

Berringa Community News

News and views from the residents of Bell-
bridge, Bethanga, Granya & Talgarno

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Summer 2022



Talgarno Working Dog Clinic

On the 27th and 28th of August, on one of the only fine weather weekends we have had this season, Karen and Jono Green, of Talgarno, hosted Beloka Kelpie Stud Welshpool Working Dog School. Instructors, Paul McPhail and Anneke Holman, have been training, breeding and trialling working dogs for over 30 years and have a huge knowledge of dog behaviour and training.

The sold-out weekend event hosted over 20 working dogs and their owners. This clinic focused on educating both farmers and non-farmers on how to better understand their working dog companion. Starting with the fundamentals, including skills such as sit, wait and walk on a lead, the clinic progressed to calmly working with trained sheep, giving both sheep and dogs a safe start to a real-life working dog environment. The weekend also included demonstrations by Paul, with his dogs, as well as instruction on how to work with dogs in larger paddocks.

While some local families participated, attendees travelled from as far as Sydney, Wollongong, Melbourne and Wagga Wagga, providing an excellent opportunity to showcase our beautiful area, community and local businesses. We would

especially like to thank 64 Degrees Café, Tallangatta, Cavanagh's Butchers, Tallangatta Bakery and The Bethanga Hotel for their support in ensuring everyone was well-fed over the week. All participants commented on the quality of the produce and the friendly staff at the hotel.

After the success of this clinic, planning is underway for another clinic at the Green's farm, mid-next year. Please contact Karen or Jono Green if you would like any additional details.

Karen Green



COMMUNITY REPORTS

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

Keeping Communities Connected

If we learnt anything from bushfires and COVID it is the need for individuals and communities to be able to have safe places to be together. The loss of our Bethanga publican Kate Middleton in late September so soon after Gary Paxton, resulted in widespread grief and disbelief. The community needed to come together to reflect, mourn and connect. The Bethanga Rec. Reserve served this purpose for a couple of weeks but a smaller venue was needed - to provide that central place for people to be together and stay in touch. Groups that relied on the pub and Kate's hospitality could have faltered and people could have become isolated.

From a conversation at the Rec. Reserve, the Bethanga Golf Club Committee offered an alternative venue to keep people coming together. The Golf Club doors were opened on Wednesday and Friday nights for a few hours – people came, stood around fires, laughed, talked and shared some simple BBQ food. The meat tray raffles could continue as a kind of "Friday night feel" was created. People came from Bellbridge, Talgarno and Bethanga. The Lake Hume Boat Club was

also used as a venue to get together on one memorable wet evening.

The opening of the Golf Club enabled the Bethanga Ladies Oaks Day BBQ to happen and the Book Club had a meeting place. The Bethanga General Store has provided beautiful food and local functions and celebrations were and still are able to go ahead.



The Golf Club Committee have maintained 3 holes which are usually let go to hay in spring and summer. As a result, people now have new opportunities to meet others or smack a ball around if they have never played golf before with no competition or pressure. Kids run around outside and life slows down for a bit.

People are able to stay connected in new ways.

When our pub opens again and traditional gatherings transition back, we know we have another local venue and a new appreciation of what our town can offer.

Jacki Eckhert



Talgarno Recreation Reserve – What’s happening

Work has resumed on the tennis courts but the wet conditions have meant that the sloppy material under the old courts has had to be removed and replaced with clean gravel. The tennis club and the Recreation Reserve Committee have been in contact with the Project Manager and the Shire, seeking assurances about the likely durability of the proposed re-surfacing.

A head contractor has been appointed for the Three Halls Project which should lead to progress at last on the Talgarno Hall upgrade. We expect that priority actions on air-conditioning and insulation will soon follow. Part of this project will upgrade the hall’s kitchen so that it meets the standard of a commercial kitchen to allow food preparation in the case of emergencies and private and public functions at the hall.

The BBQ shelter will be built as soon as the ground dries out and arrangements are in hand for the installation of solar panels on the shelter, under a grant from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP). A storage battery will be installed as part of the hall upgrade which will dramatically reduce outgoings for the hall.

Discussions are underway with the Shire on modification to the playground to provide access for vehicles to the hall’s kitchen and to improve the safety of the existing soft-fall barrier. The Recreation Reserve Committee is particularly keen to make sure that any development on the Reserve preserves the unique appearance of our hall which is one of the oldest in North East Victoria.

There will be a bush dance on February 11, 2023 at the Wool Press at Granya hosted by the Talgarno Recreation Reserve Committee who felt that the current works at the reserve made it impossible to hold it at the Hall. This event will be supported by Towong Shire and arose out of the call from Berringa Peninsula Community Network (BPCN) for ideas for events in our district. It is our hope that this will become an annual event at Talgarno Recreation Reserve.

Greg Hayes

President,

Talgarno Recreation Reserve Committee of Management

Bush Dance

Saturday February 11, 2023 – 6 PM till 11 PM

The Wool Press, Granya
3235 Murray River Road, Granya



Bring your family along for a rollicking bush dance with the famous Remnantz Celtic folk band at the Wool Press at Granya. In addition to the band and dancing there’ll be food, drinks, and more. Parking will be available and we’re arranging a bus service from Bethanga, Bellbridge, Talgarno and Granya.

Tickets will be available on Eventbrite soon – Adults \$20 and children free. Tickets are limited so book early.

Hosted by Talgarno Recreation Reserve, sponsored by Towong Shire and supported by the Berringa Peninsula Community Network.

Bethanga General Store Update

Well, it's hard to believe it's been a year since the new Bethanga General Store opened its doors. It has been a steep learning curve, and we are still learning as we go, but it has been so worth it. It is a joy serving all our regular local friends as well as a growing number of visitors exploring our beautiful region.

We have recently expanded our services with the General Store now providing catering for local gatherings and for Hot Lunch Fridays at the Bethanga Primary School.

In addition, the future looks bright for Bethanga with many interesting projects in the pipeline. We have been successful in securing a NAB grant to fund the creation of an arts precinct. This will involve building an alfresco area complete with edible food garden beds, a sensory play area and a large mural on the exterior wall. This will happen alongside Towong Shire Council's reinvigoration of

the Bridge Street playground. The grant will also help create a gallery space in the empty shop front next door in which local artists and craftspeople will be able to display and sell their work.

Further, I am looking forward to incorporating into the gallery space one of my favourite things to do: finding new homes for pre-loved treasures and quality clothing. So if you have some interesting old (or new) pieces of furniture, wares or quality clothing, especially vintage items, I would love to have a look.

Once again thank you for your ongoing support, and if you or someone you know is creating and would like to be involved come down and have a chat.

Hopefully a little less rain and some lovely sunny weather ahead for summer on the Peninsula.

Felicity Conway

Wood and Resin Workshop at Bethanga

On the 16 October, two groups of women gathered at the Bethanga Hall to participate in two separate artistic workshops making wood and resin platters efficiently organised by Kylie Biltris of 'Art Starts Here'.

Kylie carefully prepared us for success and her organisational skills are to be commended.

We shared a sense of awe and pride, whilst watching the reactions and development of the various resin colours.

Kylie gently guided and encouraged us every step of the way as we nervously created our 'master pieces' .

Thank you to Kylie for her enthusiasm and support.

Thanks also to Towong Shire for funding this self esteem building exercise.



Update on the Three Halls Project

The committee is pleased to announce that a local resident's company has been appointed Head Contractor

TVN On-Country is a 70% Indigenous owned enterprise headquartered in Wodonga, that delivers tailored construction, project management and procurement services throughout Australia. Bellbridge resident Gareth Vannoort is a partner in the company and will manage the project.

TVN On-country is seeking local trades. Please see their advertisement.

Julie Miller
3hallsproject@gmail.com

TVN On-Country

Request for Quotation

TVN is looking for suitable qualified contractors to submit a quotation for the following project:

3 Halls Refurbishment

(Bethanga, Talgarno, & Grenya)

Suitable qualified contractors include:

Roof Plumbers, Electricians/Solar, Plumbers, Joiner, Carpentry, Painting.

