

# COMMUNITY NEWS

FROM STUDFIELD, WANTIRNA, WANTIRNA SOUTH,  
SCORESBY, KNOXFIELD & BAYSWATER

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EDITION 71

APRIL/MAY 2021

- GLOBAL VACCINE ROLL-OUT RELYING ON KNOX BUSINESS
- GIFTED PIANIST REMEMBERED
- TAKING ACTION ON SINGLE USE PLASTICS
- ROTARY ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF DAY
- ANZAC DAY REMEMBRANCE SERVICE 2021

CAMPFIRE CONVERSATIONS

PEOPLE SHARING STORIES DURING  
CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK IN KNOX

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## Editorial

Hello Community News readers,  
 Well, 2021 is underway and things are looking up!  
 Many businesses are up and running and we are getting on with life and getting "back to normal!"  
 It's great to see many of the regular activities that have been a feature of our newspaper prior to the pandemic returning to regular schedules.

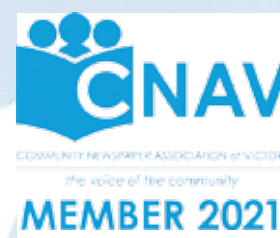
Humans are social beings and we thrive on interactions with each other. Zoom is a great stand-by but it's no replacement for "being there"!

At the time of writing this Victoria is officially "Covid Free". We have vaccines becoming available and confidence is returning. If we stay vigilant and do what we can to keep ourselves safe we can embrace community life once again.

I take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who involved with our paper. We have a bumper issue of 28 pages this edition. I hope you enjoy it!

Janet on behalf of the team

The team at SWCN would like to thank Wantirna College for providing us with an office and home base. We also thank our contributors, advertisers, sponsors and readers. We are grateful for funding received through the Knox Community Development Fund.





## Jackson Taylor Update

I wanted to jump straight in and talk about something really important, mental health. Mental health impacts all of us. If it's not our own direct experience, it's people we know – people we love. And when someone we love is in pain, we suffer with them.

Recently, the final report of the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System was handed down and sets the path for the complete transformation of our system from the ground up. The report told us what we admitted back in 2018 when we committed to this Royal Commission - that the current system is broken, and it is failing Victorians.

We must do more. So much more.

Out of it were over 60 recommendations and we will implement every recommendation. Every single one. Because it's the right thing to do. It won't be easy, but we will get on with this critical work. Because lives are counting on it. I look forward to bringing you updates on it over the coming weeks, months and years. To read the final report go here – [rcvmhs.vic.gov.au](http://rcvmhs.vic.gov.au)

I also wanted to let you know about some really important reforms we've recently made as well: As we know Plastic pollution harms human health, wildlife, and the environment. That's why we're banning problematic single-use items including straws, cutlery, plates, drink-stirrers, expanded polystyrene



food and drink containers and cotton bud sticks by February 2023.

A little while back we trialled 'Home Stretch' – a new program to extend state support up to the age of 21 for young people living in out of home care as teenagers aren't forced to move out on their 18th birthday. Recently we announced we're rolling this out universally – meaning it'll be available to any young person in out-of-home care who wants it. Because every young Victorian deserves a safe, supportive environment at such an important time in their lives – not worrying about where they're going to sleep tonight. They deserve to thrive, not just survive.

# BAYSWATER NEWS

\$1.6 billion to make sure students with disability are supported in the classroom through an Australian first Disability Inclusion package. This will double the number of students receiving extra support in the classroom to 55,000 and will be rolled out locally in 2022.

Some quick updates on projects locally:

- Construction is now underway on Burwood Highway in Wantirna on the new shared pathway so you'll see changed conditions there for a few weeks
- Plans are now in their final stages for the new State Basketball Centre in Knox which the Andrews Government is helping to deliver with \$105 million of investment to create 10 new community courts and make Knox the home of Basketball in Australia.

Recently opened the new building at Bayswater Primary with Dan, as well as new toilets at Bayswater West Primary.

That's all for now, until next time – stay well.

You can call my office on 9738 0577, email me at [Jackson.Taylor@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:Jackson.Taylor@parliament.vic.gov.au) or pop in to the office at Mountain High Centre, Bayswater. And for any further you can search 'Jackson Taylor MP' for more and to follow me on Facebook.

## Community Spirit Brings Blind Creek to Life

from the office of Jackson Taylor MP

A section of a creek in Melbourne's outer east, hidden away for more than half a century, has sprung back to life and created a new public space for people to relax and unwind amongst nature.

Thanks to Melbourne Water's "Reimagining Your Creek" program, a 650-metre section of Blind Creek at Boronia between Scoresby Road and Manuka Drive has been restored from an underground pipe into a more natural waterway. Works began in October 2019 to create this fantastic natural space, incorporating a contemporary urban design, for the local community to explore and enjoy. It is already proving a popular location among the locals to relax and meet.

Both banks of the creek have also been transformed with the planting of 60,000 native trees and shrubs – all sourced from local nurseries.

New pathways, stepping stones across the creek and a pedestrian bridge have been built to enhance public access to the area.

Bayswater MP Jackson Taylor said "I've visited the newly daylighted Blind Creek almost once a week over the past few months, and it's been incredible to see how many families and groups enjoying this focal point of our community."

The \$2.7 million project was delivered in a partnership between Melbourne Water, South East Water, Knox City Council, and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

Residents and community groups were instrumental in the project to revive and revitalise the creek, which was piped underground and out of the sight in the 1960s and flows into Dandenong Creek near Jells Park, Wheelers Hill.



The project aligns with the State Government's Integrated Water Management Program by providing the community with water, protection from floods, improved interaction with healthy waterways and benefits from cooler, greener cities and healthier environments.



# Jackson Taylor MP

## State Member for Bayswater

Suite 2, Mountain High Centre, 7-13 High Street, Bayswater Vic 3153

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This publication is funded from Parliamentary Budget. Authorised by Jackson Taylor, Suite 2, Mountain High Centre, 7-13 High Street, Bayswater 3153.

## Proudly Local



## News from Bayswater Bowls Club



IT'S MORE THAN A GAME

# BAYSWATER NEWS

### The Food of Champions

While Bayswater Bowls Club has just crowned their 2021 Men's and Ladies Singles Champions, we also continue to expand as a community facility open to all.

This year's single's winners were Barbara Keenan and Tyson McCamley. In a thrilling game, Barbara came from behind to defeat Denise Ferguson 25-23, while Tyson was in front most of the day to post a comfortable victory over Peter Weber, winning by 9 shots.

Club Singles Champions then go on to contest a Statewide event known as the "Champion of Champions", firstly against their counterparts in the Eastern Ranges area. Unfortunately, Tyson fell at the first hurdle, but at the time of writing Barbara had progressed to the Regional semi-final.

Even if you don't think you've got the making of a champion in you, Bayswater Bowls Club still welcomes new and experienced bowlers to join our progressive club and we offer free Friday Barefoot Bowls for anyone to try out this marvelous and social sport.

Members will be on hand to provide tuition, so if you are tired of remaining at home, do come along, enjoy our sausage sizzle, and experience an inclusive sport that can be played by all ages and abilities.

Off the green, we've improved our community facilities by adding a food van on site on Thursday nights from 5.30 pm, eat-in or take-away, which is open to the public. Grab something to go, or join us at our well stocked bar.

The bar is open 4 – 6.30 pm Tuesday to Friday, chat in our comfortable lounge area, or play some pool, darts, or table tennis.

More details and contact numbers from [www.bayswaterbowlsclub.com](http://www.bayswaterbowlsclub.com).



Tyson and Barbara proudly display their Trophies



## Bayswater Bowls Club Welcomes you

### BAR OPEN:

Tuesday – Friday from 4pm –  
6.30pm

### FOOD VAN ON SITE:

Thursdays from 5.30pm

### BAREFOOT BOWLS (FREE) AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE:

Fridays from 4.00pm – 6.30pm

43 Phyllis St, Bayswater (off Stud Rd.)  
[www.bayswaterbowlsclub.com](http://www.bayswaterbowlsclub.com)  
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**Community  
News**

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[www.studfieldwantirnanews.org](http://www.studfieldwantirnanews.org)  
Find us on Facebook



## Dinsdale Ward News with Cr. Sorina Grasso

It's been another busy two months being Councillor of Dinsdale Ward. In addition to receiving representations from community members on a range of local issues, together with my fellow Councillors, I completed the comprehensive induction program run by the Victorian Local Governance Association covering a range of topics essential to the work of Council. I also did a Professional Development half day course on Understanding Finances for Councillors in order to prepare myself for the work we are doing on the Budget which needs to be adopted this financial year.

I chaired my first meeting of the Knox Multicultural Advisory Committee and participated in meetings of the Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee, the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action and the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance. These last two are external committees made up of neighbouring councils in the Eastern suburbs of Melbourne dedicated to collaborating on finding solutions to these two major issues.

In between these commitments, I was delighted to visit Kinderlea Kindergarten where I met the Early Childhood Educators and committee members who told me about their plans and aspirations. I was very impressed with the quality program offered there and the fact that the service is so highly regarded,



Cr. Sorina Grasso with Bayswater Park Cricket Club Women's Eleven

some parents travel from outside the municipality to bring their children here.

I also engaged with locals on the Vision for Knox in a street Stall with local State MP for Bayswater, Jackson Taylor and letterboxed over 200 deliberative engagement cards inviting residents' views.

It was fantastic to meet the Women's Eleven at the Bayswater Park Cricket Club and see them in action on their way to playing in the final. The same week I met the President of the Bayswater Bowls Club, Alistair Smith, who gave me a tour of the club, the green and the opportunity to try my hand at the

game, all of it great fun.

I also took part in the Clean Up Day organised by the First Friends of Dandenong Creek, an excellent initiative that was well attended by locals volunteering their time on a Sunday morning to keep our environment in Dinsdale Ward as clean as possible.

As part of the Knox Australia Day Awards, I had the honour of presenting the Local Hero award to Eve John for her important work in providing practical assistance to women affected by family violence. It's great to have selfless, community minded people like Eve in Dinsdale Ward and to see her being recognized for her efforts.

Finally, in preparation for Cultural Diversity Week, together with Mayor Lisa Cooper and fellow Cr Nicole Seymour, I was pleased to attend "Campfire Conversations" organised by Knox City Council. We were privileged to see and be part of a smoking ceremony by Indigenous Knox locals as well as hear stories of migrants and refugees from the Zomi and Iranian communities. We also heard a First Nations perspective on culture from members of the local Indigenous community. I was moved and inspired and I encourage everyone to watch the video on Facebook at Knox City Council or visit [knox.vic.gov.au/culturaldiversityweek](http://knox.vic.gov.au/culturaldiversityweek)



# Cr Sorina Grasso

Dinsdale Ward Councillor - Knox City Council

Advocating for local jobs, prosperity & community.

[cr.sorina.grasso@knox.vic.gov.au](mailto:cr.sorina.grasso@knox.vic.gov.au)

M: 0437 853 445  CrSorinaGrasso 

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## The Bayswater Makers' Market

Bayswater Senior Citizens Hall  
Mountain Highway  
10 am to 2pm

Markets are planned for the following Saturdays

- 24th April
- 22nd May
- 26th June
- 24th July
- 28th August
- 25th September
- 23rd October
- 27th November

Our popular regular stalls will be back including The Basin Backyard Honey, Polish Treats, Geoff the Plant Man, and the Joyous Baker, along with our artists and other crafts people. Many of our Stall Holders have spent the last year making and creating more beautiful creations and look forward to meeting each other and our lovely customers, once again.

Contact: Julia 9890 2546



## News from Aussie Veterans by Michael Quinn

Over the past 20 years our veteran advocates and welfare officers have assisted many thousands of veterans with financial assistance, housing and representation up to and including full hearings at the administrative appeals tribunal.

Sadly, a number of those we have been assisting have taken their own lives for many differing reasons such as; poverty, homelessness, delays in both departmental processing and lengthy appeals. Facilities which have been in place for years for veterans have lost focus with lengthy wait times for both treatment and in-patient care. This situation has become worse after Australia has been involved in the longest military campaign in history.

Our younger veterans or post-Vietnam are now the largest cohort of veterans numbering some 120,000 with war service.

