

# Berringa Community News

Summer 2018

News and views from the residents of Bellbridge,  
Bethanga, Granya & Talgarno Circulation: 550  
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[www.berringacommunitynews.com.au](http://www.berringacommunitynews.com.au)



## Hiking Cradle Mountain

Cradle Mountain Overland: 62 kilometres of ancient rainforests and pristine alpine country, through rain, mud and even snow.

It was earlier this year when, as part of a group of Tallangatta Secondary College students, I travelled to Tasmania to complete the famous Overland Track. It was a big ask for a group of roughly ten teenagers to be camping with little bedding, no showers and without mobile service for a week. But we got through and we loved it. Our trek started with the journey from Ronny Creek to Water Valley hut. One thing I remember about that day was dragging myself up the steep side of a mountain, using chains to lift myself up. It was painful, but the view from the top of the mountain was unbelievable. You could see for miles – it seemed as if the hills didn't end. The first sleep back at camp was pretty rough. It wasn't until deep into that first night that I realised how cold Tasmania can really get.

The rest of our days walking took us through all different types of environments. One day we would be walking through wide open scrub. Then the next through enclosed green rainforest. But no matter where we were, the views were stunning. The weather changed nearly as much as the scenery. It would rain one minute and be all sun the next. This caused a lot of nights trapped in tents playing cards, waiting for the rain to stop.

One of the main things I remember was getting ambushed by massive possums, getting no sleep, having to stay up listening to possums scratching at our tents and scurrying around trying to scavenge crumbs from our dinner. We had to be so careful with what we left outside our tent because when we weren't organised enough we would get a visitor in the night time. This seemed to happen a lot. The walk also had its demanding parts. After a night's rain the track would get messy and very slippery. It was challenging, walking up those slippery slopes with 20 kilos strapped to our backs. The mud-ridden paths resulted in lots of water-filled shoes, soggy socks and some funny stacks. But this all just made the trip more memorable.

Overall, it was an incredible experience and one that I definitely won't be forgetting for a long time.

*Amy Swinnerton, Year 10 Tallangatta Secondary College*



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

## THIS ISSUE

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## Berringa Firies Calendar 2019

We are well underway to finalising our community fire brigade calendar. Thank you to everyone who came along to support our photo shoot in October and to the individuals who kindly donated their time on the night. The turnout was fantastic and we also managed to raise some much-needed funds for our local Berringa Community Newsletter while we were there!

The calendars will be on sale from December, in local shop fronts, at community events, such as the Talgarno Fire brigade monthly BBQ, through our Facebook page, or brigade members. If you are able to help sell the calendars, please let us know.

A big thank you to our sponsors. We have been overwhelmed by the response from our sponsors again and would like to acknowledge each and every one of you for your very generous contributions.

Bethanga General Store  
Dan Mitchell Building & Development

Excell Gray Bruni  
George Stahl Electrical  
Mitchell Pastoral Bethanga  
Premium Earthworks  
Lakeside Building and Renovations  
Steeline  
Supaturf  
Wilson Transformer  
Wunderbar  
Calvert + Co  
Johnsons MME  
The Wool Press Granya  
Hume Plumbing and Drainage  
Schubert Boers  
Cad-Mac  
G & N Gormly  
Helston Park Pty Ltd  
Naismith Family  
Please help support our local brigades by purchasing a calendar. 100% of the profits will go to the brigades.

Cheers,  
Berringa Firies Calendar Committee  
Email: [berringafiries@gmail.com](mailto:berringafiries@gmail.com)  
Find us on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/Berringa-Firies-Calendar](http://www.facebook.com/Berringa-Firies-Calendar)

## Thank You -You've Done it Again

Berringa Cert hoped to raise enough money to buy two defibs but, as it happened last fund raising, we have enough money to buy three. We thank the community for your generosity - we have raised \$8620. We particularly thank Peninsular Neighbourhood Watch for their donation of \$4200 but regret that it is because they have gone into recess. We also thank Talgarno CFA for their donation of \$500 and all the patrons of the Bethanga Hotel and the Bethanga Shop who gave us their change.

We will install defibrillators at the Talgarno Hall, Granya Hall and Bethanga Recreation Reserve as soon as we can.

The defibrillators are designed to be used by people who have no experience, but CERT will run sessions to improve people's confidence with the defibrillator and CPR. Keep your eyes open for dates of the familiarisation sessions.

Julie Miller  
Team Leader Berringa CERT

# Back to the Drawing Board for the Pizza Shelter.

Thanks to all of those who chased after votes for our project for development of the Recreation Reserve and the construction of a shelter for the pizza oven. Unfortunately we were unsuccessful in our application for funding from the Victorian government under their Pick my project initiative. It seems that we just didn't get enough votes to get us over the line – not surprising I guess, given that we were competing with generally much larger communities.

Despite having missed out on this round of funding, there are some positives that came out of the exercise. We now have some good ideas about the need to plan for the longer term development of the Rec reserve and

to progressively put in place the improvements people want. We know that the monthly community BBQ is very well supported and that gives us confidence that a shelter and some seating would be widely used and valued. So, we are going to find some way to build it! We are looking for other sources of funding and considering trying to raise some money ourselves so that we can progressively make the improvements that everybody seems to want. If you have any suggestions about how this project can be progressed, please get in touch with the Talgarno Hall and Recreation Reserve Committee Secretary, Lea Casey (lea.casey@gmail.com)

*Greg Hayes*

## Talgarno Cemetery

Works at our lovely cemetery are very close to being completed. The grant provided by Cemeteries Victoria has enabled us to build a shelter, some seats, and extend and enlarge our niche wall. Thanks to Scott Redman who built a sturdy shelter, and to George Gormly who ably constructed the wall, and to Julie Miller who



volunteered to be project manager. Many thanks also to Wal Wood who made and donated the beautifully crafted sign, and to Wodonga Pre Cast for donating two seat ends. And of course thank you to all the Cemetery Trust members who all had a part in making the project happen as well as assisting at various working bees: assisting builders, painting, planting, erecting the sign, building seats, clearing, mowing, drainage etc. Once again a first-rate project has been completed by our ever helpful and committed community.

We currently have a vacancy on the Cemetery Trust. If you would like to be involved contact Kerry Schubert or Lea Casey for information

*Lea Casey, Secretary, Talgarno Cemetery Trust  
(lea.casey@gmail.com)*

Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre Trust Fund Inc.



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Berringa Community Fundraiser

for the Albury-Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre will be held on  
Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> 10.00am to 12.00 noon at 697 Murray River Road, Talgarno

***This is a 'Save the Date' reminder***

Our plan is to have a targeted fundraising project that the AWRCC will recommend.

The last 2 fundraising events were a huge success thanks to the generosity of the community – We need your help again please, with donations, products for the knitting, cake or plant stalls and/or items for the auction and raffle.

Please see the next edition of the Berringa Community Newsletter or phone 02 6020 1136 or 0412 433 499 if you would like more information.

# Remembrance Day - 100 year Anniversary

Bethanga Soldiers Memorial Hall Committee was honoured to conduct a service at the Hall Memorial Stone on Sunday 11 Nov to commemorate 100 years since the signing of the Armistice to end World War One.

We are very fortunate to have residents here willing to participate in our services and we sincerely thank Mrs Betty Price for our prayer, Mr John Tudor for the poem "We Shall Keep The Faith", Graham Maynard for the

address which touched on the history and traditions of Remembrance Day, Brendan Pearson and Peter Klein for their musical contribution, and our school children for their singing.

It was lovely to see so many people attend this service and then join us for a "cuppa" afterwards.

Thank you all.

*Graham Maynard*

## We'll always remember our journey to France.

Our trip to France was much more than an adventurous holiday, it was one of the most significant experiences of our lives and it involved teams of scientists, anthropologists and historians from all over the world to allow it to happen. Let me explain.

In April, this year Narelle and I and our daughter Isabella were invited to attend a 'Commemoration of the Battle of Fromelles and Headstone Rededication Ceremony' on July 19. It was to commemorate the 102<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the two-day battle on the western front in northern France where many Australian soldiers were killed. Narelle's mum Claire had for many years talked about her personal family grief regarding the loss of her Uncle, Captain Kenneth Mortimer (from Leneva) who was reported missing in action at the battle of Fromelles. His body was never found and his fate unknown. Historians tell us this battle was an unmitigated disaster with 5,500 Australian casualties. Almost 2,000 killed in action or died of wounds and some 400 were captured. This battle was believed to be the greatest loss by a single division in **24 hours**, for the entire First World War. All reports indicated that Captain Mortimer was commanding a company from the 29<sup>th</sup> battalion and they had made it across 400 yards of 'no-mans' land' to the German front line. Historians say as he ordered his men to retreat, Captain Mortimer was moving forward to warn others and he was never seen again. He was only 20 years of age.