Any expressions of interests, please email your company details to meagan.ablett@tvngroup.com.au and we will send out the scope of works. If you have any questions regarding the project, please call [02 6024 6859](tel:0260246859).



Peninsula
SEASONAL MARKETS

CHRISTMAS MARKET

BETHANGA RECREATIONAL RESERVE
• DECEMBER 4TH • 9AM - 1PM

live music
santa visit
free face painting
food trucks and coffee vans

GOLD COIN DONATION ON ENTRY

A variety of stalls showcasing local produce

BETHANGA GYMKHANA



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: 1st February 2023
TIME: 6.30pm
VENUE: Bethanga Rec Reserve



WANTED

Local Workers for Local Jobs

We are looking at developing a new community service listing that connects "Household Workers" with local households.

If you are looking for local work such as cleaning, ironing, window washing, gardening, mowing, gutter clearing, or any other odd jobs, please send an email

to info@berringtoncommunitynews.com.au

Berringa Peninsula Community Network (BPCN)

Funding for Community

The Berringa Peninsula Community Network (BPCN) may have access to funds through Bushfire Recovery Victoria (BRV) that may be used for community events, skills or leadership development. The BPCN invited community groups, local businesses, and community members to get together on 7 November at Bethanga Hall to find out what events or projects are planned that could benefit from some financial support and uncover ideas for new opportunities to build or bring the community together.

Around 40 participants representing the five communities and 15 community groups attended along with a representative from BRV and three from Towong Shire Council.

15 presentations were made and it was discovered there were some common themes across the groups. For example, the Bethanga Golf club's need for a grass mower was seen as an opportunity to have a mower and trailer available for use by multiple community groups.

The participants were asked to rank the projects. The three most highly rated projects were

1. Mower and trailer - be managed by the Men's Shed
2. Cemeteries and history project – across the three cemeteries of the Peninsula (Bethanga, Granya, Talgarno) History, stories of the past, research, information/brochures and support for external grants for geo-mapping, digitisation, QR codes with stories (could also include Granya Museum as part of the project)
3. Mental health project – building capacity in the community through training accidental counsellors, potentially to be linked with suicide awareness, mental health first aid and Men's Shed

Other highly supported ideas were

- Bush dance and community celebration

- Boat club get-together
- Community Christmas trees (Rotary could be the source of trees)
- Arts and history
- Activities calendar, community noticeboard, information brochures
- Peninsula Market support acts

There were a number of Infrastructure projects that could not be included in the current grants but are now on the BPCN and Towong Shire radar

- Walking track upgrades, and Bethanga to Bay link
- Bethanga Recreation reserve facilities upgrade
- Interpretive signage

Since the community meeting Towong Shire Council

- has approved for event funding for the Community Bush Dance,
- repurposed some refunded grants for the Seasonal Markets
- will facilitate links between Red Cross and Lifeline and community for Accidental Counsellor courses
- is exploring options for community mower and trailer.

The Lake Hume Rotary Club has donated Christmas trees for each of the communities.

BPCN will continue to pursue funding for the projects identified.

AGM

BPCN has existed for 2 years and it is time to select a new committee. If you want to be involved in supporting our communities come along to the AGM on 5 December 6.30 pm at the Bethanga Recreation Reserve .

Julie Miller
berringapcn@gmail.com
0419 339 679

Join Berringa Peninsula Community Network

Expression of Interest

At our **AGM on Monday 5 December 6.30 pm** at Bethanga Recreation Reserve a new committee will be elected.

If you are interested in being involved in promoting the preparedness and resilience, advancement and social cohesion of our five Berringa Peninsula communities please come to the AGM and become a member and/ or email your name, address and phone number to berringapcn@gmail.com

A BBQ will be held at 6 pm prior to the AGM.

Everyone welcome



Prospects for the Season Ahead

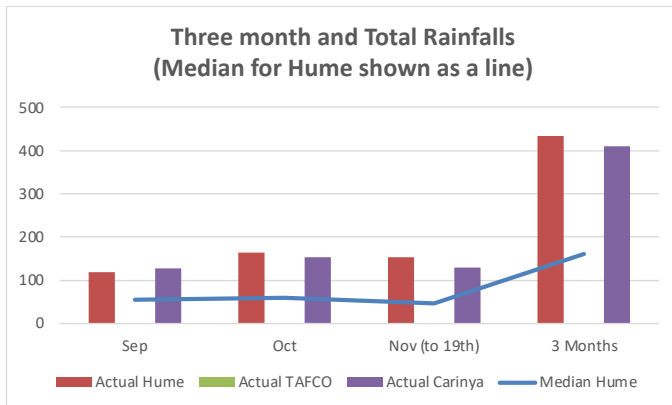
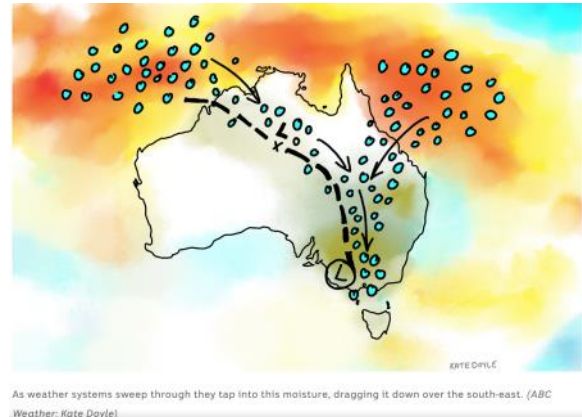
Thank you to Greg Hayes who has agreed to regularly contribute weather related articles for Berringa Community News readers.



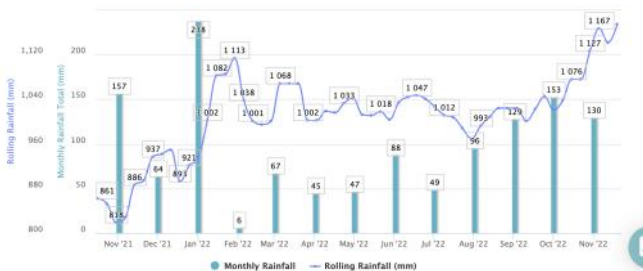
Rainfall Round-up

BOM got it right saying that the spring rainfall was highly likely to be above average.

The historical median rainfall for September to end November is 161 mm. As of November 19, Hume Reservoir has had a whopping 433 mm or 270% of median. I have had 411 mm and we don't know what Jim & Julie have had because the TAFCO system is down. All months were very wet as we all know with no opportunity for the paddocks to dry out. The wet and relatively cool weather has pushed the season back at least 3 weeks.



As you can see from the graph below, we have had over 1160 mm over the past 12 months and it's certainly the wettest period that I can recall (although my memory is not terrific). I repeat myself in saying it's going to be quite a shock when things revert to normal – and they will.



All this rain was the result of the abundant moisture sources from the warm seas to the north and north west of Australia. This meant that whenever a low pressure front came through it dumped heaps of rain, particularly on eastern Australia.

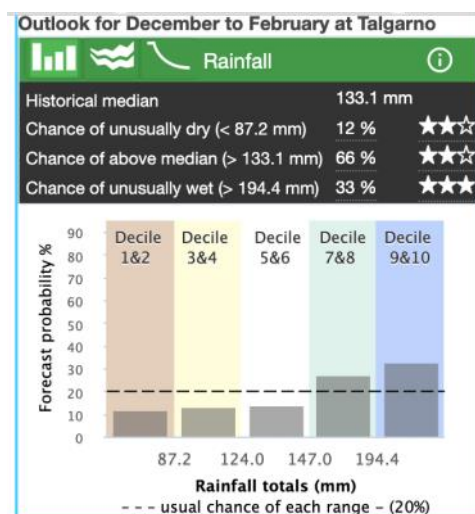
I like this simple diagram of what has been going on.

The ENSO (El Niño Southern Oscillation Index) has been in a La Niña state over spring and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) in negative territory since June. The Southern Annular Mode (SAM) has cooperated dragging the high pressure ridge south making sure that we have had plenty of fronts coming through.

