation and to answer important and novel questions.

Fiona Power: *On the Shore of the Wide World*

Engaging, wryly humorous memoir of a childhood in Bass, cleverly merged with local history.

The winning entries will be published in the Bass Coast Post at www.basscoastpost.com.
For more information, contact Catherine Watson on 0401 817 796 or editor@basscoastpost.com



Words

THIS MAN ABOUT TOWN

In an urban residence
Lurks that animal of leisure
Barks work is for peasants
Life is for pleasure.

A beautiful Border Collie
From a hard working breed
Sneers chasing sheep a folly
A hard way to get a feed.

Always complacent
And so very smug
The most perfect mate
To accept a hug.

He wears his devotion
And his loyalty so fair
And his loving emotion
With an elegant air.

Always so immaculate
So very well attired
Ready for a dinner date
Whenever required.

Avoiding home boredom
With inner city dining
A customer most handsome
Under tables reclining.

His fans are all sighing
As the scandal breaks
And rumours are flying
His actions are fakes.

Those lovely brown eyes
Swearing deathless love
What shock and surprise
To believe the above.

So pay for his food
For the man about town
Don't ever be rude
Or bother to frown.

Why be judgemental
About what you afford
He's worth the rental
Keep paying his board.

Charming and flirtatious
Our charming Romeo
So obliging and gracious
A well-nourished gigolo.

©

Margaret Pearce



ATTACHMENT

On my way back to the office I paused to look at a jeweller's window display and one thing beckoned to me. Instantly I was smitten. On impulse, I entered the store to enquire about the gorgeous wrist watch which had completely ensnared my 20 year old heart. The price? As it so happened, I knew one of the staff who contrived a four pound reduction. I do not recall how I produced the mammoth balance of forty pounds but probably I made a hasty bank withdrawal and returned to work in ecstasy. My fellow staff members (older and secure in their wisdom), were appalled. How could I, earning no more than five pounds a week, be so completely, utterly, irredeemably insane? "More money than sense;" "Half the price of a ticket to London;" and other scathing condemnation could not diminish my love for my thing of beauty and joy, if not forever, for many years to come.

Ultimately the fates of all things mechanical came into play when my faithful servant and companion could no longer function. Relegated to a well-earned retirement in a quiet drawer, it languished silently until I happened upon an advertisement for all such watches in any condition. I ventured forth with an unsettling sense of betrayal to initiate the last rites.

Home again with \$80 to my credit, I realised that my so-called stupidity of more than half a century before had triumphed. Not only had I enjoyed 50 years of unadulterated pleasure, the wicked purchase price had been completely obliterated.

Long may independent thought flourish!

E E Caldwell

Many thanks to Maree Silver who types Betty's (E.E.) contributions to the Waterline News.



AN EARTHY TALE

(I)
Tails protrude from
neighbouring burrows

Earthy encounters
fertilise eggs
deposit cocoons
in terra firma

Young hermaphrodites
process leaf litter
absorb nutrition
aerate soil

(II)
Heavy rain
damp conditions
night movers emerge
wiggle and squirm
over bitumen paths

Explorers seeking
other spaces

Sun rises
conditions are perilous
UV exposure
and moisture loss
means certain death

(III)
Born without
eyes, arms and legs
—base of many food-chains—
amazing power to regenerate
missing body parts grow back

Unseen earth-workers
living freely
beneath our feet

Earthworms

© **Maree Silver**



Winter Snapshots

Heavy skeins
sculpted tangled
white clouds cap an indigo range

Tendrils hang
wisp and curl
blur the boundary of mountain and sky

Shafts of sunlight
slant through the wetland
latté rays float on a billabong

Regimented vines
parade the hillsides
up and over the edge of vision

Late sun
pierces a purple sky
splashes grass with luminous high-
lights

Twilight
turns day's final page
nightfall closes the album

(c) Maree Silver



The Changing Chapters – my life

I go about my day with a cloud above my head
A fog or a shroud of mist that will not shift
The memories, the smells and the tastes of my success are so real,
The suits, the ties and the leather briefcase as it creaks, the rush and bustle that I hold so dear.
The hair slicked back and with the daily newspaper secure under my arm, the journey to my office is routine clear
The heaving, pushing and tearing as we each reach our goal
The trains and traffic packed as tight as could be
Not a smile or recognition from those with me
The trains rushing emptying the masses, heaving them to their destinations
Yet still the echoes of congratulations, the three cheers and hoorays! With pats on the back to get me on my way
I smile with dread for I am not so sure
It's like holding my breath that took 50 years or more and now I need to exhale
How will I fill that void? I sigh, but not from relief.
I look back at the house as I had always done, for they are all still asleep
The birds are up but not many more, only the poor sods rushing to the trains once more
I have never lived in that house, for now I do! Only slept and returned in the commute of my day and lay down next to you.
Now, I have passed that gate to the rest of the world and that train rushes past me packed to its peak with a blast of its horn, away she goes.
Carrying all those rushing suits and ties into the world that never sleeps
Now the dog and I, what was its name?
Collect the daily paper with a moderate of shame
And now we both shuffle with the others and nod our recognition,
We are the retired and there should be no blame.
For now only the breeze that continues to blow, stirs and lifts our grief as we go.

