EastsiderNews

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FREI

News, views and items of interest for residents of Melbourne's east

June 2022

A new Government and a new order

The assessment by many long-term observers has been that Australia is naturally a conservative country, valuing stability, predictability and continuity above all else. At the heart of this conservatism is said to be a disinterest in dealing with complexity and a complacency that can slide into denial.

The federal election results of 21 May 2022 certainly challenge this observation. As our new Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said in his victory speech, "Tonight, the Australian people have voted for change".

The old order of a parliament dominated by one of the two major political parties was rejected by many who chose to vote for representatives more closely embedded in their local communities. These independent candidates also shared a readiness to address the complex issues of climate change, integrity and social inequality with a focus on the national, public interest rather than self-interest.

The seismic shift in the composition of the 47th Parliament creates a rare opportunity to change the way government relates to its constituency. Voters have said they want a more responsive institution than that of the Morrison Coalition; one that is capable of evidence based decision making; that rises above narrowly focused, short term and divisive, power seeking opportunism of previous governments.

In his first speech as Prime Minister, Mr Albanese started by committing "... to the Uluru Statement from the Heart in full". This includes progressing a referendum to enshrine a voice to parliament in the constitution. To be successful, this will require a degree of bi-partisanship given the past record of most proposed constitutional changes being rejected and the sensitive nature of Indigenous affairs.

It is to be hoped that an Opposition led by Peter Dutton acknowledges the extraordinary grace and generosity of the Uluru Statement. The call for a Voice to Parliament to be enshrined in the constitution needs to be seen as providing a practical path forward to finally address the issues that governments alone have been unable to resolve.

The new Prime Minister spoke of a government that "will respect every one of you every day", a stance that contrasts starkly with that taken by the Morrison Government towards those who fell outside their divisive version of who were the deserving. A strong, independent and well-resourced Commonwealth Public Service is essential to creating greater equity. This will provide a means for a greater diversity of voices to be heard, and the basis for a policy development process that is framed in the public interest and over a much longer time frame than the next election.

Prime Minister Albanese has already demonstrated his readiness to address significant issues. His Cabinet contains 10 women, more than any previous one at the Commonwealth level. One of his first actions was to step out on the world stage and, together with Foreign Affairs Minister Penny Wong, seek to repair our international reputation. He has given instructions to commence the creation of an integrity commission. And, in more low key ways, Albanese has shown he is ready to raise the level of public debate by calling out inappropriate comments by his team and taking a firm stance to the conduct of journalists in press conferences.

There is much to be done, to respond to looming problems and with a view to the longer term beyond the three year term of this parliament. The climate crisis



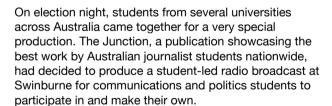
requires significantly more ambition than the policy Labor took to the election. The education system is in widespread disrepair at all levels, and especially in the tertiary sector. The NDIS is facing a funding crisis and the consequences of the previous government's push to privatise delivery.

Behind much of this is the need for tax reform. Allan Kohler succinctly summed up the problem in an article in New Daily on May 30 by saying, "Jim Chalmers could reduce the deficit to zero within three years by increasing the ratio of tax to GDP from the 22.4 it is now to 24.4 per cent – still among the lowest in the western world." Kohler called upon the new Government to conduct "... a transparent, open inquiry, updating the Henry Tax Review of 2010."

Such an inquiry, he noted should examine the question of what the right overall level of taxation for Australia should be. The response to this question would take into account "...the spending requirements of defence, NDIS, aged care, child care and infrastructure, what the most efficient taxes are for raising the money...", and the extent to which running deficits is appropriate.

To seize the opportunity for change, the Australian population must maintain their commitment to a new way. The community conversations initiated by Independents such as Dr Monique Ryan using the model developed in Indi is something that will reinforce this commitment.

Students Make Waves with Election Broadcast



From 3pm onward, students collaborated from marginal seats in four states and the ACT to deliver the results as they came to light. There was a real feeling of excitement in the air and nerves were high as the results came through well into the night.

Our job was to facilitate the live crosses between journalists and our broadcast headquarters at Swinburne University. Communicating with dozens of young reporters was a challenging task that required us to think on our feet.

We had reporters with COVID who were reporting from their living rooms, reporters out in the field interviewing candidates who would go on to win seats throughout the night, reporters who were driving between campaign events and phoning in the very latest details in real time.

Back at HQ, students were rallying together to deliver a broadcast akin to professional radio and television networks, from production to reporting we had it all on the night. A table was devoted to political analysts who were called upon on the half hour to give their estimations, a social media team updating Facebook and Twitter religiously, two extremely talented hosts from Swinburne and Deakin University and two engaging producers who kept a us running like a well-oiled machine.

The Junction worked with the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia to share the night's election coverage, every half hour we would come online, and the window of reporting was extremely tight. What was made evident on the night was the youthful push our election had taken, and the teal wave was an unforgettable moment, to see such a shift in politics happen before our eyes was something very significant.

As we crept past 8pm and all eyes turned to Scott Morrison's conceded defeat there were gasps around the room, a shock that the election could turn so quickly when we were used to drawn out coverage and the looming prospect of a hung parliament.

But we soldiered on and turned to getting reporters back on the air who were within spitting distance of candidates about to be declared victorious and even the candidates that were not so lucky.

The night moved on and our broadcast team continued to cover the developing situation in Western Australia, still too early to see the red wave that would come overnight but just in time to get a feel for where the wind was heading. Analysts on the night were shocked and reporters were frantically covering the campaign events which were quickly becoming celebratory as the votes came in.

We wrapped up as a Labor victory became the popular call and were standing by for Prime Minister Albanese's speech, and as the broadcast was coming to an end, we watched the live coverage from the ABC as hopeful and politically engaged university students.

The feeling we all seemed to share was one of ambition for a future government that could help the country deal with the issues we would face, it was a feeling of relief that once again we had a government that would be thinking about us and planning for brighter days ahead.

f you would like to hear the latest about our election night broadcast keep a look out for a podcast that will detail the coverage, soon to come out on the Junction website: https://junctionjournalism.com/

Callum McNaught has studied journalism at Deakin University. Despite his youth, he has had considerable experience in newspaper and radio journalism. He is a member of the *Eastsider News* editorial team.

IN THIS EDITION

Thank you to our many contributors who responded to our call for material. As you can imagine, the federal election was a thing that captured the attention of many. You will be pleased to see, however, that many maintained their interest in local affairs. As always, we have loyal and faithful Max marking his territory and our magnificent cookery writer, Elizabeth Chong tempting our palates with Ginger Cream. We are delighted that our younger writers, Callum and Madeleine have given us some well written and interesting prose.

Our next edition will be in mid-August 2022. Submissions for the 13th edition of *Eastsider News* are due no later than 25 July. See the guidelines for submissions on page 14.

Correction:

In our April 2022 edition, we published a poem Bookshelf Toys by Corinne Fenton. We forgot to tell you that the lovely, cheerful illustration of the clown was by Marjory Gardner.

Statement from Dr Monique Ryan on the 2022 Kooyong election result

On Monday, 23 May, Dr Ryan issued a statement about the 2022 Kooyong election result. She reported that Josh Frydenberg had called her to congratulate her on winning the seat of Kooyong in the Federal Election. Monique thanked Mr Frydenberg for his 12 years of service to the people of Kooyong and for his time in parliament and in the government. She also wished him well in all his future endeavours. Her statement on the election result continued as follows:

It's been an amazing journey over the past few months, involving 2000 volunteers, 3000 donors, 4000 yard signs, 55 000 doors knocked, and thousands of supporters. This victory is as much for them as it is for me. I want to thank them all. We would not be here now without their amazing efforts. I also want to thank my husband and family for their unstinting and generous love and support through the campaign.

Now, the work begins anew. Our team is preparing for the next step, helping ready me for entering parliament and immediately beginning work on our community's priorities: real and urgent action on climate change, a strong federal integrity commission, and equality, respect, and safety for women.

Throughout the campaign, it's been important that we bring the whole community with us so that the entire electorate's values can be represented in Canberra. The work of 'Chopping wood and carrying water' hasn't stopped. It's only just begun.

I want to thank the people of Kooyong and assure them that I have listened to their concerns - and will always continue to listen to and represent them, as their Independent Member for Kooyong.

From the Editors

Some have described the 2022 Federal Election as a transformative election, a paradigm shift in Australia's political landscape; others have blamed lacklustre Liberal messaging on economics and climate policy. Wherever you sit on the political spectrum, one thing is clear. The election result confirms that many voters have lost trust in the capacity of our political institutions to make decisions in the nation's best interest. Many now perceive that those making decisions on our behalf are being driven by self interest rather than the broader public or national interest.

Several commentators have sought to cast the result as a shift by the electorate to the left. This shaky analysis rests on the false categorisation of matters such as climate change, integrity, economic equality and refugees as left issues. The readiness of electors in traditionally more conservative electorates to vote for an independent who addresses these issues clearly shows that they are seen as concerns for the majority of voters.

The real issue for voters has been the widening gap between what they expect of their political leaders and their perception as to how well they are performing this leadership role. It is becoming increasingly obvious that our political institutions are struggling to address long term and complex issues that we must address if we are to remain a dynamic, fair and prosperous country.

The starting point for good political leadership is a commitment to act with integrity. In a speech to U3A, the Hon Tim Smith QC, former Chair of the Accountability Round Table noted that, while we tend to equate integrity with truth and honesty, it is much

more than this. Integrity needs to be assessed "... by reference to the values, purposes and duties for which ... power is entrusted to, or held by, the institutions and individual officeholders concerned. When individuals and institutions act in a manner that is true to these values, purposes and duties, we say they have integrity. Truth and honesty are not synonyms for integrity but provide fundamental elements."



The election results provide a clear signal that Australians want to move away from politics being played as a raucous, negative and divisive game, focused on short term populist and opportunistic outcomes. The success of candidates who support enhanced integrity measures provides an opportunity for the new Government to move quickly to establish an integrity commission. This body should have strong powers to prosecute corruption by all public decision makers including politicians and their staff. It should be able to investigate matters retrospectively, which have been referred to them irrespective of whether a law has been broken, to conduct public hearings, and be allocated sufficient resources to initiate investigations.

A strong, independent integrity commission will provide a welcome reminder to public officials including politicians that they should regard their public office as a public trust.

As part of his reflection on integrity, Tim Smith QC commented that the principle of public trust "... goes to a range of public offences, including official misconduct, wilful neglect of duty, and embarking on a course of conduct the public officer has no right to undertake. Accountability is an inescapable consequence of ascension to public office." The goal is to ensure that "... elected representatives and public servants and agencies will understand and accept that their fundamental and over-riding obligation is that they put the public interest first."

Quizing Questions

David Astle, radio and TV star, writer, wordsmith, and cryptic crossword maker is expert at intriguing, teasing, and frustrating his audiences with hisinventive mastery of words. He has very generously agreed that in each edition of *Eastsider News* we can include two of the Quizlings from his book, 'Puzzled'. You will find the answers on page 16 of this edition.

- We're thinking of a word meaning connect. But when prefixed by a vowel, the new word means cut.
- 2. What word meaning chicken, can lose its head, to spell a second bird, instead?



Acknowledgement of Country

Independent Community News Group Incorporated acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation, Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land and waters of the *Eastsider News* focus area, and pays respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging.



To learn more about the rich culture and traditions of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people, explore their website at www.wurundjeri.com.au

Credits and contacts

The informal group who initiated the idea which has evolved into Independent Community News Group Incorporated and *Eastsider News* were Michael Hassett, Allan Havelock, Joy Mettam, Anne Young, John Malvestuto, and Bill Chandler. From this small beginning, an evolving and increasing network of many other people are taking an interest in being involved in its ongoing development. The current compilers and editors are: Anne Young, John Malvestuto, Joy Mettam, Mike Daly, Callum McNaught and Bill Chandler.

We welcome newcomers to our group and are always looking for people who can volunteer their skills and time in areas such as journalism, illustration, website management and search engine optimisation, audience and advertising promotion and editing.

The primary contact point for Independent Community News Group Incorporated and *Eastsider News* is eastsidernews1@gmail.com.

MEMBER 2022

Disclaimers

Eastsider News is a means by which people in Whitehorse, Boroondara and adjacent areas can share information, opinions and experiences. A spread of interests and views that reflects the diversity of people in the area is encouraged, but views expressed in Eastsider News by individual writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, Independent Community News Group Incorporated, or any other organisation.

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My favourite walks



- Maximillian von Schnauzer

Hi, my four-footed-friends.

