

Celebrating 100 Editions

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

12,000 COPIES DISTRIBUTED AROUND THE NORTH & WEST OF KNOX



EDITION 100
FEBRUARY/MARCH 2026

- EASTERN RANGES SCHOOL GRADUATION SUCCESS
- RUCHI RECEIVES MULTICULTURAL AWARD
- KNOX S.O.W - 200 WALKS AND STILL GOING

FREE



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CONTRIBUTORS,
READERS AND SUPPORTERS!





Studfield Wantirna Community News

URGENTLY SEEKING NEW VOLUNTEERS

Community News is continuing into 2026 with new team members!

We are keen to keep building our team and welcome new volunteers interested in supporting our community newspaper.

No experience necessary, just some of your time.

It's a great way to get involved in your local community!

Roles include: administration, story writing, proof reading, formatting, bookkeeping, photography, distribution etc.

Join us to find out more!

VOLUNTEER SESSIONS

to be held at 1.00pm on selected Fridays

February 6 and 20 and March 13 and 20

at Orana Neighbourhood House
62 Coleman Road, Wantirna South

Enquiries to Janet on 0418 839 503

i | s | h | r | e | d Community Day

5/7 Samantha Crt,
Knoxfield
1300 763 688
www.ishred.com.au

Once a month iShred opens the doors of its facility which allow members of the community to have their personal documents professionally and securely shredded at an economical cost, with our mobile shredding vehicle.

Our Community Day caters for shredding of:

- Old documents
- X-rays
- CDs & DVDs
- Hard Drives
- E-waste (ie. Laptops, Computers, Cables, Keyboards)



Our upcoming Community Days are on Saturday, 14th February and 14th March from 9am — 12noon

EST. 1988

Graphic Engraving (Vic) Pty Ltd

Signage and Engraving Services

Our services include manufacturing a large range of small labels, tags, signs and full colour stickers. We can cut, machine and engrave various materials including acrylic, aluminium, stainless steel and timber.

P: 9764 0144

sales@graphicengraving.com.au

Factory 1/9 Samantha Crt, Knoxfield

Information

Published by: Studfield Wantirna Community News Inc.
ABN: 98259005633 RAN: A0054764G
PO Box 6159, Wantirna Mall 3152
swnewspaper@gmail.com or
swnewspaper2@gmail.com
Telephone: 0407 797 666
http://www.studfieldwantiranews.org

Volunteer newspaper production team:

Editor: Janet Claringbold Bee Tan
Treasurer: Coral Carew Na Zhou
Sales Manager: Charles Carew Sarah Lee-Rafferty
Proof reader: Jenny Slater Theju Anand

Additional Distribution: M.Claringbold & S.Bingham
Front cover: Celebrating 100 Editions of Community News with covers from previous editions.

Copies: 12,000 copies produced & distributed around the suburbs of Bayswater, Knoxfield, Scoresby, Wantirna and Wantirna South.

Affordable advertising rates with discounts for multiple bookings. Call Charles on 0407 797 666

DEADLINE DATES FOR 2026

Edition 101 - April/May - Friday 13th March

Edition 102 - June/July - Friday 15th May

Edition 103 - August/September - Friday 17th July

Edition 104 - October/November - Friday 11th September

Edition 105 - December/January - Friday 13th November

Format design by Tamara Bouzo.

Font: http://code.newtypography.co.uk/ - Vernon Adams

Pixabay images are included in this publication

Printed by Newsprinters

Distribution supported by Wilson Storage and Eastern Ranges School

Content

Bayswater News

Around Knox

Wantirna News

Out and About

Library News

Education News

Arts & Entertainment

Knoxfield & Scoresby News

Environmental News

News In Good Health & Wellbeing

Community News

Sport News

Page 3-5

Page 6-7

Page 8-10

Page 11

Page 12

Page 13

Page 14-15

Page 17

Page 18-19

Page 20-21

Page 22-25

Page 26-27

The team at SWCN would like to thank our contributors, advertisers, sponsors and readers.

Disclaimer: Views and comments expressed in this paper are not necessarily those of any member of Studfield-Wantirna Community News. Products and services listed or advertised in the newspaper should not be considered as endorsements. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy of editorial content, Studfield Wantirna Community News takes no responsibility for errors. **Copyright:** No reproduction, copy or transmission of this publication may be made without written permission or in accordance with the copyright act.

Editorial

Welcome to the 100th Edition of Studfield Wantirna Community News!

Our first edition was published in Winter, 2008, that is nearly 18 years ago!

Our paper was first launched as a community strengthening project for Orana Neighbourhood House. We had a small but enthusiastic team including Keith Slater, Coral Carew and myself. Charles Carew and Jenny Slater joined the team and this team of 5 were the core group who kept the paper going.

