

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

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EDITION 75

DECEMBER 2021/JANUARY 2022

- ADDRESSING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
- NEW LIBRARY FOR WESTFIELD KNOX
- CR SUSAN LAUKENS ELECTED MAYOR
- BAYSWATER WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENT WINS RSPCA STORY COMPETITION
- NEW HOME FOR KNOX HOCKEY CLUB

KNOX CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS
CLIMATE RESPONSE PLAN

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Information

Published by: Studfield Wantima Community News Inc.
 ABN: 98259005633 RAN: A0054764G
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Copies: 15,000 copies produced & distributed around the suburbs of Bayswater, Knoxfield, Scoresby, Wantima and Wantima South

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DEADLINE DATES FOR 2022

Ed. 76 February/March Friday, January 14 2022
 Ed. 77 April/May Friday, March 4, 2022
 Ed. 78 June/July Friday, May 6, 2022
 Ed. 79 August/September Friday, July 8, 2022
 Ed. 80 October/November Friday, September 9, 2022
 Ed. 81 December/January Friday, November 4, 2022

Format design by Tamara Bouzo.

Fonts sourced from: <http://www.jennasuedesign.com/>
<http://code.newtypography.co.uk/> - Vernon Adams

Printed by Newsprinters

Distribution supported by King Storage Solutions

Some photos sourced from Pixabay and Pexels

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Editorial

Hello Community News readers,
 Welcome to life returning to "normal"! This edition sees the community emerging from lockdown #6 with a bit of anxiety for what is ahead, but at the same time embracing life's opportunities once more! Congratulations to the people of Knox for getting vaccinated, you are community heroes!

There are some changes to our Community Newspaper. Through the pandemic letterbox distribution companies have closed down or centralised operations, making it too difficult and too costly for us to continue with house to house deliveries.

We have reduced our print run and have moved to distribution via local "drop points". A list can be found on our website at www.studfieldwantiranews.org.

We are proud to have kept up production throughout the lockdowns and have joined the list of organisations and businesses who have had to be flexible and adapt to new ways of working.

Hope you enjoy Edition 75!

Janet on behalf of the team

The team at SWCN would like to thank Wantima 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.



Addressing The Climate Emergency from Knox City Council

Knox City Council has recognised the climate emergency and adopted its Climate Response Plan, which identifies 56 actions to achieve zero greenhouse emissions by 2040 and to support the community to adapt to climate change impacts.

The actions in the ten-year plan cover themes such as preserving the natural environment, changing the future of transport, improving the energy efficiency of buildings and increasing renewable energy use.

A total of \$33 million is expected to be invested to implement these actions over that period, which include supporting vulnerable residents to stay safe in hot weather, encouraging 'tree-friendly' streetscapes that promote healthy canopy tree growth, surveying the community on sustainable transport options to encourage more people to consider active and public transport and replacing streetlights with energy efficient LEDs.

Mayor, Cr Lisa Cooper said strengthening targets was important to drive urgent action and align with the latest climate science and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

"The science now shows that we are predicted to reach global warming of 1.5°C by the 2030s and limiting this to less than 2°C is crucial to avoid severe impacts such as heatwaves, droughts and floods from becoming more widespread. The work we do in the next decade to reduce emissions and limit

warming will have profound impacts on the future the Knox community will face," said Cr Cooper.

"Reducing emissions is a shared responsibility between all levels of government, business and the community.

"We will lead our community to support and drive emissions reduction across Knox, assisting them in choosing everyday actions that will help in reaching net zero emissions by 2040.

"Further to this, Council will aim to achieve net zero emissions in our operations by 2030."

The stronger targets have been reflected in the 56 actions, requiring minimal additional budget to implement, with an emphasis on community education programs and advocacy to other levels of government, business and industry on issues such as electric vehicles and energy efficiency standards for rental properties.

Among the first projects to launch will be workshops for households to find out more about switching to solar power, installing two new electric vehicle charging stations at local Knox sites and joining the Cities Power Partnership, Australia's largest network of local councils working for a zero-emissions future.

The adopted Climate Response Plan can be found on Council's website at: www.knox.vic.gov.au/climatechange

KNOX UPDATE



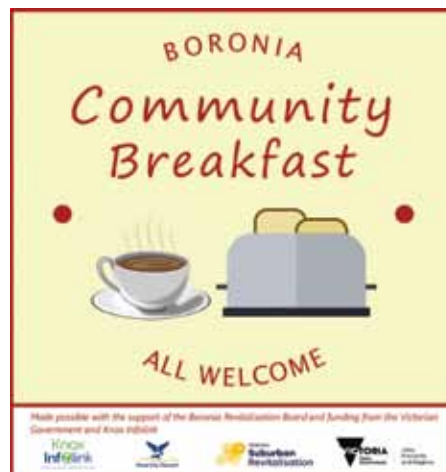
Graphics sourced from <https://www.knox.vic.gov.au/>

Free Community Breakfast

Knox has a new free community breakfast in Boronia serving guests Monday to Friday every week!

On Friday 29th October, Jackson Taylor MP braved very unkind weather conditions to officially launch the Boronia Community Breakfast Program. Since then, Knox Infolink and a team of passionate volunteers have been providing Boronia and surrounding community members with a hot meal and an inclusive and safe place to socialise and connect with local community services.

The Community Breakfast Program is designed to address a gap identified by the Knox Emergency Relief Network by serving guests who are vulnerable, homeless, disadvantaged, or socially isolated. The program aims not only to ensure that all local community members can start their day with a nutritious meal, but that they also have a chance to connect and build links with their community and know how they can access services and resources as required.



This exciting new program is a result of the incredible partnership efforts of many local organisations including Saint Paul's Church, EACH, the Boronia Police, Uniting Homeless Service, the Basin Community House, the amazing contribution of the volunteer team, and made possible with the support of the Boronia Revitalisation Board and funding from the Victorian Government and Knox City Council.



The Boronia Community Breakfast Program operates:

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from the Boronia Progress Hall (134 Boronia Road, Boronia)
- Wednesdays from Saint Paul's Church (273 Dorset Road, Boronia)

For all enquiries contact Knox Infolink on 9761 1325.



SHAUN LEANE MP

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News from Bayswater Bowls Club

WE WELCOME YOU BACK

We are excited to welcome you back. Bayswater Bowls Club will reopen its greens for Friday Night Barefoot Bowls in line with State Government guidelines.

State Government guidelines require that only fully vaccinated members and general public can participate in these outdoor activities. Vaccination status can be proven by any of the Government approved methods.

With daylight saving, and as the weather fines up, it could be your opportunity to attend a Friday Night Barefoot Bowls session at the Bayswater Bowls Club and try out this sport. Members will be on hand to offer assistance and provide tuition so that your experience will be loads of fun. Get out of the house and bring your family or invite your neighbours to a night out.

Prior to the last lockdown Bayswater Bowls Club staged a wonderful initiative in collaborating with Bayswater West Primary School and introducing the children to the sport in the name of "Rookie Rollers". The entire school participated in fun filled activities under the supervision of the school's



IT'S MORE THAN A GAME

Sports Coordinator Jim Pumpa, teachers and bowls members. The program was a great success and continued association with the school looks certain in the future.

Lawn bowls is a sport that is attracting a younger crowd particularly through Barefoot Bowls and Bayswater Bowls Club provides their greens and equipment free of charge so come along and enjoy a great night out.





at
**Bayswater
Bowls Club**

We welcome new and experienced bowlers

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

Saturday 11 December

Christmas entertainment from 7:15pm

Knox Factor winners announced at 7:45pm

Carols from 8:00pm-10:00pm



Streamed live from facebook.com/knoxartsandevents
knox.vic.gov.au/carols



Jackson Taylor Update

The past two years have been a challenging time for our community. You've all done so much to keep us safe and to help us reopen safely. I want to acknowledge each and every one of you – from our healthcare heroes, to our cleaners, and to all of you who've worked on the front line – thank you. The Knox community is one of the most vaccinated in the state and we should be incredibly proud of that, as that's what's allowed us to get back to a sense of normalcy!

I'm so proud of all of the efforts of locals in our community and it's safe to say you've all earned a well-deserved Christmas break with family and friends – from me to you and yours, stay well and merry Christmas.

I wanted to update you on a few things as always including a significant change to the Electoral Boundaries.

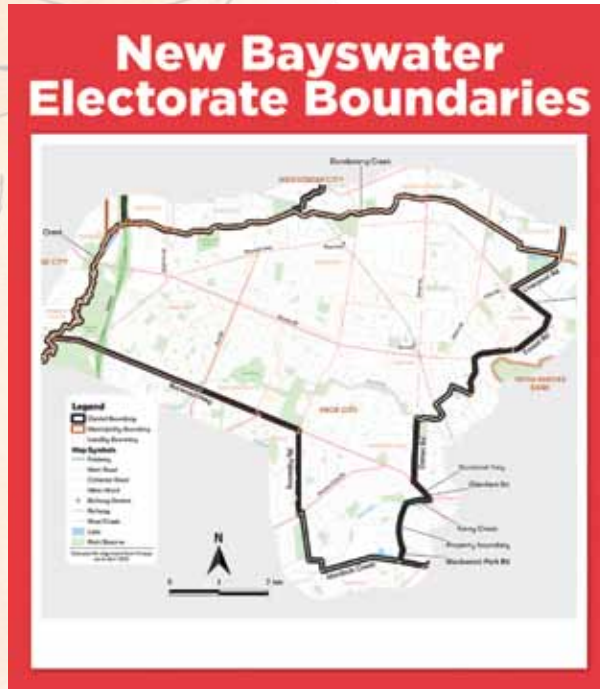
As some of you may know every two election cycles, there is a redistribution undertaken to ensure each electorate has about the same number of enrolled voters. This gives Victorians equal representation in Parliament.

This is conducted by Electoral Boundaries Commission (EBC) and as at the 28th of October they have finalised the boundaries for the next election.

Here are the key changes in relation to Wantirna and Wantirna South for the Bayswater District which take effect next Election Day in 2022:

Its southern boundary has moved significantly south after the commission abolished the Ferntree Gully District to take in portions of Wantirna South above Burwood Highway and all of the suburb of Wantirna.

As such, I'm really excited to be hearing from all of you in the new parts of the Bayswater District and to get things done. You can read more info on this and all the changes at www.ebc.vic.gov.au



I wanted to touch on a significant project which has just kicked off. Knox will soon be the home of basketball in Australia, with construction underway on the redeveloped basketball centre in Wantirna South. Works will include 12 new indoor courts for local competition (2 more than we promised), high performance facilities, a new regional gymnastics facility, a town square and more. Once complete in 2023, it'll host up to 2 million visitors a year and importantly it'll support more than 500 jobs. Proud we're delivering this with \$105 million and supported by Knox Council with \$27 million. Can't wait till it opens!

BAYSWATER NEWS

Quick Updates:

- The new shared pathway bridge across Burwood Hwy, Wantirna between Knox and Whitehorse now complete;
- Over \$100,000 in COVID support grants to over 70 local clubs like, Bayswater Football, Templeton Cricket, Fairpark Football and many more;
- 3,135 extra Police now delivered;
- Tutor program in schools to continue into 2022;
- Regarding Lewis Road/Boronia Road intersection funded by the Federal Government works are currently in pre-construction phase with start of works expected early 2022 with completion by mid-2022

Local Shout-Out

Now we've safely reopened, please continue to take care and remember to get behind our local businesses who've been waiting for us to return and back them in. So, if you can, get out and support local. I know I will be, and I know we all have been wherever we can.

