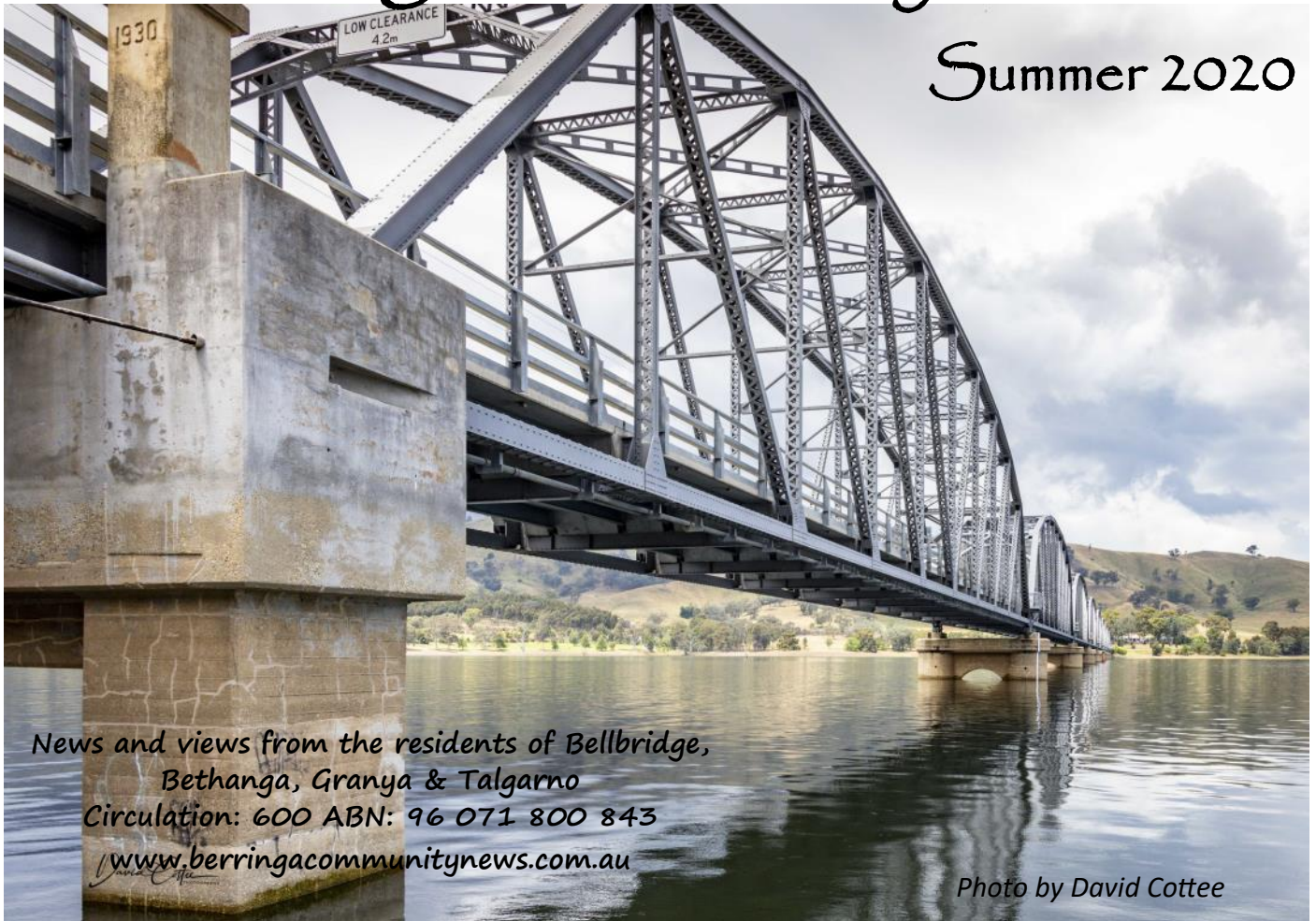


Berringa Community News

Summer 2020



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

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www.berringacommunitynews.com.au

Photo by David Cottee

Peninsula Seasonal Markets – Summer Market Day Launch Sunday December 6, 2020

The communities of Bellbridge, Bethanga and Talgarno, locally known as the Peninsula, due to the picturesque location between the Mitta Mitta and Murray arms of Lake Hume, are launching a seasonal market with the first Summer Market taking place Sunday December 6 at the Recreation Reserve in Bethanga, 9am-1pm. The subsequent Autumn, Winter and Spring Markets will be held at other locations throughout the district, including the Talgarno, Bellbridge and possibly Granya.

A co-op of local residents keen to re-energise the local community after a difficult 2019/2020, while at the same time showcasing the creative makers and producers of this region, formed the Peninsula Seasonal Market initiative in September 2020. The market format provides a Covid-safe way for the community to get together and enjoy some of the wares of the region, especially in the lead up to Christmas.

Already over 25 local stall holders have committed to running stalls with products and services ranging from jewellery, clothing, floral arrangements, photography, pottery, fruit and vegetables, jams and baked goods,

plants and seedlings. Market goers are encouraged to bring cash, as only a few stall holders will have EFTPOS facilities and at times connectivity is inconsistent.

Local stall holders include The Jewellery Box, True North Designs and Tanybryn Farm.

The Jewellery Box was started by 6 girls, during the second round of remote learning. Tilly Pearson (Tallangatta Secondary College), Chloe Lewis, Chloe McPherson, Ella Lewis (St. Augustine's Primary School), Belle Pearson and Ruby Pearson (Talgarno Primary School) formed a collective and have been developing their crafting and business skills, through jewellery and mask making, online marketing and organisation of a pop-up stall after restrictions eased, at the end of their road in Talgarno. After this experience, the 6 budding



COMMUNITY REPORTS

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

entrepreneurs are eager to run another stall at the seasonal markets and are already working on a Christmas inspired range.



Another local enterprise taking part in the markets is Tanybryn Farm, a micro market garden in the hills of Bethanga, specialising in growing lush vegetables, fruit, flowers, and plant starts. Always striving to be creative, Rachel Pigott (owner) said "We always allow for something unique to be found. Our desire is to grow naturally, have a limited use of plastic and nurture nature. We hope to be a place of education and inspiration. We are looking forward to sharing all this with you at the very first Peninsula Seasonal Market!"



True North Designs is a jewellery business run by Megan Simpson, who also juggles motherhood, full-time work and a hobby farm. Megan prides herself on her Australian made products, saying "All jewellery findings, studs, backings etc. are all Australian manufacturers and

sourced as locally as possible. This is to ensure I provide quality products and keep Australian businesses in business!"



There will also be a BBQ run as a fundraiser for a local sporting club, music and games for the kids. The Peninsula community is looking forward to Covid-safe, cash-only, family-fun markets and is keen to welcome back visitors to our beautiful part of Victoria.

Additional information and details of stall holders can be found on the group's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Berringapeninsula/> and Instagram page

Contact Angela Nevin Lewis
anevinlewis@bigpond.com
0407 232 820

IT'S MARKET TIME!!

SUNDAY 6TH DEC
BETHANGA RECREATION RESERVE
9AM - 1PM

PLEASE BRING CASH

Peninsula
SEASONAL MARKETS

[f berringapeninsula](https://www.facebook.com/berringapeninsula) [@peninsula_seasonal_markets](https://www.instagram.com/peninsula_seasonal_markets)

Berringa Furies Calendar 2021

Calendar preparation is underway, currently in the hands of Joe at Calvert & Co graphic design!

Photo collection was done a little differently this year, with an online photo competition. Residents were encouraged to submit their Upper Murray fires photos as well as local community snaps. We were overwhelmed with photos and the committee had the difficult task of awarding first, second and third prizes. Kylie Virtue took out first place (\$200) with her smoky Bethanga Bridge photo. Sean Farrar came runner's up (\$100) with his sobering image of a burnt-out car/shed, and Jono Green won third prize (\$50) with his creative photo of a co-firefighter on the back of the tanker, reflected in a mirror. Many thanks to our winners who kindly donated their prize money back to the brigades. Thanks to everyone who participated.

