# Berringa Community News

Summer 2021

News and views from the residents of Bellbridge, Bethanga, Granya & Talgarno Circulation: 550 ABN: 96 071 800 843

www.berringacommunitynews.com.au

# Here's to our Community

What does it mean to be a community.

Community Noun- 1. a group of people living together and practicing common ownership.

On the morning of the 11th of November the Berringula Peninsula rallied together to demonstrate just what it means to be a community. Bethangas own Sinead, Lance, Brook and Bree lost their home and all their loved possessions to a sudden and quick spreading fire. Starting in their laundry wall from an unknown electrical fault the flames where quick to get hold of the building.

The children of Bethanga Primary where doing their annual remembrance parade when it was spotted. Quick actions by the teachers and parents lead to a fast response by the CFA and established that the home was empty and all were safe. While evacuating the children, Bethanga Primary's loved principle, Rachel was instantaneous in organising a meeting at the Bethanga hotel, hosted by Kate, in effort to coordinate the community in their voluntary efforts.

The turnout, ideas and direct actions from our locals would have made anyone's heart swell.

Donations of clothes, books and food quickly came pouring in and go -fund -me page administered by Meagan, smashed its suggested goals in mere hours.

Felicity, from the Bethanga Store, became a hub for donations and Bethanga blooms raised money with their flowers. Kate, Sarah and team put together a raffle at the pub.

Tracy was quick to sort some basics, donated by Big W. Lyn and the Parkers sorted the pantry and Kate made sure the girls snuggle needs where taken care of.

Colin organised to fill a freezer donated by Rach, and



MTFAB raffled one of their awesome fire pits. Mark from Grouse Grass offered his services, Renne set up the food train and Jenny looked into emergency care.

Bethanga Primary School has pledged all the money raised from their weekend Art Show. Local artists also donated the proceeds from their art show sales and items to be raffled or sold in the silent auction.

Bethanga and surrounding CFA brigades and the police kept the community safe during the fire.

This is a very small part of the donations and good wishes which were contributed to support the family. Many other supporters wish to remain anonymous. It

# COMMUNITY REPORTS

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

was all organised with the hope of reducing the pressure and respecting the privacy of the family during this difficult time.

I know I'm not alone in feeling incredibly proud to be a part of the Berringa Peninsula. I truly love where I live.

So thank you, for showing what it means to be a community.

A quick note from Sinead, Lance and girls:

Our family would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the community for their amazing support during this difficult

time. We would like to personally thank the CFA, local Police officer, Luke Fogarty and Towong Shire for all their help and support on the day. Our community's support has been endearing and amazing, from small local business to individuals and families. We are so lucky to live here surrounded by a community that rallies around those who need it.

Thankyou again from Lance, Sinead, Brook and Bree.

Rachel Piggott

#### **Peninsula Seasonal Market**

After another ordinary year of the impact of Covid and lockdowns, the Peninsula Seasonal Market is set to spring back into action with the Summer Market being held at the recently closed Hotel Granya Property in December. A much-welcomed event for community members and stall holders looking forward to showcasing the wonderful products and wares and getting out and about. The perfect opportunity for the public to support small and micro business in time for Christmas.

The Peninsula Season Markets are expecting 30 local stalls. Many are returning stall holders, though several enterprises will be participating for the first time. The variety of products and services is growing, including, clothing, floral arrangements, photography, pottery, natural dyed fabrics, timber wares, candles, soaps, jewellery, fruit and vegetables, jams and baked goods, plants and seedlings, a community BBQ, and a pop-up coffee shop.

Market Stalls will be operating from 9am - 12pm with Albury local Dan Whiting playing in the Beer Garden from 10.30am - 2.30pm. Hotel Granya owners Bridget and Gary are looking forward to having their doors reopen to the public for the event with the Bar operating from 11am - 4pm.

Granya Locals Loren and Lisa Collins will have their Food Van Purely Delish set up into the afternoon also. Visitors are welcomed to bring along a picnic rug for the afternoon should you wish to stick around and enjoy the music and beers.

Market goers are encouraged to bring cash, as EFTPOS is limited to only a few stall holders. The Peninsula community is looking forward to

a Covid-safe, family-fun markets, keen to show off their new creations. As this market is hosted by Hotel Granya, vaccination requirements are the same as any Victorian hospitality venue, meaning evidence of your double vaccination status will be required.

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



# Our community fundraiser for the Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre

You will recall early this year we postponed the Berringa Community Fundraiser Morning Tea for the Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre (AWRCC) due to the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19.....as we had to in 2019 and 2020!!!

On behalf of the Berringa Community we are still keen to organize an event to continue to make a financial contribution to activities of the AWRCC this year.

To do this we have decided to hold a Silent Auction at the next Peninsula Community Market on Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup> 2021 at the Granya Pub. The numerous items we have include electrical items, handcrafted items, handcrafted woodwork etc. All of these items have been donated to help raise funds for the AWRCC. We will have a stall set up where you can bid on items by writing down your bid and add to your bid if you are out bid! This site will be open from 9.00am to 11.45am and the winning bidder notified soon after the closing time. Please support this community initiative by attending the Peninsula Community Market on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and bidding generously for the auction items.

And there is more!!!! Not only will we be organizing the Silent Auction but will be drawing the raffle which includes; 1st prize a beautiful patch work quilt; 2<sup>nd</sup> prize, an elegant pearl necklace and earring set and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize a generous load of fire wood.



We know how important the Albury Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre is to us as our community raises funds for this most valuable and important service. With that in mind, we seek your support at this event. If you would like to know what items will be offered in the Silent Auction and /or wish to have a bid recorded because you are not able to attend, please don't hesitate to call me on ph.0412433499.

Thank you for your anticipated support.

Julie de Hennin for the Berringa Community Morning Tea Fundraiser Team



Victoria, every one of us needs to check in, everywhere, every time.

Checking in helps us stop the spread of coronavirus, and protects our businesses, our communities and each other.

So, let's all check in. Everyone. Everywhere. Every time.

#### For more information visit CORONAVIRUS.vic.gov.au



#### The Train Stops in Bellbridge

Michael Roberts – model train collector, supplier and repairer

Michael and his family have lived in Bellbridge for many years while he has pursued his career in the army as part of the Department of Defence. He and his wife, Annette, have four children and 9 grandchildren, 7 living locally and 2 in France.

Michael has a passion for model trains which began about 10 years ago. It grew from early childhood when his grandfather was the station master at Walla. Michael spent many happy hours riding on the Walla to Corowa rail motor. This was a small carriage with an electric motor which was used for short trips and carried about 20 people.

Retirement from the army allowed Michael the time to indulge his love of trains, model ones in particular. He attended Hobby and Train Shows in Adelaide, Wagga and Albury and eventually developed a strong connection with the owners of Ironside Hobbies at Yerong Creek. Fortunately his home was a perfect design to allow his dream set-up to be built.

Michael has two main areas devoted to his model trains. The main room has HO and OO trains, organised in two layers, with tracks, trains, buildings, etc surrounded by scenery.