Fast forward this story to 2008. A Melbourne amateur historian, 'Lambis Englezos' after many years of perseverance finally persuaded the Australian government that a mass grave existed at Fromelles. They established a team of scientists to locate and recover the bodies of 250 Australian and British soldiers. The Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery was established in 2010 where they were buried in unmarked graves with full military honours. Scientists used DNA testing (a complex and lengthy process) to identify the soldiers. To date 159 soldiers have been identified. Narelle's mum Claire offered to participate to provide DNA when the Australian War Memorial put out the call to relatives of missing soldiers back in 2010. In January of this year Captain Kenneth Mortimer was identified. Finally, he could have his name dedicated on a headstone and could be laid to rest, along with 8 others identified this year. Fourteen of Ken's family members travelled from Australia, Britain and Ireland

to attend. Narelle would've loved to have taken her Mum to France for the ceremony as this would have been a dream come true; that her much loved Uncle Ken was finally found. Sadly, Claire passed away last year so we decided to represent her at the ceremony.



Isabella, Narelle and I were moved by the service which included speeches from officials from France and Australia, the bagpipes played and flag bearers representing every legion in France attended. Most of the village of Fromelles (900 people) witnessed the service. In a moving moment Bella and Narelle were the final guests to lay flowers at the 'Cross of Sacrifice' and tears flowed freely amongst villagers who attended. For our own private dedication, we left some rocks on Ken's grave that we'd collected from the family farm at

Leneva where he grew up. Afterwards we were treated to supper at the aptly named 'Cobbers School'. The Principal promised that her grade 1/2 children would care for the nine graves. This month we received a picture from students at Fromelles Primary School who were holding a poster above Captain Mortimer's headstone, which read; 'We won't forget you Cobber!'

We will never forget the French hospitality shown to us and the gratitude they displayed for our 'Aussie WW1 diggers'. Respectfully, the diggers are not forgotten. They lie in peace near the battlefields, where crops now grow on no-man's land and the red poppies dance; lest we forget.

*Peter, Narelle and Isabella Klein*



## One Man's Story- Michael Ernest Sutherland

Michael Ernest Sutherland was known as Ernie. Ernie's father, Michael Owen Sutherland was manager of Argo gold dredge at Sandy Creek in 1905 when Ernie enlisted on 22nd July 1915



in Melbourne. He was 20 years old and gave his occupation as a miner

He trained with the 11th reinforcements, 14th Battalion at Seymour, Ballarat and Broadmeadows until 17th September and on 11th October sailed to Egypt. By the time they arrived in Egypt, the Australian Infantry Forces was being reorganised and on 16th March 1916, Ernie was mustered as a gunner in the 45th Battery of the

newly formed 12th Field Artillery Brigade. In Ernie's battery at this time the guns would have been 18-pound field guns which had a range of almost six kilometres and fired a range of ammunition including high explosive fragmentation, shrapnel, smoke, gas, star illumination and armour piercing projectiles.

During the battle of Fromelles later in July, the 45th battery was engaged in cutting wire entanglements on the front line. For the next three months the men spent only short periods in training camps between operations in the field near Ypres, Belgium. Their work included constructing new gun positions, providing harassing and retaliatory fire, raiding enemy trenches and manning the wagon lines, often under enemy bombardment and aircraft shelling. As their guns were horse drawn, a wagon line of horses and supporting wagons would be set up behind the front line out of range of enemy fire. Men came back there for rest and food and each night under cover of darkness the gunners would be resupplied with ammunition and supplies by wagons from the wagon lines.

In mid November 1916, the Brigade was moved to the Somme region to provide support in the trenches during the difficult, cold, wet winter. On 12th March 1917 the 12th Field Artillery Brigade were involved in wire cutting and bombardment of enemy trenches at Frèchencourt, near Amiens, when Ernie was wounded. He was admitted to hospital with gunshot wounds to the left thigh.

He left Southampton on 6th November and rejoined his battery in the wagon lines near Dickebusch, Belgium on the 12th. For four months the 12th Field Artillery Brigade remained in this region, often on the front line providing harassing fire and enduring enemy shelling and gas attacks.

Ernie was appointed as a driver on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1918 just as the brigade moved back over the border into northern France to assist in stemming the great German spring offensive. For the next two months it saw heavy enemy action near St Omer, as well as the added risk of the Spanish influenza epidemic. In fact, there was little rest for the men of the 12th Field Artillery Brigade as they provided the artillery support for many brigades in the fierce fighting that raged in this area until August. On 5th August they were moved back to the Somme region where they took part in the Battle of Amiens which broke the enemy defences and drove them back in a disastrous loss for the Germans. The Brigade then went on to participate in breaching the main enemy defensive line in Picardy and to assist at successful battles on the Hindenberg line at St Quentin. By the time Ernie took four week's leave from 26th October he had been on the battlefield almost continually in action for twelve months.

As Ernie had enlisted early in the war, he was in a high priority group for repatriation to Australia. He arrived in Melbourne on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1919 and was discharged on 25<sup>th</sup> July.

Ernie's father, Michael, had left Sandy Creek to live at Bethanga in 1916 after the closure of the Argo dredge and Ernie initially joined his family there. However, in 1921 and 1922 he is listed as a farmer at Moyhu. He married Mary Agnes Woods from Chiltern in Wangaratta in 1922. The couple moved back to Bethanga for a short time but from 1925 they lived in Melbourne where Ernie worked for the railways. They had three children (two daughters and a son). By 1920 Ernie's father had become the licensee of the Court House Hotel and he and wife Lily were running that and the store and post office.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1929 Ernie, while on a holiday from his job at Spencer Street railway station, was tragically killed, aged 33, when the car in which he was travelling with two friends, William and Michael Toohey, on a foggy night plunged off a bridge into Red Creek near Bethanga. His friends were able to scramble free but Ernie was drowned. He left a widow and three young children. His wife, Mary, is listed as living at the family's Court House Hotel from 1931 to 1937 but her whereabouts after that are unknown.

Michael died 1932 and Lily took over as the licensee of the hotel until her death in 1948. In a sale of the large amount of property owned by Michael and her, their daughter Maggie Benson bought the Court House hotel for £7875.

Ernie, his father and his mother are all buried in the Bethanga cemetery.

*From The Two Charlerois by Karal Miller*

# Local Teacher Publishes her First Children's Book

Christine Cameron, a teacher in the kinder room at Bellbridge CEYC (formerly Berringa Kindergarten), has just published her first children's book, an alphabet of Australian birds. Christine has had a love of birds since becoming a member of the Gould League of Bird Lovers, when in primary school. She was very taken with both the beautiful coloured certificate, framed by her parents, featuring several Australian birds and the accompanying badge, which featured a red capped robin. She fondly remembers growing up near Colac and enjoying her grandfather's many photos of birds, her Nana's chooks and her parents' canaries and budgies. Now Christine's own family continues to be surrounded by birds, sharing her husband's large aviary of finches.

Like many school children, Christine wrote and illustrated a book during primary school literacy sessions and was quite proud of the result. I guess at the time, she didn't envisage actually publishing one in the future! However in the 1980's she started to write a children's picture story book, but for various reasons, didn't get to follow it through. Several months ago Christine was inspired by another local author's alphabet book about alpacas and after some investigations discovered alphabet books that combined animals and birds, but nothing specifically on Australian birds. Her encouragement of the children's interest in and observations of the birds visiting the play area at the kindergarten and their learning of the alphabet, spurred on Christine's decision to act.

After contacting Birdlife Australia, Steve Parish and some time spent on Google, Christine found Fiona Sinclair, an illustrator whose drawings really appealed and who was very keen to proceed. Christine then set about writing the text and preparing some suitable children's activities, an addition suggested by the publisher. As Fiona had already produced suitable illustrations for an Australian tea towel, minimal time was required to make some minor alterations which helped speed up the process. Christine's husband Matt, a biologist, was a skilled proof reader, checking that all the information and illustrations were accurate and several emails between Christine and Fiona later, the final draft was ready. The manuscript was accepted very quickly by Boolarong Press, the publisher. Within 3 months the entire process was complete and Fly through your ABC - An alphabet of Australian birds' was published.