As a group we have been campaigning since 2015 for a Royal Commission into veteran suicide. Numerous rallies and never-ending lobbying have achieved a senate inquiry, ANO audit, productivity commission and also a rolling commissioner with limited powers. Still the numbers continue to grow and recommendations are sadly not being implemented.

On the 24 April veterans are gathering for a call for a Royal Commission on the steps of parliament

house. Numerous organisations have voted and now support this call along with many senators and members of parliament.

Proudly the group of veterans that started this push back in 2015 are the same group providing services from the profits of the Aussie Veterans Opportunity Shop to our veterans.

It is with sadness I look at last years figures of 86 veteran suicides and still deal with the disfiguration, disabilities and brain injuries of very serious attempts to suicide. This number to us is unknown but is greatly higher the those that were successful.

Any suicide is sad, but when a cohort of veterans have a statistically higher vulnerability after serving their country it becomes a countries shame. Each life taken effects, parent, siblings, wives, children and every person who had contact with the victim.

We say "NOT ONE MORE" give us our Royal Commission, lets investigate the causal links and fix them by the recommendations of the Royal Commissioner.

**Please come along and support our veterans on the steps of parliament house on the 24 April at 11.00am.**

**Meet the veterans and listen to their plight.**

# OUT AND ABOUT

## Not One More



**Support a Royal Commission into Veteran Suicide**

## WE CAN HELP YOU RECONNECT WITH EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION

**AT NO COST TO YOU!**



**BE SUPPORTED WHILE YOU GET BACK ON TRACK**

### ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR RECONNECT?

Aged between 17-64 yrs who have not worked or studied in the last 6 months  
Work or study 8 hours or less per week  
Asylum Seeker (Visa conditions apply)  
Young people (17-24yrs) impacted by the Justice system

### HOW CAN RECONNECT HELP YOU?

Get a dedicated case worker to help you identify and plan your goals  
Access and funding support to pre-accredited and accredited courses  
Access connections to outside support and wellbeing services  
Receive study support

## Recognising Outstanding Service from Nick Wakeling MP, Member for Ferntree Gully

The past twelve months have been tough on all of us. None more so than the extraordinary staff at Knox Retirement Village and all aged care workers.

Throughout the pandemic, these workers have made enormous sacrifices to care for and protect our community's most at risk. We all owe these workers a debt of gratitude for their service.

It is for these reasons that I was particularly honoured to visit Knox Retirement Village and to recognise, on behalf of Knox Retirement Village and our entire community, the great efforts of these workers throughout the pandemic.

While the current state of our aged care sector is receiving much-needed attention, it is important that we do not lose sight of the incredible care and dedication - often in difficult circumstances - of our aged care workers.

My heartfelt thanks go out to the staff at Knox Retirement Village and to all workers in the many retirement villages in our Knox community.





## Global Vaccine Roll-out Relying on Knox Local Business

from Alan Tudge MP, Federal Member for Aston

Did you know that an important key to the global rollout of the COVID vaccine lies in Knox?

That's right! Not in London, not in New York, but in our very own area.

Biosafety is a small local business that is playing a massive role in the global roll-out.

Pfizer vaccine.

Vaccination hubs have been established across Australia to administer the vaccine, with major hospitals including Monash Health taking part.

In addition, thousands of aged care residents have also been vaccinated at their facilities.



Alan Tudge MP speaking with staff at Biosafety in Ferntree Gully.

They have recently travelled to the UK, to lead the decontamination of an old penicillin facility to enable it to become a global production, storage and distribution facility for the Pfizer vaccine.

Biosafety decontaminated the facility with a gas called chlorine dioxide that is non-carcinogenic, residue-free, and safer than many other chemicals. It is the largest project of its kind to date.

This kind of decontamination is the business's speciality and managing director Brett Cole is one of the only global experts in this field. Without him this job would not have been able to happen.

Brett was onsite in the UK to ensure the process was carried out meticulously, methodically and with expert skill.

It's always fantastic to see the number of innovative businesses that we have right here in Knox.

Here at home you would be aware that our own vaccine roll-out has now commenced.

The Prime Minister, along with 84-year-old Jane a WWII survivor, were among the first to receive the Pfizer vaccine in mid-February.

Since then, Phase 1A of the roll out has seen frontline health, quarantine and border force workers and aged care and disability residents receive the

This month, The AstraZeneca vaccine, which has now been approved by the TGA, has begun rolling out. The initial supply of this vaccine will be imported from overseas, but we will soon be manufacturing our own doses right here in Melbourne - we are one of the few countries to have the ability to do so.

Beginning with Phase 1B, the AstraZeneca vaccine will be available at many more locations including GP Clinics, respiratory clinics, vaccination clinics and pharmacies.

I will be sure to keep you updated on those in Knox once they are announced.

When your time comes around, I would encourage you to take the opportunity of getting vaccinated.

We may not all be experts in penicillin decontamination, but we do all have a part to play in ending this pandemic.

The vaccines are safe and effective, will help save lives and livelihoods and provide us with our best chance of getting back to a normal way of life. I will certainly be taking it at the first opportunity I receive.

If you do have any questions about the vaccines, it's important that you seek reliable information.

[www.health.gov.au/covid-19-vaccines](http://www.health.gov.au/covid-19-vaccines) has several resources that can help answer your questions.



Biosafety Managing Director Brett Cole preparing to begin decontamination in the UK.

# OUT AND ABOUT

## ANZAC DAY

### REMEMBRANCE SERVICE 2021

(Subject to Government COVID 19 restrictions)



**The ceremony will commence at 10 am  
Sunday 25th April 2021  
at the Knox War Memorial,  
Tim Neville Arboretum  
98 -106 Dorset Road  
(near the corner of Francis Crescent and  
Dorset Road), Ferntree Gully**

This is the anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli by members of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. ANZAC Day 25th April will forever be a very important part of Australian history.

The members of the Peace and Loyalty Masonic Lodge No 261 and associates will again conduct an ANZAC ceremony at the Knox War Memorial.

The Knox War Memorial records the names of all men and women service personnel from the Knox municipal area who paid the supreme sacrifice and gave their lives in conflicts in which Australia has been involved.

The members of the Peace and Loyalty Masonic Lodge and associates will conduct an ANZAC service on this sacred day and have given an ongoing commitment to conduct a service on ANZAC day into the future.

The guest speaker this year will be Hurtle Lupton O.A.M., a well known member of the local community.

Please try and attend this ceremony.

Members of the public are warmly invited to attend this ANZAC service.

Floral tributes are welcome and may be laid.

Russell Hicken, Secretary  
Peace & Loyalty Lodge



# ALAN TUDGE MP

Federal Member for Aston

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9887 3890 www.alantudge.com.au

Real Action For Knox







## What's New At Community Pharmacy?

by Purnima,  
Pharmacy Manager

Hi everyone,

Well, we are coming up to that time of year again – Melbourne Winter!

Although it may seem a while away still, now is the time to start thinking about what you may need to do to get yourself ready for Winter.

With restrictions in place last year (fingers crossed we won't see that again!) we didn't see the usual coughs, colds, and flu's that we normally do throughout the colder months, so it is particularly important that we are aware of what we can do to make it through this Winter season as healthily as possible!

## Our topic of the month - Winter Health

When we talk about Winter Health, or building our Immune systems there are so many different aspects that can be looked at that contribute to this. There is no one magic solution that fits everybody. Everything from sleep habits to diet and exercise play a part in ensuring that we function the best that we can, and when we are functioning at a higher level, we can fight the dreaded Winter bugs that come our way! Reviewing medications can also

play a huge part in the way that we respond to illnesses when they occur.

Now is a great time to book in a consultation with our Naturopath Andrea. Andrea can work in conjunction with our Pharmacists (with your permission), to ensure that we have a complete picture of your health and medical needs and provide you with a range of suggestions to help build your Immune system.

### A quick guide to some of our services available to help you get through Winter! \*

- Naturopath – Book an appointment with Andrea our Naturopath for a pre-Winter review of your Health.
- Flu Vaccinations – Book in the family for your annual flu shot with one of our Pharmacists.
- Delivery – Don't want to come out in the cold? We offer FREE delivery within 5km's of the store and delivery for a small charge between 5km-10km's from the store.
- Sick/Carer's Leave Certificates – If you do get sick did you know that we can write sick and carer's leave certificates?
- MedAdvisor App – Download our app to pre-order and pre-pay for your scripts and Pharmacy Essentials.
- Asthma Management checks – Review your Asthma management plan and Inhaler technique to ensure that your asthma is being controlled and managed the best way possible.
- COVID Vaccinations – More information coming soon.

\*Some services may have fees and eligibility requirements attached. Please contact us for more information on the services you are interested in.

**Don't forget to have a look at our website and follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with all our latest news!**

## Meet The Team

In this edition of the Studfield Wantirna Community News our featured team member is Sue.



### About Sue

#### Q. What made you want to have a career in Pharmacy?

I started pharmacy in 1975, which seems so long ago, I always thought it was a glamorous job, I loved the training that was done, you would go to an amazing venue in town for cosmetic companies and learn a huge amount about skin care and makeup techniques, you would leave with a certificate, an abundance of knowledge and gift packages full of product.

#### Q. Do you have an area of Pharmacy/Health that you are particularly passionate about?

As years passed my interest moved from beauty to health... so when I joined Wantirna many years ago, I became a dispensary technician.... loving rashes, cuts, viruses etc. more.

#### Q. If you weren't working in Pharmacy what would you want to be?

if I had my time over again, I think I would do nursing.

#### Q. What do you like to do when you aren't at work?

My favourite things to do are long walks along a beach and a Chardy at the end of it.

#### Q. What is the one thing I would like my customers to know about me?

I've been asked to say something you may not know about me... but I think I'm an open book with too much sharing hahaha!

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



## Collier Ward Update with Cr. Marcia Timmers-Leitch

Greetings fellow Knox residents. It has been so wonderful to see people out and about returning to education, work places, local sport and activities. I have especially enjoying being able to get back out visiting with residents and hearing from you as we find our way with our new Covid normal.

We have been busy at Knox City Council with the development of budget preparations for next financial year and making sure the priorities of our Community are being met. Thank you for those of you who submitted capital works ideas to be considered in the budget process.

We have also been working on the Council and Community Plans and have many opportunities for residents to contribute to the Vision for Knox in the next four to ten years. If you would like to have your say on the focus for Council then I would encourage you to head to [www.knox.vic.gov.au/communityplan](http://www.knox.vic.gov.au/communityplan) for more information and to have your voice heard.

As always if you need help or information then don't hesitate to get in touch via email [marcia.timmers-leitch@knox.vic.gov.au](mailto:marcia.timmers-leitch@knox.vic.gov.au) or phone 0428 162 218.



# WANTIRNA NEWS

**WANTIRNA NEWS & POST**

**Paul & Kathy Cameron**

Wantirna Mall  
Shop 16, 326 Mountain Hwy  
Wantirna Vic 3152  
T: (03) 9720 3100  
E: [wantirnalpo@gmail.com](mailto:wantirnalpo@gmail.com)

Now Open  
Monday to Friday  
8.00am to 5.30pm  
Saturday  
8.00am to 12.00noon

## Buy Nothing Network Comes To Wantirna

What started as a social experiment has morphed into an International movement and now the "Buy Nothing" network has come to Wantirna and Knox!

The idea began in Washington in 2013 as a Facebook group, giving people the opportunity to "reduce, reuse, and recycle" through giving and receiving, sharing or lending, and expressing thanks to one another on a social network. There are now 1.5 million participants in 30 countries.

Wantirna locals Sue and Catherine Clements have championed the Wantirna / Wantirna South Buy

Nothing Project page and have been overwhelmed by how well it has been received.

"We love seeing how people are creating a true community spirit" says Sue. "Seeing neighbours assist one another, whether it be the gift of time, unwanted items or a shout out for help is just so rewarding."

Each group's admin team undergoes training and keep their groups hyper-local. The focus is very much on people and how they can help one another within their communities.