This year Berringa Furies calendar was fortunate enough to receive the Towong Shire Bushfire Recovery grant of \$5000. This meant we didn't require local community

sponsorship to produce the calendar as we have in previous years. Due to this grant the calendar will be sold at a reduced price this year. This came at a particularly good time, as we were hesitant to contact sponsors, due to the financially and emotionally exhausting year our community has encountered. Thanks to Towong Shire for your support.

A big thank you to past sponsors who helped get this calendar off the ground and for your continued support. We will be displaying your logos in the 2021 calendar and hope you'll get onboard again next year.

The calendars will be available for purchase in December. We are having a stall at the Peninsula Seasonal Markets on the 6th of December, where we will be taking orders and advising on collection points. The calendar will also be available for sale at the Granya, Talgarno and Bethanga fire stations or directly through the Calendar committee.



Berringa Furies

Rotary Club Christmas Trees

The Rotary Club's annual harvest of Christmas trees will commence at the end of November with the trees locally grown by the Club on the Peninsula. The trees are part of the Club's community and fund-raising activities with monies raised donated to various organisations in the region. Christmas trees will be available for sale at the Wodonga Plant Farm from Saturday 28 November and orders can be placed with the Plant Farm by phone on (02) 6056 1561.



The Rotary Club has traditionally met on a Tuesday since its inception in 1986 but recently agreed to hold its meeting on Wednesdays from now on. Although the day has changed, the Club continues to meet at 7pm each week at the Thurgoona Country Club Resort.

After 34 years we remain a small local, friendly and passionate club that seeks to raise funds for charity and

serve the Bellbridge and Lake Hume communities through a range of activities. Although the events of 2020 have forced us to cancel these activities, our Club is planning for most of them to return in 2021, subject of course to any restrictions imposed on us due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

A change of meeting day also provides a new opportunity for members of the community to consider joining the Rotary Club. If you would like to join, or learn more about what we do, please contact President Rob Lees on 04 1740 0651 or Secretary Trevor Jenner on 04 3171 9149, or e-mail

bellbridge.lakehumerotaryclub@gmail.com. More information on the Club can also be found on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/bellbridgelakehumerotaryclub/>.

Looking for a plasterer to fix holes, do extensions or renovations?

Give

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a call on

02 6026 4040

NSW Licence 41348C

Future of the Gymkhana

Some of our long serving members are getting tired and are at the stage where they want to reduce their workload in organizing this event and have a bit more time to pursue other interests.

We are currently a committee of seven; however, three of our members live in the Tallangatta community. These three members set the horse program and run the horse events on the day. As well as sitting on this committee, they also sit on the Tallangatta Showgrounds Committee. At the same time we are organizing a Gymkhana and Family Fun Day, they are organizing their annual Tallangatta Show. We are extremely grateful these three members are willing to give up their Easter Saturday to assist with our event. However, because of the workload they have, it results in a lot of the organizing of our event falling on the shoulders of the remaining four members and we are starting to feel the pinch.

Although we receive excellent support and assistance from our community in the running of the event on the day, we are now seeking some new members to assist

with the necessary workload that has to take place prior to the day.

The event is well supported and loved by both the horse competitors and our community and makes a profit of around \$6,000-00. These profits are distributed to groups in our Bethanga, Bellbridge and Talgarno community to assist them with their activities.

Our Annual General Meeting is set down for 7-30pm Tuesday the 2nd of February, 2021 at the Bethanga Hotel. If this community wants this event to continue, then the time has come for us to see some new faces at this meeting.

If this is a committee you feel you would be comfortable sitting on and working with, but would like further information prior to the meeting date, please feel free to contact one of our current members:

Mary Northey - phone 0260 264257
John Northey - phone 0414 931 442
Greg Prichard - phone 0418 119 609

Berringa Peninsula Community Network

In September, a group of Peninsula residents sought expressions of interest to form the Peninsula Community Recovery Committee. Nineteen people responded to the call. Since September, several meetings have been held and a large committee with a wide range of skills and experience and representing each of the communities has been formed. Committee members are from

Bethanga: Benjamin Nelson, Bob Martin, Di Singline, Emma Wilson Nichol, Jenni Manguy, Rowena Calvert, Stacey Rich,

Bellbridge: Denise Anderson

Granya: Bridget Bowe, David Wortmann, Jayden and Katie Kotzer

Talgarno: Brendan Pearson, James Filby, Jim de Hennin and Julie Miller.

Amanda Pagan from Towong Shire and Anna Stephenson from Bushfire Recovery Victoria also attend our meetings. James Filby was elected as Chair, Jim de Hennin Deputy Chair, Bridget Bowe Secretary, Julie Miller Communications.

The committee developed Terms of Reference and decided that as we were not directly impacted by the 2019/20 bushfires that the name Community Recovery Committee did not reflect the role we could play. We decided Berringa Peninsula Community Network better represented our role to strengthen community resilience and wellbeing and create a shared identity.

The Network will provide a communication base, an advocacy platform, and a facilitation agent for the needs and aspirations of the communities of Bellbridge,

Bethanga, Bungil, Granya and Talgarno. The Network will provide leadership on local issues through community consultation and discussion, partnerships and collaboration and liaison with levels of government, community and not for profit associations and other organisations and agencies.

The Network aims to support and encourage advancement of the Berringa area and ensure that in the event of another disaster like the summer of 2019-20, the Berringa Peninsula community will be in a more prepared and a resilient place with the best chance of safety and positive outcomes for all.

Over the next few years there will be grants available to fund bushfire recovery, economic development, and bushfire preparedness. Our immediate focus is bushfire preparedness. In early December we are meeting with representatives from the local halls, recreation reserves and CFAs to establish whether there are common bushfire preparedness issues that could be better served by a combined approach. We will also be distributing postcards to all Peninsula households seeking your views on what you need for bushfire preparedness.

In the new year we will be seeking your views and ideas on what we need to improve and develop our local community.

We are currently setting up a facebook page.

You can contact us at berringapcn@gmail.com or phone Julie Miller 6020 1107

The Berringa Community welcomes Senior Constable Luke Fogarty

Senior Constable Luke Fogarty has commenced his appointment to Bethanga Police Station. The Berringa Community is pleased to welcome Senior Constable Luke Fogarty, his wife and three daughters to the area. Luke is eager to meet us and the various community groups we participate in. Community groups are encouraged to invite him to their event to meet people. Luke is keen to understand what the community expects of their policemen, particularly in light of there having been no resident policeman at the Bethanga Station for some years

Luke has come to Bethanga Station after serving ten years at Wodonga Station, two at Wangaratta Station and two in Melbourne. As well as being a Policeman, Luke is highly trained in Emergency Management. He has been the Sergeant for the Rutherglen, Corryong and Tallangatta areas for over four years and recently spent many weeks in the Corryong and Tallangatta areas as the Emergency Management Sergeant for the duration of the devastating fires in the area.

Luke's parents and grandparents are residents of Wodonga where he too was born and raised. Luke played football for Wodonga, played tennis at Wodonga and enjoys boating and fishing with his family.

Luke is most enthusiastic about his appointment to the Bethanga Station and looking forward to participating in the community. Residents are encouraged to call the Bethanga Police station on 0260264204 if they wish to speak to Senior Constable Luke Fogarty. If he is not at the station or off duty the phone call will be diverted to Wodonga Police Station where a message can be left for Luke.



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

Local Enterprise

Tanybryn Farm, Bethanga

Rachel Pigott, her husband Pat and their two little daughters, Eve and Willa have made their home at Tanybryn Farm, nestled between the hills on Springdale Road, Bethanga. Tanybryn is Welsh, meaning “at the base of a hill”. At first a name change was planned, but as they settled in and everything fell into place, they decided to keep it. Rachel, born in Wodonga and Pat, born in Albury, saw the farm as a starting point in developing a sustainable lifestyle for their young family. Rachel had been nursing when she met Pat, an electrician and after their marriage, instead of travelling overseas as planned, the 20 acre farm at Bethanga beckoned.