Christine has ensured that, not only will children learn to recognise and care for some of our wonderful Australian birdlife, discover their habitats, food and nesting habits,

but at the same time her book will support learning the alphabet.



Christine will be available to sign copies at the Albury Library book launch on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> November at 5:30. All welcome

*Di Singline*



**ANNIE'S CRYSTAL ENERGY HEALING - 0419 407 420**

Relax in the peaceful surrounds of my healing room and let the powerful healing energy of the Crystals and myself work in harmony to balance and unblock the energy meridians (Chakras) in your body. Each relates to specific parts of the body and relative emotional functions. All other healings are designed according to client's own personal needs at the time.

I am offering introductory appointments free of charge until the end of July to give you the opportunity of trying this gentle healing method. Call/Text Annie Berber for an appointment!



## BETHANGA PUB (COURTHOUSE HOTEL)

Nestled in the picturesque village of Bethanga and serving the coldest beer around. Friendly atmosphere. Great food. Shaded beer garden. Juke box. Pool table.

Lunch and dinner 7 days a week.

Lunch 12pm to 2pm

Dinner 6pm to 8:30pm.

Please book early for dinner week nights.

PIZZAS & TAKEAWAY 7 days per week

Enquiries: 6026 4214

### Pub News

As we near the end of 2018 after a very dry spring some welcome rain has arrived and Christmas is just around the corner.

Footy tipping ended with a bang as for the first time ever I came equal first with Craig (Focus) with 142.

2<sup>nd</sup> was Craig Jacob 139, 3<sup>rd</sup> was Daryl Clegg 137 and third last was Col with 112. The juniors was won by Will Scammell with 127, Charlie Scammell on 124 and Archer Scammell on 120. Well done!

Congratulations to all VCE students who are working as staff: Jacob, Chantelle and Jess in Year 12 and Riley M, Ella and Grace in Year 11. I know how hard they have worked on their studies. Congratulations also for those who have got their "L's".

### Christmas Trading Hours for 2018:

Christmas Day 10 am to 2 pm Bar Only No Lunches.  
Boxing Day 11am to 11pm Lunch and dinner.  
New Year's Eve 11 am to 1 am  
New Years Day 12 noon to 11 pm  
All other days are normal hours. 11 to 11.

**Music Sessions** continue on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December. The last one for the year.

There will probably be an invited musician as a special entertainment night on **Wednesday, 2 January 2019**. This will be confirmed. Call the pub on 0260264214 for confirmation.

With the likely return of the **Wodonga Saints Football Netball Club** returning to the town for 4 or 5 games in 2019, the Committee invite the community to an information evening to be held at the Hotel on Friday, 14 December 2018 at 6:30 pm. Nibbles will be supplied. I would recommend that interested stakeholders attend and show support.

Many of you have heard on the "grapevine" that the Hotel will be coming under new management in 2019. It will be officially handed over on **Friday, 1 February 2019**. Meals in the week prior to this will continue until I run out of food. The bar's last day of trading will be on Wednesday, 30 January 2019. (**NOTE: Thursday, 31 January 2019 the Hotel will be closed**).

Arrangements for dining from Friday, 1 February are unclear at this stage. Ring 0260264214 for any queries. The new management, headed by Gary Paxton, I'm happy to say, will be very supportive of the community and all current sponsorships/donations etc. will continue (including the music sessions).

With this being my finally report since walking in 16 years ago on 18 December 2002 many changes have been seen. Over 50 staff have worked for us during this period and I'd like to thank all in the community for their support. Some staff have worked as juniors, grown up, married, had families and now frequent the hotel as patrons.

Merry Christmas and a happy, safe New Year from Leslie and the staff.



## Bethanga Music Club

For ALL people interested in LIVE music.

If you're a beginner - come and learn.

If you're a legend - come and teach.

A place for everyone to come and share.

*More than just an open mic*

Come and join in the fun of the all-in jam session in the *Tim Hancock* Music lounge

**7pm on  
second  
Saturday  
of every  
month**

Proudly hosted and supported by  
the **Bethanga Hotel**, Bethanga  
Bay Rd, Bethanga. 6026 4214



For further information or general enquiries contact  
Mark via email: [bhanjmo@hotmail.com](mailto:bhanjmo@hotmail.com)

## Major funding boost for Bethanga and Eskdale

Towong Shire Council has secured over \$1.16 million in funding for much needed road upgrades as part of the State Government's Fixing Country Roads Program. This grant was the largest awarded to any Council as part of this program, and will be boosted by \$333,150 of ratepayer funds for upgrades.

The funding will deliver substantial improvements to intersections, parking, road surfaces and pedestrian safety in Bethanga and Eskdale, with projects scheduled to be delivered during the first half of 2019.

Towong Shire Council Mayor Cr David Wortmann was pleased to see this investment in Towong Shire.

"This funding will mean we can proceed with several projects we know are important to the communities of Bethanga and Eskdale and deliver significant road improvements," he said. "We hope to begin in Bethanga in early 2019 with Eskdale works commencing soon after."

Cr Wortmann said, "Council will be holding an information session in each town and encourages community members to come along and learn about the proposed improvements and guide Council with its prioritisation of works."

### Information Sessions

**Date and time:** Wednesday 5 December 2018.  
Sessions will be held at 5.30 pm and 6.15 pm.

**Location:** Bethanga Memorial Hall, 1 Bridge St, Bethanga.

Further information is available online at [www.towong.vic.gov.au](http://www.towong.vic.gov.au) or by contacting Council on (02) 6071 5100 or [info@towong.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@towong.vic.gov.au).

## Feedback invited on 'Healthy Communities' Plan

Following consultation and collaboration with health services and providers across the region, the proposed *Towong Healthy Communities Plan 2018-2021* is now available to Towong Shire residents and ratepayers for review and comment.

Council is seeking feedback on the proposed Plan from community members. The Plan outlines priorities and activities to be delivered across the Shire over the next three years and includes a series of initiatives across five priority areas:

- Healthier Eating
- Active Living
- Reducing Harmful Alcohol and Drug Use
- Improving Mental Health
- Family Violence

Newly elected Mayor Cr David Wortmann said the plan is critical to the delivery of Council services.

"It is so important for us to hear from the community as part of this planning process. What is detailed in the plan is what we'll work to provide across the Shire in the area of health and wellbeing in the coming years - so we want to know we're focusing on the right things," he said.

The plan can be viewed on the Towong Shire Council website, or by visiting Council offices in Corryong and Tallangatta. Feedback can be submitted in writing by emailing [info@towong.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@towong.vic.gov.au), or via post to 32 Towong Street, Tallangatta, 3700 before Friday 21 December 2018.



# Roy Williams Park, Bellbridge, Information Session Feedback

On September 25 Towong Shire hosted an information and feedback session on the proposed works at Roy Williams Park, Bellbridge. Comment sheets were received from 20 residents who attended.

Of highest concern to attendees was the inclusion of seating, eating areas, BBQ facilities, bins and other infrastructure in the park upgrade plan

Retainment and protection of water views was also of high importance to attendees.

The management and maintenance of trees in the park and along the foreshore is mostly related to the issue of

preserving water views, but also includes requests for shade and improvements to landscape design.

The skate park was of high interest to attendees. A number of attendees requested additional equipment at the skate park. The current skate park infrastructure creates a noise nuisance and many comments suggested replacing the infrastructure surface with concrete to reduce noise.

Although only three comments specifically support the relocation of the cricket nets, there were no specific objections recorded against the proposal.

## Cr Wortmann elected as Mayor

Towong Shire Council elected Cr David Wortmann as Mayor for a 12-month term at its meeting held on Tuesday 13 November 2018. Cr Wortmann was first elected to Council in October 2008, and has previously served three terms as Mayor from 2014-2017. He succeeds Cr Aaron Scales. Cr Andrew Whitehead was appointed Council's Deputy Mayor.

After thanking fellow Councillors for their support, Cr Wortmann paid tribute to Cr Scales.

"Cr Scales has worked incredibly hard during his time as Mayor and I congratulate him on his contribution over the past twelve months," he said.

In his outgoing address, Cr Scales thanked his colleagues for their dedication and commitment. He particularly thanked Council's Chief Executive Officer, Ms Juliana

Phelps, and Directors, Ms Jo Shannon and Mr Jamie Heritage, for their dedication to the organisation and assistance over the past 12 months. Cr Scales also expressed his thanks to Council staff, both outdoor and indoor.

Cr Wortmann said it was a great honour to be elected Mayor and represent Towong Shire.