Together, you've helped to get us through this difficult part of the pandemic. I'm over the moon we're now able to get back to doing the things we missed so much.

That's all for now, until next time – stay well and Merry Christmas!

You can call my office on 9738 0577, email me at 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.



Tis the season

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Celebrate your event in our new outdoor bar area. All events welcome!

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Jackson Taylor MP

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

Dinsdale Ward News

with Cr. Sorina Grasso

Although the pandemic meant continuing to work remotely, Council work continued over the last two months.

Firstly, I attended the Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee meeting and participated in topical discussions about Community Health and Wellbeing priorities identified from the latest Community survey and ways to make these priorities happen.

I also chaired the Knox Multicultural Advisory Committee with my fellow Councillor Marcia and one of the important issues discussed there was ways to continue to encourage vaccination in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities here in Knox.

I attended a whole Professional Development day run by the Victorian Local Governance association called FasTrak 2021 Councillor Leadership Program. This added to my repertoire of knowledge and skills, very useful as I enter the 2nd year of my Councillor term.

I also attended the Waste to Energy Forum where the topic was "Advanced Waste Processing" and we heard from technical and policy experts from Europe and Australia. This event helped me

1. Understand the AWP role in the waste hierarchy and as a way to divert waste from landfill
2. Build awareness and understanding of proposed Advanced Waste Processing technology
3. (Understand Recycling Victoria policy, legislative context and EPA regulations)

Throughout this last month I also continued to receive and respond to resident representations about traffic volumes on our local streets, the cat curfew, the relocation of the Knox Hockey club, our bike tracks in Knox, the proposed development at 621 Burwood Hwy Knoxfield, the Hanson Lysterfield Quarry expansion and issues relating to the removal of hard rubbish.

October was Mental Health Month and I am pleased to report I had direct input into the information on

our new Knox Mental Health Support Card which includes key contact points if anyone needs support and assistance and which can be conveniently carried in your pocket or wallet. More information on Council's Facebook page.

In late October I was very pleased to be invited to be guest speaker at the opening of the Diwali eFestival Knox at Shree Swaminarayan Temple.

Finally, at 11 am on November 11, I joined new Knox City CEO Bruce Dobson, fellow Councillors and officers of Knox City Council in an online Remembrance Day Ceremony. LEST WE FORGET



BORONIA LADIES PROBUS CLUB NEWS

IRENE JACKSON What an amazing lady.
101 on November 9th 2021

Irene is a Foundation member of the Boronia Ladies Probus Club Inc, and one of our Golden Girls (these are a group of our ladies who have reached the age of 90 plus).

Up until the lock downs Irene was attending our monthly meetings, enjoying the club outings, and making friends at the club feel special when talking with her. Irene is still knitting trauma dolls for the Essential services and her sense of humour is remarkable.

We at Boronia Ladies Probus Club Inc, together with her family and many friends, wish her a wonderful birthday on this amazing milestone of her life's journey. A very happy Birthday Irene, from all of us.

President Margaret, Committee and Members.
Boronia Ladies Probus Club Inc.



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



9720 4638

bayswater-rsl@bigpond.com

Opening hours:

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

626 Mountain Highway Bayswater



Cr Sorina Grasso
Dinsdale Ward Councillor - Knox City Council
Advocating for local jobs, prosperity & community.

cr.sorina.grasso@knox.vic.gov.au

M: 0437 853 445  CrSorinaGrasso



Rotary Year 2021-2022

At the time of writing this article, we Melbournians have been out of "lockdown" for nearly a whole week. It is pleasing to see our neighbour's faces without the masks and in my case it is really pleasing as we have several new neighbours who moved in during the lockdown.

During this last lockdown we continued our Rotary meetings online once a week via Zoom. The normal operation of fundraising was very limited with a couple of small online events held for specific topics, such as "Lift the Lid" - a Rotary Mental Health initiative, and we also received Gift Vouchers from Bunnings, Vermont South to whom we extend our heartfelt thanks. Our Club community and international service was primarily restricted to making some donations to established charities. The exceptions were that we were able to pledge support to some students from Scoresby Primary School and provide a Dux of School award for the Bayswater Primary School.

Our own Club mental health program, called Simple Steps, proceeded until October. This initial stage was a pilot program aimed at confirming the need for such a program and identifying the operational needs necessary to operate such a program in the long term. This pilot program was deemed a success in that more than 30 young persons within Knox received counselling regarding their mental health via the Simple Steps program.

Once funding streams have been established and some Governance issues, joint ventures and procedures developed, the next stage, the long term project, will commence. Information about this program is available on the Rotary Club of Knox website.

2022 Ride for Medical Research

We're back and this time in duplicate!

Every year in March the Rotary Clubs of Boronia and Healesville jointly organise a bike ride around the Victorian countryside, raising funds to support the important medical research and scholarship programs of Australian Rotary Health. Since the first ride in 1985 our riders have travelled in excess of 28,000 kilometres and raised more than \$1.2m.

In 2021 the restrictions caused by the COVID lockdowns meant we were unable to hold the annual on-the-road ride, so we replaced it with a virtual event, which was very successful. In March 2022 we are offering both team and individual ride options. Our team ride is titled "Kelly Country Encounters". Riding out each day from our base in Wangaratta we will spend six days exploring the North-East of Victoria. Riders can go as far as they like within the limits of the daily route, but generally around 100km most days. You can find out more about the ride here: <https://rotaryrideforresearch.raisely.com/>

We are only able to accommodate a limited number

Our members are excited to be meeting face-to-face at the Knox Club again for the first time since the end of June when we held our "Change Over" luncheon. This is coming just in time to launch our "reverse advent hampers drive", with each hamper containing an assortment of non-perishable food, toiletries and other products. The hampers will be delivered to Foothills Community Care for distribution to those in need at Christmas. Our target is to have 15 hampers ready by the end of November which will be nearly double our efforts from last year.

We are also starting Bunnings BBQs again at the Vermont South store where we have a fun time meeting the public and serving delicious sausages and cold drinks.

Looking forward, we will be breaking for Christmas with a final meeting on the 15th December and resuming mid-January 2022. We are anticipating starting up our Knox Show-n-Shine car show at Westfield Knox, getting involved with tree planting again and various other community projects.

Our main drive for our Club in 2022 is to attract new members who would enjoy helping the local community while enjoying fellowship within the Organisation called Rotary.

If you would like more information, please feel free to make contact with our President Leon on

0487 516 523, or visit: www.knoxrotaryclub.org.au, or Email: info@knoxrotaryclub.org.au

of on-the-road riders. If you would like to help raise funds for this worthy cause but are unable to join us in person, we also have a do-it-yourself option:

MAD March Cycle Challenge 2022
Ride, run, walk or swim to Make A Difference
March 1st to 31st 2022
How far can you cover in the month of March 2022 – 10km or 1000km?

Challenge yourself in your regular exercise routine or start a new one to improve your health.

Set a target distance and fundraising goal, seek sponsorship – challenge your friends to join you.

Registration is free.

For more details and to register or donate, please go to <https://madmarchcyclechallenge.raisely.com/>

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. No donations are used for administrative purposes.

For more information on Australian Rotary Health go to: <https://australianrotaryhealth.org.au/>



AROUND KNOX

Knox Community Christmas Support "Sharing the Joy" Project

Christmas can be a difficult time for families. Especially those that have lost their jobs or people who are on a low income struggling with the increasing cost of living.

The Knox Community Christmas Support (KCCS) project is a partnership of 7 organisations: Coonara Community House, Knox Infolink, Rotary Club of Boronia, Restore Community Care, Raft Anglican Church, Volunteer for Knox and Seventh Day Adventist Church Wantirna South all working together to deliver a coordinated approach supporting Knox residents. This partnership allows many hampers to be distributed across the Knox Municipality.

The KCCS acknowledges the valuable support of Knox City Council through their support and participation on the Knox Community Welfare Fund Governance group who fund the operational side of the project.

The Knox Community Christmas Support (KCCS) program is designed to assist Knox households at Christmas. Each household will receive a hamper of festive food. For families with children 16 years and under there will be a selection of quality gifts for parents or carers to choose for their children.

Our Registrations for the Christmas hampers are now open! To find out how to register please contact Knox Infolink Phone: 9761 1325

KCCS Distribution Dates for the Christmas Hampers 2021 December 14th, 15th and 16th
 By APPOINTMENTS ONLY
 Registrations close 5th December 2021



ALAN TUDGE MP
 Federal Member for Aston

[f altudgeMP](https://www.facebook.com/altudgeMP) [e alan.tudge.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:alan.tudge.mp@aph.gov.au)
[9887 3890](tel:98873890) www.alantudge.com.au

Real Action For Knox





What's New At Community Pharmacy?

by Purnima,
Pharmacy Manager

Hi everyone,

A lot can change in a couple of months and well here we are running towards Christmas at lightening pace although most of us are still not sure what happened to the first 10 months of the year!

We have lots of Christmas gifts and events coming up, but as always, we continue to maintain our focus on our health-related services. We are still open for bookings for Covid vaccinations for those who are needing them,

What have we been up to?

Pay It Forward Program

Last year we launched our 'Pay it Forward' program, a program aimed at assisting those that needed help paying for their Pharmacy Essentials during times of financial stress. We are so proud of the response that we had from our amazing customers, in paying forward donations for the program. We have so far given out \$1359.80 in assistance.

Well done to everyone and a huge THANK YOU for your generosity and supporting those in our community needing assistance!



Pink Ribbon Virtual Breakfast

On the 28th of October we held our Pink Ribbon Virtual Breakfast, run by our wonderful "hostess with the mostess", Glenda. We would have loved to have held this in person and are very much looking forward to our in-store events being back over the coming months. Our wonderful participants were delivered a brekky pack the day before, listened to a guest speaker, participated in our raffle, and spent a lovely morning online while raising money for a good cause. Congratulations to our raffle winner Gail (pictured) who popped in later in the day to collect her prize!

November

November encourages Men to look after their health, with a focus on Mental health and suicide prevention, prostate, and testicular cancer and aims to reduce the number of men dying prematurely by 25% by 2030.

A number of our team members across the Community Pharmacy stores are growing their Mo's in support of Movember. You can donate to the Community Pharmacy Movember cause by scanning the QR code or find

with both AstraZeneca and Moderna available to our customers.

Now is also a good time to look through your cupboards at things such as sunscreen, medicines & first aid supplies to ensure that anything that is out of date gets thrown out and replaced in time for Summer BBQ's and long-awaited travel. Remember we can do all this for you, simply pop in, tell us what you need, and we will get it ready for you as soon as we can!

the post on our Facebook page with our Movember fundraising link.

New uniforms at Community Pharmacy Wantirna

After the store had a bit of a facelift it was well and truly time for our team uniforms to get a makeover too. As with everything during Covid, it has taken a little longer than planned but finally we have our new team uniforms and we think they look great!



On the Move with your Medication

With travel back on the cards now might be a good time to look at our portable medication sachets.

Sachets allow us to pack your medications and vitamins into a handy sachet. The medicines are sorted into individually labelled sachets with easy tear packaging by day, dose, and time. These sachets are then rolled up in chronological date and time order. Each sachet is clearly marked with your medication details.

Ask one of our team for more details if you think these may work for you, either for your upcoming holiday or everyday use.