Rachel, in her words, “a painter of dreams” and supported by Pat, had a future vision for their farm. Initially, the plan was to be as self-sustainable as possible, grow what they eat and maybe set up a roadside stall with some of their fresh vegies and flowers. This simple starting point has grown into a small business with outlets at the Albury Wodonga Farmers’ Market (for the past year), Bethanga Post Office and at local festivals. Rachel and Pat had no plans to become a major produce seller, feeling ‘bigger is not always necessarily better’. They believe in the development of small farm and other garden enterprises which can support and complement each other, through selling a variety of healthy organic produce. Rachel and Pat use a soil blocker tool, which makes square blocks of soil into which the seeds and seedlings are planted, allowing strong, healthy roots to develop. These are then put in recycled and recyclable cardboard boxes. Any pots they need are recycled ones which are washed and reused. Their Tanybryn Farm venture has steadily grown, helped by great local support.



The soil on Tanybryn Farm is generally quite rich, probably as a result of topsoil washing down the hill over

time and where necessary, Rachel and Pat are continuing to improve it. They have used plantings to hold shallow retaining walls as much as possible. They are also working on building up ecosystems, where trees, flowers, etc. encourage birds and beneficial insects to help keep the pests at bay. Trying to keep balance in their environment is an ongoing, important aim.

An avid reader and a risk taker, Rachel has a passion for growing things and experimenting. She loves learning and happily shares her knowledge of successes and failures about what they grow, with their customers. She also enjoys sharing cooking ideas and encouraging people to try different nutritious foods. To this end their produce includes heirloom varieties and some of the more unusual vegies.

Tanybryn Farm’s first major local venture was held at the Bethanga Hall in October which was a great success. The hall looked wonderful, filled with a huge variety of beautiful strong seedlings, lovely hanging baskets of strawberries, some flowers and home-made sweet treats.

Rachel can be contacted via Facebook
Email: tanybrynfarmau@gmail.com

Di Singline

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THURSDAY - BOX FIT 6.30PM
FRIDAY - MUMMA MOVEMENT 10AM

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For more information ring

Jayne Curran

**EVERYTHING WE'RE DOING
IS KEEPING US ON TOP
OF THIS VIRUS**



Keep our fitted face masks on when indoors, on public transport and when we can't keep our distance.



Keep catching up outdoors.



Keep washing our hands.



Keep getting tested if we have any symptoms.

**STAY SAFE
STAY OPEN**

Go to [CORONAVIRUS.vic.gov.au](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au)

Authorised by the Victorian Government, Melbourne



Prospects for the Season Ahead

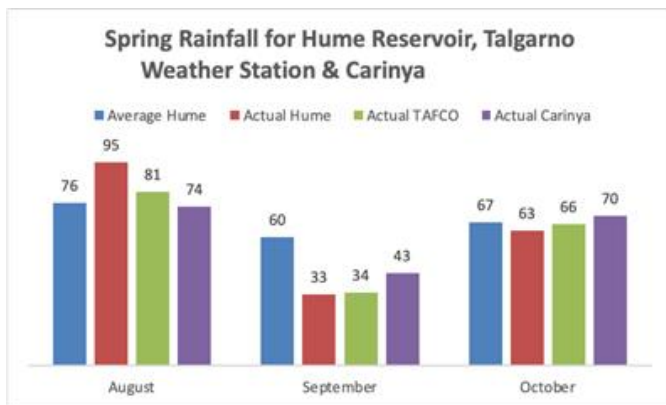
Thank you to Greg Hayes who has agreed to regularly contribute weather related articles for Berringa Community News readers.



Rainfall Round-up

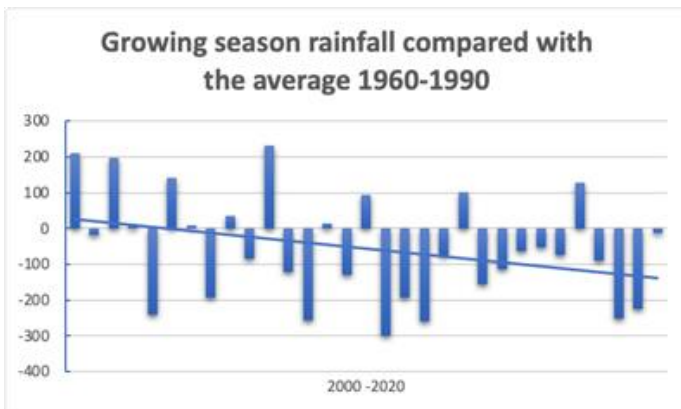
Well it was not quite the spring that I expected but it was pretty good and in fact right on the median with half of all the years since 1922 being wetter and half being drier. The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) spring outlook suggested a better than average season, so it didn't get that one quite right.

In an average year, the spring rainfall (August to end October) would be 190 mm. This year it was 181 mm at TAFCO station (de Hennin's), 191 mm at Hume Reservoir and 187 mm at my place. The Hume reading was 94% of average (203 mm).



August and October were both about average, but September was well below average. The rainfall for September was 22% below average across Victoria.

This year our growing season (April – October) rainfall of 479 mm was almost back in line with the average of 492 mm that we had over the wet years 1961-1990. It was one of only 2 years in the last 10 that we have been anywhere near that. Across southern Australia, there has been a 10-20% reduction in rainfall over recent decades.



I see that as a bit of a warning that our climate really is changing with generally less rain during winter and spring.

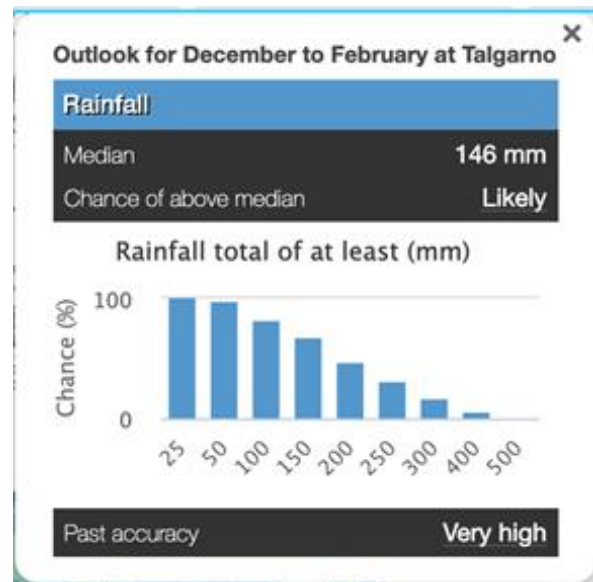
The much anticipated La Niña has been with us over spring and it has provided the extra source of moisture needed for the better rainfall we have had. Unfortunately, it wasn't supported with a negative Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) which might have given us more rain.

The soil moisture levels in the root zone were excellent until mid-October but the current dry spell as we move into November has brought them back to average.

The good spring has meant heavy silage and hay crops across the district but the cooler weather made it harder to make top quality hay.

Prospects for Summer (November to end January).

The BOM's outlook for summer is for better than average rainfall and warmer than average temperatures. It is expected that the La Niña will persist through February. At this stage it is likely that rainfall will remain above average into autumn. (Big call that!)



The BOM expects that there is better than a 50% chance that we will have 146 mm or better in the period December to January.

With 662 mm to date and good prospects for at least 100 mm we may still get close to my 800mm this year.

Greg Hayes

Bethanga Blooms Banter



Hi there everyone! It's been a while.

I've been busy setting up Bethanga Blooms, a new local florist and nursery, a long time dream of mine.

With 2020 being the year it's been, nothing has become clearer to me than the need to get as much as we can for our lives locally.

There have been some fantastic new businesses and upcoming events to come out of 2020, too.

I think it's finally the time and we have the people and momentum to really get our local community and area recognised for the 'gorgeousness' it has to offer.

Also the need to compost and worm farm is as important as it always has been, but somehow this year, I've taken on a new gusto in this area.

- I've bought a commercial worm farm bin from Compost Revolution – fantastic for large families/ small businesses
- We have put in some dog poo composters from Compost Revolution – we place these around our ornamental gardens. I also add worms to these. Please take care NOT to place these types of composters near edible crops.

- I've made some 'in' garden worm farms from recycled bits from my garden – one was from an old stainless steel composting bucket with a lid. I drilled 10 cent-sized holes in the bottom half, buried it in my raised vegie garden beds, filled it with worms and food, then popped the lid on.