He also commented on the stability in the senior management team and how this contributes to the organisation functioning so well. "Despite being a small council we have a track record of significant



### TOWONG SHIRE COUNCIL

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

Questions, concerns, feedback?

Please contact us:

32 Towong Street (PO Box 55)

Tallangatta 3700

T 02 6071 5100

E [info@towong.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@towong.vic.gov.au)

towongshire 

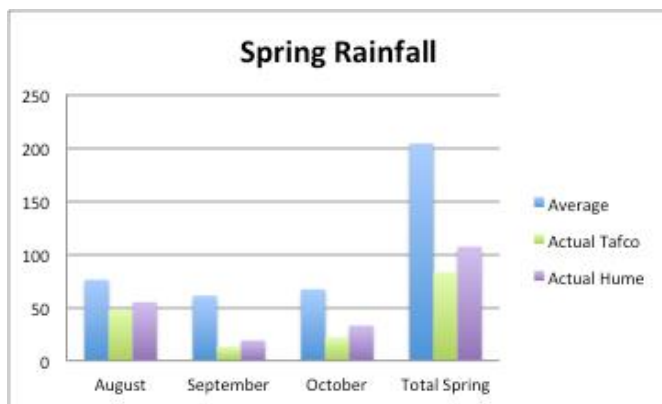
# Prospects for the Season Ahead

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

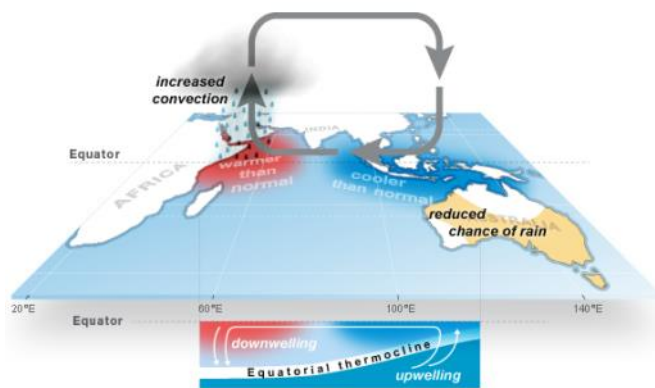


## Rainfall Round-up

Spring turned out pretty much as predicted – very dry and disappointing. We received a total of 87mm (Tafco station) or 107mm (Hume Reservoir). September with 19mm at Hume and 13 mm at Tafco) was particularly dry with almost 95% of all Septembers on record being wetter. September was bad Australia-wide being the second driest on record. October was almost as bad with only 33mm (Hume) and 22mm (Tafco). For Victoria as a whole, this October was the fifth driest on record.



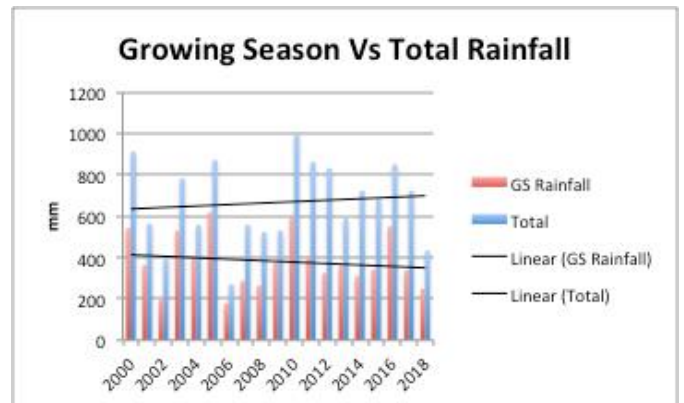
The low rainfall earlier in spring seems to have been caused by the continuing higher pressure over inland Australia pushing and rain-bearing fronts south. In early September the Indian Ocean Dipole turned positive taking moisture sources away from Australia's tropical northwest towards Africa. This has been a major cause of the lack of rain since then. This phase of the IOD is expected to breakdown soon.



Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD): Positive phase

© Commonwealth of Australia 2013.

We have now had 10 straight months of below average rainfall. Since 2000, there has been a trend towards decreasing rainfall over the growing season (June – November) whilst the total rainfall has actually tended to increase (admittedly from the low base of the Millenium Drought).



This seems to be a bit of a trend - since 2000, two out of every three springs and winters (both 68%) have been below average. In contrast, only one in two summers (58%) have been below average. As a result it seems that we might be moving towards a more even distribution of rainfall across the year instead of the historical peaks in spring and winter.

## Prospects for summer (November to end February)

The BOM say we can expect an average summer in terms of rainfall but warmer than normal. The IOD is expected to abate by the end of November. We have now reached the El Niño threshold and there is a 70% chance that it will persist but it seems to be a weak version and unlikely to have much effect on our rainfall. There are prospects for some more moisture sources as a result of a positive Southern Annular Mode (SAM) which is expected to bring a wetter than average December for eastern Victoria. Additionally, the Coral Sea is warmer than normal, providing a potential moisture source for eastern Australia. Most of the climate models forecast average rainfall over summer but model accuracy is low at this time of the year.

Greg Hayes

# Multi-Award Winning Home Extension Specialist.



2 Craig Drive  
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0418 572 249



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# 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](mailto: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

## 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*

## 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

## Bethanga Soldiers Memorial Hall

Hall and Supper Room Available for Hire

Functions and Meetings

Day / Night

Air Conditioned / Heated

Competitive Rates

For more information: Contact Graham Maynard 6026 4007 , Ron Evans 6026 4301 For Hall Bookings: Contact Bethanga General Store 6026 4215

## 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 9534

## 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 Guilliamese  
[kjfarm@gmail.com](mailto:kjfarm@gmail.com)  
6072 9598

## 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

## TOWONG HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PLAN 2018-2021

Council invites feedback on the proposed Towong Healthy Communities Plan.

The proposed Plan is available at Council's Offices in Corryong and Tallangatta or on Council's website and will be on Public Exhibition until 21 December 2018.

Feedback can be submitted to [info@towong.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@towong.vic.gov.au) or posted to 32 Towong Street Tallangatta.



## 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

## Bellbridge Kindergarten LDC and OSHC



In 2018 CEYC is operating;

- **Long Day Care** 6 weeks to 6 years  
Schedule: Monday – Friday | 7:30 – 6:00  
Fees: \$110 per day, CCB/CCR available
- **4 year old Victorian Funded Kindergarten**  
Schedule: Wednesday & Friday | 9:00 – 4:30  
Fees: \$360 per term
- **3 year old Kindergarten**  
Schedule: Tuesday | 9:00 – 12:00  
Fees: as per LDC fees, \$110 per day, CCB/CCR available
- **Outside School Hours Care**  
Schedule: Monday – Friday | 7:30 – 8:45am, 3:40 – 6:00pm  
Fees: \$20 am, \$25pm, CCB/CCR available

Our professional Educators focus on children's competence, capabilities, resourcefulness and creativity. Our program is developed to foster each individual child's desire to Be, Belong and Become.

For enrolments, information packages and bookings please phone our office on:

**(02) 6056 4399** or email at: [admin@ceyc.com.au](mailto:admin@ceyc.com.au)

## 2019 BERRINGA AUSTRALIA DAY COMMUNITY AWARDS NOW OPEN:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Event of the Year

Nomination forms can be collected from the Bethanga and Bellbridge Store/Post Office.

Nominations close 17 December 2018.

Forms can also be downloaded from Council's website at [www.towong.vic.gov.au](http://www.towong.vic.gov.au)

**Summer is here, time to sit in the air conditioning with a good book from the Talgarno Street Library**

**Open all hours for everyone at the Talgarno Hall.**



# Obituary

## Vale Julie Wilson

It was with sadness our community learned of Julie Wilson's passing on 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

Julie was born on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1956, the oldest of four children to Ian and Pam Holmes. She grew up on the family farm at Lake Rowan.

After leaving school, Julie became an Enrolled Nurse and worked in Benalla, Beechworth and Wodonga. Julie also travelled a lot during this time. She had many trips overseas and regularly attended music concerts both in Australia and overseas.

John and Julie met at Brady's Fishing day on Lake Hume and married in 1983. They bought 25 acres in Wises Crk at Talgarno and built their mud brick home by hand. They started with a ¼ acre garden which Julie expanded very quickly and is now about 2 acres. Her favourite plants were roses and proteas, with irises a close second.

Anthony was born in 1986 followed by Travis in 1999. Her boys were the light of her life.

