

Berringa Community News

Winter 2023

Bethanga Tennis Club "Smash Bash & Sizzle" see P5

Festival of Small Halls, Talgarno see p7



News and views from the residents of Bellbridge, Bethanga, Granya & Talgarno
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The Berringa Peninsula is Open again

Sip and Paint, Talgarno see p8



The sublime autumn weather saw a full calendar of events on the Peninsula. After 3 years break because of COVID 19 the ANZAC day service returned to Bethanga . The Bethanga Gymkhana was held on its tradional Easter Saturday. Mothers day bought us two new events - Sip and Paint at Talgarno hall and Twilight Glow golf at Bethanga. Golf club. Towong shire sponsored the Festival of small Halls at Talgarno Hall and Bethanga Tennis club held a Smash Bash & Sizzle. Another successful Peninsula seasonal market was held at Bellbridge.

Read all about them inside

Bethanga Golf club Twilight Glow Golf see p2



Bethanga Gymkhana and Family Fun Day see p3

COMMUNITY REPORTS

This section is for individuals in the community to share their stories, ideas, photos, poems and reports about local happenings, etc. Email items to info@berringacommunitynews.com.au or post/drop in to 341 Wises Creek Road, Talgarno.

Twilight Golf Event

For Mother's Day Eve, the Bethanga Golf Club tried something different. To celebrate mums, aunts, sisters, grandmothers and daughters and women in our community, we held a very successful Twilight Glow Golf event. 21 participants got a drink on arrival, a group lesson from Tim the Golf Pro, individual tips from Tim and Golf Club Captain Brett Gilbee, 3 holes of glow-in-the-dark golf, delicious food, and great prizes. Whilst it was great fun, we can't go past a competition. To help, the teams were able to buy a shot from Tim or Brett at each hole – with all proceeds, along with a percentage of ticket sales, going to Betty's Place – in total \$580 was raised. The winning team of Bel, Leslie and Kat were generous in donations as well as somewhat professional in their golf.

A great afternoon and evening were had by all. The fairways, greens and flags were lit up and sparkling, a fairy-light golf cart ferried drinks and snacks around the course, laughter was ringing out on all sides and there was an occasional thwack of a club hitting a ball. We are still looking for some of those glow-in-the-dark golf balls. The event was kindly supported by the Berringa Peninsula Community Network and Emergency Recovery Victoria.



Fortnightly Newsletter

Do you want to be the first to know the latest Council news, project updates, event details and more?

We're pleased to announce that we are launching a fortnightly e-newsletter that we can send straight to your inbox.

to sign up visit mailchi.mp/towong/subscribe

Our first edition will be reaching you on 27 January 2023 - stay tuned!

Bethanga Gymkhana & Family Fun Day 2023

The 2023 Bethanga Gymkhana & Family Fun Day was held on Easter Saturday.

It was a huge success, filled with families, friends and community members enjoying an action packed program of events varying from novelty ring and show jumping to iron man & iron woman and let's not forget busking with our local favourite Captain Pete.

Families and children enjoyed the old fashioned games such as the 3 legged race, tug-o-war, egg toss and wheel barrow races to mention a few. With plenty of delicious homestyle cooking, along with lots of yummy food options on offer there certainly was something for everyone.

Some of highlights of the day were... the newly

introduced hay bale toss, along with the apple pie and cream eating competition and of course, the annual crowd pleaser – the dog jumping event.

We'd also love to take this opportunity to thank all our wonderful sponsors and volunteers who put many tireless hours in to ensure we delivered a great family fun day for our community to enjoy. Events like this aren't possible without your ongoing support.

We look forward to welcoming you all at next year's Bethanga Gymkhana & Family Fun Day!

If you'd like to be a part of the Bethanga Gymkhana Family Fun Day committee, we'd love to hear from you. You can get in touch via our Facebook page @Bethanga Gymkhana & Family Fun Day



Police Report

Hello again from the Bethanga Police Station.

I am pleased to report that crime has been very quiet around our area with only a few minor incidents reported to Police.

Over the last month I have only had one report of a theft from motor vehicle in the Bellbridge area. Usually when this happens their generally is a series of thefts targeting unlocked vehicles. I am hoping the residence are locking vehicles and not leaving valuables in sight and this is deterring opportunistic thieves.

Over the past few months I have been targeting hoon drivers in our area. Unfortunately I have had to issue numerous tickets to drivers not doing the right thing. This is an ongoing campaign as it appears people are continuing to speed through our townships and on the rural roads. Through the winter months we will see an

increase of marked and unmarked Police Highway patrol vehicles patrolling our roads to help out when I am not on shift.

Generally when the cold weather hits the number of tourist decline and traffic volumes are down. Please take care on our wet and icy roads and allow plenty of time to get to your destinations in a safe and careful manner. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like me to attend any community engagements or organisational events. I am more than happy to attend and give any input if required.

Thank you and stay safe.

Luke FOGARTY.
Leading Senior Constable
Bethanga Police Station.

ANZAC Day 2023

Finally, after an absence of 3 years, an ANZAC Day Service was held at the Bethanga Soldiers Memorial Hall on a bright, sunny morning. It was lovely to see the 150 plus members of the community and surrounds attend our service and the following morning tea.

Unfortunately, our MC of the last 15 years, Mr. John Tudor, was unable to officiate and we welcomed Mr Bob Singline as the MC this year.



Once again, the service was started by the music of Peter Klein, followed by the singing of Kelly Gibbons. Mrs Betty Price read the Prayer. Our Guest Speaker and the Guard were members of the Army Logistics Training Centre, Bandiana. The children of Bethanga and Talgarno Primary Schools did an excellent job of singing the National Anthem at the completion of the Service.

Thanks to all who attended and the volunteers who helped to make the day a success.



Graham Maynard



Update on the Three Halls Project

In the last Berranga News it was reported that the contract with the building contractor (TVN On Country) was being finalised. This contract was finally signed by all parties in April and now TVN is about to begin on-ground works. It is hoped the works will be completed by November this year. The work will begin in Bethanga, then Granya and finally Talgarno. For most of this time the halls will still be available for events and functions. Each hall's Committee of Management has a representative on the Three Halls Working Group and can advise if any times the halls are unavailable.

Contact the respective hall representative for bookings (numbers are in the Services Directory, under Public Halls & Community Centres, at the end of this newsletter.)

*Hugh Hanna
Three Halls Working Group*

Bethanga Tennis Club "Smash Bash & Sizzle"

On Sunday April 30, the Bethanga Tennis Club successfully held its "Smash Bash & Sizzle" come and try tennis event.

The 19 adults and 11 juniors were put through their paces by international tennis coaches Gary Comins and Natalie Grandin, with Gary putting the adults through a strenuous Cardio Tennis Session and Natalie taking the juniors for a similar session. Gary and Natalie also provided strategic tips on how to play doubles, with the value of this exercise being highlighted by Natalie once having a world women's doubles ranking of 22.

The event was followed by a barbeque and refreshments and the drawing of the raffles. The Bethanga Tennis Club would like to thank the raffle donors, Nick Kyrgios, The Hair Nook and the Bethanga Hotel.

The tennis club would also like to thank the Berranga Peninsula Community Network and Emergency Recovery Victoria for their support.

Stay tuned for more Cardio Tennis sessions to be held in the near future.

Peter Star



Raffle winners



Peninsula Seasonal Markets

Save the dates!!



Thank you for joining us at the Autumn market in Bellbridge, which turned out to be a resounding success. We strongly encourage stall holders to register early for our upcoming markets, considering the significant interest we've received beyond the immediate region. Our committee prioritises local stall holders, and our markets consistently attract a crowd of 1500 to 2000 people. In light of this, we have plans to expand our offerings for the upcoming markets.

The next market, scheduled for spring, will take place in Bethanga on Sunday, September 10th, from 9 am to 1 pm. Additionally, we are excited to announce a special summer pre-Christmas market, which will be a twilight event at Talgarno 3rd of December from 4 pm to 7 pm, featuring live entertainment.

We value any feedback from attendees on how we can further improve our market. Please feel free to communicate with us at peninsulaseasonalmarkets@gmail.com for any suggestions or general inquiries.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the community for their continued support.