The other space has three displays. The main display is of digitally operated trains, including some analogue operated trains. The Hogwarts Express takes pride of place at the centre! A smaller display is of the smallest scale (N scale) trains and associated buildings.



The final display is one which his identical twin grandsons are creating, with access to some of Poppy Robbo's collection.

Michael loves to repair HO and OO trains and has a limited amount of parts for repairs and/or sales. Parts are limited as trains are often 50-60 years old, come from all parts of the world and, although the outside shells are the same, the inside parts are often different. Michael is a keen recycler and would appreciate and accept any old model trains and parts people may not want anymore.

Michael is planning to open his displays to the public on Saturday afternoons from December onwards. He will have a sign in front of his house at 41 Craig Drive, Bellbridge when he is open. There will probably be lots of kids eager to visit!

Di Singline



## Bethanga Gymkhana Inc. - New Members Wanted

Meeting: Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 at 7-30 pm at Bethanga Hotel.

As advised previously in this publication, Mary has advised the committee she is no longer able to do the workload she has been doing in the past. As such, we are seeking new members, or an Event Co-Ordinator, to fulfil the following roles.

- Kiosk: Order, purchase and collect all food, drinks and necessary items for the kiosk. Arrange for volunteers to cook and serve on the day. Prepare price lists for inside and outside the kiosk. After the event, deal with leftover food and drinks.
- Kitchen in the Pavilion: Purchase and collect all items necessary for the kitchen. Arrange for members of our community to bake cakes, slices etc. On the Friday, cream necessary cakes and place into serving containers. Secure volunteers to make the coffee, take orders and serve. Prepare fillings for sandwiches (60 to 80 rounds) and arrange for volunteers to come in on the Saturday morning to make the sandwiches. Deal with leftover food.
- Bar: Order (from the pub) all drinks. Arrange for volunteers to collect on the morning of the event. Secure volunteers to serve on the day. Note any leftovers and return to the pub after the event.
- BBQ: Ensure the BBQ shed is clean and set it up. Purchase and collect all food and miscellaneous items necessary to run the BBQ. Arrange for volunteers to cook and serve on the day.
- Gate: Arrange for 4 shifts of volunteers to run the gate and attend to carparking.
- Dog Jump: Prepare "Doggie Bags" to hand to all participants in the Dog Jumping Competition.
- Other:

Secure and collect extra tables and trestles.

Assist with setting up and packing up the event, cleaning the facilities and repairing the oval.

Purchase necessary items for the toilets and showers and set them up.

We are also seeking volunteers to assist with the running of the Family Fun Events.

We can provide you with lists of what needs to beordered/purchased, the quantities, where to get it and the names of the volunteers who have worked in these areas in the past. There has been a Gymkhana held in Bethanga for over 100 years. It is very well supported and very much enjoyed by both the horse competitors and the public and it raises much needed funds for groups in our community. We need new members to fulfill the abovementioned roles to ensure it continues to be a staple of our community for years to come.

Please do not hesitate to contact a member of the current committee if you would like further details or something clarified.

Mary Northey (Secretary): Phone: 0260 264257 Greg Prichard (President): Phone: 0418 119 609 John Northey (Member): Phone: 0414 931 442



#### **TALGARNO CEMETERY TRUST**

The Talgarno Cemetery Trust is seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified members of the community who would be interested in becoming honorary trust members. Women and those from a diverse background are actively encouraged to seek appointment.

Cemetery trust members are appointed by the Governor in Council for a term of up to five years on the recommendation of the Minister for Health. Cemetery trusts are responsible for the proper and efficient management of the public cemeteries under their control, including planning for future cemeteries services and the preservation of local history.

Being appointed to a cemetery trust provides successful applicants with a unique opportunity to develop their competencies as a board member. The Department of Health provides free governance training to all trust members.

Current trust members whose terms of appointment are due to expire may apply for reappointment as part of a competitive selection process.

More information about the role of cemetery trust members is available at: https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/cemeteries-and-crematoria/cemetery-trust-appointments/class-b-cemetery-trust-appointments

To register your interest please contact the Chairperson of the Talgarno Cemetery Trust as follows within two weeks of the date of this advertisement:

e. talgarnocemeterytrust@gmail.com

m. 0412 433 499

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring that government boards and committees reflect the rich diversity of the Victorian community. This includes appropriate representation of women, people of all ages, Aboriginal people, people with disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, gender diverse and intersex people.

# **Berringa Peninsula Community Network (BPCN)**



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

Like all other organisations Covid has played havoc with planning and holding meetings of the network.

#### **Great River Road Project**

We are waiting to meet with the Towong Shire Council to discuss the statue and signage at the roadside stops.

#### The Berringa Peninsula 3 Halls Project

The BCPN worked with Bushfire Recovery Victoria, the 3 Hall Committees and Towong Shire to apply for a grant to upgrade the halls in Bethanga, Granya and Talgarno. An application for \$564,000 has been made through The Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program for the Berringa Peninsula 3 Halls Project.

The project will invest in external and internal improvements to the Bethanga, Granya, and Talgarno Halls. The three Halls built in the 1900's, will be preserved and upgraded, with improvements including roof repairs, installation of solar and internet connectivity, external and internal works, electrical upgrades and setting up water tanks and pumps for improved fire preparedness.

These renovations will ensure that Bethanga, Granya, and Talgarno Halls support our communities in times of disaster and create facilities that are better resourced. The project will future proof the Halls and create places of celebration, so the community can host activities and

events that encourage recovery, resilience, and social connection

#### **Business Meet & Greet**

The BCPN identified that were many businesses and business owners resident on the Berringa Peninsula and there may be opportunities for these people to work together to grow their businesses. The BCPN organised an event for Monday 29th November 2021 at the Hume Boat Club to enable the local business people to meet each other

#### Members

The current members of the committee are Jim de Hennin *Chair* 

Stacey Rich Deputy Chair

Julie Miller Communications

Denise Anderson Rowena Calvert

Owen Cooper

Katie Kotzer

Jenni Manguy

Ross Mitchell

Brendan Pearson

Di Singline

Emma Wilson Nichol David Wortmann

Julie Miller

## Wake up to coffee in the morning Bellbridge



When Kate and Mick moved to Bellbridge, they were dismayed to find that there was nowhere to buy a coffee. There was an ad in Sydney for a

Kombi van fitted out as a mobile barista and Kate and Mick saw an opportunity. (Mick always wanted a Kombi). With Sydney Covid restrictions, they had the Kombi Canteen trucked to Bellbridge.

The Kombi Canteen currently is at the "fish" on the Bellbridge foreshore from 7-10 Wednesday to Friday and 9-12 Saturday & Sunday selling coffee, cold pressed juice slices and treats and sometimes special baked delights. The hours will be reviewed based on demand.

The floars will be reviewed based on demand

Kombi Canteen is also available for events, festivals, parties, weddings and markets.

