

# Berringa Community News

Spring 2023

News and views from the residents of Bellbridge, Bethanga,  
Granya & Talgarno

Circulation: 550

ABN: 96 071 800 843

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



## 3 Halls Project Launch

In July a ceremony was held at Bethanga Hall to celebrate the first sod being turned on the Three Halls Project. The project is funded with a Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grant won by Bethanga Landcare, the Berringa Peninsula Community Network, Landcare Victoria Inc., and the Bethanga, Talgarno, and Granya Halls Committees.

The community has partnered with TVN On-Country Pty Ltd, a Wodonga-based Indigenous construction company, to carry out the work. TVN On-Country is committed to closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous employment rates. It provides work experience, training, education, and employment for youth in the construction industry. It is providing free project management of the 3 Halls Project as part of its commitment to rural and regional communities recovering from the devastating bushfires of 2019-20. Representatives from the Bethanga, Talgarno and

Granya townships pushed the need for the refurbishment of their community halls, to ensure that there is a genuinely safe community area to come to in an emergency event.

TVN On-Country Managing Director, proud Wiradjuri man, Jebb Hutchison, introduced Duduroa Dhargal Aboriginal Corporation, Elders Uncle Alan Murray and Uncle Phil Murray who led the Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony to wish the project great success. We heard from speakers Jim de Hennin, Vice President of the Three Halls Committee, Jane Carney, the Chair of Landcare Victoria and Dr Helen Haines MP, Independent Federal Member for Indi, about the importance of town halls in each community. Dr Haines recalled being at Granya Hall during the bushfires and witnessing first-hand the number of locals utilising the facility.

*Continued p2*

# 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@beringacommunitynews.com.au](mailto:info@beringacommunitynews.com.au) or post/drop in to 341 Wises Creek Road, Talgarno.



3 Halls Project Working Committee with Dr Helen Haines at project launch

Jane Carney, the Chair of Landcare Victoria , Jim de Hennin, Vice President of the Three Halls Working Group, Darcy Collins Partnear, Ron Evans Bethanga Hall, Joe Calvert 3 Halls Working Group Secretary, Meagan Ablett TVN-on-Country Administrator, Kim Stewart Granya Hall, Julie Miller Talgarno Hall, Graham Maynard Bethanga Hall, Helen Haines MP, Independent Federal Member for Indi, Gareth Vannoort, Operations Manager TVN-on-Country

As much of the work involves the exterior of the halls visible progress will not be seen until the weather warms up in October.

*Julie Miller*

## 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](https://mailchi.mp/towong/subscribe)

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

towongshire 

# The 3rd Annual Bethanga Primary School Art

The 3rd Annual Bethanga Primary School Art Show was held on the first weekend in August and was, again, a fantastic success. More than 80 people came along to Opening Night, sharing an evening of great company as well as a delicious spread of food and drinks. Over 150 pieces from 30 local artists were on display, alongside creative works by the Bethanga Primary School students, with the range of mediums expanding this year to include painting, drawing, photography, mosaic, textile art and ceramic sculpture. Some friendly competition and lively bidding resulted in all 14 auction pieces selling at or above reserve and a great deal of the remaining artworks found new homes over the course of the evening.

The lovely weather on Saturday drew out more visitors – both locals and from further afield – with more artworks sold and bids placed on the many silent auction items available (all of which were generously donated by local businesses).

Thanks to the incredible support of our talented local artists and wonderful community, approximately \$11,500 was raised for the school, which will be used to purchase STEM resources and more. The school is particularly grateful for the support of the Berringa Peninsula Community Network and Emergency Recovery Victoria which granted \$1,480 of funding in light of the event's aims of encouraging community connectedness, social cohesion and supporting wellbeing.

If any local creatives are interested in being part of the next Art Show, please contact Kate Singline ([katesingline@hotmail.com](mailto:katesingline@hotmail.com)) so you can be included on the email list. And to all the community who supported the event in any way, on behalf of all the staff and students at Bethanga Primary School – "THANK YOU"!

*Kate Singline*



# The Bethanga General Store – the story continues...

The Bethanga General Store which has been completely revitalized over the past couple of years, has a new direction. Dave and Kate Barrow and family have taken over the running of the Store and are very keen to see it continue to grow and meet the needs of the local community.

The Store will be open from 7 am – 4 pm Monday to Friday and from 8 am – 2 pm on weekends. The great coffee continues, and with a new all-day menu,

Dave is welcoming those driving to work and the morning walkers to grab coffee and breakfast on the way past. Just ring through on 6026 4223 and it can be waiting for you. For those working at home, come down for morning tea or lunch. There is free Wi-Fi so you can also work from there for a bit if you need a change of scenery.

The Monday- Friday lunch orders for Bethanga Primary School will continue, with changes in menu options on the way.



Dave and Kate's vision is for the Store to be a place to sit and connect; warm and welcoming with great food. Already it is a place for smaller community groups to hold meetings and the Co-sharing Space for local artists on Mondays is continuing. They are very open to hearing suggestions and feedback from community members as to what they would like to see in the Store. This could be menu items, products for sale and the helpful line of groceries for those who forgot bits when shopping in town. In the future, there is potential for a community share table for fresh produce.

Drop in and say hello, have a great bite to eat and keep supporting our local businesses.



6026 4223

## Springdale Recreation Reserve

Expressions of interest are invited for the purchase of hay from the Springdale Recreation Reserve.

Hay will be available in small square and large round bales.

Please direct all enquiries to the Secretary at 0429 436 347.

# Welcome to the Store Next Door

The Bethanga Post Office has moved into its new home in The Store Next Door. I am enjoying being in this new space and am looking forward to being able to add another small business to the heart of our bustling village.

There is still a fully operational LPO offering postal services, banking and bill payments as well as a few new ideas. There is a slight change to the opening hours, now 10 am to 4 pm Monday to Friday and 9 am to 12 pm Saturday.

Soon you will find a beautiful selection of local artists' works hanging on the gallery wall. I am continuously amazed at the number of creative people living in our area and hope to be able to showcase this to visitors to the town.

I plan to embrace my history in dress making and work towards offering a Repairs, Mending and Alterations service to help people extend the life of their favourite items of clothing. I also plan to sell a range of quality preloved clothes and goods with a focus on vintage and other interesting pieces. These will be sold both instore and online.

Also don't forget our Artist Garden afternoon is happening from 1 pm to 4 pm at the Bethanga General Store on Monday afternoons. Anyone is welcome to come and work on a project or just come for a chat and a cuppa.

Dave Elder has been working hard on installing the new ramp on the front of The Store Next Door which will greatly improve accessibility for everyone.

Once again I wish Dave and Kate all the best with The Bethanga General Store. They have been doing a fantastic job so far and I'm sure it will continue to be a great success.

New Post Office Ph. 0419 651 859



## Berringa Community News

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

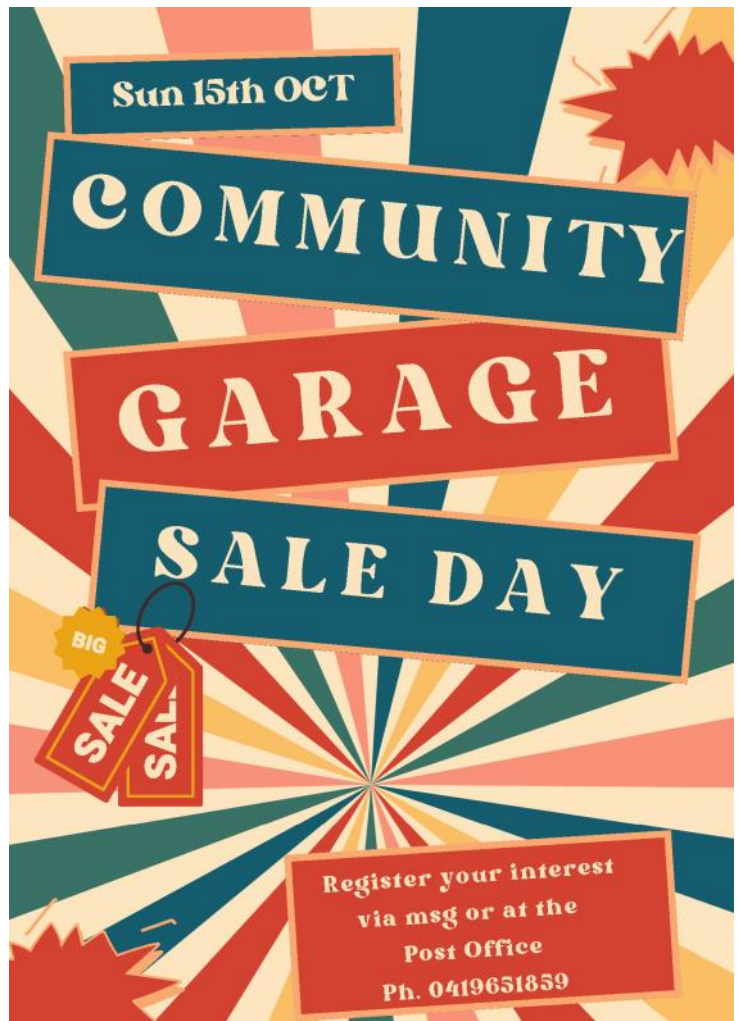
### Deadlines for articles and advertising for 2023/24 editions are:

Summer 2023 - 12 November

Autumn 2024 - 11 February

Winter 2024 - 13 May

Spring 2024 - 11 August





## Celebrate Spring at the Peninsula Seasonal Market - A Day of Delightful Discoveries!

Get ready to embrace the beauty of spring at the upcoming Peninsula Seasonal Market, happening on Sunday, September 10th, from 9 am to 1 pm. Held at the scenic Bethanga Recreational Reserve, this event promises a vibrant experience for all.

Enjoy live musical performances, engage in complimentary kids' art activities, and revel in the magic of face painting. Satisfy your cravings with an array of food trucks and coffee vans. Explore a diverse collection of stalls featuring locally crafted treasures. From plants to ceramics, candles to soaps, and baby items, jewelry, dog treats, picnic rugs, and much more.

Join us for a day of springtime fun and festivities!

## The Way We Were - Water Tower Wodonga

This Article was reported in the Border Morning Mail 100 years ago, and we will be celebrating the opening of Wodonga's Historic Water Tower in 2024



I want to add our urgent need for volunteers. I must say, as I show our visitors around our extensive collection, I hear their stories of times gone by, and quite often we learn more by listening to their stories.

If you have an interest in local history and would like to add to our team, please call me, Marie on 0412 264 238.

The collection is open, Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Wednesday from 10am -3pm.

I will look forward to seeing or hearing from you.

Marie Elliot  
Wodonga & District Historical Society.

### WODONGA WATER TOWER Wodonga Historical Society

#### 01A - 7<sup>th</sup> APRIL 1923 - SELECTION OF WATER TOWER SITE

*Border Morning Mail*

Wodonga's Shire President, Cr. Thos. Ryan, told the Council meeting that in company with Mr D. A. Smith, (the Water Trust Engineer), and Councillors Whan and Twomey, he selected the site for the proposed Water Tower at the south end of Woodland Grove, which position is considered to be the more suitable from every point of view.

#### 01B - 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL 1923 - TURNING THE FIRST SOD ... "TAME"

*Border Morning Mail*

The turning of the first shovel full of dust in connection with the Water Tower, which is to be erected at the junction of Hovell Street and Railway Street, passed off very "tamely" yesterday.

#### 01C - 25<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 1923 - WODONGA WATER TOWER

*Border Morning Mail*

The total height of the Wodonga Water Tower and tank is 103feet, but 3feet of this is below ground level.

The structure rests upon a block of solid concrete 2feet deep and 30feet in diameter. Under this is a foundation of sand fillings 4feet deep.

The cylindrical tower is 77feet 4inches high and 20feet in diameter, the wall having a thickness of 8inches.

There are three floors, each having a window.

The landings are of concrete, four inches thick.

Rising through the centre is an octagonal concrete column 22inches in diameter, which assists in supporting the tank.

Near the bottom of the tank is a balcony, 3feet 6inches wide.

Having a height of 22feet 8inches and a diameter of 27feet the tank will hold 75,000 gallons of water, which is estimated to be the daily requirement of the town.

The thickness of the tank bottom is 12inches; that of the wall tapers from seven inches at the base to four inches at the top.

The whole is of reinforced concrete, and the necessary care having been used to obtain an even foundation there is no ground for the alarm which some have expressed.

180 cubic yards of reinforced concrete were used in the construction of the tower and 70 cubic yards in the tank bowl.

In addition, seven tons of steel were used.

The tank will be supplied by an 8inch pipe.

The pumping will be done at the Murray River; but a ball valve at the top of the tank will automatically stop the pump when capacity has been reached.

This is the third highest elevated tank in Australia - the higher two are in South Australia - and its capacity is exceeded only by that of a South Australian tank.

The contract price was £3,000.

# News from Talgarno Recreation Reserve Committee of Management (CoM)

The CoM has had great support from a recently established fund-raising sub-committee and the community is already benefitting. This group of younger people who are not on the committee itself have been looking out for good ideas and finding funds to turn these ideas into events. They have already organised two Paint and Sip days at the hall, a disco for kids is planned for September 8, a very exciting hypnosis evening for November 18 and a trivia night for next autumn.

There have been a few hiccups in getting the courts back in use but we are almost there now. The tennis club got stuck into tidying up the site and they are now in the process of working out what they want to do with the club house which was unfortunately flooded as a result of changed drainage conditions. The plan is that they will present their ideas to the CoM and we will work with them so that the club and the community get the result they seek.

In a recent very positive meeting with the Acting CEO and full council of Towong Shire, the CoM had the opportunity to thank council for its support for the tennis court project and the BBQ shelter. We were also able to reach agreement on re-design of the playground, including replacement of dangerous soft fall barrier with concrete curbing, improved access to the kitchen through re-positioning of some playground equipment and installation of better drainage between the courts and the

playground. The CoM was also advised that the Council is very supportive of the idea that public toilets be installed on the Reserve and will be coming back to us with some possibilities. The CoM will be consulting with the community to help determine its position on this proposal.

The Three Halls Project expects that work will start on the Talgarno Hall by November after the planned Hypnosis Event on November 18. This project will make a huge difference to the functionality of the hall by replacing air conditioners, installing insulation, turning the kitchen into a commercial kitchen and allowing its use as a small meeting room, improving lighting and replacing louvres amongst other things.

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, September 3, 2023 although this may be re-scheduled.

*Greg Hayes and Mari Jones*

*On behalf of the Talgarno Recreation Reserve Committee of Management*

*[talgarnorecreationreserve@gmail.com](mailto:talgarnorecreationreserve@gmail.com)*



**HYPNOSIS NIGHT FUNDRAISER**  
AT  
TALGARNO HALL

**TICKETS \$45**

**HYPNOTIST MAT SHIRLEY**

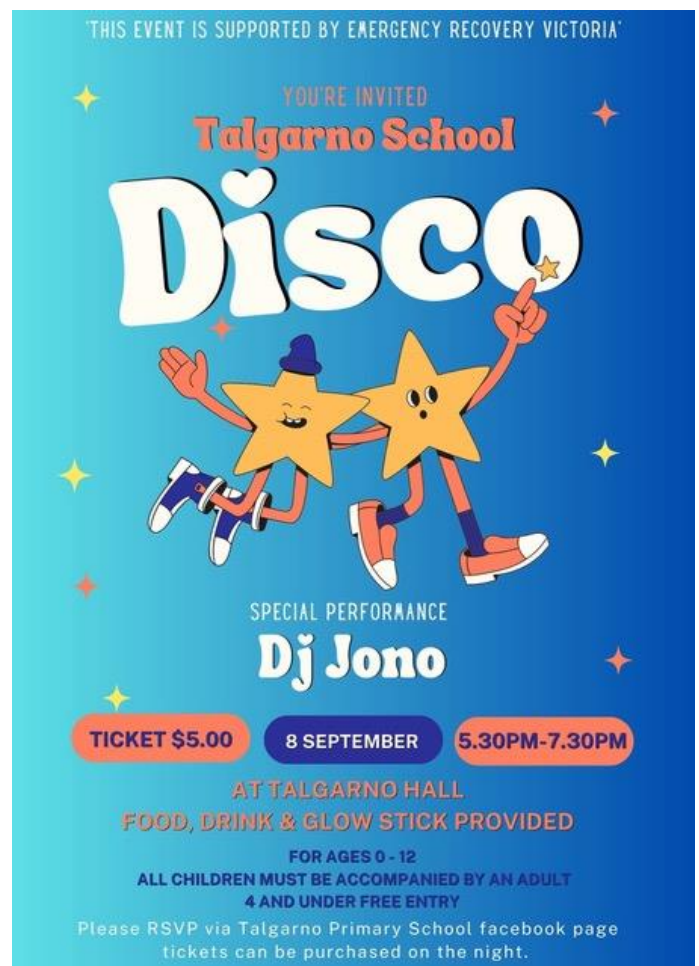
**SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 6PM**