Jess Gray
Marketing coordinator
Peninsula Seasonal Markets committee

The Way We Were - Holy Trinity Anglican Church Bethanga

A Service of Thanksgiving and De-Consecration, led by Right Reverend Clarence E. Bester, Bishop of Wangaratta, was held on April 1st 2023,

Many representatives of local families attended the service and fond memories were told of their time during the life of the Church. My children were all baptized here said another past member, as she paused by the font at the front of the Church.

The Sanctuary Party consisted of The Right Reverend Clarence E. Bishop of Wangaratta, The Archdeacon, The Venerable Neil Hicks, The Vicar, Reverend Jacques Jefferies, and Alter Server, Xavier Jefferies.

The Missal Stand, Prayer Book and Candlesticks were taken from the Altar and given to members of the Congregation as a sign of the end of this building for the purposes of Christian Worship as a Consecrated Building.

Led by those bearing the above items, Judy Mitchell, Lynette Mitchell, Samuel Mitchell and Cheryle Cole, the Sanctuary Party leave the building followed by the congregation.

Afternoon tea was then served to all, with thanks to Ross Mitchell and family.



In Church in a Landscape – A History of the Diocese of Wangaratta, by Colin Holden, Bethanga is listed as being dedicated in the year 1887, with a question mark, in the time of Bishop Moorhouse and noting that the Church of England Messenger of 9/01/1887 makes reference to a Church at Bethanga. This church was shifted to Lower Bethanga, according to a report in CEM of 29/01/1925. I was told by an aged lady of the Anglican Family, that the hill up to its original site was too steep for aged persons to walk.

Marie Elliot, President
Wodonga and District Historical Society.
Hut 97, Bonegilla Migrant Experience.
Visitors welcome Mon, Wed, Sat, & Sun 10—3pm

Talgarno Recreation Reserve – it's all happening

Everybody will have noticed that the BBQ shelter has been completed apart from landscaping, connection to water and waste and the solar panels. Tables and seats will be installed soon and it will be available for community events and for community members to use for their own purposes – we just ask that you clean up after use. We greatly appreciate the support of Towong Shire in funding this wonderful community asset and of the many people who have helped turn this idea into reality over the past 5 (YES FIVE) years.

We are planning to install a fire pit in front of the shelter and there will be opportunities for you to donate towards building this if you are interested. We're hoping to have something looking like the photo below.



The tennis courts will re-open for use in the very near future and the Committee is appreciative of the patience of tennis club members over the long period while the courts were unavailable. There is still more to be done before the Committee can sign off on the project but we're confident that the end result will be really good for the whole community. Our thanks to Towong Shire for their funding and support.

We hosted a highly successful musical night as part of the Festival of Small Halls as reported elsewhere. Peter Klein's group The Remnantz supported the visiting musicians and were so pleased with the reception they received that they are wanting to perform more events at the Hall. More recently, a new sub-committee sought support from the Berringa Peninsula Community Network (BPCN) which provided funding for a very successful Sip and Paint Mothers' Day event which promises to be repeated next year. They also obtained funding again from BPCN for a Kids' Disco and a Trivia Night soon.

The Three Halls Project Committee has contacted potential contractors/suppliers and it is expected to get underway very soon.

The layout and design of the playground is being revisited after issues arose for patrons attending the FOSH event and for contractors attempting to access the hall kitchen. These matters are under discussion with the Shire. In the meantime, all community members are asked to make sure playground users exercise caution.

We are progressing with a minor upgrade to the hall's toilets and we are most grateful of a donation provided to assist in those works.

If anybody in the community has any comment or question for the Recreation Reserve Committee, please contact me (0419 609 042) or our Secretary, Mari Jones (0418 693 535). Our next meeting will be at the Hall, 10 AM, July 23, 2023.

Greg Hayes

President,

Talgarno Recreation Reserve Committee of Management

Festival of Small Halls at Talgarno

Over 100 people attended the Festival of Small Halls at the Talgarno Hall on April 6. Towong Shire Council sponsored the Festival of Small Halls which tours Australia, bringing performers from larger festivals to the regional community halls.

The artist line-up included Australian artists Folk Bitch Trio, Canadian folk singer and song writer Scott Cook, plus Bethanga local, Peter Klein. They all played their original music, which told the stories about their lives and experiences. It was a fun night with the musicians mixing with and enjoying the company and applause of the locals.

The Talgarno Recreation Reserve committee served the food and drink provided by Towong Shire Council



Paint and Sip at Talgarno Hall

Talgarno Hall hosted a Mothers 'Paint and Sip' afternoon where participants followed a step by step tutorial to create an amazing piece of art. A range of delectable food platters was provided as well as a variety of drinks including wine, soft drink, tea and coffee.

The hall was decked out in bronze and copper and based on the laughter and chatter the participants had a fun afternoon.

The event was partially funded by a grant provided by Emergency Recovery Victoria through the Berranga Peninsula Community Network.

A successful event that will be repeated



Our 2023 Art Show is kindly supported by
Emergency Recovery Victoria



ART SHOW

Bethanga Primary School

The first weekend in August at Bethanga Memorial Hall

FRIDAY 4th AUGUST

Wine and Cheese Opening Night \$35 tickets available at the school

SATURDAY 5th AUGUST

Art Exhibition Open for Viewing and Sales 10am-4pm

f Find us on Facebook for more information or ring the school on 60 264 263

ARTISTS: Please contact Kate Singline on 0422 725 147 to express interest in being a part of this great event!

Bethanga Golf Club Annual Tournament and Open Day

Another very successful annual Tournament Day as part of the North Eastern District Golf Association was held on May 21st, with around 30 players attending from across the region. It was a cold and grey morning which turned into a beautiful sunny day, and a great day of golf was had by all. Winners came from Beechworth, Albury, Corryong, Jindera, and a couple from Bethanga – go Leroy and Alex Star.

Thanks to Committee and friends who put in hours of mowing, maintenance and preparation, and to Bob Singline who donated exceptional BBQ cooking skills. We had great feedback on the course and the day. Mark it in your calendars for next year and work on that handicap. All registered players are welcome.



Help wanted in the garden

I need help with weeding, digging raking & general garden tasks which can be done during the week or weekends - 2 - 3 hours per week.

Ph 0412 433 499



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REC: 23471.

COVID-19

Visiting Requirements

- Visiting hours are between **12.30pm and 4.30pm** with no restrictions on numbers or age limits
- Anyone who has tested positive or been in close contact in the last 7 days for COVID-19 should not enter the facility
- Please wear a surgical or N95 mask
- You will be asked if you are free of COVID-19 symptoms
- You will need to have a negative Rapid Antigen Test conducted on the day either at our reception or can be at home prior to arrival (evidence is required). We have Rapid Antigen Tests available for you to use at home.

COVID cases are rising as we enter the colder months, and flu season is also beginning. Now is the time to be sourcing vaccinations for both COVID19 and Influenza.

Vaccinations

There are several providers across North East Victoria (Medical Clinics and Pharmacies) offering COVID19 vaccinations: https://www.murrayphn.org.au/vaccination_ne/

The Tallangatta Medical Centre is offering flu vaccinations by appointment. Please phone 6071 5270.

Medical Centre – updates

A \$30 out of pocket expense has been introduced for non-concession card holder patients.

Appointments can now be made through the Hot Doc app which can be downloaded through the App Store or through Google Play. Hot Doc is also available on our webpage under Medical Centre -> Make an Appointment. Visit: <https://www.tallangattahealthservice.com.au/medical-centre.html>

You can still make an appointment in person or by phoning the Medical Centre on 02 6071 5270.



Tallangatta Health Service welcomes Kathy Cregan to the role of Practice Manager. Kathy has been a familiar face as she has been working in the Medical Centre for some months.

Activity Groups

Tallangatta Health Service runs regular activity groups. The next bus outing is June 15th to Milawa. To book in you may call the MCHC (My Community and Home Care) department on 02 6071 5238. Anyone who is interested in attending a group outing, and who does not currently attend, can contact My Aged Care for a referral on 1800 200 422.

Active Living Groups

The Allied Health Team at Tallangatta Health Service run regular exercise groups at the Bethanga Hall. All ages are welcome, no referral needed.

- Strength & Balance Session: Wednesday 3 - 4pm (1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month)

Osteoarthritis Exercise Group: Wednesday 2 - 3pm

Register your interest by contacting Tallangatta Health Service on 02 6071 5210 or just come along and join.