Christmas 2021

Support Knox Info Link's "Share the joy" Knox Christmas Appeal

This year we will again be supporting the Share the Joy campaign by accepting Christmas gifts at the store. You can also donate directly to the appeal www.givenow.com.au/knoxsharethejoy

Community Kids Christmas Fun Day

Thursday 16th December, 4pm - 6pm (bookings essential)

- Face painting
- Santa letters
- Balloon artist
- Christmas Mini Mani's & temporary tattoos
- Christmas treats

Meet The Team

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



In this edition of the Studfield news our featured team member is Kaitlin

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

I wanted to be a pharmacy assistant as I really liked the environment of the workplace and the interactions I am able to have with customers so that I am able to get to meet new

people whilst also learning more about a different sector of the healthcare industry such as different medications which I am interested in!

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

The area of healthcare that I am particularly passionate and interested in is Ambulatory services and also Pharmacy! Ambulatory services have always been an area of interest for me because all the TV shows I watch set in hospitals revolve around the ER department and I enjoy learning more about how it works! I am also interested in pharmacy as I think it's interesting to see how different medications are chosen and formulated for different conditions and the needs of the particular patient!

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

I think I would work in department retail as it is a similar environment!

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

When I am not at work, you'll find me either reading, watching movies and TV, or playing netball! But currently, due to Covid I haven't been able to play netball so I do fitness drills instead!

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

One thing I'd like customers to know about me is that I am always happy to lend a hand or chat to them about anything! I love getting to know new people!

Remember to jump on to our website and sign up to our newsletter.

Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with all our latest news!

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

(03) 9720 2872 OPEN 7 DAYS
Email: wantirna@communitypharmacy.com.au
www.communitypharmacy.com.au

Collier Ward Update with Cr. Marcia Timmers-Leitch



Greetings fellow Knox Residents,

It is wonderful to see so many of you out and about with businesses open, the return to community sport and kids back at school. Whilst exciting to be getting back to routines, I am mindful that this can be an overwhelming time for some people, trying to balance the hustle and bustle with still keeping our families safe. I hope that you and your family are doing as well as possible in these challenging times.

Council are mindful of the pressures of reopening and, at the October meeting, passed its Stage 5 Relief Package for further Community and Business support. This included the waiving all hire, license and lease fees for community groups in a Council building until 31st December 2021, business support funding for digital upskills and mentoring programs as well as more support for ongoing food relief supplies.

Please remember if you are experiencing COVID-19 financial hardship, there are options when it comes to your rates. If you

WANTIRNA NEWS

or your business has experienced a loss of employment, reduced income or decrease in revenue because of COVID-19, you can apply for a payment plan. For more information visit <https://www.knox.vic.gov.au/our-services/rates/rates-payment-assistance> or call 9298 8000.

Finally for those missing the Bike Sculptures at Collier Reserve, I am pleased to reassure you that the frames have been removed by Council's Public Art Team and are now being restored off-site to their former glory. This work should take between 6 to 8 weeks and includes replacement of missing and damaged pieces, rust removal, repainting and improving structural integrity.

The sculpture will then be reassembled and installed as per the original, which was created by Rex Keogh as part of the Knox Placemaker projects in the 1980s. Thank you to all of you who have reached out to me. If you need any help or information then do not hesitate to get in touch via email marcia.timmers-leitch@knox.vic.gov.au or phone 0428 162 218.

Public Toilet for Templeton Reserve

The community have asked and Knox City Council have delivered brand new public toilets at Templeton Reserve. Carefully positioned to be close to the newly built playground and BBQ area, this is great news for all families, especially those with young children.

Not just for users of the playground, the facilities are easily accessible for all users of Templeton Reserve and feature two uni-sex, all access and family friendly toilets.

Both toilets feature baby change facilities, liquid soap dispenser, vandal-resistant stainless steel hand basins and toilets, electronic locking system and security lighting.

Supporting people to stay longer in our public spaces and providing appropriate facilities to do so is a priority of Council. Advocacy from locals as well as users of the Templeton Reserve Sporting groups have been key for getting this great result.

The new toilets will be open from 6 am to 8 pm and cleaned daily.



Templeton Reserve Public Toilet

New Library for Westfield Knox

Knox's busiest library is moving to an exciting new location as part of Scentre Group's redevelopment of Westfield Knox. The new library will be more than twice the size of the current library occupying 2,000 square metres, or roughly half, of Level 3 of the former Myer department store.

Knox's new Library will be designed to adapt to the new ways communities want to engage with libraries. Libraries used to be about books and being quiet. Contemporary libraries are much more than that. There will still be plenty of books and valued traditions like children's story time. But there will also be wi-fi, plenty of flexible seating and desk spaces to meet, read, study, work or just chill out.

The library will take pride of place within a completely reimagined precinct, featuring an architectural curved frontage into the centre and a long, glazed northern exposure taking full advantage of natural light and views over a newly designed outdoor landscape.

Being located inside Westfield Knox near ALDI and Woolworths with extended trading hours and a range of new food outlets is a perfect position.

Council's Youth Information Centre, which is currently located near Headspace behind Knox Ozone, will relocate into the library once complete.

The current Knox Library will relocate into temporary premises in the former Cash Converters site behind Knox Ozone for the duration of construction.



Artist Impression: New Knox Library

Your
local
voice

Marcia Timmers-Leitch

Collier Ward Councillor - Knox City Council

✉ marcia.timmers-leitch@knox.vic.gov.au

☎ 0428 162 218 📱 MarciaTimmersLeitch 📷 cr_marciatimmersleitch



Lions Clubs Join Together to Support Community

The Lions club of Knox together with the Lions Club of Wantirna are assisting the Ferntree Gully Salvation Army Corp to pack around 40 food packages for those in need in Ferntree Gully area.

Each week food is sourced from Food Bank, Salvation Army stores and donations.

A rewarding way of giving back to our community.



NEWSPAPER

POST



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We Have Something For Everyone In 2022 At Orana Neighbourhood House



Plus many more classes & groups...

❖ Mental Health First Aid For Carers - February 2022

Do you care for someone with a disability and live, work or play in Knox? This course will focus on assisting people who have a disability and are experiencing a mental health problem or crisis.

You'll learn:

- How to provide initial support to adults aged 18 and over who are experiencing a mental health problem or crisis.
- What to do until appropriate professional help is received or the crisis resolves.

❖ Women's Career Forum – February 2022

Are you looking at returning to work, perhaps starting up your own business or changing career? Register now for this informative afternoon in a relaxed environment with guest speakers, lots of short course ideas on updating your skills and an opportunity for a one on one consultation with representatives from the Swinburne Skills & Jobs Centre.

❖ Monthly Community Lunches

Join us for our Free Community Lunches which will be held on the last Friday of each month. Bookings Essential.

❖ Community Talks

Throughout the year we run Free Community Talks on various topics. Please check our website for details. Bookings Essential.

Please see our website for further information on class times and costs and follow us on Facebook.

- ❖ Computer & iPad Classes
- ❖ English Conversation
- ❖ Tai Chi & Fitness For Over 40's
- ❖ Gentle Yoga
- ❖ Walking Groups
- ❖ Art & Mosaic Classes
- ❖ Mosaic Community Project
- ❖ Patchwork Community Project
- ❖ Photography For Beginners
- ❖ Research Your Family History
- ❖ Book Club
- ❖ Women's Support Groups
- ❖ Men's Social Chat Group
- ❖ Cooking classes and more!

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Open Monday - Friday 9.00am - 3.30pm
Tel: 9801 1895
onh@netspace.net.au | www.orananh.org.au



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

We are now meeting back at Maroondah Federation Estate. Although we are restricted when lockdowns are sprung on us. Details at end of items. Attendees must be double vaccinated and wear a mask.

Due to the lockdown and not being able to use our venue in Ringwood, we have not been having 'face to face' meetings. Our August, September and October meetings were all suspended. But Hurray we were able to have an outside meeting in November.

Meetings

November: The Club met for a walk at Jumping Creek Reserve in Wonga Park which was followed by a picnic dinner. Our AGM, which had been put off from September, was able to be held and we were able to elect a new Committee. Our new President is Jackson Airey, taking over from Peter Rogers who had two years of not much happening. While the meeting was in progress we were serenaded by water birds, down by the river, and young kookaburras, who were trying out their voices. It was lovely to catch up with friends and members who we hadn't seen for some time.

Excursions

November - Corinella with leaders Hazel and Alan
Lovely to get out and about with an excursion to Corinella. The day started wet, windy and cold, but we were delighted with the turn up of 21 members. Our leaders took us firstly to the Corinella Cemetery



Photos this month by Peter Rogers. Left: Sea Eagle. Below: Corinella

Bushland Reserve. Although a wet day we could see the masses of spring flowers. Trigger plants, purple flags and egg and bacon plants putting on a good show. There were many birds in the area with a sighting of a majestic white-breasted sea-eagle soaring above our heads. We then moved on to the Corinella Foreshore where we had a picnic lunch followed by walks along the pier and water's edge. Water birds were plentiful, with Pacific Gulls resting with their young on the rocky beach. Another walk was taken along the Settlement Point track through the native vegetation with wonderful views of Western Port Bay looking out as far as French Island.



In the future

December: Our meeting on Wednesday 8th December will be held in Room 4 Maroondah Federation Estate, Greenwood Ave, Ringwood. The speaker will be past-President Peter Rogers who will be speaking on 'Australian Peas'. As well as being our usual Christmas meeting, we will also be celebrating our 60th Anniversary, with supper to be held afterwards.

January: Weds 12th January an outdoor meeting will be held at 100 Acres, Park Orchards. More details on our website. On the following weekend we will drive to Lake Mountain to see the alpine flowers and orchids. Due to covid restrictions we are not planning our meetings and excursions very far ahead. Keep an eye on our website for updated information.

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.

To all our facebook and Community News readers, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Healthy 2022.



Did you know bushfires kill from **200m** away?

The flames of bushfires can reach temperatures of up to 1100°C. Long before the flames reach you, the wave of radiant heat can kill you from 200 metres away. Planning for bushfire is the only way to survive it.

How well do you know fire?

Plan. Act. Survive. Go to vic.gov.au/knowfire

KIOSC Challenge Project by Leanne Caira

KIOSC has been continuing its online STEM delivery to schools in Knox throughout the pandemic. Our 'Challenge' Programs have proven to be highly successful with teachers and students over the last few months. The aim of the 'Challenge' programs are to extend student's knowledge and skill, incorporating 'Design Thinking' process to provide students with a scaffolding to help them problem solve on their own. Challenges have included:

- Bees with Backpacks (CSIRO and TECH School Partnership)
- DeepRacer (Amazon Web Services partnership)
- ChatBot Challenge (Amazon Web Services partnership)
- Maker TrashBot (This project received grant funding from the Australian Government)
- Maths Challenge (Mathspace Partnership)
- Unboxy Challenge (planned for 2022)
- And many more.....

The basis of the Maker Project is all about Sustainable Waste Management and how technology (Artificial Intelligence – AI and Machine Learning -ML). This allows students to explore and change how waste is collected at their school. The goal was to have students use the Design Thinking process to determine what are the biggest issues with waste management at their school, and then design and build a smart rubbish bin (prototype) that utilizes artificial intelligence to manage waste.

The TrashBot Challenge has been a huge hit! KIOSC was able to secure a funding from the Australian Government in STEM Inspiration. This grant was part of a Maker Project to inspire students to create with STEM. KIOSC produced a highly engaging challenge with many STEM components.

The Maker Project: TrashBot Challenge is a design thinking program for Year 9 and 10 students to identify and tackle waste management issues in their schools.

The bin prototype is trained using machine learning to only open for a specific category of rubbish. So, if you approach the bin, the ultrasonic sensor detects your presence and turns on the camera. You hold your rubbish up to the camera and the bin that has been programmed to accept that category of waste opens. A very cool idea, since most of our rubbish is sorted by hand at the recycling centers.