Prospects for Summer (December to end February)

The IOD is expected to end in December and the La Niña expected to finish by mid to late summer. Over the forecast period the abundant moisture sources are expected to remain so there is a high chance of above average rainfall with cooler than average days and warmer than average nights.

The BOM forecast is that rainfall is very likely (66% chance) to be above the median over the December to February period.



Dale Grey reports that for the November to January period, 10 of the 12 models he follows suggest wetter than average rainfall, and 2 neutral.

Greg Hayes



Bec's Banter

I can honestly say, I'm not sure where to start!

What an interesting year we have all had.

For anyone who truly loves their garden, I understand your pain. Reckon it's been a bugger of a year to set up for floristry and chooks, but very exciting to say the least.

As gardeners, we might need to resign ourselves to the fact that the climate is taking us on an unknown journey.

It looks like raised beds, wicking beds, and mounded gardening is something to definitely consider.

There is little we can do now, as the soil is just so saturated. I've lost more plants this season than I ever have in my life and predict more will turn up their toes as they continue to sit in the wet and will die of wet feet.

If you were planning to plant any trees or larger shrubs, it's worth getting those in still as long as your soil is not completely soggy. Raise and mound the soil if you are concerned. Don't dig saturated soil, it breaks up the soil profile too much, allow it to dry out a bit.

If you are wanting to create a garden for upcoming purchases place some thickish newspaper, ensuring you overlap so there are no places for weeds to creep in. Worms and other critters that help your soil are very attracted to newspaper and brown cardboard. You'll be amazed at how quickly they come in. Poor things are also too wet. A great little project to do with the kids.

I'm putting in a couple of wicking beds next week. Pretty excited.

One of the most fantastic plants that is absolutely thriving in my garden is the Australian Rice Flower shrub. Absolutely worth growing. There are several different varieties available. White right through to a deeper pink. Why not grab one of each?



As far as planting vegies, it looks like we will all need to have some vegies in the garden. Food prices will skyrocket. You only need a small, well-organised, sunny spot to grow some food. The variety of dwarf fruit trees now available is fantastic - whack a couple of those in too.

I'll be running some food-growing workshops soon. Keep an eye on Tholo Farm Facebook page.

Keep getting out in your garden and enjoying it. I think all our gardens are going to explode when the warm weather really kicks in. Have your whipper snippers and mowers ready.

Lawns are looking pretty awful right now, might be the time to dig them up and plant them out with food.

Have a great Summer.

Bec
Tholo Farm
tholofarm@gmail.com
0410 594282

We now have a business called Tholo Farm (Facebook). We are producing flowers, organic eggs, compost and fishing worms, and a few other things in the pipeline...

Will keep you all updated on Tholo Farm Facebook page on where we are stocking our products.



The Way We Were

The Wodonga and District Historical Society

is now located at the Bonegilla Migrant Experience, Hut 97, 132 Bonegilla Road, Bonegilla.

We are open SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY and WEDNESDAY from 10am to 3pm.

We have a fascinating collection and wide range of historically significant memorabilia including material on North Eastern railway, pioneering settlers, construction of the Hume Dam, Mann's general store, local history research library, and the Albury Wodonga Development Corporation.

As we are registered as Wodonga and District, I would like to see the districts that use Wodonga as their "go to businesses" also included in our collection. Areas like Talgarno, Bethanga and Bellbridge, where there is no historic collection in the area. There is a rich collection of characters and their memories which is the very fabric of our historic and beautiful place. Let us collect, preserve and maintain it for the generations to come.

Something that was uncovered in the recent move from South Street to Bonegilla was these pliers which were used for tying wire when fencing on farms.

The roll of tie wire was stored on the top round section and threaded down through and pulled out the front section of the plier jaws. When the wire was at the correct length, the pliers were turned sideways and the wire was cut.

This invention saved the fencer having to cut the wire and



put the roll on the ground. Used around the 1940s and 50s they were invented and stamped by Northey and Bell, Patent, Bethanga Vic. In 1910.

Thanks to Trove, our researcher has discovered, it was Stephen Northey and Arthur Bell, coachbuilders of Ebdon Road Bethanga who invented this. Unfortunately, we only have a photo of it.

If you enjoy the many facets of local history and would like to be a volunteer, please give your name and contact details to one of the team and I will get back to you ASAP.

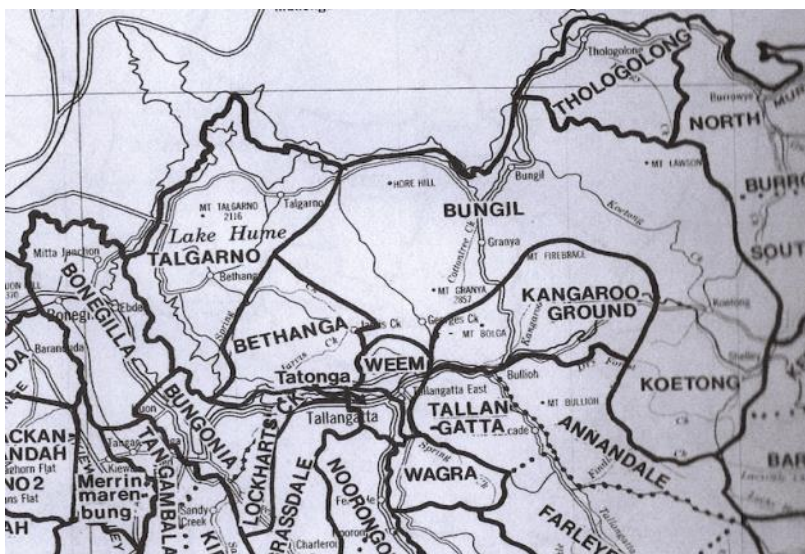
Visitors to our site would be most welcome and a \$5.00 donation would be appreciated to keep and preserve this valuable collection.

*Marie Elliot
President W&DHS.*

Land Leases on the Peninsula

I found this book in the discard stack at the Wodonga Library and decided to look for my family's land holdings around Euroa. Imagine my surprise when I opened it and found the Murray as an area. Being relatively new to the area and interested in the history of this region I thought I might share this map and some of the information I learnt.

These crown land leases or runs were taken up by various people in the North East. One of the first being by Mr Wyse



who moved south from Tarcutta in 1835 and took up a run at Bonegilla. I have information about the gazetted land for squatters from 1835. For example, the Talgarno run was gazetted on July 26 1848 to John Hore and was originally estimated at 40,000 acres. November 29 1869 Thomas Mitchell took over the run followed in 1874 by Alexander Kirkman Findlay & Colin Campbell Findlay (of Belvoir). It was forfeited in 1880 and let under a Grazing Licence.

I have other information and I know that Granya has a super museum with many interesting things and much information stored but was wondering if there were people in the Berringa localities (Bethanga, Talgarno, Granya, Bungil and Bellbridge) who would be happy to come together and share knowledge and stories of the area. If you are interested contact me on 0439 021 438

Taken from "Victorian Squatters", (1983) compiled by Robert Spreadborough & Hugh Anderson

Jenni Manguy



Bellbridge Boathouse – From great idea to a shovel ready project

Towong Shire Council have secured funding to take the Bellbridge Boathouse project from a great idea to an investment and “shovel ready” project. The Bellbridge Boathouse project proposes the construction of a new multi-purpose community building for the Berringa Peninsula community, together with a new home for the Hume Boat Club on the edge of Lake Hume. Council has secured \$324,493 through the State Government’s Investment Fast Track Fund which will support planning, design and business case development for the project.

Towong Shire Council Mayor Andrew Whitehead said the Bellbridge Boathouse project would be a game changer for Bellbridge and the Berringa Peninsula community, and an opportunity to boost tourism in our area.

“Bellbridge is ideally situated with amazing natural amenity on the edge of Lake Hume, but is lacking when it comes to community facilities. The existing community centre is now home to our growing childcare and kindergarten service and we are desperately in need of a community facility.” “We need a facility where our community members can come together and connect with each other and we’re very excited that the latest funding announcement will enable us to get this project to a ‘shovel ready’ stage,” he said.