ANZAC Day Service – staying connected

At the forefront of care provided by Tallangatta Health Service, staff are aware that whilst a resident might have some challenges in their health and abilities, they still have goals they want to achieve. One of the ways we can help achieve these goals is to encourage and support residents to take part in social and other activities they are interested in, including community life. A good example of this was a special ANZAC day service organised onsite for residents to attend.

Our residents were fortunate to have Kylie, a member of the Leisure and Lifestyle team (and her volunteer husband) deliver a beautiful ANZAC Service. She was kindly assisted by Katherine Lanigan (Neighborhood House) and Rhys McKee (Tallangatta Secondary College). Combined, they provided a beautiful and heartfelt service, with music, that our residents were able to feel a part of.

Prior to ANZAC day, Kylie had assisted one of the residents to make two amazing "keepsake" ANZAC Mosaics which were unveiled during the service and which have now been kindly donated to Lakeview and Bolga Court.

The residents have expressed they are humbled by the generosity of Kylie and the local community members for making their day so special, stating that the service was "outstanding, memorable, and the people who volunteered their time should receive significant recognition."

This exemplifies a team of people who genuinely live the values of Tallangatta Health Service to make a difference in the days of the people we care for. Our residents received the opportunity and choice to remain socially connected to their community and to pay their respects with the dignity deserved.

Berringa Peninsula Community Network (BPCN)

Berringa Peninsula Events grants



Each of the 10 Community Recovery Committees (CRC) in the Towong Shire were allocated \$10,000 by Emergency Recovery Victoria (ERV) to support local events that encourage community connectedness and social cohesion by bringing people together to support their well-being. In November 2022 BPCN invited community groups to present their ideas and followed this up in February with an invitation to apply for a grant.

The BPCN received applications from 8 groups for 11 events with a combined cost of \$33,359. The BPCN committee evaluated each application against the criteria determined by ERV.

We allocated \$9140 to 8 events.

Talgarno Tennis Club	Come and Try Day and 8-week adult coaching program in September	\$3,520
Bethanga Tennis Club	Smash, Bash & Sizzle - Come try day Sunday 30th April 2023	\$540
Bethanga & District Golf Club	High Tea, Hats and Hits Twilight Golf 2023 Saturday 13th May 2023	\$1,500
Granya CFA	Community BBQ Mid-month Saturdays - ongoing	\$800
Bethanga Primary School	Bethanga Primary School Art Show Friday 4- Sat 5 August 2023	\$1,480
Talgarno Recreation Reserve	Mothers' Day sip & paint high tea Sunday 14th May	\$550
	Community trivia night date to be confirmed	\$250
	Disco night (kids under 12) date to be confirmed	\$500

In addition to the \$10,000 allocated to BPCN, ERV allocated additional funding for events to be determined by the Upper Murray CRC Chairs committee. Two grant applicants were referred - Rotary Club of Bellbridge Lake Hume applied for \$5,375 for enhancements to the annual Bellbridge Carols by Candlelight on 3rd December 2023 and a joint application from the three Berringa Peninsula Cemeteries – Bethanga, Granya and Talgarno for \$7449 for springtime events that celebrate the history and heritage of our area

Frustratingly there has been no decision on these two applications

Some of these events have of been successfully held and we encourage the community to get involved and support the future events.

Julie Miller

Chair Berringa Peninsula Community Network

0419 339 679



Great River Road Marketing and Promotion Plan Expression of Interest

We're transforming the Murray River Road from a road less travelled to one of the most iconic road trips in Australia – the Great River Road!

The production of a marketing plan for the future promotion of the Great River Road is underway. We want to ensure we know of all the businesses and experiences that visitors will have an opportunity to engage with whilst travelling the touring route.

Perhaps you operate a fly fishing business on the side, host craft workshops, or have intentions of opening a farm gate. Whatever your business, if it's a stone's throw (an hour or so!) from the Great River Road, we want to make sure we know about it.

Fill out an expression of interest form at tinyurl.com/greatriverroad and return to ecodev@towong.vic.gov.au.

Prospects for the Season Ahead

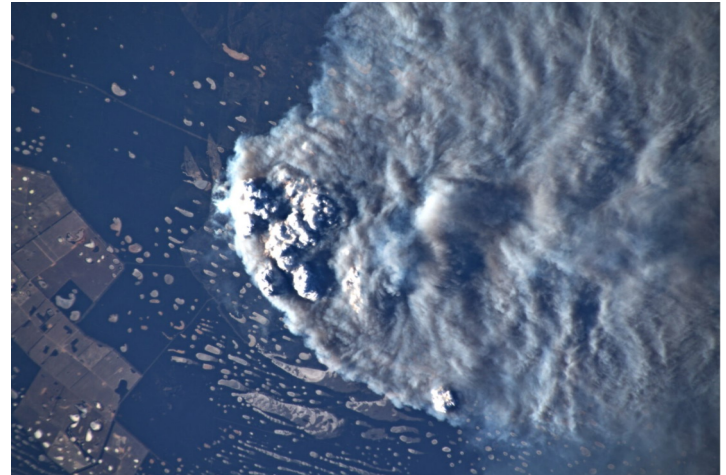
Thank you to Greg Hayes who has agreed to regularly contribute weather related articles for Berringa Community News readers.



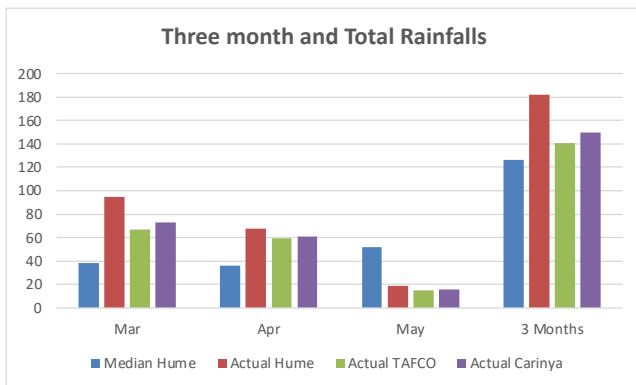
Rainfall Round-up

BOM got it pretty right saying that the autumn rainfall was likely to be about average.

The historical median rainfall for Autumn (March to end May) is 126 mm. The actual rainfall for Hume Reservoir was 182 mm, or 144% of median. I had 150 mm and Jim & Julie de Hennin had 141 mm. The March rainfall of 95 mm at Hume Reservoir was exceptional – wetter than 90% of all March rainfall totals on record. They must have been under a storm or two because neither Jim nor I got as much. April with 68 mm was also almost double the median. May however has been very dry with only 19 mm at the time of writing compared with a median of 52 mm.

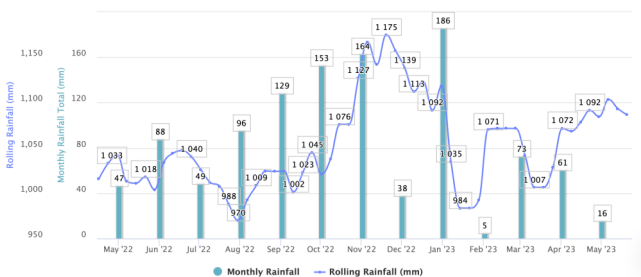


The Australian bushfires are visible from space in this photo taken by European Space Agency astronaut Luca Parmitano in January 2020.



Even though it seems the run of wet years is ending, our rolling 12 month rainfall is still 1084 mm and has only dropped below 1000 mm once. This wet run won't last forever and we need to be ready for drier times if only to bring us back to average. Regardless of whether you believe the science behind climate change or not, there is no denying the increased variability of the climate and increased extreme events.

The rolling 12-month rainfall at Carinya is shown below.