BBQ DINNER SUPPLIED 6-7PM  
SHOW TO FOLLOW  
DRINKS @ BAR PRICES (NO BYO)

EMAIL: [TALGARNORECREATIONRESERVE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TALGARNORECREATIONRESERVE@GMAIL.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: [HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM.AU/E/696419287837?AFF=ODDTCREATOR](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/E/696419287837?AFF=ODDTCREATOR)

PROCEEDS GOING TO TALGARNO RECREATION RESERVE & TALGARNO PRIMARY SCHOOL



THIS EVENT IS SUPPORTED BY EMERGENCY RECOVERY VICTORIA

YOU'RE INVITED  
**Talgarno School**

**Disco**

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE  
**Dj Jono**

**TICKET \$5.00** **8 SEPTEMBER** **5.30PM-7.30PM**

**AT TALGARNO HALL**  
**FOOD, DRINK & GLOW STICK PROVIDED**

**FOR AGES 0 - 12**  
**ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT 4 AND UNDER FREE ENTRY**

Please RSVP via Talgarno Primary School facebook page  
tickets can be purchased on the night.

# Unlucky Break Leads to Career Success



Most of our readers probably know Bethanga's former publican, Leslie Smith. What many of our community may not know is that Leslie's daughter, Katrina, is very prominent in the world of women's soccer in Australia.

Katrina moved to Bethanga with her parents in 1995 at the age of 12 and attended Wodonga Secondary College. Kat participated in little athletics from an early age and was very successful, one of her strongest events being javelin. A broken arm put paid to that discipline and her mother, Leslie, suggested that Kat pick a sport that didn't require her to use her arm. Hence Kat started playing soccer and according to Leslie, she took to soccer like a "duck to water". It wasn't long before Kat was playing representative soccer at a state level for both Victoria and NSW. After finishing Year 12, Kat moved to Deakin University at Burwood where she studied Applied Science in Human Movement. After completing her degree, she did a Dip Ed in Health and PE Fitness at the RMIT.

Kat spent four years from January 2006 as the Talented Player Development Manager for Football Federation Victoria. In October 2014 she took on the role of Technical Director at Green Gully Secondary College and in 2015 she became U19 Girls' Football Assistant Team Manager at School Sport Victoria.

In 2016 Kat started as the Technical Director at Galaxy United FC in the National Women's Premier League, graduating to the role of senior head coach the following year.

From there Kat went to Melbourne Victory Football Club where she had roles as the Westfield Women's League assistant coach and later as the interim head coach. It was here that she also spent time working with Ange Postecoglou. In 2019 Kat went to the Alamein Football club as the senior head coach. During this time she also had roles at the SEDA College Vic. as a Teacher (high performance programme) and Facilitator, Trainer and Assessor.

With Football Australia she has been an Opposition Analyst and Performance Analyst.

Kat is currently the head senior coach of the women's team at the Western Sydney Wanderers FC in the Liberty A League. She is also involved in the AIS Next Generation 2032 Coach Program as a scholarship holder and the FIFA Coach Mentorship Program.

In 2018 Kat was named the Female Coach of the Year and was called on to join the Matildas' technical staff as a forward scout.

What a wonderful career Kat has forged for herself, blending her love for teaching with her love for football (soccer) – a great achievement all round!

*Bob Singline*



## Accessibility and Inclusion Plan

Tallangatta Health Service is reviewing and updating our Accessibility and Inclusion Plan which seeks to identify and address barriers to access and equity across all of our organisation's services. The Plan aligns with our Strategic Direction and reflects the priority areas of the Victorian State Disability Action Plan (2022-2026). Any community members wishing to participate in our reflection or contribute feedback regarding access to our services would be most welcome to email ([vicki.pitcher@ths.org.au](mailto:vicki.pitcher@ths.org.au)) or call to speak with the CEO.

## Building works

Tallangatta Health Service is undertaking a 6-month building program to increase the safety, appearance and useability across a variety of areas in Bolga Court, Lakeview and My Community and Home Care.

Projects include:

- Sealing of all open building eaves at Lakeview and Main Building to assist with bushfire ember attack
- Drainage and sealing works to MCHC carpark
- New air lock at front entrance to Bolga Court dining room
- Replacement and painting of posts on Bolga Court walkways
- Screening for increased weatherproofing on Bolga Court walkways
- Construction of new clinical and kitchen store at Bolga Court

We appreciate there may be disruptions to normal access during these times but all services will run as normal.

## Tallangatta Medical Centre

The Medical Centre currently has five permanent part-time doctors. Bookings are available by phoning 02 6071 5270, or you may book online anytime through Hot Doc by either downloading the app or accessing it by searching Tallangatta Medical Centre online.



## Public Holiday

Please be advised that Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September is a public holiday. As such, the My Community and Home Care office, as well as the Medical Centre will be closed.

## Expressions of Interest—Onsite Activity Group at THS

We are seeking expressions of interest from community members who would be interested in attending an onsite activity group at Tallangatta Health Service. If sufficient interest is gained, we will consider restarting the activity group in a similar format to that which ran prior to COVID.

Please call reception on 02 6071 5238 to register your interest. A My Aged Care referral for Groups will be necessary if you do not already have this. Please ring My Aged Care on 1800 200 422 to start the referral process.

## We are looking for volunteers to deliver Meals On Wheels

Do you have 40 minutes to spare throughout the day from 12.00pm? Do you have a driver's license and an insured vehicle? If you have some time to spare once a week or once a month and this is something you are interested in, please call the office on (02) 6071 5238.

Deliveries are made within the local Tallangatta township only. Volunteering is a wonderful way to remain connected to your community whilst providing a much needed service for others.

## COVID-19 Visiting Requirements

- Visiting hours are between **12.30 pm and 4.30 pm** 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/](https://www.murrayphn.org.au/vaccination_ne/)

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

## My Aged Care Regional Assessment Service Update

Lauren is our Regional Assessment Officer based here at THS who provides My Aged Care assessment services to the whole of the Towong Shire. Lauren commenced in the role at the beginning of July after the departure of Heather. Thank you to Heather who has worked in Regional Assessment for a number of years.

An assessment for in-home services can be made by calling My Aged Care on **1800 200 422**. The contact centre team will ask some information about you and will organise an assessment referral to be sent on your behalf. Alternatively, a family member, your GP, a friend or even yourself can do a referral online at <https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/make-a-referral>.

Once the assessment referral is completed, it will be forwarded from My Aged Care to the Regional Assessment Officer in your area. Here in Towong Shire, Lauren will get your referral and will call you to organise a time to catch up for an in-home assessment.

Once your assessment is complete and your assessor has identified what is important to you and which supports you are looking for, a Support Plan will be created and the referrals for your services will be forwarded to your preferred local service provider. The provider will then be in touch to assist you to implement

your services.

If you have any questions or would like some assistance with your support at home journey, please call Lauren on 02 6071 5238.

### Farewell to Leanne Dobinson

Leanne Dobinson, affectionately known as "Dobbie", has retired after 43 years of working at Tallangatta Health Service.

Dobbie came from Cudgewa and commenced in 1980 at the age of 17. She worked as a kitchen hand, then progressed to the role of cook. She was well known for her scones and jelly cakes and for her baking in general, embracing each opportunity to cater for Christmas and other events, sometimes spending weeks stocking the freezer beforehand. Dobbie was well liked by her peers and she always took an interest in the people around her. Her laughter could be always be heard from several rooms away.

Dobbie never wanted to work anywhere else, and never needed to. She always loved her job and particularly loved cooking great food for the residents and patients.

Staff and residents will miss having Dobbie about the place and will miss her friendship and her wicked sense of humour. We wish her all the best for her future.

## Berringa Peninsula Community Network (BPCN)



### Welcome to The Peninsula

We are looking at producing a "Welcome Pack" for new residents of the Peninsula (Bethanga, Bellbridge, Talgarno, and Granya.) to provide information on what is available locally.

We need your input - basic information from business, trades, local groups, services and committees within the Peninsula to be included in the pack.

Also let us know what you wanted to know about when you moved here.

If you would like to be involved in this great opportunity and be included in this Welcome Pack, please email details to Sandra at [ssmaloney763@gmail.com](mailto:ssmaloney763@gmail.com) with the following information:

- website/Facebook site
- Contact phone number.
- A little blurb detailing what your business/group is about, what services are provided and opening/closing hours if applicable.
- any other information you think would be useful for newcomers to the district.