With ongoing COVID-19 lockdowns, KIOSC ran the Maker Project: TrashBot Challenge as an online program.

The KIOSC team 3D-printed 184 kits to distribute to students, teachers and staff.



KIOSC packs and delivers the STEM Trashbot Challenge Project so students can continue to learn in lockdown!



EDUCATION NEWS

They shared detailed lesson plans to provide additional support to teachers and livestreamed lessons.

'Effective communication was key to success and students were very adept at being prepared.'

Eighty-five per cent of participating teachers indicated that they would continue to deliver similar multidisciplinary projects in the future to engage students.

'The students have been engaged with this work and they enjoyed the hands-on kit that they were given and the challenge to get their bin to open. Teachers commented on the higher levels of engagement with their students online.

Sparking interest in students was incredibly rewarding after spending time researching, developing and implementing this new program.

KIOSC utilised a group of Swinburne's Diploma of Event Management students, as part of their coursework, to host the Presentation online. It included guest speakers, Kahoot quizzes and the announcement of the Winners!

Congratulations to all the students who participated in the challenge. Well Done!

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✉ nick.wakeling@parliament.vic.gov.au 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?

RSPCA Pawsome Stories Competition

Bayswater West Primary School Student Wins First Prize!

In September RSPCA Victoria's Pawsome Stories invited Victorian children in grades three to six to put their writing skills to the test asking participants to write either a fictional story about rescuing an animal or a persuasive essay to answer the question, 'If you could change one thing in the world to improve animals' lives, what would it be and why?' There was a huge response with 345 entries submitted.

This was a great opportunity for future animal welfare advocates and writers to express themselves. It also highlighted the amazing work that RSPCA Victoria does to help animals in need and to educate the public about animal welfare and care.

This year's Pawsome Stories applications were reviewed by two of Australia's most renowned children's authors, Andy Griffiths and Cameron Macintosh who joined RSPCA Victoria's CEO Dr Liz Walker on the judging panel.

Andy Griffiths said he was incredibly impressed with the calibre of the written work he reviewed. "I loved reading all of the stories on the fictional story shortlist. They all demonstrated both great storytelling abilities and the willingness to escape our human-centric viewpoint and imagine what life might look like from the point of view of animals. This leap of imagination is vital in creating a kinder and more

caring world for animals," Andy said.

Cruze Marsh in grade 3 at Bayswater West Primary School won first prize in the Grade 3 & 4 Creative Category on the 14th October at a Virtual Awards Ceremony. Andy Griffiths, author of the award winning and very popular children's Treehouse book series, presented the award to Cruze.

Cruze's acceptance speech; "Being part of the RSPCA Pawsome Stories Competition was amazing! The best part was meeting the judges (Andy Griffiths and Cam Macintosh) and Dr Liz Walker online! We got to ask questions about what it would be like if we were to become an author and what it would be like to protect and look after animals. It was a great opportunity. I thank all of the organisers for encouraging the writers of the future. I hope everyone will continue to support all the brilliant work RSPCA does for animals in our community."

Cruze won a trophy, \$50 Dymocks voucher, an RSPCA Victoria adoptable plush toy AND a virtual barn tour for him and his class to meet the friendly RSPCA farm animals. He also had an opportunity to ask Andy and Cameron questions during a special Q & A session.

Congratulations Cruze! We are all very proud of you. This is a wonderful achievement!

My Pawsome Story Agent Dog Bond vs The Ninja Kittens

Written by Cruze Marsh

Year 3, Bayswater West Primary School

It was a dark, stormy night as our agent strolls along the grey, rocky footpath in the Animal District. Suddenly, he spots three small, shivering kittens in the gutter meowing in the moonlight. Immediately, without giving it a second thought, he scooped up the kittens and brought them home to his secret training base so they could be warm and safe.

You might be wondering, well who's He?!?! Well, he's just the world's most famous agent, Agent Dog Bond (ADB for short) from Diligent Dog Spies (DDS). The company's aim is to make the world a better place. ADB thought of a great idea! He would train the kittens to be ninjas and they too could fight for what is right and to rescue other innocent animals that needed help.

Suddenly, the clock struck twelve midnight. All was dark. The kittens pounced out of the window. The glass shattered as the last kitten's tail got past the window frame. They marched in single formation over to Professor Python's (the bad guys) Palace. But why?

The following day ADB could not find the kittens anywhere. All that was left were some paw prints leading out of the shattered window. Just as he peeped out of the window, Professor Python slithered under the front door, unlocking it for the kittens to enter beside him, checking the coast was clear they started to transform into evil kittens who were ready to destroy everything in sight.

Crash! Agent Dog Bond turned around and to his amazement saw one of the kittens using a hammer to smash a hole in the T.V! Another broke a vase, by throwing it across the room just missing ADB's head and the last one threw the kitchen fridge into the fireplace spreading the flames in a ring of fire surrounding Professor Python and Agent Dog Bond.

"Ha! Ha! Ha! I have turned your little kitten friends evil to help me destroy you and all Diligent Dog Spies in the world!" "Never!" shouted ADB. The fight to save the world from the evil Professor Python was on. The kittens were tired and took a nap. They had just enough energy to wave a white flag to show them surrendering.

The professor saw the kittens and fell to the floor in disappointment. A gadget fell from his pocket. It was the gadget that transformed the kittens from good to evil. ADB dived and pressed the flashing button. Zap! The kittens were back to being good and ready to protect the world from evil. Within five seconds a swirl of wind put out the fire and Professor Python had disappeared into thin air, but not before saying, "You ain't seen the last of me you mad MUTT!"



Left: Cruze Marsh and his Pawsome Stories Competition prizes!



**Working hard for
our local community**

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

✉ nick.wakeling@parliament.vic.gov.au www.nickwakeling.com.au

Funded from Parliament's Electorate Office and Communications Budget.

**Nick
Wakeling** MP

STATE MEMBER FOR FERNTREE GULLY





What's New at Your Library

by Karla Simon

LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Sizzlers

Enjoy a great selection of the latest books and DVDs at Your Library. To place a free reservation on any of these titles, visit our website www.yourlibrary.com.au/catalogue.

Top Reads

- Together by Jamie Oliver
- Treasure & dirt by Chris Hammer
- Happy hour by Jacquie Byron
- Sweet Jimmy: crime has many faces...revenge is one by Bryan Brown
- Here in the after by Marion Firth
- The heart principle by Helen Hoang
- This much is true by Miriam Margolyes
- Magpie by Elizabeth Day
- Rock paper scissors by Alice Feeney
- Apples never fall by Liane Moriarty

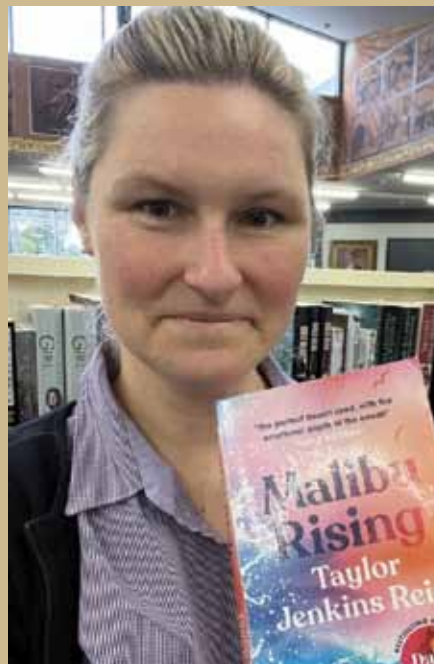
New DVDs

- Black widow
- Buckley's chance
- The colony
- The father
- The haunting of Bly Manor
- Jack Irish – Season 3
- Law & order: Special Victims Unit. Season 22
- The nest
- Rare beasts
- Swept up by Christmas

Events at Your Library

Join us at the library for exciting and inspiring events! Explore our events calendar via events.yourlibrary.com.au. All in-person events follow strict COVID Safe guidelines.

Staff Pick



Malibu Rising - by Taylor Jenkins Reid

This was one of the best and most surprising books I've read in a while! It takes place over 24 hours, exploring the events of an annual Malibu beach house party thrown by 4 siblings in the 1980's. The narrative intermittently dips back into the past, uncovering the history and motivations of each character, that then shaped the events of the party. The characters are really engaging and the book is beautifully paced - I couldn't put it down!

Anji – Customer Service Officer

Making a Will

from Eastern Community Legal Centre



Making a Will might be something you haven't given much thought to, but it is one of the most important things we can do to protect the people and possessions we care about.

It is estimated that more than half of all Australians do not have a current and valid Will that reflects their wishes. People without a Will are leaving themselves and their families at risk of significant unintended problems later.

For example, quirks in the law could mean that assets of couples without children will not be divided evenly between their surviving family members or that family members who have greater needs are not properly provided for.

At the very least, it can mean that difficult financial and legal issues need to be discussed and negotiated by close family members during a time of grief and sadness.

A Will gives you the chance to make decisions about things that are important to you. This could include your wishes around the guardianship of children, care of pets, who will receive sentimental items and funeral instructions. It also offers you a chance to have important conversations with people about these issues.

Whilst there are resources like Will kits available, they can be difficult to complete accurately, and at the very least should be checked by a lawyer to make sure they are valid. You can contact Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC) for referrals to appropriate professional services.

If you already have a Will, it is worth checking it every now and again to make sure it still reflects your wishes and accounts for any significant changes in relationships, new family members, or changes in assets

Locals can also find out more at Eastern Community Legal Centre's free event with Eastern Regional Libraries online at 2-3:30pm Monday 22 November. The session will include other aspects of future planning including powers of attorney. Book now at www.tinyurl.com/planningyourfuturewithECLC or by phoning 1300 737 277.

During this time of social distancing, ECLC continues to offer free legal, social and financial assistance by telephone and video call to people living in the eastern region of Melbourne, including across the Yarra Ranges. Please call 1300 3252 00 (1300 ECLC 00) or email eclc@eclc.org.au to find out how we can assist you.



Volunteer Drivers needed

Ever wondered how seniors cope with shopping alone?

Bridges is looking for compassionate and caring volunteer drivers to help with general driving roles and to support some clients with Assisted Shopping support.

At this time of social distancing we will ensure you are trained in safety protocols to keep yourself and our clients safe while you are conducting the service.

Find out more at
www.bridgescc.com.au
 Email: info@bridgescc.com.au
 or call 9753 4577 or 0476 470 030



News from the Australian Jazz Museum

Proactively Collecting, Archiving and Disseminating Australian Jazz.

What's Happening at the Museum? *by Ken Simpson-Bull*

As a result of the pandemic the museum building has not only been closed to the public since March 2020, but to the volunteer staff as well. However, fortunately a limited number of staff have in fact been able to attend for short periods in order to carry out a few essential duties and to continue sorting and cataloguing new donations. In addition, staff working from home have successfully maintained key activities such as the administration of membership renewals, operation of the online shop, responding to research requests, maintenance of the web-site, audio digitisation, and production of the magazine. Updating and refinement of the large "Emu" database have continued with the facility now being accessible on-line through the AJM website. The AJM has been privileged to secure a grant of \$6600 from the Public Records Office of the Victoria Grants Program which will be used to support the AJM's mission of preserving Australia's jazz heritage for future generations. Over the next three years the museum plans to produce six 30-minute video interviews with important jazz personalities. Preparations are almost complete for an on-line exhibition featuring the indigenous jazz and blues

singer Georgia Lee (1921– 2010). Georgia's singing career encompassed the mid-1940s to the 1960s. She was the first Indigenous Australian artist to record Blues songs and the first Indigenous woman to record an album. The exhibition will showcase highlights from the museum's collection of Georgia's recorded works accompanied by digitised images of photographs and posters held by AJM. The AJM management and volunteer staff hope that it will not be too long before public access and group visits will resume.