## Community News

Available online at  
[www.studfieldwantiranews.org](http://www.studfieldwantiranews.org)  
Find us on Facebook



Sue and Catherine Clements: Local "Buy Nothing Wantirna/Wantirna South" Champions

"We love seeing more and more people join the site" adds Catherine. "Best of all this is a great way that we can keep good quality items out of landfill."

If you are a Facebook user and are interested in joining, then search for "Buy Nothing Wantirna / Wantirna South" or "Buy Nothing Knox". The admin teams will help you become of part of this fantastic initiative and get you started.

And don't worry if you do not have a Facebook account! The Buy Nothing Project is currently creating an app that will function in the same way. Search [buynothingproject.org](http://buynothingproject.org) and register your interest ready for its release in May.

**SAVE MONEY ON YOUR GROCERIES**

## REAL FOOD GROCER

Fruit | Veg | Fresh Bread | Dairy | Meat  
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**MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHILE YOU SHOP**

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Your local voice

# Marcia Timmers-Leitch

Collier Ward Councillor - Knox City Council

✉ [marcia.timmers-leitch@knox.vic.gov.au](mailto:marcia.timmers-leitch@knox.vic.gov.au)

☎ 0428 162 218    MarciaTimmersLeitch    [cr\\_marciatimmersleitch](https://www.instagram.com/cr_marciatimmersleitch)





# WANTIRNA NEWS



## Part of the team

Wantirna Community Financial Services Limited is a franchisee of Bendigo Bank and operates the locally owned Community Bank of Wantirna.

Expressions of interest are now being accepted for the voluntary position of Non Executive Director / Committee Member.

As a Non Executive Director / Committee Member you will be motivated, well organised, self-directed and community orientated. You'll support and drive the company's strategic direction, goals and objectives to have a real say in the future direction of the branch and community.

For more information or to apply, call Jeff Somers on 0413 150 587 or email [jjsomers@ozemail.com.au](mailto:jjsomers@ozemail.com.au).

Wantirna Community Financial Services Limited

Wantirna Community Financial Services Limited ABN 43 118 000 230 A1511569 OUT\_1902453, 09/03/2021

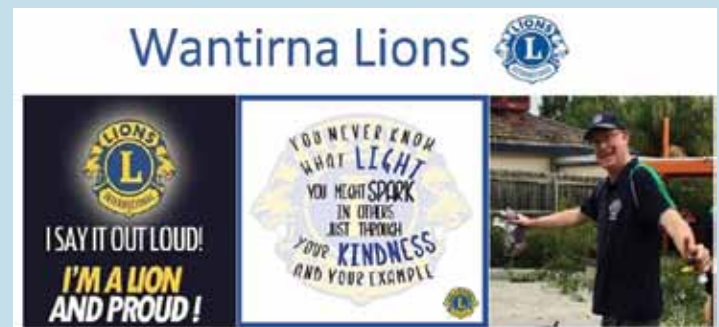
## News from Wantirna Lions Club

Wantirna Lions Club Inc have been busy volunteering and helping out in the local community.

Our recent projects include:

- 123Read2Me program – sorting and packing children's books for disadvantaged students/schools
- Share the Joy appeal Knox Info link – packing Christmas hampers and toys for families in need in the City Of Knox
- Ferntree Gully Salvation Army - we donated 40 hams for the annual Christmas food parcel program
- Tamminya House, emergency housing refuge – playground makeover
- Community Life Church – participated with other Lions clubs in donating Lions Christmas cakes for their food parcels
- Sponsored Wantirna Primary School grade 6 "Achievers Award"
- Sponsored Fairhills Primary School grade 6 "Encouragement Award"
- Provided a donation resulting in the initiation of "Welfare lunch program" for struggling families at Templeton Primary School

If you are interested in volunteering or would like to find out more about our club and the work we do in the local community, please contact Paul Garvey 0400 823 441.



## STOP PRESS!

Without a travel agent you are alone...

How will the passenger experience be different when flying rebounds?

Well that depends if you have a basis for comparison.

As a seasoned traveller, my guess is as good as Google's. Which brings me to the topic of Air Fares.



What is perhaps interesting is the fact that many travellers do not realise that internationally accredited travel agencies are paid commissions, Many a traveller would assume that technology will enable them to do a better job than the travel agent? Think again, with technology comes artificial intelligence.

Is this designed to benefit you? I am a fare analyst.

It is no coincidence that the countless travellers we rescued had one thing in common. They do not have a travel agent.

Thanks to Google, they found Knox Travel!

When you are ready to travel, you have a choice of calling the airlines, if you do not value your time.

KNOXTRAVEL  
TRAVEL & CRUISE

You will be lucky if you get a travel consultant at the end of the line...there's every likelihood that, if it is not a call centre, you will be assisted by a reservationist. Yes, reservationist makes reservations, there's no necessity to pre-empt any likely scenarios.

It will certainly be a better option to go to the internet than to rely on call centres. Fortunately for Knox Travel many of my clients utilise the internet to do their research and then test me! I am secretly pleased when my clients turn out to be teachers. A tick for me? With the advent of Covid, the reality is the experienced travel consultant is going to be hard to come by. At Knox Travel we will be delighted to be of service.

You can make your reservation with no obligation! For a review, visit [www.knoxtravel.com.au](http://www.knoxtravel.com.au)

KNOXTRAVEL  
TRAVEL & CRUISE

[lillian@knoxtravel.com.au](mailto:lillian@knoxtravel.com.au)  
0488 077 395



Now open at Studfield Shopping Centre  
Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm  
Friday 9am - 5pm  
[Knoxtravel.com.au](http://Knoxtravel.com.au)

## Ruth Same Pty Ltd ACCOUNTANT

ABN: 83 137 077 680

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M: 0408 395 510

Email:

[accountant@ruthsame.com.au](mailto:accountant@ruthsame.com.au)

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



# WANTIRNA NEWS

## 'Lemonaid' Fundraising For Wildlife Victoria

from Nick Wakeling MP,  
Member for Ferntree Gully

The resourcefulness and dedication of many of our younger Knox residents never ceases to amaze me.

Recently, while out and about in Wantirna, I came across Grade 5 student Reuben who runs a lemonade stand under the banner of 'lemonaid bros'.

In the past, lemonaid bros have helped raise funds in the wake of the devastating 2019-20 bushfire season and I was pleased to see that their recent efforts have included raising funds for Wildlife Victoria.

On behalf of our Knox community I would like to show my appreciation to Reuben and lemonaid bros for their efforts and I encourage all to stop by their stand and show our community's support!



Nick Wakeling MP with Ruben, at his Lemonade stand

# WANTIRNA Club

BAR  
BISTRO  
FUNCTIONS  
DELIVERY

# NEW

MANAGEMENT  
MENU  
PROMOTIONS



**JOIN TODAY!**

**NEW MEMBERSHIP**  
Available Now!

Membership Now **\$5.00**

**Exclusive Member Only Benefits & Rewards**

**More Benefits For Less**

- Complimentary Club Wine Tasting
- Coffee & Biscuits Weekly Points
- Access to Food & Beverage
- Members Only Promotions
- Lowest Price for All Members



**COURTESY BUS AVAILABLE DAILY FOR WANTIRNA CLUB MEMBERS\***

\*SEE STAFF FOR TIMES & RADIUS




## WANTIRNA Club

# VOUCHER

## BUY 1 MAIN MEAL GET A FREE DESSERT!

Terms & Conditions Apply. 1 voucher per person. Valid until May 30th

350 STUD ROAD WANTIRNA, 3152  
(03) 9801 5555





# News & Events at Your Library

by Angus Cooke

# LIBRARY NEWS



## What's Hot!

This month's collection of Top Reads has become available at your local library, to place free reservations on any of these titles go to our website at [www.yourlibrary.com.au](http://www.yourlibrary.com.au).

Check out this month's latest titles -

Promises to keep | Joe Biden

Girl A | Abigail Dean

The Paris library | Janet Skeslien Charles

The prophets | Robert Jones Jr.

Outlawed | Anna North

Heiress On Fire | Kellie McCourt

The Four Winds | Kristin Hannah

The Night Hawk | Emily Griffiths

The Silent Listener | Lyn Yeowart

Tell Me Lies | J.P. Pomare

Bookings are essential for all events and places are limited due to COVID Safe restrictions. Visit events. [yourlibrary.com.au](http://yourlibrary.com.au) or call 1300 737 277 to book!

## Living Our Best Life

Ferntree Gully Library

Thursday 1st April | 3.30-4.30pm

Did you know that feeling lonely and disconnected from the community can have an effect on your wellbeing? The Living our Best Life project links seniors with a volunteer community connector so that together you will be able to:

Explore what is important for your wellbeing.

Identify the local activities and services you can benefit from. Gain support and encouragement to start using services that can help you.

Project leader, Leanne FitzGerald, will explain how the social prescribing process works and how you can get help to join in more community activities and hopefully feel happier and healthier.

## Growville Gardeners: Success With Seeds And Seedlings

Rowville Library

Wednesday 21st April | 2.00-3.00pm

Raising plants from seed is cheaper than buying seedlings. However it is not always easy to grow your own plants from seed, nor when you buy a punnet of seedlings.

In this session we will look at some strategies for successful propagation while also giving a second life to 'waste' materials.

Olwyn Smiley's business, 'The Backyard Vegetable', aims to encourage home food-growing by offering a consultation service, trouble-shooting and on-going

mentoring, and when available, seedling collections.

## "Ready, Aim, Fire" Author Talk With James Unkles

Lilydale Library

Saturday 24th April | 2.00-3.00pm

Do you have an interest in the 'Breaker Morant' story? Come along and hear the fascinating story of the forgotten Advocate - Major James Thomas - the man who defended Harry 'Breaker' Morant, Peter Handcock and George Witton at their Boer War court martial in 1902. Jim Unkles is the author of 'Ready, Aim, Fire' which is the tragic story of the fourth victim that day - Major James Francis Thomas.

## LOOBY: A Documentary

Rowville Library

Thursday 22nd April | 6.00-7.30pm

To mark 100 years of the Archibald, Looby tours Australia in 2021.

Archibald Prize winner Keith Looby won major prizes at home and abroad. Today his name and works are rarely seen. Perhaps a habit of drawing colonialism, painting non-conformists and speaking up made Looby persona non grata? With sumptuous cinematography, candid interviews and a striking original score, LOOBY uncovers the life and work of an artist we need to remember.

## Selling Your Second-hand Items Online

Croydon Library

Thursday 29th April | 11.00am-12.00pm

Want to know how to create some extra cash in the piggy bank? Let us show you how!

We'll cover the best places to sell items online, how to enhance the quality of your listings, how to safely receive payments and what fees and costs are involved.

## Toy Library Gets Back to Business

by Sarah Buchanan



Last year, COVID-19 lock downs kept the Knox Toy Library closed for nearly 8 months of the year. With lock downs eased, they were able to open first under a click and collect model and then allowing up to 10 parents in at a time.

"It has certainly felt a little different not having children in the toy library during this time," says President Chris Guinane. "Children are the heart and soul of the toy library. Our mission is to provide access to high quality toys at a low annual subscription rate for children in Knox and surrounding suburbs. Personally, my favourite part of visiting the toy library is seeing the joy on my daughter's face as she picks out a new toy to take home."

With an updated COVID-19 plan in place, children are being encouraged to visit the toy library again. "We are looking forward to seeing all their happy faces as they visit us to pick out new toys."

The Knox Toy Library recognises that the last year



has been difficult for many families. "If your family is doing it tough, we ask you to get in touch. We have a number of free 12 month memberships available for those in need," explains Chris.

To apply, you will need to complete a short application

form. You can get a copy of the form by visiting the toy library or emailing [info@knoxtoylibrary.org.au](mailto:info@knoxtoylibrary.org.au). To be eligible you will need to show a valid Concession Card, a Job Seeker Payment or a letter from your employer formally advising of a loss of employment or reduction in hours.

"We are also keen to hear from any members of the local community who may be interested in volunteering on a regular basis. Stop by for a visit during opening hours or email us! It is a great way to connect with local families, meet new people and help out a local organisation."

About the toy library:

The Knox Toy Library has been an integral community service to the families of Knox for more than 40 years. We aim to support the development of children through play, and do so by providing access more than 2500 fun, educational and age-appropriate toys for loan at an affordable cost.