Contact the Kombi Canteen by Facebook or Instagram or better still drop in for a coffee

Julie Miller

# Lake Hume Cycle Challenge - helping local cancer support Save the date! March 13<sup>th</sup> 2022

The Rotary Club of Bellbridge Lake Hume says "hop on your bikes, have a bit of fun, and help raise some money for our Albury-Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre."

Four (4) new ride routes are offered for the 2022 LHCC; so something for everyone. Riders will enjoy the best scenery offered by Lake Hume ... filled to the brim! All rides have the same lakeside Ebden Reserve start/finish point, as well as water crossings over bridges and causeways.

Put it in your diary. Full details at <a href="http://www.lakehumecyclechallenge.com.au/">http://www.lakehumecyclechallenge.com.au/</a>

Got visitors? Encourage your out of town friends and extended family to bring their bikes and have go.

If you are travelling on our ride route roads that morning (8 am -1 pm) please keep an eye out for cyclists; as these are the people that hand over the \$\$\$\$\$ and help OUR Cancer Centre.

Most local riders know all about the road rides, the wonderful rural scenery of the Lake Hume area, the friendly picnic atmosphere on their return, with a complimentary water melon, cake, sausage sandwich and soft drink. All rides are escorted.

For the hardened riders, there's the Bethanga Beast Combo ride. This replaces the regular River Road based Granya Grind. The Beast is based on the High Country Rail Trail and the "back" Lake Road and up over Kurrajong Gap. Rider refreshments will be at Old Tallangatta and the Hume Boat Club area. Locals, please watch out for those riders.

For families and the "normal people" there is a 5 -15 km **Kiewa River Family ride/walk**.

This follows the Rail Trail to the Kiewa River, and returns. There will be activities along the path to keep the kids interested, including the popular "Rider education course" and face painting. Primary school age kids are **FREE** if accompanied by an adult.

For more information and on line registration see the event website <a href="http://">http://</a>

www.lakehumecyclechallenge.com.au/

New developments relating to the event are happening. Keep up to date by "Liking" our Faceboook page www.facebook.com/lakehumecycle





A big thanks to all our past participants, volunteers, sponsors and on line network friends, who help make this day to be a great success. Hope to see you all again on March 13 2022. Even better arrange for some mates to come along.



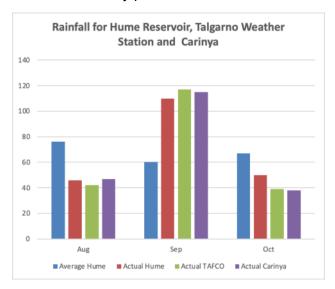
# Prospects for the Season Ahead

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

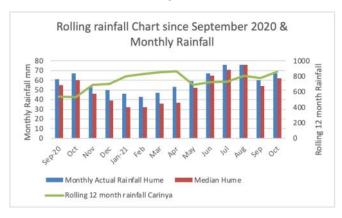


#### Rainfall Round-up

In case you have forgotten, our spring was patchy – below average for August and October but well above average for September so the total was almost spot on average. In an average year the Spring rainfall (August to end October) would be 203 mm. This year it was 198 mm at TAFCO station (De Hennin's), 206 mm at Hume Reservoir and 200 mm at my place.



If we look at the rolling 12-month rainfall as shown below it is clear that we have been in a wetter than average pattern over the last 12 months. Our current 12-month rolling rainfall is 860 mm compared with the average rainfall of 700 mm.



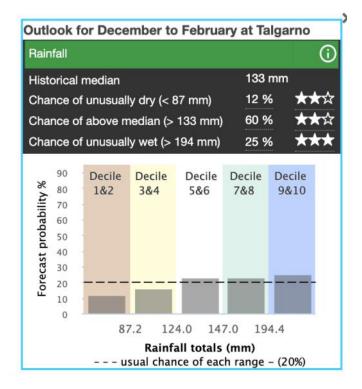
The higher rainfall in October came about because of the developing La Niña and a persisting negative IOD. Pressures were lower than normal and there were good linkages with abundant sources of moisture in northern Australia

Soil moisture conditions are still wetter than average at this time of year so we are seeing a slow finish to spring – good for silage but not so helpful for those wanting to make hay.

BOM's outlook forecast for Spring had been for better than average rainfall. In hindsight this was a bit optimistic.

# Prospects for Summer (December to end January)

There is a better than average chance of above median rainfall over summer as indicated in the table below from BOM. Interestingly, BOM suggests that we have a higher than normal prospect of an unusually wet summer. They are saying that 4 of the 7 models they follow are predicting that the La Niña will develop fully by December and persist into February.



Dale Grey reports that nine of the 12 models he follows suggest wetter than average rainfall, 2 suggest wetter to neutral and 1 neutral. The temperature outlooks are for average maximum temperatures but above average minimum temperatures. This suggests that we will have pretty good pasture (and weed) growth over the summer.

Greg Hayes

# Becs Banter

Well, it's been a very interesting Spring. Currently waiting for the warmth to get everything really growing. I'm sure I'll be regretting that by January.

Preparing and keeping things growing well over summer is front of mind at the moment.

There is one topic that always seems to raise its head later in the growing season is the 28 spotted ladybird. She/He is NOT a nice ladybug, they will run riot on your pumpkins, cucumber, melons etc. They seem to 'appear' overnight and start ravaging the leaves and stalks of your plants.



Once you identify this garden pest, you can see that it is a more orange colour than our gorgeous red ladybird that we want to encourage into our gardens.

There is also a 'good' black and yellow ladybug that feeds on fungus, you might see it on the same types of leaves that the 28 spotted ladybird is interested in as often these plants that are susceptible to fungus later in the season.

#### **December**

Making sure your gardens are really well mulched, and keeping your soil cool, moist and healthy this month before January hits is highest on my list.

Pruning can also still be done this month. Giving your fruit trees a bit of a prune after setting fruit helps the tree put all its energy into the setting fruit rather than new growth.

Tip pruning your perennials also gives them a bit of a burst for the summer months.

I've discovered this year that the pear and cherry slugs are running rampant in my quince, and ornamental pear trees, there has been so much moisture around.

I have used fine ash from the wood fire and fine garden lime with quite a lot of success. Be careful and use PPE face and eye cover when applying these fine dusts.

Check all your fruit tree nets are secure.

Vegetable seeds that can go in beans, salad mix, rocket, melons, cucumbers, beetroot, pumpkins.

Seedlings that can go in tomatoes, capsicums, chilli, basil, early broccoli, and my favorite, springs onions.

#### **January**

Prune your summer perennials this month, keeping their growth nice and tight, with the possibility of another flush of flowers in the autumn depending on the plant.

Keep a good eye out on your fruit fly traps.

Also be vigilant with looking out for pests and diseases

Water deeply this month, give your garden a sprinkle of an organic slow release fertiliser before watering to help it break down and feed the soil.

Keep the water up to ripening fruit trees.

Fruit trees can be thinned a bit if you have excessive fruit on them. Particularly pears and apples. It really helps get better quality fruit.