“The facility will also be a terrific drawcard for visitors to the area and will help to kick-start a tourism economy across the Berringa Peninsula.”



The project will involve the development of operating plans, such as financial modelling as well as construction plans. Based on some initial community consultation, it is anticipated the building designs will incorporate:

- integrated club rooms that will double as a function centre and community space
- a designated space for a café with raised decking
- commercial spaces for tourism related operators

- public amenities accessible both internally and externally
- carparking and landscaping “

“The community will be crucial to the development of the project and we are calling on community members to express their interest in being part of the reference group for the project by contacting our Economic Development Team on 1300 365 222 or ecodev@towong.vic.gov.au,’ Mayor Whitehead said. For more information about the project visit www.towong.vic.gov.au/1-council/projects/current-projects/bellbridge-boathouse

Bethanga Playground

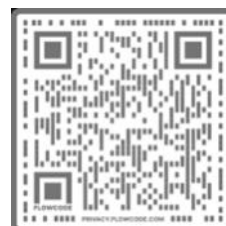
Plans for the upgrade of the Bethanga playground are now available.



We’ve worked closely with our youngest community members to ensure the new playground will be lots of fun!

The new equipment and the layout of the playground reflects the feedback we received via our survey and at the picnic event held at the playground.

You can view the plans at www.towong.vic.gov.au/1-council/projects or by scanning the QR code below.



Construction of the new playground will be scheduled in early 2023.

For more information visit towong.vic.gov.au

Towong Shire Council Services, Projects & Your Rates

Instalment 2
now due
16 December

The rates you pay help to support a range of programs and services across Towong Shire.

For every \$100 Council spends



\$68.47

Capital Works



\$13.47

Roads and Drainage



\$5.78

Early Years
& Community
Services



\$2.97

Economic
Development
& Tourism



\$2.78

Environment &
Recovery



\$2.71

Planning, Building
& Environmental
Health Services



\$2.08

Waste
Services



\$1.74

Recreation &
Leisure



Four early
years
learning
centres



Upgrades &
maintenance
of parks,
gardens and
reserves



Libraries &
pools in
Corryong
and
Tallangatta



Road &
bridge
maintenance

Some of the projects planned for your community this year

⊖ Berringa Peninsula

Bellbridge, Bethanga, Georges Creek, Granya, Talgarno

- Talgarno Tennis Courts redevelopment
- Wises Creek Road upgrade - Stage 2
- Bethanga Park and Playground upgrade
- Bellbridge Walking Track upgrade - Stage 2
- Community Masterplan for Bellbridge and Bethanga
- Lake Road safety upgrades
- Georges Creek Road upgrade - Stage 3

⊖ Upper Murray

Berrigama, Corryong, Cudgewa, Nariel Valley, Tintalra, Walwa, Biggara

- Playles Hill Corryong redevelopment
- Corryong CBD Streetscape upgrade
- Stock Route Corryong upgrade
- Community Masterplan for Corryong
- Walwa Recovery Centre design and construction
- Cudgewa Avenue of Honour and Streetscape upgrade
- Great River Road Touring Route - Stage 2

⊖ Mitta Valley

Dartmouth, Eskdale, Mitta Mitta

- Dartmouth splashpark and pump track
- Dartmouth Streetscape upgrade
- Eskdale Walking Track upgrade - Stage 2
- Mitta Mitta Streetscape upgrade
- Community Masterplan for Mitta Valley

⊖ West

Tallangatta, Tallangatta Valley, Bullioh, Koetong

- Towong Street East, Tallangatta upgrade
- The Triangles toilet block and visitor information centre upgrade
- Community Masterplan for Tallangatta

towongshire

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

towongshire

Flood & Storm Financial Advice

Towong Shire residents impacted by recent flood activity are now eligible for state and federal government financial support to assist in their recovery.

For more information on what financial help you may be eligible for call the Flood Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760 or visit our website <https://www.towong.vic.gov.au/2-residents/emergency-management/flood-and-storm-financial-advice-and-support>

Do you need any **help with your flood recovery application?**

Do you know someone who needs help with their application?

Towong Shire is running a series of pop-up help stalls across the Shire [with staff, coffee and sandwiches] to help complete flood recovery applications. Jenny McKoy and I will run the pop-up from 11.00am to 1.00pm Wednesday November 30, at the Eskdale Information stand. We would love to see you and share a cuppa over paperwork!

Call 6071 5100 or 1800 518 222 to check the time and location of other pop-up help stalls.

Cate Kirk-Dufty
Agriculture Officer
0477 958 763
1300 365 222



Cr Andrew Whitehead has been unanimously elected to his second term as Mayor of Towong Shire Council with Cr David Wortmann as his deputy

Roadside Grass Management Program

Council's rolling Roadside Grass Maintenance Program and Local Laws Permits for landowners to graze animals, works alongside VicRoads' Roadside Maintenance Program.

There is no cost for permits to graze on road reserves, although stock must be supervised or temporary fencing installed. Apply at <http://www.towong.vic.gov.au/.../local-laws-permit...>

COVID-19 has prevented the CFA (Country Fire Authority) from conducting their usual roadside burns this year.

In rural areas, Council is permitted to slash road shoulders only for safety purposes, e.g. so white posts are visible at night.

In towns, only town entrances and areas outlined on Council's website are slashed. Town Maintenance Plans can be accessed at <http://www.towong.vic.gov.au/.../env.../town-maintenance.asp>.

If you have concerns about local roads, please contact Council on 1300 365 222.

If your concerns relate to the Murray Valley Highway, Murray River Road, Benambra Corryong Road, Granya Road, Dartmouth Road, Omeo Highway or Shelley Road please contact VicRoads on 13 11 71.



PUT YOUR HEALTH FIRST & GET SCREENED!

BreastScreen Victoria mobile screening service is coming to Tallangatta November 28th to December 7th

Tallangatta mobile bus will be located @ 32 Towong Street

Book at breastscreen.org.au or call 13 20 50

The advertisement features a teal background with decorative circular patterns in purple and pink. It includes the BreastScreen Victoria logo and a small Australian flag icon.

MADE FOR more possibilities

Victoria Police is made for ambitious people looking for a career with more challenges, excitement, purpose, and possibilities.

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

MADE FOR MORE

The advertisement features a photograph of a female police officer in a dark suit and blue gloves walking through a field of dry grass with yellow evidence markers. In the background, another officer is operating a camera on a tripod. Logos for the Victorian Government and Victoria Police are visible in the top corners.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

Wymah Ferry

Operating hours

7am – 8pm

During daylight saving

6am – 9pm
(NB no meal closure times)

OUTSIDE THESE HOURS

Ring the contractor,
6020 2038

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

Sue Reid 6071 5270

G ranya 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).