Julie was a keen sportswoman. She loved her North Melbourne Football Club (especially Wayne Carey), played weekly basketball and played tennis for Talgarno for over 15 years. She was secretary of the club and worked tirelessly at club fundraisers for many years. Everyone was happy when Julie was playing, as she was renowned for her egg sandwiches and sponge cakes!

Talgarno Primary School was a big part of Julie's life. During the years Anthony and Travis attended, Julie was forever volunteering to help with whatever needed doing. And this continued even when the boys left. Many students would have memories of Julie helping out with sport. Julie, as many people would know, was very competitive, and would always try to be on the winning team!

If anyone ever needed a bunch of flowers or a wreath, Julie was the woman. Over the years, she supplied flowers for many local raffles, ANZAC day services, lucky door prizes and gifts. She always received compliments on her beautiful arrangements and was known as our own local florist.



One of Julie's lifelong dreams was to swim with dolphins, which was fulfilled on a family holiday to Sea World on the Gold coast. Julie also enjoyed her regular camping and fishing trips around Talgarno and Dartmouth.

Julie was overjoyed when her twin grandsons, Max and Alex, came along. Even though they live 3 hours away, she would always find the time to visit them regularly and loved having them for 'holidays' at Nan's. They were the love of her life, and being very proud of them, always had photos on hand to share.

Facebook opened up a new world for Julie. She spent many hours following musical groups and making friends all over the world. When little known bands would perform locally, or even in Melbourne, she would make the trip to see them perform and present them with homemade preserves and flowers.

Over 300 people attended Julie's funeral in Yarrawonga on the 31<sup>st</sup> August. She was a very valued member of the Talgarno community, who could always be counted on to lend a helping hand. She had a very supportive and close family, and the day hadn't ended if she hadn't spoken to her Mum.

Julie is survived by husband John, sons Anthony and Travis, daughter in-law Bec, grandsons Max and Alex.

You'll be missed Gert, we'll think of you every time we see a big fat pelican.

*Jill Pearson & John Wilson*

## Follow Berringa Community News on Facebook

Berringa Community News now has a facebook page. We will post deadline dates and advise when the latest edition is available on our website and as hard copy. Locals can also post events and advertisements.



# Mudpoo and the Fungus Mystery

Based on the book written by Peter Klein, illustrated by Leon deMontignie

**Talgarno and Bethanga  
combined schools  
Musical production.**

**Bethanga Memorial Hall  
Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018**

**Matinee at 12noon**  
(Cluster schools)

**Main Show 7pm**  
(Open Invitation)

TICKETS: \$5 each or \$15 family

**Discover for  
yourself the  
mystery at the old  
Bethanga goldmine...**



Families are invited to join us for a BBQ dinner from 5:30pm. BBQ, icy poles, drinks and raffle tickets will be for sale. Other items for sale on the night: programs \$1, red carpet photos \$5, DVD \$10 (delivered to school after printing)

## Rural Asset Maintenance

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[chrisvine@live.com.au](mailto:chrisvine@live.com.au)



**WODONGA**  
**Saints**  
**FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB**

## INFORMATION NIGHT

The Wodonga Saints Football & Netball Club are holding an information night to discuss our future in Bethanga

All community members and businesses are encouraged to attend and have their say

Nibbles provided

**WHEN: Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

**TIME: 6.30PM**

**WHERE: Bethanga Pub**

CONTACT: David Hansford

[president@wodongasaints.com.au](mailto:president@wodongasaints.com.au)

0459 426 506

# PENINSULA NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER – Summer Edition 2018

*Let's watch out for each other*

At the recent Peninsula Neighbourhood Watch Community Meeting it was decided the organisation go into recess. It has not been possible to fill some of the leadership positions which instigated this decision. Although we will go into recess for the time being, we are all still encouraged to 'watch out for each other' and report to the police any untoward incidents. It was also agreed that a donation of \$4200 be made to the Berringa Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) to contribute to the purchase and placement of 3 defibrillators, 1 each at Talgarno Hall, Granya Hall and Bethanga Recreation Reserve. Defibrillators are currently available on the outside wall at the Bethanga and Bellbridge Shops and in the Talgarno and Bethanga CFA fire trucks.



*Attendees enjoying a delicious meal*



*Julie de Hennin, was presented with a beautiful basket of fresh flowers in recognition of her role as PNHW Secretary since its commencement in 1996 . The presentation was made by Joan Elliot and Nene Green on behalf of PNHW*

## **Police Report:**

Hello all, reported crime continues to trend down and I have no incidents occurring in our area to report on. But I do have a couple of reminders to be aware of,

Please be mindful of your pets. We continue to see wandering dogs in the streets entering into other people's property .They could attack other dogs, destroy livestock and possibly injure people. Excessive dog barking during the night is becoming an issue and disrupts the peaceful communities we have worked hard to build. Council local law officers are aware of such issues and will take action if breaches continue to occur. If you can't handle having a dog, maybe consider getting an easier to manage pet, such as a fish. Advice on managing domestic animals can be found on Towong shire website <https://www.towong.vic.gov.au/>

Illegal rubbish dumping carries serious penalties, council gravel pits and paddocks are not rubbish tips. On the spot fines of up to \$645 are being issued. Let's keep our part of the world clean.

We are continuing to target hoon drivers across the Towong shire and have caught a number of people doing the wrong thing. Be aware that if caught hooning your car will be impounded for a month, issued a summons to attend court and possibly lose your licence. Police can't be everywhere at once, so getting a vehicle registration or video of the behaviour would assist greatly in stopping this issue.

I will again stress that if you need police assistance '000' is the most appropriate option. Non urgent matters can be reported to Bethanga (02) 6026 4204 or Wodonga (02) 6049 2600.

Stay safe, have a great summer and a merry Christmas! **Senior Constable JASINOWICZ – Bethanga Police**



# CLUBS AND GROUPS

## BERRINGA CERT



2018

### AGM

We have 13 team members available to respond to callouts. We struggle to provide 24/7 cover and are always looking for new members. A training course will be held in Wodonga in February. If anyone is interested in joining please contact me. Previous first aid or nursing experience is not required – just a commitment to helping our community or a desire to gain new skills.

Last year the CERT had a record 50 callouts. We were unavailable for 5 of these. Our Average response time was 16 minutes with minimum of 3 minutes and a maximum of 26 minutes.

### SUMMER HEALTH & SAFETY

#### Snake Bite

My annual summer advice on what to do if you suspect snake bite;

#### Call 000

#### Treatment is pressure bandaging and immobilisation.

Venom of Australian snakes moves through the lymph system which in turn relies on muscle activity in the limb for effective flow. Immobilising the limb and applying a constrictive bandage impedes snake venom flow through the lymph system. Apply a firm bandage over the site and up the limb - from fingers or toes up as far as you can go. The bandage must be tight without stopping circulation to the limb.

**Remove any jewellery** on the affected limb.

**Mark the bandaged limb** approximately where the bite location is to assist with later swabbing and venom identification. A cut can be made in that part of the bandage and the bite swabbed without any other part of the bandage being disturbed.

**Keep the person very still**, splint the limb if possible. If practical, position the patient in a legs-down position, semi-recumbent or (where an upper limb is affected) with the arm slung downward to the side of the body. Attempt to keep the bite in a position below the heart at all times, thus using gravity to assist with slowing the spread of venom to the central circulation.

**Stay with the person** and check circulation to fingers and toes. Take note of the time the bandage was applied. It may be easier to apply the bandage over clothes rather than trying to remove them.

**Do NOT wash the bite, cut the bite, apply a tourniquet or try to catch the snake.**

#### On hot days

- Drink water, even if you don't feel thirsty. Take a bottle with you always.
- Hot cars kill. Never leave kids, older people or pets in cars. The temperature inside a parked car can double within minutes.

- Keep cool. Seek out air-conditioned buildings, draw your blinds, use a fan, take cool showers and dress in light and loose clothing made from natural fabrics.
- Plan ahead. Schedule activities in the coolest part of the day and avoid exercising in the heat. If you must go out, wear a hat and sunscreen and take a bottle of water with you.
- Check in on others. Look after those most at risk in the heat – your neighbour living alone, the elderly, the young, people with a medical condition and don't forget your pets.

Please drive safely over the holiday period. On long drives take a break every two hours

*Keep well,*

*Julie Miller, Team Leader Berringa CERT  
juliemiller@skymesh.com.au  
6020 1107*

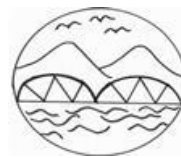
## BETHANGA ANGLER'S CLUB

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 at Bethanga Hotel on 6026 4214.

