

COMMUNITY NEWS

Studfield, Wantirna, Wantirna South,
Scoresby, Knoxfield & Bayswater

10,000 copies distributed around the north & west of Knox

Edition 101 - April/May 2026



The "pioneers" of Studfield Wantirna Community News: Coral Carew, Charles Carew, Keith Slater, Jenny Slater and Janet Claringbold celebrate the 100th Edition.

In this edition.....

- Meet Julie Buxton, new candidate for Bayswater
- Delightful bird sightings at the Ringwood Field Naturalists Club
- Community Bank Wantirna becomes an accredited social enterprise
- Fantastic volunteer efforts at Knox Infolink





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Edition 102 - June/July - Friday 15th May
Edition 103 - August/September - Friday 17th July
Edition 104 - October/November - Friday 11th September
Edition 105 - December/January - Friday 13th November

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Editorial

Hello Readers,
Edition 101 marks a turning point for Studfield Wantirna Community News. We have a new team of volunteers helping to bring you our Community Newspaper as "the pioneers" commence the process of passing the baton.

I am grateful to our new volunteers for putting their hands up for our community and sharing their time and talents.

We all value a strong, connected community that shares common goals and values. A community that is compassionate and supports one other. A community that is inclusive and helps people feel they belong. We know our Community Newspaper contributes to all the good things that make our community thrive.

In 2008 SWCN commenced as a project of Orana Neighbourhood House. We left for a while, but have recently re-commence meetings at Orana in a "back to the future" moment.

With thanks to the pioneers and the newbies, we are proud to bring you Edition 101... and beyond.

Janet Claringbold, Editor



Thanks to Orana Neighbourhood House for generously providing a room for our meetings.

After nearly a decade in public life, including service on Council and since 2018 as the Member for Bayswater - I've made the deeply personal decision not to recontest at the 2026 state election. Representing this community has been the greatest privilege of my life, and I remain enormously grateful to everyone for the trust they placed in me.

While stepping back is never easy, the role has meant significant time away from my young family and now feels like the right moment to do so. Until election day, however, nothing changes, I will continue working every day to deliver for our community and to finish the job on the projects and investments we have fought hard to secure.

What matters most is the future of this community and I am genuinely excited about who is stepping forward to help lead it.

I'd like to introduce you to my friend Julie Buxton who is Labor's candidate for Bayswater and someone I know shares a deep commitment to our part of Knox. A lifelong eastern local, Julie grew up in Melbourne's east and is now raising her own family here. She understands firsthand what local families need: strong schools, accessible services, secure jobs and neighbourhoods where people feel connected and supported.

Julie brings real-world experience to the role. She has run a small business employing locals, supported other businesses through challenging times, and now works in the public sector helping communities recover after disasters. She knows how government works - but more importantly, she knows that good representation starts with listening.

Our community has achieved a great deal in recent years - from major upgrades to schools and health services, to safer roads, better sporting facilities and significant investment in Boronia. But there is always more to do.

Julie has the energy, local knowledge and commitment to build on this progress. I look forward to supporting her over the coming months and I hope you will take the opportunity to meet her, hear her vision, and join me in welcoming the next chapter for Bayswater.

Free PT

On January 1, 2026, under 18's with a new youth myki are now able to travel anywhere in Victoria every day for free and it is now free for all Senior Card holders on weekends anywhere in Victoria.

Jackson Taylor Update



Jackson Taylor, Member for Bayswater with Julie Buxton, Labor's Candidate for Bayswater in the Victorian Parliamentary Election in November

In Other News

- Angliss Hospital expansion only a few months from wrapping up.
- Major works at Boronia Station have begun and are due to wrap up before the end of 2026.
- The new Wantirna Reserve Dog Park and playground is now open.
- Metro and Westgate Tunnel projects complete and open!
- Upgrades at Kent Park and St Joseph's Primary have completed.
- New Wally Tew Pavilion open and Tormore Reserve Pavilion is nearly finished.

Shout-out

To locals for your patience while we completed major resurfacing to sections of Scoresby Road, Forest Road, Dorset Road and Burwood Hwy.

And finally to the good folk of Knox Info Link who continue to run the incredible breakfast program 4 days a week - which I am proud the State Government continues to be the majority funding partner.

Jackson Taylor MP
Labor Member for Bayswater



Jackson Taylor MP
Member for Bayswater
Delivers for Knox

Suite 2, Mountain High Centre, 7-13 High Street, Bayswater Vic 3153 ☎ 9738 0577
 📱 Jackson Taylor MP 📧 jackson.taylor@parliament.vic.gov.au



Bayswater Senior Citizens Club News

Bayswater Senior Citizens Inc is a Seniors group which has been an important social group in the Bayswater community since 1964. We welcome all seniors over the age of 50 to come and join us and have some fun. Membership is \$10 a year.

We have had our club hall on Mountain Highway in Bayswater since conception of the group, however at present we are having to operate at various other venues whilst our roof is being refurbished by Knox Council, our main supporter. We are hoping to be able to move back into our hall about mid-May, until then we still have some bus trips coming up and hope to be able to organise an afternoon tea /entertainment early May.

We have a very active committee who plan and manage bus trips, afternoon teas and lunches with entertainers generally on a Monday, an indoor bowls team on Fridays, card players on a Tuesday and our very popular Bingo on a Thursday. At present our Bingo Day is at the Templar Hall in Bayswater starting at 12:30 and we would love to have more folk join us. Our members have a bus trip planned for a trip to Whittlesea Markets and lunch coming up and on Monday 20th April to Olinda Botanical Gardens and Luncheon at Kellys Bar & Kitchen.

For further information please contact our Secretary Marie Everett sec. bayswaterseniorcitizens@gmail.com or 0425 826 991



From Food to Belonging: How CHAMPION Changes Lives

When change needs a CHAMPION, sometimes the most powerful thing you can do is stop, listen and truly capture the stories that usually stay unseen.

CHAMPION did exactly that.

For the first time, CHAMPION undertook a full qualitative review of its work beyond food relief by listening deeply to the people who walk through its doors. Through the “Your Voice Matters” survey and community consultations, clients, volunteers and supporters shared how a simple visit for food often becomes something much bigger: a lifeline, a place to breathe, a reminder that they belong.

Behind this report sits months of care and effort. Staff and volunteers formed a working group to design a survey that felt safe, grounded and human, not clinical or cold. They shaped questions that invited honest stories: about hunger, yes, but also about loneliness, hope and the quiet courage it takes to ask for help. Responses were gathered over several months from a diverse mix of people who use and support CHAMPION, then carefully read, coded and analysed to draw out patterns, themes and powerful proof of impact.

The result is CHAMPION’s first social impact report – a document that doesn’t just say what CHAMPION does but shows what it means. It captures how access to food relief eases impossible choices, how a non-judgemental welcome can lift the weight of shame and how connection turns a pantry into a community. It honours stories like Jenny’s*, where support with groceries, counselling and simple human kindness helped transform fear and isolation into safety and possibility.



This report is more than a record; it is a turning point. It puts CHAMPION firmly on the map as a place creating measurable meaningful change in people’s lives. With clear evidence and heartfelt stories in hand, CHAMPION is now better equipped to apply for grants, approach sponsors and build partnerships with service providers who want to invest where the impact is real. Funders and collaborators can see clearly and in people’s own words the difference CHAMPION makes every single week.

Most importantly, this initiative strengthens CHAMPION’s future. The findings will also guide program improvements, shape new ideas and ensure services stay responsive to the community’s needs. The report is a tool, a calling card and a promise – that the voices shared through this process will keep shaping what CHAMPION does next.

Because when every voice is heard, every act of support goes further. And when a community comes together around those voices, change doesn’t just happen – it has a CHAMPION.

*Name changed for privacy reasons

Prepared by Tamara Bouzo, Leader – Communications & Promotions Committee



Scan the QR code to download the report.

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Elm Street Mission Participants Are Shaping The 50s+ Program

Elm St Mission is now open 4 days a week: adding Thursdays to the mix. "Our new program, 50s+ Friends, has started on Thursday afternoons and we're enjoying meeting new people," said Ethne Pfeiffer, Program Coordinator. "Everyone has life experiences, skills, interests and aspirations that are unique. Sharing stories is the ideal way to get to know one another. And we learn from each other. For example, I didn't know you can have an introductory scuba diving experience if you're a non-swimmer!"

Ethne added, "This group is for social connection for people aged 50+ and participants are now shaping what we do each week. From playing board games to web searches on topics of interest. There's scope for physical activity, making light snacks together and more."

The sessions are relaxed and conversational, with free coffee, tea and snacks.

50s+ Friends is on Thursdays from 1 – 2.30 pm at Elm St Mission in Bayswater.

Care4Carers also runs on Thursdays from 10.30 am – 12 pm. The women carers who attend also have input into the sessions. "The women are fantastic at sharing information about local services and events for carers. The easy bonding and support make these sessions so valuable. Plus it's precious time that women carers can take for themselves."



Open Door is Elm St Mission's core program which runs on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays – 10 am to 2 pm. It continues to provide connection for younger and older adults experiencing mental health challenges or social isolation. "The music sessions on Wednesday and Friday mornings are very popular," said Ethne, "and we are increasing our focus on armchair exercise on Monday afternoons." Even small amounts of exercise have a positive mental health outcome.

Their latest project has been adding a few small garden beds so that people can help grow and harvest healthy food. "It's a modest start, but we're getting positive responses from our visitors and passersby. Social connection, movement and contact with nature are good for all of us!"

For more information
Phone: 0428 330 873
Email: info@elmstmission.org.au
Address: Elm St Mission, 654 Mountain Highway, Bayswater
Web: elmstmission.org.au
Facebook: ElmStMission



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Bayswater Makers' Market

Saturday, May 23
10am to 2pm

Bayswater Senior Citizen's Hall
790 Mountain Highway, Bayswater

April: No Bayswater Makers' Market in April this year due to 25th April being ANZAC day.

May: Our arts and crafts market in May will be on Saturday 23rd May at the Bayswater Senior Citizens Hall, 790 Mountain Highway, Bayswater.

We have stalls with arts, crafts, plants, flowers, honey, food, books, and more, all created or made by the stall holders.

Sit down and enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and biscuits for a gold coin donation.

Free entry with plenty of off-street parking.

Please email any enquiries about stall bookings to bw1market@bigpond.com with photos please.

Other enquiries Julia 9890 2546

BAYSWATER RSL SUB-BRANCH Inc.
of the RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE of AUSTRALIA
(Victorian Branch) Inc.
9720 4638



bayswater-rsl@bigpond.com

Opening hours:

- Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri - 2.00pm
- Wed, Sat & Sun - 12.00noon

626 Mountain Highway Bayswater

Our Anzac Day Services will be held at the Cenotaph outside the Sub Branch at
626 Mountain Hwy, Bayswater

Commemoration Service
Sunday the 19th of April at 10.45am

Dawn Service
Saturday the 25th of April at 5.45am

Refreshments served after each service in the Sub Branch.

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Mayor's Message With Cr. Paige Kennett

Have your say in April

Council has some exciting plans for improving our parks, playgrounds, reserves and parking spaces across Knox. These include improvements to the play space at Kings Park in Upper Ferntree Gully and a new policy to make parking fair for everyone.

I invite residents to stay up-to-date with these and other projects and get involved in community life and Council's decision making.

You can share your feedback and get the latest news about Council projects through our Have Your Say page: knox.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay.

This page can be translated into our top 10 community languages — you can provide feedback in your language. You can also contact Council if you'd like to provide feedback in-person or in writing.

Listening to what our residents want is important so that our decisions continue to reflect the needs and values of our community.

Keeping motorists safe

Council understands how critical it is to provide safe driving conditions for residents and the general community. This financial year, we allocated \$10.7 million to local roads and bridges, and we regularly inspect and monitor local roads.

The maintenance of roads within Knox is either the responsibility of Transport Victoria or Council.

Transport Victoria is responsible for major arterial roads, including surface repairs and mowing grass



Photo sourced from <https://transport.vic.gov.au/>

median strips. You can report a road issue to Transport Victoria on 13 11 70 or online at transport.vic.gov.au.