Vegetable seeds that can go in salad and Asian greens, rocket, beetroot, and all late season crops of cucumber, beans, corn, carrots

Seedlings that can go in Salad green if you have a bit of shade and a cooler spot in the garden, spring onion, broccoli.

#### **February**

This month is full of monitoring and maintaining.

check on mulch depths around the garden and top up where needed.

Give all your finished fruit trees a prune and feed to set them up well for next season.

Still keep an eye on your fruit fly traps. If you have an infestation, ensure you collect all fallen fruit and place in black plastic bags to 'cook' the larvae before composting or disposing.

Those pesky pear and cherry slugs may still be lurking so keep an eye out.

It's not a bad time to look at where you might need that added shade tree in your garden. You can prepare a planting site now to really give the tree a fantastic start when you plant it out in Autumn/Winter. Fill the planting hole with compost, organic pellets and organic matter and then mulch. Throw on some newspapers, wet down, then put some mulch over the top.

Vegetable seeds that can go in, are garlic bulbs, salad and Asian greens, peas, rockets, spinaches and radish,

Seedlings that can go in are cauliflower, broccoli, leeks, spring onions, silverbeet

Try to remember that Autumn is just around the corner, hopefully our summer is not too horrendous on our gardens.

Bec

Bethanga Blooms is growing and has joined Felicity in the new Bethanga General Store.

Make sure to pop in and see all the new exciting new gift ideas, plants and flowers that will now be available.

See you all at the next Peninsula Seasonal market in December.





# 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







# Australia Day Community Awards 2021

Do you know someone who is working hard to support your local community? Someone who is making a difference to the lives of people around them?

Someone who inspires you? Now is the time to recognise them

Nominations are now open for the 2022 Australia Day Community Awards
Award ceremony is hosted by The Rotary Club of Bellbridge Lake Hume and will take place at the Hume Boat Club, Bellbridge, with free breakfast from 8am, on 26 January 2022.

#### **Award Categories**

Citizen of the Year Young Citizen of the Year Community Participation/Event of the Year

#### Nominate by 18 December 2021

Visit towong.vic.gov.au/australia-day
Drop into the Tallangatta Council Offices and
Libraries
or contact Andrew Christy 02 6026 4338

# **New Mayor Appointed**

Towong Shire Council elected Cr Andrew Whitehead as Mayor for a 12-month term at its meeting on Wednesday 24 November 2021.

Cr Whitehead was first elected to Council in October 2016 and has previously served two terms as Deputy Mayor. He succeeds Cr David Wortmann who did not contest the position after his sixth term as Mayor. David was appointed Council's Deputy Mayor.





New Homes Design Service

Alterations Available + Additions

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Fully Registered and Insured

0418 527 249

# Multi-Award Winning Builders



A RECENT FOREST HILL BUILD

A new residence in keeping with a street consisting of Californian bungalows, Old English and Art Deco styles



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

Pete & Katrina

Members of the HIA and Master Builders Association

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

# Wymah Ferry

Operating hours
7am – 8pm
During daylight saving
6am – 9pm
(NB no meal closure times)

OUTSIDE THESE HOURS Ring the contractor, 6020 2038

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

# ranya Museum Specialising in pioneer families.

Open by appointment 6072 9540

#### **Talgarno Hall**

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 shade with a good book from the Talgarno Street Library

Open all hours for everyone at the Talgarno Hall.

#### **Bonegilla Hall**

Hall available for hire.

**Craft Group** held every Thursday 10am-2pm.

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

Anyone interested in Zumba classes?

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





#### **Maternal & Child Health**

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

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

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

#### **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteering for Berringa Community News can be online, with the group, or out and about! We are looking for assistance with the production of this volunteer-run newsletter, and if you can read, write, walk, or take photos, you might be able to help. Or you may be an aspiring media student or just want to let people know about your business. Talk to us!

We would love some help with a variety of jobs such as proof reading, delivery, articles of interest to the local community, photos of local events or places.

There are several ways you can contact us email: <a href="mailto:berringacommunitynews@gmail.com">berringacommunitynews@gmail.com</a> talk: to one of our team -see list on back page

phone: Julie 0419 339 679

message us on our Facebook page

#### Babies

Madeleine Wood and Tolga Gurses are delighted to introduce Jude Zeki Gurses

Born on 5th October in Melbourne.

Beautiful first grandson of Michael and Bert Wood of Talgarno.



#### In Memorium

#### **Jeanine Isabel Pearce**

27/11/1931 - 14/09/2021



Jeanine was born 27th November, 1931, to parents, Hugh and Mary Harris.

Jeanine went to primary school in Bethanga and then onto Woodstock boarding school in Albury. On

finishing school, she studied to be a Bethanga seamstress in Albury. This meant she needed to travel to town and asked if she could catch the local school bus. The school bus driver just happened to be Bob Pearce!

Bob and Jeanine were married 9th January, 1954 and raised a family of four girls, Marlene, Sheryl, Jan and Gaye.

Bob bought Bethanga Motors in the late 1950's and Jeanine supported him in his business ventures

Jeanine's talents included craft and cake decorating.

The Pearce family attended and supported many local events in Bethanga and Bob and Jeanine contributed in a big way to the sense Her devotion to her family was of community spirit in the town. Jeanine was always ready to step up and help, whether that be by providing a meal to someone in need, or being actively involved on the

Hall Committee. maintaining the Church of England for services, or helping CWA cater for events, etc. She loved Bethanga and was always looking for ways to improve and foster the town. Some even affectionately called her "The Mayoress". Jeanine (and Bob) were wonderful neighbours for the school and as a mark of respect, the school lowered their flags to half mast as Jeanine's cortege drove past.

After Bob's passing, Jeanine moved to Westmont Retirement Village in 2016. She remained an active member of CWA, and was awarded a 60 years commemorative service award by the Wodonga branch in May this year.

number one, followed closely by service to her community, and this is how we shall remember her.

The Pearce girls - Marlene, Sheryl, Jan & Gave

## Stuart Wood.

10 /12/1950 - 18 /10//2021



Stuart Wood was born and bred in Talgarno. He was the oldest child of Eric and Mary Wood of "Riverview". He went to school at Talgarno and amazed everyone by remembering the birthdays of the kids he attended school with years later. He then went on to Wodonga Tech.

Sport was a very important part of Stuart's life, and early on it was tennis. Eric and Mary would take

Stuart and the siblings, to tennis tournaments all over the district. Stuart then played in the local Talgarno & District competition, Interassociation tournaments and night tennis at Tallangatta. He was awarded a life membership of the Talgarno Tennis Club in recognition for his service on and off the court.

At the age of 18, Stuart discovered football where he joined the Wodonga FC and found his niche as a ruckman. In 1976, Stuart was one of the main instigators to reform the Bethanga Football Club where he played 195 games and was united with brother Michael for the first time in the same side.