- I've also deep littered the chook pen and we throw all the extra scraps to them to compost for us – this is great for when you are needing large amounts of composted material.

I did quite a bit of research when looking for good quality products and found Compost Revolution a good site.

<https://compostrevolution.com.au/>

This summer season's tips:

Keep an eye out for all those SUMMER pests and diseases. Get on to them quickly.

I bought the healthiest, strongest and most vigorous seedlings from our own local Tanybryn Farm this year... getting healthy, local plants and having healthy soil is the key to success with your plants. (Tanybryn's facebook/ website).

Provide some extra shade to the western side of your vegie patches.

December

- Ensure that you keep the water up to your fruit trees this month.
- Net fruit trees for fruit fly and birds.
- You can be planting tomatoes, capsicums, broccoli, spring onions, basil and salad mixes.
- Get mulch out to keep moisture in the soil over summer.

January

- Keep an eye on your compost worms for the next couple of months. They die quickly in the heat.
- Give them a good 'drink and rinse' with fresh water on intensely hot days, they will appreciate it as all types of worm farms need the cool and moisture. Provide extra shade if possible.
- Give your summer perennials a bit of a prune to encourage another flush.
- You can be planting, salad greens, rocket, beetroot, broccoli, silverbeet, beans

February

- DEEP watering is the key during these hot times.
- Pruning your fruit trees after fruiting is ideal at this time of year to encourage wounds to heal quickly.
- A friend of mine told me years ago about planting garlic at this time of year to get an Oct/Nov harvest. It's worked every year since. Give it a try.
- Plant more salad greens, spinaches, peas and more broccoli.

Bethanga Blooms has flowers, plants and gift ideas down at the Bethanga Post Office every week.

I also take orders.

If you would like flowers for someone special, a special occasion, a party or just because...

Please give Bec a call on 0410 494 282

I will also provide FREE delivery for the Peninsula area. Checkout my Facebook Page

New 'Local Champions' for 2021 Australia Day Community Awards

Towong Council, in partnership with local hosting community groups, are delighted to confirm that nominations are now open for the 2021 Australia Day Community Awards. A new 'Local Champions' category will also form part of the awards, recognising the contributions of businesses, community groups, or individuals who have provided exceptional service and support during a crisis.

Awards will be given in the following categories at each of the ceremonies held in Corryong, Bellbridge, Eskdale, Walwa and Tallangatta.

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Local Champions (2021 new category)

Nominations close 18 December 2020. Nomination forms can be downloaded from Council's website at www.towong.vic.gov.au or collected from Council Customer Service Centre in Tallangatta or Corryong.

Towong Shire Council election results

The election results for Towong Shire Council were declared by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) on Wednesday 4 November 2020 in Tallangatta. The five successful candidates are:

- David Wortmann
- Andrew Whitehead
- Peter Dikschei
- Aaron Scales
- Denise Anderson

Newcomers Denise Anderson and Peter Dikschei will serve their first term on Council alongside David Wortmann who has been elected for a fourth term, Aaron Scales, who has been elected for a third term, and Andrew Whitehead who will serve his second term.

Nine candidates from across Towong Shire put up their hand to stand for Council. A total of 4,220 votes were counted by the VEC, with a turnout rate of over 80%.

Full election results available at www.vec.vic.gov.au/results/2020-council-election-results/towong-shire-council

Mayor and Deputy Mayor Elected

At the first Council meeting of the term held on Wednesday 18 November 2020, Cr David Wortmann was elected Mayor and Cr Peter Dikschei as Deputy Mayor for a 12-month term.



Left to right: Cr Denise Anderson, Deputy Mayor Peter Dikschei, Mayor David Wortmann, Cr Andrew Whitehead and Cr Aaron Scales.

The five Councillors were sworn in last week, where they took an Oath of Office to carry out their role impartially, to the best of their ability, and in the best interests of Towong Shire.

Cr Wortmann was first elected to Council in November 2008; this will be his sixth term as Mayor. Cr Dikschei was appointed Council's Deputy Mayor; this will be his first term.

Cr Wortmann thanked Towong communities and Councillors for their ongoing support. "I appreciate the opportunity I've been given to serve as Mayor for another term".

"This is a pivotal time for Towong Shire as we continue the momentum of recovery and implement initiatives to ensure our communities prosper," Mayor Wortmann said.

Like all Victorian Councils (excluding the City of Melbourne), the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected by their fellow Councillors.

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



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PLAYGROUP

Berringa Playgroup is up and running again!

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

Starts 24 February - all welcome!



Come and
join in the
FUN!

The Playgroup will recommence in 2021

BETHANGA POST OFFICE

offering

BANKING

withdrawals and deposits

BILL PAYMENTS

MONEY ORDERS

LETTER AND PARCEL POST

PO BOXES

STAMPS AND ENVELOPES

MAIL2DAY

Licensee

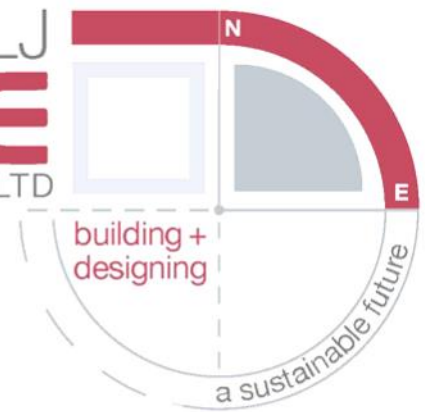
Felicity Conway

Ph. 6026 4223

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Members of the HIA and Master Builders Association

COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

Wymah Ferry

Operating hours

7am – 8pm

During daylight saving

6am – 9pm
(NB no meal closure times)

OUTSIDE THESE HOURS

Ring the contractor,
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Wymah Ferry Open

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

Granya Museum

Specialising in pioneer families.

Open by appointment
6072 9540

Talgarno Hall

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

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

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

Use of pizza oven free - but booking essential
The old chairs and the tables are available for hire by donation.

For bookings contact Anthea 6020 1134

Bethanga Soldiers Memorial Hall

Hall and Supper Room Available for Hire
Functions and Meetings

Day / Night

Air Conditioned / Heated

Competitive Rates

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

Granya Hall

Fees for the hall hire

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

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

Catering \$8 a head

Community Meeting \$15

Bookings and Information contact

Kim Stewart
kstewart557@gmail.com
0412 672 629

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.

In Memorium

Mark McCormack

27.01.1953 – 1.11.2020



Mark was a kind hearted, smart, generous and loyal man with a quirky sense of humour!

Born to Mary and Jack McCormack in Melbourne on the 27th January 1953. He was one of five children, having three brothers and one sister. He went to school in Cheltenham and Mentone. He was an above average student, studying Ancient History and Latin in his final year.

With dreams of travel, he flew to London where he met his wife, Glynis in 1979. They married in South Africa and then moved to

Melbourne before settling in the Albury/Wodonga area in 1985. They planned to stay for 6 months but ended up staying 35 years!

He was a loving father to Amelia, Keegan and Geoffrey and worked hard to support his family to provide them with the best opportunities in life, always encouraging them to pursue their interests. He welcomed their partners into the family and was overjoyed by the birth of his beautiful grandchildren, Anya and Michael.

Highly respected by friends and work colleagues, he was a hard worker and continued working through his illness (a rare cancer known as GIST) until August this year. He was employed by Uncle Ben's (Mars Manufacturing) for 20 years, starting off as a Safety Officer and ending up OHS & E Manager Asia/Pacific. He travelled the world improving safety standards wherever he went. He also worked for Uncle Toby's (Nestle) in a similar position and other local companies sharing his expertise on anything to do with

safety.

Mark loved to find a bargain, be it at a garage sale or market. It was never about the ownership or value of an item. It was about the thrill of finding something wonderful that had been discarded or considered by others to be of no value. He loved to be impulsive and go off the beaten track to discover a hidden gem of a restaurant, book store, jazz club or record shop and share it with others.

Mark was community minded. He served as a volunteer on the Bethanga Primary School Council, Bethanga Hall Committee and Tallangatta Health Board. He was a Rotary member and worked at most local elections. One year he even worked as Santa in Myers! He also assisted Glynis every year for 16 years in producing the annual Harmony in Motion dance concert.