© Clara McPherson

Of a Small Superhero and Grubs

Book Review by Meryl Brown Tobin of *But Daddy I Am a Superhero!* and *Bowl of Grubs* by Nenia Tavrou, 2020

Recently writer Nenia Tavrou published her second picture storybook.

There are two stories in the book. *But Daddy I Am a Superhero!* takes up the first half of the book and *Bowl of Grubs* the second half. Readers read halfway through the book and then turn the book over and upside down for the second story.

In the first story young readers follow the adventures of a small boy Michael as he learns what it is to be a real superhero. In the second Nenia Tavrou takes readers inside a tortoise shell to see the house within. A novel look into an unusual home—for a tortoise anyway!

Each story features a religious text. This could appeal to parents looking for a book with a religious message. However, as the values expressed in both stories are universal ones of love and acceptance, they are not prescriptive.

Written in rhyme, the stories rollick along. Children old enough to read it would enjoy getting their tongues around such as verse as

Have you seen a tortoise shell?

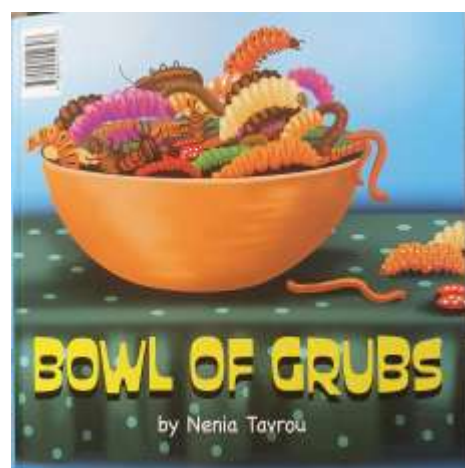
I have...a big surprise.

You see it's rather nice inside transformed before my eyes.

In bold colour and big print and with warm illustrations of characters with smiling faces to appeal to young children, the book is a 24 page paperback 223 mm wide and 208 mm high. With a firm cover and glossy pages, it also has an attractive look and feel.

As Nenia Tavrou used the same artist as she did for her first children's picture storybook *But Mummy I Am a Witch!* the two books 'match' and look good together on bookshelves.

But Daddy I Am a Superhero! and *Bowl of Grubs* is available from Nenia Tavrou for \$12 plus P&H at [in-fo@neniatavrouwriting.com](mailto:fo@neniatavrouwriting.com) or www.neniatavrouwriting.com ('drop me a line' form) or PO Box 425 Ascot Vale 3032.





The place I love is where peacocks roam free and each day you see their beautiful courtship ritual, the male with his spectacular fanned iridescent train impressing the hens. Where the quirky guinea fowl hunt and aren't afraid to sing their fearsome song to keep the predators away and the fine fluffy silkies chat away trying to navigate their way through their beautiful puffy crest.

This is the place where unusual friendships have blossomed. A striking highland cow, with her flowing black locks and majestic horns can be seen cavorting with an obstinate, braying Mediterranean micro donkey. And a fearless Jersey cow, and a group of shy but curious Alpaca's befriend an orphan Angus calf.

It is a place you hear a symphony of sound from the whistle of the cavies to the bellow of the deer. It is music to my ears. This is our Farm the Groves Estate.

Name: Aleta Groves

Special Place: Groves Estate, Jam Jerrup

Medium: Composite Photograph



Every aspect of nature has its own charm and tells its own story ... the water is at the heart for me ... life teams under, on and over it. From sunrise to sunset, the sun plays over the lapping water, a riot of colour fills the skies and spills out over the bay as tides ebb and flow. Air ... fresh and clean, pure oxygen emanates from the mangroves dotting the shallows, a nursery for fingerlings. Majestic, graceful ... black swans glide around the mangroves out to the yachts moored in a line reaching out from the Jetty. Sharing the shoreline egrets, Ibis and ducks are busy all day long with the quest for food, endlessly entertaining as they go about their business. Dusk falls and birds soft coos fill the silence of the night ... bliss! This is my special place.

Name: Lyndell Parker

Special Place: Moorings Place Corinella (In front of her house)

Medium: Photograph



No way, I will... not... forgive!

Have you seen on social media where a father or mother forgives their child's killer? The seemingly impossible, cutting through grief.

How can they do that?