### Berringa Peninsula Events grants

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 successfully 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 events that celebrate the history and heritage of our area.

We look forward to these events.

There is funding available through Emergency Recovery Victoria as well as many other organisations. If your club or group is looking for funding please contact me on 0419 339 679 or [berringapcn@gmail.com](mailto:berringapcn@gmail.com)

Julie Miller

Chair Berringa Peninsula Community Network  
0419 339 679

The newsletter is also available in colour on line at [www.berringacommunitynews.com.au](http://www.berringacommunitynews.com.au)

# Prospects for the Season Ahead

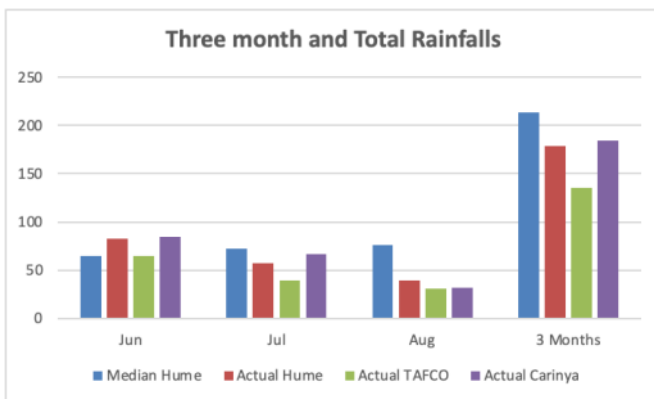
Thank you to Greg Hayes who has agreed to regularly contribute weather related articles for Berringa Community News readers.



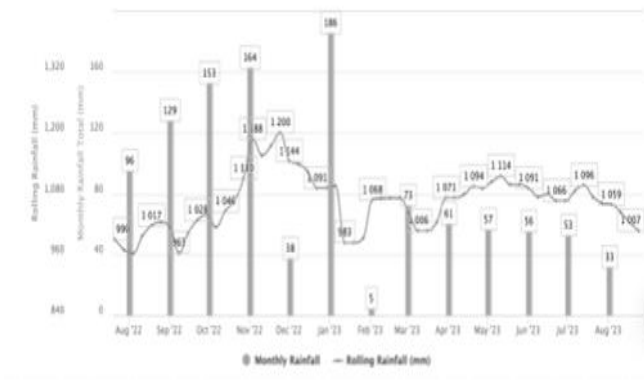
## Rainfall Round-up

BOM expected that we would get less than average rainfall and they got it pretty right, as a result of a fairly dry August.

The historical median rainfall for Winter (June to end August) is 212 mm. The actual rainfall for Hume Reservoir was 179 mm, or 84% of median. I had 184 mm and Jim & Julie de Hennin had 135 mm. The June rainfall was slightly above average, July was below average and the August rainfall of 39 mm at Hume Reservoir (up to August 24) is only about half the normal total.



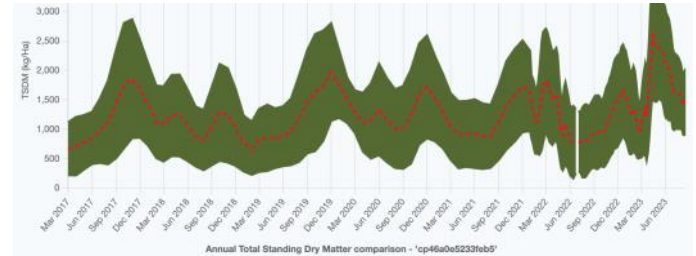
Even though the paddocks are clearly drying out, our rolling 12- month rainfall is still 1007 mm. Hume Weir station has already recorded 545mm for the year to date and that represents 80% of our normal total so the wet period has continued. The rolling 12-month rainfall at Carinya is shown below.



It has also been warmer than normal with very few frosts recorded and none really severe. This warmth helped get the pastures going and most paddocks are seeing reasonable growth. MLA have a free tool which assesses ground cover through satellite imagery with instructions on how to access it available in this document <https://www.cibolabs.com.au/documents/mla-afm-user-guide-web.pdf>

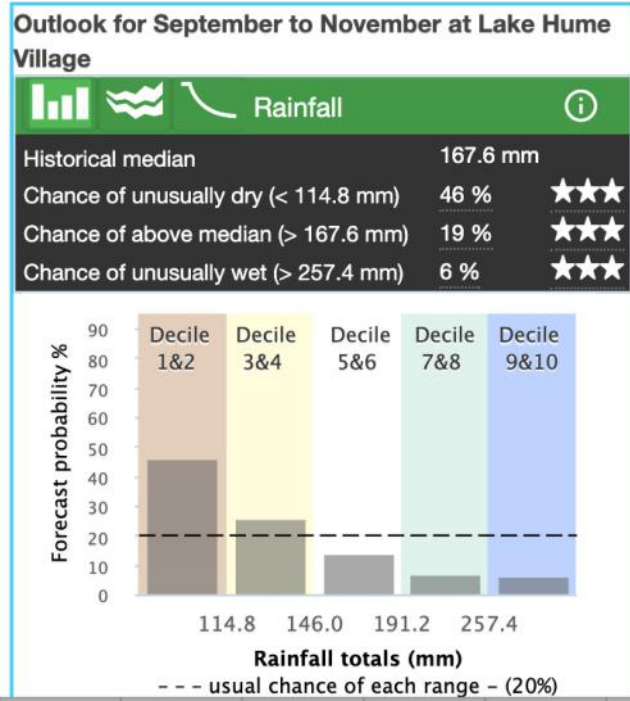
Here is what it shows for Carinya at the beginning of August indicating that the standing dry matter is higher than in recent years despite carrying more stock this

year. It might be interesting to try this out if we are headed to drier times.



## Prospects for Spring (September to end October)

BOM expects warmer and drier conditions over the September to November period. It has put out an El Niño alert and there's a high (70%) chance that one will develop this spring. Unfortunately, there is also a good chance also that we may get a Positive IOD (Indian Ocean Dipole) this spring. Overall, there is a high chance (46%) of unusually dry weather which is more than double what is normally expected. BOM also suggests that continued global warming will increase the likelihood of more extreme weather events.



Nine out of 12 models reviewed by Dale Grey indicate drier conditions between September and November. This raises the possibility of a shorter than normal spring with implications for hay and silage making. However, his models are suggesting that neutral conditions (neither wetter nor drier than average) are more likely for the December to February period.

Greg Hayes



## How good does the final concept design of the Bellbridge Boathouse look!

It is the handy work of Four18 Architecture, who was awarded the contract for the Bellbridge Boathouse Design Services.

Councillors adopted the recommendation to award the contract to the Geelong-based architecture firm at the June council meeting. Council officers and the Project Steering Group carefully considered all submissions and were unanimous in recommending the work of Four18 Architecture.



Four18 will now focus on developing a detailed construction design. Additionally, we're working on a business case report that explores the operation of food and beverage, retail, and outdoor recreation/tourism services at the proposed building.

By completing these essential steps, we are making the

project 'shovel ready', ensuring Council is well prepared for potential grant funding opportunities.

Keep your eyes peeled for more updates in the coming weeks.

To view the final design, visit [tinyurl.com/bellbridge-boathouse-project](https://tinyurl.com/bellbridge-boathouse-project)

## Have you seen the new Bridge Street playground in Bethanga?

We've collaborated with our youngest community members to create a playful haven for families.

Here's what we've accomplished so far:

- Equipment installation
- Plantings
- Construction of a cozy shade shelter
- Safe softfall surface installed

We're almost there! The only remaining task is the installation of a brand-new fence and minor landscaping, which is scheduled to take place in the coming weeks.



## Hard Waste and Green Waste Collection

*Bethanga Stockpile site Talgarno Gap Rd, east of CFA Shed Saturday, 7 October 2022 10 am - 1 pm*

*Granya Stockpile site South of Murray River Rd Sunday, 8 October 2023 10 am - 1 pm*

We collect standard trailer or ute loads of:

- non-commercial hard waste (couches, stoves, old fencing wire, timber, steel, glass, paper, plastic, non-decomposable, non-hazardous solid wastes)
- non-commercial green waste (lawn clippings, branches up to 25 cm or 10 inch diameter).