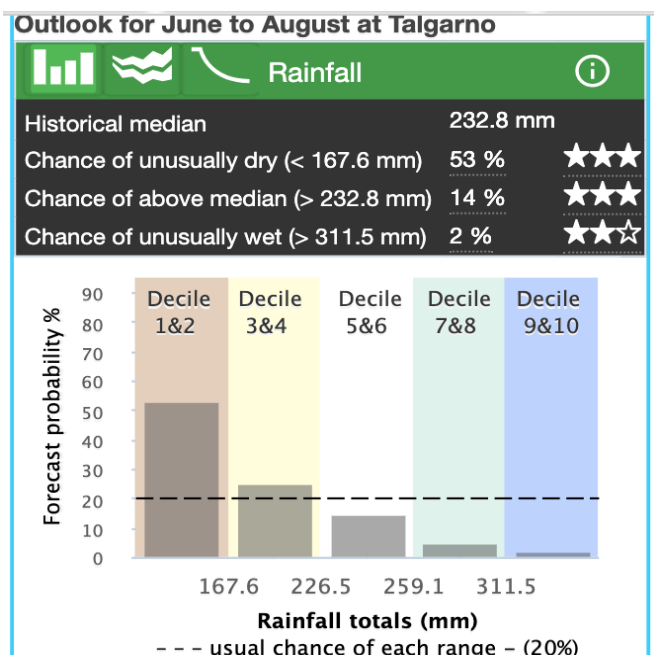
The wet run of seasons relates to three consecutive years of La Niña plus some other factors all of which helped create warmer seas, bigger pools of moisture and more favourable pressure systems. There has been a suggestion that the un-precendented third La Niña may have been the result of the 2019 – 20 fires

Smoke from the catastrophic 2019-20 Australian bushfires may have tipped the planet into a La Niña climate phenomenon lasting almost three years, according to new research published May 10 in the journal *Science Advances*.

Prospects for Winter (June to end August)

As predicted, the La Niña has ended and BOM advises that we have now entered an El Niño watch phase. A full blown El Niño has not yet emerged but all of the models used by BOM suggest we will have an El Niño by August. There is also a good chance also that we may get a Positive IOD (Indian Ocean Dipole) by June which is likely to further reduce rainfall, particularly if it is combined with an El Niño. So not good news.

Seven out of 11 models reviewed by Dale Grey indicate drier conditions up to July and two neutral to drier. BOM is suggesting that there is an 85% chance that rainfall (June through August) will be below the median of 232 mm. There is a 53% chance that the rainfall will be Decile 1&2 which is drier than 80-90% of all past winters.



Greg Hayes

Great River Road Artwork



Stage 2 Update

As part of Stage 2 of the Great River Road project, we're installing four new large-scale artwork pieces along the touring route.

With assistance from Murray Arts, a community-based panel evaluated over 35 submissions for the four locations. Following the panel's recommendation, Council commissioned three artists to deliver the sculptures:

- **John Wood** – 'Your Journey' sculpture at the Bellbridge Gateway
- **Xavier Pinard** – Bridge to Moon sculpture at Talgarno
- **Glennys Briggs** in collaboration with Xavier Pinard - Lace Monitor sculpture at Pine Mountain
- **John Wood** - Brolgas at the Towong

Last week John Wood (pictured with a model of the proposed sculpture) and poet David Gilby who is contributing to the project, met with Council staff at the Bellbridge Gateway site to discuss the finer details.

For more information about the artwork, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/grr-artwork>

For more information visit towong.vic.gov.au



Community RATs

Free RATs Available



Council COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test Program

Free RATs are available to all community members from our Customer Service Centres in Corryong and Tallangatta or by calling our Customer Service team on 1300 365 222.

Community members can receive up to 10 tests (2 kits) for themselves, plus up to 10 tests (2 kits) for each member of their household per visit.

For more information about getting tested and reporting a positive rapid antigen test result, visit the Department of Health website at: coronavirus.vic.gov.au

This program is delivered with support from the Victorian Government.

For more information visit towong.vic.gov.au



TOWONG SHIRE COUNCIL

Visit www.towong.vic.gov.au or find us on Facebook for news and information that can help you make the most out of living in Towong Shire.

Questions, concerns, feedback?

Please contact us:

32 Towong Street (PO Box 55)
Tallangatta 3700
T 02 6071 5100
E info@towong.vic.gov.au



2023 Council Meetings

Time	Date	Location
10.30am	25 January 2023	Tallangatta
10.30am	22 February 2023	Corryong
1.30pm	22 March 2023	Tallangatta
10.30am	26 April 2023	Corryong
10.30am	31 May 2023	Tallangatta
10.30am	28 June 2023	Corryong
10.30am	26 July 2023	Tallangatta
10.30am	23 August 2023	Corryong
10.30am	27 September 2023	Tallangatta
10.30am	25 October 2023	Corryong
10.30am	22 November 2023	Tallangatta
10.30am	20 December 2023	Corryong

The agenda and requirements for Public Question Time can be found prior to the meeting on our website or by calling 1300 365 222.

Visit towong.vic.gov.au

COMMUNITY NOTICES

This section is for community members to give notice about local happenings, local photos, births, deaths and marriages etc. Email to info@berringacommunitynews.com.au

Wymah Ferry

Operating hours

7am – 8pm

During daylight saving

6am – 9pm

(NB no meal closure times)

*The Wymah Ferry service will be **closed** for essential maintenance from **1 May - 16 June 2023***

OUTSIDE THESE HOURS

Ring the contractor,
6020 2038

For information on bridge and ferry closures: www.livetraffic.com

DYSONS CORRYONG BUS & FREIGHT

Passenger and freight service between Albury/Wodonga and Corryong along Murray River Road

Daily Monday to Friday

Dysons Corryong Bus & Freight
0427 240 077

Women's Health Clinics

Clinics are also held at Tallangatta on the first and third Monday of each month.

All ages welcome

This is a free service. Appointments necessary. For bookings or further information phone the Tallangatta Health Service

Sue Reid 6071 5270

Talgarno Hall

Hall hire rates, which include air conditioning costs, are:
Community meetings under 3 hours \$15,
meetings over 3 hours \$25.

Local resident function hire \$150 plus \$150 bond (includes insurance).

Non-resident function hire \$250 plus \$150 bond (includes insurance).

The old chairs and the tables are available for hire by donation.

For bookings contact Anthea 6020 1134

Bethanga Soldiers Memorial Hall

Hall and Supper Room Available for Hire

Functions and Meetings

Day / Night

Air Conditioned / Heated

Competitive Rates

For more information and Hall bookings contact: Graham Maynard 6026 4007, Ron Evans 6026 4301 or Robin Neilson 0400 472 247

Granya Hall

Fees for the hall hire

Non-profit organisations - \$60 including tea and coffee.

For other functions it will be \$100, included is \$40 to cover public liability insurance.

Catering \$8 a head

Community Meeting \$15

Bookings and Information contact

Kim Stewart
kstewart557@gmail.com

0412 672 629

Winter is here, time to sit in front of the fire with a good book from the Talgarno Street Library

Open all hours for everyone at the Talgarno Hall.

Bonegilla Hall

Hall available for hire.

Craft Group held every Thursday
10am-2pm.

Monthly Dance held on the 4th
Saturday of the month 8pm start.

Anyone interested in Zumba
classes?

Enquiries: 0439 186 373
Email: BonegillaHall@gmail.com

Maternal & Child Health

Do you have young children? Have you accessed Council's Maternal and Child Health Service for free health, developmental and learning checks?

Towong Council's Maternal and Child Health Service is available at Bellbridge Community Centre on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Drop in to see a qualified nurse between 9:30 am and 12:00 noon or arrange an appointment for the afternoon. Home visits can also be arranged for a time that is convenient for your family.

For more information or to make an appointment call Trudi Ellis on 6026 4228 or 0417 535 978

Babies



Michael and Bert **Wood** welcomed their second granddaughter, **Georgie Smeaton**, on the 6th May 2023. Proud parents, Jonathan and Chrissie and big sister, Annie are very excited.



Alan and Kerrie Stephenson and Geoff Blackburn and the late Lyn Blackburn of Hobart welcome grand daughter **Adelyn May Blackburn**, born 13/3/23. Proud parents Adam and Sarah are smitten.



- Lawn and garden maintenance
- Driveway and dam slashing
- Yard clean ups and more

For inquiries about lawn care services and fees call

Mark 0492 183 929

Located in Bethanga

In Memorium

Connor Craig

20/9/04 - 19/5/22



Connor was born in Wodonga and was aged 2 when his parents Amanda and Scott moved to Bellbird Park, Talgarno. He attended Bethanga primary school and transferred to St Michaels, Tallangatta in year 4. He completed his secondary school at Tallangatta Secondary College last year and was taking a gap year, working part time at Repco, before he took up his pilot training.