Well, I've found it! Lift-your-leg heaven! The Murtoa Stick Shed. Forget teasing/annoying your two-leggeds by insisting on piddling on every street tree you pass. This is the ultimate. Look at these trees. Lots and lots and lots of trees. While Mum was mesmerised looking up into the cathedral-like space, I seized my chance. She said I disgraced myself but what's a dog to do when confronted with 560 tree trunks.

The Murtoa Stick Shed was our first stop on a mini holiday to visit the Silo Art Trail in the Wimmera. (See Paw Notes). Dad, of course, gathered all the history. The shed was built by hand in WW2 to house wheat, as export markets weren't happening and hessian bags were in use elsewhere. Metal was also scarce, hence the tree trunks – from the Dandenongs, Otways and Gippsland.

The actual Silo Art Trail could be a bit boring for us four-leggeds, but the two-leggeds seemed pretty excited. As far as I could figure it was - drive a lot, stop, look up at a very tall tower. Repeat. Repeat. Repeat ... But, there was this special silo in a tiny town called Nullawil – look at that kelpie. Imagine if that was you!

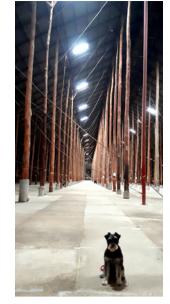
Apparently on special occasions the kelpie poses for tourists. (Photoshoots – just like me).

Happily, one day the car stayed put and we walked and walked. Our accommodation in Warracknabeal was beside the beautiful Yarriambiack Creek. Perfect. River gums, parkland. AND off-lead both sides. The full walk is 6 to 8 kms but there are foot bridges that can short-circuit it if your two-leggeds insist they are getting tired.

Coffee is, as ever, a 'hot' topic with my Mum. She was delighted to find the 'Viet-Aus Kitchen and Café' in Minyip. Great coffee and food, and friendly service, with a sunny garden at the rear for the two-leggeds to sit with me. Mum wished it had been lunchtime, not morning tea, when she saw all the 5 star reviews.

Minyip proved to be very interesting, with lots of information boards for Dad. As I trotted alongside, I learned that the town had been "Coopers Crossing' in the long-running TV series, 'The Flying Doctors'. And more recently the hotel had featured in the movie 'The Dry'.

Now I'm back in chilly Melbourne wearing my snug coat, made from an old Xavier school blazer. Please say hello if you see me around. I'm black and silver with a red collar – and perhaps that coat. – *Max*.







Paw Notes for two-leggeds:

https://www.thestickshed.com.au/ http://siloarttrail.com/home/ https://visitwimmeramallee.com.au/ https://www.aussietowns.com.au/town/minyip-vic



Reflections on what this election meant to me

- Carmel McNaught

I am Australian but have spent many years overseas (mostly in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the UK), returning finally from my meanderings when Covid struck. In the last decade of our travels, my husband and I felt increasingly dismayed at

the perceptions that many of our friends and colleagues overseas had about Australia. The 'lucky country' that was profligate in the use and abuse of its natural treasures; a nation with insufficient compassion for those communities in dire distress, whether the cause of that distress be war, disease or environmental disaster. As Australia slid down the global corruption rankings and up the list of high global emissions, we hung our heads in shame.

When we returned, the lockdowns did not allow us to fully explore eastern Melbourne and find a significant

community with shared values about our rights and responsibilities as citizens in a privileged society. Of course, we have friends who are dear to us and who share our outlook on life but the feeling of being a 'stranger in a strange land' persisted. How could any government care so little for the vulnerable in society, the homeless, the aged, and those affected by our horrendous floods and fires? How could any government not understand that climate disasters are economic disasters as well? Did they not understand that Australia's future depends on the health and stability of our global neighbours?

Then the election campaign began. In working as a volunteer for Dr Monique Ryan, we met so many other volunteers who felt the same as we did about the idiocy and ignominy of much government policy. We found that distributing leaflets and having conversations in the neighbourhood were not only useful campaign

activities, but they were also always a lot of fun. I felt that I belonged in this campaign community; I was finally home. On Election Day, as I stood with my how-to-vote leaflets, I had the privilege of chatting with several voters about how integrity in government, climate action and the economy are inextricably intertwined. It was especially rewarding to chat with a few first-time voters.

I can only give sincere thanks to all these folk who have restored my faith in Australia. The outcome of the election in Kooyong shows that many individuals, each contributing a little bit, can make a significant difference to the wider society. I can hold my head high now with renewed pride and purpose in being Australian, and work together with others to meet the myriad of challenges we face.

Carmel McNaught is an Emeritus Professor of Learning Enhancement at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Her peripatetic academic career ended with the Covid pandemic. Email: carmel.mcnaught@cuhk.edu.hk

Movie Reviews

– Mike Daly

How To Please A Woman (M, 107 mins)

Maigret (M, 89 mins)

If lockdown travel restrictions have taught us anything in the past couple of years, it's how much good entertainment is within easy reach of our eastern suburban area. Recently we took up the Palace Cinema Balwyn's offer of a complimentary glass of Prosecco at a screening of the Aussie comedy "How To Please A Woman".

Contrary to expectations, 75 percent of the audience was female ... I ask you, surely this would be a bigger drawcard for men eager to glean vital relationship advice, especially with the following plot synopsis: "When her all-male house-cleaning business gets out of control, a mature woman must embrace her own sexuality, if she is to make a new life for herself."

Filmed in Fremantle, the movie stars British-based comic actress Sally Phillips (best known for roles in "Bridget Jones Diary" movies and TV's "Smack the Pony"

sketch series), plus Aussie male hunk Alexander England.

Writer/director Renee Webster's debut feature revolves around a house cleaning business-turned male escort service. It sparkles with cheeky humour and a cast that relishes the chance to play for laughs. Erik Thomson gets a meaty supporting role while Cameron Daddo is almost unrecognisable as a chauvinistic husband.

At the same cinema, a couple of weeks later, it was a complete change of pace with "Maigret", the latest screen adaptation of Georges Simenon's classic Parisian detective. It stars veteran French actor Gerard Depardieu (he gained Russian citizenship a few years ago, thanks to pal Vladimir Putin, but has recently been cut adrift after condemning the invasion of Ukraine).

The murky, underlit streets and alleyways of 1953 Paris evoke the necessarily sombre mood, echoed by the lumbering, overweight figure of this Jules Maigret. Depardieu, at 73, is about 30 years older than Simenon's original character (the screenplay is based on the novel "Maigret and The Dead Girl") but he is certainly larger

An elegantly dressed, beautiful young woman is found murdered on a Parisian pavement early one morning, but the manner of her death is deceptive. As Maigret methodically retraces her movements – aided by Betty (Jade Labeste), a girl who looks uncannily like the victim – he uncovers a tragic story that evokes memories of personal loss.

Despite my original misgivings about the casting of Depardieu, thanks to writer-director Patrice Leconte the classic detective is portrayed with humanity and keen intelligence in a multi-layered plot with a highly satisfying ending.

Mike Daly is a local resident and a widely experienced and well-known journalist with a keen ear and eye on the music scene. He can be contacted at mikedaly35@gmail.com



Painted Houses

- © Corinne Fenton, Illustration by Marjory Gardner

Windows, doors, chimneys bright, welcoming loved ones, family and friends, celebrating special occasions... or just being together.

Loving and sharing, happy smiles, hugs, and children's laughter echoing and dancing over the rooftops. Flower pots on windows sills, tables set... waiting and delicious smellswafting.

It's time to hold our loved ones close, once again, in our bright painted houses.

Corinne Fenton has written many loved children's books. Go here to find out more: https://corinnefenton.com/ Marjory Gardner is the illustrator of many picture books. Her website is https://www.marjorygardner.com/



ANZAC Dawn Service, Surrey Hills

- Yvonne Bowyer

The Surrey Hills ANZAC Day Dawn Service at The Shrine, Surrey Gardens, was first held in 2015 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli. With the exception of 2020 when Covid restrictions prevented the service from taking place, the event has continued each year.

Since its inception, the dawn service has focused on the involvement of young people with student leaders from local schools reading speeches and laying wreaths. This year we were fortunate to have Belinda Battey, co recipient of the 2022 Boroondara Young Citizen of the Year Award, acting as MC. This was the first time a young adult has led the service. Ben Sametz, a young trumpet player who has been involved since 2016, once again played the Last Post and Reveille and sang a hymn.



This year's theme, "Perspectives From the Home Front" highlighted the stories of local Surrey Hills residents Joseph George, an Air Raid Precautions Officer during World War II, and Kitty McEwan, Superintendent of the Victorian Division of the Australian Women's Land Army. Florence McKenzie of Hawthorn who is credited as being Australia's first female to be certified as a Radio Telegraphist and who went on to train many women and men in the use of

morse code, was also remembered.

ANZAC Day is a day to reflect and pay our respects to all those who have served and currently serve in time of war and in war-like conflict. Fifty two young men from our community made the ultimate sacrifice and lost their lives in the first World War. Their names are inscribed on the Cenotaph in Surrey Gardens. We listened to stories about two local young men from Surrey Hills, Charles de Burgh Hogg and Harry Legg, both just 20 years old when they were tragically killed.



The Surrey Hills and Mont Albert Progress Association, Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre, and Rotary Club of Mont Albert and Surrey Hills, would like to thank all those that participated, attended, supported and sponsored this year's Surrey Hills ANZAC Day Dawn Service. We would especially like to acknowledge and thank Navy Health, Bendigo Bank Surrey Hills Branch, Ross Hunt Real Estate, George Petrou Design, Boroondara City Council, Surrey Hills Historical Society, Red Rooster, Camberwell Police, and St John Ambulance for their contributions and support.



- Elizabeth Chong

Ginger Cream

This is a modern adaptation of an old favourite served at big banquets, called almond jelly Both are enjoyed at the closure of a big dinner. This dish cleanses the palate and provides a perfect finish to a big Chinese meal because it is so clean and refreshing. Serves 2 to 4.

Ingredients:

5 tsp gelatin, dissolved in 3 cups of hot water 3 tbs sweetened condensed milk ½ cup crystallized ginger, finely sliced

For the Syrup:

90g/3oz Chinese slab brown sugar or rock sugar ½ cup water

Preparation: When the gelatin mixture has cooled, stir in the condensed milk. Add the crystallized ginger. Pour into small individual sweet dishes and set in the refrigerator for two hours.

Cooking: Bring the sugar and the half cup of water to the boil in a small saucepan. Simmer for about five minutes until slightly thickened. Allow to cool, then chill in the refrigerator for about one hour. Arrange some extra slices of crystallized ginger on top of each ginger cream. Spoon one tablespoon of syrup over each, then serve.



Box Hill Cemetery Tour

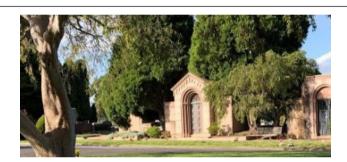
Sunday 3 July, 2 to 4pm **Marking Victoria Day and paying**

tribute to some local pioneers

- Sue Barnett

Readers may not remember celebrating Victoria Day. Prior to WW1, 1stJuly used to be a public holiday in Victorian and acknowledged the date on which Victoria separated from NSW. These days it is when the Victoria Day Council announces the Victoria of the Year.

The Box Hill Cemetery tour on 3 July commemorates Victoria Day. It will concentrate on acknowledging the roles of some of the pioneers of the Surrey Hills, Box Hill,



Doncaster and Mitcham areas but also some pioneers of industry who were laid to rest in this cemetery. The tour also includes an overview of the history of the Box Hill Cemetery and a number of the interesting structures within it; its starting point is the site of the first burial, that of a 3-week old baby girl.

The tour will be led by Sue Barnett (Surrey Hills Historical Society) and John Barnao (Box Hill Historical Society). Participants are advised to wear flat walking shoes, as some of the paths in the cemetery are uneven, and to carry water for personal consumption.

The tour takes place at the Box Hill Cemetery, 395 Middleborough Road, Box Hill. The meeting point is outside the cemetery office. Please arrive 10 to 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the tour, which will leave promptly at 2pm.

The cost for the general public is \$20. For members of the Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre and Box Hill and Surrey Hills Historical Society members: the cost is \$15. For further enquiries contact Sue Barnett on 0417 368990.

Are we walking tall but not thinking big?

Is it really surprising that, in the context of a major Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC), proposals are being put on the table by Vicinity Centres to build a 51-storey residential tower and a 28 story commercial building in Box Hill?