The children who use our service are predominantly aged between birth and 6 years. Our membership fees are kept low so that all children in the Knox community and surrounding areas can have access to quality toys regardless of their socioeconomic background.

**Working hard for  
our local community**

Unit 4, 91 Dorset Road, Ferntree Gully 3156 | P: 9758 6011

[nick.wakeling@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:nick.wakeling@parliament.vic.gov.au) [www.nickwakeling.com.au](http://www.nickwakeling.com.au)

Funded from Parliament's Electorate Office and Communications Budget.

**Nick  
Wakeling** MP

**STATE MEMBER FOR FERNTREE GULLY**





# WHAT'S COOL AT SCHOOL?

## Our Future Leaders

from Nick Wakeling MP,  
Member for Ferntree Gully

A new school year brings new student leaders and it is always a great honour for students to be selected for these important roles and to represent your school.

Recently I was honoured to have had the opportunity to visit local schools including Wantirna Primary School and Ferntree Gully North Primary School to recognise their 2021 school leaders.

It is a particular honour this year to recognise students who, after the challenges faced by students last year and the rocky start to this year, have shown great leadership and support to their peers.

I congratulate those who have been chosen to lead their school in various capacities throughout 2021 and wish all students a great year ahead in 2021.

I look forward to seeing many of our 2021 students leaders go on to achieve great things in the future.



### BOOKS FOR KIDS CAMPAIGN SPONSORS 25 VICTORIAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

With the commencement of Term 1 2021 Books in Homes Australia is excited to embark on a special project in partnership with Rotary District 9810 and supported by Ansvr Insurance that will see around 4,000 new and high-quality books distributed to some 1,830 children in 25 primary schools in Eastern Melbourne and the Yarra Valley. Books in Homes Australia is a charitable foundation that provides books-of-choice to children living in remote, disadvantaged and low socio-economic circumstances, ensuring crucial early literacy engagement and the development of reading skills needed for lifelong achievement. To date, Books in Homes has distributed over 2.7 million new books to children through schools and communities around Australia.

Basic education and literacy are focus areas for Rotary International. Partnering with Books in Homes to encourage the development of reading and to give primary school children living in their local area their own books to keep was a fantastic project that drew the full support of Rotarians. The geographical area covered by Rotary District 9810 includes from Sandringham to Templestowe and up to Upper Yarra and Healesville. The 40 Rotary clubs in this district raised an incredible \$35,000 in the District Governor's Family Project – Books for Kids Campaign, which aimed to identify and fund local primary schools that would benefit from being on the Books in Homes Program. Each child will get to choose two new and quality books during Term 1 2021.

In addition, each participating school will receive a Preview Pack of 48 books to integrate into the school library for all current and future students to access.

The 25 schools supported by this project includes three in the City of Knox: Bayswater Primary School, Boronia K-12 College and Boronia West Primary School.

Thank you, Rotary District 9810, Ansvr Insurance and Campaign Coordinator Shia Smart, along with husband Duncan and son Flynn, for your outstanding contribution to the Victorian community by helping to create a better reading future for primary school students.

### Upcoming Community Events: your chance to be involved

2021 ANZAC Day Commemoration for Knox Schools

Each year since the centenary of ANZAC Day in 2015 the Rotary Club of Boronia has conducted an annual ANZAC Day commemoration for local primary schools.

The 2021 event will again be held at the Tim Neville Arboretum with the ceremony commencing at 11:30am on Wednesday, 21st April.



The Guest Speaker will be local returned serviceman, Billy Schroeder, who is Senior Vice President of the Boronia RSL Sub-branch. Music will again be provided by the St Joseph's College Stage Band and the St Joseph's Primary School Choir will provide choral support. Local primary schools have been invited to participate. Any other interested persons are welcome to attend. The commemoration service has been registered as a COVIDSafe Event.



Past District Governor Shia (left) presents the books to be given to one of the Boronia schools in the program.

**Working hard for  
our local community**

Unit 4, 91 Dorset Road, Ferntree Gully 3156 | P: 9758 6011

✉ [nick.wakeling@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:nick.wakeling@parliament.vic.gov.au) [www.nickwakeling.com.au](http://www.nickwakeling.com.au)

Funded from Parliament's Electorate Office and Communications Budget.

**Nick  
Wakeling** MP

**STATE MEMBER FOR FERTREE GULLY**





## What's On?

Event	Date & Time	Location	More Information
Wantirna Evening View Club	1st Wednesday each month 7pm for a 7.30pm start	The Wantirna Club, 350 Stud Road Wantirna South	Kate on 0421 650 684.
Ferntree Gully View Club	4th Monday of each month 11.30am	The Knox Club. Cnr Stud and Boronia Rd. Wantirna South	Denise Barth 0408 379 935
Boronia View Club	3rd Friday of each month at 11.30am	Eastwood Golf Club Liverpool Road Kilsyth	Judith 9764 8602
Boronia Ladies Probus	3rd Wednesday of each month	Knox Club, cnr Boronia & Stud Rds Wantirna	Zita 9764 5233
iShred - Community Shedding Day	Sat. 17th Apr and Sat 8th May	5/7 Samantha Crt. Knoxfield	1300 763 688
Tiny's Bar and Tastings	Every Thursday 5pm -6.30pm and Friday 4.30pm – 6.30pm	Tiny's Bar and Bottleshop 1/1333 Ferntree Gully Road Scoresby, 3179	0416 030 786
Ringwood Field Naturalists Club	2nd Wednesday each month at 7.30pm	Room 4, Maroondah Federation Estate, Greenwood Ave, Ringwood	Alison or Peter on 9801-6946 <a href="http://www.rfnc.org.au">http://www.rfnc.org.au</a>
Probus Club of Wantirna South	2nd Wednesday of the month at 10am	Wantirna Club, Stud Road, Wantirna	Jo 0414914091
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
Scoresby 55+ Social Circle	Thursdays 10am-12.00noon	Scoresby Football Club, Scoresby Recreation Reserve.	Jeanette 0407 308 671 or John 0405 698 554
Knoxfield Ladies Probus	3rd Wednesday of the month at 10.00am.	Wantirna Club, 350 Stud Road Wantirna	Please ring Val on 9763 6175 or Bev 9753 3224.

## Orana Neighbourhood House – Wantirna South

Orana Neighbourhood House is your local community house just down the road from the Studfield shops on Coleman Road. We offer a range of programs that suit all abilities, are low cost and accessible to everyone. These include computer and digital literacy classes, cooking classes, health & wellbeing classes and art & craft classes. We also offer various support groups to meet the needs of the community.

After a difficult year in 2020, we are keen to welcome everyone back to Orana and once again enjoy social connections and participation in activities.

Drop in anytime and maybe you can meet some new local community members and find out how to get involved in some of the exciting programs and opportunities we have to offer.

House Manager, Lisa Thomas and Co-ordinator Margaret Ledwidge look forward to welcoming you to Orana soon!

Please check our website for information on courses we are running and follow us on Facebook.



*Our wonderful garden volunteers who give their time every Wednesday morning to help keep the garden maintained.*



*House Manager, Lisa Thomas (left) and Co-ordinator, Margaret Ledwidge (right).*



*Kitchens Of The World students who attend our cooking classes with Oddie our resident chef (left) on Fridays.*



Orana Neighbourhood House | ABN 91 514 980522  
62 Coleman Road, Wantirna South VIC 3152  
Open Monday - Friday 9.00am - 3.30pm  
Tel: 9801 1895  
onh@netspace.net.au | [www.orananh.org.au](http://www.orananh.org.au)



## Gifts of love from U3A Knox by Kathleen Meekings

U3A Knox is back in strength. Members of the quilting group have been working hard through 2020 and were delighted to be able to hand over twenty four quilts to the Marion Drummond Child and Adolescent Units at the Austin Hospital. These are psychiatric units where individual families are treated together.

These quilts will go toward brightening the units and making them more homely. The clients are welcome to take them home if they so desire.

Members of U3A Knox have contributed generously and have been supported by Lilly Patches Quilt shop in Boronia. Their efforts are much appreciated. As there is an ongoing need the group hope they will be able to put together another collection for the hospital in the near future.

Even though U3A Knox had to close in 2020 due to COVID 19 restrictions, some courses started up again online using Zoom giving members a welcome social outlet. Now they have reopened with over 1160 members and more than 150 courses. All tutors are volunteers and once you join most courses are free. Occasionally a small charge is required to cover materials or tutor's expenses. Some of their new courses include Australian History, Creative Writing and an Online Learning Group that explore courses available through the Eastern Regional Library.

To find out how to join U3A Knox and what courses are available visit [www.u3aknox.org.au](http://www.u3aknox.org.au).



## CFA News

by Tam Nagorcka



### Blue Road Reflectors

Have you ever wondered why there are blue road reflectors otherwise known as Raised Reflective Pavement Markers? They are used globally to identify where water supply and fire hydrants are. The blue reflectors are located some 100mm to the left or right of the centre line on the side of where the hydrant is, and provides us immediate knowledge of where hydrants are located in time of emergencies. There are Australian Standards applicable to how these are designed being AS1906.3 .

### Volunteering for your community

CFA are always on the lookout for new members to join their ranks within the City of Knox. If you would like more information, please go to our CFA

Webpage and register your interest.

<https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteer-careers/volunteers>

### Vic Emergency App

Don't forget to download the VicEmergency App or visit [www.emergency.vic.gov.au](http://www.emergency.vic.gov.au) for warnings from all Victorian Emergency Services. From local road closures, trees down, fires, local warnings and even beach closures from sharks. We welcome you to join your local CFA Facebook page for local stories and warnings on the primary response areas of your locality.

### Smoke Detectors

We respond to incidents across Knox including Eastlink, factories, shopping centres, residential and aged care residences as well as Churchill National Park where we are regularly called upon to assist Ambulance Victoria in rescuing injured patients, in what are some of the most challenging conditions.



# SHAUN LEANE MP

## MEMBER FOR EASTERN METROPOLITAN REGION

**OFFICE:** SUITE 3, LEVEL 2, 420 BURWOOD HWY, WANTIRNA SOUTH VIC 3152

**PHONE:** (03) 9887 0255

**EMAIL:** [SHAUN.LEANE@PARLIAMENT.VIC.GOV.AU](mailto:SHAUN.LEANE@PARLIAMENT.VIC.GOV.AU)

**WEBSITE:** [WWW.SHAUNLEANEMP.COM.AU](http://WWW.SHAUNLEANEMP.COM.AU)



## Knox Environment Society Community Nursery by Richard Faragher

After a different and sometimes challenging 2020 we are all hoping to see real growth in 2021. The KES community nursery is therefore ideally placed to help you grow into the new year.

With a cool summer, some good late season rains and lots of hard work by our volunteers we have great stocks of a wide variety of plant species. Regular customers will know that the KES concentrates on growing locally indigenous species that are ideal for local conditions and will be the best for bringing birds and wildlife into

your garden. Many of our plants will tolerate poor soils and we have plants for full sun, part sun, no sun, wet, dry and everywhere in-between.

Our nursery is fully staffed by volunteers who do a great job to produce over 60,000 plants per year. They are always willing to help and give advice so bring down plans, ideas and problems for us to help to you to solve.



The vast majority of our plants are tubestock and are only \$2 per tube, we also have some larger shrubs in 150mm pots at \$6 and some larger trees in 14 Litre tubs at \$20.

The nursery is open Thursday 10am – 4pm, Saturday 10am – 1pm and Sunday 10am – 1pm. You can also order on line via our website [www.kes.org.au](http://www.kes.org.au), or email [info@kes.org.au](mailto:info@kes.org.au)

If you would like to be involved in an active and vibrant community with a wide range of volunteer jobs we would love to hear from you.

## Taking Action on Single Use Plastics

from the office of Jackson Taylor MP

Minister for Environment Lily D'Ambrosio announced a phase out and ban of specific single-use plastics by 2023.

The ban will apply to all cafes, restaurants and organisations in Victoria and will include single-use plastic straws, cutlery, plates, drink stirrers, polystyrene food and drink containers, and plastic cotton bud sticks.

Many businesses have also already started to transition and have made significant changes to reduce plastic waste.