Council is responsible for routine maintenance of local streets or service roads, such as surface repairs and street sweeping. If there is a local road managed by Council that needs attention, more information and how to report issues can be found on our website at knox.vic.gov.au.

Ensuring Knox is heard

Earlier this year (5 February), I had the privilege of elevating the voices of Knox residents by representing our municipality on ABC Radio. If you missed it, you can listen to the Meet the Mayor segment of Melbourne Mornings with Raf Epstein at abc.net.au/Melbourne (from 1:14:55-1:29:20). You can also find the interview by searching 'Knox Mayor on ABC Radio' on our website.

I also have the honour of being a regular guest on Radio Eastern FM 98.1. Tune into Town Talk from 11am-11.30am on the first Monday of the month, to hear me chatting to radio host Ian Rayson about all things Knox.

I encourage residents to stay informed about the latest news, events and activities across the community by subscribing to our weekly eNews at knox.vic.gov.au/eNews.



Christmas Shines Again in Knox

Christmas might be well and truly gone but the huge Knox Community Christmas Support project made it a much brighter Christmas for more than 900 local families and individuals.

The Knox Community Christmas Support project is a massive undertaking by the outer eastern community and involves the support of 50 local businesses and 125 volunteers.

In December it distributed 320 festive food hampers to recipients that included 598 adults and 311 youth and children. Those recipients included 130 families, 53 couples and 136 individuals. Support was provided to people experiencing hardship who were referred by community organisations or who sought assistance directly. The project helps people across the Knox council area.

Community and business contributions:

What distinguishes the Knox Community Christmas Support project is the breadth of community support it receives.

Each year businesses donate items and collect donations from the community for Christmas hampers such as festive food, meat, pantry staples and toiletries as well as financial contributions and gift vouchers. Last Christmas this support enabled the project to distribute \$8950 in butchers' vouchers and 256 gift vouchers with a total value of \$2950.

Choice and dignity for recipients:

In addition to Christmas hampers and vouchers, recipients were able to choose from about 600kg of fruit, vegetables, bread, cakes and 500kg of non-perishable food so they could cook nutritious and hearty meals during the festive season that suited their tastes.

Nearly 1800 toys and other gifts were also distributed to children.

Lead donor was the Cummins company which earned it the title of the project's 2025 Santa. The list of prominent donors also included the Christmas Elves - Bendigo Bank Ferntree Gully, Knox City Council (through its Emergency Relief grant), Ray White Ferntree Gully, Inner Wheel Boronia and Appleby Real estate.



Project partnerships:

Knox Infolink on Boronia Rd at Boronia is the lead agency for the project in partnership with the Rotary Club of Boronia, Coonara Community House in Upper Ferntree Gully, Wantirna Seventh Day Adventist Church, Volunteer for Knox, RAFT Anglican Church in Rowville and Restore Community Care in Rowville.

The Christmas hampers are assembled by a big group of volunteers in a mammoth operation over two big days.

Last year was the 15th year of the project and it's estimated more than 10,000 people during that time have enjoyed some Christmas cheer and the knowledge they are part of a community that cares about them.

For further information contact Knox Infolink manager: Penny Robinson, Knox Infolink manager
Phone: 9761 1325
email: pennyr@knoxinfolink.org.au

Orana Neighbourhood House courses

62 Coleman Road, Wantirna South VIC 3152 www.orananh.org.au

Inner Calm & Wellbeing 4 Week Taster Series

Tuesday 12:30 - 1:30pm, 21st April - 23rd June | \$56

Join us for a nurturing four-week exploration of Meditation, Sound healing, Flowing gentle movement, and Tapping to support calm, balance, and inner wellbeing. Our qualified therapist Suzie, comes with over 20 years of experience facilitating wellbeing group sessions. Join us for a gentle introduction to informative and practical techniques that support relaxation and calm the nervous system, emotions and mind.



Understanding Perimenopause & Menopause Community Information Session

Wednesday 20th May, 7.00pm - 9.00pm | Gold coin donation

Join us to explore what really happens during perimenopause and menopause. Our facilitators, Maria Loupetis, Nurse Practitioner & Clinical Lead at EACH and Larissa Hudson, Senior Reproductive & Sexual Health Nurse and Educator from Sexual Health Victoria, will guide us through the physical and emotional changes that occur before, during, and after menopause, including:

- What perimenopause and menopause are
- How symptoms can affect daily life
- Treatment and support options
- Practical ways to feel well and confident through this stage of life



Each participant will receive a complimentary showbag with resources from local health organisations.

Building Natural Immunity workshop

Saturday 13 June 10am - 12pm | \$30

As the colder months approach, it's time to think about how we can build a strong, natural defence against the colds and flu that tend to pop up. Join us for an empowering workshop where you'll learn how to harness the power of plant-based medicine and essential oils to support your immune health and wellness!



Scan QR code, visit our website or call the Orana office 9801 1895

Orana Neighbourhood House courses

Memoir Writing - 6 week course

Mondays 12.30pm - 2.30pm, 27th April - 1st June | \$84

Do you have a personal story you want to share but don't know how to tell it? Join award-winning memoirist Edita Mujkić for this memoir writing workshop. Learn how to start writing your memoir and continue a regular writing routine. Workshop how to dig out forgotten details to enrich your story and enliven it for readers! Explore the main editing steps and publishing options.



Introduction to AI & ChatGPT

Part 1: Saturday 2nd May 2-4pm
Part 2: Saturday 9th May 2-4pm | \$50 for both

Want to learn how to use AI to get things done quicker? Dive into the world of Artificial Intelligence run over two sessions that will cover the essentials of AI, how systems like ChatGPT function, and their everyday applications. You will gain a foundational understanding and practical skills to create effective AI prompts through hands-on activities and live demonstrations.

Enhancing your Job Search using AI

Saturday 30th May 2-4pm | \$25

Join our engaging two sessions to master using AI for your job search! Learn to analyze job ads for key words, tailor your resume and cover letters, and prepare for interviews with AI insights. Enhance your networking strategies with effective online communication techniques. This course will equip you with practical AI skills to elevate your job application process and increase your employability.

Introduction to Prompt Engineering

Saturday 16th May 2-4pm | \$25

Learn how to get better results from AI tools like ChatGPT by mastering simple prompt engineering techniques. In this practical two-session course, you'll discover how to write clear instructions, ask smarter questions, and guide AI to produce useful answers, ideas, and content. Perfect for learners who want to use AI more confidently for everyday tasks, learning, and work.



WANTIRNA NEWS

Girl Guides GO OUTDOORS ON ADVENTURE!



Being outdoors and active are essential core fundamentals of being a Girl Guide. Being outdoors can be for half an hour or a full day – there are so many wonderful opportunities. Being active can mean being alert whilst sitting still, exploring a specific area on foot or roaming wider and further than you planned!

Our annual Big Day Out achieved many of these fundamentals on our full day adventure to the Yarra Valley. Transportation was in a minivan so we could all sing along and reconnect after the summer break. Playgrounds are for kids of all ages and our

at a water park with hot chips. No Big Day out is complete without a Slurpee treat on the way home.

Back to our regular unit program has seen us continue to enjoy being outdoors – we have introduced our new Guides to the fun and challenge of a chalk chase.

A great activity requiring no equipment except a piece of chalk and can be played in daylight and at dusk and in the dark. The current tally is one win for each team..... Clean Up Australia Day saw us out locally in the morning moving at a slower pace to ensure that our favourite local park is cared for.

Next on our program is an OUTDOOR camp where we will stay in tents, cook outdoors, walk to a waterfall and truly enjoy nature.

At Wantirna Heights we have opportunities across both units for girls aged 6-15 years to come along and experience Girl Guides. Please reach out and arrange your three FREE visits.

You can find out more about Guides in your area scanning by calling 8606 3500 on weekdays during business hours or visiting

www.guidesvic.org.au/be-a-guide





COMMUNITY PHARMACY

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What's Happening At Community Pharmacy?



Flu Vaccination Timing: Why April and May Are Your Best Bet

As the chill sets in and winter approaches, April and May are the prime months to roll up your sleeve for a flu shot. Getting vaccinated early means you're well protected before the peak flu season hits. Did you know that the flu shot's effectiveness is at its highest in the first three to four months after you receive it? By choosing to get your jab now, you'll be covered right when the risk is greatest.

How to Get Your Flu Shot: Walk in or Book Online

Many locals aren't aware that you can get your flu shot right here at Community Pharmacy, Wantirna. While things can get a bit busy during flu season, we welcome both walk-ins and online bookings.

You can schedule your appointment via our website or simply scan the QR code below for a hassle-free experience. Getting your flu shot has never been easier!



New Range: 5 Step Facial Kits

Looking to pamper yourself without heading out? We're excited to announce our new Glayvia facial kits are now in stock! Each kit is designed for a simple, fuss-free 5-step skincare routine at home: Cleanser, Scrub, Cream, Mask, and Serum. It's the perfect way to enjoy your own glow-up from the comfort of your lounge. Drop by the counter to check them out or ask our team how to choose the right kit for your skin type.

Free NIP Flu Shots in Victoria: Who's Eligible?

Did you know that you might qualify for a free flu shot at our pharmacy under the National Immunisation Program (NIP). Eligible groups include:

People aged 65 years and over

Pregnant women (at any stage of pregnancy)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (aged 6 months and older)

Anyone with certain medical risk factors (such as chronic illnesses)

Please note that children under 5 generally cannot receive their free vaccine at a pharmacy in Victoria, they must go to a GP or local council.

If you're unsure about your eligibility, chat to our friendly team at the counter or give us a call.

Meet Our Naturopath: Andrea's Here on Thursdays

For those keen to boost their immune system in other ways, our resident Naturopath, Andrea, is available for bookings every Thursday. Whether you want advice on vitamins, immune support, or nutrition strategies for better health, Andrea's here to provide personalised guidance. You can book a session at the counter or online using this same QR code. Let's work together to keep you feeling your best this season!

To celebrate Mother's Day we have a special offer for all mums.

On Thursdays, during May 2026, between 10am and 3pm, Andrea is providing free 15-minute naturopath consultations exclusively for mums. It's a great opportunity to get personalised health and wellness advice.



Hot Offer: BONUS Summer Breeze Gift with Purchase!

For a limited time and whilst stocks last, receive your BONUS Summer Breeze Gift with Purchase with any Natio purchase of \$49 or more at Community Pharmacy Wantirna. Your gift includes a handy Handheld Fan and Natio Sun Invisible Mist Sunscreen SPF 50+ 30ml. Purchases must be made in one transaction; excludes gift sets and cannot be combined with any other offer. Pop in soon and snag your free gift!

Clearance Alert: 50% Off Scholl Summer Styles!

Don't miss out on our April clearance sale. Enjoy a massive 50% off all Scholl summer style shoes! It's the perfect time to grab a comfy new pair at dirt cheap prices. Hurry in, as this offer is only available while stocks last. Pop by the counter to check out the range before they're all snapped up!

Remember to jump on to our website, sign up to our newsletter and follow us on Facebook & Instagram to keep up to date with all our latest news!

Community Pharmacy Wantirna
Shop 3-4 Wantirna Mall
348 Mountain Hwy, Wantirna

(03) 9720 2872
OPEN 7 DAYS

E: wantirna@communitypharmacy.com.au

Remember to jump on to our website, sign up to our newsletter and follow us on Facebook & Instagram to keep up to date with all our latest news!

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CONTACT THE TEAM

☎ 03 9729 9000

✉ Admin.Bayswater@sheengroup.com.au

BAYSWATER

25 MALVERN STREET,
BAYSWATER,
3153



BAYSWATER

Aston Electorate Update with Mary Doyle MP

It has certainly been a busy few weeks in the electorate of Aston, which certainly comes to life at this time of year! There are so many (not so) hidden gems in our part of the world, and it was great to be able to show the Prime Minister around local businesses in Bayswater, including the wonderful Montano's Patisserie. The Prime Minister and I chatted with locals about the cost of living and how our governments' cost of living relief measures are impacting people right here in Aston.



Lunar New Year

I love celebrating Lunar New Year and this year it was great to join the Chinese Association of Victoria, the Knox Chinese Elderly Club and Feed One Feed All for their respective celebration events. These community groups right here in Aston are such a vibrant and strong reminder of how wonderful multiculturalism is and the benefits that diversity brings to our community. Xin Nian Kuai Le! Happy Year of the Horse!