With the confluence of train, tram, bus and the world class automated underground Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) being planned as we speak, and a major shopping and restaurant precinct to boot - all effectively immediately adjacent to or below the towers - what better place to concentrate city dwellers?

For a longer discussion on the related issues, please go to our website at https://www.eastsidernews.org.au/uncategorized/ speakers-corner-2/



Climate for change in Chisholm

- Paula Howell

Early in 2022, YouGov conducted the largest Climate Poll ever, with many Australians participating. Most of the Chisholm



residents who took part in the poll supported greater action to address climate change. As Blackburn resident Elaine Hopper says "A whopping 73% of us in the Chisholm community want stronger action on climate change, and that's reflected all across the country," The climate poll found that in every single one of this country's electorates, the majority of people want our government to take stronger climate action.

The poll also found

- more than 70% believe climate action will deliver longterm economic benefits;
- 70% believe action preventing climate change with be good for our health;
- a majority feel it would be good for future opportunities for young people; and
- that the federal government's targets are too little too late (43%).

There are many solutions already available to help Australia achieve deeper cuts to greenhouse emissions in the next decade. Our community thinks replacing gas and coal fired power stations with renewable energy and battery storage would be the best way to reduce greenhouse emissions.

In Chisholm we have identified these additional solutions that we want the government to prioritise in the next

- power government buildings with renewable energy, transition to clean (electric) transport:
- introduce stronger federal laws to protect forests, soil and native vegetation;
- redirect public money from coal and gas projects to renewables; and
- use renewable energy to make steel, hydrogen and aluminium for export.

Volunteers from Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) Chisholm hand-delivered 13,000 letters with these climate poll results to Chisholm residents in May 2022. When they were not pounding the pavements, the volunteers greeted drivers at intersections around Chisholm every Friday. inviting them to 'toot' to support climate action; and attended local markets and parks to spread the word and handing out 'Climate Action Now' signs.

ACF Chisholm members are delighted to see a growing awareness of the need for urgent action amongst the local community. Enormous opportunities lie ahead with a new Parliament to meaningfully address the climate and extinction crises, create a fairer democracy, and for First Nations Peoples to speak for Country, which is fundamental to protecting nature in Australia.

In the wake of the federal election, ACF Chisholm will keep working to harness these opportunities to lock in and raise ambition for real, long-lasting outcomes for people and nature. If you would like to be more involved in nature and climate issues locally, please join us in the ACF Chisholm community group. https://www.acf.org. au/acf_community_chisholm or get in touch via email at acf.chisholm@gmail.com





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Community Energy

Training community volunteers to assess home energy efficiency

- Amanda Geshev, Yarra Valley Community Power Hub

A course conducted by Yarra Valley Community Power Hub, in association with Box Hill Institute, during June and July 2022 at Box Hill Institute's Lilydale Campus.

Want to learn how to assess home energy efficiency as a community volunteer? Well now you can. And, with sponsorship from your local community energy group, you can learn for a mere \$25 instead of the usual \$600 fee!

This 12-hour basic non-accredited course, facilitated by the Yarra Valley Community Power Hub, Box Hill College, and our very experienced teacher and course developer, Lucinda Flynn, will equip individuals to become trusted community volunteer home energy efficiency advisors, helping households develop cost effective and energy saving solutions.

With practical on-site visits incorporated, this course is also open to anyone who wants a detailed understanding of home energy efficiency information or those looking to become an accredited Scorecard Home Energy Efficiency Assessor with further study. For an outline of the program and registration form, go to https://tinyurl.com/y4bttue9.

This course is designed to train volunteers in how to provide home energy efficiency advice to their local community supporting it in reducing energy consumption, saving money, reducing their carbon footprint and helping with the Climate Emergency!

It is a repeat of the course held during April 2022. Students ranged from teenagers to retirees and without exception students scored the experience as "excellent". Typical comments were:

- There was a laughing and relaxed atmosphere with a great flow of information. (Clare)
- We were given very practical explanations by a knowledgeable instructor. (Bruce)
- Working in small groups really worked for me. (Yvonne)
- The best thing was the instructor's enthusiasm, knowledge and experience. (Lyndal)

Any intending applicants who need assistance in locating their nearest community energy group should contact contact@yvcommunitypowerhub.org.au.



Travel beckons!

- Carolyn Ahearne

My first international traveller in over two years is now in Sweden, visiting her daughter. They haven't seen each other for over two years, so you can

imagine the joy (and tears) at their meeting! Together they visited Denmark and Spain.

I'm often asked, "Where are people travelling to?" This week I've booked flights and holidays for Japan (ski), Europe and Hawaii, and continued to liaise with soon-to-travel clients who are finalising documents for the USA, Spain, Italy, Greece, Malta and Israel.

Domestically, the July and September school holidays are proving a very popular time to travel. A lot of accommodation in warmer climes is filling quickly. I also



have an enquiry 'to visit rainforests in Australia'. It's been fun to research and book that trip.

I'm looking forward to visiting Margaret River in June. Did you know that you can now fly there direct from Melbourne? I can't wait to smell that aircraft fuel and feel the buzz of travel again! Not to mention seeing the beautiful sights of WA's southwest corner, including the world-famous Busselton Jetty and the Cape to Cape

Track. The Jetty is 1.8km long, and is the longest timber piled jetty in the Southern Hemisphere. Between the Jetty and the C2C track, I'll be able to get my steps up, as I love to look for walking opportunities whilst travelling

The world is open once more! Travellers are thinking ahead to 2023 and even 2024, looking for places off the beaten track. As my Swedish client wrote, from Europe, "It's as though the virus had never happened."

VIT (Very Important Tip) – check your passport expiry date. Passport renewals are taking upwards of 6 to 8 weeks. That's one queue you don't want to be in when you are itching to travel!

To discuss your travel plans contact me by phone 0414 403 769, email carolyn.ahearne@travelmanagers.com.au or go to my website travelmanagers.com.au/ CarolynAhearne to find deals and subscribe to my newsletter.

Now we have a future

- Chris Trueman

My granddaughter Molly, aged 17, said to her father, when she finally awoke on Sunday 22nd May after the elections, "Now I can believe I have a future".

Three years ago Molly took a leading role in the School Strike4 Climate action in Darwin where she lives. Covid and climate politics has not been kind to young people like Molly since then. But now there is hope!

Then I heard Richard Marles, the new Federal Government's Deputy Prime Minister response to a question the following day, about action on the climate. He said words to the effect that Labor had taken a policy of a 43% cut in emission by 2030 to the electorate, and that's what they would be implementing. His response seemed to indicate that there had been no lessons for him about why he was now sharing the driver's seat in Federal Parliament. The old mantra we have unfortunately come to expect from election winners has usually been "that's our mandate". It seems that nothing has changed.

However, it's totally clear to anyone who wants to take away the blinkers from their eyes that Labor is not in power now because they won over the voters, but because the LNP totally lost the confidence of the electorate. If anyone can claim a "mandate" it's the true election winners - the Community Independents and the Greens. And, Richard Marles, they have far higher aspirations for a 2030 emission reduction target than 43%.

The Community Independents of all colours (not just teal) represent strong community aspirations to be heard. They want to contribute to the public discourse rather than be forced to make a choice between pre-prepared and oversimplified options. More often the community is asked to simply accept a poor or mediocre action with no effective way of being heard, let alone to contribute in a way that will have an impact on the outcome.

Here I'll proudly make an admission. I was one of over 2000 volunteers who helped bring about Dr Monique Ryan's remarkable win in Kooyong. People distributed election material and corflutes, helped in the office, made phone calls, and personally contributed the overwhelmingly major proportion of the campaign funds to make it all happen. I knocked on 100's of the 55,000 homes to have a chat with the people of Kooyong. Contrary to what you might expect, the task was not to tell them what Dr Ryan's views were, or those of Josh Frydenberg. It was 100% centred on asking them about their views. It was a great lesson in one of the most essential aspects of communication – don't say anything and listen to the other person.

This is perhaps the major lesson from this election and it's one that all levels of Government need to listen to. Local Councils are in fact closest to the people.

They deliver such a multitude of services and facilities that affect the minutiae of our day-to-day lives. Many of these services and facilities are constrained and controlled by innumerable State Government Authorities – some with seeming impunity from responding to control from their political masters above or reasonable dialogue with Councils and community organisations.

The other big lesson is that whilst you must involve all of the community, it's the younger folk you need – the ones who want to have a future. Dr Ryan's campaign strongly benefitted from efforts of so many talented younger volunteers who committed to help in a major way.

While the words "community engagement" have now been added to the lexicon of bureaucrats at all levels, it's unfortunate that the intent of the words is poorly recognised. My door conversations showed that by truly listening, people come to feel empowered. And the remarkable result on May 21st shows that they really value that

It seems that community can join with Molly to say "Now we can believe we have a future". But have our politicians and bureaucrats learnt the lesson that it's not about them winning, it's about listening and delivering what the community is actually asking for. There is a strong movement to use the experiences of this election to influence the coming state election and future council elections, and community interest in this is being sought. Contact community@chris.trueman.org

Chris Trueman lives in Blackburn. He is a keen Active Transport and Community Engagement advocate. He is a Committee Member of WATAG and CROWAG. See www.watag.org for more information



MUC Presents: Wild about Harry

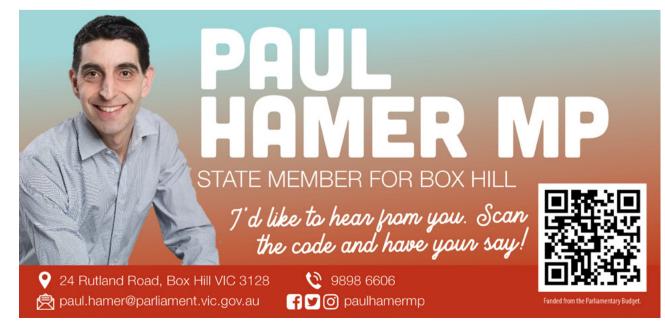
Johnathon Welch sings Harry Secombe at the Manningham Uniting Church at 3pm on Sunday, 17 July

The MUC Presents concert series is featuring a superb Australian tenor as their next guest artist. Jonathon Welch AM is regarded as one of the best Australian tenors though more will perhaps know him from his work as Choral Director and founder of the *Choir of Hard Knocks*. He has also appeared on the Voice 2020.

Jonathon will be presenting an entertaining show based on the greatest songs of Harry Secombe, the Welsh tenor. Jonathon will sing us through the life and times of Harry Secombe.

This is a very special concert and not to be missed. There are only a limited number of seats so it will be advisable to get in early. It is a one off event. Mark your calendars for July 17th at 3pm. We will be selling tickets and also raffle tickets through our website and all money raised will be for the Uniting Church East Coast Flooding Appeal. A delectable afternoon tea is included and will be served after the show. What a treat for a Sunday afternoon.

Tickets are available at https://manninghamuc.org/wildaboutharry or by calling 03 9846 2012



The Environment, Council Culture and Leadership

- Ross Gillespie

The great majority of residents across Melbourne's suburbs have a love for nature's beauty. Our landscapes, parks, magnificent trees and understorey, make a well-known contribution to animal life, cooling, and carbon retention. Despite this, they are being chopped down at an alarming rate. Street by street, block by block, all over Whitehorse, we see moonscaping. It's crazy really.

Population expansion and the need for more residential development are key drivers. Oh, and there are the state government vote catching and impressive, large-scale road and rail projects which cut a swathe through our greenness. Many VCAT decisions and 'quick-chop' VicSmart single-tree-at-a-time-applications, don't help. As well, there are some who just don't like trees. Most of us by far, don't think that way though. We know their value. We know what they do for our wellness and their feel-good factor and, to be pragmatic, to our property values.

We also repeatedly see minimal or no growth in Whitehorse Council's budget for street tree planting including for 2022-2023. Accounting for inflation, for 16 years, Council's spend in this area has flatlined. You wouldn't think that possible, given the new knowledge we all have about the environment and need for climate action. And, given Council's wonderful Urban Forest

Strategy and its moves in recent years to employ tree education officers. But it's true. Why is this?

It's both political and cultural and is about competing values and beliefs.

Council's leadership in this arena is principally in favour of low risk, safety, growth, development and building. This reflects priorities which are out of kilter with the other side of our thinking, which so values trees and wildlife and open spaces. These priorities need tweaking.

from a historic low of 18% in 2021 to 27% by 2031. Yet they will never get there with current strategies and lack of action. They are stuck. They do not have the numbers on Council itself (11

Councillors, one per ward), who are aligned in belief, or who are insistent enough that officers act on policy.