On average, each Victorian sends around 68 kilograms of plastic waste to landfill every year. Victorians can all play a part by avoiding single-use plastics where possible in their daily lives and choosing the sustainable and reusable alternatives available.

The ban is a crucial step in protecting our rivers, waterways and oceans from plastic pollution which is killing our turtles, whales, seabirds and other precious marine life.

The ban is part of the State Government's 10-year plan to transform Victoria's waste and recycling system, supported by an unprecedented \$515 million investment and creating thousands of jobs in recycling and manufacturing.

For more information on the ban, visit [vic.gov.au/plastics](http://vic.gov.au/plastics).



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

by Alison Rogers

Our program has been totally re arranged for the last few months, with many speakers postponed till a later date.

### Meetings

#### March

The Club once again had an outdoor meeting, making use of the last of daylight saving. This meeting was held at Jell's Park at the Ferntree Gully Rd end. Our leader Shirley S took our members for a walk around the lake. Quite a stretch of the legs. We were lucky to see many water birds on our journey, ibis, darters, ducks of various kinds, masked lapwings and Australian little grebes with young. Bush birds were also present in the bushland, including wrens, grey fantails, eastern rosellas, corellas and more.



Wood ducks & Purple Swamphens  
Photo Peter Rogers

On arriving back to the carpark we gathered for a picnic tea and much chatting.

President Peter R then welcomed all to a short meeting with discussion on details of the next meeting, which we hope will be back at the Federation Estate Ringwood.

Our April meeting will be held in room 4 Federation Estate on Wednesday 14th April. There will be 3 small talks given by 3 of our members. We look forward to meeting 'face to face' whilst adhering to Covid restrictions imposed by Maroondah Council. Masks to be worn at all times.

### Excursions

#### February - Leader Jackson Airey

The planned excursion for February was called off due to the 5 day covid lockdown. This will be re scheduled at a later date.

#### March Excursion - Hazel and Alan Veevers

This excursion was held at Point Cook. Members were lucky to do a walk before the rain came down. A combination of bush birds, Superb fairy wrens and Willie wagtails with shore birds. A great selection of raptors/birds of prey were also seen. These included, Whistling kites, Black Shouldered kites, Brown falcon and Peregrine falcons. After lunch a walk along the shore was possible as the tide was out. Sightings of Pied Oyster catchers, Swans, Crested terns, Little Pied Cormorants, White faced herons and Pelicans.

A good birding day out.



Pelicans  
Photo Alison Rogers

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 held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7-30pm in Room 4 at Maroondah Federation Estate, Greenwood Ave, Ringwood (Melway 49 H10).

All visitors are welcome.

For more details phone Alison or Peter on 9801-6946.

Check out our Website <http://www.rfnc.org.au> there is so much more to see and find out.



# News from the Australian Jazz Museum

*Proactively Collecting, Archiving and Disseminating Australian Jazz.*

## Gifted Jazz Pianist Remembered by Ken Simpson-Bull

Marie June Francis is a name which might not be familiar to many Melburnians, but Marie, a brilliant jazz pianist who sadly passed away late last year, was at the forefront of the Sydney jazz scene over many years. Her national exposure was mainly on Brian Henderson's Bandstand Show in the 1970s and '80s. Marie, one of seven children, was born in New Zealand where her mother formed a band which included the whole family. It successfully toured New Zealand as the Marie Francis band and became very popular. After she met her well known singer husband, Ron Polsen, she and Ron moved to Sydney where they were well received. "To Each his Own" became one of their popular recorded numbers.

Over the years Marie has composed hundreds of jazz tunes as well as arranging and performing in a male dominated jazz world. She has performed with a variety of jazz musicians at such venues as Sydney's El Rocco, the Don Burrows' Supper Club French's Tavern and the Manly Leagues club to name a few. Ron and Marie had four children together, the oldest son following his mother's tradition by forming a blues band called "The Rhythm Method".



Marie passed away at age 84 after entering hospital with a serious illness last year. The Jazz Museum hopes to add some of Marie's recordings and memorabilia to its collection as an enduring memory of her contribution to jazz.

### The Australian Jazz Museum

(nationally accredited)

The nationally accredited Australian Jazz Museum, 15 Mountain Highway, Wantirna will again be open free to the public in due course.

Resumption of group visits will be advised.  
Enquiries: (03) 9800 5535 or visit the web site at [www.ajm.org.au](http://www.ajm.org.au)



Marie Francis

## THE FERNTREE GULLY ARTS SOCIETY

at

### THE HUT GALLERY

157 Underwood Rd, Ferntree Gully

### APRIL EXHIBITION

"THE FOUR MEDIUMS"

Oil, Acrylic, Water colour and Pastel.

Member's artworks done in one of the Four Mediums.

Weekends 11- 4pm

From Sunday the 11th to the 25th of April.

### OFFICIAL OPENING & PRESENTATION

2PM Sunday 18th April

### MAY EXHIBITIONS

"ABSTRACT ART" In the Gallery.

A member's exhibition with a difference.

"THURSDAY NIGHTS" In the Foyer.

A collection of artworks done by the Thursday night group.

### OPENS WEEKENDS

From Sunday the 2nd of May - 30th May.

COME ALONG, ALL WELCOME, FREE ENTRY.

### WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

Check our Website: [thehutgallery.wordpress.com/](http://thehutgallery.wordpress.com/)

Or Facebook: The Hut Gallery Ferntree Gully Arts Society.

## Introduction to Round Dancing

by David Mallen

Panda Rounds Round Dance Club in Boronia is back dancing in the Boronia Progress Hall. Their Introduction to Round Dancing event was cancelled last year as the Club's weekly Friday evening dance was held via Zoom.

The last time this event was held was in 2019 and the hall was packed with over 70 dancers. This year the numbers will be restricted and all dancers must register beforehand. Masks must be worn in the hall unless the Covid-19 rules change.

Round Dancing is cued social ballroom dancing and is the easiest way to learn to dance. You will be taught basic Rumba steps and by the end of the class you will be dancing round the room.

Come alone or come with friends for an evening of fun. This is a free Knox Over 55s Zest4Life event.

### Event Details:

Friday, 21 May 2021, 7.00 – 8.30pm

Boronia Progress Hall, 134 Boronia Road, Boronia (near the corner of Dorset Road).

Booking essential. Numbers are limited.

Book with David on 0419 337 311

or [rdav0168@gmail.com](mailto:rdav0168@gmail.com) by 14 May.

Smart casual dress. Smooth soled shoes are recommended. BYO drink. Parking available at the rear of the hall in the library carpark off Park Crescent. QR Code check-in.

Panda Rounds is registered with the Round Dance Association of Victoria

[www.rounddanceassociationvictoria.org.au/PandaRounds.html](http://www.rounddanceassociationvictoria.org.au/PandaRounds.html)





# KNOXFIELD & SCORESBY NEWS



## Knoxfield Ladies Probus Club By Beverly Bishop

Our February meeting was well organized, and we were all looking forward to socializing as we did in January, when surprise, surprise, another lockdown was called. Missed by one day, however we are all cognisant with what is required to keep our community safe, and flip immediately into action planning next month's meeting on the 17th of March 2021, our Annual General Meeting.

We welcome two members joining the committee, and there will be a small shuffling of portfolios. Whoops, been watching politics too much. It is rewarding being a committee member, also fun 99.9% of the time. Apart from making sure the Club runs smoothly, planning enjoyable outings and inviting interesting speakers, you have the opportunity to get to know and to appreciate your fellow committee members.

We have enjoyed a Sunday brunch at Tosaria's Restaurant Rowville, and we have a bus trip planned for 31st of March to Mornington Market which is a lovely stroll down Main Street, with a visit to the Sunnyridge Strawberry Farm after lunch. Hopefully, we will remember to leave space for more foodie goodies. We are very happy to have a group of ladies from Boronia Ladies Probus joining us on this trip. Another opportunity to mingle with fellow Probarians.



Semi or fully retired ladies are welcome to join us. We meet at 10 am on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (Covid allowing), at the Wantirna Club, 350 Stud Road, Wantirna.

Please call Jo on 0414 914 091 for more details.

## Scoresby 55+ Social Circle

Scoresby 55+ Social Circle has now resumed meeting after COVID restrictions.

We are a purely social group and meet at the Scoresby Football and Cricket pavilion every Thursday from 10 am to 12 noon.

As we are auspiced by the Rowville Learning Centre, we pay a yearly registration of \$3 to Rowville and \$3 door entry on a Thursday.

We meet at the hall Thursday morning for Tea / Coffee and a social get together along with a little bit of morning tea. All are welcome male and female, over the age of 55 and membership is not limited to Scoresby residents. Many of our members come from outside of the Scoresby area and in fact some come from outside Knox.

Apart from our Thursday meetings we plan to resume outside visits and self drive activities.

For further information please ring the co-ordinator Jeanette on 0407 308 671 or deputy co-ordinator John on 0405 698 554

## Care Of Your Pool Over The Off-Season

With summer coming to an end, and moving into the cooler months, it is now time to close down your pool until spring. It is important to have your water tested, balanced and an algicide applied now to keep your pool in a healthy state even though we will not be using it for a while. Also correct water balance will protect your pool equipment and surfaces.

This is also a good time to consider off season maintenance like sand changes, calcium treatments, and replacement of old equipment before next summer.

We can provide you with a free water test, chemicals and equipment service and replacement advice suitable to your individual pool.

Shop hours from May are 10 to 3 weekdays and 10 to 2 Saturdays.



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**Cr Nicole SEYMOUR**

Tirhatuan Ward Councillor  
Knox Council

✉ P.O. Box 2168, Rowville 3178

*"Thank you for your on-going support. May we achieve great outcomes for our community together."*

0427 245 834

nicole.seymour@knox.vic.gov.au

! Cr Nicole Seymour

www.nicoleseymour.com.au





# KNOXFIELD & SCORESBY NEWS



## NEWS FROM THE MAYOR

Cr Lisa Cooper

Knox Community Arts Centre have resumed live shows and they have just released their new program for the remainder of the year – coming up are a Shirley Bassey tribute show, Dinomania – for kids to come face to face with dinosaurs, an Ella Fitzgerald tribute show and a comedy night as part of the Melbourne International Comedy Festival roadshow. Details are available here: [knox.vic.gov.au/kcac](http://knox.vic.gov.au/kcac)

The first of the outdoor pop up events is the Knox Drive-In Cinema screening Red Dog at Knox Community Arts Centre carpark on Friday 26 March, GO! on Saturday 17 April and Scoob on 14 May.

All of these are ticketed for a small redeemable price. Details for the Drive-In program can be found at: [knox.vic.gov.au/drivein](http://knox.vic.gov.au/drivein)

The children of Knox and their families are invited to celebrate Easter Fun at Miller's Homestead on Easter Saturday, 3 April 2021.

The event offers a delightful mix of Easter Storytelling with True Fairies, Mad Hatter's Magic Show, Live Music and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Children (and their grown-ups!) are invited to wear their favourite Easter costumes, bonnets, bunny ears or other festive attire just for fun!

Tickets are now available at \$10 per family (max 2 adults, 3 kids). The ticketing fee is fully redeemable at the event's food and beverage offering.



Easter Fun at Miller's  
3 April 2021



View the session times and book online: [knox.vic.gov.au/easter](http://knox.vic.gov.au/easter)

Community outings have also resumed for over 65s for the first time in a year. Details available here [knox.vic.gov.au/outings](http://knox.vic.gov.au/outings).

Also there is an aged pension information session being hosted online free for people to understand eligibility on 7 April. This is a virtual event and people can find out more by ringing Linda Keenahan on 9298 8828.

Best wishes for you and your families,  
Mayor Lisa Cooper

My wish for everyone in the Knox community is that this year is one of recovery, good health and prosperity. I want to thank the countless Knox residents and organisations that have helped us to build the connection and resilience we need as a community, whether by looking out for others or by supporting local businesses to regain a footing after the challenges of 2020.

There are some wonderful up and coming community events which we can all look forward to.