Torres Strait Islander blues singer Georgia Lee

The Australian Jazz Museum

(nationally accredited)

15 Mountain Highway, Wantirna will again be open free to the public as soon as it becomes safe to do so. Resumption of group visits will be advised. Enquiries: 0412 073 702 or visit the interesting web site at www.ajm.org.au

KNOX ARTS



The Ferntree Gully Arts Society
at The Hut Gallery
157 Underwood Road, FTG.
Weekends 11am to 4pm
All Welcome. Free Entry.

'Members' Annual' Exhibition

A wonderful exhibition of the best artwork by our artists created within the past two years, in a variety of mediums. The Allan & Peg Lowe Annual Award
Sunday 14 Nov to Sunday 5 Dec
All artworks are for sale

The gallery will be open on weekends, however, we require that all visitors:
* double-vaccinated.

- * show proof of double vaccination or exemption
- * wear a face mask (covering mouth and nose)
- * check in using the QR code or sign the sheet

www.thehutgallery.com.au
www.facebook.com/TheHutFTGArtsSociety
www.instagram.com/thehutgallery

The Ancient Art of Printmaking

by Shirley Dougan

Recently we have been focusing on upgrading the printmaking area in the studio at The Hut Gallery.

Printmaking has been a favourite of artists throughout history.

The printmaking process typically allows an artist to make multiple works of art.

Usually, the artist creates an image on a 'plate' made from metal, wood or other materials. This plate is then inked and transferred to a piece of paper, to create an original print.

Think of printmaking as being like belly-buttons. The "innies" are where you scratch into the surface of a material and push the ink into the recesses you made. The ink is wiped off the surface and a print is produced from the ink that is in the scratches.

A lino-cut print is an example of an "outie". Here, you cut away parts of the surface and ink the top, which is then transferred to the paper. The correct name for this is 'relief' printing.

We offer artists the opportunity to utilise the printing press that holds pride of place. In addition, we are introducing gelli

plate printmaking, an exciting process that delights in the happy accident and experimentation. We have purchased a number of new tools. A local carpenter has made some drying rails; a unique system that employs 'glass marble-power' to hold your prints in place while they dry.

Whilst certain tools are only available for our members' use, this workshop is open to anyone who would like the opportunity to explore printmaking across a variety of techniques.

We are certain that many happy hours will be spent in exploration, sharing of knowledge and the production of stunning artwork in a supportive and fun atmosphere.

The Printmaking project has been supported by a grant from the Knox City Council's Minor Grants Program.



Foothills Art Trail

The Ferntree Gully Arts Society are excited to be continuing the Foothills Art Trail which was due to finish at the end of October.

With the theme of Australian Flora and Fauna you can see lots of beautiful artworks spread throughout the village as well as at The Hut Gallery.

All the works are available to purchase so follow the QR codes or check them all out at: <https://www.thehutgallery.com.au/events/foothillsart.html>

The Foothills Art Trail project has been supported by a grant from the Knox City Council Business Support Grants".

KNOXFIELD & SCORESBY NEWS

Tirhatuan Ward Update

By Cr. Nicole Seymour

There is much to report on, with quite a bit of activity happening within the boundaries of the Tirhatuan ward (Scoresby, Rowville and small slither of Knoxfield).

Future of Caribbean Gardens and Market an awesome outcome for Knox:

If you haven't heard, the former market site at Caribbean Gardens has been reimagined and will now be home to two very exciting business ventures sure to please residents and bring jobs and economic activity to Knox.

The first is Event Central – 39 Hectares of outdoor exhibition and event space. There is nothing like Event Central in the outer rings of metro Melbourne making it an attractive location for festivals, sporting events, and expos that can draw patronage not only from Melbourne but also regional areas to the East and South given close access to key freeway corridors.

They already have two expos booked in for 2022 – Tiny Homes Expo in March and the Melbourne Outdoor Living Show in April. For more information visit www.eventcentralatcaribbeanpark.com.au

The second really cool venture is 2.0 Artisan and Vintage market providing a contemporary interpretation of traditional trash, treasure and produce markets. 2.0 is destined to be the largest market of its kind in Victoria drawing people from all over to explore the antiques, all things vintage and collectable, handcrafted and artisan wares as well as fresh and gourmet foods.

It really is going to be an incredible attraction here in Knox and the good news is the Pavilion stalls will be open 7 days a week and the market days on both Saturday and Sunday. For more information about 2.0 Artisan-Vintage Market visit 2-0.com.au or check out their facebook page for latest promotions.

New Home for Knox Hockey Club:

Scoresby residents, particularly those in close vicinity to Benedikt Reserve will be relieved to know Council has found Knox Hockey Club a new home and it will not be Benedikt Reserve. In fact, the proposed location is Wantirna Reserve off Mountain Highway, already part of a multi-sport / community precinct. The Wantirna Reserve location has all the elements to offer Knox Hockey a long term sustainable home base that can also accommodate future growth of the Club. I would like to acknowledge the tireless efforts of the Protect Benedikt Reserve group and local Scoresby residents who have come together



to lobby Council for site appropriate activation of highly prized public open space. The momentum of community interest in Benedikt Reserve will continue now that local residents have a shared interest in seeing the reserve activated in a way that optimises both passive and active use – watch this space!

Excitement mounting for new all abilities playground in Rowville:

After many months of waiting, draft concepts have been released for the upgrade of the Rowville all abilities regional playground at Stud Park Reserve. Council is in the process of collecting community feedback re the initial concept plan, which has a Farming land use theme in acknowledgement of Rowville's farming history. One of the proposed features that already has been positively received is the inclusion of water play via misting posts. This particular playground is Knox's only purpose designed all abilities playground providing a range of inclusive activities and sensory experiences sure to please. If you would like to know more or contribute your thoughts to the proposed design, visit <https://haveyoursay.knox.vic.gov.au/stud-park-playground>

Love a beautiful mural? The Pavilion at Rowville Community Centre is worth a look:

As you drive into the carpark of Rowville Community Centre (off Fulham Road), you can't miss the brightly coloured eye catching mural "Shelter" by muralist and painter Hayden Dewar. The inspiration for Dewar's imagery is the impact of urbanisation on local ecological diversity. The attention to detail,

particularly in the giant goanna is superb. This mural was part of the Knox Immerse 2021 Arts festival, and fortunately for us in Tirhatuan Ward the mural is a permanent installation even after the festival has ended. Personally, I love to see quality murals like this throughout our municipality and think they bring our public spaces to life.

Wishing you Joy this festive season!

Given this is the final edition of the paper for 2021, I would like to wish all readers a very merry Christmas and happy New Year. No matter your faith or how you spend this time of year, may it be a time of peace and joy.

I am very proud of Knox and how resilient we have been throughout this turbulent 2021. May we continue to rebuild and recover with newfound strengths in 2022.



KNOXFIELD NEWSAGENCY

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Cr Nicole SEYMOUR

Tirhatuan Ward Councillor

Knox Council

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

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Cr Nicole Seymour

www.nicoleseymour.com.au



KNOXFIELD & SCORESBY NEWS

Cr. Susan Laukens Elected Knox Mayor

Cr Susan Laukens has been elected Mayor of Knox City Council, with Cr Nicole Seymour to serve as Deputy Mayor for the next 12 months.

Cr Laukens said she was humbled and honoured to be chosen as Mayor, and looked forward to working collaboratively with Councillors and staff to achieve great outcomes for the community.

"I was elected last year by the constituents of Friberg to represent them on this Council and now in my role of mayor I have the privilege and honour of representing the whole municipal community, working with my fellow councillors to develop, shape and review the strategic direction of council, honouring our Council Plan," said Cr Laukens.

"I'm committed to leading you with integrity, honesty, with no hidden agendas. I will bring my authentic self to this role as Mayor.

"I look forward to working with you, as your Mayor, productively through this year as we all shine."

Cr Laukens, who has lived in Knoxfield for 14 years, has been a registered nurse for 27 years and has a

long history of volunteering in the local community.

Cr Laukens thanked the outgoing Mayor, Cr Lisa Cooper for her leadership throughout a momentous year. Cr Cooper was recognised for her competence and empathy in a year filled with milestones and achievements as well as the disruption, challenges and unprecedented decisions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The new Deputy Mayor, Cr Seymour is a long-term Knox resident, having lived in the Tirhatuan Ward she represents for over 22 years. She has been an active participant in the local community since her teenage years, which ultimately drove her to join Council in 2012. Cr Seymour previously served as Mayor during 2019 to 2020.



Festive Season Wishes To You All

Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and wonderful New Year. It has been an absolute pleasure to be your local councillor during this last year.

I look forward to the year ahead as we share Christmas with friends and family.

Happy Holidays to you all.

Cr. Susan Laukens



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 or visit www.susanlaukensforknox.com.au

SusanLaukensforKnox



Lisa's Community Message

from Cr. Lisa Cooper, Scott Ward



Dear Residents,

As we approach our Christmas Festive Season I can't help but think of those who have suffered such enormous financial loss over this past 2 years and those who are relying on food services just to get by each week.

Operating since 2002, Foothills Community Care is one of many organisations across Knox who are helping individuals and families in need. As a not-for-profit grassroots organisation, Foothills Community Care walks alongside those who are in need of a safe place to connect in the Dandenong Ranges and Knox areas of outer eastern Melbourne.

Since COVID restrictions, they have adapted their services to continue to serve our local community with compassion and love.

During the last 2 years they have provided over 70,000 meals to locals in need of extra help in these difficult times. (And this is one organisation – there are many others doing great work like this).

Currently, Foothills Community Care are providing the following services:

Monday: Upwey Community Meal, served from 5.30pm at Upwey Baptist, 21 Darling Ave Upwey - no need to book.

Wednesday: Ferntree Gully Community Meal, served from 5.30pm at Ferntree Gully Guide Hall, 156 Underwood Rd, Ferntree Gully - no need to book.

Community Casseroles, free frozen home-cooked nutritious meals delivered locally - book online.

Domestic Violence Peer Support Group, a peer led group for women who have experienced DV, support includes weekly zoom and meals support - book online.

Ferntree Gully Christmas Eve Lunch, providing a space for 250 people to gather together on Christmas day, including meal, entertainment and presents. Book online.



On behalf of Knox City Council, (and personally), I would like to thank Foothills Community Care and all organisations across Knox for your tremendous efforts. Your work is truly appreciated, and you enrich the lives of everyone you meet.

Most people involved with running these organisations are volunteers giving their time and efforts to help out others who need it most. From the bottom of my heart, I say thank-you so much!

Foothills Community Care, City Life Community Care and many organisations like these, can't do the great work they are doing without donations.

I know everyone has had a very difficult 2 years, but if you are in the position to give anything, please consider these wonderful organisations because every dollar really does make a difference to someone's life, and they need the hand up now.

Wishing you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe 2022.

<https://www.foothillscare.org.au/>



Knoxfield Ladies Probus Club

By Leonie Taylor

Hello Everyone,

Good news, life is returning to normal..... and excitement for all!

We will hold our first committee meeting for many months next week and hopefully a Probus Meeting the following week. Members please note that we will notify you of upcoming meeting dates once we confirm numbers allowed for indoor meetings.

I thought for this edition I will take the opportunity to introduce another of our talented members from Knoxfield Ladies Probus Club. Her name is Denise Lund.