*Happy Fishing, CATCHYA soon  
Brian 6026 4214*

## 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*

## 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

6<sup>th</sup> September 1:50pm Caravan fire in Bellbridge - Members responded in both of the Bethanga Tankers and the Bethanga Ultralight. Bethanga Ultralight arrived on scene and put a stop on all oncoming vehicles. The caravan was unable to be saved. No further property was damaged and no one was injured.

17<sup>th</sup> September 7:02pm Smoke sighted in bush near Jarvis Creek - Members responded in Bethanga Tankers 1 and 2, the Bethanga Ultralight and private appliances. The smoke was a result of a burn off and Bethanga was asked to cancel and return before arriving on scene.

26<sup>th</sup> October 3:46pm Smoke sighting near Mitchell's Track Bethanga - Members turned out on Bethanga Tankers 1 and 2, the Bethanga Ultralight and a number of private appliances. The smoke was a result of a burn off near Yonson Road that had been completed the day before but had got going again and was now a slow moving out of control grass fire. Talgarno and Bonegilla Brigades and DEWLP supported Bethanga and they were able to extinguish the fire.

30<sup>th</sup> October 9:49pm Car accident near Lake Hume Village - Members turned out in Bethanga Tankers 1 and 2 and the Bethanga Ultralight. The situation was managed by the Bonegilla Brigade. Bethanga Ultralight assisted and Bethanga Tankers were asked to cancel and return before arriving on scene.

### NEW MEMBERS

Three new members have completed their Minimum Skills training and are ready to assist at incidents. The new members are:

Jessica Ellison

Harry Turnbull

Shane Bracegirdle

Welcome to you all and thank you for giving some of your time to help our community.

### ROADSIDE FUEL REDUCTION

The Brigade has sprayed the roadsides in the past 4 months in an effort to minimize the fuel load along various roads in and around Bethanga and Bellbridge.

### CFA FIRE RESTRICTIONS 29<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

Fire restrictions for the Towong Council came into force on the 29<sup>th</sup> October, which was an entire month earlier than last year's fire restrictions.

When fire restrictions are in force, you must adhere to the restrictions listed in the CFA "Can I Can't I" brochure (which can be found at <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/can>). Fires that do not comply with the rules or accidentally escape are viewed very seriously by Police.

### COUNCIL FIRE RESTRICTIONS FOR OPEN FIRES

**RESIDENTIAL ZONES-** Towong Shire Council encourages residents to not light open fires within council defined residential zones and to use waste transfer stations and hard waste collections instead. No permits to burn will be issued for these zones.

**TOWNSHIP ZONES -** Permits to Burn in a Township Zone will be considered on a case by case basis.

**RURAL LIVING ZONES -** (Farmlets/Hobby farms) Residents will require a council permit to burn anytime (during and outside the fire danger period).

**RURAL ACTIVITY ZONES & RURAL FARM ZONES -** (Agriculture) Residents do not require a permit to burn outside the fire danger period but do require a permit to burn in the fire danger period.

If you are unsure, it is important to check with council which zone your property is in.



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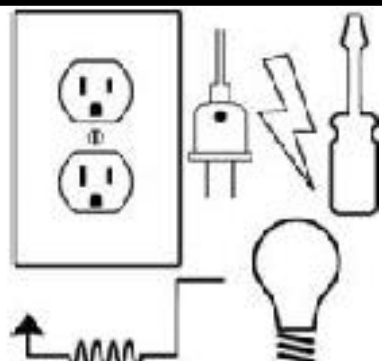
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Free camping is also available.

A range of alcohol, hot food & cold drinks, ice, a gas refill service, local newspapers.

The Hotel is open  
Monday - Saturday 10am - 10pm  
Sundays 11am - 10pm

Bistro is open for lunch  
Wednesday - Sunday 12pm-2pm  
and dinner Wednesday - Saturday  
6.30 pm 8.30 pm

3100 Murray River Road Granya Vic 3701

Ph. 02 6072 9548 Fax 02 6072 9543



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

It is a council requirement that you have Public Liability Insurance when applying for a permit to burn. For further information contact the Towong Shire Fire Prevention Officer Ken Whitehead on 02 6071 5100.

**BETHANGA PRIMARY SCHOOL VISIT**

Recently Bethanga Brigade visited Bethanga Primary School, with 2 senior and 3 junior members presenting information to the students. Lessons were held with the junior and senior classes around fire awareness and safety, and a lesson around using fire blankets and extinguishers was also held for the teachers. It was a fun day for all, with everyone enjoying target practice with the hose.



**THIS FIRE SEASON: PREPARING YOUR PROPERTY**

This winter and spring has seen very little rain, leaving our bush and paddocks very dry. Fire restrictions have come in early and we have already seen a number of fires this season. This summer will be long and one of high fire danger. It is very important this year to be well prepared by doing the following.

- Stay alert to the current and predicted weather conditions.
- Keep the grass short (below 100mm/4") for a good distance around your property
- Remove any flammable materials lying around.
- Check your fire fighting equipment for serviceability.
- 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. (This is a basic fire plan).
- Clean out the gutters, and keep them clean.
- Check your Gas Barbeque equipment for leaks.

**OPERATION BERRINGA**

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of October Bethanga, Talgarno and Granya brigades came together to hold a large scale training day. The day simulated a Code Red day, with a large number of jobs going simultaneously. Appliances were sent to a variety of mock incidents to refresh and practice our skills ahead of the upcoming fire season.

The day was a huge success, with all 4 Tankers and 2 Ultralights manned and participating.

We would like to thank all the members who participated and helped to organise the day, the Tallangatta Group and District 24 for their support in the organisation and running of the day, and the Tallangatta Group Catering Trailer for the wonderful lunch.

## UPCOMING TRAINING

- 14<sup>th</sup> December 6pm – End of year BBQ at Talgarno CFA Shed
- 23<sup>rd</sup> January – Training
- 21<sup>st</sup> February – Training

More information and reminders will be sent via email closer to each training.

## FINALLY

Remember fire safety at your property is your responsibility. Be careful and have a safe Summer.

If you have any questions regarding preparation around your property or any other matters please give one of us a call, we are happy to help.

Ben Mitchell, Captain 0411 080 277

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

Tracey Woodhouse, Secretary 0413 708 302

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

Ron Evans, Community Safety Liaison 02 6026 4301

## BETHANGA TALGARNO JUNIOR BRIGADE

The Bethanga-Talgarno Junior CFA brigade is now up to 10 members, with training occurring every second Sunday from 9am until 11am.

This term the Juniors are getting to know some of the events in the Running Competitions to see if we want to take part in next year's competitions. In these Running Competitions junior (and senior) brigades in the district compete against one another to demonstrate their skills using firefighting equipment. Sessions one and three this term will focus on practicing some of these events, with at the end of session three the Juniors deciding if they would like to form a team for next year's competitions.



For session two this term the Juniors travelled around to Bellbridge and learnt how to use a fire hydrant and how to set up and attack a house fire.

For session four this term we are holding our end of year celebrations. This highly anticipated event will include some team building at Laser Tag and sharing some pizzas.

## KEEP THE FLIES OUT!!



Get your screens ready for summer



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**Phil Packer 0422 374 930**

email: [ppacker@pdinstallations.com.au](mailto:ppacker@pdinstallations.com.au)

## FREE COMMUNITY WORKOUT WINTER HOURS

Do you want to lead a  
healthier and happier lifestyle?

**Come on down to  
Bethanga REC Reserve**

**Wednesday 10am**  
Kimberly 0412 432 798

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 us using the details provided below.

John Northey 0414 931 442

Brendan Pearson 0439 881 440

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

## TALGARNO CFA

Hello again to what will no doubt be another hot summer and fire season.

The biggest news in our brigade since we reported last is that our brigade was successful in our VESEP grant application. We will be able to replace our 13-year-old Slip On with a brand-new Ultralight. The new vehicle has a larger tanker capacity, and provides much safer access to the pump, tank, hoses and other tools. We will be using our existing Slip On for at least the next 12-18 months and will inform the community once the new vehicle is in our possession!

Now that we are in the middle of another fire season, which started 29 October, it's time to take a lot more care with activities that have the potential to start fires. The 'Can I or Can't I' website is a terrific reference point.