Knox Fest

Knox Fest 2026 was another resounding success with the festivities such a great celebration of our Knox community and the amazing people that make it a fantastic place to live. It was all going on with music, dancing, performances, rides, food,

market stalls, and even a roller-skating rink, which I wasn't brave enough to try!

Parliament

I was proud to celebrate with Minister for Health Mark Butler, the one-year anniversary of Labor's record-breaking investment in women's health. Almost \$793 million directly into making it easier and cheaper for women to care for their health. We're reducing the cost of prescriptions for oral contraceptives, menopause and endometriosis, and ensuring menopause health assessments are covered by Medicare. We also recently just reached a massive milestone, passing 250,000 home batteries installed through the Albanese Government's Cheaper Home Batteries program. In Aston, 1549 families and local businesses are embracing energy upgrades that save them money and make their homes and businesses more energy efficient.

Volunteer Grants

Expressions of Interest for Volunteer Grants 2025/26 are open!

Grants of between \$1,000 and \$5,000 are available to eligible community organisations to support the invaluable work of local volunteers. EOIs close on April 7 2025 at 5pm.

To apply and for more information, please head to my website or contact my office.

Keep in touch

As always if you have any questions or need support, please reach out to me on (03) 9887 3890 or on mary.doyle.mp@aph.gov.au.

Warm regards, Mary

Wantirna Post Office

Welcome to the new owners of The Australia Post outlet at Wantirna Mall!

Dipa and Shrujal, bring extensive experience from a former outlet and enjoy serving the local community, who have been welcoming, patient, and supportive as they settle in.



I'M HERE TO HELP!

My Aston Electorate Office can assist you with information about Federal Government services, including:

- Services Australia
- National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)
- Medicare
- Australian Taxation Office (ATO)
- Immigration, citizenship and customs
- Passports
- Pensions, and My Aged Care
- Child support
- Veterans' Affairs

Scan to
keep up
to date



Get in touch

- ✉ mary.doyle.mp@aph.gov.au
- 📍 Suite 4, Level 1, 420 Burwood Hwy, Wantirna South, VIC 3152
- ☎ (03) 9887 3890
- 🌐 www.marydoyle.com.au
- 📱 @marydoylemp

Community Bank Earns Social Enterprise Accreditation

East Malvern Community Financial Services Ltd (EMCFSL), the franchisee for Community Bank Malvern East, Murrumbeena, and Wantirna, has officially been certified as a social enterprise, marking a significant milestone in its 25-year commitment to reinvesting in local communities. Accredited by Social Traders, this certification reinforces EMCFSL's dedication to its 'profit for purpose' model, taking its community-driven approach to the next level. With over \$6 million invested in local organisations and initiatives, the recognition further validates the impact and success of the Community Bank model.

General Manager Ruth Hall emphasised the significance of this achievement:

"For 25 years, the Community Bank model has driven positive change ensuring profits are reinvested to strengthen our local communities. Now, as a certified social enterprise, we are not just pioneers - we are leaders in purpose-driven banking. This recognition cements our place as one of Australia's largest social enterprises proving that banking can be a powerful force for good."

The certification highlights EMCFSL's long-standing investment in community projects, organisations, and initiatives while reaffirming the crucial role of community banking in fostering local prosperity.

To qualify as a social enterprise, an organisation must have a primary social, cultural, or environmental purpose that benefits the public, generate a substantial portion of its income from trade, and prioritise community benefit over private gain. These principles closely align with the ethos of the Community Bank model.

At EMCFSL's most recent Annual General Meeting, shareholders endorsed a new mission statement to support the certification process: To be a substantial, sustainable, community-focused enterprise that contributes to community prosperity.

Chairperson Stuart Martin welcomed the recognition, stating: "This certification is a powerful endorsement of our commitment to community prosperity. It reaffirms that our Community Bank is more than just a financial institution - we are a business for good. Your banking choices have real impact, and this recognition proves that together, we are making a meaningful difference."



East Malvern Community Financial Services Limited



With this accreditation, EMCFSL strengthens its position as a leader in ethical and community-focused banking, setting a benchmark for the future of social enterprise in Australia.

Proudly supporting our community

East Malvern Community Financial Services Limited is a franchisee of Bendigo Bank operating Community Bank Malvern East.

They have been nationally recognised as a sustainable community-built business that contributes to community prosperity.

To find out more, visit www.socialtraders.com.au



East Malvern Community Financial Services Limited

East Malvern Community Financial Services Limited ABN 27 089 542 174



Ruth Same Pty Ltd ACCOUNTANT

ABN: 83 137 077 680

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Wantirna Primary School

Shaping Bright Futures in Our Local Community

Families in Wantirna and surrounding suburbs are discovering a school where children are truly known, valued and supported to flourish.

At Wantirna Primary School we are proud to offer a nurturing, inclusive learning environment where strong academic foundations are balanced with outstanding wellbeing support and rich learning experiences.

Our dedicated teaching team delivers high-quality literacy and numeracy programs, while also providing specialist opportunities that allow every child to shine. We believe learning should be engaging, purposeful and joyful — and that students thrive when they feel safe, connected and confident.

What Makes Our School Unique?

Song Room Program

Through our partnership with The Song Room, students participate in dynamic, curriculum-aligned music experiences that build creativity, confidence and collaboration.

Wellbeing Programs

Student wellbeing is at the heart of everything we do. Our whole-school wellbeing program promotes resilience, emotional intelligence and positive relationships.

We are especially proud of our Unconditional Love Wellbeing Dogs, who play a gentle and powerful role in supporting students' emotional regulation, confidence and sense of calm. These much-loved members of our school community bring comfort and connection to many children each day.

Veggie Garden Program

Our thriving vegetable garden provides hands-on learning experiences, teaching sustainability, responsibility and healthy living while connecting students with nature.

Out of Hours School Care

We offer a high-quality Out of Hours School Care program, providing families with safe, engaging and flexible care before and after school.

A Strong Community Connection

As a local Wantirna school, we value strong partnerships with families and believe education works best when schools and parents work together. Visitors often comment on the warm, welcoming atmosphere and the way our students confidently speak about their learning.

Our classrooms are bright, engaging and well-resourced, our grounds are well set out and safe, and our staff are deeply committed to ensuring every child achieves their personal best.

If you live in Wantirna or nearby suburbs and are considering enrolment for Foundation or other year levels, we warmly invite you to contact the school to arrange a tour. Come and see our vibrant learning community in action.

At Wantirna Primary School relationships matter, wellbeing comes first, and every child is supported to succeed.

Please contact the school directly on 9801-1938 or via email at wantirna.ps@education.vic.gov.au to arrange a school tour.



SCHOOL TOURS 2026

Join us for a guided tour to explore our classrooms, facilities, and learning programs.

Step inside and discover why our school is a great place to engage, explore and excel!

Please contact our office to reserve your spot or to arrange a private tour at a time suitable for you!

TOUR DATES

Tuesday 21st April 12pm
Monday 11th May 10am
Tuesday 2nd June 10am
Friday 19th June 12pm

9801 1938
<https://wantirnaprimary.vic.edu.au/>
120 Mountain Highway, Wantirna 3152
wantirna.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Follow us on Facebook for updates @Wantirna Primary School

STEP INTO PREP AT WANTIRNA PRIMARY SCHOOL

We warmly invite all children starting school in 2027 to join us for an engaging introduction to school and connect with our wonderful community. Parents are encouraged to stay and participate or enjoy a coffee and a chat with other school families.

Join us for one or all of these sessions!

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
Thursday 26 th March	Thursday 30 th April	Thursday 21 st May	Thursday 18 th June
2:30pm - 3:30pm	2:30pm 3:30pm	2:30pm 3:30pm	2:30pm 3:30pm

To Register Your Attendance
Scan this QR code or call our school on 9801 1938

Follow us on Facebook for updates @Wantirna Primary School or visit our school website <https://wantirnaprimary.vic.edu.au/>

Studfield Wantirna Community News

URGENTLY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH DISTRIBUTION

No experience necessary, just some of your time.
Volunteers for other roles are also very welcome!

Join us to find out more!

VOLUNTEER SESSIONS
on the following Fridays at 1.00pm
April 17, May 1, May 15, June 5, June 19
at Orana Neighbourhood House
62 Coleman Road, Wantirna South
Enquiries to Janet on 0418 839 503



Cr Peter Lockwood

Councillor Knox City Council

Cr.peter.lockwood@knox.vic.gov.au 0499 111 639

Please contact me for local council issues.

St Luke's Primary School

The 2026 school year has commenced with great energy and enthusiasm at St Luke's

We warmly welcomed our new Preps, and they have transitioned in beautifully. Seeing their happy faces, open minds for learning and excitement has been such a joy.

Our Year 6 leaders have received their badges and bomber jackets and have embraced their new responsibilities with vigour and enthusiasm. We are incredibly proud of the way they are leading our school community.

The Student Representative Council cooked pancakes for the school on Shrove Tuesday, and we all attended Mass on Ash Wednesday. We were also delighted to hear our new choir sing so beautifully.

Our Athletics Carnival was a fabulous day, and we were so proud of our students' endeavours, sportsmanship and resilience throughout the event.

At St Luke's, we are committed to the development of the whole student and our belief is that every student has an innate and special worth. Through the assimilation of skills, knowledge, moral and social attitudes, each student is encouraged to take his/her place as a creative member of the community.

What stands out at St Luke's is the way in which our students care and 'look out' for one another, ensuring our approach to Social and Emotional learning filters through all parts of our day, not just our explicit teaching component.

Our students are constantly looking for ways to give back to our school and our local community. We have students giving up their break to work in our

veggie garden, practice with our school choir and advocate for our community through our Mini Vinnies program, amongst many others. Watching our students, led wonderfully by our staff, follow in the footsteps of Jesus is what sets our community apart.

With our School Open Days approaching, we warmly invite families to come and discover the learning opportunities, social initiatives and great fun your child can experience at St Luke's.

St Luke's are excited to relaunch our Playgroup with a fresh new feel as "Play Your Way To Prep!"

Join us for fun, engaging sessions with just the right amount of structure to help little learners build confidence as they get ready for school.

All members of the community are invited, and we would love to see you there!

Spread the word and bring a friend — everyone is welcome. It's completely free, and we promise plenty of smiles, laughter, and play!

You are warmly invited to join our Playgroup and/or have a tour at St Luke's and experience for yourself our wonderful school and all of the opportunities it can give your child and family. Prep 2027 and other year levels are open now.

Please visit <https://www.slwantirna.catholic.edu.au/enrolment>, or call the school office on 9801 6917 for further information.

St Luke's Primary School
Play your way to Prep
 Free Playgroup for 0-5 year olds
 Thursdays 9:30am - 10:30am

Term 2 Schedule

April 23 Playgroup	April 30 Playgroup & Mother's Day Craft	May 14 Playgroup
May 21 Playgroup & Autumn Activities	May 28 Playgroup	June 4 Playgroup & Principal Storytime
June 11 Playgroup	June 18 Playgroup with Music & Movement	June 25 Playgroup

Book your place now
 St Luke's Primary School - 25 Stokes Road, Wantirna



St Luke's Primary School
 25 Stokes Road Wantirna
 2026 Open Days
 Tours at 9.30am & 12pm

TUESDAY MARCH 10
 TUESDAY MARCH 31
 TUESDAY APRIL 28
 TUESDAY MAY 19

Book your tour here

The Knox School

More than daycare.

Play-based learning is balanced with purposeful early education, building strong foundations from the very beginning.

Book your ELC Tour today
 → knox.vic.edu.au



What's new at Your Library?

by Karla Simon

YOUR LIBRARY

Discover What's on at the Library this Autumn.

The Autumn What's On events guide is now available featuring a diverse range of activities and entertainment across all branches. From hands-on workshops to community events, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Grab your copy in-branch today or visit yourlibrary.vic.gov.au to start planning your season.



Events at Your Library

There's always something to do at Your Library! Here are some highlights from April and May. Book your place (where needed) by calling 1300 737 277, in person at any library branch or online via our website events.yourlibrary.vic.gov.au. You can also browse our website for many more events.