Denise joined Probus five years ago and was invited to join by her close friend, Gwen White who was a member and hoped Denise would enjoy the fun and company.....and She did.

Now a little bit about Denise that I have learnt. Originally from Victoria, Denise and her husband moved to NSW as he was to work on the Snowy Scheme. They had a few moves after that in NSW then eventually came back to S.E. suburb of Melbourne.

Denise loves her garden and loves animals. She is a very talented lady who has been doing handcrafts since a young girl.

Denise told me that she loves knitting the really intricate patterns. She continued building her list of talents when she started quilting, porcelain dolls and china painting. Whew, I feel so inadequate!



Denise was involved in a car accident in 2004 and used her handcrafting skills to help ease the pain during her recovery. Another club member, Amy, gave Denise lots of rolls of cotton so she promptly started knitting sunhats for children and cotton tops to donate to childrens' charities.

Denise has made many things and kindly donated to many charities over the years. Sounds like a really "Special Lady" to me and a very typical type of member that we are so lucky to have at our Knoxfield Probus Club.

Best known for her millinery art, we have seen some very creative hats over the years. Our members all love to see what creation Denise will be wearing on our "dress up days" such as Easter Bonnet Parade and our Melbourne Cup Hat Parade. We are never disappointed with her fashion sense and fun personality yet.

Denise has two daughters and a son, one daughter who lives close by and spends time with her regularly while her other daughter is farming in NSW and her son lives in Bega.

A highly regarded member and friend to all and although I think she is a bit of a "show off" being so talented, I truly think you are fantastic Denise. We all look forward to seeing You and your hats when Probus resumes.

Take care all.....Keep safe. And we will be seeing each other very soon.....



Kim Wells News Spot

from Kim Wells MP, Member for Rowville

Victorians have breathed a collective sigh of relief as we finally came out of this latest lockdown. From the excitement of big events like the Melbourne Cup to simple things like seeing our families in person, it has been a huge and very welcome change. I know so many people are thrilled to be able to get back to their sports clubs and teammates, back to the gym or onto the tennis court or bowling green. For parents, being able to send their kids back to their schools, and reunite with their friends and classmates has been really important to return to some sense of normality.

There was definitely a fantastic sense of excitement in Melbourne as crowds of shoppers rushed to retail stores finally being open again. It is a testament to

retail businesses that they have taken on board new systems like QR code check-ins, customer limits and preparing staff to work with new Covid restrictions, so that people can shop in a safe environment.

Local businesses really did it tough during the lockdowns. Even 'essential' businesses who remained open suffered a huge drop in customers while employees worked from home. As 'short sharp lockdowns' turned into weeks, then months, some businesses couldn't afford to keep on staff. After last year, the financial and emotional reserves to keep business owners afloat were also well and truly exhausted. Victoria's retail sector lost sales of more than \$673 million from May until September this year. While financial assistance was available, businesses faced a number of hurdles and many business owners came to my office about problems with grants being paid and delays in problems being sorted out.

Local business will still need our support more than

ever. As we head towards Christmas, I hope that many of you will make the choice to buy your presents from a local retailer, to find your Christmas decorations locally and food for Christmas celebrations from local shops. Shopping locally is a great way of avoiding a delay having presents delivered and supporting our local businesses to get back on their feet.

Since the last edition of the Studfield Wantirna news, the Victorian Electoral Commission announced an important change to electoral boundaries. Wantirna South residents living south of Burwood Highway, will join the Rowville electorate, while Ferntree Gully residents will become part of the Bayswater electorate, at the next State election in November 2022. I have previously represented these voters and look forward to meeting and reconnecting with these residents again. My office can be contacted on 9764 8988 or by email at kim.wells@parliament.vic.gov.au for assistance with Victorian State issues or concerns.

Kim WELLS MP
STATE MEMBER FOR ROWVILLE

Unit 4, 1335 Ferntree Gully Rd, Scoresby 3179 03 9764 8988 KimWells.com.au

[KimWellsMP](https://www.facebook.com/KimWellsMP) [KimWellsMP](https://www.instagram.com/KimWellsMP)

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



**A STRONG VOICE
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KNOXFIELD & SCORESBY NEWS

Finding the Joy Within.....

By Nicole Seymour
Community Matters Most

I am writing this personal reflection piece aware that Christmas is a matter of weeks away.

When we see advertising, greeting cards, promotional material that is Christmas themed, there is often stereotypical imagery of a large gathering with lots of happy smiling faces, a table overflowing with food, an elaborately decorated tree and an abundance of beautifully gift wrapped presents. In our modern and materialistic world these images of privilege are crafted to influence society's perceptions for what Christmas should be like if it is to be joyous driving people to spend in an effort to achieve the dream.

Coming off the back of two years of the pandemic and appreciating the emotional, psychological and financial toll this has taken, Christmas 2021 may be challenging for some. Pent up frustration and anxiety that has been bottled within for months now may come to the surface under the additional



pressure of perceived Christmas expectations and possibly the lowering of our social filters as alcohol is consumed.

Even before the pandemic, Christmas for some in our community can be a time of exacerbated loneliness and isolation.

If we reflect on a universal truth of Christmas, regardless of one's faith, it is a time for gratitude

and human connection. A time to appreciate those around us and to be appreciated.

Whilst indulgent food, fancy trimmings and presents are nice, they are not the measure of a joyous Christmas. Joy comes from within. It is the small things that truly matter – spreading kindness, expressing unconditional love, the gift of time and of being present with another person.

Listen to your heart and your internal self-talk as we go into the Christmas period and don't let your own needs be drowned out by the expectations of others. Be kind to yourself and celebrate the joy within.



Get Your Pool Ready For Summer

from One Stop Pool Shop - 9753 3929

With spring finally here after a long wet and cold winter in lockdown, it is time to turn our attention to our swimming pools.

Summer will be here before we know it and most of us will be spending this time at home in our backyards due to COVID 19 .

Preparation now will ensure your pool is sparkling and safe to swim in in the coming months

Green pools are common at the change of season so it is important that you get your water tested and equipment checked.

We are currently open for contactless water testing and chemical sales, so please feel free to contact us via phone, email, or website to make a time and discuss your pool.

Looking forward to a long sunny summer.

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Neuroplasticity and Laughter Yoga

Our Intelligent Body

Our bodies have amazing abilities to adapt and heal themselves and most of us are probably ignorant of what may be achieved. Our brains need stimulation, and due to Covid, the lack of it has reaped havoc in many ways which is a huge subject in itself.

Your Plastic Brain

Have you heard the notion that you can change your brain? Scientists have proven that your brain is being shaped by everyday experiences referred to as neural plasticity. Your brain is being influenced and restructured by what you do every day.

Neural plasticity, also known as neuroplasticity or brain plasticity, can be defined as the ability of the nervous system to change its activity by reorganising its structure, functions, or connections. New neuron pathways may be produced when required. We can consciously engage in activities which stimulate our brain, such as jigsaw puzzles, learning a new skill, iPad/tablet games and memory games. Science shares that a different part of the brain can become active to compensate for an injury or inability to function at primal level.

Laughter, singing, and dancing are major contributors to creating new brain neurons. 'Neuroplasticity' is only one of many benefits attributed to regular laughing. Thai Nguyen, a writer from Brisbane has written an article about it and he has made a list of 10 things which are beneficial for our wellbeing when we are aware to stimulate our brain: Fasting, travel, mnemonic devices for memory training, learning an instrument, doing



non-dominant hand exercises, reading fiction, expand vocabulary, artwork, dancing and sleep.

Positive thinkers change their brain function by focusing on gratitude, meditation, kindness to self, self-awareness, releasing negative thoughts and more. We can weaken old habits and create new habits which help enforce them into our lives. I find that awesome. Once upon a time scientists thought that brains stopped developing when people reached adulthood. How inspiring. Think about it. We have the power within us to change our lives positively and answers will unfold to us if we are open to the change.

Laughter Club Helps Create New Brain Neurons

Members of the laughter club feel invigorated, joyful, fulfilled and with more sense of purpose when they come together. We include a lot of singing, some dancing and laughing, which stimulates the brain, as well as receiving other physical, mental, emotional and

spiritual benefits. There is an abundance of stimulation with our imaginations as we role play the various laughs, having grown up playful fun. It is great!!!

And now there is a new rage that Lynette brings to her professional laughter yoga sessions, which is Bollywood Laughter Dancing! You can find it online and do it yourself at home. What a great combination for people who love to sing, dance and laugh. People find it a very light-hearted practice to do.

Can't make it in person? Zoom laughter clubs are available worldwide and are easy to track down, or you may contact Lynette to be connected into a Laughter Yoga Facebook group. The laughter family has expanded to be truly worldwide and is a superb community to belong to. We are on the same page.

Trusting that you are doing as well as possible at the present time, as things are opening up as we will shortly head into a wonderful new year, filled with many unknown possibilities and new things to experience, if that is your choosing.

Wishing you the very best Christmas wishes and a safe December, followed by a prosperous 2022. I like that, lots of 2's. Cheerio for now. Until next time, love and laughter blessings.

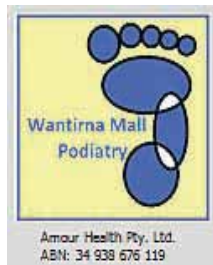
The Ferntree Gully Laughter club meet behind the library at 11am on the 2nd & 4th & 5th Sunday but in December it will be only on the 12th. We are still Zooming too, if you would like to join us online.

Lynette & John Mitchell lead the free Community Ferntree Gully Laughter Club,

Phone: 0425 799 258 or John on 0425 798 115

Email: lynette@laughterforliving.com.au

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



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Melina Linardatos

Arthritis and Feet

Any joint within the foot and lower limb can be affected by different types of arthritis/ arthropathies that can cause joint pain, stiffness and impair your ability to walk, fit into footwear and care for your own feet. Pressure areas on the feet can cause corns, callousities and wounds to form.

Bunions otherwise known as hallux valgus are associated with arthritis. Bunions are a deformity of the big toe joint but can often involve other joints within the foot. The cause of bunions is not clear in many cases there maybe a genetic link or related to arthritis however the deformity maybe painful and progressive causing walking problems and deformity with the lesser digits. Occasionally a fluid filled sac called a bursa or corns and callousities may also develop over the area.

Corns and callousities are additional layers of skin produced as a body defence to protect underlying tissues against friction and pressure. The presence of a centre suggests a corn has formed. If the cause of pressure is not relieved, calluses and corns can become painful and can even ulcerate. Common sites of corn and callus formation, include the ball of the foot, under the big toe, tips and tops of toes and

between the toes. Sometimes 'soft' corns between toes can also form.

At Wantirna Mall Podiatry we can help with the symptoms associated with arthropathies by assessing the movement of the joints of the foot and lower limb and associated plantar pressure areas. With this information the Podiatrist can remove the associated corns and callousities and determine a treatment plan to help manage your symptoms. Offloading orthotics with exercises are sometimes prescribed to help off load arthritic problem pressure areas. These orthotics are designed after measurements and casting of the feet is taken. Extra- depth footwear and footwear with specific elements for arthritis such as flexible uppers are also prescribed. There is no cure for arthritis, surgery through a Podiatry surgeon or Orthopaedic surgeon maybe an option if pain is persistent.



Stress Management

by Andrea Crook

Bachelor of Health Science (Naturopathy)

During these tough times we can feel overwhelmed and suffer different degrees of stress. To assist in allaying stress management may include:

Exercising regularly – at least 20 minutes of exercise three times per week.

Relax – give yourself time to relax each day and to spend time with individuals who make you feel good about yourself.