Connor spent 3 years in the junior CFA and was a member of the Talgarno CFA.

Connor had big plans before his life was so tragically cut short in a car crash.

The family, Amanda, Scott and brother Cody remember him as Big Boo, Bub

“There are no words to describe how we feel. How much we love and miss you, we just want you back. You should not have been taken from us so soon. You had so many more plans and adventures to come. The patrol was your pride and joy and REPCO your work and passion.

A true country boy...akubra, aviators, ariats, windows down, country music up, hitting the tracks... your freedom.

Connor, you will never be forgotten, always and forever in our hearts and minds.”

The family thank the community for the support and kindness it has shown to them by giving food, cards, flowers and words of condolence and thank the people that looked after Connor with so much care and compassion.

The Celebration of Life for Connor will be held at the Albury Entertainment Centre, Banquet Hall, Swift Street, Albury on Monday, 5th of June 2023 commencing at 11:00am.

Julie Miller in consultation with the family

Wendy Anne Hunt

9 June 1942 – 29 April 2023



Wendy Hunt, husband Barrie and children Cindy, Gary and Craig came to Talgarno in 1979 and lived at Hilltop on Murray River Road, Talgarno for 20 years.

Wendy passed away on the 29 April after a long illness.

For the first 12 months of living at Talgarno, Wendy and Barrie continued to own and run their sports store in Olive Street Albury, after which time the Sports Store was sold.

Barrie and Wendy then took on the role of milking cows for the Elwood family, which they did until selling their house and land in Talgarno and moving to Wodonga in 2000.

Wendy was a devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was a skilled and enthusiastic gardener and a generous community contributor. Wendy was also very active in Red Cross and CWA. Her involvement included her sharing her passions with Talgarno, Bethanga and Upper Murray members. Son, Gary commented ‘She was a good woman.’

Wendy was the proud grandmother of Elle, Jack and Bailey and proud great- grandmother of Hugo, Bear and Pippa. The grand children and great grand children affectionately called Wendy, ‘Nanna Goat.’ Barrie was called “Poppy Goat”

Wendy is survived by her husband Barrie, three children, three grand children three great grandchildren (and soon to be four).

Richard Wright

8/10/1937 - 30/3/2023



Born 8th October, 1937 London, Richard was one of four, two older sisters Pauline and Celia and a younger brother, Paul. They lived in London during the war when their house was bombed, receiving substantial damage, while the family was gathered in the basement below. Like many who came through the war, Richard had a propensity to hoard " you never know, one day I might just need that."

Richard felt he was blessed with a great role model and mentor in his own father who had a strong belief that women and children were to be treasured, respected and defended when necessary. These traits carried on to Richard and his sons.

Richard grew up in post-war London, entered the service as a conscripted conscientious objector and joined the medic core when he turned 21, just after he had completed his degree in Agriculture in 1958. Richard called on his medical training several times during the remainder of his life, notably being responsible for saving at least two people's lives - one in 1967 at a Somerset car accident and a second time not many years ago, when early one morning in the Myer complex he came upon someone whose heart had arrested and provided CPR until the ambulance arrived.

After basic training Richard was posted to Ireland for the majority of his term and it was while back home on furlough in 1961 that he was asked to go on a double dinner date with two girls, who were friends of an army friend. This was the night that he met the one true love of his life, Katie McArthur, youngest of seven girls. Interestingly Kate was the girl being dated, not her 'wing girl', invited along to meet Richard. Love blossomed and they were married in June 1965. Rick was born in April 1966, Adam arrived in 1967 and Hunter in 1971.

In 1968 Richard had tried to make a case of treason against the then Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, who'd had a big change of heart on his economic policy after he was elected. After putting his case to three reputable legal houses, he realised he didn't have a chance of being heard. He became disillusioned with the legal system and support for the common man with Common Law. It was perhaps this event that triggered his affinity with Guy Fawkes, which culminated with his famous trip to Canberra in 1997.

In the early '70s, feeling that England was becoming too crowded, had too many rules and restricted freedoms which would affect the family, Richard and Kate applied for and were accepted as 'Ten Pound Poms', arriving in Melbourne in November, 1973. On arrival, Richard started working for Grollo Constructions, which later became Grocon. His reputation as a person afraid of no man and only a few women, with uncommon strength and a hatred of on-site bullying, Richard eventually became one of Bruno Grollo's 'strong arms' and was known as 'Grollo's Man'.

Richard left Grocon when the company relocated to Darwin to help rebuild the city after Cyclone Tracy. Richard declined Bruno Grollo's offers to relocate, too, instead moving his family to Baranduda in 1975. During 1975 and 1976, Richard continued in the building game, working locally as a 'subby' to the likes of Jennings and a number of other local building groups.

In 1976 they moved to Talgarno for a year, finally building in Bethanga in 1977.

Through the late 70's and early 80's Richard worked at a number of large building projects in the area including Dartmouth Dam, The Mill and the building works at Bonegilla. It was during his work at Bonegilla that Richard adopted his 'fourth son', Dusty Gannon. Dusty and Richard were close friends for many years.

After his wife Kate was diagnosed with cancer and given 6 months to live, Richard went back to England with her and remained her constant caring and incredibly compassionate companion for the duration. Kate passed away in 1991. Richard returned to Bethanga and during his many years on the hall committee, was instrumental in having the stone memorial 'in memory of those who served their country' erected. He was settled in running the Bethanga Store until COVID hit and his health deteriorated, requiring him to 'call it quits'. During all his healthy years, Richard kept abreast of world news, was an avid newspaper reader and subscriber to several alternative and mainstream online news channels, often enjoying a lively chat with store patrons, locals and visitors alike.

This is a shortened version of the eulogy presented by Rick, Adam and Hunter at an afternoon tea at the Bethanga Hall on Sunday, 28th May.

Anthony John Wilson

26/8/1986 - 22/5/2023

Sadly passed away at Tatura
Dearly loved husband of Beck, father of Max and Alex.
Loved son of John and Julie (Dec) of Wises Creek Road Talgarno
Brother of Scott and Travis
Brother in law of Michell, Uncle of Will and Ella
Son in law to Dotty
He will be sadly missed by us all
Rest in peace

PLAYGROUP

Come along to Berringa Playgroup for a Mother Goose session, socialising and outdoor play!

Hosted by Bethanga Primary School alternate Mondays (excl public holidays) during Victorian school terms.

Dates: 17 July, 31 July, 14 August, 28 August, 11 September, 9 October, 23 October, 20 November, 4 December and 18 December

Time: 9.30am to 11.00am

Contact: Bethanga PS on 02 6026 4263 or Bec West on 0438 959 407 or Kate Singline on 0422 725 147

Come and join in the FUN!

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WE ARE OPEN!

Thank you so much to everyone for hanging in there with us. We appreciate all the love and support we have received so far.

OPENING HOURS:

Mon + Tue: closed

Wed + Thur + Fri: 4pm till late

Sat + Sun: 11:30am till late

Thursday night dinner - pizza - 5pm till 8pm

Friday night dinner - full menu - 5pm till 8pm

Saturday and Sunday lunch - full menu - 12pm till 2pm

Saturday dinner - full menu - 5pm till 8pm

Please be patient with us while we figure out our groove! Bookings are essential as limited space is available.

Please call 6026 4142 to book!

BETHANGA

ART IN THE AFTERNOON

Join us once a month for a Sunday afternoon of creativity and company. All levels of skill wanted! Bring whatever project you want to work on, some food or drink to share, and some money to chip in for hall hire.

Join our Facebook group by scanning the QR code below or follow www.berringacommunity.com to receive updates.

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David Cottee
PHOTOGRAPHY

Photo by David Cottee

CLUBS AND GROUPS

BERRINGA CERT

BERRINGA CERT

Defibrillators

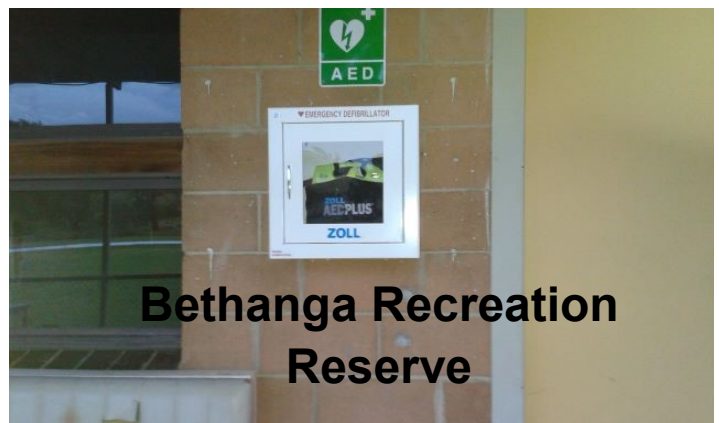
There are 6 public access defibrillators available 24/7 on the Berringa Peninsula They are all registered with 000 through Ambulance Victoria. In the event of a cardiac arrest, 000 operators will advise the caller of the location of the nearest available defibrillator.