Knox Drive-In Cinema  
26 March 2021



## Friberg Ward News

with Cr. Susan Laukens

### Civic Centre enquiry counter reopens

Now that the COVID lockdown restrictions have eased, the Civic Centre, 511 Burwood Highway, Wantirna has reopened the enquiry area for face to face assistance, including sharps disposal. Hours are 9am to 12.00, then 1pm to 4pm Monday to Fridays.

### Have Your Say on the Vision for Knox

During 2020, council ran a number of forums and focus groups where community members and our key stakeholders told us what they love about Knox and what they want our future to look like. Council has listened and come up with five draft vision statements. We would love you to tell us which Vision statement you think best reflects your aspirations for the future. Visit [www.haveyoursay.knox.vic.gov.au](http://www.haveyoursay.knox.vic.gov.au)

### Be a part of the conversation

Working together to keep our neighbourhoods in tip top shape.

Did you know there are several ways you can report to council an issue or concern that you have in your neighborhood?

Call customer service on 03 9298 8000 and speak with one of our customer service officers. Make sure you keep a record of your reference number for easy follow up if necessary.

Follow the link <https://www.knox.vic.gov.au/onlinerequests> and complete the appropriate form. If you can't find a form that fits your enquiry, email [knoxcc@knox.vic.gov.au](mailto:knoxcc@knox.vic.gov.au)

Download the SNAP SENT SOLVE app and follow the prompts on screen. This report is sent directly to Knox City Council customer service to action.

Monthly council meetings. Submit a public question form online via <https://knox council.wufoo.com/forms/public-question-time/> or in person via the public question time box in the foyer of the Knox

Civic Centre prior to the meeting. (Please check the Knox City Council website to ensure the meeting is open to the public in relation to COVID19 restriction)

If you have any issues with the above ways to report, reach out and let me know what matters to you.



## Cr. Susan Laukens

KNOX CITY COUNCIL FRIBERG WARD COUNCILLOR • PUTTING OUR COMMUNITY FIRST

LET ME KNOW WHAT MATTERS TO YOU

Call or text on 0437 882 913,

email me at [cr.susan.laukens@knox.vic.gov.au](mailto:cr.susan.laukens@knox.vic.gov.au) or visit [www.susanlaukensforknox.com.au](http://www.susanlaukensforknox.com.au)

SusanLaukensforKnox



# KNOXFIELD & SCORESBY NEWS

## Help To Get Businesses Back On Their Feet

from the office of Kim Wells MP

### Local tourism has taken a huge hit in Victoria due to COVID 19.

Tourism, hospitality and accommodation businesses in metropolitan Melbourne have been struggling for a year now. They were forced to shed thousands of jobs during 2020, hold their breath over summer and shut down on Valentine's Day.

It is so important that we all help these businesses get back on their feet.

For many of these businesses, the hardship continues today, as many of us move on with our lives. I strongly encourage all of those who can to head out to the city and enjoy all that Melbourne has to offer.

The Melbourne Travel Voucher Scheme provides eligible Victorians with \$200 to help cover the costs of a minimum two nights paid accommodation, plus attractions or tours in metropolitan Melbourne during the eligible travel period.

Victorians who receive a voucher and spend at least \$400 on a minimum two nights paid accommodation, plus tours or attractions during their stay will be eligible to receive a reimbursement of \$200 on presentation of receipts.

For more information please visit [www.vic.gov.au/melbourne-travel-voucher-scheme](http://www.vic.gov.au/melbourne-travel-voucher-scheme).



### Volunteer Drivers make a difference

- connecting our seniors to their community.

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or ring 9763 9700 to join today!

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# Kim WELLS MP

STATE MEMBER FOR ROWVILLE

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[KimWellsMP](#) | [KimWellsMP](#)

Authorised by Kim Wells, Unit 4, 1335 Ferntree Gully Rd, Scoresby. Funded from Parliamentary Budget




**A STRONG VOICE FOR SCORESBY AND KNOXFIELD**





# COMMUNITY NEWS

## 100 YEARS of COMMUNITY SERVICE

This year of 2021 is a special year for Australian Rotarians. On April 21st, it will be 100 years since the first Rotary Club was formed, and as it happens, it was right here in Melbourne. The second Club formed was the Rotary Club of Sydney.

Throughout the year there will be a number of events around our community arranged and hosted by local Rotary Club to celebrate this 100 year anniversary. Hopefully you will see some.

Use this link in your web browser to read about some of the events being planned -:

<https://9810rotary.org.au/page/r100-celebrations>

While we are proud to be Rotarians, we are prouder still of the vast range of projects, community services and funding that Rotary provide across Australia and the world. Such things as the long running project to eradicate polio from the world. Yes, this is the work of Rotary and we have almost succeeded. Other projects involve Mental Health, support of the homeless, support for victims of bush fire, floods and other so called natural disasters, both at home here in Australia and around the World.

To perform this work, Rotarians sometimes work within their Clubs and Districts, and sometimes form partnerships with other organisations, Governments and business and with them we can leverage on our own and their resources of people, expertise, time and money to achieve so much more together than we or they can achieve on our own.

For Rotarians, this means we can usually cater for a wide range of passions, whatever they are, to help build the better world locally, State-wide, nationally, internationally and globally. And we do this every day.



In our Club, the Rotary Club of Knox, we meet at lunch time weekly (at the Knox Club, Wantirna), on Wednesdays (members aren't expected to attend every week), in project teams and occasionally at other times for Fellowship.

Our Club was chartered in 1980, yes we as a group are only 41 years old, just a baby compared to the original Australian Clubs, but we are functionally active and striving to improve the local community we reside in.

How do we use our funds?

The operating expenses of our Club are financed through our members' subscriptions.

We finance our community projects from:

- members' and other benefactors' donations
- grants from other philanthropic trusts
- fundraising activities

If you would like to know more, please visit one of our weekly meetings as a guest and talk to us about what we do and why we do it. Feel free to call our President Alan on 0419 153085 and arrange a visit.

## 2021 Annual Charity Golf Day



For more than 20 years the Rotary Club of Boronia has conducted an annual Charity Golf Day to raise funds for Club projects that assist the local community.

Last year's event was a great success. The 'weather gods' smiled on us with the rain holding off, allowing players to enjoy a warm and dry morning of golf. Some 72 players hit off at 8:00am and were finished by 12:30pm. Lunch was served in the Club House at 1:00pm. Thanks to the support of players, sponsors and the Eastwood Golf Club we were successful in providing financial assistance to:

Foothills Community Care – a local organisation that provides food, shelter and other support for people addressing issues such as family and domestic violence, addictions, homelessness, poverty, mental health and social isolation.

Skyline Education Foundation – an organisation that provides bursaries for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

East Gippsland Rotary Fire Aid – providing support to individuals and communities that were severely impacted by bush fires in early 2020.

Other beneficiaries in recent years include:

2019: Reaching Out Because We Can – a local organisation helping out the homeless community, Stonehaven House – a local charity supporting the Disabled,

Boronia Heights Primary School – towards the purchase of a defibrillator.

2018: Days for Girls, End Trachoma 2020, Angel Flight, Mercy Ships

2017: Youth Early Intervention Program, Days for Girls, Swags for the Homeless, a joint project with the Rotary Club of Taveuni (Fiji) providing free eye surgery

This year's golf Day will once again be held at Eastwood Golf Club on Monday April 12th, 2021. It is an Ambrose event, with a shotgun start commencing at 8:00 am. Entry fees are \$50 for Eastwood members and \$70 for non-members and include a buffet lunch. This year's proceeds will be distributed to:

- The Rebecca Jane Foundation
- Backpacks 4 VIC Kids
- Boronia school kids' education support

For further details, or if you are interested in playing on the day, please contact Ken Barrett on 9801 1161.

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**ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF DAY**

Conducted by the  
Rotary Club of Boronia

**EASTWOOD GOLF CLUB**  
Liverpool Rd, Kilsyth (Mel 65 H2)

Monday April 12, 2021

Shotgun Start - 8:00am

**Ambrose Event**

Entry Fee \$70  
Eastwood Members \$50

Includes golf, buffet lunch & trophies

Proceeds to:  
Rebecca Jane Foundation,  
Boronia Kids Education Support and  
Backpacks 4 VIC Kids



# COMMUNITY NEWS



## Boronia VIEW Club

Boronia view Club will be meeting on Friday 16th April at 11.30 am and on Friday the 21st May at 11.30 am at Eastwood Golf Club, Liverpool Rd. Kilsyth for a lunch meeting costing \$27. The speaker in April will be Jennifer Evans from Horizons of Hope who supports overseas village crafts. She will have goods for sale after the meeting.

At the May meeting our speaker will from Angel Flight – a charity that coordinates non-emergency flights for country people to travel to the cities for specialist treatment.

Enquiries Judith 9764 8602

## Wantirna Evening View Club

Wantirna Evening VIEW Club is a group of friendly women who meet and enjoy a social environment whilst knowing we are raising valuable funds for The Smith Family Learning For Life Program. We currently sponsor 6 students through the dedicated efforts of our ladies.

We raise the funds by holding raffles at our meetings, Bunning's BBQs; trips to the theatre (local and into city) or a cosy afternoon tea at a member's house.

We meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month (except in January) at The Wantirna Club, 350 Stud Road, Wantirna 3152 – 7 pm for a 7:15pm start. A lift to go upstairs is available. We enjoy a delicious 2 course meal plus tea and coffee for \$30.00 and each meeting we have an interesting guest speaker.

We would love new members to join – any age group most welcome. Being an evening club our meeting time is suitable for the working lady or the lady who has day time commitments.

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

## Ferntree Gully VIEW Club

Our monthly luncheon meetings are held on the 4th Monday (except in December) of each month and includes a two course lunch, tea/coffee at a cost of \$25. We have a meeting, then a speaker or entertainment. We support The Smith Family and raise money through our luncheons and in-house functions. We support 6 disadvantaged students through the 'Learning for Life' Program with the Smith Family. We also support a refuge for women and children escaping domestic violence.

Monday 26th April, 2021

Lunch & Speaker - Gary Lusk - will talk about Connie Francis, an American singer and Actress.

Monday 24th May, 2021

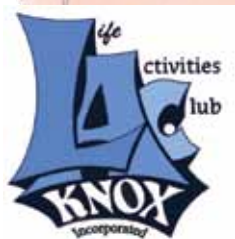
Lunch & Speaker - Ruby Lampard from KARA House

If you want to join a club that is both welcoming and fun, come join us. Visitors are very welcome.

Time - 11.30am for a 12.00 noon start

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

To book ring Denise Barth - 0408 379 935



Again, we are on the move, and good plans are afoot.

Gotta thank our Committee and Convenors, they're always looking for ways to keep us out and about, meeting new people, seeing new places, learning and entertaining. For instance, Armchair Travel! There are places that are out of our reach. So, with a video, and seated in a comfortable chair, we can visit anywhere, see whatever, and enjoy a delicious afternoon tea, with friends.

For exercise, we can join the walkers, they will be exploring "Wilsons Park in Berwick on the 14th. May. Two weeks later, and they'll be cruising around Jells Park. Bushwalking is not as frightening as the name, remember we are Seniors, and older than some. Sunday Walkers make a day of it. Other exercise, come to the pool on Tuesday mornings, or/and join the Badminton, it's fun.

This month APRIL, we're heading to Echuca for a 5day/4night Bus Trip. We'll see Painted Silos in Rochester and Benalla area, and Sculptures, Pottery, Olive farms, etc. etc. AND, board the "Emmy Lou" an original, genuine Paddle Steamer. The steam engine is in view and it is fascinating to watch the bits and pieces doing their work.

Let's get to plans for May. 12th. We will visit the Old Berwick Cheese Factory. They have a Full Time Gardener, who will show us around the beautiful, extensive gardens and old buildings associated with cheese production. Car-pooling on this outing.

For those who enjoy card playing, we have "500" weekly, then Canasta and Bolivia once every month. Social Games, too, is monthly, as is

Cinema, Lunches, Dine-out, and the Coffee and Chat mornings.

There's more, and our annual membership is only \$25:00. May 24th. Is the date for our quarterly meeting, and you are invited. Activities are organised by volunteer convenors, and are free, but of course, entry fees, lunches, cinema, and transport are at your own expense. Your first 3 visits are welcome,

and only after these 3, will we ask you to join as a member. A warm welcome awaits.