Sleep – a good sleep routine is essential. Sleep relaxation tips before bed may include listening to music or reading. Chamomile tea can promote a restful sleep.

Diet – nutritious diet including a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables and to avoid sweet and fatty (fast) foods.

Omega rich foods (salmon, sardines, mackerel) increase brain health, improve one's mood and assist with stress.

Chickpeas boost brain health and improve mental performance (and are packed with B-vitamins, magnesium, and zinc).

It is important to allow yourself time for fun and to get a balance in your life.

NEWS IN GOOD HEALTH & WELLBEING

News from Wantirna Osteopathy by Dr. Kira Nee (Osteopath)

Dry Needling - What is it and how may it help you?

Dry needling is a safe and effective treatment that aims to decrease muscular pain and stiffness. The procedure involves the insertion of a fine needle into the trigger points or tightened bands of tissue within a muscle. Dry needling is intended to target muscles and restore function to muscles. It aims to restore mobility and promote the body's own tissue healing mechanisms. It can ease joint pain, loosen stiffened muscles, and improve blood flow in the body. It can be used for acute and chronic conditions and stimulates the muscle to release so that the muscle can return to its ideal state.

When a muscle becomes tightened, holds increased tension or is spasming the blood flow to the muscles is restricted, reducing the oxygen and nutrient supply to the muscle. This can result in the

muscular tissue near trigger points becoming more acidic and the nerves become sensitised, making the area sore and painful. When a needle hits this trigger point metabolic waste products such as lactic acid is released from the area allowing for a return in normal blood supply to the muscle. Blood cells, growth factors and inflammatory mediators then enter the tissue stimulating tissue healing and the removal of overly sensitised tissues.

Stimulating the tissue healing process can assist in the strengthening of tendons and ligaments. Dry needling can also help to enhance sports performance, speed up injury recovery times, prevent your injury from becoming chronic, improve mobility, and improve muscle recovery. It is important to note that dry needling is almost always



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used as part of a larger treatment plan and is just one tool that therapists can use to address muscle tightness and restore function.

Dry needling is not always suitable for everyone, it is important to have a chat to your Osteopath to see if it is right for you. Many of our practitioners here at Wantirna Osteopathy incorporate dry needling into their treatment, if you are considering this technique and want to know more call reception on (03) 9800 0388.

Hands on Myotherapy



TMJ DYSFUNCTION - PAIN AND DYSFUNCTION OF THE JAW

TMJ (temporomandibular joint) dysfunction affects a large number of adults and the actual trigger can be hard to determine. TMJ dysfunction can cause pain and compromised movement of the jaw joint and surrounding muscles. Common complaints include; pain when chewing foods, pain around the

front of the ear which can spread to the face, an uncomfortable or uneven bite and a 'locking' of the jaw which can lead to discomfort in opening and closing the mouth.

Patients often describe the pain being worse in the morning due to grinding of the teeth and continual clenching of the jaw whilst sleeping. Other factors contributing to the pain include stress, postural issues when sitting for prolonged periods and lack of movement and stretching throughout the day.

Splints for the mouth have commonly been prescription for patients who grind the teeth and, whilst they provide protection for the teeth, they do not always resolve the pain associated with grinding or clenching. Soft tissue massage, dry needling and exercising and stretching is prescribed by our therapists to alleviate the symptoms and in turn resolve the issue.

If you or someone you know is suffering from jaw pain, don't leave it, as it may become worse. Book an appointment with one of our therapists to start your treatment plan today.

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- Sporting/ Occupational Injuries
- Golfer/ Tennis Elbow
- Headaches
- Sciatica


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Supporting our Local Cafes

from Nick Wakeling MP – State Member for Ferntree Gully

For the better part of two years many of our local small businesses have struggled under the weight of lockdowns and other COVID-19 restrictions.

Even while some small businesses, such as our local cafes, have been able to operate in a limited capacity, this has been a real struggle for them.

The truth is that even though these businesses have been able to operate, they have often not been able to do this in a financially sustainable manner.

In fact, many of these local cafes have continued to operate even though their operating costs loom large, often necessitating financial sacrifices few of us would face.

They have done this not only in the interest of keeping their businesses alive but to offer their community and us all some outlet, some place to go and interact with others during the times we were amidst COVID-19 restrictions.

I, like many, know how important a friendly face and a chat with my local barista has been during these challenging times.

For these reasons I want to support and celebrate these local businesses and to offer some means for us, as a community, to show our thanks and appreciation.

Beyond this, I also want to shine a light on the

fantastic coffee and food that is on offer locally. This is the genesis of the Best Local Café Competition which is now in full swing across Knox.

It has been heartening to see how supportive locals have been of their local cafes.

Each vote is inscribed with not only praise of the quality of the food, coffee and service on offer, but also of the care and concern of café owners and staff.

I encourage everyone to look around in their local cafes for the participating flyer and to show their support by using the QR code to vote for their local café.

Locals can otherwise vote for their favourite local café by visiting <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZG38VMJ>



U3A Knox Update

by Kathleen Meekings

Like everyone else in Melbourne, in Australia and around the world, the last two years have been a challenge for U3A Knox.

U3A Knox—University of the Third Age—was established for people in their third age who are over the age of 45 and are retired or are semi-retired. We provide opportunities to learn, teach, share and to give mutual support to each other in a friendly and warm environment, regardless of ethnicity, religion, ability or disability.

With Melbourne lockdowns there have been limited opportunities to get together for face-to-face classes. Some classes did manage to continue online using Zoom, definitely a case of learning on the run. When restrictions allowed some of the walking and riding groups also met, often masked and in smaller groups.

Now, just when we seem to be opening up, there is another disruption. U3A Knox is mainly based in the Parkhills building in Fairpark Reserve in Ferntree Gully. That building is to be part of a redevelopment by Knox City Council.

As well as U3A Knox, the reserve features a large football oval, a cricket pavilion and net, netball courts, a playground and a shared path along Blind Creek.

A big new multi-use centre will be built in 2022 by Knox City Council to accommodate all these groups.

While the new centre will be very welcome, in the meantime we will have to vacate the building and relocate all our classes and activities. As soon as we can access the building again, we will be packing up the contents, looking at storage options and sorting out what we no longer need. This is a familiar feeling to anyone who has ever moved house.

Next year will be different, but we are getting used to that and we know that the disruption is all for a good reason.



Photo sourced through <https://www.facebook.com/U3AKnox>

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Financial Counselling at EACH

STORM AND FLOOD FINANCIAL COUNSELLING AT EACH

In the last two years there have been a number of natural disasters affecting Victorians, notably the North Eastern Victorian Bushfires in 2019-20 and the storm and flood event in June 2021. As a result, dedicated disaster recovery support programs, including financial counselling services, have been established to assist the recovery of Victorians.

EACH will have specialist financial counsellors available to meet the needs of clients affected by storms or other disasters in Melbourne's outer east. As well as financial counselling services, this may also include referral to other services where needed to assist with issues such as housing, storm clean-up, grants, financial, legal and psychological support.

HOW A FINANCIAL COUNSELLOR CAN HELP FOLLOWING A DISASTER

A financial counsellor can help someone:

- access relief for utility bills and other payments
- understand their government income and other entitlements
- negotiate with their bank on debt issues
- identify if their insurance outcome is fair and appropriate
- explore their options and can advocate on their behalf.

Speaking to a financial counsellor early can help stabilise a person's finances, reduce stress and allow them to focus on other areas of recovery.

Financial counselling is a free and confidential service available for anyone affected by a disaster. Appointments can be help face to face or by Telehealth.

Financial counselling is not a time-limited service – it is never too late to speak to a financial counsellor.

Examples of issues that can be addressed:

- loss of housing
- loss of other assets (for example, car, equipment, clothing, personal items etc.)
- loss or impeded access to essential services (electricity, gas, water)

- significant psychosocial trauma
- significant physical trauma
- business impacts or loss
- budgeting assistance
- need for referral to other services

CONTACT US:

Phone : 9871 1817

Email: fcintake@each.com.au

Web: <https://each.com.au/service/easternfinancial-counselling>

If your matter is urgent, you can phone the National Debt Helpline on 1800 007 007 and speak to a financial counsellor on the phone.



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- Xero software setup and training

Accreditations :

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- 10+ years experience
- Xero Certified Advisors

Boronia VIEW Club

Boronia View Club will meet on Friday 17 Dec. at 11.30 am at Eastwood Golf Club, Liverpool Rd. Kilsyth for a lunch of Christmas fare costing \$27. There won't be a speaker, but the afternoon will be filled with fun and frivolity.

So come along ladies of all ages and backgrounds and you will be guaranteed of a good fun afternoon.

Enquiries to 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 the 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 2-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 13th December, 2021

Our 25+1 Birthday & Christmas Lunch Entertainment 'The Hot Flushes'. Cost: \$30.

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

Time - 11.00am for a 12.00 noon start

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

To book ring Denise Barth - 0408 379 935

What's On?

Event	Date & Time	Location	More Information
OLDER MEN : NEW IDEAS	2nd & 4th Fridays each month	Orana Neighbourhood House 62 Coleman Rd ,Wantirna	1300 13 50 50 COTA web site
Changing Seasons Cafe	Wednesday to Sunday 7.30am to 3.30pm	31-34 Elizabeth St, Bayswater Access from the road	8720 1382
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 No meeting in Dec.	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. Dec. 17th 11.30 am.	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	Saturday, 4th December.	5/7 Samantha Crt. Knoxfield	1300 763 688
Tiny's Bar and Bottle Shop	Open Tuesday to Sunday	1/1333 Ferntree Gully Rd. Scoresby	Bookings: 8260 5882
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 http://www.rfnc.org.au
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	Val 9763 6175 or Bev 9753 3224
Lions Club of Knox	1st & 3rd Tues of month at 7.00pm	Our Saviours Lutheran Church Knox 646 Burwood Hwy, Knoxfield	Geraint 0450 923 437
Probus Club of Wantirna Sth	2nd Wednesday of the month at 10.00 am.	Wantirna Club, Stud Road Wantirna	Helen Dewar 0418 333 022
Scoresby TOWN Club	Wednesdays 8.30am	Bayswater Church of Christ	0418 306 104
The Hut Gallery	Open Sat/Sun 11am to 4pm	157 Underwood Rd. Ferntree Gully	thehutgallery.com.au

Girl Guides Zoom Through Lockdown

By Rebecca Whitehead,
Leader, 2nd Wantirna Heights Girl Guides

Wantirna Heights Girl Guides have continued to meet online throughout lockdown. The passion and energy of the Guides has shone brightly over the past several months and this has led to badges being achieved.

Our online Pets Parade was a huge success inspired by the Guides themselves. Several meetings included pets – from well behaved dogs, antisocial cats, brightly coloured budgerigars to an appropriately named guinea pig. The online format was the perfect way to include all the human and nonhuman members in the program.

Other activities were completed to achieve this badge. Engaging their imaginations to design a dream pet gave us a shape shifting chameleon, winged animals and customised dogs. Artistic skills were involved with designing and making animal themed bookmarks. Cooking skills were tested in making specialised cupcakes for dogs, butterfly shaped cookies and a turtle shaped cake.

Discovery A Challenge badges are a series of brightly coloured gem stone shaped badges aimed to promote learning new skills and extending existing

skills. The Sapphire Challenge was completed whilst we are all home based with the support of parents. The Guides were able to support their families with learning to use the washing machine, correctly ironing clothes, changing down lights and fluoro tubes, learning to safely use the lawn mower and sometimes a line trimmer.