Urban Permaculture for Beginners

Wednesday 22 April, 10:30AM

Miller's Homestead, Dorrigo Dr & Melrose Ct, Boronia

Join us for a practical introduction to urban permaculture. Discover how to apply the 12 guiding principles to create productive, sustainable spaces in your backyard, balcony, or community. Start your permaculture journey today! Bookings required (FREE)

Stories of Food: Indian cooking demonstration

Mon 27 April at 11AM

Knox Library | Ngarrgoo, 425 Burwood Hwy, Westfield Knox - Above Rebel Sport, Wantirna South
Come and join Sharn Bedi as she makes Indian Parathas - a north Indian flat bread - a family favourite that feeds the soul and unites the family across all generations over a Sunday brunch. You will get to participate in parts of the process, even a taste at the end! Bookings required (FREE)

Safe Travel Tech: Airports, Hotels and Public Wi-Fi

Wed 29 April at 2PM

Rowville Library, Stud Park Shopping Centre, Stud Rd, Rowville

This session covers risks in airports, hotels, and public Wi-Fi, offering simple habits to protect email, banking and cloud services. Bookings required (FREE)

Show us what community connection looks like to you!

Love taking photos? We want to see your best shots!



Grab your camera or your phone and enter for a chance to win cash prizes and have your work exhibited at Knox Library | Ngarrgoo.

You must be aged 12–25 and live, study, work, or play in the City of Knox.

- You can submit up to 3 photos (JPEG, PNG or TIF). Make sure your camera/phone is set to high resolution.
- Cash prizes will be awarded to three age groups: 12–15, 16–18, and 19–25.
- You will need your parent's permission to enter the competition if you are under 18 years.
- All entries will be displayed at Knox Library | Ngarrgoo for the community to see!
- Entries close 31 May, 2026
- View full Terms & Conditions.
- Some ideas to get you started:
 - Shared passions & hobbies
 - Connecting with nature & place
 - Family or friendship bonds
 - Learning & growth...the list is endless, be creative and have fun!

Presented by Your Library and the Knox City Council Youth Services team, with prizes generously donated by Westfield Knox.

Guru Dudu's Silent Disco

Thursday 30 April at 6PM

Knox Library | Ngarrgoo, 425 Burwood Hwy, Westfield Knox - Above Rebel Sport, Wantirna South
Dance, laugh, and play with Guru Dudu's Silent Disco. Put on a pair of our Guru Dudu headsets (supplied) and groove your way through the Knox Library. Our vibrant disco hosts will help you shed your shyness and encourage you to dance along to your favourite tunes, leaving you smiling from ear to ear. Bookings required (FREE)

Introduction to senior strength with Knox Leisureworks

Tue 5 May at 10:30AM, Ferntree Gully Library

Tue 12 May at 10:30AM, Bayswater Library

Kai and Danni from Knox Leisureworks will lead a gentle introduction to strength training. Designed especially for seniors, this welcoming session helps you build confidence and stay active. Discover community-focused classes that keep you healthy, connected, and engaged in a supportive environment. Bookings required (FREE)

Mother's Day Morning Tea

Saturday 9 May at 10:30AM

Boronia Library, Park Cres, Boronia

Join us for a special morning that brings mums, grandmas, kids, and families together. While mums and grandmas relax and enjoy an indulgent morning tea with tea, coffee, biscuits, and finger food, kids will create a heartfelt craft gift to make Mum's day extra special. Bookings not required (FREE)

New Books and DVDs

To place a free reservation on any of the titles below and more, visit www.yourlibrary.vic.gov.au.

Top Reads

- The vanishing of Vivienne Cameron: forty years searching for the Philip Island murderer / Vikki Petraitis
- Plant powered plus: activate the power of your gut to tame inflammation and reclaim your health / Dr Will Bulsiewicz
- The first law of the bush / Geoff Parkes
- Room 706 / Ellie Levenson
- The afterlife of Harry Playford / Steven Carroll
- The queen who came in from the Cold / S.J. Bennett
- Outlaw Lake / Maisey Yates
- The duke's secret / Sue Williams
- This book made me think of you / Libby Page
- The power of moving on : how to let go and live the life you want / John Purkiss (Sri Nithya Banahastananda)

New DVDs

- A big bold beautiful journey
- Brief encounters. The complete series
- Good fortune
- Jimmy Barnes : working class man
- Juliet & Romeo
- Murder at the embassy
- Spinal Tap II: the end continues
- The teacher
- Watson. Season one
- The au pair. Series one



Biggest Morning Tea at Your Library

Mon 18 May, 10am-12pm, Croydon Library

Tue 19 May, 10am-12pm, Bayswater Library

Thu 21 May, 10am-12pm, Ferntree Gully & Mooroolbark Libraries

Join us for a cuppa and a sweet treat in exchange for a gold coin donation. Enjoy something different at each participating library; raffles, free entertainment and more (check with the branch for full program). All proceeds will be donated to Cancer Council Victoria. Bookings not required

Meet the author - Kate Mildenhall

Thursday 21 May at 6:30PM

Rowville Library, Stud Park Centre, Stud Rd, Rowville

Author and podcaster Kate Mildenhall discusses her latest literary thriller, *The Hiding Place*. The award-winning creator of *The Hummingbird Effect* and *The Mother Fault* explores a gripping tale of friendship and secrets that asks: who would you hide a body for? Bookings required (FREE)

Murder in the Suburbs: meet the author, Emily Webb

Saturday 23 May 2026 at 11AM

Bayswater Library, Shop 43, Mountain High SC, 7-13 High St, Bayswater

Emily Webb is an acclaimed best-selling author, chart-topping podcast host and producer, journalist, and licensed investigator. She took an interest in suburban cold cases when she was a local news reporter, which led to writing several books and then podcasts with a focus on true crime and real people's stories. Bookings required (FREE)



Australian Jazz Museum

*Preserving Australian Jazz for Current
and Future Generations*

Museum Acquisition Gets a Workout *by Ken Simpson-Bull OAM*

Some time ago the museum was bequeathed a “Marionette” professional vibraphone from the estate of the late Ron Lucas. The Marionette is a full-size concert instrument of three octaves built in Adelaide in the 1950s by H. H. Appelt, and is based on a well-regarded American instrument, the “Aurora”. This rare acquisition has recently been fully restored and is in immaculate condition.

Vibraphones (from the mallet family of instruments) date from 1921. They were originally used mostly in novelty orchestras but became famous as a jazz instrument from the mid-1930s. The Americans Red Norvo and Lionel Hampton were probably the best-known international players of the instrument. Australian players are very rare indeed, so when percussionist Harry Lye popped in to the museum recently, a few of the boys got together for a jam session. The Marionette vibraphone finally got a good workout and the performance was greatly appreciated by the volunteers who were lucky enough to be present at the time. It is hoped that this special instrument, permanently on display, will be played at some of the group visits in the future.



Left to right: Harry Lye on the Marionette vibraphone, Peter Farmer (who also plays the vibraphone), Hylton Vermaas, and Ian Rutherford.

The Australian Jazz Museum, 15 Mountain Highway, Wantirna is open free to the public on Tuesdays 10.00am to 3.00pm. For Group visits, which include refreshments and a live band performance, email tours@ajm.org.au Visit the website at www.ajm.org.au

CPP COMMUNITY THEATRE PROUDLY PRESENTS

70 YEARS OF CPP COMMUNITY THEATRE

COSI

BY LOUIS NOWRA

DIRECTED BY NICK WALTER

10 - 18 APRIL, 2026

"We are so excited to be bringing you Louis Nowra's, COSI, in 2026, as we launch into our 70th Anniversary Season!

COSI is a play about friendship, community, loyalty and difference. It's a play about the transformative nature of the performing arts. It celebrates the individual and all that we each bring to the table. It is a true epic tale that ranges from humble moments deeply personal in nature, to the soaring grandeur and spectacle of Mozart's opera, Cosi Fan Tutti.

Set in a psychiatric facility in Melbourne, COSI follows the story of Lewis, a recent university graduate, who is tasked with directing a theatre performance involving the residents. It's 1971 and Australia is protesting the war in Vietnam. But inside the hospital, residents and listening to Mozart, learning their lines, creating chaos and occasionally skipping their medication. It's art, it's mayhem, it's heartwarming, it's challenging.

It's a wonderful roller coaster ride all the way to opening night!

SEASON DATES:

Friday 10 April 8:00pm Opening Night
Saturday 11 April 8:00pm Evening Show
Sunday 12 April 2:00pm Matinee
Thursday 16 April 8:00pm Evening Show
Friday 17 April 8:00pm Evening Show
Saturday 18 April 5:00pm Closing Night

TICKET PRICES:

Adult: \$32
Concession: \$30
Child (15 & under): \$24
Family (2 adults 2 children): \$90
Group (10+ tickets): \$30

PERFORMANCE VENUE:

Boronia K-12 College, Performing Arts Centre
Albert Avenue, Boronia VIC

TICKETING LINK: <https://cppcommunitytheatre.com.au/>

ENQUIRIES:

For all ticket enquiries, please email:
tickets@cppcommunitytheatre.com.au

THE FERNTREE GULLY ARTS SOCIETY

AT THE HUT GALLERY

157 UNDERWOOD RD FERNTREE GULLY

Thursdays to Sundays 11-4pm or when the flags are flying. Visitors Always Welcome whenever the Gallery is open.

“APRIL EXHIBITION”

28th March – 1st May

“FOUR MEDIUMS”

Official opening and awards presentation

2pm Sun 12th April

Oil, Watercolour, Acrylic and Pastels

One of our major exhibitions, open to our members and the public.

Showcasing a wonderful variety of Artworks

DEMONSTRATION

Sunday 19th April 2pm

Scott Thomson of Art Boards Australia, will talk about surfaces, resin, how to clear coat artworks and creating boards for artists.

“MAY EXHIBITION”

2nd May - 29th May

GALLERY, ‘Life Stages’

Members exhibiting their interpretation Sure to be a delightful, colourful and varied exhibition, depicting the different forms of life stages.

FOYER DISPLAY

FTG NEWSPAPER'S 100th Edition

A celebration of FTG Newspapers Journey and the amazing stories it has brought to the community.

ALL WELCOME, FREE ENTRY

www.thehutgallery.com.au



Artist's impression of concept design

**HAVE
YOUR SAY**

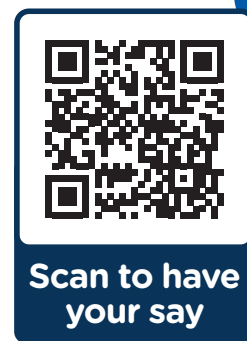


Have your say in April

We've got some big plans for improving our parks, reserves, playgrounds, community spaces and parking across Knox.

Share your feedback and get news and updates about Knox City Council projects, including:

- Improvements to the play space at Kings Park in Upper Ferntree Gully
- Parking Policy to make parking fair for everyone
- Call for bold ideas to help shape our parks across Knox



Scan to have your say

knox.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay



Save energy this winter

Get your home ready for winter. Register with Solar Savers for quotes on insulation and draught proofing, efficient electric heating or a Home Energy Assessment.

Learn more:
SolarSavers.org.au



Protect your family this winter

- Book your flu vaccine now
- Free for children 6 months to under 5 years and 65+

Book online:
knox.vic.gov.au/Flu



Friendly reminder

Renew your pet registration by 10 April.

Renew online:
knox.vic.gov.au/PetRego

0654

knox



Scoresby Primary School Print in 3D

Students Bring Designs to Life with New 3D Printers at Scoresby Primary

Students at Scoresby Primary School are bringing their ideas to life thanks to the introduction of new 3D printers in the Year 5/6 learning program.

The innovative technology is providing students with opportunities to explore creativity, design and problem-solving while developing important digital skills. Over the past few weeks, students have been working through a series of tutorials using TinkerCad, an online design platform that allows users to create detailed 3D models.



Through these tutorials, students have been learning how to use different design tools and functions to create original digital objects. They have explored how to build shapes, adjust measurements, and add text to their designs as they develop confidence in using the program.

Their first official project will see each student design and print a personalised key ring featuring their name. The task allows students to apply their new skills while experiencing the full design process—from planning and digital creation through to watching their design become a physical object on the 3D printer.