To learn more about our friendly club, i.e. Life Activities Club Knox Inc., and /or for a copy of our current newsletter, please ring:

**CAROL 0419 870 639**

Look us up at [www.life.org.au/knox](http://www.life.org.au/knox)



Picnic in the park



## Help With The Cost of Utility Bills

By Melinda Kearsley, Financial Counsellor at EACH.

With the cooler months approaching utilities bills are set to increase for most Victorians. The cost of electricity, gas and water has increased at a far greater rate than wages and Centrelink payments. When essential services become unaffordable many people respond by going without heating, food, medical care and other basic needs to prioritise their bills. In other situations the result may be disconnection or being pursued by debt collectors. The good news is the Victorian government has responded by introducing legislation to reduce energy retail prices and the rate of disconnections.

The Victorian Default Offer (VDO) for electricity came into effect on 1st July 2019 and was revised in January of this year. The VDO acts as a price cap. Energy plans with discounts have the same base cap as the VDO, but apply a percentage discount off the estimated annual costs of the VDO. While this acts as a safeguard for those on standing contracts, it can still be worthwhile comparing the different offers of retailers to reduce your costs, using a comparison website such as Victorian Energy Compare.

**Best Offer:** Victorian energy retailers must inform you if you are on the "Best Offer" for your individual circumstances and how much you could save by switching to the best energy plan they offer. This offer is based on the energy usage of the customer over the past year. You will see this information on your bill at least every 4 months so it is worth taking the time to read your bill or call your energy provider to enquire about this.

**Energy Fact Sheets:** Your retailer must provide an energy fact sheet to help you compare energy deals and estimated costs for different sized households. They are available on the retailer's website or you can phone and ask them to send you one by email or post.

**Payment Difficulty Framework:** But what if you still can't afford your ongoing electricity or gas usage? The Payment Difficulty Framework is designed to help residents avoid getting into debt. Your retailer must contact you if you are falling behind and allow you to pay what you can for 6 months. The amount owing may be accrued as a debt to pay after the 6 months. The retailer must provide information and advice on how to reduce your usage and what grants and concessions are available. If you are struggling, it is best to contact your provider as soon as possible to discuss a solution.

**Disconnections:** You cannot be disconnected if you are being assisted through the payment difficulty framework, you owe less than \$300 for gas or electricity or less than \$200 for water, or you have a complaint open with the Energy and Water Ombudsman. Energy companies must consider your circumstances such as loss of employment, relationship breakdown, family violence, illness or unexpected expenses.

**Utility Relief Grant Scheme:** Low income households can access payments of up to \$650 per utility over a

2 year period. If the household does not have a gas account the amount is \$1300 for electricity. One of these criteria must be met: accommodation cost is 30% or more of income; unexpected decrease in income; unexpected increase in cost for essentials; family violence. To find out if you are eligible you can call the Concessions Information Line on 1800 658 521, or your phone, electricity, gas or water retailer. You can also complete the application online with the assistance of your retailer, a friend, support worker or financial counsellor.

**Energy Mentor Scheme:** Energy payment mentors work from community organisations such as Infolink in Boronia and Citylife in Wantirna. Mentors can assist you with energy use advice accessing the Utility Relief Grant Scheme and negotiating with your energy company if required.

**Utility Debt:** If you have been unable to pay for your utility usage and the debt has been passed to the collections department or a debt collector is contacting you, a Financial Counsellor may be able to help you or advocate on your behalf. Financial counselling is a free, confidential and respectful service providing assistance and information to anyone unable to pay their debts. Financial counsellors can contact your utility company and other creditors if that is what you require and negotiate an achievable outcome.

**\$250 Power Saving Bonus Payment:** The Victorian Budget 2020/21 announced a one-off \$250 Power Saving Bonus to help concession card holders to pay their energy bills in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. This is available from the Victorian government by visiting their website [compare.energy.vic.gov.au](http://compare.energy.vic.gov.au). This offer is available from 1st February 2021 to 31st January 2022,

### Useful phone numbers:

To lodge a complaint about your energy or water retailer:

Energy and Water Ombudsman Victoria  
1800 500 509

### Information and advocacy:

Knox Infolink 03 9761 1325

### Financial Counsellors:

National Debt Helpline 1300 007 007  
EACH financial counselling 03 9871 1817

### Useful websites:

Victorian Energy Compare – [www.compare.energy.vic.gov.au](http://www.compare.energy.vic.gov.au)

Essential Services Commission - [www.esc.vic.gov.au](http://www.esc.vic.gov.au)

Department of Health and Human Services - <https://services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/utility-relief-grant-scheme>

Energy Made Easy - [www.energymadeeasy.gov.au](http://www.energymadeeasy.gov.au)

Energy and Water Ombudsman - [www.ewov.com.au](http://www.ewov.com.au)



At Knox Over50s we are a very friendly and sociable group who normally meet monthly from January to November and provide guest speakers, day and overnight trips, a book club, visits to Boronia Cinema, coffee mornings at the Myer Knox coffee lounge, regular lunches at different locations around Knox and morning melodies.

Although most of our meetings and other activities were cancelled or postponed last year, we were very lucky to have a very proactive committee who have commenced 2021 strongly with quite a few events in January and February.

Unfortunately, we are still unable to have our normal monthly meetings in the Boronia Progress Hall due to both State and Local Government rules. This has not fazed our committee members who have managed to organise meetings using other venues. During March, our Annual General Meeting was held at The Coach Hotel in Ringwood. (And, as we go to press, plans are in the works for the General Meeting in April).

Also, during March the Over50s enjoyed a Club Luncheon at the Knox Tavern, the regular Coffee Morning at Myer Knox City, morning tea at Mary Eats Cake in Montrose and a walk around Lewis Park, Wantirna.

A special treat coming up for April is a visit to Rippon Lea Estate for the Miss Fisher & The Crypt of Tears Exhibition.

We have a monthly newsletter (Knox Natters Matter) which will keep you up to date with the many fun social activities available.

If you feel you may be interested in joining our group, please contact Jill (on 9801 4363) for further information.

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

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 Sunday 7.30 am to 10.30am



## Laughter Club News

### How Can I Incorporate Laughter and Mindfulness Together?

Today our topic is becoming more positive and present through the power of laughter. Using mindfulness, we combine affirmations with consciously laughing, either alone or with other people. What is it that you would like to affirm? Something material, obtuse, or quite possibly a new change of behaviour which will enhance your joy quotient? It can be as simple, short and sweet as suits your personal choice. I will also share here some affirmation suggestions with you.

Firstly, I suggest you check in to what your body is telling you, and adjust it accordingly. If you are feeling flat and dejected, your body language will reflect this. Observe and maintain an upward feeling, positive manner. You can practice and see how you feel when you do the laughter mindfulness exercise any old how and then see the difference, by choosing greater awareness, to bring all of you into the present time.

Take a positive stance or sitting position, placing your arms, hands and feet in strategic positions. An example would be hands together in a prayer position, saying your chosen affirmation, for instance, 'I am happy, I am healthy, I am abundant' then laughing out loud.

You could stand tall, with arms outstretched above your head and repeat the affirmation. I like the idea of doing this with fingers wide open, then closing them into fists, bringing your hands down onto your chest. Even add the word 'yes' said with vim and vigour. This option gives a more powerful feeling, that of drawing what you wish to affirm towards yourself, making it stronger. Even more powerful would be to repeat the affirmation three times and add the words 'Let the rain of blessings fall!'

Do you already use affirmations? I have on a regular basis for many years and affirmations are recommended to say daily at about the same time for a full lunar month, 28 days. They can be done more than that if you feel the need.

Here are some great affirmations for you to try out:-

I am happy, I am healthy, I am abundant.

Laughter and fun come my way when I am being myself.

I create laughter and feelings of happiness and joy wherever I go.

I have lots of ideas, life inspires me.

I am in love with life.

I, can do this. Or if you do it in a group, I, You, We, Can Do this.

Further laughter affirmation guidelines: Long term, keep your mind consciously and unconsciously seeking laughter and positivity in your life. Repeat the affirmations three times and then say 'Let the rain of blessings fall!' You may imagine being enveloped in a loving, coloured mist. Most likely you will find that fun, being positive minded and laughter take place more effortlessly than before. Endeavour to do them daily for a month.

Your energy and mind will create it for you even when you are occupied with other thoughts and concerns. You are programming your subconscious mind with beneficial energy, to help you manifest and become who you would truly love to become. In other words, you are working with the Law of Attraction.

Cheerio for now. Until next time, laughter blessings. I look forward to hearing how you go with it.

Lots of Love and Laughter, Lynette Mitchell.

Lynette & John Mitchell lead the free Community Ferntree Gully Laughter Club, in person 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays, Zoom the others.

Phone: 0425 799 258 or John on 0425 798 115

Email: [lynette@laughterforliving.com.au](mailto:lynette@laughterforliving.com.au)



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Dental Prosthetist

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Cnr Stud Rd, opposite Knox Club

**Mr. Mina Williams**  
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## Hands on Myotherapy



With the changing seasons we need to adjust to cooler weather and changes within our own bodies. Cold and damp conditions exacerbate the levels of aches, pain, tension and restricted movement. But this could be something more than general aches and pains. Could you be suffering from Arthritis?

With over 3.8 million Australians being affected with Arthritis every year, more and more sufferers are turning to natural therapies such as massage for pain relief.

Studies have proven that regular massage leads to a reduction in pain and stiffness and improves the range of motion, hand grip strength and overall function of joints. Along with massage, our Therapists can provide you with stretches, exercises and advice on general management of the condition. All advice is tailored, depending on your type of arthritis, fitness and ability.

To find out more about how Myotherapy can assist you with your Arthritis contact our clinic today.

As a footnote: We're excited to announce that 5th March marked the 5-year anniversary for our team at Hands On Myotherapy. We have loved and continue to love, treating and helping our patients in the wider community. We are a small, but very experienced and knowledgeable team of amazing practitioners who always put the health and wellbeing of our patients first. Thank you for the ongoing support that we receive from our loyal clients and from the Wantirna community!



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## News from Wantirna Osteopathy by Dr. Matthew Snowball (Osteopath)

wantirna  
**osteopathy**

### New Year, New You

Now the dust has settled from the new year, new you...

Regardless of what I, or any other health professional recommends, a large amount of people, every year, will experience a new sense of motivation to change their lives. A common target area is weight, where methods of implementing heavily restrictive diets to reverse the weight gain of an extended period, over a short period, is commonplace.

Often the initial results are good, and motivation continues to run high, but sooner rather than later the rate at which weight is lost will diminish, motivation will decrease, and the likelihood of one maintaining the restrictive diet will lessen. Don't get me wrong, some diets can be successful, with some people, long term, but the majority will succumb to the restriction of the diet, reverting towards where they started.



It is common here to experiment with other restrictive diets, bouncing from diet to diet, forming a pattern of weight loss, followed by weight regain.

Whether it be "no sugar", "no carbs", "no fat", "no animal", "only animal"... Every diet achieves weight loss by the same mechanism, a calorie deficit.

This can be thought of like your bank account. If you put more money in the bank each month than you spend, your savings will grow. Conversely if

you spend more money than you put in the bank each month, your savings will reduce.

With weight loss/ if you consume more calories than you spend each month, you will gain body weight. Conversely if you consume less calories than you spend each month, you will reduce bodyweight.

As a result, it is important to focus on lifestyle

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changes that you can sustain that will help you maintain a calorie deficit.

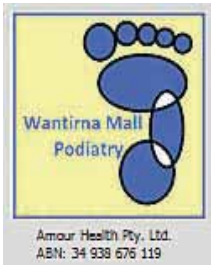
Exercise is going to be a key element that can help you spend more calories everyday through movement and muscle gain.

Often pain and time stands in the way of sustainable healthy exercise and lifestyle.

If you are struggling with getting moving due to pain or injury, see your osteo!

If you are struggling to find lifestyle changes that can fit in your busy schedule, see your osteo!

Do not wait another year to restart. The time is now!



