

Berringa Community News

Spring 2020

News and views from the residents of Bellbridge,
Bethanga, Granya & Talgarno
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www.berringacommunitynews.com.au



Photo . Blue Wrens by David Cottee

Update from Mayor Wortmann

This week I heard the wonderful news of the successful grant for the **Talgarno Recreation Reserve** development. The news could not have come at a better time and I congratulate all involved in the 2019 Masterplan and grant submission.

Talgarno Recreation Reserve Committee of Management, together with Council, have been successful in its application for a \$212,000 grant through the Victorian Government's Local Sport and Infrastructure Fund.

Unfortunately our community continues to be challenged by **COVID-19 and the border closure**. Together with my fellow Councillors and Council staff, we have continued to advocate to the NSW Government. The border zone is having a detrimental impact on the Peninsula community, where the social and economic implications will be long

lasting. We are grateful for the ongoing support from both Victorian and NSW Cross-border Commissioners.

Some relief this week as the NSW Government improved border restrictions for Agriculture workers. While this is welcomed news, there is a long way to go to ease the pressures that our communities are facing everyday by the imposed border zone. Almost 90% of border businesses have been impacted by the closure, which simply cannot continue.

To force things to change, this week we have:

- Supported a joint statement with Regional Development Australia Murray on the significant impacts of the closure
- Together with Bill Tilley MLA, Justin Clancy MP and surrounding Local Government Areas, we have given

COMMUNITY REPORTS

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

our support to a recommendation taken to both the Premier of NSW and the Premier of Victoria Prime Minister Scott Morrison has asked both Premiers to review the border restrictions and this is expected to happen at the next National Cabinet meeting.

Community Recovery continues following the bushfires. Council's dedicated Recovery Team are from all parts of the Shire and are available to support your Recovery journey. They can help you to find and apply for suitable grants, drive community projects and connect you with agencies to provide financial, agriculture, business, social and wellbeing support.

It is great to see so many young and proactive people wanting to be involved in Community Recovery. We have already met twice as a group and in the coming weeks we will be forming a **Peninsula Community Recovery Committee**. I encourage anyone who wants to get involved to contact Julie Miller 6020 1102 or email juliemiller@skymesh.com.au or the Council Recovery Team on 1800 518 222 or email recovery@towong.vic.gov.au.

A reminder that Council's **\$750,000 Community Recovery Grants Program** is now open, with three separate rounds. The program aims to provide funding for projects and activities that support recovery and renewal of our communities.

The program is open to not-for-profit organisations and community groups right across Towong Shire including service clubs, community recovery committees and action groups. Grants of up to \$5,000 are available. Guidelines and the application form is available at www.towong.vic.gov.au/bushfirerecovery.

Throughout the pandemic, the work of Council resumes. There are some exciting **plans for the coming year** for the Peninsula, including:

- Continue upgrades to Georges Creek Road
- Development of Talgarno Recreation Reserve tennis

courts

- Seek funding to upgrade Bellbridge skate park
- Bethanga town beautification
- Continue tree planting and town maintenance programs
- Seal part of Wises Creek Road, Talgarno
- Further development of the western end of the Great River Road
- Improve waste management and recycling diversion
- Advocate for mobile and internet coverage

Once it's safe to travel, we'll also be helping to drive visitors back to the area by promoting the Peninsula, Lake Hume and the length of the Great River Road as a key destination.

While there are some current hurdles in our way, I know that together, we will get through this. In the meantime, please remember to reach out if you need support during these challenging times.



Mayor Cr David Wortmann

Update on the appointment of a Police Officer to our area.

I recently contacted the Wodonga Police Station to enquire as to the appointment of a Police Officer to the Bethanga Police Station. I was informed that an appointment had been made, however there will be two weeks before the appointment is confirmed whilst an appeal process takes place.

It is anticipated the next issue of the BCN will be able to welcome the newly appointed Police Officer!

Julie de Hennin



Follow Berringa Community News on Facebook

Berringa Firies Calendar is Back!

Due to popular demand we are going ahead with the 2021 Berringa Firies Calendar! It may look a little different this year, as we are unable to have our annual photo shoot. However, we will be encouraging everyone to submit their 2020 CFA community-related photos through our online photo competition. There will be some great prizes up for grabs as well as the coveted cover page photo! These photos can be from the January Upper Murray bush fires, community support related to these fires or other CFA events, family sacrifices during the fire events or any other fire/CFA related activities. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and emails for more details in the coming month!

If any businesses are interested in sponsoring the calendar, please let us know via our email or in person. We know a lot of businesses have done it tough over the past few months but would appreciate any support. We would like to acknowledge our past sponsors and invite them to get into contact with us if they are in a position to help us once again.

Mel Naismith, Mari Green & Jill Pearson

berringafiries@gmail.com



Berringa Firies

Grant Success for Talgarno Recreation Reserve

The Talgarno Recreation Reserve Committee is excited that after many years of applying for grants to upgrade the tennis courts and build a structure that could be used for the CFA BBQs we have finally succeeded.

The Committee, together with Towong Shire Council, have been successful in an application for a \$212,000 grant through the Victorian Government's Local Sport and Infrastructure Fund.

The grant is in addition to a \$96,000 commitment of ratepayer funds by Council and \$10,000 commitment from community groups including the Talgarno Recreation Reserve Committee of Management, Talgarno Rural Fire Brigade, Talgarno Brigade Social Club Inc. and Wisers Creek Talgarno Landcare Group.

The upgrade will include:

- Two synthetic grass tennis courts
- Two multi-function courts suitable for tennis and netball
- New fencing and drainage
- New LED lighting across the courts
- Shade and shelter areas which includes a large shelter between the hall and CFA shed

Mayor Cr David Wortmann welcomed the announcement. "Talgarno and surrounding areas have endured a lot over the last few years through drought, agriculture downturn and most recently the bushfires. With that comes many social and economic implications – this news is such a welcome relief and will help to bring people together" he said.

"The Talgarno community is passionate about sports and creating an environment where young and old alike can gather and safely participate. It is great to see such a proactive community group pursue local initiatives that are vital for the current generation and beyond" Mayor Wortmann said.

Mr David Cottee, President of Talgarno Recreation Reserve Committee of Management, said the Committee and wider Talgarno community are delighted with the announcement that will help turn the Reserve into an

outstanding facility. "There are no shops in Talgarno, but there is a wonderfully tight and supportive rural community which continues to flourish with new families and children moving to the area. As a community of dedicated volunteers, the announcement of the tennis court renovations and related works has been received with great excitement" Mr Cottee said.

"Consultation for the Masterplan showed that the community considers the Reserve a focal point which is vital to the health and wellbeing of the area. The new additions will compliment recent works completed by Council in combination with discretionary funding from Helen Haines MP that saw the provision of a playground for the community" Mr Cottee said.

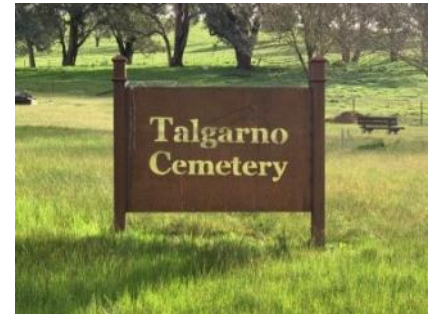
"I would like to acknowledge our appreciation to all those involved for their efforts in helping us to achieve such a successful result. As a community we now look forward to the next challenge of getting the job done during the current COVID-19 environment" Mr Cottee said.

Prior to the project kicking off, Council and the Talgarno Recreation Reserve Committee of Management will form a project steering group (PSG) of community stakeholder



David Cottee with Mayor Cr David Wortmann at Talgarno Recreation Reserve

News from The Talgarno Cemetery Trust



The Talgarno Cemetery trust is currently seeking expressions of interest from members of the community who are interested in serving on the Talgarno Cemetery Trust. The Cemetery Trust currently has three (3) vacancies

Whilst serving as a cemetery trust member you would be taking on the responsibility of serving the government and our local community in overseeing an essential community asset. You would have the opportunity to be a member of a team tasked with ensuring that dignity is given to the dead, that family members and other mourners are given due respect, and that our cemetery is safe, accessible, sustainable and well managed.

At Talgarno Cemetery, individuals and families have the opportunity to have their loved ones buried or ashes placed in the niche wall. Either of these two (2) options can be purchased prior to passing.