Students have already experimented with several trial designs, including fidgets, bookmarks and small figurines. Watching their digital creations slowly appear layer by layer on the printer has been an exciting moment for many students.

The introduction of 3D printing has also sparked entrepreneurial thinking among the students. Many have already begun discussing ideas for products that could be designed and produced for the school's annual SPS Market Day later in the year. Customised key rings, decorative items and small toys are just some of the possibilities being explored.

The program encourages students to think creatively, test ideas and solve problems while learning about modern design technologies that are increasingly used in industry and manufacturing.

Building Digital Skills Through Weekly Technology Lessons

Digital learning is an important part of the curriculum at Scoresby Primary School, and students across the school are developing their skills through regular Digital Technologies lessons using the Purple Mash learning platform.

Each week, students participate in structured activities designed to help them build confidence and capability when using technology. These lessons focus on key areas such as coding, digital design, problem-solving and safe online behaviour.

Purple Mash provides students with a wide range of engaging tools and learning programs that allow them to explore different aspects of technology in creative and interactive ways. Students can learn basic coding through visual programming activities, design animations and games, create digital artwork, and develop presentations or reports using built-in tools.

The platform also supports learning across many curriculum areas. Students can use Purple Mash to write stories, practise mathematics skills, explore science concepts and develop digital projects that connect with their classroom learning.

Teachers are able to tailor activities to suit different year levels and learning needs, allowing students to progress at their own pace while being challenged to develop new skills.

By using programs such as Purple Mash alongside hands-on technologies like 3D printing, Scoresby Primary School is helping students build the creativity, confidence and digital literacy skills they will need for the future.



Hello from Knoxfield Ladies PROBUS Club

by Bev Bishop

Our annual general meeting is due, so we are making arrangements for the year ahead, gathering our Committee close, to hear new ideas to fulfil our Probuss aim of friendship, fellowship and fun. Our social media has been revived and our website is up and running. Our dinner group has so far this year, enjoyed Chinese and Mexican food, and is looking forward to Italian and Thai cuisine in the next few months.

Our next bus trip is to Abbotsford Convent Cultural Centre, "a living place for curiosity and collaboration, meeting and meaning". It is now a home for more than 100 arts and creative practitioners. We have been invited to share this

visit with the Boronia Ladies Probuss Club. It sounds fascinating. Our Sunday brunches are popular, as it is so relaxing to share a leisurely meal with friends. There are plans afoot to have regular coffee mornings/lunches also.

Semi or fully retired ladies are very welcome to join our Club. Our meeting begins at 10.30 am (arrive at 10.15) on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Wantirna Club, 350 Stud Road, Wantirna.

Our website is <https://www.probussouthpacific.org/microsites/knoxfieldladies>. Our club email is knoxfieldladiesprobuss@gmail.com.

Please call Jan on 0407 577 921 or Bev on 0429 439 131 for more details.



February Birthday Ladies: Joan, Sylvia & President Jan



What's been happening at the Ringwood Field Naturalists Club ??

by Alison Rogers

Our group enjoys, monthly speakers, weekend outings and twice a year week ends away. The outings and weekends away are usually conducted by our own members. We acknowledge volunteers work in providing these opportunities for us to not only enjoy the Australian bush and its contents, but also to learn so much from each other.

We meet at the Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall. Lawrence Ave, East Ringwood. Plenty of parking and easy access to the hall.

Meeting: February-Nicole Kearney "Biodiversity Heritage Library"

Nicole is the Manager of the Biodiversity Heritage Library Australia (BHL) based at Museums Victoria and Communications Director for the global Biodiversity Heritage Library. She outlined the BHL purposes and what material is currently stored.

One of the current projects is "Capturing the history of Victoria's Field Naturalists Clubs" and the various ways to search for information of interest to field naturalists. Because we already contribute to the library mainly through our newsletters, she showed some examples of our digitised work and how to navigate around it. Many books, including very old historical books have been scanned and are now available on line. An enormous undertaking, but one which we should all be very appreciative of. A very interesting presentation.

Excursion: February- Stockyard Point (Jam Jerrup) Leader-Jack A.

26 members attended on a warmish day. The first walk did not reveal any waders but around 30 birds sighted including 2 Wedge-tailed eagles. Lunch was held on the Grantville foreshore. An afternoon walk, through the Candownie Reservoir area, yielded a few more birds. All up we saw around 52 birds for the day.

Midweek Excursion: Leaders- Don and Sandra R

Twenty members and one visitor arrived at the meeting point for our mid-week excursion to the Stamford Park Wetlands. This was an area new to some members. The water levels were high in some of the wetlands due to the recent rain. A Common eastern froglet was calling near the specially designed habitat for the local platypus colony.

An enjoyable morning with a bird total of 34. We observed Ducks, Herons, Parrots and had good



White faced heron photo by Eleanor D

sightings of a Swamp Harrier, which is unusual in the Knox area. This area is a wonderful incentive by Knox Council with good paths, toilet facilities and a playground for the children.

After lunch eight of the group travelled to Shepherds Bush for an afternoon walk.

Many Wood Duck and Crested Pigeons were seen feeding on an oval near the car park. We walked along a trail that follows the Dandenong creek. This beautifully treed area is usually a great habitat for birds. A Sulphur-crested Cockatoo was observed in a tree hollow as was a Galah further along the loop walk. The bird count was 17.

Meeting: March-Graham E, "African Safari"

Graham took us on an interesting journey from a safari he and Chris went on to South Africa.

He focused primarily on the Big 5 (buffalo, rhino, elephant, lion and leopard) with some examples of the Small 5 and the Ugly 5. Who could love a Warthog?? Travelling in open vehicles they were able to get close enough to get amazing photos on their cameras and also their phones.

He also showed a variety of photos of a large variety of birds, some displaying vibrant colours and some like the vultures were drab and ugly. Many had similarities of birds found in Australia.

He showed interesting images of the countryside they travelled through, which varied greatly,



Gang Gang Cockatoo photo by Alison R

including, dry grasslands and waterfalls. A highlight for Graham and Chris was a visit to a local school where they were able to interact with the children there.

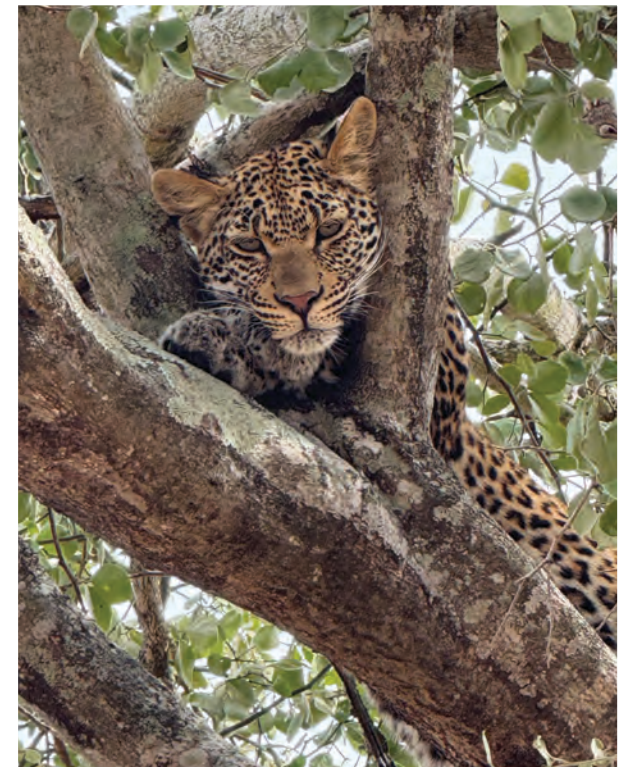
A wonderful presentation, showing many amazing animals.

Excursion: March- A Day at Healesville Sanctuary. Leader Barbara L.

On a beautiful sunny autumn day, the group was met by Barbara our guide (also a member of our Club) to visit Healesville Sanctuary. The Sanctuary is such an interesting place. We were told all about the past history of the sanctuary and were also told about what is happening in current times. If you haven't been to the Sanctuary for a long time, you would notice many changes. The gardens are wonderful with indigenous plants everywhere

making the whole place green and inviting. Board walks and even pathways are user friendly for prams and walkers. But the main attractions are the many animals and birds showcased for the public to see.

Not just the usual koala and kangaroos, but Dingoes, the rare Lead beaters possums, Potoroos and Tassie Devils. Birds, especially the beautiful colourful parrots were a delight to see. We were shown the work they are doing in their programs to



Leopard photo by Graham E

help save critically endangered birds and animals, like The Helmeted and Regent Honey eaters, The Mountain Pygmy Possum and the Southern Corroboree Frogs. The bird show was a great spectacle with large birds of prey and cockatoos putting on a show with their trainers. A wonderful day out.

Future Program

Meeting: April: Daniel Kurek "Ants found around Melbourne – their taxonomy, distribution and behaviour"

As you can see, we have a very varied program and members enjoy learning a little about nature and this wonderful country we live in.

Meetings are always held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7-30pm at the Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall. Lawrence Ave, East Ringwood.

All visitors are welcome.

For more details phone Alison 0438 6946 00 or Peter on 0409 6946 23

Check out our Website <http://www.rfnc.org.au> for details of our next meetings.



Knox Environment Society

Seeking volunteers with horticultural and nursery experience

by Anne Morton

The Knox Environment Society (KES) is an organisation of approximately 350 members interested in environmental issues at a local, State, National and International level. We are active in trying to lobby for the care and protection of our local fauna, flora and open spaces and in encouraging people to provide habitat for our local species within their own gardens.

As many locals would know we also run a nursery in Ferntree Gully. Here we grow approximately 60,000 local indigenous plants annually, of which about 75% are sold to members of the public for their gardens and 25% go to orders. Our orders come from various sources including Councils (Knox, Maroondah and Yarra Ranges), Friends groups, schools and a range of other commercial and private individuals.

All our work at the Nursery is done by our amazing volunteers who carry out all the tasks needed to run such a large commitment. Plants are grown via three main methods – seed, cuttings and division. Of these, seeds provide the main bulk and variety of the plants produced and volunteers are very busy during summer months collecting the number and variety of seed we require.

To streamline our processes, we have put a lot of effort into data collection to hone in on the correct sowing method, sowing time, seed viability, germination time and season and pricking out plants to ensure a great product.



Seed collected ready for sorting

Whilst KES is always looking for volunteers, we are particularly keen to find some volunteers with horticultural and nursery management qualifications and/or nursery experience who are willing to help our seed production team and our general nursery management team.

The volunteers would be most valuable if they could come on a regular weekly basis. Whilst we are a volunteer group, we would be willing to offer compensation for transport and other reasonable expenses to the right person.

If anyone is interested in helping the KES they can contact us on president@kes.org.au We will then organise a time for you to come in and look at the nursery and what we do and how you can help.

A bright choice for the summer months

Common Everlasting *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*, with its bright yellow flowers, will provide a long-lasting splash of colour for spring and summer. As a member of the daisy family it is ideal for a sunny, well-drained position and will look great in a cottage garden.



Common Everlasting *Chrysocephalum*

As a plant that is widespread and can be found across southern Australia, it is tolerant of a wide range of conditions. Low-growing, it will reach up to 30-40 cm height, but will spread to 1-2 m, making it ideal for rockeries.

Prune regularly to encourage new growth. Cherish Common Everlasting in your garden as it is an important food plant for the butterfly, Australian Painted Lady *Vanessa kershawi*.



Wantirna Lions Club Update

Clean Up Australia Day Event-Collier Reserve Wantirna South

Another great turnout and result for Clean Up Australia Day, Members of the Wantirna Lions Club were joined by members of Lions Club of Lysterfield, Melbourne All Abilities Lions Club, Lions Club of Brighton to conduct a clean-up of the reserve. This was a successful event, tremendous teamwork, lots of fun and a wonderful result for the environment.

If you would like to know more about the Wantirna Lions current projects or membership please see

Facebook: [@Lions Club of Wantirna](https://www.facebook.com/LionsClubofWantirna)

Email: lions.wantirna@gmail.com contact Paul Garvey 0400823441



Laughter Club News

Autumn leaves shedding, a seasonal invitation time for rest and renewal

Hi there. How are you doing? I love and adore Autumn and I know a lot of people, yourselves most likely included, really appreciate what a beautiful season Autumn is. It brings colour into our lives, pleasant weather, beautiful sunsets and is known as a time for preparation prior to winter when we generally withdraw and turn inwards.