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

For bookings contact Anthea 6020 1134

Bethanga Soldiers Memorial Hall

Hall and Supper Room Available for Hire
Functions and Meetings
Day / Night
Air Conditioned / Heated
Competitive Rates

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

Granya Hall

Fees for the hall hire

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

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

Catering \$8 a head

Community Meeting \$15

Bookings and Information contact

Kim Stewart
kstewart557@gmail.com

0412 672 629

Summer is here, time to sit in the shade 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

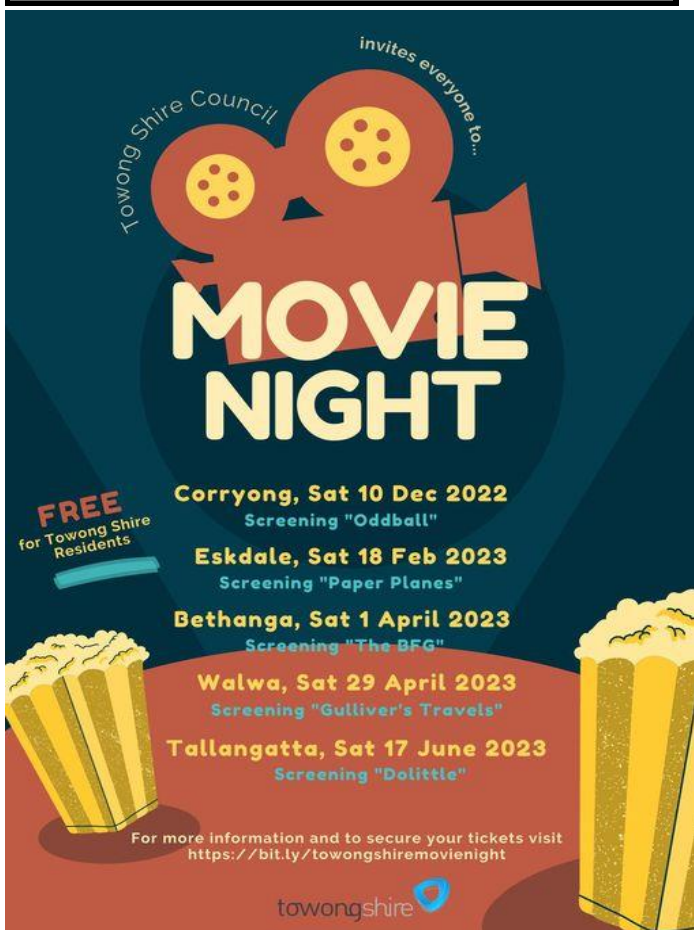
Maternal & Child Health

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

Towong Shire Council invites everyone to...



MOVIE NIGHT

FREE
for Towong Shire Residents

Corryong, Sat 10 Dec 2022
Screening "Oddball"

Eskdale, Sat 18 Feb 2023
Screening "Paper Planes"

Bethanga, Sat 1 April 2023
Screening "The BFG"

Walwa, Sat 29 April 2023
Screening "Gulliver's Travels"

Tallangatta, Sat 17 June 2023
Screening "Dolittle"

For more information and to secure your tickets visit
<https://bit.ly/towongshiremovienight>

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Babies

Sarah and Ben
Mitchell
welcomed their
baby girl **Hazel
Grace** on 25
October 2022



FOR SALE

Pasture Hay- Small squares \$10.00
2nd cut Lucerne Hay-Small squares
\$10.00

Ph. 0408 978 847

In Memorium

Gary Paxton

26/12/1957 – 12/9/2022

Gary Paxton was born in Albury while his parents Molly and Merv were on holiday from Melbourne. Gary commenced his schooling in Huntingdale. The family returned to South Albury in 1969, where Gary started grade 6 at St Pats Boys School and continued on to St Aquinas college. It was here where his love of AFL Football began. Leaving St Pat's juniors football club to join the Albury Tigers was starting point of his flourishing career.

Gaz had 13 pubs during his life, beginning with the Murray River Hotel in 1986 and ending at his loved Granya which he bought in 2020.

In 2010 he bought the Kyneton Hotel where he met the love of his life Bridgey and found the perfect formula to being a successful publican and bringing life back to the communities. In 2016 he applied this to running a Cafe in Bilinga, fittingly naming it Mervyn Roy's Café in honour of his father Mervyn who hailed from the Tweed River. In typical Gaz style, he brought a flair to it and it became one of the most successful and iconic cafes on the Gold Coast, again a place to bring people together. He continued with this groove with Violet Town, Bethanga and Granya

His greatest pride were his children Niall and Elle, whom he loved and was so proud of including their partners Rikki and Shannon and his first grandson Rowie. Gary was proud and so excited about becoming Poppy G to another baby in November.

Extract from Obituary by Kate Middleton

One week after delivering her brother's obituary at his funeral Kate died suddenly on 28/09/22

Kate Middleton

29/4/1962 – 28/9/2022

Kate was born in St Kilda on April 29, 1962, to Merv and Molly Paxton.

When the family moved to Albury in 1969, Kate attended primary school at St Brigid's. She went to high school at St Joseph's Ladies' College in Albury, where she completed year 11 before completing a category A nursing certificate in Sydney.

A highly respected nurse, Kate missed Albury and returned a few years later. In 1990, she met Mark Middleton, and they began their lives together in Melbourne. The couple then moved back to Albury and started their family there so they could take care of her parents.

In her last year, Kate became the owner of the Bethanga Hotel to build a new life for her and her children Daniel & Molly.



In a varied career that took her from nursing to child protection, nothing was too difficult for Kate. To her children and the Bethanga community, Kate was a "generous, loving one-of-a-kind superwoman."

Even when times were tough and the going rough, she'd apply the red lippy and take on everything.

From the obituary by Daniel Middleton

Thank You

Our hearts are heavy and broken and yet full of love and gratitude to the incredible community surrounding us and holding us up during the most difficult and shattering time of our lives.

Our sincere thanks to everyone in the Berringa Communities and our family and friends for the care, meals, support, strength, messages and love shown to us with the passing of our amazing partner and Uncle Gaz and our beautiful Mum and sister in law, Kate.

They loved this community. They loved being publicans, and they loved their family and friends. Thank you all for loving them too. We know how

much you are hurting and missing them also.

We appreciate all that you continue to do to support us during this unbelievable, shocking, heartbreaking and sad time.

*Sincerely,
Bridget, Danny, Molly + families.*

*The beautiful thing about love
you see
is that death
need not stop life.
If you carry someone
in your heart
you can take them with you
anywhere you like.*

June MERKEL
21/06/1959 – 30/10/2022



June Merkel, nee McCarthy, was born in Box Hill, Victoria. She was educated at the local State School and later at Box Hill Girls School, where she excelled in athletics and hockey. Towards the end of her schooling, she suffered from rheumatic fever with

other complications which affected her health at times during her life. From a young age, she always wanted to be a nurse. She was accepted at the Austin Hospital, Melbourne as a trainee nurse. In 1971 on obtaining her registration as a nurse, she moved to Albury where she worked at the Albury Base Hospital. Also, upon moving to Albury she married her husband, Max Merkel. In 1972 they welcomed their first child, Paul. In 1974 June and Max moved to Sydney and in 1975 they welcomed their second son Adrian.

June's great love in life was working as a nurse and worked at Concord Repatriation Hospital, Auburn Hospital and Fairfield Hospital. After the children began their schooling she worked part-time and casually.

In 1982 June and her family moved back to Albury.

During this time, she concentrated on being there for her two sons, doing tuck shop duties and all those other things stay-at-home mothers did for their families then.

June and Max had a love of rural life. In 1986 Max's father, Stuart Merkel, wanted to reduce his farming workload and offered to sell a part of his farm. It was purchased and June and Max built a house on the land. Max continued working off-farm. June worked on the farm under the guidance of Stuart and became adept at animal husbandry and farming in general.

After a few years, June had the calling to go back to nursing, so did a refresher course in Sydney and re-registered as a nurse. After working casually, she found her place of calling at Osborne Lodge Nursing Home, now called BUPA Nursing Home

She retired from work shortly after Max retired. Unfortunately, her retirement was short-lived as she suffered an illness related to her earlier childhood illness. She was transferred to a Melbourne Hospital where she was given a drug to which she had a severe allergic reaction. She became catatonic. She recovered somewhat, but sadly needed care and became a resident of BUPA Nursing Home. She developed Frontotemporal dementia and over time lost her ability to eat and walk. Fortunately, with that type of dementia, it is not unusual that sufferers do not lose the ability to know and recognise people and June was one of those people. To the end, she would always be asking about people and events in the local community and, of course, about her beloved farm.

Max Merkel

Elizabeth and Ray Schmidt

Deepest sympathy to the Schmidt family and friends on the passing of Elizabeth on 22 October 2022, aged 84 and Ray on 23 November, aged 89. Ray and Elizabeth were past long term residents of Bethanga.

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**Phone today:
02 6057 8888**



PLAYGROUP

Berringa Playgroup now includes a Mother Goose session run by Bec, our local MCHN. Please come along for some singing, socialising and outdoor play!