We had lots of help from other volunteers along the way and recognise all the help we have received with each edition. We are now pleased to welcome a group of new volunteers who are keen to see the paper continue.

We know how important our paper is to our local community, sharing news and information, providing support and celebrating events and milestones, so we thank them for their commitment.

On behalf of the SWCN Team I would like to thank all contributors, advertisers, readers and supporters for the many words of congratulations as we reach the 100th Edition.

Janet Claringbold, Editor



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

BAYSWATER NEWS

Congratulations On Reaching Editions 100!

from **Jackson Taylor MP, Member for Bayswater**

It's a massive honour to congratulate the Studfield Wantirna Community News on 100 incredible editions!

Rain, hail or shine, no matter what's happening, the SWCN delivers us important, up-to-date information on what's happening in our part of the world – and they've done this right from the get-go.

Regrettably, over the past decade, we've seen local newspapers everywhere begin to dwindle. But in today's world, hard-copy, community-focussed newspapers just like the SWCN are not just even more important – they're vital.

They're vital not only because they deliver local stories – but because they deliver important information to those that may not have access to the internet. And honestly – who doesn't like having a cuppa and a read of the SWCN?

No community newspaper gets the job done without volunteers. The folks that know the power of local news – because they are locals. To all those that help put each edition together: thank you. And a special shout out to Charles and Coral Carew as well as Janet Claringbold, who are absolute mainstays of the paper.

It's been a real privilege to be a small part of the SWCN journey during my time not just as the State Labor Member for Bayswater, but as the Collier Ward Councillor before that. And honestly, it's nice to be writing about something other than myself for a change!

So, congratulations once again to the Studfield Wantirna Community News on marking the tonne. Here's to another 100 editions – and another 100 after that.



Jackson Taylor MP

Member for Bayswater

Delivers for Knox

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

BAYSWATER RSL

SUB-BRANCH Inc.

of the RETURNED &
SERVICES LEAGUE of
AUSTRALIA
(Victorian Branch) Inc.



9720 4638

rslbayswater@gmail.com

Opening hours:

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

626 Mountain Hwy, Bayswater



BAYSWATER
NEWSAGENCY

LOTTO & GIFTWARE

A Gift for All Occasions

Shop 6, Mountain High Shopping Centre
3-11 High Street, Bayswater
P:(03)9729 0119



Community News

Available online at
www.studfieldwantiranews.org

Find us on Facebook

JOIN OUR TEAM

Volunteers are welcome at
Studfield Wantirna Community News
Call Charles on 0407 797 666

Bayswater Makers' Market

Saturday, March 28

10am to 2pm

Knox Community Arts Centre (KCAC)

790 Mountain Highway, Bayswater

Free entry with plenty of off-street parking

Bayswater Makers' Market returns on 28th March, but in the Knox Community Arts Centre (KCAC) because the Bayswater Senior Citizens Hall is getting a new roof. Both buildings are at 790 Mountain Highway and share the same carpark, but the KCAC is closer to the Scoresby Road intersection.

We are an arts and crafts market where you can buy direct from local makers. We have a wide range of items, including honey, condiments cakes, homewares, gifts, jewellery, bags, babywear, cards, toys, stained glass, wood crafts and plants.

Sit down and enjoy tea or coffee and biscuits for a gold coin donation.

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

Other enquiries Julia 9890 2546



BAYSWATER NEWS

Bayswater Bowls Club News

Make 2026 Your Bowling Year

Now we're well into 2026, your New Year Resolution to get out and about, exercise and stay healthy may already have fallen by the wayside. So time for a re-think and have a look at the lawn bowls option.

You can do that between 4.00 pm and 6.30 pm any Friday afternoon at Bayswater Bowls Club, located at 43 Phyllis St, opposite Bayswater West Primary School.

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

You'll find we're a pretty friendly lot, proud of our facilities, including a large, airy clubhouse and a well-stocked bar (with special member prices), a veranda with great views over the Dandenongs. So maybe even just come and relax.

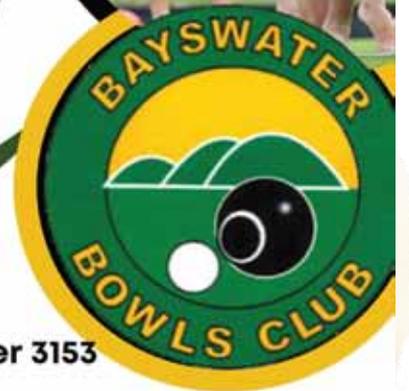
uWe've proved popular with U3A members, with our "Learn to Bowls" course available to them virtually booked out for this term.

On a sad note, the club would like to record the passing of a stalwart and a much beloved member, Dot Coutts. Dot was still playing at the age of 99, and passed away recently within a few weeks of her 103rd birthday.

www.bayswaterbowlsclub.com or phone 9729 8312.