Internally, there seems to be insufficient belief in Council aspirations for trees and canopy. There are officers who influence decisions every day about the life of trees. They seem to think principally about 'removal' whenever the words, "risk"," injury "or "dangerous" are mentioned, as if there is no subjectivity in these calls. The words 'tree remediation' (judicious pruning and rebalancing) and 'tree retention' are far too infrequently used in arborist reports and Council decisions.

Arborists employed directly by Council or as consultants are not silly. They know the culture. They have to juggle their professional decision making, their knowledge from

years of training, against getting repeat work and against highly risk-averse officers who 'don't want trouble' and 'don't want litigation'.

In effect, this means that Insurance companies and their promotion of risk consciousness, now negatively impact the environment. This is not to say that some trees which are near, or at the end of their normal life, don't become dangerous and need felling. There simply needs to be more weight given to scientific evidence about tree remediation and an adjustment in the thinking of property owners, developers, electricity companies, and Council alike, about risk.

Despite the obstacles, Whitehorse City Council does have the right plans for more positive work on the environment, but it isn't properly budgeting for their implementation. Lofty goals mean nothing without action. Plans must be driven by belief and commitment. Any tweaking in priorities will not make the sky fall in. It won't stop development. And it would be easy enough, to change by re-allocating small amounts of money from dozens of other infrastructure projects.

Our trees need to be treated like assets. Like the true dollar-generating and dollar saving assets they are. And most importantly, to be valued for the immense health and community benefits they bring to us all. For these reasons, CROWAG and its affiliate group members will continue to strongly advocate for realistic funding for the implementation of Council's Urban Forest Strategy.

Ross Gillespie, President, CROWAG Combined Residents of Whitehorse Action Group Incorporated. Email: crowag.inc@gmail.com Web: www.crowag.org



Traffic Hazard Blackburn Square

– Corinne Yee

It has been a long arduous wait for the redevelopments at Blackburn Square and while the redevelopments to a tired centre must be applauded, it is obvious that it was devoid of thorough planning.

As a long-time resident of this area, I note that the access to and from the centre at Springfield Road is very hazardous with the removal of the path along the east boundary as pedestrians must cross the complex car entrance to reach the ramp into the car park. Pedestrians must be mindful of cars turning in left from behind, cars

turning in right across Springfield Rd, and cars that are coming up the slope to exit. This complex situation is very difficult to negotiate and even more so for elderly pedestrians, mums with prams, the disabled and children.

After witnessing many near misses at the entrance/exit at Springfield Road, it is apparent that a set of traffic/pedestrian lights at this entrance/exit are sorely needed to regulate the traffic (both cars and pedestrians) before an entirely avoidable hit occurs of an elderly person, mother with a pram, a disabled person or of a young child or children. This area is notorious for many avoidable accidents and unnecessary loss of lives. Unfortunately, drivers feel that they are more entitled than pedestrians and that they have the right of way.



Have a laugh

We are not sure from where Mike stole this joke, but we know it made us all laugh. If any of our readers are in the mood to humour us, send us your favourite bits of the comic, absurd or ridiculous. A couple of asks, however: make them not too naughty, nasty or inflammatory as we are sensitive souls who are likely to be shocked, alarmed or feel confronted and will not publish things that are unnecessarily hurtful or provocative. And not much more than 250 words.

Three sides to every triangle

A school teacher was arrested today at John F. Kennedy International airport as he attempted to board a flight while in possession of a ruler, a protractor, a compass, an ancient wooden device called a "slide-rule" as well as a code device called an "abacus" that he claimed was a calculator.

At a morning press conference, the Attorney General said he believed the man to be a member of the notorious Al-Gebra movement. He did not identify the man, who has been charged by the FBI with carrying weapons of math instruction.

"Al-Gebra is a problem for us," the Attorney General said. "Al-Gebra has terrorised many young people for years. They derive solutions by means and extremes and sometimes go off on tangents in search of absolute values. They use secret code names like 'X' and 'Y' and refer to themselves as 'unknowns,' but we've determined that they belong to a common denominator of the axis of medieval with coordinates in every country. As the Greek philosopher Isosceles used to say, there are 3 sides to every triangle."

When asked to comment on the arrest, President Biden said, "If God had wanted us to have better weapons of math instruction, he would have given us more fingers and toes." White House aides told reporters they could not recall a more intelligent or profound statement by a President at any time in all of history. ABC, CBS, CNN, MSNBC, NBC proclaimed Biden had solved yet another problem created by Trump.



Need assistance with a State Government matter?

Contact my office, we're here to help.

Suite 1, 197-199 Riversdale Rd,



Letter to the Editors

The Editors of *Eastsider News* welcome letters from our readers and supporters. We want to provide you with a platform where you can express your concerns and share your insights on the things that matter in our communities. All we ask is that you keep them polite, well written, short at no more than 250 words and factually based. We will not publish anything that is intended to promote misinformation or falsehoods. Please note, while we welcome a spread of topics, views and opinions, the specific responses expressed by individual writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, Independent Community News Group Incorporated, or any other organisation.

Dear Editor,

Many Australians were ecstatic at Labor's win for change and a better future especially for correcting climate change and the lack of integrity.

It has been a long struggle for the planet's climate. The main climate science commenced in the early 1820s and progressed through just over two centuries until now. Stars included James Hansen, the UN and IPCC, Al Gore, Greta Thunberg, and David Attenborough.

It is now imperative for the world to act on the science with strong, fast targets and reforms to achieve them. Now that Labor is elected, they must build our unity on that science and help other countries to do the same.

Barbara Fraser, Burwood



Hawthorn, VIC, 3122







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Madeleine takes on the best National Athletics Championships 2022

- Madeleine McGregor

I stood at the start line, anticipation flowing through me. As I completed my final stretches, I ran over my race strategy yet again. TV cameras zoomed in on my race and I imagined friends and family watching at home, wanting to make them proud.

Most importantly, I wanted to make myself proud. I thought of all the training and sacrifices that had built up to this moment. I fidgeted with my number patch and felt overwhelmed that this was the season's final race. Seven and a-half long laps loomed in front of me.

Brought to attention, girls subtly jostled for a spot, each hungry to prove themselves and conscious they were surrounded by people possibly better than them. The command came to set off. All fought hard for a spot, each wanting to stay in the front pack. My coach's words were prominent in my mind: 'don't go too hard, too early'. As the streams of Under15s and Under16s merged, it became a race of around 30 girls. Some of the early sprinters had started to drop off and lanes were full as each runner tried to gain advantage. I reminded myself



to keep my arms down, to focus on maintaining my breathing.

These next laps are always the most terrifying. Slacking off here for 10 metres could lose you 5 places. Each pushed hard to stay within the first group, but not so we burnt out. Nervous energy and uncertainty raced through me, driven by not knowing what the next few laps

held, what my competitors could bring out.

For the next few laps, three others and I cycled places, one sprinting in front of the other, only to be quickly overtaken by another. Hard to tell who was in my race, and who was in the race above mine, and surrounded with the sound of heavy breathing, every now and again thoughts hit me how much was at stake.

Four laps to go and my legs began to scream to slow down. Fighting through this urge, I willed myself to keep going. With the pain increasing and two laps to go, I knew that I had to speed up. At 300 metres from the finish line, a mixture of fear and relief filled me – fear someone would speed ahead and take my place; and relief the agony was almost over.

One painful surge and three steps took me over the line. Officials yelled at me to move, and it took everything inside of me to comply. I began calculating my place:

now knowing who was in my race. I had calculated 5th and was ecstatic to find my estimation was correct. I smiled, knowing I was 5th in Australia for Under15s 3000m Race Walk!

Immediately my pride passed, nervousness set in. Each competitor was desperately aware of the soul crushing possibility of disqualification. All those hours of training would be wasted, and everything we had worked for snatched away. Waiting in the changing rooms, the brave stood upon shaking legs, with the rest on the benches, knowing we would collapse if we stood up. Sounds of panting and feelings of nervous tension filled the room. Some murmured in whispers but I, with my lungs on fire, couldn't manage a sentence. My hands were too weak to open the proffered water bottle. My mouth felt like sandpaper, and my skin radiated heat.

As the head judge entered the room, we swarmed around her to hear the incredible news there were no disqualifications. Each let out an enormous sigh of relief. Now, smiles could be exchanged and parents told. I rushed to my dad, excited to tell him of my achievements. Well, that and to ask for a donut!

Madeleine McGregor is in Year 9 and lives in Mont Albert. She has previously written for the school newsletter, a school anthology, won a Write A Book In A Day competition at her school, won school debating, and loves writing.

Stradbroke Park Urban Forest



Its history and the cycleway threat

– Pat Hillman

I have been a Kew East resident for almost 40 years. I remain passionate about our local parklands providing a safe and accessible environment for all park users. I say NO to Boroondara's proposed cycleway through our parklands, including Stradbroke Park, Harrison Reserve and Hays Paddock. Boroondara Council must commit to mitigating potential conflicting demands and ensure that our parks preserve the natural environments and other aspects of the amenity of our parks and reserves.



Soil preparation for the planting of Stradbroke Park Urban Forest

Origins

As part of Australia's Bicentennial Celebrations in 1988, the then City of Kew in association with the Rotary Club of East Kew embarked upon the development of an urban forest in Stradbroke Park. The open grasslands were replaced with semi-bushland, typical of what was understood to have been in existence prior to the urbanization of the area. The bushland was classed as open forest with dominant tall trees and a sparse understorey. The creation of the urban forest involved many local volunteers planting, mulching and staking about 3,500 trees and shrubs in both open grassland and group plantings.

Fast forward to 2022 and Stradbroke Park's Urban Forest is now well established as a popular open space in Kew East. It also connects via an open space linear link along the Glass Creek tributary to Hays Paddock which has links to remnant ecosystems in adjacent suburbs. The urban forest attracts diverse groups of people where the park users meet, develop, and maintain strong neighbourhood ties. The area is now popular and safe for walking by people of all ages and abilities, some taking babies and children for a stroll in the pram or pusher, others walking their dogs, and the elderly exercising whilst pushing their mobile walkers.

The Urban Forest's tranquil setting and peaceful character is highly valued by the many park users. This natural environment is safe and walking its gravel paths gives us a deeper meaning to our daily lives in the city.

Friends of Glass Creek

Friends of Glass Creek help to manage this biodiversity site. These locals meet regularly to help look after



The Urban Forest today.

the urban forest. They control weeds and escaped garden pest plants and seek to re-establish indigenous vegetation and native habitat. The indigenous plants can create havens for insects, lizards, butterflies and birds, thus enhancing local biodiversity.

Glass Creek is a waterway flowing under the eastern section of Stradbroke Park in underground drains. It is a minor tributary of the Yarra River. The parklands frequently flood after storm events – which provides benefits for the majestic old river red gums and ghost gums. These trees have hollows, which provide refuges for birds, possums and reptiles. The nesting sites are often raucously defended by brightly coloured parrots.

The urban forest attracts different native and introduced birds such as the black and white magpie-larks (peewees) and flocks of colourful and noisy rainbow lorikeets search for roosting sites. Grey-headed flying-foxes can be seen at dusk. Nocturnal birds such as the tawny frogmouth are observed.

Stradbroke Park's urban forest is facing significant threats: climate change and urban growth, and now Boroondara Council's proposed cycleway.

The proposed cycleway

Boroondara Council's proposed networked cycleway through parks in Kew East, Balwyn and North Balwyn would pose an existential threat to Stradbroke Park and its qualities by substantially increasing cycling activity through the park.

It has been most recently indicated that the Council is considering the incorporation of Stradbroke Park into the bicycle network by widening the path on the western side of the Urban Forest and the sporting fields. If this were to go ahead it would provide a connection to networked cycleways in the King Street Chain and other parks, including Macleay Park and Myrtle Park through to Hays Paddock, and thereby significantly increase the volume of cycle traffic.

The result would be a busy cycling corridor in Stradbroke Park with cyclists travelling at speed, singly or in groups. It would raise the level of risk to park users. The viability of the urban forest and wildlife would be put at risk. The proposal is meeting with strong community opposition.