Trusts are established under the *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003* (the Act). The Act provides for members of a cemetery trust to hold office for not more than five years from the date of appointment. Existing trust members are eligible to seek reappointment.

Cemetery trusts are responsible for the provision of cemetery services, the administration of the cemeteries under their control, and are accountable to the Minister

for Health for the governance of the cemetery and the cemetery trust, for setting the strategic directions of the trust, as well as general oversight of operations and financial control.

A voluntary comprehensive training program provides an entrée into the knowledge and skills needed to survive and thrive as a cemetery trust member better. The program helps participants to:

- get to know their peers from other trusts and share experiences and solutions
- better understand legal and ethical responsibilities as a trust member
- know where to go for more information or help in fulfilling a role.

Interested? We would love to hear from you and answer any questions you may have.

Please call

*Julie de Hennin (Chair) ph 0412 433 499,
Lea Casey (Secretary) ph 0418 967 953
Melissa Nichol (Treasurer) ph 0409 306 329*

Bethanga Cemetery

Bethanga Cemetery Trust is looking for new members. Contact Chris Packer 6026 4294 if you are interested.

Anyone for tennisat Bellbridge?

Hi there. My name is Nick and I'm a resident of Bellbridge. One of my passions is tennis and since my family and I have moved to this beautiful town I have come to know many locals of the Berringa area who also share my passion for a good old hit of tennis. We are very lucky to have synthetic grass courts here, which is why I'm currently looking into



starting a Bellbridge Tennis Club to enter teams into local competitions. I also feel the town would greatly benefit from a local night competition over Summer on a weekly basis.

If you see yourself wanting to be a part of the Bellbridge Tennis Club, or would like to be involved in some friendly tennis competition with other locals I would like to hear from you. Phone: 0417 120 291 Email:



Be Part of the Peninsula's Future

The 2020 bushfires generated large sums of money to support bushfire recovery. Bushfire Recovery Victoria (BRV) was established to support of social, economic, environmental, natural and built environmental recovery in natural disasters. BRV is committed to locally led and locally driven recovery. Its role is to strengthen coordination and collaboration between communities, BRV, local government and other state agencies to support communities to achieve their community recovery vision and goals.

The Towong Shire is coordinating the establishment of local Community Recovery Committees throughout the Shire. It recognises that individual communities within the Shire were impacted differently by the bushfires. With the support of the Council, a group of Peninsula community members met on Zoom to discuss and initiate the establishment of a Peninsula Community Recovery Committee.

The group supported the establishment of the Peninsula CRC but wants to ensure all members of the community can be involved and a cross section of the community is represented. The group is seeking expressions of interest from residents of Bellbridge, Bethanga, Granya and Talgarno who want to join and form the Committee.

The role of the Committee will be to identify the needs and issues raised by the bushfires as well as identify and

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST PENINSULA COMMUNITY RECOVERY COMMITTEE

An expression of interest is open for residents of Bellbridge, Bethanga, Talgarno and Granya to be part of the Peninsula Community Recovery Committee (CRC). The role of the CRC will be to give a voice to the broad views and recovery goals of the community, to be a conduit between communities and local and state government and to identify the community's recovery priorities.

Expressions of interest including name and contact details should be submitted to Julie Miller by 12pm, Friday 4th of September by email address or phone.

Phone : (02) 6020 1107
Email: juliemiller@skymesh.com.au



progress activities, projects, and services to support the social, economic, environmental, natural, and built environmental goals of the Peninsula communities.

The Committee will consult with the community via surveys, meetings and through existing community groups to ensure ideas and opinions are captured to consider these in decisions.

The structure and terms of reference of the CRC will be developed by the Committee.

For more information contact Julie Miller 02 6020 11107 or email juliemiller@skymesh.com.au



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Email: redscarpentry@hotmail.com



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e) tallangattavets@tpg.com.au

www.tallangattavets.com.au

or check us out on facebook!

Good Things Can Come from a Pandemic

Our road has seen quite a number of improvements since the COVID pandemic. Like many other quiet country roads, ours has been used as a place to exercise and for residents to get a change of scenery.

To keep the walk varied, neighbours have been placing teddy bears in various surprising locations for our son to find which has been getting increasingly inventive and humorous. Currently all stuffed toys feature masks and are adhering to proper health guidelines by being socially distanced!

Further down the road a swing on a low branch of a gum tree suddenly appeared and then a week later, a bench was added to complete the scene.

We also now have what has become known as 'The Exchange', which has simply become an iconic piece of the neighbourhood. Sue Michell explains: "We had set up a Flagstaff Road Communication group chat during the fires over summer and I noticed that quite a few of the posts were about spare produce going begging. As an isolation project, I thought it would be great to build a shelter to act as a central location to drop off and collect goodies, such as vegetables, seedlings, books and found items. It's been great to see it used as a community message board too."

The sense of community and camaraderie in our street has really grown over this otherwise challenging period and we hope this story may bring others to the fore.

Joe Calvert



Hotel Granya – A new Era

Originally built in 1928, it is currently undergoing renovations. New owners Gary Paxton and Bridget Bowe purchased the Hotel in February this year, just prior to COVID. They have been using this time to renovate the old pub and transform her beauty. Walls have been knocked out, the bar extended, bifold windows have been installed to reveal the beautiful surroundings including the beer garden and views of the Hume Weir.

A new Glycol beer system has been installed offering

three beers and one cider on tap, bottled beers and mixers and a selection of delicious wines will also be available for you to enjoy. Gary and Bridget are hoping to welcome you all as soon as the Stage 3 lockdown is lifted with the intention to open the Bar first and the Kitchen to be opened later in the year.

The Hotel has simple Dorm room accommodation available, or alternatively Gary and Bridget have been renovating two houses on the property for Farmstay Accommodation. The Cedar House caters for up to 8 guests and the Silver Gum Lodge sleeps 4. The perfect Girls Weekend away, or simply a great way to get out of town, take a break and get back to nature, walk among the trees and be delighted in the company of the Farmstay animals (Pets). They really are the heart and soul of the Hotel, they will follow you around, love a cuddle and the occasional treat. The Alpacas, Mini Ponies, Lamb, Sheep, Hens and Roosters - everyone co exists and they will make your heart sing.

For more information and enquiries contact hello@hotelgranya.com

www.hgfarmstay.com
www.hotelgranya.com
Ph 6072 9563



Candidate Statement for 2020 Towong Council Election



I am nominating as a candidate for the Towong Shire. This election is an opportunity to make significant change to the way business is conducted at this council.

My Platform:

I intend to ensure there is value for our rates, and all spending is carefully scrutinised using a commonsense approach. All decisions will stand up to greater scrutiny, and consultation with the wider community will be essential.

Future developments for Bellbridge, Bethanga and the Peninsula will promote growth, employment and tourism which will develop our area greatly.

There is an opportunity now, to promote our Shire, from end to end.

Our Bethanga Bridge is the gateway to the Peninsula and the Upper Murray region and presents an immediate opportunity for promoting tourism. The Bellbridge signage needs to be cleaned.... This may be an inexpensive start to a general upgrade? 'Our Bellbridge' stage 2 is included in the 20/21 budget. Having representation and greater community consultation will

ensure the retention of our standard of living. We are fortunate to live in one of the best Shires in Victoria and I am very aware of how much we have on our doorstep.

Bellbridge has been home to me, my husband and family, for 22 years and I have always taken an active interest in local matters. Our community's best interests are paramount. Previously, with your help, we challenged the 'Roy Williams Park' being moved to the foreshore with 'Our Bellbridge' Stage 1. It now remains safely where it belongs – as locals we were aware of the dangers of the proposal. We may need to assess stage 2. The plan may need to be revisited after some years. We now have many new residents who could contribute fresh ideas and sensible approaches.

We recently rallied to retain 'Our pre-school' as funding was non-existent so the Kindy closed, leaving many people unable to access child-care. We need to ensure the Kindy will have longevity, secure funding and grants, so it can grow and prosper.

Over the years, I have been involved in many community groups, pre-school committees, ratepayers association, school council, Hume Boat club and more recently, Berringa Support. My work background is in the Banking Industry and Medical Services (Administration and Management).