- We don't collect mattresses, bed bases, batteries, tyres, LPG cylinders chemicals, oils, asbestos, paint tins or hazardous waste (non-commercial quantities of these items can be dropped off at the Wodonga Resource Recovery Centre).
- E-waste, fridges and air conditioners need to be kept separate from hardwaste materials.

To book an appointment, contact us on 1300 365 222 or [info@towong.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@towong.vic.gov.au).

# Annual Events Calendar



## Expression of Interest

Do you have a community event coming up in 2024?

Every year, Council gathers information about the fantastic community events happening in the Shire. We use this information to put together an annual events calendar that we share through our Visitor Information Centres and on our destination websites.

If you have the key details such as the date and location already confirmed, please fill out an expression of interest form to be considered for our annual calendar below:

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/TYFGC95](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TYFGC95)

The annual calendar is an opportunity for your event to get a boost in promotion and draw a larger audience.

Expressions of interest close at 5 pm Sunday 15 October, 2023.



[towong.vic.gov.au](http://towong.vic.gov.au)

# Bloke's Day

Are you looking to relax and socialise as well as expand your skills? Then look no further than Bloke's Day.

## Attention all blokes!

Including eight skilfully lead workshops ranging from varying hobbies such as fishing, technology, and cooking. Each will be led by experienced instructors passionate about sharing their knowledge and helping you make the most of your weekend.

Lunch is included and catered by Black Barrel BBQ. Afterwards, learn from keynote speaker Wayne Schwass, ex-AFL player and founder of PukaUp to discuss his mental health journey.

When: Saturday 9 September  
Where: Corryong College  
Time: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm



Spots are limited. Scan here to book tickets:



[towong.vic.gov.au](http://towong.vic.gov.au)

# TOWONG SHIRE COUNCIL

Visit [www.towong.vic.gov.au](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:kstewart557@gmail.com)

0412 672 629

**Spring is here, time to sit in the sun 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

## *In Memorium*



### Janice Florence Anne Brunner

Janice Florence Anne Brunner (Jan). Passed away on the 28th June 2023 surrounded by family. Jan, her husband Fred and children Paul and Michael moved from Melbourne to Talgarno in 1977 to the property called The Oaks where they still call home. Beloved wife of Alfred, mother and mother in law to Paul, Michael and Jannie forever loved Nan to Isabella, Jacob and Olivia.



### Carolyn Lena Packer

7<sup>th</sup> June 1956 - 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023

Carolyn was born on the 7th of June, 1956 to Hilmer and Samuel Naismith. She was the second child alongside older sister Robyn and 2 younger brothers, David and Stephen. Growing up on their Bethanga Bay farm and helping her parents care for all the animals,

taught her the value of hard work, mixed with fun and antics. Family fishing in the 'tinnie' and Mornington Peninsula holidays were always enjoyed. The Naismiths loved entertaining and one family that frequently visited was Kath and Leo Packer, with their young son, Lawrence, who would one day become Carolyn's husband.

Carolyn attended Bethanga Primary School and St. Augustine's Catholic Secondary. She graduated from Monash University with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1977 and while at uni, as a passionate Collingwood

supporter, named all her plants after her favourite players! She spent her first year teaching at Morwell High School, with the students only a few years younger than her. In her words, it "set her up to be the teacher she became". In her second year another graduate teacher, Deb arrived and they immediately became friends, supporting each other and having lots of fun as well. Their 44-year lifelong friendship resulted in many shared milestones – weddings, children, vacations and careers.

In 1981 Carolyn moved to teach at Moorabbin High. It was during the holidays when she returned to the farm that she and Lawrence started their secretive romance. It wasn't until they were 'sprung', canoodling down at the bay after the pub shut that people knew they were 'an item'! A proposal eventually followed, they married at St Francis church, Bethanga in 1982 and after a Tasmanian honeymoon in Carolyn's Ford Escort, 'Yellow Peril', they returned to build their home on Springdale Road. For the next decade, they worked hard to make ends meet and set themselves up for creating their family, with Carolyn teaching at Wodonga High and Lawrence farming. Sam was born in 1986, Tom in 1988 and Adele in 1992.

In 1997 Carolyn returned to teaching at Catholic College Wodonga, where she would work for the next 24 years, giving her life to teaching. Affectionately known as Mrs P., she never took a sickie and with her passion and dedication, was able to simplify complicated concepts and get the best out of her students. As one of her colleagues said, "For Carolyn there wasn't a student who couldn't learn, it was just a matter of finding the key to open up the subject for them. The students knew she really cared, would not give up on them and would be there every day, to help them learn."

Carolyn's colleagues spoke of her intelligence, humour and kindness and enthusiasm that inspired many students to pursue careers in maths and science. One of her greatest joys was leading a Learning Mentor group at CCW.

Holidays for Carolyn and her family were spent camping at Rye, a tradition carried on from her own childhood. Though she hated sunscreen and sand, while the rest of the family were at the beach, she enjoyed reading or sleeping under a shady tree... and, of course, sharing in the nightly fun and adventures.

Relaxation time at home included gardening, sewing her own colourful clothes, knitting, especially newborn baby blankets, scarves and beanies for the homeless. cooking and baking. Bethanga Primary teachers loved her gifted fruit cakes at Christmas and her LM students always received a chocolate cake for their birthday.

In 2014, 2016 and 2020 Carolyn became 'Red Grandma' to Scarlett, Archie and Edi, 'nicknamed' after her red Falcon, which usually had treats inside.

Carolyn and Lawrence loved spending time together - on the farm, going to the races, always sharing a bottle of bubbles. Carolyn took time off teaching in 2015 to be

with Lawrence during his illness. She had a very tough year to follow, sadly losing her father-in-law, mother and husband in quick succession. Despite her grief, Carolyn showed great resilience and conviction, getting on with life, school and farm work, house renovation and travel to England, Europe and Canada.

It was with huge sadness to all her family, friends, colleagues and students that Carolyn was diagnosed with MND in 2021, wrenching all her retirement dreams away. Her love of 'The Pies' however, never waned and though she could no longer speak, Adele said she still 'screamed' at the TV during games! While Carolyn fought for two years, courageously, with strength and a strong faith, Adele bravely, selflessly and lovingly put her life on hold and began providing full-time care for her dear Mum.

With thanks to Adele for the use of her lovely eulogy, which painted a wonderful picture of the person Carolyn was and showed the pride she, Sam and Tom had in their much-loved Mum.

Di Singline



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



# 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 Belle Ozalins on 0438 959 407 or Kate Singline on 0422 725 147

Come and join in the FUN!

Copyright © 2015 @theadup.wgvm

## Bethanga Hotel



Email: [bethangahotel@outlook.com](mailto:bethangahotel@outlook.com)  
[www.bethangahotel.com](http://www.bethangahotel.com)  
 02 6026 4214

### 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

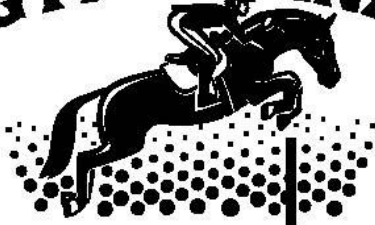
Saturday and Sunday lunch - full menu - 12pm till 2pm

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 GYMKHANA



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & ELECTIONS

**DATE:** 16th November 2023

**TIME:** 6.30pm

**VENUE:** Bethanga Rec Reserve

**ALL WELCOME**



## 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](http://www.berringacommunity.com) to receive updates.



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# CLUBS AND GROUPS

## BERRINGA CERT



### Helping the Community in an Emergency

The Berringa Community Emergency Response Team, (CERT) as a team of Ambulance Victoria volunteers, responds to medical emergencies in Bellbridge, Bethanga, Granya, and Talgarno but we also raise funds to provide equipment and resources to help the community when an emergency occurs.

Two of our team members, Vicki and David Cottee, who as well as CERT responders are also Ambulance Community Officers in Tallangatta, are involved in local camp draft events. As a fundraiser for CERT., they provided first aid at the local events. Their reputation spread, where with a little help from friends, they provide first aid at events across Victoria and NSW. The funds they raise are donated to the community.

We consulted with Tallangatta Ambulance Branch Manager Frank O'Brien about how we could best use the funds raised to assist the community. He suggested that we consider access to defibs in local communities. In the Berringa CERT area we have 6 24-hour access defibs as well as one on each of our 6 local CFA vehicles. The Sandy Creek/ Charleroi area was identified as not having a 24-hour access defib. We purchased and presented Sandy Creek Hall with an AED at a film night where we took the opportunity to demonstrate using an AED and doing CPR.