The Mind that Chatters

– Geraldine Gartland

The mind that chatters
And never stops
Will I, won't I, should I, shan't I
Yes, no, this way, that way

All the time it talks to me Then and when, because, maybe Day and night, it never stops

But,

To Be

It's stopping me I am exhausted, confused Feeling anxious and used

That mind of mine
At a gallop, when I need to walk
To see, to hear, to feel,

That mind of mine It needs some taming Guidance, redirection Time for reflection

To learn anew just to be Comfortable with Me



Mont Albert Car Boot Sale



Rotary Club of Mont Albert and Surrey Hills

It's finally happening! With full support from our community, Whitehorse Council and LXRP, the Rotary Club of Mont Albert & Surrey Hills is holding a car boot sale at Mont Albert on the 4th Sunday of each month. Starting day is Sunday 26 June 2022. We are seeking stall holders which will be limited to 43 cars. Hours will be 8am to 1pm. Please contact Patt on 0425 725 899 or pattgags@yahoo.com.au for details.

LOCAL TRADIES

Don't miss out!Small adverts are now

available just \$50

contact us at eastsidernews1@gmail.com

Whitehorse Council looks to the future

- Chris Trueman

At the May 23rd meeting of Whitehorse Council, an important step was taken to ensure Whitehorse continues down the path to achieving good environmental and sustainable outcomes for its built environment in the future.

Whitehorse is one of 31 Councils who are members of the Council Alliance for Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE). Nearby Banyule, Boroondara, Manningham, Maroondah, Knox, Monash and others are also members. CASBE is an independent alliance of councils in Victoria, operating under the auspices of the Municipal Association of Victoria.

CASBE says: "The member councils of CASBE and the Municipal Association of Victoria are committed to improving the sustainability of our communities... We're here to make a difference to the sustainability of our built environment, through the Victorian planning process."

Check this link for more information: https://tinyurl.com/2p87v7mx

In Whitehorse, the recently completed Nunawading Community Hub was the city's first 5 star green building.

The CASBE project is divided into two stages. Stage 1 of the project saw the preparation of an evidence base to support new Environmental and Sustainable Development (ESD) standards. It has now been completed. Stage 2 comprises developing the required Planning Scheme amendment which was the topic reported on and debated by Council at its meeting.

Council passed the recommendation by its officers to take the necessary steps to amend the Whitehorse Planning Scheme. This also includes signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with CASBE and the participating councils for elevated ESD targets.

The recent election results showed a strong preference for elected representatives who share the community's climate concerns. It is to be hoped that Whitehorse Council will also soon commit to joining with 111 Councils in Australia and 39 in Victoria, and declare a "Climate Emergency". The council could further demonstrate its commitment by joining 20 other Victorian Councils who have submitted a Council Pledge to taking action to help reduce the state's emissions under Victoria's Climate Change Act 2017.



Faces of Greythorn Statues

Yolanda Torrisi

During May, the Greythorn Traders Association launched with the installation of the Faces of Greythorn statues. The six larger-than-life size statues chronicle the history

its most ambitious project in the history of the association, and development of Greythorn, a 1km square area nestled within North Balwyn that is neither a precinct nor a suburb. The Faces of Greythorn statues depict Ferdinand Finger. a well-known orchardist of the early 1900s; Donald Wood, a notable pharmacist at Greythorn; Albert and Maddie, a father and daughter, representing one of the many families who have settled in the area; Maria, an older lady; Lily, one of the young, hip and fashionable youth of Greythorn; and Evie, representing one of the many businesswomen who set up fashionable shops at Greythorn in the 1950s.

Greythorn's history is as rich as it is diverse. Over time, it has moved from the 1900s when the area was a highly productive citrus orchard, to being home to a violet farm, a koala sanctuary to where in the 1950s the highly

fashionable women of Greythorn made a name for themselves with their high fashion, couture and coiffures. It has now grown into a thriving shopping and community hub which has attracted families from all around the world wanting to live in this prized location in Melbourne's inner eastern leafy suburbs.

This ambitious project, The Faces of Greythorn Statues, commissioned by the Greythorn Traders Association was launched on Saturday 21 May followed by a mini-Autumn Festival of entertainment. Families were entertained by musicians covering music from all over the globe, face painters and balloon twisting clowns.



Six bigger than life-size statues installed at six locations at the Greythorn Central Shopping Strip. The six statues tell the history of the development of Greythorn through the stories of six notable characters from the early 1900s to the modern day. Pictured here are members of the Greythorn Traders Association, the sculptor and curator with some of the statues ready to be installed at Greythorn.













The Painted Sculpture

An exhibition of figurative 3D works by Efrossini Chaniotis

Ladder Art Space, 81 Denmark St. Kew, Melbourne Wednesday 15 June to Saturday 2 July

Gallerv Hours: Tuesday to Friday 12 to 6 pm, Saturday 11 am to 6 pm, Friday and Saturday evenings by appointment

The ancient Greeks painted on their sculptures, in the same way Greek-Australian artist Efrossini Chaniotis has always painted on hers. Having studied sculpture in Australia and painting in Greece, Efrossini's practice naturally combined both. Her vibrant colour palette is reflective of growing up 'down+under' and her propensity for storytelling, myth and exploration of Mediterranean themes, the indelible imprint of a rich cultural heritage.

The artist says that the painted sculptures,

"... represent the meeting of Hellenism and Australianism. They are indicative of my journey through a landscape of migration, cross-cultural education, and artistic identity. In Australia I was taught lateral-thinking, to develop concepts for my art and to experiment; to be free from the authority that tradition bares.

In Greece I was taught discipline and to embrace art history and to seek beauty, which inspired me to believe in the power of art"

The exhibition showcases three themes currently figuring in Efrossini's work: The Wishing Tree, The Fisherman and Mermaid's Tale and the Cycladic Art inspired: The Little Mykonos Project. All three themes explore the capacity for art to generate and tell spirited stories. Each aspire to evoke emotion and wonder to an adult audience and all three merge the colour and

composition elements inherent in the painting medium with the figurative, sculptural form.

Efrossini's work draws from her childhood experiences of storytelling, modern art and her Hellenic background. Her artistic

execution and themes are in her own admission, person centred, perhaps romantic and idealized. As a Greek-Australian and as a sculptor and painter, her work deals with bringing opposites together. She feels compelled to and delights in, discovering ways of creating harmony within things; a purpose ingrained as a child of immigrant parents.

For further information on Ladder Art Space go here: https://www.ladderartspace.com.au/ And for more information on the artist go here: www.efrossiniart.com



DONCASTER

Camera Club

Visitors are welcome

Doncaster Camera Club always welcomes visitors and new members from the local community. We meet on the third Friday of every month as well as regular meetings for Special Interest Groups within the Club.

Each month we hold a digital and print competition for members. A recent topic was Vintage which attracted an interesting range of photos of old and preloved items. We are planning to run a Photography Course for beginners and intermediate photographers in October and enquiries are welcome.

Our members are again participating in outings and excursions. We recently had an enjoyable outing to The Dandenongs to photograph the Autumn colours and Puffing Billy. More outings are currently being planned.

The Doncaster Camera Club is for anyone interested in photography. It is the place for both novice and more advanced photographers to share their passion for photography. Members come from many of the surrounding suburbs. For more information check out our exciting new website at www.doncastercameraclub.org.au.



doncastercameraclub@gmail.com

doncaster.camera.club

doncaster camera club - Melbourne









Boost Your Immunity

- Nicole McAuliffe

Nicole McAuliffe is a clinical nutritionist who presents Food Thought on the community radio station 3wbc 94.1fm.

This one hour program is presented every 2nd and 4th Saturday morning between 8am and 9am. Nicole wants to engage with her listeners and is asking them to send questions to be aired on the program. Questions can be submitted on either her Facebook Page or her Instagram page Create Wellbeing Group. Discussed below are her suggestions on how to boost your immune system.

Your immune system defends you against viruses, bacteria, toxins, and pollution. With 'flurona' (the simultaneous infection of COVID and influenza) and winter approaching, it is more important than ever to look after your immune system. Here are some of my key tips for supporting a healthy immune function to decrease your susceptibility and improve your response to infections.

Eat a whole food diet rich in vitamin C. Good sources are berries, kiwi and citrus fruits and vegetables, including broccoli and capsicum. Vitamin C helps to support the production and function of immune cells and strengthens your skin and membranes which are your first line of support in fighting infections.

Ensure you have adequate vitamin D. This is synthesised from cholesterol when the sun hits the skin and also in sun exposed mushrooms, fish, and cod liver oil. Vitamin D is great for stimulating the immune system and helping to stop the immune system from overreacting and causing damage.

Zinc is central to optimal immune function and is found in nuts, seeds, chickpeas, lentils, beans, dairy, and wholegrains. Zinc helps manage our susceptibility to infection and regulate normal development and function of our immune cells. Our immune cells get signals to respond to a virus, these chemical signals are often zinc dependant.

Add garlic to your meals as it's one of the best natural antimicrobials there is. Simply finely dice garlic and

combine it with olive oil plus apple cider vinegar for a nourishing yet powerful dressing with antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral benefits.

Support your gut health, which houses more than 80% of your immune system, with pre and probiotic-rich foods such as fibrous foods, fermented vegetables (e.g. sauerkraut or kimchi) and yoghurts with live cultures. Drinks such as kombucha and a teaspoon of apple cider vinegar are also helpful.

Breathe. Take 3 to 5 deep belly breaths whenever you start to feel stressed and your nervous system will switch back to a more supportive 'rest and digest' state. A stressed nervous system will suppress your immune system and increase your susceptibility to viruses.

Sleep is so important for your health and immunity. Sleep helps to sustain the function of your immune system, including helping T cells in your body to fight off infection. Aim for 7.5 to 8 hours as often as possible.

Contact Nicole on her Facebook page https://www. facebook.com/createwellbeinggp/ or her Instagram account at Create wellbeing Group.

Lifelong learning: the most powerful lifestyle intervention for a better life

- Thomas Oppong

The following is an extract from the original article by American essayist and blogger, Thomas Oppong. To read the full article, go to the U3A Hawthorn Newsletter for June 2022 here:

https://u3ahawthorn.org.au/member-newsletters/

The ability to improve what you know consistently is one of the most powerful habits for a better and smarter life. A solid lifelong learning habit changes lives. Lifelong learning is the "ongoing, voluntary, and self-motivated pursuit of knowledge for either personal or professional reasons." It's crucial for your personal growth.

Isaac Asimov explains it beautifully, "Selfeducation is, I firmly believe, the only kind of education there is." Some of the most successful and smart people are always learning. Leonardo da Vinci, Descartes, Immanuel Kant, Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, Steve Jobs and many of history's great minds were massive lifelong learners — they were curious about many topics. They made time to explore their intellectual curiosities.

"Learn as much as you can from those who know more than vou do, who do better than you, who see more clearly than you," says Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Learning new skills, gaining new knowledge, upgrading your mindset, expanding your perceptions, changing your mind when necessary are essential habits of highly successful people. If you are not learning something of value most of the time, don't expect a different or better life. Einstein was right, "Insanity is doing the same thing

over and over and expecting different results." A better life is hidden in the learning habits you are avoiding.

Lifelong learning can help you find the routines and behaviours that guarantee real progress. Life is not linear — the ability to adapt and adjust where necessary is necessary for accelerated growth. Lifelong learning can help us become better at what we do by challenging our minds and skills by learning new topics or exploring different points of view. Learning is an infinite lifelong process — if you make it enjoyable, it won't become a chore or boring. It's not structured learning; it's a fun way to pursue your intellectual curiosities and upgrade yourself.

Thomas Oppong is an American writer and essayist who publishes a blog The Medium that covers a range of topics including personal improvement, learning, psychology, philosophy and productivity. Go here to read more: https://thomas-oppong.medium.com/

Whitehorse Film Society normal operation has resumed!

- John Shortridge

After two years in which Covid has seriously disrupted our operations, the Whitehorse Film Society is back in business.

The Society screens movies in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere at the Whitehorse Civic Centre (Willis Room), 379 Whitehorse Road, Nunawading, on the first and third Saturdays of each month from February to November inclusive. Supper is served at the end of the evening, with opportunities for discussion of the films.

Another benefit of membership is that the society maintains a comprehensive archive of films that have been screened already, which members are able to borrow. One of our members is currently working through the whole backlog!.

Membership costs \$55 per year, or \$27.50 for a half-year subscription (July to November). New members are always welcome. For more details, email secretarywhfs@gmail.com; Google 'Whitehorse quality films'; or ring Pat on 9877 1474.

Screenings for the remainder of the year are as follows:

- Emu Runner on June 4 and Capernaum on June 18
- Official Secrets on July 2 and Yesterday on July 16
- Shoplifters on August 6 and Rams on August 20
- Trash on September 3 and Cold War on September 17
- The Guilty on October 1 and Leave No Trace on October 15
- The Insult on November 5 and Nomadland on November 19

Whitehorse Film Society inc Half Year PIN-UP MOVIE GUIDE

2022 All screenings are at the Willis Room, Whitehorse Civic Centre, 379 Whitehorse Rd, at 7:45 pm unless shown otherwise.