With your support, I will commit to be your voice in future decision-making. I will represent You.... the people of our community. I will commit to working with our shire towns promoting and encouraging tourism to our area. I am confident, I will question, listen and learn. I will stand up and be counted. Please contact me regarding any issue or if you have questions. You can contact me on Facebook and Twitter. My email; mail@deniseanderson.com.au

VOTE 1 Denise Anderson For Towong Council

Authorised by Denise Anderson 16 Craig Dr Bellbridge Vic
3691

New at Bethanga Post Office

Spring is here and the Bethanga Post office is going from strength to strength. I would like to thank the Bethanga community for all the lovely support and encouragement I have received since taking on my new role as postmaster at Bethanga.

There have been a few major changes in store as well as many little ones. The Bethanga Post Office is still providing normal services such as banking, bill payments, Western Union transactions and PO boxes, and is also selling newspapers and the Australia Post packaging products. Now also available is an interesting and eclectic range of giftwares, specialising in items made locally by creators in our valley and surrounding areas. Currently available are handmade soaps, the Mudpoo books by Peter Klein, handmade cards, succulent pots and hand crafted mushrooms for your pot plants, gorgeous bows and headbands, locally made jams and

pickles, stylish handcrafted earrings and more.

I am always on the lookout for more interesting products to sell in store and really enjoy encouraging local artists and creators by providing a platform for them to sell their wares to the community.

I am also in the process of setting up a food/crop/book swap stall situated outside the Post Office. The idea of this is you can take what you need and leave what you don't, ie excess home grown crops, packaged foods, books or anything you think may be useful to someone else. I hope this is something the community will get behind.

Once again thank you for the support and stay safe.

*Felicity Conway
The Bethanga Post Office*

Prospects for the Season Ahead

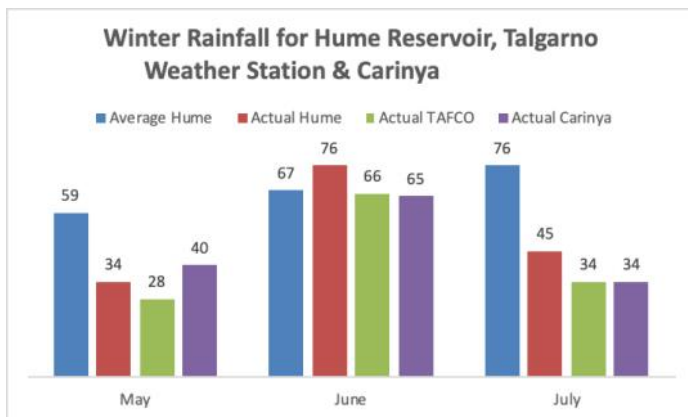
Thank you to Greg Hayes who has agreed to regularly contribute weather related articles for Berringa Community News readers.



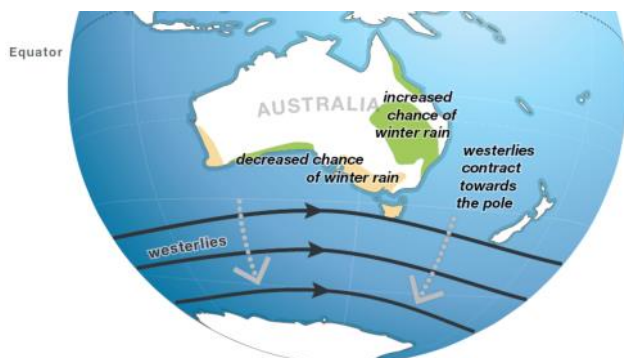
Rainfall Round-up

I put the kybosh on winter rainfall, I'm sorry to say but the autumn rain and the mild winter means that we are still travelling very well coming into spring, despite a drier than normal winter. Looking at how wet the paddocks are now it is a blessing that we had a dry spell over winter.

In an average year the winter rainfall (May to end July) would be 202 mm. This year it was only 128 mm at TAFCO station (de Hennin's), 155 mm at Hume Reservoir and 139 mm at my place. The Hume reading was 77% of average.



May and July were well below average, but June was a little above average. The low rainfall for May was caused in part by higher than normal pressure systems across central and southern Australia. This has been a continuing feature of the weather over the past year. For much of Australia, but not here, June was the fourth driest on record. The dry winter was also a result of the positive Southern Annular Mode (SAM) which had the effect of shifting the front-bearing westerlies further south than normal.



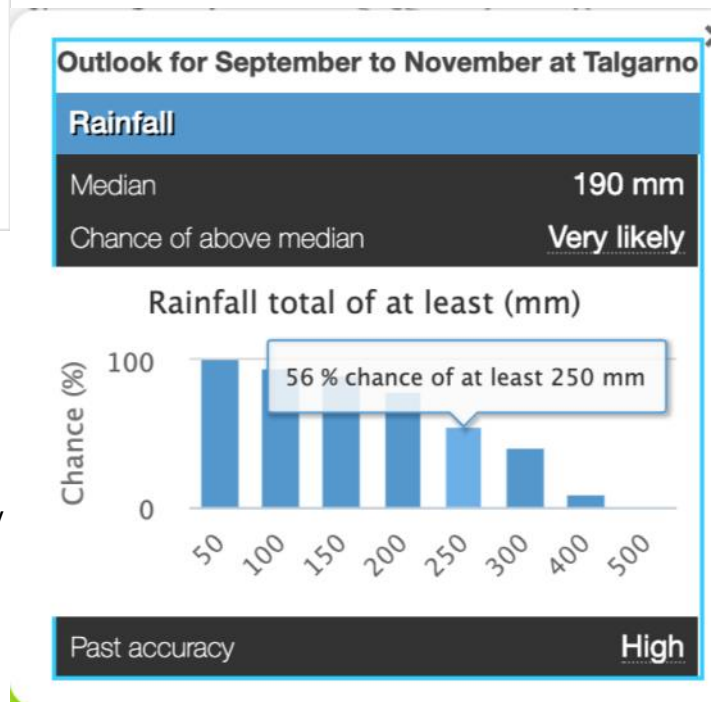
Southern Annular Mode (SAM): Positive phase (winter)

After the wet August, soil moisture levels are very good across the district, setting things up for a good spring.

The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) winter outlook suggested a better than average season so it didn't get that one right.

Prospects for Spring (August to end of October).

The BOM's outlook is very encouraging. It is likely that a la Nina will develop over spring and there is a good chance that this will be supported by a negative Indian Ocean Dipole, both of which can be expected to provide moisture sources for good rainfalls. The BOM expects that there is better than a 50% chance that we will have 250mm or better in the period September to end November.



On top of the good rain we have already received in August, I'm thinking that my earlier prediction of an exceptional year might still be realised. With over 500mm to date and good prospects for spring we may well get over 800mm this year. And the outlook for the next six months is also extremely positive.

Greg Hayes



Council adopts Annual Budget, focused on economic and social recovery

At its Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 25 August 2020, Council adopted its Annual Budget 2020/21, with a focus on driving economic and social recovery.

Council will not be applying a rate increase.

The adoption follows a four-week community consultation period which invited public submissions. No public submissions were received.

Mayor Cr David Wortmann said Council was pleased to adopt the Budget. "The next twelve months is a critical time as we rebuild from the bushfires, COVID-19 and border closures".

"The Annual Budget 2020/21 recognises the unique needs of each area of the Shire. Council has focused on enhancing community wellbeing and driving economic recovery, including tourism development across the Shire" Mayor Wortmann said.

The budget includes a range of key projects, including:

- An upgrade of Hanson Street Corryong from Kiell Street to Sugarloaf Road
- Further development of the Great River Road (western end)
- Continuation of the Colac Colac Caravan Park and Tallangatta Holiday Park upgrades
- Upgrading the Bullioh Netball Courts
- Continuation of the Corryong town streetscape upgrade
- Replacement of the Cudgewa playground

- Development of the Talgarno Recreation Reserve tennis courts
- Mitta Mitta and Dartmouth streetscape renewals
- Improving waste management and recycling diversion
- Upgrading the public facilities in Walwa and Cudgewa
- Attracting business and government agencies to operate within our Shire
- Continuation of the upgrade to Georges Creek Road
- Researching Towong's Indigenous history
- Developing new cycle product and hosting cycle events
- Advocating for mobile and internet coverage
- Bethanga town beautification
- Continued tree planting and town maintenance programs
- Sealing part of Wises Creek Road, Talgarno

"This budget also contains the new Bushfire Relief and Recovery Directorate, funded by Bushfire Recovery Victoria, which will deliver the relief and recovery programs for the our communities with a rebuild and recovery focus not only on the Upper Murray, but also other communities throughout the Shire that have all been impacted" Mayor Wortmann said.