Cardiac arrest happens when a person's heart suddenly stops beating and stops pumping blood effectively around the body. It can happen to anyone, anytime, anywhere. Bystanders starting chest compressions or CPR and using an AED can save lives.

Anyone can save a life in three simple steps. Call, Push, Shock: Call Triple Zero (000), Push hard and fast on the middle of the chest, and Shock using an AED.

Defibrillators are available 24/7 in a white box on the front walls of

- Bethanga General Store & Post Office**
- Bethanga Recreation Reserve pavilion**
- Bellbridge Community Centre**
- Bellbridge Foreshore Bus stop (near fish)**
- Granya Hall**
- Talgarno Hall**



CPR and Defibrillator Training

Cert will be conducting CPR and defibrillator training this year. We can run a session for your organisation or a group of your neighbours or friends.

Please contact Julie on 0419 339 679 or email juliemiller3691@gmail.com

The Victorian Virtual Emergency Department

Have you heard of this free service offered by the Victorian Government?

It is a public health service run out of Northern Health in Melbourne for **non-life-threatening emergencies**.

It is open 24 hours a day with medical reviews offered between 8 am – 11:30 pm 7 days a week, offering full adult and paediatric services.

No referral is necessary. Ring 03 8405 8815 Option 3

Please have any relevant information ready - name, date of birth, (Northern Health UR number if applicable) clinical problem, recent test results, key psychosocial issues and current treatment.

Information is taken from the following website:
nh.org.au/health-professionals/primary-care-liaison/emergency-department.

*Keep well,
Julie Miller,
Team Leader Berringa CERT
juliemiller3691@gmail.com
0419 339 679*

ROTARY CLUB OF BELLBRIDGE LAKE HUME INC.

The Rotary Club has deferred the Senior Citizens Christmas in July luncheon until early October as a local event part of Seniors Week in Victoria. Details will be available on Towong Shire Website and local media.

Lake Hume Fishing Classic

The Lake Hume Fishing Classic will be held on Saturday 21 October and Sunday 22 October 2023 at the Lake Hume Tourist Park. Registrations can be made at www.lakehumeclassic.com.au or register on site on Friday 29 October from 4 pm to 8 pm and Saturday 21 October 6 am to 10 am sharp. Fishing commences at 6.30m on Saturday morning and concludes a 1.30 am on Sunday morning. Meals will be available at your expense on Saturday night and Sunday lunchtime. Alcohol and soft drinks will also be available. No BYO ALCOHOL. Random spot prizes will be awarded at 8.00 pm on Saturday night. Further details about entry costs etc are available on the website.

Christmas Carols

Christmas Carols will be held at the Lake Hume Boat Club on Sunday, December 3 commencing at 6.00 pm. Format as normal, with BBQ sausage and drink supplied for a gold coin donation Santa will also appear as normal.

*Regards
Andrew Christy*

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BETHANGA CRICKET CLUB

PRESIDENT: Jack Robinson 0488 995 256
SECRETARY: Jess Sirl 0427 401 849
TREASURER: Kristian Jahne 0419 021 901
COACH: Brett Gilbee 6026 4481

PENINSULA MEN'S SHED



6 Sirl Street, Bethanga

Anyone interested in joining the group would be most welcome. It's a great way to share and learn from each other, at the same time as being a social outing.

The Men's Shed is open every Wednesday from 9 am until 6 pm (depending on attendance). You are welcome to come along and get involved in Men's Shed projects or create your own. The men at the shed could do a project or repair job for you or just come along for a cuppa and a chat.

Member meetings are held at the shed on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.30 am

Phil Craig, President
0427 632 575

TALGARNO TENNIS CLUB

Adam Richardson (Secretary)
0412 560 833

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and fuel reduction, Firebreaks

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BETHANGA CFA



Fire calls 000
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Victorian Bush Fire Information 1800 240
667
All Peninsula Fire Units - UHF 24

CALL OUTS

15th February 2023 Bethanga
Bridge, Bellbridge

Report for a truck striking the
Bethanga Bridge. Brigade was called
off before responding. An overheight vehicle struck the
gantry. No damage to the bridge.



17th February 2023 Murray River Road, Talgarno

Assist Talgarno with motor vehicle accident on Murray
River Road. Nil injuries

23rd February 2023 Murray River Road, Talgarno

Assist Talgarno with grass and scrub fire at Merkels
Reserve

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Brigade has attended the
Berringa Community Markets
and Bethanga Gymkhana. Here
we talked to residents about
bushfire safety plan and
preparing properties to be more
resilient for fires. In our
conversations, we believe that
effort needs to be made into
understanding the new Australian Fire Danger Ratings
and what actions should be implemented at each rating.
Look forward to this as summer approaches later in the
year.



Bethanga district run

1st Wed of the month

Also the 3rd Wed of the month during Aug-Oct

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SMOKE ALARMS

Are you sick of hearing the sound of a nagging smoke alarm? Change your old smoke alarms to a new unit with a lithium battery that has a 10-year lifespan.

New smoke alarms that have a 10-year lifespan ensure families can feel the highest level of security. Working smoke alarms are your best defence against preventable residential fires, especially during the night, when people lose their sense of smell. These new alarms provide the security of knowing you and your family are protected, while also ensuring you're not interrupted every year by a nagging smoke alarm.



Smoke alarms beep loudly when there is a fire

Smoke alarms for people who are deaf or hard of hearing

Specialised smoke alarms are available for people who may have difficulty hearing standard smoke alarms and evacuation systems.

The main body of the unit looks like a normal smoke alarm on your ceiling. The other parts are a strobe light (sight) and a vibrating pad (tactile) for your bed. In the event of a fire, all alarms will sound, the lights will flash, and the vibrating pad will activate.

Specialised alarms can be interconnected with conventional audible alarms in different locations within the home.

Due to the cost of this type of alarm, a Smoke Alarm Subsidy is available. Find out if you are eligible for the Smoke Alarm Subsidy via Expression Australia. (<https://www.expression.com.au/services/support-for-seniors-over-65/smoke-alarm-subsidy>)

BRIGADE TRAINING



A 12-month training calendar is being implemented to give our members opportunities for regular training. Training is tentatively scheduled for the 1st Thursday of the month but may be alternated to include weekends. Focus will switch from bushfire/grass fire training to more structural and other higher-risk areas that we will be facing over winter.

The Brigade also visited the Tallangatta SES unit on the 21st March. We participated in training for Road Rescue and it was encouraging to see how well we worked cooperatively together.

DISTRICT 24 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bethanga and Talgarno hosted the D24 Brigade Championships at the Bethanga Recreation Reserve on Sunday, 26th February 2023.

The Brigade's teams performed well with the Seniors finishing 1st in the D24 Aggregate as well as being awarded a 2nd place and a 3rd place medal in individual events. The juniors also picked up two 3rd placed medals in individual events.

The teams also competed in the D23 Championships at Springhurst the following week. The juniors medalled in two events, while the seniors picked up three medals.



Well done to our teams and we're looking forward to next year already.

We invite all members of the community to join our team. If you would like to be involved, please contact the Brigade.

VIC EMERGENCY APP AND WEBSITE



We encourage everyone to install the Vic Emergency App on your smart phone if you have one. This is the fastest way to get up to date information about fires in your area. You can set a watch zone and choose which types of emergency's you would like to be notified about in that zone. For those without a smart phone you can access that Vic

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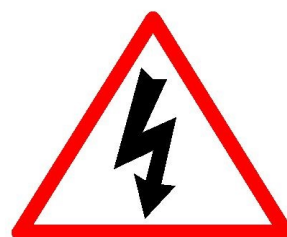
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Daniel 0428 027 552

George 0405 03 25 03

Email: electrical@stahl.net.au

ABN 73 151 688863 Licence: VIC 19111 / NSW 241395 C



Emergency website at www.emergency.vic.gov.au or if there is an emergency warning in your area you can listen to your local ABC radio for updates.