Stuart was awarded a life membership of the Bethanga FC and the Tallangatta and District Football League again in recognition of all the work Stuart did on and off the ground

Stuart married Jane Bowran nearly 48 years ago in 1973 and their children, Peter, Simon, Sally and Bill

arrived. Then Stuart fostered and encouraged the sporting and wider interests of his children, as well as the importance of putting back into the community. He was very proud of all his children and their partners but especially of his 12 grandchildren.

Stuart was a true community contributor where he was a member of many organisations eg over 50 years in the CFA, numerous working bees at the school, hall and tennis courts, Wises Creek Landcare, Talgarno Cemetery Committee, Best Lamb Group and Wild Dog Group.

Stuart loved sunny Sundays in winter and spring and were often spent up the top of the farm on Berts Corner Hill for a BBQ chop or snag. Here Stuart could relax with a beer and his favourite view of the Wises Creek Valley and Lake Hume.

Stuart has been a huge part of the Talgarno landscape and will be a great loss to the community and his family.

## **Bethanga Hotel**



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

We have been through a torrid time between lock downs and a very wet winter but .... spring is coming and if we all get vaccinated, wear our mask and play by the rules, things can only get better.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Peninsula Community for supporting the hotel during these times. Without you all it would have made a tough time tougher - THANKYOU.

What's happening at the pub...

**Friday night meat raffles** for the Bethanga Cricket Club. Four raffles are drawn every Friday at 7.30pm. Come on down, have a cold beer or bubbles, and try your luck.

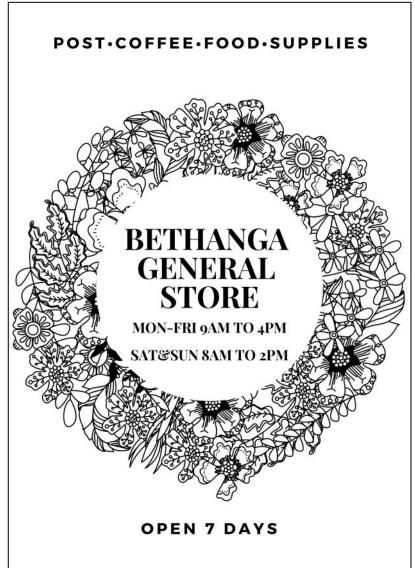
CLOSED MONDAY
Open 4pm Tuesday to Thursday
Open 11am Friday to Sunday

Meals available from 5 pm Wednesday night -Dine in or Take Away Lunch served from 12 midday Friday till Sunday and dinner from 5pm.

Please abide by the COVID restrictions, Double vaccination required

Again, thank you for your ongoing support and I look forward to seeing you

Kate Middleton





# 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**



#### **New Team Members urgently needed**

# What's a Community Emergency Response Team member (CERT)?

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) are part of Ambulance Victoria and are comprised of volunteer First Responders, located in less populated and more remote areas of the state, who are dispatched at the same time as an ambulance in response to a OOO call.

CERTs, working in pairs on an "on call" basis, are trained to provide advanced first aid within their local community and provide immediate care until the ambulance arrives. They do not transport patients to hospital but do provide an emergency response in locations that have a low ambulance case load and no ambulance station. Berringa CERT responds to Bellbridge, Bethanga, Granya and Talgarno.

#### Why become a First Responder?

You will be helping people at a time of great need and know that you have made a difference to their life and health outcomes. Becoming a First Responder with us offers many personal benefits and opportunities including:

- ~ Gain practical life skills and a recognised qualification.
- ~ Enjoy a sense of achievement and fulfilment.
- ~ Meet people and make new friends and connections.
- ~ Enhance your own career prospects and learning pathways.

#### What training is involved?

CERTs undergo 12-month training to gain a Certificate II in Medical Service First Response (HLT2101S). The initial course includes driver training, on-line learning, face to face learning and practice under supervision during workplace experience.

The Authority to Practice must be maintained annually with AV conducting Continual Vocational Education training throughout the year at each team location. In addition, Ambulance Victoria organises several conferences around the state each year to maintain First Responder networks and strengthen skill level development.

#### What qualifications are needed?

No qualifications are needed, just the ability to communicate with all kinds of people

- CERTs are required to live within 10km of the Talgarno Hall
- ♦ Be aged over 18

- ♦ Have a current drivers licence and car
- Have double Covid Vaccination
- Have police check
- ♦ Obtain a working with children check

#### What commitments are needed

- To be rostered on call to be available at least 20 hours per month. Times are your choosing
- Attend training one evening per month.
- We average one callout per week. A callout is usually less than an hour in duration.

To apply contact Julie Miller 0419 339 679 or a CERT member and complete an expression of interest online at <a href="https://www.ambulance.vic.gov.au/community/volunteers/volunteers-expression-of-interest-form/">www.ambulance.vic.gov.au/community/volunteers/volunteers/volunteers-expression-of-interest-form/</a>

We will have a stall at the Peninsula Community Market at Granya on Sunday 5 December come and talk to us.

#### **Defibrillators**

Due to the Bethanga shop renovations the defibrillator has temporarily been moved to the front of the Bethanga Hotel. Once the shop renovations have been completed the CERT committee will review where it will be located

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



- Bethanga Hotel
- Bethanga Recreation Reserve pavilion
- Bellbridge Community Centre
- Granya Hall
- Talgarno Hall

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

#### **BETHANGA CRICKET CLUB**

PRESIDENT: Jack Robinson 0488 995 256 SECRETARY: Jess Sirl 0427 401 849 TREASURER: Kristian Jahne 0419 021 901

COACH: Brett Gilbee 6026 4481

# ROTARY CLUB OF BELLBRIDGE LAKE HUME INC.

The uncertainty due to the pandemic circumstances surrounding social events such as Christmas Carols, Lake Hume Fishing Classic, Christmas in July resulted in the cancellation of these events for 2021.

Christmas is here again. Why not spoil the family with a real Christmas tree this year? Pre order your tree at



Wodonga Plant Farm. Australia Day Celebrations.

The Rotary Club of Bellbridge Lake Hume and Towong Shire Council are proceeding with the celebrations subject to protocols applicable at the time. It will be held on January 26 at the HUME BOAT CLUB 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 Participation/Event of the Year Nominations close 18 December 2021. Nomination forms are available from Andrew Christy phone 0260264338 or Towong Shire Council's website.

Towong Shire Council will also hold a Citizenship Ceremony in conjunction with the Australia Day Celebrations and awards. Ceremonial celebrations and awards will commence at 9.00am and conclude by 10.00am

Keep safe and happy Andrew Christy

For more info visit the clubs facebook page Bellbridge Lake Hume Rotary Club

#### **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

info@berringasupport.com.au 02 6046 9250

www.berringasupport.com.au

Your Privacy will be respected.



#### 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**

Great news at last! Community competition tennis is back - Kiewa & Talgarno District Tennis Association Saturday pennant and Fast Four on Thursday nights under lights. Plus, Monday afternoon junior coaching is continuing with participation rates better than ever (25-30 kids each week). So there is plenty of action at the Talgarno tennis courts on any given day. Maybe, just maybe, a silver lining to the Covid (hopefully the C-word can now be put to bed) catastrophe is a greater recognition of the value of participating in local sport.