To view the full list of projects and initiatives included in the Annual Budget 2020/21, visit www.towong.vic.gov.au/about-council/plans-budgets-reports/.

Changes to Council services

Thank you all for adapting to wearing your face covering. Your respect for the restrictions helps to prevent cases in our community and ultimately save lives.

Following the introduction of stage 3 restrictions, the following changes apply to Council services:

- Council Offices and the Upper Murray Community Recovery Hub - while doors are closed, teams continue to work remotely.
- Contact Council Offices by phone (02 6071 5100) or email (info@towong.vic.gov.au)
- Contact the Recovery Hub by phone (1800 518 222) or email (recovery@towong.vic.gov.au)

- Playgrounds, skate parks, barbecues and water fountains - are closed
- Libraries – while doors are closed, Click, Call and Collect services continue
- Corryong Visitor Information Centre closed

The following continue to operate as normal:

- Landfill and Transfer Stations
- Maternal and Child Health Care – provided online where possible
- All other Council operated Early Years, Kindergartens and Long Day Care services

We understand this is a difficult and challenging time for everyone as we adjust to these requirements.

But together, we will get through this.

Council will continue to keep you updated on any further changes at www.towong.vic.gov.au/coronavirus and on Council's Facebook page.

Stand for Council in 2020 Elections

Local Government Elections will take place on October 24 2020 via postal vote.

If you are interested in representing your community to positively influence future direction and outcomes, you may be interested in becoming a Councillor.

If you are considering running for Council, you will need to undertake mandatory candidate training (as prescribed in the new Local Government Act 2020).

The training is provided by Local Government Victoria and will run throughout August and September.

For more information and to register visit www.towong.vic.gov.au/about-council/.

To find out more about standing for Council, visit the dedicated website at www.viccouncils.asn.au/stand-for-council.

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



18 new Council roles available through *Working for Victoria*

Council has been successful in its application to take part in the Working for Victoria scheme, keeping more Victorians employed during COVID-19.

The Victorian Government initiative will employ 18 new six month fixed term roles at Towong Shire Council to provide critical services across Towong in response to COVID-19. Locals are encouraged to apply.

Mayor Cr David Wortmann said the \$500 million Victorian Government initiative is matching people that have lost their jobs with employers who need additional staff.

"Towong Shire Council is really pleased to take part in Working for Victoria and is looking forward to welcoming our 18 new employees on board," Mayor Wortmann said.

"If you're looking for a job, we would encourage you to jump on the Working for Victoria website and register your interest."
Activities will include outdoor work on local or regional infrastructure, environmental management, and art programs to bring communities together.

Under Working for Victoria, Council will provide jobs for unemployed people – whether they have lost their jobs due to the impacts of COVID-19 or have been without work for a longer period of time.

Council has commenced advertising the new roles. Under Stage 3 restrictions, the recruitment process will occur online and over-the-phone wherever possible.

- Program Manager – Working for Victoria
- Human Resource Officer
- Engineer/Project Manager
- Outdoor Team Leader
- Parks and Gardens Officers x 8 positions
- Environment and Parks Officers x 4 positions
- Artists in residence x 2 roles

More than 8,500 Victorians have found positions through Working for Victoria since the program was launched in April, providing a quick return to work and access to training where required.

The Government has struck new agreements with 10 additional Councils across Victoria to support more than 1,200 people into jobs.

To find out more about the Working for Victoria fund and to register your interest in applying for one of the jobs at Towong Shire Council, visit www.vic.gov.au/workingforvictoria.



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*"We are enourmously happy with the attention to detail
 in both design and finish of our new home"*

Pete & Katrina

Members of the HIA and Master Builders Association

COMMUNITY NOTICES

This section is for community members to give notice about local happenings, 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)

OUTSIDE THESE HOURS

Ring the contractor,
6020 2038

Wymah Ferry not operating due to COVID-19 Border Closures

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

CORRYONG BUS & FREIGHT

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

Daily Monday to Friday

Maurie Johnston
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

Health Service
Sue Reid 6071 5270

Granya Museum

Specialising in pioneer families.

Open by appointment
6072 9540

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).

Use of pizza oven free - but booking essential
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

Kaye Guiliamese
kjfarm@gmail.com
6072 9598

Spring is here, time to sit in the garden with a good book
from the Talgarno Street Library

Open all hours for everyone at the Talgarno Hall.

Marriage

Nick Gormly and Marte Ur were married in Norway on 22 August with Australian family and friends watching on-line. Amanda Paton wrote this poem for them. The wedding ceremony can be viewed on youtu.be/X0qvToAjn4o

As we all sat and watched our screens
A family's prince married his queen
We all could see that 'queen' she was
And all of this we knew because
Our hearts were beaming proud with love
As the vows were placed by the hands above
The love, the smiles, the face can tell
No matter if in Aus, or in Mandal
We were all around the world in sync
Watching what your faces think
It was a wedding truly like no other
We all were wishing to 'hug a brother'
But this time right now, it is still real
We saw your hearts, the love you feel
These moments may they last forever
As you spend your whole lifetime together
It's said a soul will find its mate

Always on time and never late
So when this Logger saw his Viking fall
He picked her up and held her tall
Taking her hand they grew together
Travelled through their stormy weather
To here and now, the day they marry
If one may fall, may the other carry
This truly is a great love story
Two souls now mate in love and glory
Your future is all yours to own
And together, you are always home
For Marte and Nic a beautiful ceremony for a
beautiful couple.

I wrote you a little poem to mark the
occasion.



In Memorium

Garry Scott

Garry Scott (formerly of Bethanga) passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on 23 June. He was 55 years old and leaves a wife Carolyn, 15 year old son Jaxon

Angus Elder

Angus, the youngest son of Dave Elder, died on 13 July in a motorcycle accident two days before his 21st birthday. Angus, with a passion for the ocean, was living his dream in Koh Tao working as a scuba instructor. His mother, Amanda, set up a gofundme page whereby his friends and family can donate to a charity close to his heart, Shark Guardian, rather than bringing flowers or gifts.

To donate go to www.gofundme.com/f/angus-elder

Alan Lehmann

Alan Lehmann was born in Lockhart in 1936. His father, Peter Lehmann, bought a property in Talgarno where Alan spent most of his childhood. Alan married Angela in 1959 and made their first home in Tallangatta before moving to Gippsland, share farming there for 4 years. In 1964, Alan and his family moved to Albury where the Earth moving business began.

In 1966 Alan bought his first bulldozer, which can be seen in this photo on the back of the Lehmann Scrapper truck, sitting outside the church at the funeral ready for Alan's next job. Alan moved back to Talgarno in 1973 with his family, (his wife, Angela and children Sherstein, Tony, Barb, Joanne and Doc) where he and his family were involved in many Talgarno community activities and committees. He was involved with the school as well as the Hall. He was on the CFA for 40 years, 5 of these as captain. He was Tallangatta



Group DGO. He was on the School committee and the Hall committee. Alan was a Towong Shire Councillor for 2 terms. Alan would have known every paddock in Talgarno as well as the surrounding district (as well as every hole) as he would have either built a dam, cleared some land or cut and baled hay. You would always see Alan driving around the district with either a young child or a dog on board.

Alan's inventions were renowned throughout Australia. He and his dad built the Lehmann Saw and then Alan went on to invent and build the very first elevating scrapper, water pumps, rippers and blades and a silage grab. The Engineering business produced over 100 Lehmann scrapers. Alan and his son, Doc, designed and built the vibratory plough, laying over 2000 km of pipeline on various jobs all over the country. This talented inventor was still designing at the age of 81 where he was working on a Magnetic Engine that required zero energy to operate with his son, Doc. Alan also won "Machine of the Year" several times at the Henty Machinery Field Days.