*David & Vicki Cottee and Julie Miller from Berringa CERT present defibrillator to Carmen Ley from Sandy Creek Hall Committee*

We also purchased two vacmats for the Tallangatta Branch. A vacmat is used to immobilise patients, especially in case of a spinal, pelvis or limb trauma. The patient is wrapped in the mat which is then pumped up to hold the patient securely during transport. The mats tend to go with the patients to hospital and in this area often results in them being on flights to Melbourne

trauma centres. Purchasing two vacmats means both Tallangatta ambulances will always have a vacmat available.

At the CERT AGM we presented the Tallangatta Branch Manager with the two vacmats,



*Julie Miller & Vicki Cottee present vacmat to Frank O'Brien Team Manager Ambulance Victoria Tallangatta branch*

## 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.

If you are experiencing symptoms and you think you might need medical attention and your usual GP/health service might be closed or not available rather than call an ambulance or go to the emergency department you can contact VVED. These symptoms might be things like pain, vomiting, urinary infection and influenza.

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

## 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**

**Bethanga Recreation Reserve pavilion**

**Bellbridge Community Centre**

**Bellbridge Foreshore Bus stop (near fish)**

**Granya Hall**

**Talgarno Hall**

*Keep well,  
Julie Miller,*

*Team Leader Berringa CERT*

*juliemiller3691@gmail.com*

*0419 339 679*

### 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](mailto:juliemiller3691@gmail.com)

## ROTARY CLUB OF BELLBRIDGE LAKE HUME INC.

### Christmas Carols

The Christmas carols will be held at the Lake Hume Boat Club Bellbridge on Sunday 3 December commencing at 6.30 pm. Santa will be in attendance as well as a choir singing Christmas carols. Drinks and food will be available.

### Australia Day Celebrations

The Rotary Club will be conducting its annual Australia Day celebrations on Friday 26 January 2024 at the Hume Boat Club Bellbridge commencing with a free breakfast at 8.00 am. The Club is seeking nominations from the community for the following categories:

- \* Citizen of the Year
- \* Young Citizen of the Year
- \* Community Event of the Year
- \* Community Participation Award

Nominations close Friday 22 December 2023

Nomination forms are available from the Bethanga General Store and Post Office or can be downloaded from Towong Council's website at [www.towong.vic.gov.au/visitors/](http://www.towong.vic.gov.au/visitors/) whats-on/

### Lake Hume Cycle Challenge

The event will be held on Sunday 11 February and provides great cycling, country hospitality and raises funds to provide local supportive care for people living with cancer. The LHCC allows bike riders of all ages and varying degrees of fitness and ability to safely experience

# WEDDING AND CORPORATE CATERING

Servicing Albury Wodonga and Surrounds



W: [cuisine-catering.com.au](http://cuisine-catering.com.au)

E: [cuisineconsultants@icloud.com](mailto:cuisineconsultants@icloud.com)

M: 0407 404 672



the wonderful scenery of Lake Hume and the Albury Wodonga area and mix socially in a chill zone.

There is a generous time limit to complete the rides. It is a charity fun ride so no times are recorded. For more information and to register visit [www.lakehumechallenge.com.au](http://www.lakehumechallenge.com.au) or the Rotary website.

### Lake Hume Fishing Classic

The Lake Hume Fishing Classic event will be held on Saturday 21 October and Sunday 22 October at the Lake Hume Tourist Park. Registrations can be made at [www.lakehumeclassic.com.au](http://www.lakehumeclassic.com.au) or register on-site on Friday 20 from 4.00 pm to 8.00 pm and Saturday 21 October from 5.00 am to 10.30 am. Fishing commences at 6.30 am on Saturday morning and concludes at 10.30 am on Sunday morning. Meals will probably be available on Saturday night and Sunday lunchtime from providers on-site at your own cost.

Alcohol and soft drinks can also be purchased on-site. NO BYO ALCOHOL PERMITTED ON SITE. Random/spot prize draws will be conducted at 8.00 pm on Saturday night. Further details are available from the website or Bellbridge Club Rotarians.

*Regards  
Andrew Christy*

## 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



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## 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

Finally, positive news to report from the Talgaro Tennis Club – the new court surfaces and net assemblies have been installed and are being used. The blue rebound ace courts are a definite improvement from the previously painted concrete courts, with no cracks for grass to grow through and greater coverage at the rear and sides of the courts. With a final coating to be applied



**Tallangatta & Kiewa  
VETERINARY CLINICS**

**Bethanga district run**  
1<sup>st</sup> Wed of the month  
Also the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of the month during Aug-Oct

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e) [tallangattavets@tpg.com.au](mailto:tallangattavets@tpg.com.au)  
[www.tallangattavets.com.au](http://www.tallangattavets.com.au)  
or check us out on facebook!

when the weather warms up and lights for night tennis to be connected, eventually, we should have fantastic courts for club members and the community in general to enjoy.

The clubhouse, however, is a different story. An oversight in planning and construction has turned the clubhouse and covered seating area into a bathtub without a plug! Surface water run-off of only a few millimetres makes the clubhouse inaccessible – 10cm plus of water throughout at minimum. Unfortunately, most of our clubhouse amenities (cupboards, fridge, freezer etc) have been destroyed because of repeated flooding. Hopefully, those responsible for the oversight will do the right thing and assist in a rebuild and/or possible relocation of the clubhouse and shade seating area. In the short-to-medium term we hope to utilise the Talgarno Hall facilities when hosting the many events coming up.

Our activities kicked off on August 27 with a Come and Try Open Day for all community members and was supported by Tennis Victoria and our friends at Sportpower Albury. Then on September 4, the much-anticipated children's coaching re-commenced. Twenty-six local kids have signed up for the 12-week program which is generously supported by the Rotary Club Bellbridge Lake Hume making it the best bargain on the Peninsula! Our 8-week FREE adult coaching program, supported by the Berringa Peninsula Community Network, will start when we have lights again (check out our Facebook page for more details).

We will also be recommencing our popular night series of Fast4 tennis when lighting permits.

Finally, another season of pennant tennis in the Kiewa & Talgarno District Tennis Association will kick off in early October. As usual, Talgarno will be a prominent contributor to this excellent competition. Last season we had teams in all four sections, and we may well do so again this season. Anyone interested in playing pennant tennis this season please contact me or Jill Pearson (0412 042 090).

We are lucky to welcome several new sponsors this year – The Wool Press Granya, George Stahl Electrical, Bethanga General Store, and Rural Asset Maintenance – to add to the continued support from Leischke Plumbing, Albury Sportpower, Johnsons MME, Cadmac and the Bethanga Hotel. Their continued support allows us to provide tennis opportunities for the Talgarno region.

See you on court!

*Adam Richardson (Secretary)*  
0412 560 833

## BETHANGA CFA



Fire calls 000

Burn Notifications VICFIRE 1800 668 511

Victorian Bush Fire Information 1800 240 667

All Peninsula Fire Units - UHF 24

### CALL OUTS

19 May 2023 MVA Murray River Road, Talgarno

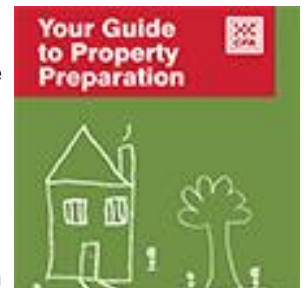
The brigade responded to a Motor Vehicle Accident on Murray River Road to support Talgarno, Victoria Police, Ambulance Victoria and the SES. All agencies worked well together. Thanks to those members who attended.



### SPRING CLEANUP

It's that time of the year when we all should think about making our property safe for the fire season. This includes cleaning up trees and vegetation and checking gutters and eaves.

The CFA has excellent information available to assist in preparing your home. Please visit <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/how-to-prepare-your-property> for more details.



The brigade is happy to offer advice if you're unsure.

**Please note, if you intend to burn on your property, please ensure you check with Towong Shire on your responsibilities to reduce the risk of a call-out.**

### FIRE TRAILS

The Brigade has been asked to audit and map fire trails within our area. As we've had a few quiet fire seasons, some of the trails may have been overlooked. Properly maintained trails, either on public or private property, allow our vehicles to access incidents in a safe and efficient manner. In the past, funding was available for some trail maintenance. The Tallangatta Group is enquiring, through the Shire's Fire Management Committee, to see what future funding may be available.