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

Dates: Term 1 2023 - 6 February, 20 February, 6 March, 20 March, 3 April

Time: 9.30am to 11.00am

Contact: Bethanga P.S. on 02 6026 4263 or Kate Singline on 0422 725 147

Come and join in the FUN!

copyright: gaganaly 2018 @ tealink.com

Bethanga Hotel



Email: bethangahotel@outlook.com
www.bethangahotel.com
 02 6026 4214

G'Day

We would like to introduce ourselves.

We are Kate's children, Daniel and Molly. We are soon taking over the hotel. We would like to thank everyone for their on going support. It has been a tough time for us but we are making progress.

We are hoping to be open soon. So please hang in a little longer with us. We will post on Facebook when we will be opening, so keep your eye out. Again thank you for the support during this time!

Looking forward to seeing you all.

POST•COFFEE•FOOD•SUPPLIES



**BETHANGA
GENERAL
STORE**

MON-FRI 9AM TO 4PM
 SAT 9AM TO 2PM
 SUN 9AM TO 12NOON
 CLOSED PUB HOLS

OPEN 7 DAYS

BETHANGA ART IN THE AFTERNOON

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

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



CLUBS AND GROUPS

BERRINGA CERT



Thank You for your Service

At the Berringa CERT Committee AGM held in November, we took the opportunity to present Ambulance Victoria 15-year service medals to Vicki and David Cottee and Julie Miller and Carol Kiffen (absent on the night). We also acknowledged the 15 years of service given by Brendan Hallinan and Sandra Maloney who both resigned from the team in the last 12 months.

I estimated that in 15 years with CERT both Sandra and Brendan had each given over 24,000 hours of service to the community.



Mat Chadban Ambulance Victoria, Julie Miller Dave Cottee with grandchildren, Vicki Cottee and Brendan Hallinan

The Victorian Virtual Emergency Department

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

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

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

No referral is necessary. Ring 03 8405 8815 Option 3

Please have any relevant information ready - name, date of birth, (Northern Health UR number if

applicable) clinical problem, recent test results, key psychosocial issues and current treatment.

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

I helped some locals use this service on their mobile phone and after completing the onerous form filling it was a very effective. It saved an unnecessary trip and long wait in a hospital emergency department.

Emergency Contacts

These days most people have their contact and address details and even identification documents on their phones but in a medical emergency with an unconscious patient, this information cannot be accessed because of password protection. To help quickly identify existing medical conditions or inform loved ones of a life-threatening incident it is a good idea to include emergency contacts on a card in your wallet or on the fridge in your home.

Defibrillators

The Bethanga defibrillator has been relocated from the Bethanga Hotel back to the Bethanga General Store and post office



The CERT committee decided to donate a defibrillator to be located on the foreshore at Bellbridge. After discussions with Towong Shire, we determined that the shelter next to the fish would give the best access to those visiting the foreshore or using the exercise equipment that will be installed soon. Once it is installed it will be registered with 000 through Ambulance Victoria

CPR and Defibrillator Training

Cert will be conducting CPR and defibrillator training in the new 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

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

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

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

- Bethanga General Store & Post Office
- Bethanga Recreation Reserve pavilion
- Bellbridge Community Centre
- Granya Hall
- Talgarno Hall

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

ROTARY CLUB OF BELLBRIDGE LAKE HUME INC.

Christmas Carols

The Christmas carols will again be held at the Lake Hume Boat Club Bellbridge on Sunday 4 December commencing at 6.30 pm. Santa will be in attendance as well as a choir singing Christmas carols. Drinks and sausages will be available for a gold coin donation.

Australia Day Celebrations

The Rotary Club will be conducting its annual Australia Day celebrations on Thursday 26 January 2023 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 Thursday 22 December 2022.

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/whats-on/

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M: 0407 404 672



Lake Hume Fishing Classic

The Lake Hume Fishing Classic event was conducted on the weekend of October 22 and 23 2022 by the Rotary Club in partnership with the Commercial Club Fishing Group. The event was a great success despite the inclement weather. Fish numbers caught were very good and over 270 entrants enjoyed a great weekend with a great number of family groups participating and winning prizes, including the major prize a boat package.

Lake Hume Cycle Challenge

The Event will be held on Sunday, March 12. 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 levels of fitness and ability to safely experience 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 or the Rotary website.

*Regards
Andrew Christy*

BETHANGA CRICKET CLUB

Brent Mayne is the new senior coach of Bethanga Cricket Club. He spent 15 years at Baranduda, working as an assistant coach, but he's crossed to join their District rivals after being offered the

chance to take on his first senior role.

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

PENINSULA MEN'S SHED



6 Sirl Street, Bethanga

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

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

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

Phil Craig, President
0427 632 575

FOR HIRE

Bobcat
Posthole Borer
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Tip Truck
6x1 bucket

Soil road base supplied, Grass slashing
and fuel reduction , Firebreaks

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Tallangatta & Kiewa
VETERINARY CLINICS

Bethanga district run
1st Wed of the month
Also the 3rd Wed of the month during Aug-Oct

Open 6 days &
24hour emergency service 7days
Surgeries, consultations
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livestock, companions and pets

Tallangatta Veterinary Clinic 60712594
Kiewa Veterinary Clinic 60273221
e) tallangattavets@tpg.com.au
www.tallangattavets.com.au
or check us out on facebook!

TALGARNO TENNIS CLUB

Despite being a homeless tennis club (more on that later), Talgarno has managed a successful start to the Saturday pennant season. We are currently fielding a team in each of the 4 sections in the Kiewa and Talgarno District Tennis Association this season and, despite dodging raindrops at times, only one week has been a total washout.....so far.

In Section 1, Talgarno is undefeated after Round 6 – a great effort given our number 1 male (Daniel Wortmann) has a dodgy hip and hasn't made it off the physio's table yet. The usual suspects: Anthea, Deb, Jill, Jess L, Brendan, Jarrod, Adam, and Dave have been building some good form as the season progresses.

Our team in Section 2 has been progressing similarly and is jostling for the top of the ladder. Genn has her team working like a machine with Paul, Chris and Cara V, Matt and Jess G and Michael, as well as Loren and Adrienne when needed, so far winning all before them.

In the junior sections 3 and 4, they go about their business on Saturday mornings and are both placed in the middle of their respective ladders after round 6. Belle, Ruby, Ella, Zack and Miles are leading the charge in Section 3 and have only lost one round. Will G and Will L, Maddy, Riley, Bailey, Charlie, Harleigh and Shune have been battling away and are building momentum in Section 4.

Junior tennis coaching with Paul Sykes has been carried on in a reduced version on Monday afternoons at the Bellbridge tennis courts – and if any juniors are interested in joining our coaching programme, please

contact Jill Pearson. It's fantastic that the tennis club, led mostly by Jill in this instance, hasn't let junior coaching disappear because of no home courts due to reconstruction. Bellbridge only has 2 courts, resulting in a reduced number of kids able to participate. It is great to see the Bellbridge courts being consistently used. We are very thankful for the helpful way the Towong Shire has facilitated this arrangement.

As for the homeless situation, progress finally seems to have taken a turn for the better with the new Talgarno tennis courts starting to take shape. Perhaps a Christmas present for the tennis club awaits. We hope so. And a bit like a Christmas present, we know we'll be getting one, but we don't know exactly what it is! But our fingers are crossed, and we are excited about returning to the heart of Talgarno and running our Fast4 night tennis, social tennis, ladies' tennis, normal scale junior coaching, as well as casual hitting when the urge is there to catch up with friends.
See you on a court somewhere!

Adam Richardson (Secretary)
0412 560 833

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johnodonoghuebuilding@gmail.com

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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

16 August 2022 Murray River Road, Talgarno. The brigade responded to a reported car fire in Talgarno. Brigade was stood down before turning out.

27 August 2022 Coles Rd, Bethanga. Column of smoke spotted behind Bellbridge. Ultralight and Tanker 2 responded with the cause being a burn-off. Brigade was stood down.