Four teams are competing in the Kiewa & Talgarno

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District Tennis Association this season - Section 1, Section 2 and two junior teams in Section 4. Not too much to report thus far as the season commenced late and washouts ensued. Hopefully in autumn you will be reading about our successful season.

Unfortunately, the court upgrades have not commenced yet. Its only about 18 months since the Towong Shire proudly announced the grant - obtained via the hard work of volunteers from the tennis club and Recreation Reserve committee. As far as the tennis club knows, works should begin early next year.

If you would like to get involved with the club, contact Jill Pearson (0412042090) for junior coaching; Brendan Pearson (0439881440) for Fast Four; or myself for anything else. In the meantime, until works commence, we encourage the local community to utilise our courts. There is always a net set-up for anyone wanting to hit some balls – our only request is that you leave the courts and surrounds as you found them.

Thanks to the sponsors for their continued support of our club— Leischke Plumbing, Albury Sportspower (congratulations Willo for the opening of the new store in Dean St, Albury), Johnsons MME, Cadmac, the Bethanga Hotel and Monumental Ice Creamery.

See you on court!

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



# Rural Asset Maintenance

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& agricultural machinery
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#### **BETHANGA CFA**

Fire calls 000 Burn Notifications VICFIRE 1800 668 511 Victorian Bush Fire Information 1800 240 667 All Peninsula Fire Units - UHF 24

#### **INCIDENTS**

17 Oct 5:49pm

Reported Grass and Scrub Fire Coles Rd Members responded both Tankers and Ultralight. The fire was a registered control burn being conducted by a landowner. No assistance was required, and all appliances returned.

28 Oct 11:16am

Grass and Scrub fire Murray River Rd Members responded both tankers to assist Talgarno. We were not required and returned to station.

11 Nov 10:53am Structure Fire Beardmore St 15 Members responded both tankers and Ultralight. Members remained on scene until 8pm.

#### STRUCTURE FIRE BEARDMORE ST

As reported in the incidents, our brigade attended a structure fire in Bethanga on the 11 November. Although the brigade responded quickly and did a great job, sadly the house could not be saved. Our members are passionate about protecting our community and over the years we have trained for these types of situations. Regretfully sometimes we lose the battle to save houses which leaves us feeling a bit disheartened. We have held an after-action meeting for the firefighters on scene and from district office to discuss and debrief the incident. The consensus is that our brigade did a professional job in all regards and we are to be proud of ourselves. Some information on the incident:

- Our response time from alert to out the door was less than 3 mins.
- Upon arrival 70% + of the house was involved with fire.
- For a structure fire the initial alert goes to the closest 5 brigades all at the same time (Bethanga, Talgarno, Bonegilla 1, Wodonga FRV, Thurgoona).
- The response was escalated to 10 tankers as our trucks arrived on scene (Old Tallangatta, Tallangatta,

Kiewa 1 & 2, Bonegilla 2).

- The fire took 40 minutes to bring under control.
- An excavator was needed make a brick wall safe.

The other attending agencies were: Berringa CERT, Police, Ambulance, SP Ausnet and Towong shire.

The brigade would like to thank the above attending brigades, agencies and people who supported us during and after the event. We especially would like to thank the community for their continual support for us and the support given to the families directly affected. We are very lucky to live in a caring community.

#### **HOUSE FIRE SAFETY**

A house fire is an especially traumatic and sometimes tragic event to go through. Fire fighters can extinguish house fires but usually not before irreparable damage is done. We strongly recommend you take the following preventative measures.



#### Bethanga district run

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

Open 6 days &
24hour emergency service 7days
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> e) tallangattavets@tpg.com.au www.tallangattavets.com.au or check us out on facebook!



#### JOHN O'DONOGHUE BUILDING

# **Carpentry Renovations Maintenance**

0419 566 226

Murray River Road Talgarno johnodonoghuebuilding@gmail.co

ABN 59 345 871 375

Install safety switches in your switch board.

Unseen damage from pests, especially rats and mice can cause electrical wiring failures in walls, roof spaces, and appliances. Electrical faults cause fires and safety switches significantly reduce the risk. Check your switch board to see if you have them installed. They are identified by having a test button that when pushed trips the circuit breaker. If you don't have them or are unsure, get a licensed electrician to check and install them. For best protection, safety switches should be installed to protect all power and light circuits.

Regularly maintain and service your electrical appliances.

Regularly check all electrical appliances for faults. Fridges, freezers, heaters, coolers, electric blankets, washing machines and dryers ect. If you are not using an electrical item switch it off at brigades proud. the power outlet.

• <u>Don't leave cooking unattended.</u>

A good percentage of fires start in the kitchen when cooking food and sometimes it can only be a matter of minutes for a fire to start.

Install a fire blanket and dry chemical extinguisher.

Install these safety items within easy reach in the kitchen away from the stove area. Read the instructions and make sure your family knows

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how to use them.

- Clean your wood heater and flu annually.
- Ensure you have working smoke alarms
- Develop and practice your home safety plan

#### **DISTRICT 24 CHAMPIONSHIPS**

We are very excited to announce that the 2022 District 24 Championships will be hosted by the Bethanga/Talgarno Brigade's on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February at the Bethanga Recreation Reserve.

These championships see brigades from all around District 24 and beyond come together to compete against each other. Brigades demonstrate their skills in working together in teams to complete tasks commonly performed on the fire ground with speed and agility.

The Bethanga-Talgarno brigade joint teams will be showcasing both our Juniors (12-15yo) and Seniors (16+) members skills on the day, and we hope to make our brigades proud.

If you or your child is interested in joining our championship teams, please contact John Northey on 0414 931 442.

#### **ROADSIDE NUMBERING**

In 2015 Talgarno and Bethanga brigades made and installed Rural Roadside Numbers at the entrance of rural properties. This was a joint initiative of both brigades plus Berringa CERT and Bethanga Police. The black painted numbers have faded over the past few years so members of each brigade plan to repaint the numbers over the next few months.

#### **ROADSIDE FUEL REDUCTION**

The Brigade has sprayed the roadsides to minimize the fuel load along various roads in the Bethanga and Bellbridge areas.

#### **TRAINING**

We successfully conducted an online car fire training in September which 15 members attended. During October the brigade held a 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 Entrapment Drill yearly and Hazardous tree training 3 yearly to maintain fire fighter competency. 53 members completed these trainings, which was conducted while adhering to the strict COVID-19 guidelines. We also have 2 more members currently in the process of completing crew leadership training.

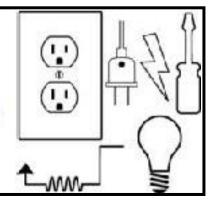
#### Jamie Swinnerton Electrical Pty Ltd

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#### **CFA FIRE RESTRICTIONS 2021-2022**

This year the CFA Fire restrictions for the Towong Shire have not yet come into force, and no start date has been announced. Information around the start of fire restrictions and what you can and can't do during the restriction period can be found on the CFA's website. <a href="https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions">https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions</a>. It is your responsibility to know and understand the rules, with noncompliance being viewed seriously by Police.