*George Stahl* **ELECTRICAL P/L**  
*Registered Electrical Contractor*

Bethanga VIC 3691

**Daniel** 0428 027 552

**George** 0405 03 25 03

Email: [electrical@stahl.net.au](mailto:electrical@stahl.net.au)

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



## BRIGADE TRAINING



Brigade training is tentatively scheduled for the 1st Thursday of the month but may be alternated to include weekends.

## FIRE DANGER RATINGS

The new Australian Fire Danger Rating system is now in force across Australia, so no matter where you are over the fire season you will see the same system used.

There are four levels of fire danger in the new system:

- Moderate - Plan and prepare.
- High - Be ready to act.
- Extreme - Take action now to protect your life and property.
- Catastrophic - For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas.

See table below

Find out more [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/afdrs](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/afdrs)

## 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.

*John Northey  
0414 931 442*

[bethangatalgarnojuniors@gmail.com](mailto:bethangatalgarnojuniors@gmail.com)

## TALGARNO RURAL FIRE BRIGADE



### WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN THE TALGARNO CFA?

It has been a quiet winter, thankfully, with no call outs. The brigade has been busy with works to equipment and preparations for the oncoming bush fire season. The Talgarno CFA has been bringing their quick fills trailers, up to standard. We will be doing pre- season checks of station supplies, equipment checks and hose testing. The Talgarno Brigade will be doing its mandatory safety training in early October TBA.

## Know Your Daily Fire Danger Rating



### Stay aware of the fire danger rating and know what to do.

Fire Danger Ratings tell you how dangerous a fire could be if one started. The higher the rating the more dangerous the conditions. Fire Danger Ratings feature in weather forecasts during the fire season.

Everyday you should:

- » Monitor conditions and official sources for warnings.
- » If a fire starts near you, take action immediately to protect your life.
- » Do not wait for a warning.
- » Adhere to local regulations governing fire activity.
- » Ensure any industrial and agricultural activities adhere to relevant guidelines.

To check your district's daily Fire Danger Rating, visit [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au), download the **VicEmergency App** or call **1800 226 226**.

	What does it mean?	What should I do?
<b>CATASTROPHIC</b>	<p>If a fire starts and takes hold, lives are likely to be lost.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» These are the most dangerous conditions for a fire.</li> </ul>	<p><b>For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Your life may depend on the decisions you make, even before there is a fire.</li> <li>» For your survival, do not be in bushfire risk areas.</li> <li>» Stay safe by going to a safer location early in the morning or the night before.</li> <li>» Homes cannot withstand fires in these conditions. You may not be able to leave and help may not be available.</li> </ul>
<b>EXTREME</b>	<p><b>Fires will spread quickly and be extremely dangerous.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» These are dangerous fire conditions.</li> <li>» Expect hot, dry and windy conditions.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Take action now to protect your life and property</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Check your bushfire plan and that your property is fire ready</li> <li>» If a fire starts, take immediate action. If you and your property are not prepared to the highest level, go to a safer location well before the fire impacts.</li> <li>» Reconsider travel through bushfire risk areas.</li> <li>» Leaving bushfire risk areas early in the day is your safest option.</li> </ul>
<b>HIGH</b>	<p><b>Fires can be dangerous.</b></p>	<p><b>Be ready to act.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» There's a heightened risk. Be alert for fires in your area.</li> <li>» Decide what you will do if a fire starts.</li> <li>» If a fire starts, your life and property may be at risk. The safest option is to avoid bushfire risk areas.</li> </ul>
<b>MODERATE</b>	<p><b>Most fires can be controlled.</b></p>	<p><b>Plan and prepare.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Stay up to date and be ready to act if there is a fire.</li> </ul>

Monitor conditions and official sources for warnings by going to [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au), [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au) or call the VicEmergency Hotline on **1800 226 226**

## COMMUNITY SAFETY DAY

A community bush fire safety day will be held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November, at Talgarno Fire station, time to be advised. All community members are encouraged to attend. Further information will be listed on Facebook and other social media.

## FUEL REDUCTION BURN

Previously planned road side fuel reduction burns will be scheduled this spring. Details on when these will occur will be provided later, all depending on suitable weather conditions.

## STAYING INFORMED AND WARNING LEVELS

There is a fire danger rating, which is now nationwide It is a good idea to familiarise yourself with these ratings, heading into our bush fire season. Also included is a table of warning levels (see page 23). It is important to remember that warnings will NOT be provided in any order. Heading into bushfire season, this table will be invaluable to ensure our community is well-informed.

## CAN I OR CAN'T I- DURING THE FIRE DANGER PERIOD AND TOTAL FIRE BAN DAYS

Please check current restrictions for your local area. You can also visit [cfa.vic.gov.au/can](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/can) or call 1800226226, to find out relevant restrictions in place.

## CFA MEMBERSHIP

Are you interested in becoming a CFA member or know someone who is? Contact our secretary Jess Lieschke at [talgarorbsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:talgarorbsecretary@gmail.com) or contact our Captain Michael Elliot at 0407 2011 69. Everyone is welcome.

*Michael Elliot, Captain, 0407 201 169  
Jess Lieschke Secretary  
talgarorbsecretary@gmail.com,*

## BETHANGA RECREATION RESERVE

Exciting News - The Bethanga Recreation Reserve has been very busy working with DEECA (DELWP) and is extremely excited to announce we are the successful recipient of a substantial Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding grant for voluntary committees. The grant will see major improvements, restoration and repairs caused by the flooding events in 2022.

We acknowledge the project is jointly funded by the Australian and Victorian governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

“Volunteer committee members have made an extraordinary contribution to their local communities as they work to reinstate the state’s flood-damaged facilities and resources.”

Works have commenced, with Stage 1, concreting from the entrance gates near the tennis courts to the pavilion. We hope the community will see an immediate benefit & improvement. Tallangatta Construction & Maintenance (TCM) was the successful tender.

Please be careful when visiting the reserve and abide by any OH&S signs and/or directions of TCM staff.



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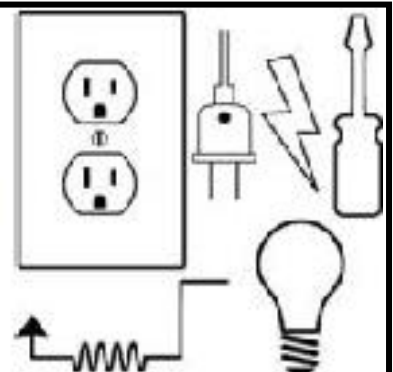
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### Annual General Meeting

**24 September 2023, at 11 am**, free BBQ to follow. Please come along to hear about our achievements and plans. Note this is not an election of office bearers, the current CoM has been extended by DEECA due to the substantial planned works. The election of office bearers will be scheduled around July/August 2024.

### Planned events @ BRR:

- **Peninsula Markets** – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023, starting at 9am
- **SR 500 motor-cycle rally** – November 2023, weekend of 17, 18, 19<sup>th</sup>
- **MND** – Fundraiser event – November 25<sup>th</sup> 2023, hosted by Bethanga Cricket Club

A huge thank you to the volunteers who assist in keeping the BRR in great shape.

The pavilion is available for public hire, for availability and bookings please email: [Bethangareserve@gmail.com](mailto:Bethangareserve@gmail.com).

*Bethanga Recreation Reserve Committee*

Email: [Bethangareserve@gmail.com](mailto:Bethangareserve@gmail.com)  
President – Ross Mitchell  
Secretary/Treasurer – Jo Sirl

## BETHANGA GOLF CLUB



Springdale Road Bethanga

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

contact us via [hello@bethangagolf.club](mailto:hello@bethangagolf.club) or by Messenger.

The clubrooms can be hired for events. With some events already planned over the year there is a lot of opportunity to really grow this community asset.

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

### 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

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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

## **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.

## **HUME BOAT CLUB**



**Our Annual general meeting will be held on Thursday 14 September at our clubrooms at 7pm.**

All members are welcome and are encouraged to attend. We need new committee members to join our team. Currently Dean and I handle most of the Hume Boat Clubs responsibilities. It would be great to see some new faces on our team for the 2023/24 season. It is not a full-time job and only requires minimal time. Many hands make light work and it would be great to see some new faces on our committee for some fresh ideas. Our meetings are once a month and are very social. At the AGM, all roles within the club will be open for nomination. Particularly, we will need to fill the roles of:

Vice Commodore  
Treasurer  
Committee Members

We have the best membership since our creation so it would be fantastic to get some more people on the committee for some fresh and dynamic ideas.