23 October 2022 Building Damage, Bellbridge. A car ran into the garage in Bellbridge. Ultralight responded and no further action was required. All other units stood down.

SUMMER 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 our homes for the fire season. Please visit <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/> 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.



VIC EMERGENCY APP AND WEBSITE

We encourage everyone to install the Vic Emergency App on your smartphone if you have one. This is the fastest way to get up-to-date information about fires in your area. You can set a

watch zone and choose which types of emergencies you would like to be notified about in that zone. For those without a smartphone, you can access the Vic Emergency website at www.emergency.vic.gov.au, or if there is an emergency warning in your area you can listen to your local ABC radio for updates.

BRIGADE TRAINING

A 12-month training calendar is being implemented to give our members opportunities for regular training. Training is tentatively scheduled for the 1st Thursday of the month but may be alternated to include weekends.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Brigade is looking at conducting some targeted community education sessions, looking at helping residents be prepared for the upcoming fire season. If your neighbourhood would like to be involved, please let us know.



FIRE DANGER RATINGS

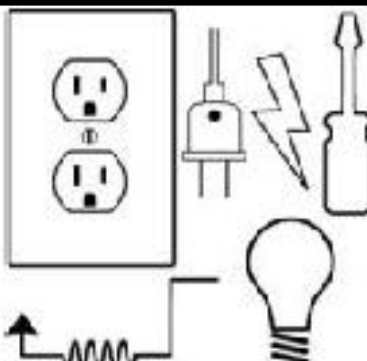
The new Australian Fire Danger Ratings system is being implemented across Australia, so no matter where you are over the fire season you will see the same system used.



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

Jamie Swinnerton Electrical Pty Ltd
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property

- Catastrophic - For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

 The new Australian Fire Danger Ratings System is now online and we will be using them in the community. Our road signs are scheduled to be replaced in the future.

Find out more

www.cfa.vic.gov.au/afdrs

DISTRICT 24 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bethanga and Talgarno will once again be hosting the D24 Brigade Championships at the Bethanga Recreation Reserve on Sunday, 26th February 2023.

Like last year, these will be a great time to showcase Brigade skills in a fun, entertaining environment. Please keep this day free in your schedule and come down to cheer on your teams.

Training will begin soon so keep an eye out on our Facebook page for more information.

CONTACTS

Shane Bracegirdle, Captain

0459 362 395

bethangacfacaptain@gmail.com

Jess Ellison, Secretary

bethangacfasecretary@gmail.com

Mel Naismith,

Community Safety Liaison

0428 191 283

BETHANGA-TALGARNO JUNIOR CFA BRIGADE

JOINING THE JUNIOR BRIGADE

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

CONTACTS

John Northey

0414 931 442

bethangatalgarnojuniors@gmail.com

TALGARNO RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

New members and volunteering

We need you!

If you are a new or existing community member who would like to join our brigade as a volunteer, please go to

www.cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers/volunteer-with-cfa then:

- Read about the volunteering options (operational, non-operational, junior volunteer),
- Read about the application process
- Click the 'Proceed to Expression of Interest' button
- Search for your Talgarno address and then follow the prompts.

We encourage any members of our community; female, male, older and younger to join in a range of roles from:

- Asset or equipment maintenance
- Brigade recruitment
- Communications
- Fundraising
- Community education re fire preparedness
- Bushfire survival planning
- Junior leaders
- Catering
- And operational firefighting

CFA CHAMPIONSHIPS JUNIOR & SENIOR COME & TRY



Bethanga & Talgarno CFA invite all members of the community aged 11 to 111 to come and try something different in a friendly fun atmosphere.

When: Use the contact information below for training times.

Where: Old Bethanga Fire Station.
Intersection Springdale Rd
& Talgarno Gap Rd Bethanga

- Ladies, Gents, Boys and Girls all welcome.
- No prior skills or fitness abilities required.
- Slightly competitive but always friendly.
- Learn new skills while having fun.
- Bethanga/Talgarno will be hosting the 2023 championships.
- You do not need to be a firefighter to join the fun.
- Short term commitment.
- Teams meet and train from December to February.
- Junior teams 11 to 15 year olds.
- Senior teams 16 years to adults of any age.
- AND IT'S FREE



Further information contact: John Northey 0414 931 442 bethangatalgarnojuniors@gmail.com

If you have any questions about joining the brigade or any brigade activity please contact Captain Michael Elliot



Michael Elliot, Captain, 0407 201 169
Jess Lieschke Secretary
talgar norfbsecretary@gmail.com

BETHANGA RECREATION RESERVE

Hi to all from the Bethanga Recreation Reserve Committee of Management.

Rain & Storm Damage.

What a season we have had. We know you all are aware and have maybe suffered your own circumstances due to the rain this season. We all have been enduring it and it looks like it may not be finished yet. We only hope that it gets better for us all and damages are bearable. We need to look out for everyone in our community.

When it comes to the Reserve, many of you will have noticed damage to creeks and roads that potentially could affect infrastructure. We are doing our best, which may not be up to the standards we would all like to have. Unfortunately, the funds we require to fix everything exactly the way we would like are way beyond what we have in our accounts. We are doing what we can, also trying to work with DEWLP and all the related authorities. It is not easy getting funding, particularly from all the government departments. So, we all need to be patient.

Also, be safe moving around the Reserve as there could be the odd hole, gutter or washaway that was not there before so please be alert.

Main Upcoming Events

- Peninsula Markets, Sunday 4th December.
- CFA District 24 Championships Sunday 26th February

Bethanga Cricket Club and Tennis Club will have their normal schedules of training and games, weather being kind to them.

Volunteers

We have been getting a great response from community members volunteering their valuable time to assist us in planning, organising, managing, running, participating and cleaning up prior to and after the events. We can always do with more people so that we do not "burn out" particularly active community volunteers. If you could help in any way, please do not stand back. Come forward and we are sure we can find an activity that suits you and helps others. I would particularly like to thank all the current volunteers for what they have done. A power of work has been getting done and we are grateful for that.



Rural Asset Maintenance

Chris Vine
Mechanic

0438 564 428

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& agricultural machinery
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chrisvine@live.com.au

Loving Memories

Finally, we would like to acknowledge all members and families of our community with regard to people who have passed away recently. The tragic news of a loved one's passing leaves family members and all of us in the community filled with sadness. We would like to acknowledge and embrace all that facilities that are utilized not only the Recreation Reserve and Golf Club, but other spaces in the region, so we could be there for each other. We would like to once again thank all the community members who organized, participated, and helped. "Very special times to fondly remember".

Kind Regards

Bethanga Recreation Reserve Committee of Management.

Email: bethangareserve@gmail.com

Mobile: 0418 215 076

BETHANGA GOLF CLUB



Springdale Road Bethanga

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Where: Bethanga Hall

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

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Joan Elliot 6020 1177

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Wises Creek Talgarno Landcare Group

I made a comment in our Spring Edition BCN that I hoped the moisture might continue into the spring ensuring a good season, that certainly has happened. With the run of wet weather, we are seeing the downside of too much rain with severe flooding

creating untold misery and damage for many people. Our hearts go out to them. On a local level, we are seeing quite a bit of damage with floods, erosion, trees uprooted, pastures waterlogged and a great risk of pastures bogging. Special management care needs to be implemented to try to avoid some of these issues. Making hay and silage will not be easy

The past couple of months have been relatively slow with projects due to the extremely wet conditions but the weather has been kind for planting new trees. Make sure these newly planted areas don't become overgrown with grasses because as the summer comes there will be competition for moisture

Keep in mind we are still wanting to carry out new projects for Wises Creek Talgarno Landcare LCG so if you are wanting something done let us know so we can discuss them because it is better to aggregate projects

and then get the funding rather than the other way around. Call Simon at 0438 190 999

Mitta to Murray Landcare Inc has managed to obtain some funding through NECMA to do some governance training and obtain some promotional material for all our Landcare Groups across our network that are interested. The governance training will be very helpful as sometimes taking on volunteer roles can be a little tricky. The promotional material will be in the form of banners etc. for each Landcare Group so there is a golden opportunity for us.