CONTACTS

Shane Bracegirdle, Captain 0459 362 395

bethangacfacaptain@gmail.com

Jess Ellison, Secretary

bethangacfasecretary@gmail.com

Mel Naismith, Community Safety Liaison 0428 191 283

BETHANGA-TALGARNO JUNIOR CFA BRIGADE

JOINING THE JUNIOR BRIGADE

If you are 11 to 15 years old (or are turning 11 soon) and are interested in joining the junior brigade, please get in contact using the details provided below.

CONTACTS

John Northey

0414 931 442

bethangatalgarnojuniors@gmail.com

TALGARNO RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Michael Elliot, Captain, 0407 201 169

Jess Lieschke Secretary

talgarfnrbsecretary@gmail.com,

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Email: Administrator@humeboatclub.com

BETHANGA RECREATION RESERVE

Ross Mitchell - Chairperson, Jo Sirl - Treasurer, Robyn Weddall - Secretary, David Elder, Brett Gilbee, John Northey, Chris Weddall, Tracey Woodhouse. (The Committee).

Welcome to our winter 2023 Bethanga Recreation Reserve Berringa News Report.

Things have been relatively quiet since the successful running of the Bethanga Gymkhana at Easter time.

Congratulations to the Easter Bethanga Gymkhana Committee, Rec Reserve Committee and all the other user groups and volunteers who assisted in preparations for the days before, management assistance on the day, and post-clean-up duties and reviews. Well done to all involved with lots of great feedback. Such a great family and community day.

Please keep your eye out for all the user groups who utilise the Rec Reserve. There are often events on for the community or you to be involved in, should you wish to.

Main User Groups or special event days, apart from the Gymkhana, are Peninsula Markets, Tennis Club, Bethanga Cricket Club and Cricket Albury Wodonga, Bethanga CFA, Berringa Community Network, Bushwhackers Motorhome Group, SR500 Motorcycle Club, to name just a few. Keep your eye out on social media and in the Berringa Community News for all details of events.

The weather season so far has been relatively good for the Reserve. Lots of rain and water, with splashes of greatly appreciated sunshine. This has meant that the grounds look in relatively good condition. We still have our erosion and flood damage issues, with quite extensive storm damage, particularly, around our bridge crossings and creek waterways. We are still trying to ascertain the full extent of the damage and are working with the relevant authorities to keep everything in order and look at what we can do for restoration and repairs.

We are currently working closely with DECCA (Department of Energy Environment and Climate Action) who are assisting us in getting a grant to do some drainage repairs around the oval and surrounds. Fingers crossed on this one that they are looking at us favorably to get some financial support to get some rectification works completed. If the work goes ahead over the next months, we will ask that all public and users be careful about safety and be patient with us, as we may have earthmoving equipment and contractors working at the reserve. Dates to be advised after successful receipt of approval of the grant.

Finally, later this year in the coming months we will be looking at having an annual general meeting (date to be advised). Some community members wish to be involved on the Bethanga Recreation Reserve Committee. Should you wish to participate and/or know someone who wishes to be a committee member or assist in volunteering and management of the Recreation Reserve, please contact us.

For All Communications please email: bethangareserve@gmail.com

For and on behalf of the Bethanga Recreation Reserve Committee

Ross Mitchell - Chairperson 0418215076.
Bethanga Recreation Reserve Committee

BETHANGA GOLF CLUB



Springdale Road Bethanga

It has taken hours and hours of volunteer work over the last months (and years) from the new Committee and generous community members. However, supported by two \$5000 grants through the Springdale Rec Reserve from the Towong Shire Community Recovery Fund for the kitchen refurb and a water tank and pump, many meat raffles (with thanks to the Bethanga Hotel) and donations of items... our clubrooms are magnificent and our fairways and greens the envy of the North East.



After a huge renovation inside and a refurbished outdoor area we have a place where golfers of all skill levels, those who think they might like to swing a stick at a little ball, and people who love a walk, fresh air, beautiful surrounds and company can gather.

Conversations in our comfy lounge area around our wood fire, and gathering around the fire drums outside will keep you warm before or after you play.

The course is open from May – October with annual social and full playing memberships available now, contact us via



hello@bethangagolf.club or by Messenger.



The clubrooms can be hired for events, there are events the club will be holding over the year and lots of opportunity to really grow this community asset.

Annual sponsorship packages with a focus on promoting local businesses and very cool merch options are

being finalised. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for club info, updates and how you can join the fun <https://www.facebook.com/thebethangagolfclub>

Next event is the annual Sponsors Day 3 Player Ambrose on July 1st. See posters around towns and the Facebook page for info and registration details.

Opening Hours for Golf - Anytime.

\$10 donation can be placed in the box. Cards and envelopes provided.
Refreshments are available Saturdays and Sundays 12 pm - 8 pm.

Peter Star 0429 436 347

9 HOLE GOLF COURSE

PARTY VENUE HIRE

Social events & BBQs
Regular ladies golf
Family's & kids

Springdale Rd
(6km from Bethanga)

 [Chat to us on Facebook](#)



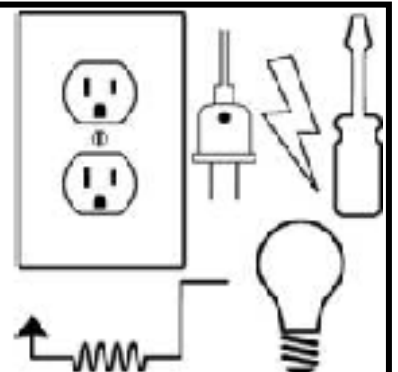
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PALMS

PENINSULA ACTIVITY, LAUGHTER, MOVEMENT & SOCIABLE

Run by Tallangatta Health Service, this group provides a range of activities with a chance to meet new people and make new friends, a great avenue for companionship and keeping active in the community.

When: 1st & 3rd Wednesday

Time: Starts 2 pm

Where: Bethanga Hall

For more information contact the MCHC office on Ph(02) 6071 5238 for further details

POLE WALKERS

On Wednesdays at 10:00 am during winter (9:00 am in summer), a group of locals meet to walk with poles around the scenic spots of our Peninsula. Pole walking uses up approx. 20% more calories than just ordinary walking and you use approx. 80% more of your body muscles. You feel terrific at the end of an hour, not only from the exercise but the friendly company. If you wish to become a pole walker, give us a call.

Joan Elliot 6020 1177

BONEGILLA HALL CRAFT GROUP

Come along to our craft group session every THURSDAY (excluding school holidays). Bring all those UFOs along and enjoy a bit of laughter.

10:00 am to 2:00 pm; Cost \$4.00, includes tea or coffee. Bring along your lunch.

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Wises Creek Talgarno Landcare Group

What magnificent weather! Beautiful days although a little chilly to start and green grass everywhere. Many of the newly sown pastures have been grazed and are thriving.

We have recently had the Wises Creek Talgarno Landcare AGM and even though we did not get any nominations for secretary on the night, I am delighted to say we have had the position filled now.

Our new Committee is:

President	Jim de Hennin
Secretary	Jessica Furst
Treasurer	Hugh Dunchue
Committee	Julie Miller, Ben Clifton, Kyle Leischke, Trevor Hall, Malcolm & Gabby Ware and Michael Trewin.

We are looking forward to a great year with many fresh ideas and working collaboratively with the team.

Our AGM guest speaker was Karen Retra, who spoke to us about Native Pollinators.

We have also applied for some funding for various projects with a huge amount of help from our local M2M Landcare Facilitator Simon Feillafe (0438190999).

We continue to ask our members to suggest projects/ ideas so the committee can make relevant and valuable funding submissions. All ideas are greatly appreciated for consideration.

We have also written a letter of support for our Talgarno School in their efforts in applying for a Biodiversity grant. Fingers crossed we are successful in this endeavor.

With some funding from NECMA we are getting a brand new pull-up banner that we can use at any of the functions we run. Another component of this funding is for us to redevelop our Strategy and Action Plan at a date in the near future, so we would love member input and suggestions. We will keep you informed of the date.