Most will be aware that Towong Council were successful in obtaining a grant to get "shovel ready" to transform our clubhouse. This grant allowed for 3 different architects to submit proposed plans to our committee for consideration. This enables the HBC and Towong council

to apply for the Growing Regions Grant funding to get this project up and running. The concept for the club was chosen by our committee and it looks amazing. Four18 Architecture was the final winner chosen by our committee. The concept will include a commercial venture on the top level with upgraded clubrooms and bar for our members on the bottom level. Our grounds will be modified slightly but will not impact on our foreshore, access, or boat ramp. This project will be discussed at our AGM.

### **MEMBERSHIP NOW AVAILABLE**

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- \*Club rooms available for function hire (members' hire only).
- \*Members' functions held year round.
- \*Great location for all types of boating.

Membership forms available on website

Email: Administrator@humeboatclub.com

## **TALGARNO CRAFT GROUP**

Held on the last Friday of the month. Come and share ideas and enjoy each other's company. For further information contact:

*Joan Elliot 0498 208 308*

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# Wises Creek Talgarno Landcare Group

After a very long wet winter season last year we have recently enjoyed a relatively milder and drier winter. Glorious sunny days with intermittent showers have the area looking like spring has come early as many trees are starting to blossom. The Hume

Weir has held a constant level in the mid 90's, the hills are green and farm dams are still full so everyone should be pretty happy!

This year the group will be providing support to the Talgarno Primary School to pay for a guest speaker to talk to the children about native pollinators. We will also be working with the school to introduce an annual Landcare award and would like to focus some effort in engaging with our future Landcare members.

There have been several funding proposals lodged to allow increased education efforts as well as other projects, including more tree planting. Members are encouraged to identify potential Landcare projects so that we can factor into future funding submissions and planning.

We held a strategic planning day on 27 August at the

home of Jim & Julie De Hennin. Soil Land and Food assisted the members develop a strategic plan that will guide the planning of activities and projects in the next few years. We look forward to getting projects up and running that will benefit our members and the community we live in.



If you are not a member already and wish to join us, feel free to any one of our committee below to organise sign up.

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

# Bethanga Landcare Group.

Bethanga Landcare Group had a great start to the year, with a number of opportunities provided for the community to learn, share, and socialise.

## **Native Pasture Field Day- 16 April 2023**

The native pasture field day was led by Dr Meredith Mitchell who has worked in the area of nature pasture management for the last 35 years. Her career has focused on methods of improving the productivity of farm pastures throughout southern Australia.

The day started with heavy rain, but cleared quickly to allow the day to proceed. Dr Mitchell kicked off with a presentation regarding local varieties of native pastures and our local facilitator Mr Simon Feillafe led a review of local weeds. This was followed by a pasture walk to identify our local native and introduced pastures. The day was capped off with a BBQ lunch and a chance to catch up with friends.



## Tree Giveaway and Planting Weekend- 29-30 July 2023

The tree and shrub giveaway was very popular with over 600 trees/shrubs provided to members. In addition, over 50 shrubs were provided to Bethanga Primary School and another 80 were planted along the road verge of Flagstaff Rd for National Tree Day. The location for the tree planting was selected to provide an extended corridor for the local sugar glider population. It was a fun, social day finishing with a BBQ lunch.

### Landowner information

Bethanga Landcare is assisted by a very knowledgeable facilitator, Mr Simon Feillafe, who has visited many local properties to assess and support their land regeneration needs.

This includes:

- Native plantings,
- Soil management,
- Weed control, and;
- Other land issues.

### Get Well

Bethanga Landcare Group was shocked by the sudden illness of our President. We hope you recover soon Hugh!!!

### Join us

If you are interested in more information on any of these activities, or if you would like to join in, please get in touch at [bethangalandcaregroup@gmail.com](mailto:bethangalandcaregroup@gmail.com)



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*"When Local Knowledge Really  
Counts"*

Thank you to everyone who supported our *Little Kids Big Art Show* in July. It was delightful to see so many families attend and support this initiative.

A big thank you to the following who helped make it such a success:

- The centre educators who spent the past few months creating a lot of artworks in readiness for the show.
- The local artists and parents who gave up their time to help the children create some masterpieces using an array of different artistic techniques and



- mediums.
- The Hume Boat Club who kindly offered their venue as guest numbers indicated we needed a bigger gallery space.
- Websters Estate for donating some sparkling wine.
- Friends and family for providing platters and creating plinths to display the 3D works.

Since the art show, there has been a lot more art experimentation. The younger children are using a variety of marking tools, which will build into symbolic drawing and then writing over time. The older children have had fun with different mediums, such as box construction and painting on easels hanging from trees, which helps build their fine and gross motor skills and problem-solving skills.



There has also been a lot of dramatic play enjoyed in both rooms with firefighters, doctors and nurses saving the day! The centre are hoping to have our local CFA, Police and CERT teams visit in the coming weeks to build on this imaginative play with the children.



Excitingly too, the yard upgrades have begun which will see a complete makeover of the outdoor spaces. The kindergarten yard will have a deck, large rock garden, softfall area, seating and turf added. The vegetable garden and dry creek bed are also getting an upgrade. In the Long Day Care yard, there will be more decking around the sandpit, a small seating area and pergola installed which will create an additional outdoor space. All the yards will be wheelchair accessible upon completion. The parents committee have been advocating for improved yards for years, so are most appreciative of Towong Shire Council for their commitment and perseverance to see it happen!

The centre are currently working on a waitlist in the LDC room but do have some availability in their kindergarten program. Enrolments for next year's kindergarten program will also open later in the year. 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](mailto:Amanda.armstrong@towong.vic.gov.au) or call 02 6026 4373.



School Values

**R**APPORT – **R**espect **A**cceptance **P**ersistence  
**P**ride **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.



So much happening at Bethanga Primary! We have once again had an extremely successful Art Show. So, thank you to everyone who attended this event – funds raised will be utilised to enhance the STEM learning resources in our 3-6 classroom.



We have celebrated 100 days of learning for our F2023 students which was so much fun! A dress up day, and dinner and movie night.

Students from across our cluster participated in an amazing 'Energetic Education' workshop with Dale Sidebottom supporting students to improve mental health, resilience and persistence... all while having fun!



Our NERSSA Athletics Carnival was held with 9 other schools. Students demonstrated wonderful enthusiasm, grit, determination and sportsmanship.

We have 8 students participating in the Victorian State School Spectacular in September... an amazing opportunity for our students dancing alongside 1,500 other students from across the State!

Rachel Saunders



We have had another very busy term at Talgarno Primary School with lots of exciting things happening!



### Book Week Celebrations



### School Athletics



### Skateboarding Lessons



# SERVICES DIRECTORY

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<b>Equipment and machinery</b>		Bethanga Primary School	6026 4263
Bob Cat Hire	0429 686 323	Maternal & child Health	0417 535 978
Mini Diggers	0403 838 038	Talgarno Primary School	6020 1143
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Jono Green Farm Services	0422 965 024	<b>Sport &amp; Recreation</b>	
<b>Gardening</b>		Talgarno Tennis Club	0417 228 445
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<b>General Stores &amp; PO</b>		Planned Activity Group	6026 4325
Bethanga General Store	6026 4223	Bethanga Golf Club	0429 436 347
Bethanga PO and Shop Next Door	0419 651 859	Mens Shed Bethanga	0427 632 575
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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

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#### The 2023 Advertising rates

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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 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, Talgarno 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](http://www.berringacommunitynews.com.au)

*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](mailto:info@berringacommunitynews.com.au)*

## COMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Page
<b>September</b>		
4	Childrens Tennis Coaching begins	22
6	Men's Shed member meeting	21
8	Talgarno CFA BBQ	
8	Talgarno PS Kids Disco	7
9	Blokes Day	13
10	Peninsula Seasonal Market	6
11	Berringa Playgroup	17
14	Hume Boat Club AGM	26
<b>October</b>		
4	Men's Shed member meeting	21
7	Hard Waste Bethanga	12
8	Hard Waste Granya	12
9	Berringa Playgroup	17
13	Talgarno CFA BBQ	
15	Bethanga Community Garage Sale	5
23	Berringa Playgroup	17
21 & 22	Lake Hume Fishing Classic	21
<b>November</b>		
1	Men's Shed member meeting	21
11	Talgarno CFA BBQ	
12	DEADLINE BERRINGA NEWS WINTER EDITION	
17,18,19	SR500 Bethanga RR	29
18	Hypnosis	7
20	Berringa Playgroup	17
25	Cricket Club MND fundraiser	24
<b>December</b>		
3	Christmas carols	20

This edition of BCN has been printed by



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