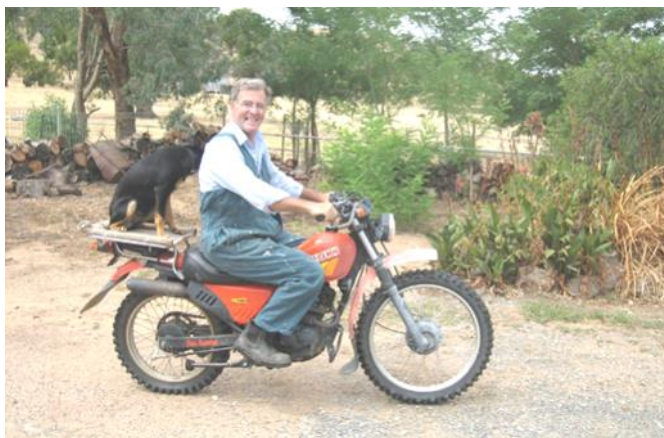
Extract from eulogy



Alan and his father, Peter Lehmann with their Lehmann Saw. They were building sheep yards up Wisers Creek for Eric Wood

Frank Kelly

April 5th 1945 - August 18th 2020



Frank Kelly was born in Airdrie, Scotland in April 1945, just shy of the end of WWII. He was the third son of Charles Kelly & Julia McCulloch. His father passed away when he was young and he and his siblings Charles, James (Jim) and June grew up with their mum in a small council house.

There were all kinds of tales of harebrained schemes, on the backdrop of that gritty poverty there are tales of sneaking out, of soccer triumphs, trouble making and adventure. Frank travelled extensively through Europe and then overland to Asia and arrived in Darwin in 1967/8. Making his way overland to Melbourne he had every intention of travelling onwards to South America, but met my mother Rosemary by a cigarette machine in a pub (although she didn't smoke) and they were soon married and so Frank settled in Australia. (When I was in Colombia in 2001 he requested I bring him back a charango – an instrument he had long dreamt of collecting in his onwards travels – which I did).

After a number of years in Glen Iris, Rosemary and Frank bought a block at Bethanga in the late '70s and built a home where they lived until 1989 when they moved to Tankards Lane, Talgarno.

Frank had a varied career in computer programming, business teaching, consulting and alongside his work for Riverina College, La Trobe and most recently CSU he ran sheep on his farm at Talgarno.

He was an active member of the CFA as well as the Wodonga High School Council and various other committees.

I have rich memories of a childhood jammed with clearing sales, spotlighting, shearing sheds, wood carting and billy tea, songs and much silliness.

Despite his joyful spirit Frank could also be a tricky character and he carried with him some wounds which in turn wounded some of those close to him too. He had his share of battles – with the drink (which he overcame), with his blood condition and most recently with the cancer. He was given an initial prognosis of two years and he dug deep and pushed it out to five, even holding three of his infamous wakes at Café Borellas to the surprise of many.

Maverick, messy, pig headed, stubborn, cheeky, spirited and generous Frank will be missed by his many friends across the region and family and friends around the world.

Dad continued to travel often visiting friends across Australia, his family in the UK, myself in Alice Springs and my sister Pip and her family in Costa Rica.

Deep thanks to those who have supported him through his battle with cancer during these past five years, bringing wood, meals, helping with the sheep and checking in on him.

Particular gratitude to Sue Petzke, Ian Coghlan, Jonathan Green & family, Hugh Dunchue & family, Julie & Jim de Hennin, Bev & John Hartnett, and Adrian Hutchinson. Your generosity and friendship allowed Frank to stay on his beloved farm right up until the very end.

At his request a private cremation was held on August 26th and Frank's ashes will be scattered up the back of the farm at a later date.

Alex Kelly

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

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



Tallangatta Health Service News

It is a challenging time for Victorians at present and we should all think of each other and how we can all stay safe. As a health service we continue to follow regulations and restrictions in response to the current State of Disaster in Victoria. Whilst we work under the restrictions which are in place, safe quality care for our patients, residents, and clients continues to be our highest priority, whilst we adapt our activities and processes to our services each day. The implementation of practices accordingly is as required by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to ensure our ongoing safety during Victoria's COVID-19 Pandemic. Delivering safe high-quality care relies on our staff and volunteers to be committed to the changes they need to make, which can sometimes be several changes each week. As an organisation, we are very proud of our staff and their dedication each day. As a community you should be proud of them too, as they provide the service to and for our community, and often your loved ones.

Wearing of masks

New requirements were announced on 30 July 2020 that now require **ALL** Victorians, when they leave their home, to wear a mask. **This is now Mandatory**, and no longer only for those in Greater Melbourne and the Mitchell Shire.

When visiting Tallangatta Health Service, you will be required to wear a mask at all times. All staff are also wearing masks across the facility. Tallangatta Health Service has had staff wearing masks in place prior to these changes, to align with the DHHS guidelines that were released previously for hospitals and Aged Care Facilities.

Reusable masks will also be available for our community with distribution points to be identified soon. Look for notices on our Facebook and website as well those of

Towong Shire.

Masks are part of keeping you safe **BUT YOU MUST ALSO CONTINUE** to maintain required social distancing and practice good hand hygiene.

Infection Control

If you are a community group and you would like Tallangatta Health Service to provide education on Infection Control, please contact us on 02 6071 5200.

Visitors to Tallangatta Health Service

From 22 July 2020, the DHHS have increased visiting restrictions in Aged Care Facilities and Acute Hospitals. The following applies to all visitors to Tallangatta Health Service:

- One visitor per visit
- Maximum of one hour per visit
- Each patient or resident to have a maximum of one visitor per day

Visiting hours are between **12.30pm to 4.30pm.**

A variation to these rules may be considered on compassionate grounds, at which time discussion with the Nurse Manager is to occur.

Visitors are to enter via the main front reception for screening and temperature checking, prior to entry into the hospital, Lakeview, or Bolga Court.

Visitors are to wear a mask when visiting patients and residents, maintain required social distancing and practice good hand hygiene.

COVID-19 Information

It is important that we all stay informed of the current COVID-19 (Coronavirus) situation. Whilst there is an abundance of information circulating, it is important to

have a reliable source. The Department of Health website is available at:

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert> or stay up to date on ABC News coverages.



COVID-19 Testing

If you have any symptoms you can call our Medical Centre on 02 6071 5200 or call Albury Wodonga Health on 02 6058 4444 to arrange an appointment for a test. Alternatively, you may call the **COVID-19 Hotline on 1800 675 398 for advice.**

All individuals being tested for COVID-19 should home isolate until test results are available.

COVID-19 symptoms to be aware of are:

- Fever OR chills with no other known cause **OR**
- Cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, loss of sense of smell **OR**
- New onset of headache, myalgia (muscle pain), nausea, vomiting and diarrhea **AND**
- who are close contacts of a confirmed case of COVID-19, or
- who have returned from overseas in the past 14 days, or
- are a Health Care or Aged Care Worker

Together We Care – Living our values

Managing staff fatigue during a Pandemic is acknowledged as a very real issue. Restrictions and guidelines sometimes change on a daily basis, and information is being distributed at an alarming pace. Whilst staff are still encouraged to take leave and access any resources available to them, it is important to keep up

morale in what has been a very trying year for the whole community.

As a part of a staff initiative, Tallangatta Health Service has commenced a lucky prize giveaway over the next few weeks. Vouchers will be purchased from local businesses and awarded to staff via a random selection. We hope that not only will this small token provide a 'lift' for morale, but it will also acknowledge that we consider our local businesses who form part of our community.

This initiative will show that we strive to live our values and 'Together we Care'.

Community Garden Project

We have been successful under Bushfire Recovery Victoria, Mental Health and Wellbeing funding to establish a community garden. Tallangatta Health Service has available land adjoining Lake Hume that we can utilise. Growing food in a local community garden has all of the benefits of growing your own food, together with many more. Community gardens provide families and individuals without suitable land of their own or without knowledge or ability to cultivate a garden alone, with the opportunity to explore this and produce food. They also bring together people from a variety of backgrounds, offering an inclusive exchange environment between people. Children and young people can learn about where food comes from, about living sustainably and caring for their environment.

Our overarching aim is to support positive mental health and wellbeing for our community.

We will be seeking people from our community to be part of our Community Garden Committee. Look out for Expressions of interest in the next month. They will be on Tallangatta Health Service's website and Facebook.

'Community Science for Sustainability' Project Success

Tallangatta Health Service has also been successful in being selected as a community for Future Earth Australia's community science for sustainability initiative, in their first Australian cohort. We are one of two communities in Australia chosen. We are very excited, as this links very closely with our community garden. We are seeking to have a garden design which will be sustainable and survive and thrive, and have a set of key questions we want answered.