There is a wonderful balance in Autumn as day and night become equal at this time, bringing harmony and equilibrium into our lives. It is felt to bring an introspective spiritual dimension where, as we reflect, we can examine our lives, letting go of old habits and preparing for the next phase, with fresh insights.

Somehow there are opportunities in this beautiful colourful season, unlike the others, where we can feel closer to nature and the being state within ourselves, as against the frantic, busy, doing, way of living. So much of our earlier life is about being busy, we feel we have to keep going, fit it all in, the work, family, social and other activities. It can be stressful and our health and mental wellbeing can easily suffer.

I turn 84 on 22nd April and hubby is 86. My experience has been a growing awareness to fight the inertia and unconscious expectations of mass consciousness, the culture we live in and what it means as one ages. I love how Peter Walsh from the TV series on decluttering 'Space Invaders' refers to it as becoming a rich vibrant time of our life, when we are flourishing in a different manner and he describes it full of possibilities and a rich, effervescent time.

The saying 'use it or you will lose it' applies even more over the passage of time because if we are not moving forward, we stagnate and lose our status of health and one's stamina decreases. We need more

Hands on Myotherapy

Pain and Stiffness with Jordan Tierney Myotherapist

Pain and stiffness have a way of creeping into everyday life. You might notice it when getting out of bed, standing all day at work, training, dancing, or simply trying to keep up with family and daily tasks. Over time, many people begin to accept these aches as "normal" — but they don't have to be.

I'm Jordan, a Myotherapist at Hands On Myotherapy, and my work focuses on helping people move better by addressing the underlying causes of pain.

Myotherapy is a form of physical therapy that looks at how muscles, joints and nerves work together. Rather than simply treating symptoms, the aim is to identify what is causing the pain or restriction and treat it in a targeted way. This approach can help reduce pain, improve movement and prevent problems from returning.

As a Myotherapist, I work with people of all ages and activity levels. This includes dancers and active individuals looking to perform at their best and

support in other different ways.

The best support of all is to support one's self. Be sleuth-full, seeking out the assistance you need, rather than rely on or wait for others to do it for you. Be proactive and continue on with your life, despite losses, difficulties and setbacks. They are inevitable and bring chances for your evolution, to grow, learn and pass on the wisdom to those following behind you.

I lost my first son five years ago and was speaking with a friend who also lost her only son around the same time. She has lived her life being inspired by a friend's words of wisdom many years ago who told her that 'You can curl up in a corner or get on with it'. Those words rung true and continue to inspire her to keep going. She shared that you may lose some skills, as she has over the last year, experiencing several mini strokes. She added 'You may not be able to do what you once could do; you never ever give up and keep doing as much as you can.'

You do matter and most likely, may never know how much you have meant to others, in what way you have made a difference, held a positive influence, shared of yourself in many ways, unknown to you. It is simply you being you, sharing kindness and caring because it is what comes naturally.

We don't know how long we are here for and chances are there is plenty more time yet to pass and with it, an abundance of opportunities available to your wonderful self. So please, make the most of it, your life, which is a gift both to yourself and to mankind. When it all comes down to it, when it is your time to go, the most important thing is 'How much love have you been able to ground into the earth?'

When I am knocking on St Peter's door at the end of my life and am asked whether the world been a better place for me having been in it for it to really matter, the answer has to be a resounding YES!

How much loneliness do you feel? Perhaps you live alone or feel lacking in social interactions; you might

prevent injury. Having worked in the dancing and choreographing industry for more than a decade, I have a strong understanding of the physical demands placed on the body in performance and training. I also work with tradies and labourers managing the physical demands of their work, as well as office workers, parents and older adults who are feeling stiff, sore or restricted in their movement.

Treatment may include techniques such as deep tissue massage, trigger point therapy, dry needling, cupping, joint mobilisation and stretching, along with simple exercises where appropriate.

My goal is simple: to help people move better, reduce pain and get back to doing the things they enjoy.

consider seeing what social interest and community clubs are available to you in your area including our/your Ferntree Gully Laughter Club.

Laughter yoga, which it is referred to, is an aerobic exercise with innumerable benefits. The deep breathing we do helps expand our lungs and there are benefits to be felt, in a natural way, simple deep breathing, laughing, singing, pretending all sorts of silly things, all wrapped up together, bringing us joy and upliftment. We never poke fun at anyone; we laugh together in great camaraderie together.

We meet regularly on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month, usually followed by going to Rapture Café where they have delicious home-made food for those who wish to imbibe a light lunch. We go around the corner once a month to The Hut Gallery to see their monthly art exhibition.

Thank you for reading along and my love and blessings go to you. I invite you to connect with me if you like. Cheerio and bye for now.

Lots of love, wishing for your laughter and joy.
Lynette xo

When we meet and Contact information

The Ferntree Gully Laughter Club meets behind the Ferntree Gully Library at 11am on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month and inside the Ferntree Gully Library on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 2pm

First timers, please contact me, Lynette in case of a meeting change. Let me know if you wish to receive either the email newsletter, or the Friday email reminder when the laughter club is next on. There is also a Ferntree Gully Laughter Club Facebook group.

Phone: 0425 799 258

Email: lynette@laughterforliving.com.au

Website: www.laughterforliving.com.au

Ferntree Gully Library: 9800 6455



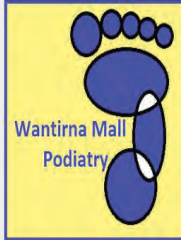
- Back and Neck Pain
- Pregnancy Massage
- Knee and Leg Pain
- Deep Tissue Massage
- Sporting/ Occupational Injuries
- Golfer/ Tennis Elbow
- Headaches
- Sciatica

8740 3991

**Unit 10/603 Boronia Road
Wantirna VIC 3152**

**Monday - Friday 9am to 7.30pm
Saturday 8am to 1.00pm**

**www.handsonmyotherapy.com.au
enquire@handsonmyotherapy.com**



Wantirna Mall Podiatry Melina Linardatos

(B. Pod, MBA and MHA, MAPA)

4/322 Mountain Hwy, Wantirna T: 9720 1235

www.wantirnallpodiatry.com

Online booking available

Open Tues to Fri 9am to 6pm and Sat 9am to 1pm



Bunions

Bunions known as hallux valgus is a deformity of the big toe joint. This bony bump forms around the big toe joint when some of the bones in the front part of your foot displace, forcing your big toe towards your lesser toes and the base of the toe to protrude. Occasionally a fluid-filled sac called a bursa or corns and callosities may also develop over the area. Smaller bunions called bunionettes or Tailors bunions can also develop on the joint of your little toes.

23% of people aged between 18- 65 and 35.7% over 65 are known to develop Bunions⁽¹⁾. The cause of Bunions is not clear but may be related to genetics, wearing inappropriate or ill-fitting footwear, foot structural variables, poor physical health, injury or related to arthritis. Bunions can be painful and progressive and can cause walking problems and deformity in the lesser digits.

Our Podiatrists can assess bunion deformities and can offer treatment options to help ease your symptoms which may include footwear advice, footwear fitting, padding and foot orthotics. However, these interventions will not cure bunions, surgery through a Podiatry surgeon or Orthopaedic surgeon may be the only option if pain persists.

1. Nix, S., Smith, M., & Vicenzino, B. (2010). Prevalence of hallux valgus in the general population: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Journal of foot and ankle research*, 3, 21. <https://doi.org/10.1186/1757-1146-3-21>



Are you at risk of breaking a bone?
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scan the QR code,
call us or visit our website
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www.arthritiscentre.com.au/bone.html

News from Wantirna Osteopathy How Osteopathy Can Help Keep Your New Year's Resolution on Track

Dr. Jason Stone (Sports Osteopath)

As the calendar rolls through another year, our New Year's resolutions often include goals related to improving our health through increasing physical activity levels.




For some people this might be starting from scratch and finally establishing that regular walking routine you've always thought about. For others it might be to train even harder in the gym and hit those benchmarks you've long been striving for. Other resolutions often include taking up new activities like running, hiking or Pilates. While this surge in motivation for a fitter and healthier you is fantastic, sudden increases in physical activity can place an extra strain on your body. This extra strain can eventually lead to injury, which then ultimately leads to the untimely end of your New Year's resolution. Fortunately, osteopathy can help bridge the gap between motivation and long-term success.

Osteopathy uses a holistic and multi-modal approach to help promote optimal function of the body. An osteopath can assess injuries and their underlying causes, and then provide a variety of manual therapy techniques aimed at decreasing muscle tension and improving joint range of motion.

Additionally, osteopaths have a sound knowledge of exercise rehabilitation to help build mobility and strength when needed. Importantly osteopathy isn't

wantirna

osteopathy



New Rehab Gym

- Sports injury
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- Strength exercises
- Balance programs
- Force testing
- ACL rehab
- Plus more

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www.wantirnaosteo.com.au

just about treating injuries, but also education and prevention.

Osteopaths are able to provide advice around managing your physical activity levels, taping/bracing techniques and even footwear recommendations.

These can all be important pieces in the puzzle to help keep you staying active without any setbacks. So, as your New Year's resolution motivates you to get moving, think about utilising osteopathy to help keep you moving!





Outer Eastern Trefoil Guild

There are approximately 159 Trefoil Guilds active in Victoria. They are part of Girl Guide Movement. Outer Eastern Trefoil Guild has been active at Ferntree Gully Guide Hall for over 30 years.

The "Flowering Gum Award" was presented to Irene Watt, Secretary of Outer Eastern Trefoil Guild by Robyn Steward, the Victorian Trefoil Guild Advisor, at a Fun Christmas Breakup at Morack Mini Golf in November last for Service within Guiding. She was also presented with a Flowering Gum Tree to plant in her garden and a bunch of Australian Native Flowers.

Irene's family were invited to attend and also enjoyed themselves playing mini-golf. Also present was Irene's very good friend who with her husband have been involved in scouting for the past 50 plus years in the Manningham Region, where Irene and her family also were involved in guiding and scouting prior to the move to Ferntree Gully in 1998.

After we had all taken part in a fun round of mini-golf, we adjourned to the café for a lovely lunch.



We finished our year early to allow for our Bus Trip to Coal Creek in early December. Although we had a rather damp day for this everyone had an interesting time exploring the village before we headed back to Korumburra for lunch. Some of our group also enjoyed "Coppelia" at Karalyka Theatre in early December.

Do YOU have time to come and share Friendship and Fun with our Group?

We would love it if you can.

Phone Irene 0415 247 631
OR Margaret 0427 549 468



Knox Over 50s

At Knox & District Over50s we are a very friendly and sociable group who normally meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month from January to November.

Our next General Meeting will be held at 10.30 am on Tuesday the 28th of April, 2026, at Club Kilsyth, 1-15 Canterbury Road, Bayswater North, followed by lunch for those who wish to stay on.

We provide guest speakers, many day trips and an annual trip, visits to Boronia Cinema, coffee mornings, regular lunches at different locations around Knox and morning melodies. For our 2026 annual trip, we are planning a visit to the NSW Riverina in October, which will include Griffith for their annual Springfest.

During a recent trip to the Blue Lotus Gardens in Yarra Junction our resident photography expert took a number of excellent photos of our group enjoying the beautiful surroundings. These can be found on our Facebook page and one example is included with this article.

April has found us visiting the Moonlit Sanctuary in Pearcedale where we were able to see a surprising range of Aussie animals in their natural habitat. We have a monthly newsletter (Knox Natters Matter) which will keep you up to date with the many fun social activities available.

If you are interested in joining our group, please contact Kerry (on 0419 995 084) or, for further information, see our Facebook page, Knox & District Over50s Inc.

We look forward to hearing from you or, more importantly, seeing you in the near future.





News from Knox District Cub Scouts

Cubs Make a Splash!

by Nicole Klep, District Leader of Cub Scouts.

On Sunday the 22nd of February, 110 Cubs from Knox District and 22 Cubs from 1st West Waverley descended on the Guide and Scout Water Activities Centre in Sandringham for a full day of adventure. They were supported by 30+ leaders/parents, plus all the volunteer leaders from the water activities centre.