### Wantirna Mall Podiatry

Melina Linardatos (B. Pod, MAPA)

4/322 Mountain Hwy, Wantirna

Ph: 9720 1235

Open: Tues – Fri 9am to 6pm

Sat: 9am to 1pm

[www.wantiramallpodiatry.com](http://www.wantiramallpodiatry.com)



Melina Linardatos

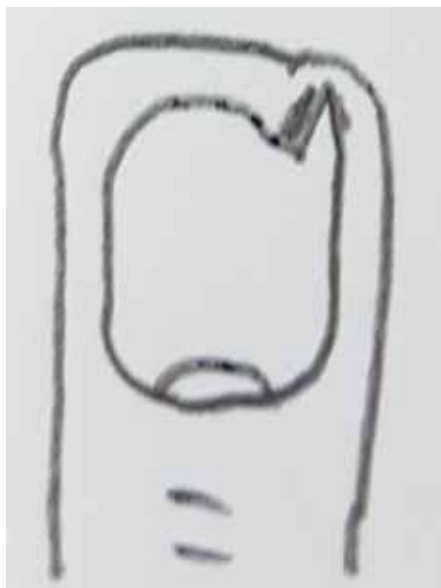
### What is an ingrown toe nail?

Ingrown toenails can occur due to trauma, poor nail cutting technique, abnormal nail shape or poor footwear.

When cutting your nails follow their natural shape and being mindful not to hurt the surrounding skin. Some nail shapes will grow straight into the flesh even though you cut the nail straight across.

To prevent ingrown toe nails you must ensure that there is no nail spike left down the nail sides if you have to cut your nails into the corners. Nail spikes left in nail corners can embed into the skin and cause an infection or irritate the flesh.

Some people have toenails that are prone to ingrowing regardless of how they are cut and require the removal the outer margins of the nail or the whole nail through a minor surgical procedure. This procedure can be organised at Wantirna Mall Podiatry if required.



## LANDMARK MENTAL HEALTH ROYAL COMMISSION WELCOMED IN OUR COMMUNITY

from the office of Jackson Taylor MP

Victorians experiencing mental illness including those in the eastern suburbs will have access to better treatment, care and support closer to loved ones, under recommendations handed down by the final report from Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental health System.

The Commission has delivered its final report - a blueprint for delivering a new mental health system for all Victorians, including those in the eastern suburbs - the state's biggest social reform in a generation.

Welcoming the report, local Member for Bayswater, Jackson Taylor MP, said the Andrews Labor Government recognised the profound failures of the current system had sadly cost lives, committing to implement every one of the report's recommendations.

Australia's first ever Royal Commission into Mental Health has provided the government and community with the plan to build a new mental health system, from the ground up, and with expertise from those with lived experience.

A system that provides people with the care they need early on – before they reach the emergency department and before it's too late.

There are no quick fix solutions. While it will take time for the government to fully consider the report's vital recommendations, work has already begun on implementing those laid out in the Royal Commission's interim report.

The 2020-21 Victorian State Budget includes \$868.6 million to focus on priority areas such as acute mental health beds, suicide prevention, Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing, and support for the mental health workforce.

But we know much more needs to be done to make a mental health system every Victorian deserves – and that is what we will do.

**If you or someone you know is in crisis or needs support call Lifeline on 13 11 14 or Beyond Blue on 1300 224 636.**





## Wantirna Tennis Club News

by Alison Rogers

### Australian Open - 2021

Wantirna junior player Sam Long attended the Ballkids trials on January 10 and was lucky enough to be selected as one of the 380 Ballkids for the Melbourne Summer of Tennis and the 2021 Australian Open. Tennis Australia provided the kids with 2 weekends of training and then, after being fitted for his uniforms, he had his first day working on the famous blue courts of Melbourne Park on January 31. Everything happened so fast!!!

Sam said: 'I loved being a Ballkid and can't wait to do it all again next year. I made lots of new friends and it was amazing to watch the best tennis players in the world up close. Some of the players that I was Ballkid for were Nick Kyrgios, Alex Bolt, Jordan Thompson, Stan Wawrinka, Belinda Bencic and Aryna Sabalenka. My favourite match of the AO was when I was Ballkid on Margaret Court Arena for the mixed doubles semi final when Sam Stosur and Matt Ebden won. It was a really weird day because there were no crowds and all the seats were empty, but they played so well and were so happy.' - Sam Long

If you are interested in joining the 2022 National Ballkids Program, registrations are open now!

AO 2022 Level 1 trials are scheduled to take place later this month, so make sure you register ASAP.

Note: Ballkids need to be aged between 12 and 15 years as at 31 December 2022.

Follow this link: <https://ballkids.tennis.com.au/register.aspx>



Photo by Fiona Long

### Social tennis

It is lovely to see our group of social players expanding each week. A great group of friendly players. 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 on a Tuesday morning 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. Play starts at 9-30am and it is only \$2. All welcome.

### Midweek Ladies

Did you play tennis when you were younger? Why not come down to Wantirna Tennis Club and join one of our teams. Senior Ladies tennis is held on Thursdays with two seasons of competition per year. A good way to stay fit and meet new people. We are always looking for new players down at the Club. If you would like to play competition give us a call. Rotating teams are available so you can have the occasional day off.

# SPORT NEWS

### Coaching

It was great to hear from our Coach Mike about his time working in at the Australian Open. Check out our latest newsletter on our webpage to hear all about it.

Troy & Mike Tennis set for a big 2021

We are excited to be launching our brand new coaching program exclusively now at Wantirna Tennis Club. We will now be offering all levels of coaching every day with Hot Shots red-green stage, Junior and Senior squads. Adults don't miss out with Cardio Tennis running every day as well. Anyone interested in joining any of our programs please call Mike on 0433511904 or email enquiries@troyandmiketennis.com

See you on the court!

Troy, Mike, Billy & Dan.

At Wantirna you can always see what is happening by checking out our website or face book page.

Club coaching team: Troy & Mike 0424693005 or email enquiries@troyandmiketennis.com

Coaching Face book: [www.facebook.com/troyandmiketennis.com](http://www.facebook.com/troyandmiketennis.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/wantirnac/wtc](http://www.tennis.com.au/wantirnac/wtc)

Face book: [www.facebook.com/.../Wantirna-Tennis-Club](http://www.facebook.com/.../Wantirna-Tennis-Club)



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**TEMPLETON**  
tennis club

## Templeton Tennis Club News

by Don McCracken, President

### Welcome to TTC news for Easter 2021.

Our summer competitions recommenced over the weekend of the 30th January and will have been completed over the weekend 20th/21st March. We had 11 of our 15 junior teams and 2 of our 3 senior teams in finals. Eight of the junior teams and one of the senior teams will play home finals in their first week due to finishing 1st or 2nd on the ladder. All others will play away. We wish all participants the best of luck.

The average ladder position, on which the WDTA Premier Club award is calculated, was 3.07 which placed us 2nd out of all the WDTA entered teams. This was a wonderful effort from all players, coaches and support personnel.

The next Saturday season (winter) will be upon us very shortly, commencing 1st May. We are expecting similar numbers to past years with a high level of interest.

We have two ladies teams in the Ferntree Gully midweek competition with the new season having just started again after the Xmas break. Both teams are doing well and in good positions on the ladder.

For those who have been following the progress of the major works being done at the club we are excited that completion is looming and are expected to be finished by the end of March. We thank the Knox Council most emphatically for their wonderful support of not only our club but tennis in general. Why not join now and be among the first to experience the changes.

Night competitions; Monday and Wednesday (social) nights are back in full swing and are progressing well. Come for a look and maybe join us. If you are interested in any level of competition be it day, night, social or just looking for some exercise give us a call on 9800 3316.

Our coach, Kelly Bisinella, runs a highly successful coaching program at the club for all levels. Give her a ring!

Straight Sets 0414 874 482.

Check out our website, [www.templetontennis.com.au](http://www.templetontennis.com.au) for details of those who support us, our sponsors, and give them a call. Let us return the favour, don't forget to mention that you are a Templeton Tennis Club member. Barry Plant Wantirna and Integrity Cabinets.

# SPORT NEWS

Come and join us at the family club, your club, the Templeton Tennis Club.

Templeton Tennis Club Inc.  
Templeton Reserve, Templeton St  
Wantirna 3152. Melway Ref. 63 G9  
Membership: Leanne 9887 1957  
Clubhouse: 9887 3505  
President: Don 0425 748 138  
Coaching: Kelly 0414 874 482  
Website: [www.templetontennis.com.au](http://www.templetontennis.com.au)  
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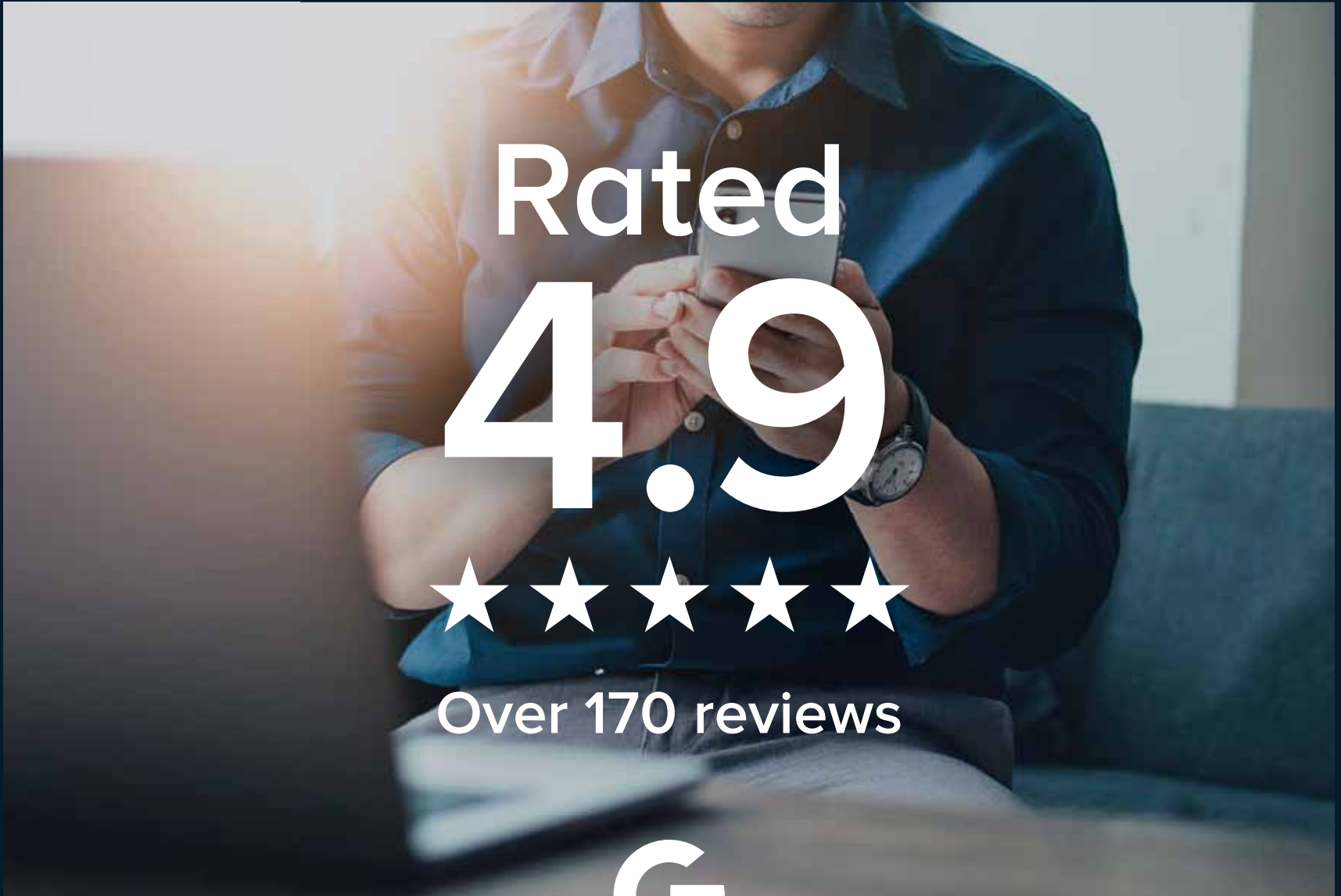
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