Future Earth Australia has partnered with the American Geophysical Union's (AGU) Thriving Earth Exchange to convene and support a series of community science projects for sustainability. A Scientist who is interested in co-producing a community science research project to advance the sustainability priorities of that community will be sought. We are in early steps of this project, so watch this space.

Bethanga Hotel

New Owner

Gary and Bridget have sold the hotel to Gary's sister Kate.

COVID updates

We are currently open for takeaway meals and packaged beer between 5 and 8 pm Wednesday to Sunday

Please continue to follow us via our socials for updates. We endeavour to keep you all in the

www.bethangahotel.com.au
@bethangahotel
#bethangahotel
02 6026 4214



Elizabeth Houston Piano Teacher



Beginner to Intermediate

AMEB Exams or Playing for Pleasure

Music Theory

Current Working with Children Check

Ages 4+ to Adult

Bethanga Studio

www.docemusic.com.au

info@docemusic.com.au

0429 382 102

PLAYGROUP

Berringa Playgroup is up and running again!

When: Mondays 9.30am - 11.00 am
Frequency: Fortnightly on each odd week of Victorian School Terms
Where: Bethanga Primary School
5 Beardmore Street, Bethanga
Contact: Kate Singline on 0422 725 147

Starts 24 February - all welcome!



Come and
join in the
FUN!

The Playgroup is in recess due to the Covid-19 restrictions. We will recommence once the restrictions on schools are lifted

Bethanga General Store

7.30 am - 11.30am Monday to Thursday

7.30 am - 6 pm Friday & Saturday

10.30 am - 6pm Sunday

General provisions and Swap and Go gas

Enquiries 6026 4215.

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Granya Gazette

WELL DONE KLANCIE

Well done to Granya Resident, Klancie Star, who won the photo in the Towong Shire photo competition. Klancie loves taking photos and using her editing skills to make the photo extra special. Congratulations. This photo titled "Thistle Camp" was taken at Talgarno.



GRANYA TENNIS CLUB

Tennis is a great sport for all ages and if you're keen on having a hit please get in contact with Sharon 0402683606 or Jayden 0468695073. Our Tennis this season may look a little different and we are still awaiting news on how tennis will work pending on Covid-19 restrictions. We will keep everyone posted as the season gets closer to starting.

GRANYA CFA

Always looking for new members, please contact Ken 0419 141 444.

SUPPORT OUR LOCALS

We have some great businesses in Granya and when things get back to normal let's spread the word and help make these boom again, The Wool Press, Cotton Tree Cottage, and the soon to open Hotel Granya Farm Stay.



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Helen Vukasinovic

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Mobile: 0417 493 049

Email: helen@elitetaxationservices.com.au



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CLUBS AND GROUPS

Berringa Community News does not have the current status under Covid 19 regulations of all the Clubs and Groups in this section. We suggest you contact them or their social media pages for further information.

BERRINGA CERT



CERT in COVID 19 Times

The CERT team has continued to be available 24/7 throughout the lockdown. We are operating with strict PPE requirements.

To keep our community safe please maintain

- Physical distancing
- Hand washing
- Self-isolate and get tested if you have any symptoms or you are unwell
- Work from home if possible
- Only leave home for supplies, medical care, caregiving, exercise, work/study or visiting close friends and family while sticking to guidelines of allowed venues and activities.
- Wear a mask while outside your home
- Download the Covid 19 app

CERT Committee AGM

Due to Covid 19 restrictions in force the CERT Committee AGM is scheduled for Monday 24 August has been postponed until further notice.

Defibrillators

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



Bethanga Shop
Bethanga Recreation Reserve pavilion
Bellbridge Community Centre
Granya Hall
Talgarno Hall

*Keep well,
Julie Miller,
Team Leader Berringa CERT
juliemiller@skymesh.com.au
6020 1107
0419 339 679*

ROTARY CLUB OF BELLBRIDGE LAKE HUME INC.

Christmas carols and Australia Day events are on hold. Lake Hume Cycle event for Feb 2021 has been cancelled because of the current virus situation.

*Regards,
Andrew Christy 6026 4338*

BELLBRIDGE COMMUNITY GROUP

The Towong Council also needs to hear from our community, with any questions or concerns so they really know what's happening in our community and what we want or need. Contact can be made by phone 6071 5100 or info@towong.vic.gov.au. If you are not confident in contacting Council, our community group is happy to help put forward ideas or raise concerns with Council. Our aim is to increase communication with our council. To join our group please contact;

Denise Anderson 0418 612 470

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 9am until 6pm (depending on attendance). You are welcome to come along and get involved in Men's Shed projects or create your own, or even get the men at the shed to 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 Tuesday of every month at 7pm.

Phil Craig, President

TALGARNO TENNIS CLUB

Welcome to Spring – the time to start playing tennis again (we hope!) At this stage the Kiewa & Talgarno Tennis association summer competition will be going ahead, however may look a little different this year. The association AGM will be held mid-late September and decisions will be made regarding how the upcoming season can be played.

As always, we are looking for players to field Section 1 & 2 senior tennis teams, as well as Section 3 & 4 junior teams. Please let us know if you or your children are interested in playing.

We are also looking at providing coaching and running a fast-four night tennis comp at the courts during the tennis season. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for more information!

Cheers

Jarrod Stephenson (President) - 0417 228 445
Adam Richardson (Secretary) - 0412 560 833

BERRINGA SUPPORT



During July we had a small window of opportunity to do a run to Walwa. Denise, with the help of her husband Bill delivered 30 boxes of Koh cleaning products to Joyce at the Walwa store. We could not go to the farm gates as we are unable to leave the NSW border bubble. Joyce will pass on our products to the fire victims.



As mandatory wearing of face masks came into force we became aware there were none available in our fire affected areas. We were fortunate to receive a donation from Jillian Franklin Designs of 22 reusable face masks to be given to those in need. Once again, we sincerely thank Joyce for her assistance with the distribution of these masks. Locally we were able to distribute 15 remaining boxes to those who needed a bit of a hand.

Unfortunately, due to COVID, we have been restricted in our movements with the latest shutdown. However, if you or anyone you know is in need please don't hesitate to reach out and we will do our best to help or put you in contact with people.

Denise Anderson
Berringa Support
info@berringasupport.com.au
02 6046 9250
www.berringasupport.com.au

Privacy will be respected.

BETHANGA CFA

Fire calls 000

Burn Notifications VICFIRE 1800 668 511
Victorian Bush Fire Information 1800 240 667
All Peninsula Fire Units - UHF 24

INCIDENTS

There have been no brigade call outs over the last three months – which is likely a record. Well done everyone on staying safe and staying at home.

TURN OUTS DURING COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

Brigade turn outs during emergencies will continue to occur as per normal.

CEMETERY LANE TANK REPAIRS

The brigade has completed repairs to the badly leaking community tank and replaced the faulty tap on the CFA tank on Cemetery Lane. We also replaced the flexible overhead fill pipes to the Talgarno Gap Road and Cemetery Lane standpipes. You will be happy to find the rubber fill pipes are 600mm longer at both sites for easier filling of private tanks.

We would like to thank Tony and the team at Flower Macklin, High Street Wodonga, for their advice and discounted prices on plumbing parts. This well-respected family owned business has been servicing our community for many decades.

BRIGADE BENEFITS FROM GENEROUS DONATIONS

The CFA received millions of dollars in donations following the devastating 2019/2020 bushfires. These donations were made available to every brigade in Victoria to share. Our brigade successfully applied for funding to the value of \$3300 for reversing cameras for both our tankers, plus hose winders for all three of our appliances.

ROADSIDE FUEL REDUCTION

In late August and early September the Brigade will be doing fuel reduction work in the form of roadside spraying to areas around Bellbridge and Bethanga including Lake Road and Kurrajong Gap Road.

MINIMUM SKILLS TRAINING

Due to the impacts of the coronavirus and the Stage 3 lockdown, at this stage we have not run a minimum skills course this year. We have multiple people waiting to complete this course and we hope to be able to run it prior to the next fire season, depending on restrictions. If you're interested in doing minimum skills, please contact own captain, Ben Mitchell on the number listed below.