Cubs tried out stand up paddle boards, kayaks and sailing yachts. They swam and floated in their PFD's (personal flotation device) and had fun on the beach building sand castles and burying one another.

Cubs learnt how to put on PFD, how to care for their

PFD and the equipment they used. They had to wash the PFD's and boats at the end of the day which was all part of their badge work. The weather was warm, and we had some rain throughout the day, but despite the rain many Cubs are keen to go again and experience this unique opportunity.

If you are interested in trying Scouting go to: [## Ferntree Gully Market](https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/locations/all-groups/2nd/3rd Bayswater, 1st Wantirna South, 2nd Wantirna, 1st Knoxfield and 4th Knox are the local Scout Groups. You can try three nights for free! So come along and join in the fun. Scouting is for youth from age 5 to 26 years and after 26 lots of fun is to be had by becoming a leader!</p>
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The Gully Market is once again proud to announce a donation to the Otis Foundation. This year we will be donating \$2500, bringing it to a total of \$8500 in the last 3yrs. The Otis Foundation provides retreats for breast cancer patients (both women and men) and up to 4 family members or friends either during treatment to regroup and prepare themselves for the next stage of treatment, or after treatment to have some time to replan life ahead of them. Sadly, for some, it may be their last holiday together. I can't emphasise enough how wonderful this organisation is. This year is their 25th year.

The photo above shows the team that drives this organisation, plus another team of volunteers. The

4 employees are only part time workers, but 2 yrs ago they placed 1500 patients in retreats. These retreats are Australia wide, made possible by the generosity of people donating time at their holiday homes.

Everyone knows someone with breast cancer, and those that have been on a retreat are so grateful. That is how I found out about Otis. A stall holder had been on a retreat and she recommended them as a recipient of a market donation. However, to continue and to retain and attract new stall holders, we need the public to support this little community market.



EACH Financial Counselling

Early Pay Apps: A Helpful Tool or a New Debt Trap?

With the rising cost of living, many Australians are looking for ways to stretch their income further. One growing trend is the use of "wage advance" or "early pay" apps that allow workers to access a portion of their pay before their normal payday.

These apps are often marketed as a convenient solution for people who need money quickly to cover groceries, fuel, or unexpected bills. On the surface they can seem like a safer alternative to traditional payday loans because they usually don't charge high interest rates. However, they may still come with fees or subscription costs that can add up over time.

The biggest risk with wage advance products is that they can create a cycle where people are constantly borrowing from their next pay. While accessing a small amount early may help in a short-term emergency it can leave less money available when the actual payday arrives. This can make it harder to cover regular expenses leading some people to use the service again and again.

When Wage Advances and Buy Now Pay Later



Financial counsellors are also seeing situations where wage advance apps are used alongside Buy Now Pay Later (BNPL) products. While each product on its own may seem manageable, together they can quickly place pressure on a household budget.

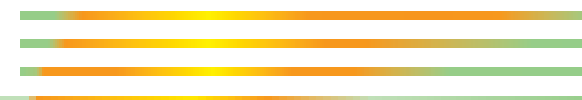
For example, a person may use BNPL to spread the cost of everyday purchases while also accessing their wages early to cover weekly expenses. Over

time, repayments from BNPL services reduce the amount of income available each pay cycle. If a wage advance is then used to fill the gap, the next pay cheque is already committed before it arrives.

This combination can create what financial counsellors refer to as a debt spiral, where people rely on one product to keep up with repayments on another. Without careful budgeting, it can become increasingly difficult to break the cycle.

If you are experiencing financial stress or finding it difficult to keep up with bills and repayments, free and confidential financial counselling and financial capability sessions are available. Financial counsellors provide independent advice, help people understand their options and can assist with negotiating hardship arrangements with creditors. Financial capability workers can assist with budgeting, money management skills and developing affordable repayment strategies. Seeking support early can often prevent financial issues from escalating and help people regain control of their finances.

**If you need support with any debt concerns -
Contact EACH Financial Counselling or
Financial Capability Program: 9871 1817
Contact National Debt Helpline: 1800 007 007**



Ferntree Gully View Club

Our monthly luncheon meetings are held on the 4th Monday of each month (except December - it is the 3rd Monday) and includes a 2-course lunch menu (meal of your choice menu to be in by 11.00am), tea/coffee, Free lunch raffle ticket, cost \$30. We have a meeting, then a speaker or entertainment. We raise money for The Smith Family and support 7 disadvantaged students through the 'Learning for Life' Program. We also support a refuge for women and children escaping domestic violence.

Lunch Date - Monday 27th April 2026 - Jan Josza - 'Her Father's War-time Experience'.

Lunch Date - Monday 25th May 2026 - Gadget Lady.

If you want to join a welcoming and fun club, come join us. Visitors are most welcome.

Time: 10.30am for a 11.30am start.

Where: The Knox Club, corner Stud & Boronia Roads, Wantirna South.

Contact: Romaine on 0421 400 549 to book.

Wantirna Day View Club

Wantirna Day VIEW Club (Voice, Interests, and Education of Women), is a group of friendly women who meet regularly to enjoy social interaction, whilst also raising valuable funds for The Smith Family Learning for Life Program.

We meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month (except in January) at The Stamford Hotel - Cnr Stud & Wellington Roads, Rowville – 10:30 am for an 11:00 am start. Members contribute a small fee of \$12 per meeting, (which includes morning tea, room hire, and raffle), and lunch is available to order at your own cost. Most meetings also host a guest speaker/entertainment for members' enjoyment.

We would love new members to join. Ladies of any age group, and from any location, would be most welcome.

For more information please call our President – Kate on 0421 650 684

Boronia VIEW Club

Boronia View Club (Voice, interests education of women will meet on Fridays 17th April and 15th May at 11.30am at Eastwood Golf Club Liverpool Rd Kilsyth with a 2-course lunch costing \$30 followed by a guest speaker.

On Friday 17th April, Shanthy from the Tamil community of Victoria is talking "all things Tamil".

There will be a book stall, trading table and raffle with all monies raised going to The Smith Family learning for life program. The Club sponsors 10 children. The Club is looking for new members so ladies of all ages and backgrounds come along and you will be warmly welcomed.

There are also small groups within the Club and the occasional outing.

Enquiries to Judith on 9764-8602

What's On?

Event	Date & Time	Location	More Information
Boronia Ladies Probus Club	3rd Wednesday of each month	Knox Club, Cnr Boronia & Stud Rds, Wantirna	Enquiries: Jan on 0438 059 783
Boronia Probus Combined Club	2nd Thursday of the month at 10.00am	Boronia Bowls Club, 5 Marie Street, Boronia	Keiran Smith 0404 079 636
Boronia View Club	3rd Friday each month 11.30am	Eastwood Golf Club, Liverpool Road, Kilsyth	Judith 9764 8602
Changing Seasons Cafe	Mon to Fri 9.00am to 3.30pm. Sat & Sun 9.00am to 4.00pm	31-34 Elizabeth St, Bayswater. Access from the road	8720 1382 Facebook @ChangingSeasonsCafe
Combined Probus Club of Wantirna Heights	1st Wednesday of every month at 10.00am	Knox Boat Fishing Club, Schultz Reserve, Kingloch Pde, Wantirna	Michael 0439 551 209
Elm Street Mission	Mon, Wed, Fri 10.00am to 2.00pm	654 Mountain Highway, Bayswater	Ethne 0428 330 873 or info@elmstmission.org.au
Ferntree Gully View Club	4th Monday of the month 11.30am	The Knox Club, Cnr Stud & Boronia Rds, Wantirna Sth	Romaine Meadowcroft - 0421 400 549
iShred - Community Shredding Day	Sat. April 11 & May 16, 9am- 12pm	5/7 Samantha Crt, Knoxfield	1300 763 688
Knox Community Garden Society	Wednesdays 10.00am -12.00pm. Cuppa available	Enter via car park at 54 Kleinert Road, Boronia	John 0417 987 848
Knox Masters Athletics	Wednesdays 7.00pm - 9.00pm	Knox Athletics Track, Bunjil Way, Knoxfield	Peter - 0427 880 143, Helen - 0425 743 977
Knox Photographic Society	2nd, 3rd, 4th Wednesdays 7.30pm	Boronia West Primary School, Tormore Rd, Boronia (Enter via Swimming Pool car park)	Rob 0401 943 354
Knoxfield Ladies Probus	3rd Wednesday of the month at 10.30am	Wantirna Club, 350 Stud Road, Wantirna	Jo 0414 914 091
KSSSG-Knox Stroke Survivors	2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month 10.30am	Crave Restaurant, 236 Dorset Road, Boronia	Lister 0413095061, Rob 9758 8582, Anna 0414976619
Lions Club of Knox	1st & 3rd Tuesday of month at 7.00pm	Our Saviours Lutheran Church Knox, 646 Burwood Hwy, Knoxfield	Sue 0411 529 293
Lions Club of Wantirna	1st & 3rd Wednesday each month at 7.00pm	Lions Club room, Bayswater Community Centre, 739 Mountain Hwy, Bayswater	Paul 0400 823 441
Probus Club of Wantirna South	2nd Wednesday of the month at 10.30am	Wantirna Club, Stud Road, Wantirna	Lesley Kelly 0409 028 959
Ringwood Field Naturalists Club	2nd Wednesday each month at 7.30pm	Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall, Lawrence Ave, East Ringwood	Alison or Peter on 9801 6946 http://www.rfnc.org.au
Ringwood View Club	2nd Wednesday of the month 11.00am	Ringwood Club, Maroondah Hwy	Heather 0411 219 248
Rotary Club of Bayswater	Wednesdays 6.00pm	Rotary Club Rooms, Marie Wallace Reserve, King Street, Bayswater	Ron Bridges - 0414 843 427
Rotary Club of Boronia	Tuesdays 6.30pm	Knox Club, Cnr Boronia & Stud Rds, Wantirna	Greg Mossop - 0437 599 949
Rotary Club of Knox	Wednesdays 12.45pm	Knox Club, Cnr Boronia & Stud Rds, Wantirna	Gary Weston - 0409 553 168
Scoresby 55+ Social Circle	Thursdays 10.00am -12.00pm	Scoresby Football Club, Scoresby Reserve	Jeanette 0491 258 657 or John 0405 689 554
Scoresby TOWN Club	Wednesdays 8.30am	Scout Hall behind 91 Lewis Road, Wantirna	9761 1875
Studfield Wantirna Probus Club	2nd Tuesday monthly at 10.30am	Knox Club, 480 Boronia Road, Wantirna	Pauline 0458 003 985
The Boronia Branch of CWA	2nd Wednesday of the month. Craft Meeting - 4th Wednesday	CWA Hall at 4 Sundew Ave, Boronia	Evelyn on 9762 1537 or 0434 722 346
Wantirna Cricket Club	Saturday Summer Competition	Schultz Reserve Wantirna	President David Orlandi 0418 147 456
Wantirna Day View Club	1st Wednesday each month 10.30am for 11.00am start	Stamford Hotel, Cnr Stud & Wellington Rds, Rowville	Kate on 0421 650 684

Knox Dementia Alliance

Reflections from a Carer Supporting a Partner with Younger Onset Dementia

Ken, a Knox resident, has been with his wife Kiti for 21 years. Kiti was formally diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease six years ago, but Ken believes the early signs began almost 15 years earlier, shortly after she turned 50.

"At first, she would forget to come home, get lost, or forget where home was," Ken recalls. "It took years and a specialised brain scan before we finally received a diagnosis."

He explains that younger onset dementia is often missed. "Many general practitioners may explore other explanations first."

Despite the challenges, Ken is clear about what matters most. "People living with dementia remain valuable members of our community and deserve to be treated with dignity and respect," he says. "My wife has lived with Alzheimer's disease for over 15 years, and she continues to have moments of

remarkable clarity and insight".

Kiti wears a sunflower lanyard to indicate she has a hidden disability. "We've noticed a growing level of understanding and support in public spaces, particularly from retail staff and fellow shoppers," Ken explains. "However, there are still moments of insensitivity."

Navigating systems such as the NDIS, aged care, and Centrelink can be overwhelming. Even once access is granted, managing services often feels like a full-time job. "I've had to reduce my work hours significantly and still receive minimal support," Ken says.