Girl Guides are for Girls 6-18 and meet weekly throughout City of Knox. You can try 3 nights for FREE! – to find out more about Guides in your area you can email guides@guidesvic.org.au or visit www.guidesvic.org.au/be-a-guide.



Life Activities Club Knox

I know, that I mentioned there was light at the end of the tunnel, and now the masks are off outdoors!! Is that a Christmas present? Or not? But most important, best wishes for a Merry Christmas, lots of happy times with families and friends. And may 2022 bring good health, Happiness, Safety and success in your chosen field.

Now for December, the Girls will meet for Coffee/Tea and a chat, on the 7th. December. These ladies always meet at The Banksia Nursery at 11am, always the first Tuesday each month in this beautiful garden setting. The men choose various local cafes and restaurants for their meeting on the second Tuesday each month. They meet at 10:45 am. Feel free to join in.

Garden outings over the holiday season will still

be on the second Wednesday each month, and in December the destination is The Basin. And this visit will include home-made Christmas Nibbles. Friday walks are already organised for January, firstly to Fairfield and on the 18th. to Lysterfield. Yes, our activities continue year long. These walkers will include an end of year lunch. As most of the groups do, (forget the middle-age spread) at this time of the year.

News!! We were finally able to hold the belated A.G.M. But not indoors, No. No. No. Outdoors only! We arrived, with b.y.o. seating, at the Arboretum. Conditions for a quorum were met, elections held, official business and paperwork done, so now it is full steam ahead. Remember, activities continue throughout the year.

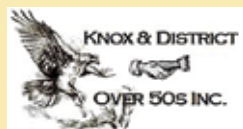
For more information on activities, meetings, joining, membership, quarterly newsletter.

Please ring Carol 0419 870 639

Or look us up at www.life.org.au/knox



Our A.G.M. at the Arboretum



News from... Knox Over 50s

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, regular lunches at different locations around Knox and morning melodies.

As we are seeing an improvement in our weather with the arrival of Summer we are seeing a similar improvement in the social situation. Each and

every one of us has been missing our get-togethers with family and friends and it is wonderful to freely enjoy the company of others.

Our next meeting will be on the third Tuesday in January 2022. The venue for this meeting will depend upon Government Covid regulations in the New Year.

With Victoria's vaccination numbers soaring we are hoping all of our 2022 meetings will take place at indoor venues. It has been impressed on us how important it is to be fully vaccinated as indoor venues will only accept double-vaccinated patrons.

In the meantime, we are going ahead with plans for our Club trip to Bright during March 2022 and Committee members are working with increasing

optimism on a return to our other regular activities as listed above. Weather permitting, we are now able to continue with walks around Lewis Park on the third Monday of each month.

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.

Please accept our best wishes for a safe and happy Festive Season.

Knox SOW NEWS



Hair-do or Orienteering? by David, Walk Organiser, Knox Street Orienteering Walkers

The Street Orienteering Walk that was a Knox Zest4Life Seniors Festival Event scheduled for 1 & 15 October happened a little late on Friday 22 October 10½ hours after the Covid Rules were relaxed at midnight. After 12 weeks off we were keen to 'hit the streets' again. However some of the walkers could not attend because they had booked hairdresser appointments for the Friday morning! On a beautiful sunny day we met at Colchester Reserve in Boronia and after a short training session for the new walkers, 4 teams set off exploring the nearby streets and parks.

Some of the clues on the Map Sheet were a bit of fun: "How many kangaroos under the tree at House No.21?" – was it 2 or 4? I'm sure I saw a couple of live ones on the grass around the side. "What was

the shape of the letterbox at House No.8?" – was it a beer barrel or wine barrel? "How many cars on the staggered parking sign in Minton Close?" – never seen a sign like that before! "What were in the bowl under the front tap at House No.52?" – marbles! Do they really help bees drink without getting their wings wet? "What was the brand of the football on the club house mural?" – Steeden or Sherrin?

After the walk we had a coffee and chat in the park next to the Koko Lime Café in Alchester Crescent. They were not quite ready yet for sit-down customers. We'll all be ready for our next walk in Wantirna in November with our new hair-dos.

www.knoxsow.fun



Works Get Underway on State Basketball Centre

Construction has commenced on the \$132 million redevelopment of the State Basketball Centre that will deliver 12 new community courts and upgraded facilities for basketballers and gymnasts of all levels and abilities.

The upgrade will establish the State Basketball Centre as a leading facility for basketball in the country, in a jointly funded project between Knox City Council and the Victorian Government.

In addition to the 12 new indoor courts for local basketball competitions, the project will deliver new gymnastics facilities, landscaping of an outdoor 'town square,' high-performance training facilities and administration areas to support sports organisations and clubs.

Knox City Council Mayor, Cr Lisa Cooper said the redevelopment will enhance the experience for the 2,000,000 people expected to visit the expanded centre each year and support growing demand for both basketball and gymnastics.

"We are thrilled to see construction on this important project get underway," said Cr Cooper.

"The redevelopment will allow local sportspeople of all ages, genders and abilities to use professional facilities and experience the benefits of physical activity, team sport and the wonderful role modelling that can come from elite sporting heroes."



"Community activities play such an important role in bringing people together to build skills and share in mutual interests, which is critical to supporting our community's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Increasing opportunities for local sportspeople to participate and bringing visitors into the area to watch elite sports in action will have wide reaching benefits across Knox."

"We are very grateful to the Victorian Government for supporting this project and our local and elite sportspeople."

Construction firm ADCO has been appointed to manage the redevelopment, which is scheduled to be completed by late 2023.

SPORT NEWS

A New Home for Knox Hockey Club

Knox Hockey Club will move to a new permanent home at Wantirna Reserve East, with a new facility to be constructed to support participation in hockey.

Following community consultation and assessment of various potential sites, Wantirna Reserve East was selected for its proximity to transport, minimal impact to local residents and ability to house an appropriate facility that meets the needs of hockey.

A new synthetic hockey pitch will be constructed to replace the existing cricket and football oval and will use the existing pavilion and car park.

Mayor, Cr Lisa Cooper said the new facility would allow more opportunities for local players.

"Hockey is a family-orientated sport that encourages diverse participation. It has a strong history of women's participation as well as welcoming older adults into their later years," said Cr Cooper.

"This new facility will establish Knox as a regional centre for hockey and allow the club to welcome new players and spectators.

"We've been working with Knox Hockey Club, the Knox School and other regional councils and partners for several years to find a new home that suits the needs of the club and the sport, and I'm pleased we've been able to secure a new local home for hockey within Knox."

Wantirna Cricket Club and Wantirna South Junior Football Club will be relocated as part of the redevelopment and Council is committed to working with these clubs to secure permanent homes.

Other user groups at Wantirna Reserve, including Wantirna Tennis Club, the 2nd Wantirna Scouts Group, Friends of Dandenong Creek and the Jazz Archives, were consulted and expressed their enthusiasm in seeing greater community use of the reserve, as well as looking forward to the opportunity to develop relationships with Knox Hockey Club.

Detailed designs will be completed this year, with construction to commence in early 2022 once planning approvals and a tender process have been completed. Council will continue to consult with groups that use the reserve and Knox Hockey Club will be engaged in the design process.

Knox Hockey Club has been located at the Knox School for more than 20 years, but due to a planned redevelopment were notified in 2017 that the space would no longer be available from the 2022 season.

Templeton Tennis Club News

by Don McCracken, President

Welcome to the Christmas edition of our club news, another year has all but passed us by.

The summer season, after a Covid delay, recommenced on the 6th November. It has been a frustrating time for all but now I am sure we can see a light at the end of the tunnel.

Unfortunately, our ladies had their 2nd season cancelled for this year, roll on 2022.

Our courts have been re-groomed and looking a treat. Why not come along and have a look, hit a ball or 2 and become a member.

Night competitions, Monday and Wednesday nights are all back in full swing and progressing well.

Our coach, Kelly Cooper, 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 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 Real Estate Wantirna, Integrity Cabinets and we welcome Jackson Taylor our local MP.

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

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

Templeton Tennis Club Inc.

Templeton Reserve, Templeton St

Wantirna 3152. Melway Ref. 63 G9

Membership: Leanne 9887 1957

President: Don 0425 748 138

Coaching: Kelly 0414 874 482

Website: www.templetontennis.com.au

Email: president@templetontennis.com.au

mornings. It is lovely to see our group of social players expanding each week. A very friendly group of male and female 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 currently only \$5. All welcome.

Along with our Juniors, this is our largest growth area.

Midweek Ladies

Ladies tennis will start again in February. At the moment we are looking for new players for our midweek ladies teams. Did you play tennis when you were younger, or maybe have been playing in a cardio session? 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. This is a good way to stay fit and meet new people. If you would like to play competition give us a call. Rotating teams are available so you can have the occasional day off. If you like, bring a few friends

Coaching with Troy & Mike

Coaching is now underway, with all ages out there on the courts. Group lessons and Private lessons available. Adults don't miss out, we have Cardio tennis available with the Coaches, which is a great way to have a quick fitness pickup and is a lot of fun. This is run every day.

Troy and Mike are excited to be launching their brand new coaching program, now exclusively at Wantirna Tennis Club. We will be offering all levels of coaching every day with Hot Shots red-green stage, Junior and Senior squads. 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.



SPORT NEWS

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Wantirna Tennis Club News

by Alison Rogers

Hurray we are back on the courts again!

Much has happened since the last Community News. Who would have thought that we would have a total shutdown of Tennis again? Thankfully the COVID 19 Pandemic life is being managed and we will be gradually returning to "normal". The return to Tennis started recently with the re-opening of Tennis Clubs for Coaching and Social Play. We were able to start competition, subject to conditions. Also subject to the weather. One week in and then washouts. Those are the breaks.

Despite the shut down the Committee has been very busy, conducting meetings via Zoom and keeping in touch with Knox Council and Tennis Victoria. We have done our best to make the facilities and the Club environment a safe playing area for all.

The re build of court 9 has kept us busy, but hopefully this court will be available to Juniors by Christmas.

We thank our members for their understanding over this difficult time and hopefully we are now all looking forward to getting on with tennis.

Juniors

Our Juniors are playing in the Eastern Region Tennis Association Winter competition. We have Juniors playing both on Saturday and Sunday mornings at the Club. This caters for those who need to play 'School sports' on the weekend and also those who need to attend language schools. Our club has the highest number of junior teams in all of Knox.

We wish all the Juniors luck with their tennis and hope they have great fun out there on the courts.

Anyone wishing for their child to play tennis, please send us an email or a phone call. Details at the end of this item.

Social tennis

Now back at play, we have welcomed many new members to our Social Tennis Group on Tuesday

and have your own team. All standards are catered for. It is great fun

About Wantirna Tennis Club

Visit our website for details on how to join our Club. We have excellent facilities which include two BBQs, covered with a shade cloth sail over our picnic area. New tables and seats under cover for enjoying picnics or for watching your children play. We have 9 tennis courts and a Coaching area in the terrific setting of Wantirna Reserve. We offer a range of competitive tennis and social tennis for both adults and juniors with an excellent coaching programme, plus Hot Shots and Cardio tennis. With safe access into the complex and beautiful grounds set in Wantirna Reserve with the Knox/East link bike track going right past our front door. Give us a call to get more details and information on membership or tennis coaching.

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

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

Coaching Face book: 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/wantiratc/

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

To our facebook and Community News readers we wish you a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Healthy 2022





OBrien Real Estate



From the team at OBrien Real Estate Wantirna, we wish you all the best for the festive season and for a happy new year.

Wantirna 207 Stud Road 8820 8338

obre.com.au