BRIGADE ELECTIONS

Brigade elections have also been postponed until further notice due to coronavirus restrictions. Those who hold an elected position will continue to hold that position until elections can be held.

UPCOMING TRAINING

Again, due to the coronavirus, we have not been conducting any brigade trainings. Prior to the fire season we will be hosting some burn over drill training sessions to ensure our members retain the minimum training to attend incidents.

GET FIRE READY IN YOUR LOCKDOWN DOWNTIME

There are many jobs you can do around your house during the current lockdown to reduce the risk of fire danger at your property this summer.

- Renew your fire plan – use the CFA's guide to create your fire plan: <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/your-bushfire-plan>
- Keep your gutters cleaned out.
- Keep the grass short and the dry vegetation to a minimum around your buildings.
- Remove any flammable rubbish lying around.
- Check your firefighting equipment, including your fire blanket and fire extinguisher, for serviceability.
- Check your gas barbeque for any leaks.
- Ensure you have copies of your important documents, such as driver's license and birth certificate, stored electronically in your email or cloud.
- Ensure liquid propellants, such as petrol, are stored away from your main house if possible.
- Look around and assess your individual fire risks and discuss with your family and neighbours about what you are going to do if there is a fire.

CONTACTS

Ben Mitchell, Captain 0411 080 277
bethanqacfcaptain@gmail.com
Tracey Woodhouse, Secretary 0413 708 302
bethanqacfcasecretary@gmail.com
Ron Evans, Community Safety Liaison 02 6026 4301

TALGARNO RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

Welcome to the spring update from Talgarno Fire Brigade. It has been a very quiet winter for the brigade with no call outs and very few activities to report on due to the impact that COVID-19 is having on our lives.

We are very much enjoying the rain and the well soaked water table at the moment. But as we head into spring and before things dry off it will be a great time to get outside and tidy up around the house and yards for the upcoming fire season. Some good ideas include:

- Cutting your grass around your house to less than 10cm in length. Keep it as green as possible
- Remove flammable items from decks and verandas such as boxes, furniture and door mats.
- Clear your gutters and keep them clear of leaf litter
- Trim trees and shrubs near the house to reduce fuel loads and water well
- Get rid of dry grass, piles of leaves, twigs and



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Bring your kids along if you want to as we are very child friendly.

First time free and there after \$5.00 a session,

Albury Lifestyle Centre is next door to Auto Barn in Young street, Albury

For more information ring

Jayne Curran

branches

- Store any flammable liquids away from the house
- Make sure seals around windows, doors and roofing materials are in good order to avoid embers entering
- Review your Bushfire survival plan and prepare yourself and family for various scenarios you may face

As the grass starts drying out, please take care with lighting fires around your property. Please ensure you patrol fires and have adequate fire fighting equipment on hand, just in case.

A reminder that you should notify the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA) when burning off to avoid our brigades turning up. You can do this in the following ways:

1. Phone 1800 668 511 and provide the required information.
2. Complete the Burn off Notification Form from the CFA website. Email the form to burnoffs@esta.vic.gov.au or by fax: 1300 674 428.
3. Use the National Relay Service by ringing 1300 555 727 and ask for Information to be relayed to ESTA via 1800 668 511

COVID-19 procedures

Our COVID-19 procedures are continuing for all members involved in any incidents or maintenance of vehicles and equipment. These are in place to protect members and the community. These procedures include:

- temperature checks of members turning out to incidents or maintenance at the shed,
- the use of masks given we cannot always physically distance and
- the sanitisation of vehicle and equipment after use.

Annual general meeting and elections

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions we have not been permitted to meet since the pandemic began. We have been given the tentative date of 28 October for our AGM where elections for the forthcoming 2 years will be held. We are not sure if the meeting will be held in person, or via an online platform. All members will be encouraged to attend this meeting and details will be shared closer to the date.

If there are any community members that would like to join our brigade, please contact Peter Star or Brendan Pearson.

*Peter Star, Captain, 0429 436 347
Brendan Pearson, Secretary, 0439 881 440*

BETHANGA TALGARNO JUNIOR BRIGADE

Our juniors have not met since March unfortunately due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this stage we have not been given any direction about dates for commencement. However, we will be in contact with all current members when we hear more.

If you are between the ages of 11 and 15, we are always open to new juniors joining us! Give us a call and come and try a session or two. If you enjoy the sessions, you can sign up officially.

*Brendan Pearson on 0439881440 or John Northey
0414931442*

bethangatalgarnojuniors@gmail.com

BETHANGA CRICKET CLUB

Due to the current circumstances, it was deemed impracticable to hold the AGM. The executive committee has been meeting regularly to keep things going behind the scenes. The current committee will continue in the current capacity until such time the AGM can be held.
President – Trent Sirl 0439 090 333
Vice Pres - Nick Jesser
Treasurer - Kristen Jahne (Krusty)
Secretary – Jo Sirl

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Email: george@stahl.net.au

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The club was hoping to play in a new uniform this year, however Cricket Albury Wodonga have placed this on hold. We look forward to seeing everyone again when restrictions are lifted. Further updates will be on the Bethangacc Facebook page.

Johanne Sirl - Secretary
Trent Sirl – President 0439 090 333
Kristian Jahne - Treasurer

BETHANGA GOLF CLUB

Springdale Road Bethanga



Due to the Covid 19 restrictions the golf course is closed. Although some of the restrictions on golf courses are to be lifted, the Bethanga Golf course committee has made the regrettable decision that it will not re-open the course this season, due to the work required to make it useable for what would be a very short period. The course will be re-opened next year.

Hire the club house for your next celebration or fundraiser.

Contact either



Peter Star 0429 436 347

Morry Strelec 0400 036 635

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Contact

Scott Coates 0457 464 647

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 6020 1177

BETHANGA ANGLERS CLUB

Just a reminder that members can weigh their fish in at the Bethanga Hotel at any time.

Anyone interested in joining the Club or any member who has any suggestions for future outings, please contact Brian Hunter 6026 4235

Happy Fishing, CATCHYA soon

Brian 6026 4235

BETHANGA RECREATION RESERVE

Executive

President - Brett Martin

Secretary - Andrew Hird

Treasurer - Karen Pyle

General committee

Matt Gill

Terry Macartney

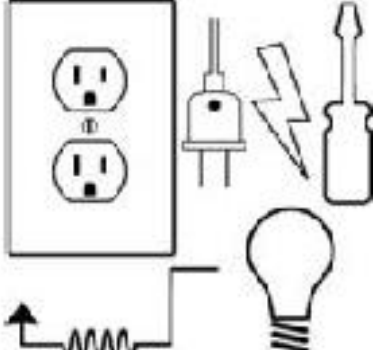
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BETHANGA PONY CLUB AND ADULT RIDING GROUP

Rally days are held on the third Sunday of each month and riders receive instruction in horse riding and horse handling, with safety as the primary goal.

Although you would expect that horse ownership is a basic requisite to be a Pony Club member, the club is fortunate enough to have extra horses brought along by existing members and committee members to give those members without a horse an opportunity to participate.

Horse activities to date have included a trail ride, ground skill lessons, riding at the walk, trot and canter, sporting (such as barrel racing) and obstacle courses. One rainy day, members even did some

indoor class work and getting to understand their horses and how they move.

The Bethanga Gymkhana Committee has included two new events in its program for BPC members. The Bethanga Pony Club is a member of Pony Club Victoria.

The club has up to two "come and try days" before fees are due. Annual fees include insurance through Pony Club Victoria which provides cover for members 24/7, not just at Pony Club rallies.

The Bethanga Pony Club has its own Facebook page, so check us out; friend us on Facebook at 'Bethanga Pony Club'.

If you have any old 44-gallon drums or long pine poles/posts or even remnants of still usable paint that you no longer have a need for, please

consider donating them to the Pony Club - we can always use them.

For general information, registration and rally days, please contact Kelly Gibbon on 0414 612 918.

BONEGILLA HALL CRAFT GROUP

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

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

Contact Pam on 0401 545 583

POLE WALKERS

On Wednesdays at 10:00 am during winter (9:00am 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



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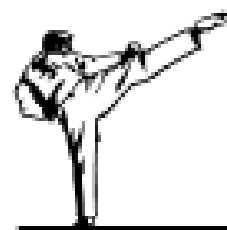
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CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

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Baptisms/Christenings - by
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Enquiries to Rev Sandra Temple
6026 4361 or
0467 259 722

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Wises Creek Talgarno Landcare Group



Despite the lockdown we have been busy in the background over winter with Simon Feillafe working with many of you to plant trees and to fence areas on their places. Here is the report from Simon.