Learning about new cultures fascinated Mark, especially the different foods and definitely a glass of good wine!

Glynis McCormack

David Paul Chadwick (Paul)



Paul died on 3 October aged 63. He was born in Wagga and he spent his early childhood in Mildura before

his parents and 2 brothers, Michael and John and sister Leighann moved to Albury. In 2003 Paul was in a car accident that left him paralysed. After long a period of rehabilitation he was able to walk but was left with chronic back pain. In late 2004 he met Leslie Smith and commenced working in the Bethanga Hotel. Leslie and Paul were engaged in April 2005. He worked at Bethanga hotel until it changed ownership in February 2019.

Paul was devoted to the Bethanga community and said that despite his health issues his time in Bethanga

was the happiest time in his life. He lived long enough to celebrate his 63 birthday but not long enough to see his precious tigers win the grand final on the weekend after his death.

A celebration of Paul's life will be held sometime next year.

Leslie expresses her deepest thanks for the cards and support she has received from the community.

Written by Julie Miller from information provided by Leslie Smith



Follow Berringa Community News on Facebook

Maternal & Child Health

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

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

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

Bonegilla Hall

Hall available for hire.

Craft Group held every Thursday
10am-2pm.

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

Anyone interested in Zumba
classes?

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



Tallangatta Health Service News

Tallangatta Health Service News

It is encouraging to see that COVID-19 restrictions have eased in Victoria over the last couple of weeks, with further easing to come. With this easing we will see more movement around the community and the region, which brings us into contact with more people. It is therefore very important during this period to continue to maintain social distancing, wearing masks, and hand hygiene, to keep us all safe.

Although we have limits on numbers of visitors to our residents and patients, and screening processes are in place, we still encourage visitors which is important to maintain social connections and relationships. Family members are also able to take residents out of the facility for outings, provided all COVID-19 guidelines are in place.

This has been a challenging year on many levels, but it doesn't mean that we can't get outside and enjoy the fresh air and beautiful weather that Spring has provided us. We just need to be mindful of keeping up with our practices learnt over the last months.

Wearing of masks

All Victorians are required to wear a mask when they leave home which includes when visiting Tallangatta Health Service. Clinical masks will be provided for our visitors upon entry as re-usable masks are not permitted. Masks are part of keeping you safe **BUT YOU MUST ALSO CONTINUE** to maintain required social distancing and practice good hand hygiene. Please read our signage and follow our processes.

Visitors to Tallangatta Health Service

On 27 September the Premier announced that visiting

hours have been extended from 1 hour to 2 hours and this is now effective. All other visitation requirements remain unchanged:

The following applies to all visitors to Tallangatta Health Service:

- One visit per day
- Maximum of two hours per visit
- Visits to Hospital Patients: One Visitor
- Visits to Lakeview Residents: Limit of Two Visitors (from one household)
- Visits to Bolga Court Residents: Limit of Three Visitors (from one household)

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

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

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

Visitors are to wear a mask (supplied) when visiting patients and residents, maintain required social distancing and practice good hand hygiene. Staff Asymptomatic Testing

Recently the DHHS (Department of Health and Human Services) announced that asymptomatic testing of all health care workers in aged care is to occur on a monthly basis until the end of January. Asymptomatic testing means to test when there is no sign or symptom. Tallangatta Health Service commenced testing staff in late October, and will be continuing over the next couple of months, and as directed by DHHS.

Whilst this is not mandatory, we have encouraged as many staff as we can to undertake the COVID-19 test. They do not have to isolate until they receive their results

(as they are asymptomatic). This testing is part of the pathway forward to opening up all of Victoria. It is a small thing to do to ensure that the health of our community is maintained.

Volunteer training for working with clients living with Dementia and Delirium

We recognise that volunteers play a major role in visiting and engaging with our clients living in residential aged care facilities at Tallangatta Health. They also provide support to clients with dementia and delirium as part of the care team.

We are running three (3) training sessions during December for volunteers who provide support to clients living with dementia and delirium.

All sessions will be held from **2.30pm to 4.30pm** in the **Tallangatta Health Service Activity Centre.**

The three sessions will cover the following information:

Session 1: Introduction to volunteering and understanding Dementia and Delirium

Date: Tuesday 1 December 2020

What will be covered:

- Roles and responsibilities of volunteers
- Code of Conduct, confidentiality and other duty of care requirements
- Types of client's volunteers will work with.
- The volunteer duty statement
- What is person centred care?
- Understanding behaviours that can occur in client with dementia and delirium-common triggers and your role in responding to behaviours that can occur.

Session 2: Communication, person centred care and engaging clients in activities

Date: Tuesday 8 December 2020

What will be covered:

- Communication and person- centred care
- Activities for clients-why are activities important?
- Resources available for activities and sensory activities (hand and foot massage).

Session 3: Assisting clients with eating, drinking, and walking

Date: Tuesday 15 December 2020

What will be covered:

- Malnourishment and dehydration
- Practical and safety considerations when assisting clients with eating and drinking.
- Modified textured food
- Safe walking with clients-common aides and safety considerations

If you wish to participate in the three sessions and become a Tallangatta Health Service Volunteer please contact the MCHC reception by phoning **6071 5238.**

BreastScreen van returns to Tallangatta offering free breast screens

BreastScreen Victoria's mobile van, 'Marjorie', will visit Tallangatta offering free breast screens from Monday 7 to Friday 18 December 2020.

Those aged between 50 and 74 should have a breast screen every two years. They are the best way to find breast cancer early before there are symptoms and when treatment is most likely to be successful.

A breast screen can find cancer as small as a grain of rice, long before it can be seen or felt.

All breast screens are with a female radiographer in a safe and friendly environment. You don't need a doctor's referral or Medicare card, and screens only take 10 minutes.

The van is operating with COVID-19 safety measures in place to protect both the community and staff. All clients who screen on the van in Tallangatta must wear a face mask.

Appointments are being spaced out to ensure physical distancing and to reduce the number of people in the waiting area. It also provides more time for staff to clean in-between appointments.

BreastScreen Victoria CEO Terri Smith is encouraging those eligible aged 50 to 74 from Tallangatta and surrounds to take advantage of the van's visit.

"Marjorie is one of our two mobile screening service vans which travel the state throughout the year. This visit to Tallangatta has been organised to make sure women in this part of Victoria have access to a potentially life-saving mammogram," said Ms Smith.

"The vans use the highest quality digital radiography machines to ensure that women receive the best service, regardless of their location."



The van will be located opposite Towong Shire Council, 32 Towong Rd Tallangatta, from Monday 7 to Friday 18 December 2020.

Appointments for the Tallangatta van can be made online at breastscreen.org.au or by calling 13 20 50.



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

Hello my friends,

As I walked around the pub grounds this morning feeding the chooks, patting the goats, sheep and tending to the rest of the menagerie, I looked around and realized how lucky I am to live in this part of the world. The grass has returned green, the birds are chirping and with restrictions easing, it feels like (touch wood) we are moving back towards normality.

I won't lie. Things have been tough, as many families could attest to, but together we have shown such love, support and compassion for each other that I truly feel blessed to be

Bethanga Hotel

part of this ever vibrant community. So, from me to you, thank you all for the kind messages, drop in visits and continued support. It has meant the world to me.

Now, what's happening down at the pub? Well, we've made a few changes and tweaks, so I thought it best to give you an update on opening hours, food and entertainment.

General Trading hours:

Monday - Friday: 4pm-Close
Saturday: 9am-Close
Sunday: 11am-Close

Coffee Morning:

Coffee and slice, eat in or takeaway each Saturday morning from 9am to 11.30

Kitchen hours:

Wednesday - Friday Dine in or takeaway 5pm-8pm

(NB: Wednesday and Thursday is a restricted menu of a variety of

delicious pizzas and parm. Friday night - full menu)

Saturday - Sunday Lunch 12:00pm-2pm

(Please note we do have many GF options as well as a dedicated GF fryer to accommodate dietary needs).

It is advisable to book for meals on the weekend 02 6026 4214

Entertainment:

Live music is back on the 13th December with 'Backporch Fridaze' headlining.