We will be holding our AGM in the Autumn of 2023 can so please make the effort to attend and make yourself available to take on a role. We need new ideas and a fresh approach for the future. This is a great Landcare group that has achieved many things over the years so please consider being part of it.

We are always looking for new members

Anyone that is interested please call us

Jim de Hennin 0408 978 847

Hugh Dunchue 0488 257 177

Simon Feillafe 0438 190 999

Past Landcarers Remembered

On 27 November 2022 at the Landcare wayside stop on Murray River Road Talgarno, Dr. Helen Haines, MP Member for Indi and Mr. Hugh Dunchue unveiled the Landcare plaque which paid tribute to the past and present members of Wises Creek-Talgarno Landcare.

Wises Creek – Talgarno Landcare President Jim de Hennin opened the event with an acknowledgement to Country and then welcomed distinguished guests Dr. Haines, Deputy Mayor Towong Shire David Wortmann and Councillor Denise Anderson, previous and present Landcare facilitators including Geoff McKernan, Neil Paulette, Janice Horsfall, Kylie Scanlon and Simon Feillafe.

Jim spoke of the event being a very special day, particularly for the members of Wises Creek - Talgarno Landcare and the Landcare Community in general. He provided a summary of the numerous and varied achievements of the group over the years. Jim made special mention of inaugural members who have passed on, namely Graham Lockhart, Eileen O'Reilly, Jenny Hayes, Alan Lehmann and more recently Rhonda Sinclair.

A special mention was made of the late Rhonda Sinclair whose idea it was to find a suitable rock and place and secure a plaque on it honoring Landcarers. Jim then commented 'Well Rhonda, we have done it'. Rhonda's husband, Hugh Dunchue, attended the event and was no doubt very proud that Rhonda's dream came to fruition.

Councillor David Wortmann congratulated the group on their achievements and Dr Haines then spoke of the value of volunteers in the community and congratulated the Wises Creek-Talgarno Landcare group on their initiatives and achievements.

Attendees then walked to the site of the Memorial Rock and Dr Helen Haines and Mr Hugh Dunchue unveiled the plaque.

This was followed by a light luncheon.

Julie de Hennin



Dr. Helen Haines, MP Independent Member for Indi and Mr. Hugh Dunchue unveil the Landcare plaque .

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*The Berringa
Community News
team wish everyone a
happy and safe
Christmas and New
Year*

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"When Local Knowledge Really Counts"

The centre continues to provide a wonderful learning environment for the children, encouraging outdoor play as often as they can, arts and craft, loads of play-based learning and a host of other great activities. Currently they have been learning more about bees and quokkas after Amanda's trip to Western Australia.



The new equipment and resources purchased by FOBEYLC and Bushfire Recovery Funding have proved to be a real hit, especially the large foam climbing blocks, water-play trolley and home-corner kitchen. The new wooden tepee has arrived recently too – providing a wonderful space for creative games!

The centre has also extended a warm welcome to Kayla, a new educator to the team.



There have been many visitors over the past weeks including:

- Professor E. Speriment and Thingle Toodle who taught the children about Road Safety,
- The Murray Youth Performing Arts group got the kids moving with music and dance,
- Teigan from Bluearth, who continues to come fortnightly and provide a fabulous program about movement and mindfulness.

The centre is currently gearing up for school transitions, and end-of-year celebrations. It will then be closed from Friday 16 December to Monday 9 January 2023. Enrolments are now open for 2023, so please email Amanda to book your place:

Amanda.armstrong@towong.vic.gov.au

Upcoming Events:



Christmas Party – Friday 2 December, Roy Williams Park – 4 to 6 pm

This event will take place in the park near the centre and will be a great opportunity for all families to celebrate the year that was, while enjoying some local food and Christmas fun!

Christmas Carols – Sunday 4 December, Hume Boat Club – 6.30 pm

The carols are back this year and our little ones will be joining the festivities by singing a couple of songs. It is always a great community day, with a special guest joining the fun later in the night.

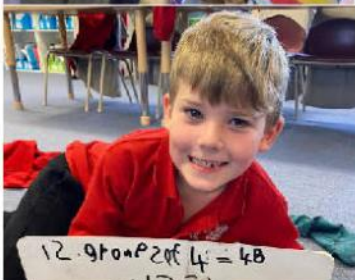


School Values

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.



What a wonderful few months we have had at Bethanga... full of learning, new experiences and exploration.

In August we hosted our 2nd Art Show which was a wonderful community event... 70 people at our Opening Night Wine & Cheese night. The Auction was a major draw card for many on the night and thanks to the generosity of Artists, local business (who donated many goods and services for our Silent Auction) and our families... we raised \$8,000 for our school! This allowed us to purchase 10 new iPads and a secure docking station to enhance learning through the incorporation of digital technology.

We wrapped up our partnership with Albury Author Aimee Chan at the end of term 3. This 2 term partnership culminated in students publishing a picture book they had written and illustrated and the installation of our 'Story Stairs' which captured student's favourite books including some by Aimee as well as Captain Petel

Playgroup has been a wonderful addition to our school this year, happening every fortnight on a Monday. Bec (maternal health nurse from Towong Shire) comes along to lead a Mother Goose session of songs and dancing! This will continue in 2023.

So much fun was had with our cluster friends over the last term- basketball and hockey days as well as a wonderful Science Day at Upper Sandy with each activity lead by students!

Our F-2 students enjoyed a magnificent day in Melbourne last week, exploring the Melbourne Zoo. Students had been working on writing Information Reports in literacy so it was wonderful to witness their delight as they experienced the animals they had written about up close.

Transition has commenced for our F 2023 students, We have had their first buddy visit to kindy and will kick off our on-site sessions this week.

Rachel Saunders





2022 TRANSITION PROGRAM

Activate. Engage. Strengthen

THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER

Talgarno PS 9-11.30

Join us for a morning of activities, stay for recess and a play.

THURSDAY 1ST DECEMBER

Talgarno PS 9-11.30

Join us for a morning of activities, stay for recess and a play.

THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER

Talgarno PS 9-1.30

Join us from the start of the day and for lunch.

TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER

Talgarno PS 9-1.30

Join us from the start of the day and for lunch.



Remember to bring a hat, drink bottle and recess or lunch (if required)

RAFTING

The senior students have been learning about life and survival skills in the outdoors. There is no better way than to test your skills than have a raft building competition! Mrs Gordon's husband Noel (who is an engineer) kindly donated his time with the students earlier this week to provide an insight into the buoyancy allowances for the raft building process. The students were so engaged and have taken this on board with their planning and designing.

The students split into two teams and using timber pallets, some 20L drums, some rope and duct tape they had to make a raft each. The students had a massive audience of family members attend. We took to the lake to test out both the rafts. In the end both teams were winners as both rafts stayed buoyant the entire time! What an experience!

BANQUER MONEY

This term students are learning all about money. Every week students will be rewarded on Friday with the amount of reading they have completed the week before. Friday is pay day! Students will receive 50c per day that they read and will be able to collect their pay to go in their home made wallets. Each week it will be different amounts that they can spend their (pretend money) at the canteen or on selected items. This will enable them to use money in a fun way, receive change and save up for something bigger at the end of the term!



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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 on-going support in delivering the Berringa Community News

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

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Jacki Eckhert
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COMING EVENTS

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4	Peninsula Summer Market	
4	Christmas Carols Hume Boat Club	19
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22	Australia Day nominations close	19
January		
4	Men's Shed member meeting	20
13	Talgarno CFA BBQ	24
26	Australia Day celebration	20
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1	Men's Shed member meeting	20
1	Gymkhana AGM	5
6	Berringa Playgroup	17
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11	Bush Dance	3
12	DEADLINE BERRINGA NEWS SUMMER EDITION	
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March		
6	Berringa Playgroup	17
12	Lake Hume Cycle Challenge	20
20	Berringa Playgroup	17

We like to feature photos of local events and places. If you have photos you want to share please email us or send photos to

info@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
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