DON'T CUT THIS UP! Submit





screening venue is subsidised by the souncil. We appreciate their support. It is subject to confirmation. Poster prepared by Ian Davidson CUTTHIS UP! Submit COUTTHIS SOCIETY, 10 Heatherlea Crt, N Blackburn 3130 Or go to the website and pay by EFT (see details on left panels).

For further information



Or Google "whitehorse quality film

Elder Abuse: Everyone's business

Whitehorse Neighbourhood Watch

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) is commemorated each year in June to highlight one of the worst manifestations of ageism and inequality in our society, elder abuse. Elder abuse is any act which causes harm to an older person and is carried out by someone they know and trust such as a family member or friend. The abuse may be physical, social, financial, psychological, or sexual and can include mistreatment and neglect.

WEAAD was officially recognised by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2011, following a request



by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA), who first established the commemoration in June 2006. In many parts of the world elder abuse occurs with little recognition or response. It is a global social issue which affects the

2022 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

.. 1/2 year memberships @ \$27.50 = BSB: 013 384

health, well-being, independence, and human rights of millions of older people around the world, and an issue which deserves the attention of all in the community.

According to WHO, prevalence rates or estimates exist only in selected developed countries - ranging from 1 to 10 per cent. Although the extent of elder mistreatment is unknown, its social and moral significance is obvious.

Older people are essential in the fabric of our society. It's time for us to acknowledge their importance and recognise they are entitled to the respect of their communities and especially their families. Seniors Rights Victoria provides information, support, advice, and education to help prevent elder abuse and safeguard the rights, dignity, and independence of older people. Please visit our website www.seniorsrights.org.au or contact our free, confidential Helpline:1300 368 821

This article was first published in Neighbourhood Watch News Whitehorse May 2022.

Carriages were meant to move, but in this way?

- Margaret Graham, Whitehorse Historical Society

When they bought me all those years ago, I know they thought they were 'flying' compared with the farm carts and wagons that came before me. Vehicles that carried them and their produce and even themselves slowly and faithfully round the farm, even to church and market. But did they ever imagine I would fly this way? Never, I suspect.

I was created in the late 19th Century, in Kilmore, Victoria by Coachbuilder Thomas Caine. I was built primarily of Honduras Mahogany, a timber known for durability and workability. I was meant to impress and impress I did. I was built for both speed and comfort rather than carrying heavy loads. I was built to a standard style and, for that time, standard specifications. I was lightly built and softly sprung with big wheels to smooth out the bumps.

My coach builder had a textbook and patterns to consult, and there were even trade journals for carriage builders. He was an artist. Then, I was about as common and recognisable as a sports car of today. Mr J Winter of Doncaster purchased me. I served the Winter family for many years.



Then came the internal combustion engine. On my owner's farm, the first example they owned was for a stationary pump engine, chugging away down by the

creek. But soon, after a good season, or just because they could, I was replaced by an 'horseless' carriage, with its own noisy, smelly engine up front. The faithful horse that drew me over many years and many dusty miles was turned out for an easier life. And so was I.

People knew I was too good and too pretty though. I resided at a couple of other properties, until, in 1965, I came into the care of Whitehorse Historical Society. For many years, in elegant retirement, befitting my gracious style, I resided in The Barn at Schwerkolt Cottage. I was at first much admired and then, over the years, left to gather quiet dust that eventually hid my considerable beauty. No longer was my leather supple, no longer could you see where my spokes were dark green with pale green pin striping. I had become a retired old lady, hidden behind the farming mementos of my era.



On 11th May, the 19th Century Buggy was moved out of the Schwerkolt Cottage Barn, lifted over the Cottage fence and transported to its new home in the Orcharding Shed.

I remained, behind the farm implements, in the dark of the barn only seen through squinted eyes and a veil of protective cobwebs. Then began my new, latest adventure. I have been moved to the Orcharding Shed in the grounds of the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex by a descendant of the Schwerkolt family, Charlie Schwerkolt, owner of Waverly Forklifts.

Now, in the light, and after a careful clean and polish, I can be admired by all. Please come and wonder how you could have climbed up into my seats, how the children would have fitted into the 'dicky' seat at the back and even the adventure of coming home by the light of my lanterns after the dance on a winters' Saturday night. I do want to share my stories with you.

Safe Families

stopping abuse in families everywhere

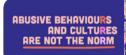
- Dorothy Gilmour, Rotary Hawthorn

Rotary SAFE Families is very pleased to be hosted by the Rotary Club of Hawthorn. This National Rotary initiative commenced in 2018 with our focus on primary prevention of family abuse.

Rotary SAFE Families aims to change the attitudes and behaviours that drive abuse by increasing and improving gender equality and respect in all aspects of everyday life. We challenge women and men, boys and girls to change the structures, norms, practices, attitudes and behaviours that cause this abuse by challenging its underlying drivers – gender inequality and disrespect for women and each other.

Rotary SAFE Families is non-gender based and inclusive, benefitting all Australians including women, men, children, our youth and elderly, Indigenous communities and our many new migrant and refugee Australians.

We inform and campaign for everyone to know and be able to apply the "Rotary 3RRR's" to any victim or possible victim of abuse:





1. Recognise the signs of abuse.

2. Raise your concerns safely.

3. Refer the victim to 000 or an

the call yourself.







The many resources freely available on our website: www.rotarysafefamilies.org.au, include four short films:

• Domestic Violence and Its Impact on Children

appropriate support agency OR make

- Elder Abuse
- Child Abuse
- Abuse of Men

Also available, our Guide to Prevention of Abuse in Australia which is not only in English, but Dari, Farsi, Swahili, Greek and Hindi for our non-English speaking Australians.

If you would like a guest speaker to present Rotary SAFE Families to business or community, please contact Dorothy Gilmour, info@rotarysafefamilies.org.au. Rotary in Australia is committed to Stopping Abuse in Families Everywhere, to Anyone, Anywhere at Anytime.

Ringwood U3A



Activities for the retired and semi-retired

Ringwood U3A is a relatively small, friendly organisation that runs a wide variety of Classes. On offer are a broad range of Exercise Classes (including Tai Chi, Yoga, Shibashi, Line Dancing, Dance to Music and Table Tennis). Equally importantly there are very active Discussion Groups which enhance our knowledge – such as Current Affairs and Elder and the Law.

You may be interested in diverse and varied Courses...

- Drawing and Sketching, Creative Writing and Card Making.
- Poetry, Music Film and Art Appreciation.
- Computer assistance and basic digital mentoring.
- Foreign Languages and Family History.
- · Wine Appreciation and Patchwork.

You may yourself have a skill/interest that you would like to share with and enthuse our current membership. Ringwood U3A would make you most welcome either as a new member or leader.

If you would like to know more, check out our website www.u3aringwood.org.au or email info@u3aringwood.org.au

- Safer movement for visitors to & through Spotlight/ Anaconda site and nearby retailers
- Increased potential for patronage of local businesses in the area.

To remove these steps will be a big step in the right direction!

Refer to www.watag.org for more information about "Active transport for a healthy, environmentally friendly community".

A step in the right direction?

Whitehorse Active Transport Action Group

At its meeting on May 23rd 2022, Whitehorse Council accepted a petition from Whitehorse Active Transport Action Group (WATAG) asking for Council to change the rear access steps to Spotlight in South Box Hill so that everyone can use this important entry point, not just the fit and healthy.

The petition was started because recently one of our members was visiting Bunnings nearby. If this entrance had been available, she would have used it. Instead, she rode on the footpath of Middleborough Road and was knocked by a car, breaking her leg. To add insult, the police fined her for footpath riding.

The community needs this entrance re-engineered to make it compliant with the Disability discrimination Act and accessible to all users – those walking, on bikes of all types, parents with prams, disability carts and appliances.

The petition attracted 227 people to sign. It requests that Whitehorse City works with Spotlight Group Holdings



retailers, and the entire nearby retail locality, one which can be used safely and conveniently by everyone in the community. We want access which is fully DDA compliant

WATAG is asking for the following outcomes.

• The current ramp replaced with DDA compliant access which is suitable for all to use.

Camberwell Bowls Club

- David Payton

The Camberwell Bowls Club is a welcoming club located in the heart of Camberwell. Our vision revolves around the three important principles of Members, Family and Community. To achieve our vision, we work to make ourselves a venue where the community can meet, socialise and play a great sport, a place where bowlers who want to excel can compete, and a club where social players can enjoy a quiet game with friends.





In the recently completed Pennant Season, five out of seven Camberwell sides participated in the finals series. Two sides won the Section Grand Final, one of which participated in the Divisional Grand Final.

We are looking for new Members and we will welcome you with open arms. Please call David on 0421 199 635 for membership enquiries.

<u>Uniting</u>

Thinking about volunteering but not quite sure how to go about it?

Uniting East Burwood is currently recruiting volunteers to assist with providing information, support, referrals and emergency relief for people in need.

Community Workers are the first people to meet our clients, and assist individuals and families who are experiencing personal and financial difficulties.

The important qualities of a Community Worker are empathy, good communication skills, and being a patient listener

Community Workers are required to complete a nationally recognized training course, available in seven online sessions, together with on-site mentoring. All volunteers need to undergo a Police Check, and hold a current Working with Children Check (WWC).

Course calendar and details are available on the <u>CISVic website</u> - <u>https://www.cisvic.org.au/training/community-support-workers-co</u>

For more information, please phone the Centre on 9803 3400.



220 Burwood Highway, Burwood East Vic 3151 (Entry from Blackburn Road)

The history of the **Heatherdale Football Club** From its beginnings in 1969

- Graeme Woolridge

In 1967 Ray Woolridge took his eldest son Peter for a "kick" of footy on the Eastmont Primary School oval. Whilst they were having a "kick", another boy asked if he could join in. At the end of the "kick" he asked "Will you guys be coming again next week. If so, I'll bring a few friends." And he did just that! Each Saturday morning, more and more boys arrived with Ray and Peter turning up each Saturday. Soon, some of the dads started coming down too for a "look" and wanting to get involved.

In 1968 Ray organised 4 sets of jumpers – Red, Black, Green and Red and games were played amongst those teams. The "Blacks" won the first premiership coached by Barry Dennis. This informal arrangement became the beginning of the Heatherdale Junior Football Club,

In 1969, a team of Under 13's was entered into the Melbourne Boys League. The distance they travelled was vast, and the opposition very aggressive. In 1971,



the Club entered teams into the Doncaster and Districts Junior Football League. In 1972, there were four Under 11 teams, Coached by Frank Horsnaill, one of these teams won the Club's first premiership. Frank was a long time curator of the Heatherdale Reserve, Purches Street, Heatherdale. It was

also this year, that the new pavilion was used for the first

The founder Ray Woolridge was President for the first 3 years from 1969-1971. Ray then went on to coach the Saturday morning competitions. In 1974, he took on the Under 10's, a role that he did for a long time and was famous for. Kids would come from up to 20 kms away to play at Heatherdale to be part of the spirit that Ray had instilled. The encouragement he gave each and every boy was a joy to their parents.

Ray's unique style of coaching saw him win 4 premierships, and were "runners-up" in 1975 1976, 1977 and 1979. Ray went on to coach until 1990 and was also

a trainer at Vermont Football Club for 10 years. He was affectionately known as "The Godfather" for the way he looked after the kids in his charge.

During the late1970's and early1980's, the Heatherdale Football Club was unofficially the largest Junior Football Club in Australia. With some 450 boys playing each week. this equates to about 18 teams. The Club wore purple and gold stripes and were known as the Dales. They competed in the DDFL until 1998, when they merged with Heathmont Junior Football Club.

At the time of the merger, Heatherdale was a strong club both financially and in terms of its total player membership and was not in need of rescue. Five young players had been drafted to AFL clubs in five consecutive years with the clubs returning money back to the junior clubs of the draftees. Heatherdale also had many more registered players than Heathmont at that time.

The merger wasn't a popular move, but the Committee had "run out of steam". As the area aged, most age groups had become short on numbers and the Club no longer enjoyed the success it formerly did. Heatherdale was a proud Club and saw many great people pass through its doors, all who have many great memories.

Graeme Woolridge is the son of Ray Woolridge

Kew triumphs over adversity to win the **2022 National Gateball Championship**

- Chris Fraser

Neither COVID delays nor unusually long grass could hold back the Kew team at the 2022 National Gateball Championship. The contest was held April first to third on the Gold Coast. Kew won all nine games they played, including an eventual 11-9 triumph in the final over a strong Southport side.