Backporch Fridaze will be playing the following dates from 2pm -5pm:
13 December 2020
17 January 2021
28 February 2021

Again, I would like to thank you all for continuing support of the Bethanga Hotel and myself.

Kate


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Helen Vukasinovic

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Granya Gazette

GRANYA TENNIS CLUB NEWS

Granya Tennis Club would like to thank and recognise the Towong Shire and Sport and Recreation Victoria for their grant support. The \$5000 Towong Shire community recovery grant and Sport and Rec Victoria \$1000 COVID survival grant has allowed our club to repair cracks, replace sections of courts and purchase equipment for maintenance. These funds allow Granya TC to continue to build community both on and off the court.

Tennis is a great sport for all ages and if you're keen on having a hit, please get in contact with Sharon 0402 683 606 or Jayden 0468 695 073.



GRANYA CFA

Always looking for new members. Please contact Ken for forms 0419 141 444.

Granya CFA AGM will be held early 2021. This is due to Covid restrictions.

Hotel Granya

Gary and Bridget have decided to host a Christmas Evening for the locals of Berringa Peninsula - at the pub.

Thursday Dec 17th, from 5pm.

Anyone is welcome - BYO BBQ or PICNIC supplies - Picnic Hamper Boxes are available to pre-order through the pub.

SANTA is arriving on the Granya CFA truck at 6.30pm

Hope you can make it.

For more information and enquiries contact hello@hotelgranya.com

www.hgfarmstay.com

www.hotelgranya.com

Ph 6072 9563



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02 6057 8888

CLUBS AND GROUPS

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

BERRINGA CERT



Summer Safety

My annual summer advice on what to do for summer dangers

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. Forcing an uphill flow in an immobile limb with a constrictive bandage applied 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 effected 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

If someone is...
unconscious? not breathing normally?
It's time to act! Seconds count. It's up to all of us to learn how to save a life in
3 simple steps...

CALL Push on the chest between the nipples. Push hard. Push fast.

PUSH If available, turn on the defibrillator (AED) and follow the instructions.

SHOCK

Call Triple Zero (000) now. The call taker will talk you through CPR and using a defibrillator (AED).

Defibrillators

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



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

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

ROTARY CLUB OF BELLBRIDGE LAKE HUME INC.

Christmas Carols and the Lake Hume Cycle Challenge were unfortunately cancelled due to uncertainty surrounding the virus pandemic. However we are looking at an alternative cycle event and will inform you and appropriate authorities of progress on this event.

Australia Day Celebrations

At this stage the Rotary Club and Towong Council are

proceeding with the celebrations subject to strict protocol controls. As usual it will be held on January 26 at the Bellbridge pre-school and 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 1st January 2021
Nomination forms are available from Towong Council's website at www.towong.vic.gov.au/visitors/whats-on/ or Andrew Christy on 0260264338, Bellbridge.

*Regards,
Andrew Christy 6026 4338*

PENINSULA MEN'S SHED



6 Sirl Street,
Bethanga

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

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

Member meetings are held at the shed on the first Tuesday of every month at 7pm.

Phil Craig, President

TALGARNO TENNIS CLUB

Welcome back tennis! Judging by court usage plenty of our members and guests from all over the region have missed their tennis. Rarely do

you drive past the courts and not see activity at the courts – junior coaching, Saturday pennant, ladies' social night, and now Fast 4 night competition! Add to this morning and afternoon casual hitting, you can see why our courts are so important to our community. The whole Peninsula community can look forward, with great anticipation, to the new tennis court facility sometime next year (2021).

Saturday pennant has only been going a few weeks – due to Covid delay and a wet spring – but some of our teams are off to a flyer in the Kiewa & Talgarno District Tennis Association. We have two teams in Section 4 this year: the experienced Tigers and the up-and-coming Titans. The Tigers are undefeated so far, with Tilly, Belle, Ella, Chloe and Elsie reaping the benefits of practice, coaching and playing together for a few years – great stuff girls. Will and Shune, as well as newbies Chole McPherson and Holly Hall are fighting hard for the Titans and showing great improvement – stick with it guys!

Our Section 1 team led by Jarrod The Pres and Anthea (LM) have only played the one match so far – due to the reasons above plus a bye – and were defeated by the very competitive Yackandandah. Gen Haman and her Section 2 have started the season with some winning form and are really starting to gel as a team.

Our junior coaching program has been in full swing this spring and we have 20 kids once again benefitting from the tuition of experienced coach Paul Sykes. This year we were fortunate to receive funding from the Towong Shire (via a Community Recovery Grant) which we have put mostly toward this program making it the biggest bargain in town – 9 weeks coaching for a junior membership plus \$10.

Fast 4 tennis has finally arrived at Talgarno. We tried in April but the Covid kybosh ruined that attempt.

But we are up and running now on Wednesday nights from 6.30pm! Thanks again to the Towong Shire and the Community Recovery Grant for some funding for this community event. The matches are fast, the rules are a little whacky (but cool), and the night is a great blend of social and competitive. If anyone in the community is interested in joining in the fun, please contact myself or Brendan Pearson (0439881440).



Finally, we would like to welcome two new sponsors to the club – Cadmac and Johnsons MME – whose advertising signs will hang alongside those of the Bethanga Hotel and Monumental Ice Creamery at the tennis courts, clearly visible from the Murray River Road. Without our sponsors, our club wouldn't be what it is, so we thank them immensely. Any other local businesses interested in taking up one of our advertising packages please contact me on the number below.

In the meantime, happy hitting!

*Jarrold Stephenson (President)
0417 228 445*

*Adam Richardson (Secretary)
0412 560 833*

BERRINGA SUPPORT

If you or anyone you know is in need please don't hesitate to reach out and we will do our best to help or put you in contact with people.

*Denise Anderson
Berringa Support*

info@berringasupport.com.au

02 6046 9250

www.berringasupport.com.au

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Membership forms available on website

Contact

Scott Coates 0457 464 647

Email: Administrator@humeboatclub.com

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

2nd November 4.09am. Smoke coming from car, Kurrajong Gap Road

Bethanga brigade responded at the request of police, as smoke was seen coming from a motor vehicle that had crashed. The scene was quickly made safe and members assisted the tow truck with car removal and road cleaning.

25th September 7.14pm. House Fire, Jobling Street Bethanga

The brigade was called to a fire inside the house that had started as a result of the homeowner cleaning up ashes from around the wood fire using a vacuum. Some of the ashes were still hot and caused the vacuum to catch on fire. The brigade was quickly able to extinguish the fire with minimal damage done.

TURN OUTS DURING COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

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

BASIC FIRE FIGHTER (BFF) COURSE

Due to the impacts of the COVID-19, at this stage we have not run a BFF course this year. We have a few people waiting to complete this course and we hope to be

able to run it prior to the next fire season, depending on restrictions. If you're interested in doing minimum skills, please contact our Captain, Ben Mitchell on the number listed below.

BRIGADE ELECTIONS

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

ROADSIDE FUEL REDUCTION

The Brigade has sprayed the roadsides in an effort to minimize the fuel load along various roads in the Bethanga and Bellbridge areas. We thank Towong Council for spraying the roadsides twice this year to reduce the fuel load.

TRAINING

During October the brigade held a minimum number of training sessions to ensure our brigade members met the requirements to respond to event's this summer. The CFA mandates that every active CFA member must complete the Burn Over Drill yearly to maintain fire fighter competency. Almost 50 members completed this training, which was conducted while adhering to the strict COVID-19 guidelines.

COMMUNITY DONATIONS HELPING BRIGADES

During and after the last fire season the community donated \$4.8 million to CFA statewide.

This money was shared by all brigades to purchase items of their choice from an approved list.

Our brigade was successful in receiving a share to purchase hose winders for our three appliances and safety reversing cameras for our two trucks. The

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Bellbridge Ultralight Tanker came with a reversing camera as standard when delivered.

CFA FIRE RESTRICTIONS 2020-2021

This year the CFA Fire restrictions for the Towong Shire came into force at 1.00am on Monday, 30 November. Information on what you can and can't do during the restriction period can be found on the CFA's website. <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions>. It is your responsibility to know and understand the rules, with noncompliance being viewed very seriously by Police.