FRIDAY FUN!

Come roll with us at Bayswater Bowls Club. Whether you're a new player or an experienced bowler- our club welcomes all!



43 Phyllis St, Bayswater 3153

Fridays between 4pm-6:30pm

Lawn Bowls- The game of your future!

Bring yourself or come with friends & family! All are welcome!

Fiona:
0402 518 745

Doug:
0490 133 953

www.bayswaterbowlsclub.com.au

MERAKI EARLY LEARNING CENTRE BAYSWATER

Now Enrolling

A warm, nurturing early learning environment where children are supported to grow, learn and thrive.

17 Burton Court, Bayswater VIC 3153

Monday-Friday | 6:30am - 6:30pm

8658 7880

bayswater@merakielc.com.au

• Quality Education • Caring Educators • Strong Community Connections

Enquire Today!

Elm Street Mission

50+ Friends at Elm Street Mission

From 29 January, Elm St Mission will offer a new program called 50s+ Friends. This program aims to create connections for people aged 50+, from all walks of life, experiencing life's ups and downs or social isolation. The main aim is enjoyment and connection, with useful information added to the mix – such as some expert-led conversations on mental health, wellbeing, grief and loss; it will celebrate cultural diversity and provide information on local services.

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

"We will continue our Care4Carers program in Term 1," said Ethne Pfeiffer, Program Coordinator. "This free program is for women who do unpaid care work to enjoy some time out, connect with others, have a chat and feel free to be themselves. We are delighted to offer this program in conjunction with Women's Health East."

Care4Carers is on Thursdays from 10.30 am – 12 pm.



"Our core open-door program runs on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays – 10 am to 2 pm – and continues to provide connection for younger and older adults experiencing mental health challenges or social isolation," said Ethne.

Some feedback on the open-door program includes: "Elm St Mission is a great support to my Mum and myself. We look forward to each Wednesday to meet fellow friends and travellers. They are like our support group, and the volunteers do an amazing job which we really appreciate." "This is my happy place." "We're like family." "I like the activities. I

like singing. I like practising conversation." "I look forward to getting out of bed and coming here."

Elm St Mission's open-door program is free during school terms offering free tea and coffee, activities and a light lunch.

For more information

Phone: 0428 330 873

Email: info@elmstmission.org.au

Address: Elm St Mission, 654 Mountain Highway, Bayswater

Web: elmstmission.org.au

Facebook: ElmStMission

 **Aussie** Find. Buy. Own.

New Year, new you. New Rate?

- Get a bigger place
- Get a better interest rate
- Start bathroom renovation
- Book an appointment to win \$100

Knox/Rowville/Keysborough

 0409 786 121



ABCM Inc.

COLLECTORS FAIR

SATURDAY 21st MARCH

9.00am – 3.00pm

Entry: Gold Coin Donation

Hungarian Community Centre

760 Boronia Road, Wantirna, 3152

(Just off Eastlink)

ALL TYPES OF COLLECTABLES FOR SALE

**TOYS, GARAGENALIA, OLD BOTTLES,
MILITARIA, ORNAMENTS, ADVERTISING
BRIC A BRAC etc.**

Enquires

pandlwalsh@optusnet.com.au

Mayor's Message with Cr. Paige Kennett



Welcome to 2026

As the year gets underway, I hope that 2026 has started well for you and your family.

I feel genuinely privileged to serve as your Mayor for this year. I've been a Knox local for 20 years, now raising my family here and running a local business, so I understand how Council decisions affect everyday life. Council is here to serve the Knox community, listening and delivering on your priorities. I encourage you to have your say, so our decisions continue to reflect the needs and values of our community.

Celebrating grassroots sport and leisure

Council is inviting nominations in the Knox Sport and Leisure Awards.

Each year, Council recognises the outstanding contribution and service of our local sport and leisure clubs who do so much work all year round.

You can nominate in six categories: Club of the Year, Best Club Initiated Program, Club Person of the Year (Adult and Junior), Women in Sport Leadership and Years of Service.

Nominations close on 10th of March and winners will be announced on 17th of June.

Find out more at knox.vic.gov.au/SportAwards or please contact the Leisure Team on 9298 8367.

Have your say on our Local Law Review

From Monday 9th of February to Monday 9th of March, we're inviting feedback on our review of the Knox Local Law.

Save the date for Knox Fest

An epic program is planned for this year's Knox Fest on Saturday 28 February in Wally Tew Reserve, Ferntree Gully, running from 10am until 10pm, finishing with fireworks.

This much-loved free community festival started more than 40 years ago and is the biggest event on the Knox calendar.