There are restrictions in place for the following activities:

- BBQ/campfires
- Burning off
- Driving vehicles in dry vegetation
- Chainsaw and lawn mowers in dry vegetation
- Hot work such as grinding, welding, soldering
- Incinerating
- Farm and road machinery near vegetation

See [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/can](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/can) for more information. Fire restrictions will continue through until 1 May 2019 unless revoked earlier.

### Incidents

Since the last edition of Berringa News, the brigade was called to four incidents:

26/10/2018	KURRAJONG GAP ROAD, BETHANGA	Scrub or bush and grass mixture fire (more than one hectare)
14/10/2018	MURRAY RIVER ROAD, TALGARNO 3691	Private burn
07/10/2018	MURRAY RIVER ROAD, TALGARNO 3691	Vehicle accident-no injuries
06/09/2018	BELLBRIDGE 3691	Vehicle fire

### Brief updates:

We now have received permission from our District 24 to install dashcams and reverse cameras in our Tanker and existing Slip On. We hope to install these soon.

Thanks to our members and those from our neighbouring Bethanga brigade that spent a good part of their Sunday 28 October conducting some roadside burning along Murray River Road.

Thanks to our members that participated in the Operation Berringa activity and to the Bethanga Brigade for organising and coordinating the day.

Private units this fire season. We encourage all members that have private units to attend our preseason briefings – TBC Talgarno Brigade resolved to make a donation to the Berringa CERT for the purchase of an AED in Talgarno.

If there are any community members that would like to join our brigade, please contact Peter Star or Brendan Pearson or attend one of our monthly BBQs on the second Friday of each month.

Peter Star, Captain, 0429 436 347

Brendan Pearson, Secretary, 0439 881 440

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## TALGARNO TENNIS CLUB

The tennis season is well and truly underway. We were able to enter four teams into the Kiewa & Talgarno Tennis Association this year and its great to see our increase in members and our new shirts!

We are currently running junior tennis coaching at the courts on a Monday afternoon, which have once again have been very popular with 19 kids enrolled. Paul Sykes, our coach, would be keen to continue the coaching into next year if anyone is interested.

After a hiatus of 9 years, the Royal Talgarno Races is back by popular demand! This will be our major fundraising event for the year. Please bring your family along and join in the fun of the races. Entry will be \$5/adult which will include the essential race book and a BBQ will be available.



TALGARNO TENNIS CLUB BRINGS YOU

# THE ROYAL TALGARNO RACES

GET YOUR SYNDICATES READY FOR THE NIGHT OF NIGHTS!

Sat Feb 2nd 6.30pm @ Talgarno Tennis Courts

\$5 entry per adult  
BBQ available

Dress code: Year of the pig

Over the past 7 weeks our section three side have been enjoying the challenge each week. The boys' tennis skills are getting better and better every week. Overall we are doing pretty well and we're all looking forward to the rest of the season.

By Alex Swinnerton. (Section 3)

Tennis has been a great hit in Section 4. Everyone has enjoyed it. We have our tennis training on Monday. We are winning a lot more games and had our first victory against Upper Gundowring 32 to 36 games, our way. Our team members are Tilly, Belle, Ruby, Olivia, Chloe, Klancie, Ella, Daniel and Elsie.

By Chloe and Ella Lewis (Section 4)

Jill Pearson Ph. 0412042090 email: jillymaree@hotmail.com

## BETHANGA RECREATION RESERVE

### Executive

President - Brett Martin  
Secretary - Andrew Hird  
Treasurer - Karen Pyle

### General committee

Matt Gill  
Jo Ollington  
Terry Macartney  
David Elder

To contact us email

[bethangareserve@gmail.com](mailto:bethangareserve@gmail.com) or SMS 0468350930

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Contact

Scott Coates 0457 464 647

Email: [Administrator@humeboatclub.com](mailto:Administrator@humeboatclub.com)

## BETHANGA PONY CLUB (BPC) 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 at 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.

## BETHANGA GOLF CLUB



Springdale Road Bethanga

Come and play at the picturesque nine hole course. Players welcome 7 days a week in golf season. \$10 green fee in the honesty box or become a member for \$100 per year which includes golflinks membership and affiliation to Golf Victoria. Hire the club house for your next celebration or fundraiser.



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Peter Star 0429 436 347

Jamie Winnerton 0419 419 048

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## ROTARY CLUB OF BELLBRIDGE LAKE HUME INC.

**Christmas Carols** will again be held at the Lake Hume Boat Club, Bellbridge, on Sunday 2 December commencing at 6.30pm. Santa will be in attendance as well as the choir singing Christmas carols. Drinks and sausages will be available for gold coin donation.

**Australia day Celebration** The Rotary Club will be conducting its annual Australia Day celebrations on Saturday 26 January 2019 at the Bellbridge Community Centre Commencing with a free breakfast at 8 00am.

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 Monday 17 December 2018.**

**Nomination Forms are available from the Bellbridge and Bethanga Stores or be downloaded from Towong Council's website at [www.towong.vic.gov.au](http://www.towong.vic.gov.au).**

**The Lake Hume Cycle Challenge** will be held on Saturday 23 February 2019. This quality event provides great cycling, country hospitality and raises funds to provide local supportive care for people living with cancer. The LHCC allows bike riders of varying levels of fitness, ages and ability to safely experience the wonderful scenery of Lake Hume and Albury-Wodonga area then mix socially at the 'CHILLZONE' at Wodonga

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

**The Lake Hume Fishing Classic** The annual fishing event conducted on 13 and 14 October 2018 by the Rotary Club of Bellbridge Lake Hume and the Commercial Club Fishing Group was a great Success with over 480 participants enjoying great weather and comradeship. However, numbers of fish caught were significantly down on previous years.

*Regards,  
Andrew Christy 6026 4338*

## 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 CRICKET CLUB

Hi everyone,  
The Bethanga Cricket Club would like to welcome the new players to the club we hope you have a great time with us.

The club has had two great fundraisers the footy tipping competition and the Melbourne Cup Calcutta. Congratulations to the winners, thank you for the support received from everyone and Marg Sirl's great organising skills.

The cricket for season 18/19 is in the one-day format for both A and B Grades. A Grade, 45 overs commencing at 12.30pm and B Grade, 40 overs commencing at 1.00pm. Our last game for the year is on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2018 and recommencing on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019. B Grade has already had a great win. If you are not doing anything on a Saturday afternoon come down and watch the cricket, there is plenty of shade.

From the Bethanga Cricket Club, we wish everyone a Merry Christmas, a safe and happy New Year.

*Louise Stephens Secretary.  
Trent Sirl ,President 0439 090 333*

## EXERCISE CLASSES

Want to lose weight or improve your level of fitness? Then why not try our fitness classes. These continue to run at the Talgarno Hall on most evenings and have proven to be very popular. All sessions run approximately 1 hour, and cost is a minimal \$2.00. Times vary.

Most sessions are aerobic circuits. Equipment includes an array of hand weights, fit balls, medicine balls, a kick bag and other ancillary equipment. Come and enjoy the fun. New members are always welcome. You work at your own pace in a friendly group atmosphere.

For more information and times, contact David or Vicki on 0419 635 554

## 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.

*Di Schmidt 6026 4325*

*Joan Elliot 6020 1177*

## 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*

## CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Anglican - Holy Trinity  
Services held 4th Sunday of the month – 9:30am, followed by morning tea.

All visitors welcome.  
Baptisms/Christenings - by appointment.  
*Annie Berber 0419 407 420*

Catholic - St Francis

Mass times: Mass is the 2nd Sunday of every month at 12 noon, with the option of lunch at the Bethanga Pub afterwards.



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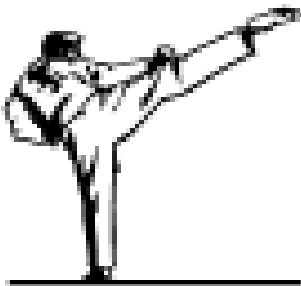
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### Bellbridge Lake Hume Store

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## Wises Creek Talgarno Landcare Group

We reported in the last Berringa News that a start had been made on our Talgarno Wayside stop. The good news is that the project is nearing completion with some minor things to tidy up.



Our new Roadside signs have been erected but it has been suggested that they are a little small so Greg Hayes

has ordered two larger ones to go at either end of Murray River Road. As soon as they arrive we will put them up.

I mentioned in the last newsletter that Mitta to Murray Blackberry Action Group had been funded to make a video on biological control (thanks to funding from NECMA). That is now complete and available.