Have you ever known someone who wants their pound of flesh after they think they've been maligned? Everyone slides around them rather than cause a blow up.

Why should a person forgive someone who has abused them, or been rude to them or their family? For anyone who has been hurt, had loss, or has been abused, this can be a phenomenal ask.

The forgiveness we're talking about does not just mean being nice people, but something going beyond what society thinks is reasonable.

When there's a discussion on what makes a Christian (or person of a faith), often it is about how they should behave, or that they must forgive. Just why is this so important? Firstly, we claim forgiveness, or talk it up, because we claim we have been forgiven by God. That's no small claim.

Regarding our own readiness to forgive, it can be something that highlights how hardened our hearts can be. So, whether Christian or not, we can ask ourselves, is there something or someone who we 'won't' forgive?

We could start by remembering how we are forgiven by God, therefore we are expected to forgive. If we added that our own forgiveness from God might be linked to forgiving others, then the response might very well be anger or objection. Sometimes we like to hold a grudge. And we don't like being held accountable for what we think is reasonable hatred.

To give you the punchline early, there is a big difference between 'won't' forgive and 'can't' forgive. When we've been the recipient of divine grace, we enter into a relationship that means (eternal) life.

When we enter into relationship with God, this is with a spirit of truth, light and life. We hope, over time, to inculcate characteristics of patience, holiness, mercy and love.

These are the characteristics and nature of God. This is the journey that is, through the action of the Holy Spirit, becoming more like Christ.

For some of us this takes a long time. But God is grace-full and merciful, and he has much more patience than the rest of us.

Psychologists have great skill in helping to retrain our thinking when we are in trouble. They can be a part of the healing process. Our faith angle is to address the heart or spirit. We seek forgiveness in our human selves and seek the Lord to help us to move.

Maybe give the psychologist a chance, if the patient is willing?

Is there a point when, in our anger or fury, we 'won't' forgive rather than 'can't'? This contrasts with the nature of salvation where we are forgiven our sins. ALL our sins. Compared to the holiness of God, every little sin makes us like a dirty rag.

Yet Jesus died for each of us, for every little sin.

The expectation, in return, is that we take on and reflect the grace given to us, because of the relationship we now have with God. At what point are we rejecting the nature of God, and the call to mercy, grace and love, by wishing judgement on someone?

That is the problem with non-forgiveness.

We are really wishing judgement, ill will or death, on the other. Should someone who has been given grace and mercy, then refuse to reflect that for others? Are we still willing to say 'no way, no forgiveness'? Are we willing to say that God's grace, given to us is not big enough to help us with others? Think on that for a sec.

How would it sound if we inserted the spirit of the act of unforgiveness in its extreme? Could we say, "I wish death upon you, for your act?" That sounds so wrong doesn't it?

The fruit of unforgiveness, at the very least, is that it hardens our heart and affects how we interact with people who might even slightly remind us of the other.

Again, at what degree will that affect us? Are we actually rejecting who and what the Lord is?

We would say 'oh no', but if we prefer to hate then, yes, we are. We are only following the religion and not the faith. Who is freed by forgiveness? The one who forgives! Does that mean the other gets off scot free? NO, we all answer for our sins. The good news is that, with a relationship with Jesus, that cost is paid! The good news is that, with God, all things are possible!

He is the way, the truth and the life.
Reverend Colin.



Disability

New social contract delivering mutual benefit in Bass Coast

Bass Coast Health has demonstrated its commitment to building an inclusive community by engaging Connecting 2 Australia (C2A) – Work Connections to detail Bass Coast Health's vehicle fleet to ensure safer transportation of their employees and customers in the Bass Coast community.

The C2A Work Connections crew is made up of 12 workers who have continued to provide essential services across the broader Bass Coast region throughout the pandemic, in line with Victorian Government Guidelines.

In fact, the crew has been busy mowing lawns (including at Bass Coast Health sites), planting trees and other maintenance roles for partner organisations.

"We value this new contract as it provides opportunities for our employees to work in new environments and demonstrate their skills and ability in the local community. We have already received positive feedback from Bass Coast Health, this provides terrific motivation for our employees. I can see our services and partnerships with local providers continuing to grow", said Michele Baigent Business Manager, Wonthaggi Hub at C2A.

The banter between the crew as they clean the Bass Coast Health fleet, reflects one of the most important aspects of work: social connection. Simon Lloyd has been with the work crew for almost 20 years and enjoys the outdoor work.

"Coming to work gets me out of the house and contact with other people has been helpful during the lockdown periods," says Simon. Richard Walker, much newer to the crew at three years reflects "I enjoy the exercise... and of course the money".



For Scott Earley, now in his mid-twenties, paid employment through C2A gave him an opportunity for independence from a young age.