Ken also stresses the importance of early legal planning. Before dementia progresses, it is critical to establish a will and enduring power of attorney. Without these in place, decisions about care and treatment can be delayed for months and may require intervention through VCAT.

By sharing his experience, Ken hopes to remind others that no one should navigate dementia alone. "We have become involved in the Knox Dementia



Ken and Kiti

Alliance to find like-minded people since its launch," Ken says. "Kiti and I are proud to have played a role in several dementia-friendly initiatives."

For more information about the Knox Dementia Alliance or to obtain a Dementia Friendly Information Pack, please call Knox City Council on 9298 8377 or email dementiafriendly@knox.vic.gov.au.

Balmoral Village Charity Day

In the first two months of this year, the 250 residents of Balmoral Gardens Village have shown what a wonderfully community minded group they are. In January, through donations, they raised more than \$1800 for Blaze Aid to assist those affected by the bushfires. Then, on Sunday February 1st, they wholeheartedly supported the Village Bowls Club fundraiser for the Boronia Community Breakfast Program.

The program is regarded as a vital support service for the Knox area. It offers hot meals and social connection four days a week in a non-judgemental welcoming atmosphere that fosters trust and links individuals with necessary support services. It generally operates from 8.30am to 10am, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in the Boronia Progress Hall. Participants report the program provides a sense of worth and a crucial, safe space

to socialise. Bowls Club President, Lindsay Morrow, said, "With the very generous donations of items for raffle prizes, from Club members we were able to present three large baskets full of goodies and three lovely potted plants to the six lucky winners." Around seventy residents attended the sausage sizzle on the Sunday and many generous offerings were left in a donation box. Twenty-four bowlers then paid a donated fee each to enjoy a friendly game of bowls after the sausage sizzle and presentations. Lindsay thanked all involved with making the day such a success, especially Club Secretary, Margaret Veldman, who was the driving force behind the project. Lindsay added, "As the result was so successful the club is considering the idea of having another community fundraiser day at another time. We do have a wonderful community spirit at Balmoral Village."



Bowling Club President, Lindsay Morrow and Margaret Veldman, Club Secretary presenting a cheque to Penny Robinson, Knox Infolink Manager for the Boronia Community Breakfast Program

Boronia Ladies Probus Club

Sadly our year has started with the loss of long time dear members. Annette Closter in January and Mary Sims in February, these ladies were amazing members of our club for so many years, and we will miss them dearly. Rest in Peace Ladies.

Our High Tea and Fashion parade on the 9th February was another great success, with our friends from Knoxfield Ladies Probus Club again joining us for the day - 4 of our members were our models on the day, and the clothes were casual and smart, lots of ladies now have some new items in their wardrobes.

Our Guest speaker for the February meeting was Philip Johnson Landscaper, who won the Gold Medal at the 100th year of the Chelsea Flower Show in England. Philip had a Power Point demonstration of all his projects including the

Chelsea Flower show where he met the late Queen Elizabeth. His work with rocks and water is



Colleen, Ruth, Margaret & Jan

amazing, and all of his projects are beautiful to see. Philip is a local young man who lives in the Dandenongs.

March will be our 38th Annual General meeting for our club. Our membership continues to remain stable after Covid, and we always look forward for new members to join us.

We meet every month on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Knox Club at 10am.

Perhaps this year you might have finished work and would like to join some ladies for outings/theatre days/lunches/morning tea, our club would love to welcome you and introduce to all these activities, so please give Jan a call on 0438 059 783 for any queries you might have before making the decision to come, and we always have a member to greet our new ladies, and stay with them for the meeting.



Wantirna Tennis Club 2026

by Alison Rogers

There is so much happening down at Wantirna Tennis Club.

Book a court

Have you had a chance to come down and have a play on our courts yet. There has been a lot of interest in our five new classic clay courts and these along with our 5 'en tout cas' courts are being well used through our 'book a court' system. These courts are now available for booking both day and night. Just check out our website. If playing at night, just select the 'lights' option, so that the lights come on automatically for you before play. So come on down and have a hit, we welcome you all.

Social Tennis

Social Tennis is still going strong on Tuesday mornings. Even if the weather is hot or cold come on down and join the others or just have a coffee and a chat. It is lovely to see our group of social players expanding. They are a great group of friendly people.

If you don't feel you can commit to competition, or are not sure if you are good enough to play tennis, come on down and have a hit with some of the social players at the Club. You don't know till you have a go. All standards are welcome. Enclosed grounds keep young children safe and while they enjoy the playground, you can have a hit.

It is only \$5 for visitors, members free.
All welcome.

Juniors

The Juniors Summer season is all but finished, with at time of writing many teams playing in Grand finals this coming week. We wish those playing good luck, reminding them just to have fun.

If you have children who would like to join in with the Junior Members of our Club and play some team tennis, please give us a call. Now is the time to inquire about the next 2026 season. Details at the end of this article. All welcome.

Coaches Corner at Wantirna Momentum Tennis

With summer behind us, now is the perfect time to get into tennis! Whether you're brand new to the game or looking to build on your skills, we've opened up some extra Hot Shots classes to make room for new enrolments. It's a great opportunity to start your tennis journey in a fun, supportive environment at the Wantirna Tennis Club.

We will also be running a 3-day Holiday Program from 13th – 15th April, running 10:00am to 2:00pm each day, and finishing with a relaxed BBQ on the final day. The program is open to all players, from beginners through to more advanced competitors, with coaching tailored to suit every level.

Holiday programs are a fantastic way for players to:
Stay active during the school break
Build confidence and improve technique
Make new friends on and off the court
Experience match play in a fun, supportive setting
Spots tend to fill quickly, so we encourage families to book early to secure a place.
Please sms or Call Momentum Tennis on: 0434804719

Be part of one of the largest and most active clubs in the Knox area, with a great coaching team dedicated to helping players of all ages and abilities develop their skills.

Join our friendly tennis community and experience the best of local tennis at Wantirna Tennis Club. For advanced players, Squads continue with high intensity sessions focused on match play, tactics, and fitness. Now's the time to build momentum for the upcoming season. Whether you would like your littlies to play Hot Shots with Ash or Cardio Tennis for both women and men with Troy or Bill give them a call.

Cardio has been extremely popular. Classes are Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes as well as Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Sessions are 45 minutes and it's a fantastic way to enjoy tennis while getting a huff and puff!
For anyone who hasn't tried Cardio Tennis yet,

don't forget you're welcome to come and have a free trial.

A reminder that if anyone needs a new racquet, a restring or anything tennis related we can offer great service and pricing on all major brands.

Contact Troy Murrell

Head coach at Momentum Tennis

All Bookings should be made by calling or SMS to Troy at 0434 804 719

About Wantirna Tennis Club

Visit our website for details on how to join our Club. We have excellent facilities, including two BBQs, covered with a shade cloth sail. We have 10 tennis courts, 5 new classic clay and 5 en tout cas, 8 of these courts are under lights. We offer a range of competitive tennis and social tennis for both adults and juniors with an excellent coaching programme, plus Hot Shots and Cardio tennis. With safe access into the complex and beautiful grounds set in the peaceful Wantirna Reserve with the Knox/East link bike track going right past our front door. Give us a call or check out our website to get more details and information on membership or tennis coaching.

At Wantirna you can always see what is happening by checking out our Website, Instagram or Face book page.

Club coaching team: Troy 043 804 719 and his Coaching team or email t_murrell@bigpond.com

Wantirna Tennis Club Inc

Melway Ref: 63C8

Wantirna Reserve, Cnr Mountain Hwy and Burwood Hwys Wantirna

PO Box 5295 Studfield 3152

Club Secretary: Alison 0408576025 or email wantiratennis@gmail.com

Web: www.tennis.com.au/wantiratc/

WTC Face book: www.facebook.com/Wantirna-Tennis-Club



Wantirna Cricket Club News

Finals heartbreak for Warriors

Both the Wantirna 1st XI and 2nd XI lost finals in a disappointing end to a fantastic season.

The 1st XI - who finished on top of the ladder - easily won a semi-final against

Croydon Ranges thanks to outstanding contributions from Vilfred Correa (91* and 4-28) and Jason Green (85).

That set up an RDCA C Grade Grand Final against Warrandyte but unfortunately Wantirna suffered a heavy defeat.

Wantirna's 2nd XI were also unsuccessful in their finals campaign, losing a semi-final against St Andrews by five wickets.

It was an unfortunate end to a terrific season for

Wantirna, who fielded 70 players over three grades, raised more than \$3000 for mental health charity Beyond Blue, and staged a series of fantastic social events.

Cricket now takes a break with pre-season training set to resume in August.



Templeton Tennis Club News by Neil Houlston, Secretary

Templeton Tennis Club Celebrates Open Day Turnout and Strong Summer Competition Results

Templeton Tennis Club plays an active role in the community, offering quality tennis facilities alongside a friendly, family-focused environment for its members.

Open Day Success

Our recent Open Day held in early February was a major success, drawing in participants and spectators alike from all corners of the community, with 120 attendees (plus committee, their families and coaches) throughout the day.

The day had a lively atmosphere, bringing together eager newcomers, experienced players and families with young children.

Our Open Day highlighted the club's commitment to encouraging participation in tennis while demonstrating its strength in bringing people together through a shared enjoyment of the sport.



Summer Weekend Finals

As our summer weekend competition through the Waverley Tennis Association (WDTA) draws to a close, 6 of our teams have reached the semi-finals across junior matches on Saturday and Sunday mornings, as well as the adult competition on Saturday afternoons.

Congratulations to all players on a strong and successful season.

Follow Us on Socials

To stay up to date with events, including the family fun day, and everything else happening at Templeton Tennis Club, make sure to follow our Facebook and Instagram pages (@templetontennisclub). The active page has the blue tennis ball icon for the profile picture.

Templeton Tennis Club Inc.

Templeton Reserve, 43-63 Templeton Street Wantirna 3152.

Melway Ref. 63 G9

Membership: Leanne 0493 450 111 or membership@templetontennis.com.au

President: Chris 0425 763 106 or president@templetontennis.com.au

Coaching: Kelly 0414 874 482 or str8.sets@bigpond.com

Website: www.templetontennis.com.au

Bayswater Bowls Club

A Literally Bigger and Brighter Outlook

Bayswater Bowls Club is about to enter a new era – literally bigger and brighter than ever.

With the pennant season behind us and another prestigious Masters and Apprentices tournament under our belts we were able to embark on an exciting forward-looking lighting project.

The first stage was a complete upgrade of the existing lights on our Number 1 green with the replacement of the current system with powerful and power-saving LED units which will complement the savings achieved by our use of solar panels.

Then came the installation of a totally new similar system on our second green, doubling the options for night time play for both club and social events.

This was all made possible through a generous State Government Grant with the works being managed in conjunction with Knox Council.

We're only too happy and proud to show this off so we will continue to welcome the public – and potential new members – from 4.00 pm onwards on any Friday afternoon. You'll find us at 43 Phyllis St, opposite Bayswater West Primary School.

Drop in on your own or with a group and try it out. No fees, no booking, no pressure and all equipment and advice provided. It's one of the few sports that's truly accessible and can be played by almost anyone regardless of their age, gender or physical attributes.

www.bayswaterbowlsclub.com or phone 9729 8312.



at
**Bayswater
Bowls Club**

We welcome new and experienced bowlers

It's a game for young and old, male and female and people of all abilities. Try it and see for yourself

Come along any Friday afternoon.

We offer free tuition in a friendly atmosphere.

Full club facilities.

Check our website for more info:

www.bayswaterbowlsclub.com

or

Phone 9729 8312



Centrally located at

43 Phyllis St, Bayswater

(Just off Stud Rd.)

"Friendship through Bowls"



1 year of LOCI. Thank you for being part of our journey.

Over the past year, we've had the privilege of helping local clients buy, sell and move forward with confidence.

While LOCI may be one year young, our team brings years of experience, deep local knowledge and a genuine commitment to achieving the best possible outcomes.

We're proud to be growing within the community we've long been part of and look forward to supporting you in your next move.

Love it. Live it.



Bayswater • Blackburn • Ferntree Gully • Wantirna

Selling | Buying | Property Management

1300 562 400

www.locirealestate.com.au