Our Funding program for \$7200 has been reduced to \$6000 so the plans attached to that will have to be cut back as well. More details later

We had a Landcare meeting at the Talgarno School on October 24th to discuss general business and our guest speaker was Simon Feillafe. Simon gave us a wonderful presentation of our local flora and fauna. Simon also gave out some nest boxes so those who did take them please keep in touch with Simon.

*Jim de Hennin President  
Wises Creek Talgarno Landcare Group*

## Bethanga Landcare Group

Another active few months for the Bethanga Landcare Group (BLG) have delivered further enhancements to our local community and environment. Here are some of the highlights.

Bethanga Primary School, with the support of Bethanga Landcare, have been successful in receiving a Junior Landcare Grant. The project funded by this grant aims to improve habitat at the Bethanga Recreation Reserve through woodland exploration, plant propagation and planting. This project will be undertaken by the Bethanga Primary School students in 2019 and represents an excellent learning opportunity for their students through engaging with our local environment.

This year's BLG "Yellow Wheelbarrow Raffle" was drawn on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September at the Bethanga Pub. Nitza from Woodend won first prize - the yellow wheelbarrow filled with lots of goodies, and Tom from Albury won second prize - a gardening pack and Arnold's fruit and vegetable box (prize pictures on BLG Facebook). The raffle would not have been possible without the support of the following businesses: Peards Albury, Bunnings Wodonga, Beazley's Meats, Arnolds, Regional Ag and Construction, Diggers Club, and the Bethanga Pub. These businesses are keen to support our local community, please show our thanks by supporting them in return. The following community members also provided donations: Kate and Chris Packer, Tracey Middleton,

Leon Helmrich, and Neville Bell. The funds raised from the raffle will be used to support a, yet to be decided, local Bethanga civic project.

The weed identification field day on Sunday October 28 was well attended and a great success. Alistair Campbell from the Department of Agriculture guided us on a very informative tour in the hills behind Bethanga identifying a wide range of endemic weed species, explaining the various approaches towards weed control. Alistair then joined the group for a barbeque lunch at Dave Elder's hut atop the ridge where he further expanded upon weed control measures and related State control guidelines. Attendees were given a WEEDeck, valued at \$35, to assist them with future weed identification and control.





Based on the success of this field day and requests for future events with a focus on weeds, BLG will look to run a similar event in October 2019.

Overall it has been a busy and productive year for BLG and, in recognition of the hard work by all and to showcase our achievements, BLG will host an evening to celebrate on Wednesday December 5<sup>th</sup> in the Veranda Room (access via the veranda) of the Bethanga Pub from 6:00 pm. Finger food and a barbeque dinner will be provided with drinks available for purchase. Pictures taken at the various BLG events throughout the year will be on display. We plan for this to be a family event open to all members of our local communities and their guests. Please come along, we'd love to see you there! To assist us with planning catering, please RSVP [bethangalandcaregroup@gmail.com](mailto:bethangalandcaregroup@gmail.com), or text me on 0431 725 808.

Wishing you and yours a happy festive season.

*Neville Bell, President*



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[open all hours]

6.30 AM to 7 PM Monday to Saturday. Breakfast if ordered.

8.30 AM to 7 PM Sunday and later for food orders.

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### Berringa Community News Distribution

The newsletter is distributed by volunteers to mail boxes where they are available. Residents in Bethanga village can pick up a copy at the Bethanga general store. For those in Granya with PO boxes copies are available in the community mailbox at the Granya Hall.

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



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.

**We have had a very busy start to term 4!**



**CSU Outdoor Education**

Our students in grade 3-6 enjoyed a variety of challenges designed by CSU Outdoor Ed Students to test their ability to work together, to bounce back from failure and persist in the face of defeat!



**Music by the Lake**

We had lovely weather for our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Music by the Lake event. This event sees Bethanga Primary, Talgarno Primary and Berringa Pre-school get together in a casual outdoor setting to sing some songs and have some fun! Always a great opportunity for all of our families to get together for a picnic dinner and catch up!



**Fire Safety with the CFA**

We were lucky enough to have members of the Bethanga CFA come and visit and teach us about fire safety and what to do in an emergency



A big congrats to Jordana who qualified for the Regional Aths Carnival in 100m and hurdles. She achieved great results – a 2<sup>nd</sup> in 100m as well as a personal best time in hurdles (& a 3<sup>rd</sup> place).



**Melbourne Excursion**

Our F-2 class had a fabulous time on their Melbourne Excursion! They travelled by train and then caught a tram to the Melbourne Museum which held all sorts of wonders and treasures for them to discover! They then explored China Town and the Chinese Museum before heading back home (very weary!) on the train again



**St John's First Aid for Kids**

Students from F-6 enjoyed learning practical skills that they could use to help someone in need with an injury or an emergency. Senior students gained an appreciation for the effort that goes into ensuring CPR saves a life!



**Remembrance Day Mosaic**

Students worked hard over several weeks to design and then create beautiful mosaic tiles to commemorate 100 years since World War I ended. Once installed, we will hold an official unveiling in our ANZAC garden.

School Values **RAPPOR**

- R**espect
- A**cceptance
- P**ersistence
- P**ride
- O**ptimism
- R**esilience
- T**ruth



**Questacon Science Circus**

We joined with Talgarno Primary to watch an engaging presentation on the scientific concepts of Fluids and Force. Students were enthralled with experiments that challenged their thinking and pushed them to become inquisitive scientists!



A big welcome to our 3 new students this term! Malakai, Eli and Garry have fitted into our school beautifully. It's so lovely seeing more smiling faces in our terrific school. This brings us up to 19 students, with a number of foundation students enrolling for next year.

We've had another extremely busy term. In October we performed at Music By the Lake together with Bethanga PS and Berringa Kinder students. St John's ambulance came to visit our School and shared with us some important skills in first aid. Throughout October our students have participated in

Walk at School, which we hope will build some healthy habits for life.

Our new polycom arrived during the term, which was very exciting. This is a wonderful tool for our virtual learning lessons as well as communicating with other schools.

We've loved having our parents and community members come and help us with cooking each week. There is always new and exciting things to cook and the kids love having their families come and help out at school.

Our community coffee mornings have also been very popular this term. We'd like to thank everyone who comes along and supports our school. We are so lucky to have such a supportive community.



Foundation transition day

## Important Dates

- Foundation transition days: **Tue from 20 Nov**
- Carols by candlelight: **3rd Dec**
- Mudpoo performance: **13 Dec**
- End of year celebration: **19th Dec**
- Kayaking at weir: **All Wed in Dec**
- Coffee morning: **every 2nd Thurs**
- Cooking: **Fridays**
- Indonesian: **Thursdays**
- Marc Van: **every 2nd Thurs**



Hot Shots tennis day

Term 4 'Sporting School Funding' sport is: Tennis



## Mudpoo & The Fungus Mystery

Come along and see our talented students perform in 'Mudpoo & the Fungus Mystery' the stage show on Thu 13 Dec! We are combining with our friends from Bethanga PS to bring to life the characters from Captain Pete's Mudpoo books. The students have been practicing for the past 2 terms and will be sure to amaze you! Raffles and BBQ will be available on the night.

## Fundraising News

We have been completely overwhelmed by the community support we received with our paver fundraiser. A whopping \$1200 was raised for our school, and we've also cemented many names into our history. We will be having an unveiling of the pavers at our End of Year Celebration on Wed 19th Dec.



In early November we had our trivia night, which was an eventful night indeed! With no power for most of the night, we had a packed hall full of enthusiastic trivia buffs. And it couldn't have been closer, with a 3-way draw at the end! Thanks to our many sponsors, who donated prizes and silent auction items. It was a very successful night, raising over \$1400.

## End of Year Celebration

Our end of year celebration will combine with our paver unveiling on Wed 19th Dec commencing 6pm. Please bring the whole family to help celebrate a wonderful year at TPS and to thank our community for its support.



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Our local classifieds reach 570 households or about 2000 people – just pop \$2 (cash or stamps) and your details into an envelope, and send it to Berringa Community News, 341 Wisers Creek Rd, Talgarno 3691.

## Advertising

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

### The 2018 Advertising rates

**\$120 Full page**

**\$60 half page**

**\$40 third page**

**\$30 quarter page**

**\$15 Business card size**

**Classified Advertisements are \$2.00 each.**

We would like to thank Lyn Whitehead, Rosemary McFarland, Bob Singline and Michael Wood for their on-going support in delivering the Berringa Community News

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


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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.*

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4	AWRCC Community Fundraiser	3

**Berringa Community News is on line at [www.berringacommunitynews.com.au](http://www.berringacommunitynews.com.au)**