The Kew team had been beaten grand finalists at the previous National championship in 2019 and their captain had plotted a course to go one better in the next contest. However, 2020 and 2021 were not the smooth years of training and improvement originally envisaged. COVID restrictions frequently prevented the team from practising and from attending tournaments beforehand. Indeed, COVID delayed the National Championship by six months.

So it was with an air of heady freedom that the team embarked on the tournament. Unlike previous years,



Australian Gateball 2022 Champions - Kew Croquet Club -Maxine Maclachlan, Elaine Coverdale, Gilon Smith, Alec Maclachlan, Clare Newton and kneeling Philip Brown (Captain).

the tournament was held at a multi-purpose facility with excellent amenities, but uneven lawns with very long grass. The difficult lawns meant non-standard tactics were rewarded, with success found by the teams best able to adapt to gateball played on such an unusual

Unreliable lawns also meant depth of talent in a team became a major factor. Here Kew excelled, with all team members playing to a very high standard and different players coming to the fore at different times.

After a moderate start involving close wins over weaker teams. Kew hit their straps on the second morning. playing as best as could be done in the conditions. Kew beat a strong Canberra side in the block stage before winning a semi-final over the Toronto Macs and the grand final over Southport Red.

The Australian Gateball Championships have been held on eleven occasions, generally every two years, and the win by Kew is only the third time that an Australian based

For more information, go to Gateball Australia at https://gateball.com.au/wordpress/ or Kew Croquet Club at https://croquetvic.asn.au/ clubpage.php?clubnameclicked=Kew

The international sport of Gateball explained

- Philip Brown

Gateball is simple to learn, but difficult to master. It is a game of skill and strategy, but not strength.

The game resembles croquet. There are two teams - red and white - and each team has five balls. The balls are numbered 1 to 10, which are played in numerical order. The red team has the odd numbers and the white team has the even numbers.

The object is to hit your team's balls through the three metal hoops on the court called gates. Each gate is worth one point and the team with the most points at the end of 30 minutes is the winner.

Simple right? The catch is that if you hit your ball and touch another ball, you win the right to hit that other ball wherever you want. If you touch one of your own team's balls, then you put that ball somewhere good on the court - maybe right in front of the next gate so it is easy to score. Of course, if you touch one of the other team's balls, you put that opposition ball somewhere difficult usually off the court entirely.

The balance is stuck in trying to be close enough to a gate to easily hit your ball through it, but not so near the other team that they can easily hit your ball and remove it from play.

With 10 different balls in the game, it is not usually safe

to simply sit right in front of the gate and wait for your next turn. To be successful a team must co-operate to remove the threat posed by the opposition balls and clear a path. Designing the team's strategy is the role of the team captain, who instructs the team to make sure that all five players coordinate to the team's best advantage.

The game rewards strategy, skill and accuracy - but the court is small enough that physical strength is not a factor. A beginner can expect to be able to play the game after around 15 minutes of instruction. As for mastery, well, your writer has been playing for 15 years and mastery does not seem imminent.

Gateball is originally Japanese and has a strong following in Japan, China, Korea and Brazil. Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, France and some other European countries also play.

Kew Croquet club plays gateball on Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons. Kew was also lucky enough to recently win the Australian National Gateball Championships on the Gold Coast. COVID-permitting, Kew will compete at the Asian championships next year.

Philip Brown

Kew Croquet Club Gateball Captain Kewcroquetclub1@gmail.com

Open House Weekend Books, beanies and bargains

Sunday 31st July at Box Hill Town Hall between 10am and 3.30pm

The Box Hill Historical Society will be conducting a book, beanies and bargains sale in the lower hall at Box Hill Town Hall between 10am and 3.30pm. Items on offer include books on a wide range of subjects, including antique collecting, art/craft, Australiana, cooking,

......

gardening, history, military, sports, novels and non-fiction, as well as Box Hill ephemera and hand-knitted beanies

All proceeds go to assisting in the preservation of Box Hill history. Enquiries to: boxhillhistory@gmail.com

There will also be guided tours of the town hall, conducted by Whitehorse Council staff. Details will appear on the Whitehorse Council's website and social media.



Burbing

Discovering your neighbourhood on two wheels

- Mark Balla

It is safe to say that nobody looks back fondly on the lockdowns of 2020 and 2021. Blackburn resident Mark Balla, however, used the lockdowns as an opportunity to discover the previously unknown activity of "burbing". He hauled his 20 kg, 20 year old, hybrid bicycle out of the darkest corner of his garage, washed off all the cobwebs, pumped up the tires and started getting to know his neighbourhood.

With the help of a friend in Geelong who is a cartographer, Mark mapped out the limits of his 5 km boundary. Using the very handy cycling app, Strava, he planned his one hour daily rides with the hope of riding down every street within 5 km of his home. It was only then that he discovered that there were some 1,300 km of streets within that distance of his house. Not only that, but riding the 5 km boundary would require riding out to the edge, riding some new streets and riding back again.



With only an hour available each day it was beginning to look like an impossible task. Mark's wife Annie suggested he could save some time if she gave him and his bike a lift out to the boundary leaving him to find his own way home by a different route every day.

Mark stuck with burbing for the entirety of a six week lockdown. He covered a little over 500 km including every street within 2.5 km of his home and painstakingly completed a perfect circle at the outer edge of his 5 km limit. He tells us that he is really pleased that he

discovered burbing, but hopes never to do it again. These days he prefers riding longer, straighter routes. Indeed, the day before Melbourne's last lockdown started in 2021 he took his bike on the



train to Woodend and spent almost four hours riding the 100 km back to "Arbory Afloat" at Flinders Street Station where he treated himself to a well earned beer or two.

His old hybrid bike is long gone. These days Mark rides a carbon fibre gravel bike that weighs less than half as much as his old bike did. If he doesn't cover at least 400 km in a month he starts feeling jittery. His garage is full of old bikes that he's trying to fix up and sell and he recently started work as a trainee bicycle assembler at the bike shop in Ringwood where he bought his gravel bike.

No more lip please

- Chris Trueman

It's unfortunate that Council Officers are sometimes subjected to a bit of lip when their decisions lead to dissatisfied residents voicing their discontent. So, it's great to report that at Whitehorse Council action has been taken to ensure that in future there will be no more lip where in the past it's been normal.

Over the last few years the Council has changed its design for the ramps from footpaths down to the road so



they are smooth and without the dangerous lip that can trip up those less nimble on their feet, or can make a wheelchair very unsteady or even tip over. It's been a very positive move.

The problem is that this message didn't get through to the section of Council

crossovers, and they are still being built with a lip like the one shown. Until now that is.

It can be reported that a request has been circulated through Council departments asking that the drawing standards relating to driveway crossover design be changed. So it's no more lip from Council in Whitehorse, at least as far as driveways are concerned. Well done, Whitehorse.

If you have cause to complain to Council, it's recommended that you take the 'lip' out of it too and be nice. They are just doing their job.

Boroondara's North Balwyn Repair Cafe

Greythorn Community Hub, 2 Centre Way, Balwyn North

The third Sunday of each month from 10am to 12:30pm. Next session Sunday 19th June 2022



Based at Greythorn Community Hub, volunteers can show you how to fix your broken, faulty or damaged items free, including tools, furniture, jewellery, electrical appliances, toys and clothing. They also have repaired and rescued items to give away. "Whether the item is functional or nostalgic, we love helping to give these items a second life – or an extended one at least," said organiser Andrew Tynan.

that issues permits and drawings for private driveway

Try these 10 simple fixes

Tempted to throw out that 'broken' toaster, vacuum cleaner or necklace? Before you do, try these fixes from the team at the North Balwyn Repair Cafe:

- Vacuum cleaner turning off while you're using it? Often the filter is blocked and needs a good clean.
- If your toaster won't heat up or the lever refuses to stay down, it might be because crumbs are covering the sensor or catch mechanism.
- Got a hard-to-budge screw or nut? Sometimes you can break the bond by tightening it slightly before you try to loosen it.
- If you have a broken beaded necklace but no tools to repair it, restring it with elastic or thread.
- Patch small holes in clothing by hand, with decorative stitching and fabric to make a feature.

 Flatscreen TV stopped working?
 Sell it cheaply or give it away for parts that can be reused.

- When changing batteries, always check and clean the metal contacts with a cotton bud and rubbing alcohol if you have it.
- Sewing machine not working properly? Check for a bent needle, or lint in the bobbin carrier. Keep it lubricated too.
- When tightening screws, use a screwdriver that fits the screwhead well. Using the wrong size can damage the screw and make it hard to remove.
- Excellent resources on the internet can help with almost any fault. Enter the product name and 'problem' or 'not working' into a search engine.

To find out more, go to the Repair Café's facebook page here: https://www.facebook.com/northbalwynrepaircafe



Poisoning Risks from Medicine

This article is based on an article published on the Kidsafe Victoria website here: https://www.kidsafevic.com.au/home-safety/poisoning/. Thank you to Neighbourhood Watch Whitehorse for drawing our attention to this important matter.

In 2021 alone, the Victorian Poisons Information Centre received approximately 53 per day about children being exposed to a poisonous substance. The large majority of these calls were for incidents involving children aged under 5. On average, every year over 700 Victorian children (aged 0-14 years) present to an emergency department because they have accidentally been poisoned.

Of things that could be poisonous to children in your home, it is not cleaning products or fly spray but medications which are far the most common causes of poisoning. In 2020-21, 425 Victorian children aged 0-14 years presented to an Emergency Department due to medication poisoning. Children under the age of 5 were most at risk, accounting for 72% of cases. The most

common medications involved in childhood poisonings include Paracetamol and Ibuprofen, blood pressure, antidepressants and sleeping tablets; as well as hayfever tablets, vitamins, and ADHD medication.

It's not just adult medication that can pose a hazard. Even substances labelled 'natural', those designed for children, or those that are good for you in small doses such as vitamins, can pose a danger if the recommended dose is exceeded.

Child resistant containers are designed to be difficult for children to open, but not impossible, which means that they are not 'child proof'.

Kid Safe Victoria's tips to prevent poisoning from medications

Lock away medicines and vitamins, up high and out of reach (at least 1.5 metres off the ground). Place handbags and other bags out of reach as soon you enter the home – this includes bags that visitors may bring with them. Use a lockable container for refrigerated medicines. Check the recommended dosage when giving medication to children and always administer it in a well lit room. Record the time and dose when medication is given and keep this with the pack/bottle, to reduce the risk of an accidental overdose. Never refer to medications as 'lollies' or 'sweets'. Dispose of unwanted and out of date medicines safely

What to do if you suspect poisoning

If you think your child may have ingested a poisonous substance, call the Victorian Poisons Information Centre straight away on 13 11 26 – 24 hours a day, Australia

wide. Their team will be able to provide expert advice on what to do next.

It's a good idea to keep the number for the Poisons Information Centre clearly visible in your home, such as on a noticeboard or on the fridge, and programmed into your mobile phone, in case you ever need to call. If you know what they've swallowed, take the product container with you to the phone – the Poisons Information Centre will want to know what ingredients are in the product.

Never try to induce vomiting – this can move the poison around your child's body and cause further damage. If they have collapsed, stopped breathing, or are having a seizure or anaphylactic reaction, call 000 for an ambulance. Do NOT ring the Victorian Poisons Information Centre.

Have your say on Boroondara's Disability Action Plan

Boroondara's Disability Action Plan is being updated to make sure it meets the needs of our community and to find ways to improve inclusion and accessibility. They want to hear from people with disability, families and carers, advocates, educators, employers, and health professionals.

Have your say at https://engage.boroondara.vic. gov.au/DAP. Community consultation closes on 1 July 2022.

Melbourne has a plethora of sustainability opportunities waiting to be explored

– Amv Hiller

Like most Melburnians, I am increasingly mindful of the impacts of my lifestyle on the environment and our climate. Since having children, I have become even more acutely aware of the amount of resources used and waste generated by our household. But what to do?

Personally, I related to Rob Greenfield's advice to change one aspect of our lifestyle at a time and followed the motto "be the change you want to see in the world". Slowly but surely, as a family we have engaged in the rewarding process of rejigging aspects of our everyday life to align more closely with our values. This journey has led to some fun discoveries and fantastic relationships.