#### **FIRE SEASON AHEAD**

This autumn, winter and spring has seen an amazing amount of rain which has resulted in grass, grass and more grass. Currently it is still green, but when it dries out, we will be in for a worrying time. The risk of grass fires will be 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.

Have a Merry Christmas and 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

#### TALGARNO RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

#### **Captains Report**

2021 has been a year that most people will want to forget with the ongoing pandemic and the restrictions that have come with it.

An old saying, "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger" and I think we can take from that saying that as a community, we can get through adversity.

#### **Turnouts**

The Brigade responded to a house fire at Bethanga that unfortunately, was a total loss

It was pleasing to see the Local Brigades work very well with FRV to get the house under control. Fortunately, no one was injured or worse but is a timely reminder to check or change your smoke alarm battery.

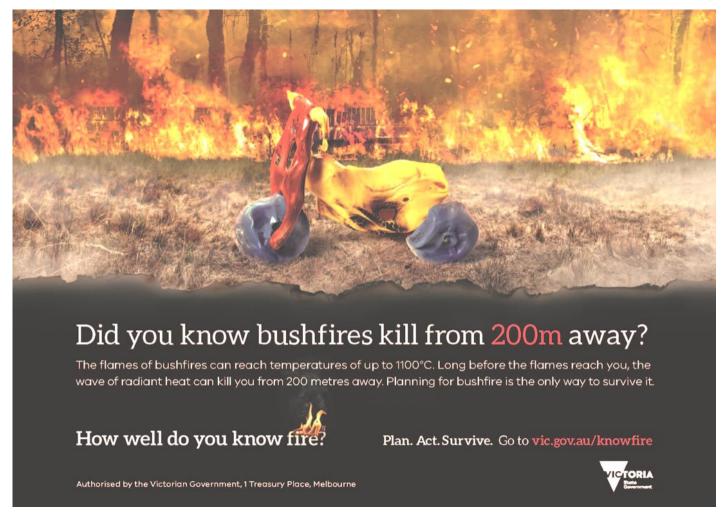
The Brigade also turned out to a fallen power line on Talgarno Gap Road .

#### **Other News**

The Brigade has conducted burnover safety drills and other training in preparation for the season which looks likely to be a later grass fire season at this stage.

The Brigade held its BBQ night after a long delay and was great to see everyone enjoying some social contact and a feed provided by the social club team

The Brigade is excited to receive a small grant from the Shire to upgrade the toilet at the Station. Works will begin in the new year.



On behalf of Talgarno CFA I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe, prosperous, COVID free, happy and healthy new year

Michael Elliot: Captain

Michael Elliot, Captain 0407 201 169 Brendan Pearson, Secretary, 0439 881 440

#### BETHANGA-TALGARNO JUNIOR CFA BRIGADE

#### **JUNIOR SESSIONS**

While we have been trying to hold junior sessions when we can. The ongoing lockdowns and the uncertainty due to fast changing restrictions have meant we have only been able to hold a very small number of sessions since summer. We hope by next championship, season we can be back running junior sessions regularly.

#### **JOINING THE JUNIOR BRIGADE**

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

#### **CONTACTS**

John Northey 0414 931 442 bethangatalgarnojuniors@gmail.com

#### **BETHANGA GOLF CLUB**



Springdale Road Bethanga

Due to the Covid 19 restrictions, the golf course is closed. Although some of the restrictions on the 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 usable for what would be a very short period.

The course will be reopened next year.

Hire the club house for your next celebration or fundraiser.

Contact either

Peter Star 0429 436 347 Morry Strelec 0400 036 635



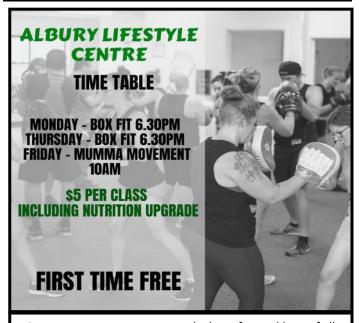
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For more information ring

Jayne Curran 0427 729 569

# BETHANGA RECREATION RESERVE

The election for the 2021-2022 committee of the Bethanga Recreation Reserve was conducted via a zoom meeting on Saturday 4th Sept 2021

After years of struggling to gain the public's attention in the management of our Recreation Reserve, the Bethanga Community's interest in developing our facilities and clubs was overwhelming. The meeting attracted approximately forty participants and a strong field of nearly twenty candidates stood for election. After several hours of voting. the final result was the election of: Ross Mitchell (President), Jo Sirl (Treasurer), Robyn Weddall (Secretary), along with committee members John Northey, Brett Gilbee, Dave Elder, Tracey Woodhouse, Madelaine Northey and Chris Weddall.

Our gratitude goes to Cr. Peter Dikschei (Towong Shire Deputy Mayor) and Matt Gill for conducting the election and acting as chair for the meeting.

A very special thanks to the previous committee president (Brett Martin) and his committee members for their commitment and hard work over the past years, operating with little support and a very small budget. The new committee has already met with Wendy Holland & Joe Calvert, on behalf of Towong Shire, to commence input into the 'Towong Shire Sport and Recreation Strategy' and to assist with the preparation of Grant applications for development of our fantastic community facilities at the reserve. Our sister committee at Talgarno has been successful in gaining substantial government support through grants and the new Bethanga Recreation Reserve Committee is

Preparation for the summer sporting season is already underway and a new licence has been provided to the

determined to emulate their success.

Bethanga Cricket Club to utilise the reserve for the 2021 /2022 season.

Many thanks must go to the committee members who are donating tireless hours undertaking the mowing, cleaning & maintenance required behind the scenes.

On a less positive note, Covid-19 has again seen the cancellation of one of the main events on the reserve calendar for 2021, the SR500 Motorcycle Club rally. The SR 500 Club has committed to returning to Bethanga in 2022, for their next rally, at a date to be advised.

The new committee is keen to garner community input into the development and future of our recreation reserve and the public is

encouraged to contact us at bethangareserve@gmail.com with positive ideas and suggestions.

Robyn Weddall - Secretary

#### **POLE WALKERS**

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

Joan Elliot 6020 1177



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Membership forms available on website Email: Administrator@humeboatclub.com

# 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 Ph(02) 6071 5238 for further details

#### **BONEGILLA HALL CRAFT GROUP**

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



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#### CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

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

All visitors are 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.

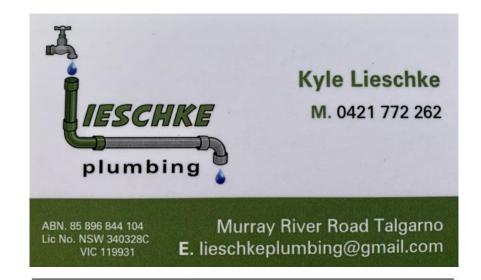
Available for baptisms, funerals and weddings

All enquiries to Fr Junjun Amaya 0459 356 917 or Fr Shibu 0432 591 551

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#### **Wises Creek Talgarno Landcare Group**

A couple of warm days in the past week tells us summer is on the way. Hopefully everyone is finished planting and had good spring rains on their revegetation projects for 2021. It is so encouraging to see so

many little green tree guards around our district. Young trees should really boom over this summer, as summer rain is expected to continue and will advance previous plantings.