HAZARDOUS FIRE SEASON AHEAD

This autumn, winter and spring has seen a lot more rain than previous years, and currently the grass is still green, as compared to 2019 where the fire season was already producing devastating results by this time of year. This year's extra rain has meant grass growth the likes we haven't seen for many years. The good season has resulted in a shortage of stock for farmers to purchase. Increase in demand has also seen stock prices in some cases doubling. The high grass growth and low stock numbers have meant there are huge amounts of fuel currently in our paddocks. This has placed the risk of grass fires at very high, and the long grass length will result in grass fires that are difficult and dangerous for crews to manage.

Everyone should take extra precautions to reduce the risk of fire on their property and around their homes.

FIRE FACT

Fire intensity and flame height can be estimated by the dry fuel height. Flame height = up to 4 times the fuel height. Comfortable standing/firefighting distance from the fire = 4 times the flame height. E.G Grass 500mm = up to 2m flame height = 8m comfortable distance.

ARE YOU FIRE READY?

There are a number of things you can do to decrease the risk of fire damage to your property and ensure you and your family stay safe this fire season:

- Renew your fire plan – use the CFA's guide to create your fire plan: <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/your-bushfire-plan>
- Stay alert to the current and predicted weather conditions.
- Keep your gutters cleaned out.
- Keep the grass short and the dry vegetation to a minimum around your buildings.
- Remove any flammable rubbish or materials laying around.
- Check your firefighting equipment, including your fire blanket and fire extinguisher, for serviceability.
- Check your gas barbeque for any leaks.
- Think fire safety

when using farm machinery, welders and grinders.

- Ensure you have copies of your important documents, such as driver's license and birth certificate, stored electronically in your email or cloud.
- Ensure liquid propellants, such as petrol, are stored away from your main house if possible.
- Look around and assess your individual fire risks and discuss with your family and neighbours about what you are going to do if there is a fire.

If a fire starts on your property through negligence you may be responsible for any damage costs to neighbouring properties.

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. Be careful and have a safe summer.

CONTACTS

*Ben Mitchell, Captain
0411 080 277*

*bethangacfacaptain@gmail.com
Tracey Woodhouse, Secretary
0413 708 302*

*bethangacfasecretary@gmail.com
Ron Evans, Community Safety Liaison
02 6026 4301*

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TALGARNO RURAL FIRE BRIGADE Quick Updates

We hope you are all keeping safe and have enjoyed the cooler and wet spring. But as we are about to head into a very hot weekend it's a timely reminder that the high fuel loads that have built up over the spring can dry out rather quickly and pose a grass fire threat. The 2020-21 fire season is commencing on 30 November 2020 and will cease on 1 May 2021 unless revoked earlier.

Please take care from this time on with activities that have the potential to start fires such as slashing, welding, angle grinding, chain sawing and mowing. The 'Can I or Can't I' website is a great reference to understand what you are permitted to do in fire restriction times. 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 for more information.

Incidents

Since the last edition of Berringa News, our brigade was called to 2 incidents to support the Bethanga Brigade at a house fire and a vehicle accident.

Training: We have been advised in the last week that we are now able to resume training using COVID safe protocols. We have undertaken the Entrapment Drill training and Hazardous trees training over the month of October so all operational members are eligible to attend incidents.

80th year anniversary: We are hoping to hold this now in 2021, which will be our 81st year anniversary! We will provide more information when we know the details.

BBQ Shelter: The brigade is very excited about the news of the grant for the shelter and tennis courts. We understand the design of the shelter is to be finalised and works will commence in the new year.

Annual general meeting and elections

Due to the COVID restrictions that were in place around the time of our scheduled AGM in October, CFA advised that our AGM would be postponed to March to ensure no interruptions during the fire season ahead. All office bearers remain in place until the AGM.

New members

If there are any community members that would like to join our brigade, please contact Peter Star or Brendan Pearson. We encourage any members of our community; female, male, old, and young 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.

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

BETHANGA TALGARNO JUNIOR BRIGADE

Our Juniors have not met since March unfortunately due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. At this stage we are not sure when sessions will recommence, however we are hopeful it will be soon. Junior Championships are held in March each year, with our training beginning mid-January, with some luck and consistent face mask use, we will be able to compete in 2021. We will be in contact with our current members to provide further information as it becomes available.

We are always on the lookout for new Juniors to join. This is a fun and free activity held here on the peninsula, where you will learn a variety of skills, not just how to use the fire truck. If you are interested in joining and are between the ages of 11 and 15, please contact John Northey (0414 931 442) or Brendan Pearson (0439 881 440) or email

bethangatalgarnojuniors@gmail.com

*Brendan Pearson on 0439881440 or
John Northey 0414931442
bethangatalgarnojuniors@gmail.com*

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BETHANGA CRICKET CLUB

The 2020/21 season has been a slow start with the first three games being cancelled due to wet weather. Many of our players have been held up in other regions due to Covid restrictions which saw both teams scrambling for players. We look forward to playing with the full force soon with all players keen to return to the wicket.

On a brighter note this year, Captains are: A grade - Luke Rafferty, B grade Jezza McGuire. Training is in full swing on both Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5.45pm at the ground. New faces are always welcome. If

you are attending training there are Covid measures in place, see signage.

This year the club has a new training uniform being proudly worn in the photo.



The AGM will be held on Sunday 29th November 10.30am at Elgins Hotel Wodonga. All financial

members from the 2019/20 season, including life members are eligible to vote. All positions will be declared vacant. Please register your attendance with Jo Sirl - Secretary Ph: 0417 198 421

Johanne Sirl - Secretary

Trent Sirl - President 0439 090 333

Kristian Jahne - Treasurer

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 GOLF CLUB



Springdale Road Bethanga

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

Hire the club house for your next celebration or fundraiser. Contact either

Peter Star 0429 436 347

Morry Strelec 0400 036 635



BETHANGA RECREATION RESERVE

Executive

President - Brett Martin

Secretary - Andrew Hird

Treasurer - Karen Pyle

General committee

Matt Gill

Terry Macartney



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David Elder
To contact us email
bethangareserve@gmail.com or SMS
0468 350 930

BETHANGA ANGLERS CLUB

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

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

*Happy Fishing, CATCHYA soon
Brian 6026 4235*

PENINSULA ACTIVITY, LAUGHTER, MOVEMENT & SOCIABLE (P.A.L.M.S)

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

When: 1st & 3rd Wednesday

Time: Starts 2 pm

Where: Bethanga Hall

For more information contact the MCHC office on 6071 5238 for further details

BONEGILLA HALL CRAFT GROUP

Come along to our craft group session every THURSDAY (excluding school holidays). Bring all those

UFO's along and enjoy a bit of laughter.

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

Contact Pam on 0401 545 583

POLE WALKERS

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

Joan Elliot 6020 1177

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

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

All visitors welcome.

Baptisms/Christenings - by appointment.

*Enquiries to Rev Sandra Temple
6026 4361 or
0467 259 722*

Catholic - St Francis Bethanga Mass times: In recess until further notice.

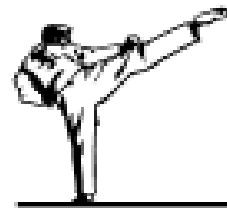
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Wises Creek Talgarno Landcare Group



Like ducks on water, there may not seem to be much happening on the surface with Landcare but there is a bit going on out of sight. We are planning (COVID permitting) to have a get together and catch up at Julie and Jim de Hennin's place on Saturday December 5 from 6 pm to 8 pm – chicken and salad provided, bring your own drinks. Please come along because it has been a long while since we have been able to do this.

You will be aware that our Landcare group is part of the Mitta to Murray Blackberry Action Group (M2MBAG) and this is where a lot has been happening. M2MBAG is having its AGM on November 26 as a virtual meeting because of limitations on numbers in person. We are planning to broaden the scope of the M2MBAG into a Landcare network to be called Mitta to Murray Landcare Inc as this will give us the opportunity to do a lot more for groups such as ours. It will allow us to seek funding for bigger projects across the whole network and hopefully to employ a facilitator. Our Landcare group will be represented at the meeting by Jim and me. Please watch this space for developments.