2020 has been a relatively different year, in that we had planned to run 2 field days on Regenerative farming practices and fungi, both of which were cancelled due to current circumstances. Despite this, 6 families undertook fencing / revegetation projects, and it certainly looks like a good year so far for these projects. Around the region we have also been looking at potential future projects, such as releasing 2 new dung beetle varieties to fill in the spring gap, *B. bubalus* and *O. vacca*.

Mitta 2 Murray Landcare

On the 17th August, we walked around a paddock with

nets collecting Flea Beetles (*Longitarsus echii*) as a biological control as part of our redistribution efforts for Paterson's curse. We only managed to collect enough for 4 sites on the day, but there were hundreds if not thousands of insects in each batch. The releases occurred around Bethanga. Of note, when letting the insects go, there were also good numbers of Crown weevil and Root weevil (*Mogulones*) within our collections among the spiders and other insects. *Mogulones* are 2 of the major biological control agents for Paterson's curse.

The Mitta to Murray Blackberry Action Group (M2MBAG) through the Project Officer Susanne Watkins, has also been working with some of our landholders to plan their blackberry management activities. M2MBAG is currently developing a strategic plan with the intention of creating a new network to support all Landcare groups in the Mitta to Murray region. As part of this process, representatives of each Landcare group are being asked to respond to a survey.

Greg Hayes
Secretary

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The Bellbridge childcare centre has remained open throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, offering a sense of normality in these ever-changing times. It is most pleasing to hear that 34 families are now using the service, with 4 new enrolments taken over the last couple of months! Many families are also picking up extra days to ensure their children are having lots of social interactions.

There have been many highlights at the centre over the last 3 months including:



- Cooking up a feast of goodies- pancakes, biscuits and fairy bread which were delivered to the Police and Defence personnel at the Border checkpoint.
- Building their own bears, experimenting with balloon painting and making rain sticks in the Long Day care room.
- Kindergarten children are learning about building structures – bridges, dams and weirs as well as space – a highlight being the creation of a NASA space toilet!
- Gardening too has been a favourite pastime for all which generally involves discovering all the wonderful creatures in the yard and collecting natural elements for play and activities.
- Towong Shire Council have made some renovations to the outdoor areas including upgrading the fences and building a giant new sandpit for the Long Day care children.
- Friends of BEYLC (FOBEYLC) have also provided funds for the purchase of a lego and train table and some new dolls house furniture.



The Friends of BEYLC committee are continuing to work with Council on a number of projects to improve the centre and it is hoped this term will see the completion of the Dry Creek Bed project and establishment of additional vegetable beds.

While fundraising activity has been halted, we are conducting a wood raffle for a trailer load of fine red gum wood, kindly donated by Jono and Karen Green. The raffle will be drawn on 28th August, so if you would like a ticket, please call us on 0426240954 to purchase a \$2 ticket or contact a parent at the centre.



It is also with much pleasure to publicly thank Patricia Breaks, a local seamstress who is generously donating \$2 from each of her face masks sold at Kangaroo General Store to the Friends of BEYLC. Her kind donation will be used for educational experiences for our local children. Thank you Patricia!



FOBEYLC would also like to thank Karen Green for giving up her time to review and prepare our 2019 accounts in preparation for them to be certified. Very much appreciated Karen!

The committee has grown again this year and despite not being able to meet in person, it is refreshing and encouraging to have so many new ideas shared as a group – so thank you to all those who continue to give up your evenings to help make the centre bigger and better!

For more information about the centre, which runs a 3-year-old & 4-year-old *Kinder* programme, 'long day care' and 'before & after school' program, please call Amanda Armstrong on 02 6026 4373.

Bethanga Primary School

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.



100 Days of School

100 days of School! Mudgee celebrated being 100 days smarter with a wonderful dress up day! Students counted collections of 100 and took great delight in comparing photos of our school in 2020 and 1920... it looks VERY different!



Tree Planting

Although National Tree Planting Day was officially cancelled this year, students from Bethanga continued our annual tradition! Heading down to the Rec Reserve students planted trees provided by Landcare as well as seedlings that they planted themselves as seeds last year... an amazing experience to now see all of the stages of our school planting - seeds to seedlings, trees from last year doubling in size, trees from 2-3 years



Whole School Dinner & Movie Night

Before Remote Learning 2.0 kicked in, we were fortunate enough to squeeze in a whole school dinner and movie night - a wonderful chance for everyone to get together and have fun! Students enjoyed games, roasting marshmallows on the fire and snuggling in for a movie.

Remote and Flexible Learning 2.0

Before Remote Learning 2.0 kicked in, we were fortunate enough to squeeze in a whole school dinner and movie night - a wonderful chance for everyone to get together and have fun! Students enjoyed games, roasting marshmallows on the fire and snuggling in for a movie.



Vision and Values

We have finally begun redesigning the school vision and values. This has been a process we have wanted to begin after our school review two years ago! We put out a survey to parents about words that described our setting. We gained feedback and now have narrowed the focus. Please let us know your thoughts. We would love to hear from you!

Front Fence

A huge thank you to our wonderful parents (Hisae, Mark, Cara and Jill) who painted the front fence at the end of last term in preparation for the Emu Wire to be fitted over the holidays. Another thanks to Scott at Reds Carpentry and his little apprentice for doing such a great job of fitting the mesh. The front of the school and its first impression has significantly improved.



New Bikes

During term one we were lucky enough to receive the Sporting Schools Grant. We initially were aiming to use this money to get a basketball coach (from the Border Bandits) to coach the kids. However when the imports hadn't arrived we needed to look at plan B.

The bike track in the paddock had just started getting some use, so we thought it would be amazing if the kids could have a bike here at school to utilise all year round! Now they all do.

Remote Learning

There are so many things that we have received in the last few weeks that we are too excited not to share, as you can see in the articles above and below. However...The idea of heading back into remote learning has been a daunting task for students, parents, teachers and support staff.

Everyone involved did a fantastic job at home-schooling their kids last time. As teachers we learnt what worked and what was difficult. We have listened to the feedback and condensed the activities. We are hoping to get through the next few weeks together. Keep up the great team effort TPS.



Goal Post Pads

The Pearson girls have finally been able to spend the money that they won (\$2000 WAW Credit Union) at the end of last year in an advertising competition. The girls (Ruby, Belle and Tilly) won the money on behalf of the school and decided that they would like to invest in a set of AFL goal posts and matching pads. The posts were put in weeks ago at a working bee and the pads arrived late last week. They look incredible.

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Granya - Michael Warnock	6072 9534	Granya - Kaye Guilliamese	6072 9598
Talgarno - Lea Casey	0418 967 953	Talgarno - Anthea Redman	6020 1134
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St. Francis, Bethanga	0459 356 917	Bethanga Primary School	6026 4263
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Jamie Swinnerton Electrical	0419 419 048	Talgarno Primary School	6020 1143
George Stahl	0405 032 503	Playgroup	0422 725 147
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Jono Green Farm Services	0422 965 024	Talgarno Tennis Club	0417 228 445
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Bethanga General Store	6026 4215	Bethanga Golf Club	6026 4927
Bethanga PO	6026 4223	Bethanga Pony Club	0414 612 918
Hotel		Mens Shed Bethanga	6026 4418
Bethanga Hotel	6026 4214	Rotary	6025 4338
Granya Hotel	6072 9563	Bethanga Anglers Club	6026 4235
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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 PO or Bethanga 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 Kat Cook, Rosemary McFarland, Bob Singline, Bethanga PO, Talgarno mail contractors and Michael Wood for their on-going support in delivering the Berringa Community News

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

COMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Page
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1	Men's Shed member meeting	17
October		
6	Men's Shed member meeting	17
November		
3	Men's Shed member meeting	17
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Lea Casey
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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 newsletter is also available in colour on line at www.berringacommunitynews.com.au

If you have a story to tell or information to share with our community please contact one of the team. Alternatively you can email articles to info@berringacommunitynews.com.au or post to 341 Wisers Creek Road, Talgarno.