Phil Rennie has recently stepped into the role to oversee the work of the crew, and their wellbeing on the job. "I'm enjoying the interaction with the team; to chat and laugh while we work. In this role I can make a difference in a very practical way".

The Work Connections team provide the fleet cleaning service on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at the C2A site in Wonthaggi, and at Bass Coast Health sites in San Remo and Cowes.

C2A Work Connections offers tailored support in employment for people living with disabilities. This enables them to discover their own unique skills, talents and passions.

"I'm delighted that we have strengthened our partnership with C2A. The C2A Work Connections team has maintained Bass Coast Health's gardens and lawns at the Wonthaggi campus for many years and given their reliability and quality for providing this service, we decided to engage them to take on our fleet cleaning.

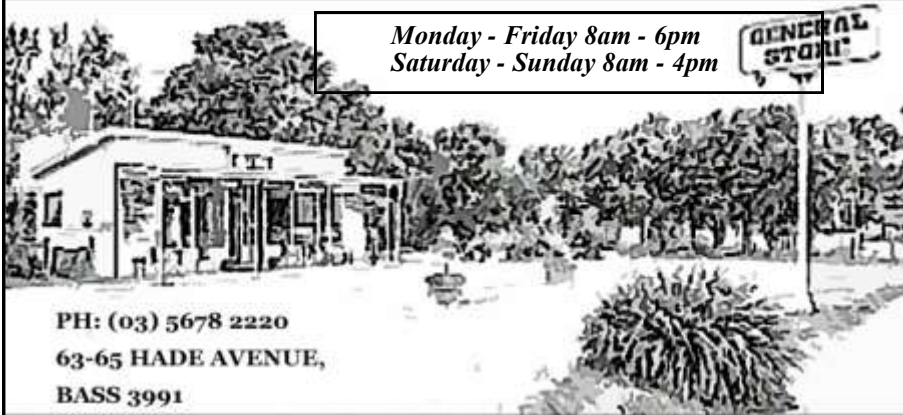
The team does a fantastic job and our staff have provided really positive feedback since the fleet cleaning commenced. We see this as a mutually beneficial partnership" said Jan Child, CEO Bass Coast Health.

"I would encourage other local businesses to consider engaging C2A Work Connections to assist with any garden maintenance, vehicle cleaning or any one of a number of other services they provide," added Jan.

For organisations interested in engaging the C2A Work Connections team please call 1300 111 212

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Coronet Bay Community Garden



How our Garden's growing

For Contact or Membership

President: Len van den Neut - Ph: 0402 921 577

Treasurer: Josette Dorey - Ph: 0433 901 422

Secretary: Diana Lutz - Ph: 0428 599 621

Newsletter No 4 Oct. Nov. Dec. Qtr. 2020

Working Bee rules according to Restrictions:

Future working Bees will be advertised on Facebook and notice sent to all members via email. Will be either Sunday or Tuesday. We will need to have an acceptance from all attending so that we can stop at 10 or divide the day should we be so lucky as to get more than 10. Even if you can give only half hour weeding it all helps and you can do this with family or friends (up to 10) on a sunny day but wear Gum Boots and your mask for now.

Polyhouse:

Our Polyhouse is progressing and a call will go out to able bodied members to come and help pull the cover over the frame. Stuart and Don with various helpers have done a great job of erecting the frame.

Polyhouse so far



All worker bees are female.

A bee produces a teaspoon of honey (about 5 grams) in her lifetime.

Our progress

We have been able to visit the garden on walks and in pairs or a threesome working at a distance. Some advances have been made and some new planting has been done. Mound at the back is being planted with grasses and natives.



Progress is slow with Covid19. Gayle Robertson has donated a lot of grasses which have been

planted on back mounds and Linda Nichols has donated some tubes of native grasses, Oleria lirata (snow daisy bush), Goodinia Ovata (Hop Goodinia) and Black or silver wattle. These will be planted when a little bigger.



Oleria lirata(snow daisy) Goodinia Ovata (Hop Ovata)

We are looking forward to a new edition to add interest to the Garden. A donation from Luminous Galleries. An opportunity to plant flowers around the base. Focus is still Vegies but we need something for the Bees.



To produce a kg of honey, bees fly the equivalent of three times around the world in air miles.

Bees mate high in the sky. Afterwards the male bee loses his reproductive organs and dies.

A Queen Bee can produce 2,000 eggs a day. Fertilised eggs become females and unfertilised eggs become males

Bees love blue and love cluster plants like lavender and rosemary

Our Produce



Peas ready for picking, Raspberries thriving, leeks and garlic ready. Brassicas getting there. Fruit trees in leaf. Strawberries on the way. Pepinos did eventually ripen but eaten by bugs.

Beginnings of Children's Garden
Hungry Caterpillar with Spoonsville behind followed by Pansies in 1st segment and Marigolds in 2nd. Who will fill the 3rd.



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