We have seen an increase in new members, which is fantastic, so please keep in touch and if you know of anyone else who may be interested please let us know.

Mitta to Murray Landcare Network Inc. had a great display at the Tallangatta Expo where we showcased local Landcare. We also worked very closely with wonderful support Groups such as NECMA, Agriculture Victoria, Parks Victoria, DEECA.

A very big thanks to all who participated and we look forward to a great year

Jim de Hennin 0408978847
Jessica Furst 0400357634
Hugh Dunchue 0488257177
Simon Feillafe 0438190999

Bethanga Landcare Group.

What a great season it has been and it is so nice to have the lake full over summer. Our native grasses such as Wallaby grass, Red-leg grass, Weeping grass, Kangaroo grass, Windmill grass and Spear grass have thrived over the Spring and Summer. Encouraged by the abundant native grass, the Bethanga Landcare Group recently held a successful Native Pasture Management field day to explore the different species and how to best utilise them. An expert, Dr Meredith Mitchell, spoke about and demonstrated native pasture species. This was followed by a social luncheon and was an informative and enjoyable day.



Native pasture field day

followed by planning the following activities:

- National Tree Day community planting - provisionally 30 July
- Tree and shrub giveaway (predominantly native that are suitable for planting in urban areas, and are colourful and bird attracting) - provisionally 29 July



Tree giveaway - Woolly grevillea

We also had a social get together over dinner at our last meeting where we enjoyed a home cooked dinner

- Application for grants for:
 - revegetation projects on five private properties
 - Field days
- Installation of nest boxes on two private properties (excellent guidelines for Artificial Hollows can be obtained at the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust website <https://www.bct.nsw.gov.au/>, or directly at https://www.bct.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-08/BCT_Artificial%20Hollow%20Guidelines_Final%20for%20publication.pdf)



- Facilitation and preparation of a Strategic Plan. This is organised and funded by Mitta to Murray Landcare Inc. and will be run later in the year. David Hardwick will facilitate this activity. David is from a consultancy group called 'Soil Land Food'. This group specialises in capacity building, training, consulting and extension for farmers, graziers and rural communities (covering soils, regenerative and organic farming systems, composting, rural landscapes, food systems and rural change). See www.soilandfood.com.au
- The Junior Landcare Program was also discussed. The Bethanga Primary School children already have some interaction with Landcare with an

annual tree planting that is very popular with the children. Junior Landcare helps children learn how to care for their local environment, explores First Nations perspectives, and helps to bring the concept of sustainability into classrooms across Australia. More discussion and work is required to see if this feasible. Meanwhile BLG is updating our Child Safety Policy in line with Landcare Victoria's guidelines. See <https://juniorlandcare.org.au/>



If you are interested in any of the above activities contact BLG at bethangalandcaregroup@gmail.com

Berringa Community News

The Berringa Community news is published four times per year at the beginning of each season

Deadlines for articles and advertising for 2023/24 editions are:

- Spring 2023 - 13 August
- Summer 2023 - 12 November
- Autumn 2024 - 11 February
- Winter 2024 - 13 May



Firewood Collection

Firewood collection season is now open and will run until the end of June.

Firewood can be collected on designated Towong Shire Council roads during this period with a permit.

To find out the areas in which you can and can't collect firewood plus all of the relevant permit information, head to tinyurl.com/firewoodcollection



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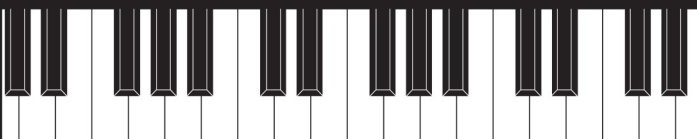
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*"When Local Knowledge Really
Counts"*

The centre has been a hive of activity with some of the highlights from the past months including celebrating Easter, ANZAC day, St. Patrick's Day, Compost Week and 'Do it for Dolly Day'.

The Melbourne Museum – Dinosaur and Fossil incursion was a massive hit with the children. They were full of curiosity and wonder with the visiting facilitator explaining how fossils are formed, lots of information about different dinosaurs and then everyone was measured against a Tsintaosaurus spinorhinus leg. The children were enamoured with the way they could touch and feel the fossils which included a dinosaur poo, a Megalodon and T-Rex tooth to name a few.

The theme for the Long Day Care room this term is jungle and zoo animals, which builds on several family's adventures to the Zoo and animal sanctuaries. Children are busy making art to feature in their own 'zoo', which last week included collage frogs. In the kinder room, the children have been busy exploring box construction creating all kinds of new inventions and art pieces. There has also been a focus on learning about rhyming words and opposites.

New Softfall was delivered to the centre which had everyone from children, facilitators and parents involved in the spreading process. Thank you all!



The Friends of BEYLC have also had a busy start to the year. Thank you to everyone who supported our bulb fundraiser. We made over \$540 which is most exciting and will go towards future resources for the children. Our current fundraiser is a wood raffle which will be drawn on Thursday 1st June – just in time for winter. Tickets can be bought from parents whose children attend the centre.

We are excited to announce too, that we will be hosting a 'Little Kids Big Art Show' at the Centre on Friday July 21st. This will be an exhibition celebrating our little artists, with the children working on producing some special art pieces for the event. Drinks and nibbles will be provided as we hope to put on a fun event for the whole family!

If you would like to know more about the centre and the programs they run, please contact Amanda, Team Leader: Amanda.armstrong@towong.vic.gov.au or call 02 6026 4373.



School Values

RAPPORT – **R**espect **A**cceptance **P**ersistence
Pride **O**ptimism **R**esilience **T**ruth



Our Purpose We provide all students from Bethanga, Bellbridge and beyond with an inspiring and responsive curriculum to promote thinking and encourage curiosity. We nurture individual talents and needs in our setting underpinned by high expectations, quality opportunities and caring personalized attention in order for our children to reach their full academic and social potential.



Term 2 has been action packed... so much learning happening in the classroom and beyond!

It was wonderful to see the return of the Bethanga Anzac Day Service – a time to reflect and acknowledge those that have served our Country in the past and present.

We've had time spent learning and enjoying experiences with our Cluster friends at a Wellbeing focused and STEM focused Cluster Day.

Our Student Leaders in grade 5/6 were active participants in a GRIP Student Leadership Conference – an interactive experience boasting confidence in leading others and gaining strategies in supporting younger students to contribute authentic student voice.

Through Sporting Schools funding our students participated in Tennis coaching which was a highlight for many and through the purchase of tennis resources, they are now able to continue to improve their skills!

We have 9 students preparing through weekly rehearsals (+ 4 regional rehearsals) to participate in the Victorian State School Spectacular in September – an AMAZING experience coming together with 2,000 students from around the State.

Learning through experience, explicit instruction and fun! Bethanga Primary is the place to be! 😊

Rachel Saunders



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Berringa Community News is a community initiative. Published articles and advertisements are submitted by members of the community and as such are not necessarily the work or views of the editors.

The editorial team reserves the right to decide on the content and size of any articles or advertisements submitted.

Editorial Team- Julie Miller (0419 339 679),
Elizabeth Wood, Di Singline (0452 424 248)
Kerrie Stephenson, Julie de Hennin, Lea Casey,
Jacki Eckhert
Treasurer- Kerrie Stephenson 6020 1146

Advertising

Firstly, the Editorial Team wish to thank our advertisers – without your advertisements in our community newsletter – there would be no newsletter!

The 2023 Advertising rates

\$120 Full page

\$60 half page

\$40 third page

\$30 quarter page

\$15 Business card size

Classified Advertisements are \$2.00 each.

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Berringa Community News Distribution

The newsletter is distributed by volunteers to mail boxes where they are available. Copies will be placed in PO boxes for residents in Bethanga township or they can be can picked up at the General store. For those in Granya with PO boxes copies are available in the community mailbox at the Granya Hall.

We would like to thank Rosemary McFarland, Bob Singline, Mary Schorobura, Bethanga PO, Talgaro mail contractors and Michael Wood for their ongoing support in delivering the Berringa Community News

The newsletter is also available in colour on line at www.berringacommunitynews.com.au

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If you have a story to tell, information to share with our community, photos of local events or scenes please contact one of the team. Alternatively you can email articles or pictures to info@berringacommunitynews.com.au



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