Jim was successful in getting some funding from the Towong Bushfire Recovery Program and this has been used to prepare four very professional videos on biocontrol of blackberries showing the work being done

across our district and the Mitta to Murray area. You will be able to see these on a new M2M Landcare YouTube channel very shortly.

We are in the process of re-organising the activities that we had planned to carry out last year on Regenerative Agriculture. To this end we expect that we will be able to arrange a field day in early autumn on this much talked about topic. Our aim will be to provide some good unbiased information that will allow our members to decide whether there is anything in the concept that is of interest to them.

We have prepared an application for a project called Balanced Farming. This is an attempt to get some guidance for those landholders who are interested in striking a balance between the two extremes of farming for productivity alone or farming for the environment alone. We think that a majority of landholders are striving for that balance so it would be helpful to hear from others who are doing it. As always, it is a highly competitive process so we will have to wait for a few months to see whether this application is successful.

Simon Feillafe has prepared an application with Mitta Valley Landcare seeking funding for the introduction (and breeding up for release) of new species of dung beetles to fill the current gap in the range of dung beetles available. Again, we will have to wait to see if this application is successful.

We look forward to 2021 and hope that you can join us on December 5 at 697 Murray River Road, Talgarno.

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What a busy term it has been for the Bellbridge Early Years Learning Centre!

The Long Day Care room has been busy building rockets, exploring different animals in their zoo and taking care of people in their hospital and play areas. Children are beginning to recognise numbers and letters in matching play and are enjoying the many sensory activities and cooking experiences.

The Kindergarten children have participated in some online school transitions and have also perfected their cooking skills making bread and pizza. The centre is hoping to build on these cooking experiences using more foods from their gardens. Children have also been designing and building helicopters and exploring the world through a variety of books, stories and Google searches.



The centre celebrated *footy colours week* and *book week* with some amazing dress ups! They also listened to dreamtime stories around Australia for *NAIDOC week* and created some beautiful poppies for *Remembrance Day*.

Community Involvement

Book Library: The centre is looking to expand its library. All families are sharing their favourite stories as suggestions to add to the library and bringing in any double up books from home. The centre is also happy to take doubles or book donations from the community if people wish to donate them.

Spoonville: The centre is creating a little “**Spoonville**” display at the front of the service with decorated wooden spoons. They would love to have families and the wider community contribute, too – so grab a wooden spoon, decorate and add it to the collection!

Christmas Raffle

The parents’ committee are selling tickets for their last fundraising event for the year. Drawn at the Christmas party, 11th December, all proceeds will go towards the purchase of equipment and learning resources for the children at the centre. To purchase a \$5 ticket, please see Felicity, Bethanga Post Office, or contact Ben 0426 240954 or see us at the 1st Peninsula Seasonal Market.

There are some great prizes to be won...

1st prize – *Whole lamb! Kindly donated by Katie & Jay Kotzur and butchered by Colin Rootsey*

2nd prize - *\$500 accommodation voucher, kindly donated by Hotel Granya Farmstay*

3rd prize – *Tool pack with mixed tools, valued \$300, kindly donated by APEX tools*

4th prize – *Handmade quilt, kindly donated by Patricia Breaks*

Additional prizes include hampers containing a wonderful selection of regional goods, vouchers and produce.

In addition to those mentioned above, we would also publicly like to thank the following who have donated wonderful prizes to the raffle: Bethanga Hotel, Posh Plonk, Tallangatta Hotel, Potted Cumquat, Kangaroo Store, Tallangatta Hub, Wodonga Officeworks, Peninsula Seasonal Market Store Holders, Tanybryn Farm, Aenne’s Garden, Aenne’s Baby, Jessica Gray, The Jewellery Box, Bec Brown, Steph Fraser, Loren Dolphin, Megan Simpson, Armelle Habib Photography and Creations by Cooper

RAPPORT – **R**espect **A**cceptance
Persistence **P**ride **O**ptimism **R**esilience **T**ruth



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



Book Week 2020

We had a wonderful time celebrating Book Week. We kicked off with breakfast and books, had sessions writing and sharing picture books and for the first time ever... did our 'Books before Bedtime' via webEx!



Book Scavenger Hunt

A student favourite every book week however this year we mixed it up and did it in the beautiful surrounds of the Bethanga Rec Reserve!



Remembrance Day

We commemorated Remembrance Day, acknowledging the courage and sacrifice of those who have served our country in war and reflect on our responsibility to work for the peace they fought hard to achieve.



NAIDOC Week 2020

Students participated in activities to acknowledge NAIDOC week and what the 2020 theme 'Always Was, Always Will Be' means. We explored the NAIDOC poster which is an amazing piece of artwork by Tyrowan Waigana. His winning design depicts the rainbow serpent coming out of the Dreamtime to create the Australian landmass and how Indigenous Australians are strongly connected to it. We explored our own connections to this - Percy Trezise, a renowned Aboriginal painter who created the pictures for the Rainbow Serpent book went to Bethanga Primary School! Students in Millewa created a NAIDOC inspired mural capturing their own interpretation of the Rainbow Serpent.



Mudgee Play Space

Thank you so much to the Bethanga Men's Shed who created these wonderful imaginative play spaces out of giant reels. We greatly appreciate it and the kids play daily on them!



STEM Students in Millewa have been learning about circuits and conductivity through the use of Makey Makey. They have been so engaged and motivated to experiment with different materials to test conductivity! They have made circuits with bananas, apples, plants, play dough and their bodies!

MSL AND INTERVENTION



We are extremely lucky to have a fully qualified MSL (Multisensory Structured language) teacher, Captain Pete. All students work with Pete first session Monday morning for the first half an hour going through specific spelling rules. Pete then works with five individual students on areas of need. It is imperative that the students do not miss a session. This maintains the progress necessary for maximum growth. Mrs Roebuck is also providing intervention to the students that need specific learning to meet the curriculum standards.

Big thanks Big W

We owe a HUGE thanks to Adam Ladanay, manager at Big W. Adam has been amazing by supporting our school with our recent purchases. The school bikes were set up free of charge and delivered to the school. The cost of the bikes and helmets was reduced to fit our budget so students can have more access to more bikes. Basketballs and basketball rings were reduced and the bike stands for every bike have been donated. Thank you Adam for the continued support. We really appreciate it.



MONEY, MONEY, 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 weekday 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. 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. Each week there will be price increases! Let's see who is the saver and who is the spender!

SCIENCE

Our love of science is going to reach new heights this term. Mrs Rankin, our specialist science teacher, is now allowed to come and share her expertise and wisdom with the students. The year 3-6 students will participate in experiments every Friday from 9-12:30pm and the F-2 students will join every third week to ensure they have access and exposure to all things science. We are very fortunate to have someone of Ellen's ability come to our school to teach with such flair.



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Granya – Michael Warnock	6072 9534	Talgarno - Anthea Redman	6020 1134
Talgarno - Lea Casey	0418 967 953	Schools & Child Services	
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Jono Green Farm Services	0422 965 024	Planned Activity Group	6026 4325
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Bethanga General Store	6026 4215	Bethanga Pony Club	0414 612 918
Bethanga PO	6026 4223	Mens Shed Bethanga	6026 4418
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CLASSIFIEDS

Our local classifieds reach 560 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.

Berringa Community News Distribution

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

We would like to thank Kat Cook, Rosemary McFarland, Bob Singline, Bethanga PO, Talgarno mail contractors and Michael Wood for their on-going support in delivering the Berringa Community News

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

Advertising

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

The 2019 Advertising rates

\$120 Full page

\$60 half page

\$40 third page

\$30 quarter page

\$15 Business card size

Classified Advertisements are \$2.00 each.

Editorial Team- Julie Miller (6020 1107),
Elizabeth Wood, Di Singline (6026 4248)
Kerrie Stephenson, Julie de Hennin,
Lea Casey
Treasurer- Kerrie Stephenson 6020 1146

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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2	Gymkhana AGM	4
14	DEADLINE BERRINGA NEWS AUTUMN EDITION	
28	Live Music Bethanga Hotel	17
23	Bethanga Landcare Meeting	

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

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

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