Summer rains should also see native grasses do well and it is important to limit grazing at the seeding stage to allow your native grass swards to thicken and establish. Native grasses are incredibly successful at out competing many of the nuisance weeds we all battle. Swards which are rested during seeding allow the number of plants per square metre to increase and is an effective block to weeds, provides soil protection, and carbon sequestration.

Sadly, in October we saw the passing of long-term Landcare member Stuart Wood. Stuart was a keen Landcare Member and volunteered much time to projects in the Wises Creek Talgarno District. On a personal note, Stuart gave me some of the most insightful agronomy advice I have ever been given, and I will miss our chats at the silo, talking native grass management. Our sincere condolences to Jane and family on the passing of Stuart. He is greatly missed.

As restrictions begin to ease, it is with great anticipation that we hope Landcare group activities can get back on the agenda in 2022. We have our first meeting for 2022 scheduled on 16 March 2022.

Many great ideas are currently being considered, on both a wider community scale and individual projects of passionate land care members. An exciting project, in its infancy, is the restoration and revegetation of Wises Creek. The creek covers many kilometers and traverses many landholdings and would be a large-scale community project. If this project were to be advanced to the planning stage, it is anticipated that it will provide great benefit to the wildlife, birds and water species. It may even restore the creek's ability to be a permeant water source as it once was.

We are keen to hear people's views on this idea, and other ideas that our members may have. If you have frontage on Wises Creek or any of the gullies and other small tributaries which feed Wises creek, please come to our meeting and be part of the development of this idea. It is our members' passion which drives what we do as a group, but as an organization we can support members with grant applications, planning and other resources. Please don't be shy.

Jim de Hennin President

Julie Birch Secretary



## **Bethanga Landcare Group**

#### RABBIT MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

The feral rabbit is Australia's most widespread and destructive environmental and agricultural vertebrate pest. Community led action is crucial for

rabbit management. We need to build a new generation of rabbit management experts by sharing technical knowledge and building on the expertise already in the community.

With this year's excellent spring rainfall, grass is growing everywhere and rabbits have been having a field day. . . . So are we! On Sunday 12th December,

Bethanga Landcare Group has invited Neil Devanny from the Victorian Rabbit Action Network to walk us through a couple of rabbit infested paddocks at a local property while discussing strategies to control them.





Smoke machine and fumigation demonstration

Neil has a long track record in managing and implementing effective long term rabbit control measures. He'll discuss aspects of a coordinated, integrated and strategic rabbit control program for our hills and the practical idea of a 'rabbit control toolbox'.

The Rabbit Field Day will be held in Bethanga starting at 10am and concluding at 3pm, with a BBQ lunch provided, and perhaps some tasty rabbit stew, at 12 noon. Places are limited and an RSVP is essential. RSVP to <a href="mailto:scwatkins7@gmail.com">scwatkins7@gmail.com</a> or ring **0423536105.** Hurry up, the warren is filling up quickly!

The primary aim of VRAN is to see feral rabbits gone from the Victorian landscape.

The way we do that is to provide the tools and networks to enable community, industry and government to implement best practice management in the control of feral rabbits.

VRAN run training and mentoring programs, deliver workshops on best-practice rabbit control, and support people and organisations to collaborate on rabbit action.

VRAN website: https://vran.com.au/

This instructive and social event will conclude another successful year for the Bethanga Landcare Group. Despite restrictions the group has managed to conduct several meetings, a school tree planting, a community shrub planting (restricted numbers this year), and another 600 flowering shrub seedlings distributed to the community. Merry Christmas to all!

Hugh Hanna









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# The Berringa Community News team wish everyone a happy and safe

Christmas and

New Year

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# Our Early Years Learning Centre is now taking kindergarten and childcare enrolments for 2022.

Up to 15 hours of three and four year old kindy is available at our centre in Bellbridge, along with a long day care program.

To enrol, visit our website or speak to the friendly staff at the centre.

Visit towong.vic.gov.au





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early years learning centre

After a few attempts at a working bee, with Covid disrupting previous plans, we were finally able to meet! And what a transformation to the backyard of the centre it was! Plants were put in around the dry creek bed and the perimeter, and two new wicking

beds were established (thanks Woolworths & Junior Landcare for the grant). The old garden beds were also repositioned to create a vegetable growing zone.

A big thank you to all the families who came along to help. It really was a very productive day and it was great to see the kids playing happily together making great use of the excess prunings creating jungles and dens! The working bee was topped off with a lovely lunch from Purely Delish. Thanks Lauren and team!

We would also like to thank Jean Gabriel Manguy who gave up his time to share his knowledge on bees with the



children as part of the centres' Bee Day. Armed in his bee suit, Jean-Gabriel provided a sensory experience for the children – demonstrating how a bee smoker works, allowing the children to play with honeycomb from an old bee hive and tasting the yummy honey. The kids were captivated and curious and the interaction between all was lovely.

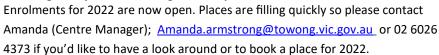
With the beautiful weather we've been experiencing, the children have been spending a lot of time outside exploring the sandpits and gardens. The under 3's have been busy tasting the different herbs from the garden while the kindergarten children have been planting the new garden beds with carrots, snow peas, corn and a passionfruit vine (while patiently waiting for the strawberries to ripen!)

Whilst many of the planned incursions have been deferred until next year, the centre did have a zoom visit from 'Thingle Toodle' who taught the children about road safety. This has been built upon with the Under 3's group having cars and bikes to drive/ride around the yard and being reminded to stop, look, listen and think, the kindergarten children have completed a number of sequencing and role

> play activities to reinforce the stop, look, listen, think message around road safety.



#### Bellbridge Early Years Learning Centre update:



The centre offers a Long Day Care program – Mondays to Fridays (7.30am to 6.00pm), a 3-year old kindergarten on Tuesdays and Thursdays (9am to 4.30pm) and a 4-year old kindergarten program on Wednesdays and Fridays (9am to 4.30pm). They are also currently recruiting, so if you know of anyone who would like to join their amazing team and who has a Bachelor, Diploma, Certificate III or would like a traineeship, please contact <a href="https://example.com/https://e



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#### **Berringa Community News Distribution**

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

We would like to thank Rosemary McFarland, Bob Singline, 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 2021 Advertising rates

\$120 Full page \$60 half page \$40 third page \$30 quarter page \$15 Business card size Classified Advertisements are \$2.00 each.

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Editorial Team- Julie Miller (0419 339 679), Elizabeth Wood, Di Singline (0452 424 248) 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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1	Men's Shed member meeting		
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March			
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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

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