The Eastern suburbs of Melbourne are full of opportunities and support networks that enable us to live more sustainability, should we seek them out. Farmer's markets, swap and share meets, repair cafes, seed libraries, kitchen libraries, and toy libraries to name but a few. Personally, I find visiting the farmer's markets every weekend to be an enjoyable, community-minded, and rewarding outing. Buying fresh, locally grown and produced, seasonal goods is an important part of living sustainably. Chatting with the producers expands knowledge and understanding of where our food originates and the challenges and joys involved in producing it.

Borrowing toys from a toy library is another rewarding way of reducing our personal consumption and engaging with other families within the community.

In my experience, any initiative that enables sharing resources such as toys, gardening equipment, excess produce, and cooking and picnic equipment is rewarding and much more sustainable than the 'throw away'

Seeking out such opportunities leads to a myriad of positive outcomes. First, the environment is treated to less waste and less emissions from the production of ever more material goods. Second, local people and local groups benefit, rather than large corporations. Third, feeling connected with others in the community is a rewarding by-product. Apparently 'being more sustainable' was the sixth most popular new year's resolution this year. There are so many options and opportunities in Melbourne to help us achieve this goal. It is a fun and rewarding journey. Come on board!

How do your New Year's resolutions compare to those others? Here's a great website to find how yours stack up against those others have made: https://www.finder. com.au/new-years-resolutions-statistics

Amy Hiller - amyjmhiller@gmail.com

Potential loss of land use on the NE Link Route **Reckless irresponsibility,** missed opportunities

- John Young

Unless action is taken to stop the disastrous North East Link project the community will be permanently affected by the loss of many important benefits for our local environment. Existing parkland and sporting facilities including a tennis club and sections of a public golf course will be buried under concrete, wildlife habitat will be destroyed, houses and dozens of existing businesses will be bulldozed, creeks will be barrel drained and communities will be divided.

Once these community assets and beneficial uses are destroyed, they will be gone forever to be replaced by a 'Los Angeles' style traffic sewer which will not solve congestion problems.



This destructive project will result in the loss of at least 26,000 'amenity trees' and about 180 large (>80cm diameter) indigenous trees, including hollow-bearing examples. In addition to this, thousands of smaller indigenous trees and shrubs will be lost. Greenery will be replaced by hot concrete.

Stop NE Link Alliance (SNEL)is a group of concerned local residents and affiliated environmental organisations. It includes Sustainable Cities, a joint arrangement between Friends of the Earth and the Public Transport



Users Association, plus Friends of Banyule, Warringal Conservation Society, Blackburn and District Tree Preservation Society and other like minded organisations

This is an extract from a longer article by John Young of the impact of the NE Link on the natural environment along the route of the North east Link project. Please go to our Speakers Corner NE Link page on the Eastsider News website here to read the full article https://www.eastsidernews.org.au/uncategorized/ speakers-corner-2/

Mitcham Nunawading Probus Club

Takes Wings

- Gerry Cross

While many of us have enjoyed the pleasure of flying to exotic destinations and to visit family and friends around Australia and the world, this trip to the Moorabbin Air Museum gave us a new perspective to this means of transport.

On May 19, members of Mitcham Nunawading Probus toured the Moorabbin Air Museum. This facility has a wonderful collection of aircraft from the early days of

aviation, with a Gypsy Moth biplane with wooden wings covered in textile to a more recent early jet aircraft such as Canberra bomber, Mirage fighter and a Viscount commercial airliner.

> Our guide and commentator was Dennis Petersen, affectionately known as 'Biggles', and a Vice President of his local Probus club. Dennis shared his deep knowledge of the origins, history and use of all the Museum aircraft exhibited. He talked of a time when Australia had a flourishing and vital local aircraft industry, a time when many aircraft were designed and built here. A large part of the industry was located at Fisherman's Bend in the 1930's and 1940's. This included

aircraft such as the Gypsy Moth, Tiger Moth, Wirraway and Beaufighter. These latter two were the backbone of Australia's air force in the Second World War.

The Museum included some fascinating aircraft such as an autonomous drone designed and built in Australia in the recent past and a helicopter used to rescue sailors in the 1998 storm that savaged the Sydney to Hobart fleet. This helicopter was the first on the scene and picked up sailors and then made it back to Bairnsdale with the engine stalling due to no fuel as they landed.

A great day was finished off with an excellent lunch at the Flight Deck Bar and Grill, a four-star restaurant which lived up to its reputation of fine dining with a view of Moorabbin airport, the second busiest airport in Australia.



Biggles in flight uniform at Police Heicopter





A plan of Museum exhibits

Beaufighter aircraft used in the Pacific campaign

Council pulled up by resident opposition to a proposed cycle network

– Ian Hundley

The proposal in the City of Boroondara's 2022 Draft Bicycle Strategy to construct a new 'Glass Creek Trail and Jacka Trail to facilitate cycling through parkland in North Balwyn, Balwyn and East Kew is understood to be under revision. This follows several petitions to the Council in opposition to the proposal and complaints

to councillors by hundreds of residents opposed to the opening up of these parks to cycling.

A primary concern is that opening up these areas to cycling would cause the permanent loss of quiet parkland in which people can walk and relax in relative peace and with minimal threat of injury. This has been a permanent attribute of these parks for generations. And it should not be lost in this way.

The Council has evidently not paid sufficient regard to the value of parkland in the development of its proposed bicycle strategy. Perhaps the Council thought that noone cared. How wrong they were, if that was the case, as demonstrated by the many complaints the Council continues to receive.

Cycling is an important transport mode. But it should not be in our parks. And the Council needs to remedy its failings, so far, by abandoning its "easy fix" to cater for cycling by effectively converting our parks into transport corridors, with no recognition of the real value of these assets in the day-to-day lives of residents.

Ian Hundley North Balwyn

This is an extract from a longer article on the proposal by the City of Boroondara to facilitate cycling through parkland in North Balwyn, Balwyn and East Kew. The full article can be accessed on the Eastsider News website at https://www.eastsidernews.org.au/uncategorized/ speakers-corner-2/



Gardiners Creek (Kooyongkoot) Master Plan

The City of Boroondara invites all residents to Have your say on its draft Gardiners Creek (Kooyongkoot) Master Plan.

Gardiners Creek is over 30 km in length and originates in Blackburn. It flows through the suburbs of Ashburton, Glen Iris, Hawthorn East and into the Yarra in Hawthorn. The plan also covers Back Creek which flows into Gardiners Creek, connecting the suburbs of Camberwell and Canterbury.

At present, Gardiners Creek is the only significant creek to run into the Yarra River without an overall management plan. Boroondara has developed a master plan to cover that part of Gardiners Creek and Back Creek that flows through this region.

The draft Master Plan document can be downloaded from the Boroondara website at https://engage.boroondara. vic.gov.au/gardiners-creek-master-plan,

Boroondara's master plan arises from its participation in The Regional Collaboration Project, a joint initiative to develop a regional, shared vision for Gardiners Creek. The development of an overall management plan for the creek is being led by the City of Stonnington. Participants include Boroondara City Council, Monash Council, Whitehorse Council, Melbourne Water, and Yarra Valley Water.

About the draft Master Plan

In its invitation, Boroondara says, "We have drafted a Master Plan for Gardiners Creek to make sure it is protected, cared for and improved in the future. The plan is based on extensive research, feedback from key stakeholders and community views. It includes aims and actions that apply across the entire area."

Community consultation commenced on 24 May 2022 and will continue till 28 June 2022.

It is expected that the final plan will be presented to Council for endorsement in October 2022. Go here to find out more about this consultation https://engage. boroondara.vic.gov.au/gardiners-creek-master-plan

Celebrate NAIDOC Week

The City of Whitehorse is holding a celebration event for NAIDOC Week at Strathdon House and Orchard Precinct. This will take place over several days between Sunday 3

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The cost is free.

3-10 July 2022

Times and dates are:

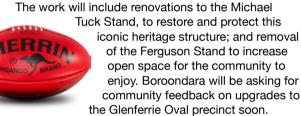
- Sunday 3 July and Sunday 10 July, from 10am to 3pm
- Saturday, 9 July from 10am to 3pm
- Thursday, 7 July and Friday, 8 July from 10am to 4pm.

National NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia in the first week of July each year (Sunday to Sunday). NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and participate in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth. You can support and get to know your local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities through activities and events held across the country.

July and Sunday 10 July 2022. Bring your family, especially your children to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of

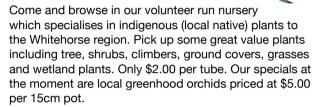
Glenferrie Oval precinct revitalisation

Boroondara invites you to have your say on upgrades to the Glenferrie Oval precinct when community consultation opens. Glenferrie Oval precinct is one of Boroondara's most loved sporting facilities. Over the coming years, the City plans to improve this space to allow for better use of this historic facility. This is part of our commitment to delivering what's important to our community.



Bungalook Community Nursery





For more details email: wcipp@yahoo.com.au web: https://www.wcipp.org.au https://www.facebook.com/BungalookNursery/





Public Consultations

Public consultation is very important as part of the policy development process at all levels of government. A government that is responsive to its community's needs will be open to new ideas and seek information from many different sources. This allows for a better understanding of the problem being addressed; provides greater transparency in decision making; and gives stakeholders ownership of the outcomes.

Municipal councils regularly conduct consultations with members of their community. They also consult with other people who might be affected by matters under council consideration. Sometimes consultation is a legal requirement. At other times councils consult their residents in order to make good decisions that take into account community interests.

A council may convene public meetings and undertake surveys before developing a proposal for formal consultation. Councils also undertake consultation on other matters where they consider it important to determine public sentiment and community concerns before making a decision or commencing a project.

In the next edition

The deadline for articles for the next edition of Eastsider News is 25 July 2022, with the edition due to go online mid August. We try to maintain diversity and give priority to those which are time relevant, so make sure you submit your article as soon as possible at eastsidernews1@gmail.com

We encourage you to send us photographs and images that relate to your contribution. To get adequate resolution, please try to make them at least 250Kb and preferably larger at around 400Kb or more.

Page 9 Quizling Answers

- 1. A/bridge
- 2. C/raven

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Your Say Whitehorse is an engagement platform where you can share your ideas and provide feedback on issues and projects that matter to you. Boroondara invites its residents and other stakeholders to comment on specific matters on its Engage Boroondara facility.

At the State level, the Victorian Government maintains Engage Victoria, a centralised online consultation platform provided by the Department of Premier and Cabinet. Community members are invited to participate in the development of government policies and programs and share their ideas and opinions on a range of issues and topics. There are a wide variety of mechanisms at

the Commonwealth level covering individual government departments, parliamentary committees and other decision making bodies.

The principles that drive consultation at the State Government level are relevant to that at all levels of government. Consultation should be meaningful, inclusive, transparent, Informed, accountable and create value. To have your voice heard on matters that are important to you, go here.

for Whitehorse: https://yoursay.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/, for Boroondara: https://engage.boroondara.vic.gov.au/, and for Victoria: https://engage.vic.gov.au/

EastsiderNews

Guidelines for writing articles

The guidelines for writing for *Eastsider News* are:

- · Length and quality: ranging from 400-700 words, occasionally longer, but always well written, and concise. Letters to the Editors may be shortened if they are longer than 250 words.
- Relevance: local public interest, but sometimes with a broader context
- Style: personal, but varied story, humour, technical, creative, cartoons, etc
- Evidence-based: transparency about whether it is factual or opinion
- · Language: can be expressive, but respectful and non-defamatory, with a focus on information, ideas, or issues,
- Text to be submitted as an unformatted Word document by email
- · Photos and graphics: to be submitted as stand-alone jpegs by email to eastsidernews1@gmail.com. To get adequate resolution, we ask that your image has a resolution of 300dpi and is at least 250kb and preferably larger at around 400Kb or more.
- Author's information: name and suburb for publication, an email address for follow-up but not publication. An author's headshot and short bio is optional
- · The Editors will usually accept material as written, but may make minor changes to improve clarity, readability, or focus.

The types of articles are expected to include:

- · General interest: local environment, planning and development, social issues, health, etc
- · Local activity centres and organisations: community centres, schools, churches, social groups, sports clubs, business, service clubs, universities, etc
- Socio-demographic groups: eg ethnic, age, ability, household types, etc
- · Council business: Boroondara and Whitehorse ward reports, consultations, etc.
- · Personalities: interviews with interesting 'ordinary' people, and related events
- · Culture, hobbies: art, music, recipes, eating out and more.

We publish a new edition online every two months. We will also add to and update content on our website, and plan to do a limited print edition for community distribution when funds become available. Go to our website at www.eastsidernews.org.au to check out the current and past editions.