AROUND KNOX

Highlights include a dedicated kids' stage, music, dancing and performances, amusement rides and inflatables, makers markets, hubs for food, sport and recycling, a roller skating rink, free kids' workshops, activities and face painting, and roving performers.

Find out more: knox.vic.gov.au/KnoxFest



These are everyday rules to help Council support the safety of residents and neighbourhoods, and protect our environment.

They help us manage activities to make our community safer, cleaner and more enjoyable for everyone.

These rules mainly relate to Council-managed land, buildings and roads, but also cover private land, neighbourhoods and animal management.

We're proposing improvements to:

- Tighten standards for builders to keep roads and drains tidy
- Better limit nuisance from noise and lighting
- Address unsightly land, incomplete building works, overgrowth, litter and graffiti
- Protect Council buildings and community safety
- Reduce dog attacks
- Manage election signage to keep public spaces safe and tidy

- Enable residents within a Bushfire Management Overlay to burn off to reduce fuel loads without a permit, provided safety conditions are met

We're asking you to share your thoughts because it's important that our Local Law reflects your needs and issues that matter to you.

Get involved

You can find out more details about this and other projects, and how to have your say online or in-person, by visiting our Have Your Say page: knox.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay

I invite and encourage all residents to stay up-to-date with what's happening in Knox and get involved in community life and Council's decision-making.

For more news and information, check out our website and subscribe to our weekly eNews at knox.vic.gov.au/eNews



DAWSONS
TREE SERVICES

safety
first

A family business with over 40 years experience

- Large Tree Specialist
- Hedge Trimming Experts
- Stump Grinding
- Mulch Available
- FREE Quotes
- Consulting Arborist

From
\$100

\$20 million insurance

• No Fuss • No Mess • No Stress

☎ 9720 5111



Eastern Ranges School

“Project Ready” Students’ Graduation Success!

by Coral Carew

The graduation ceremony for students from the Eastern Ranges school was held at The Basin Community House on Thursday 11th December, marking the successful completion of the 2024-2025 “Project Ready” training program.

This initiative was led by facilitator Dot Niakolas and a dedicated support team, whose guidance and encouragement were instrumental throughout the year.

During the program, students took on a variety of volunteer roles within the community, making a tangible difference through their actions.

Notably our publication The Studfield Wantirna Community News by distributing bi-monthly papers to strip shopping centers across the City of Knox.

From the start, students were quite reserved in approaching shop owners, to now where they bring a smile and a “Thank You” as the papers are left for distribution.

Our paper will be ever grateful to have had the opportunity to work with the “Project Ready” Team, and look forward the coming year for a new Team

Their reliability and enthusiasm ensured that the local business and residents received timely access to community news.

What truly stands out is the transformation in the student’s confidence and impersonal skills.

Initially reserved when approaching shop owners, they quickly developed into self-assured

ambassadors for the program, delivering papers with a smile and receiving heartfelt thanks in return.

Their ability to connect with others and represent their school with pride is a testament to their dedication and personal growth.

We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to work alongside the “Project Ready” team and celebrate the students’ achievements.

Their hard work, positive attitude, and willingness have left a lasting impact on our community.

Congratulations go to Students, Ben West, Ethan Wong, Jackson Rogers, Keith Moredock, Sienna Fox, Tyler Pearce & Josiah Weatherley!

We look forward to welcoming a new team next year and continuing this inspirational partnership.



Coral and Charles Carew join Eastern Ranges students and staff in the celebration

I’M HERE TO HELP!

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

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

Scan to keep up to date



Get in touch

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

Mary Doyle MP
Federal Member for Aston





What's Happening At Community Pharmacy?

with Peter,
Pharmacy Manager



Community Spirits Soar at Festive December Market

Our community came together in the best possible way this past December for a Christmas celebration to remember. The air was filled with festive cheer as visitors browsed an array of incredible stalls at our pop-up craft market. The highlight of the day was undoubtedly the grand arrival of Santa, who traded his sleigh for a Bayswater CFA fire truck. After his big entrance, kids had the opportunity to meet Santa and get an up-close look at the impressive fire trucks.



The day was packed with smiles thanks to vibrant face painting, balloon animals, and creative plaster painting sessions that kept the youngest members of our community busy. We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended and supported us. A huge shout-out goes to our incredible volunteers and helpers, especially the Wantirna Lions Club and the Bayswater CFA, for their invaluable contribution to making this event such a resounding success.



Free Vaccinations For Eligible Groups

Autumn marks the beginning of preparation for winter illnesses, particularly the flu season. This year, our pharmacy is ramping up vaccination services to help shield our community from seasonal illnesses. We offer:

Did you know that many vaccinations are available for free to eligible groups under government-funded programs? At Community Pharmacy Wantirna, we proudly offer the following free vaccines:

Influenza (Flu) Vaccine: Available for individuals aged 65 years and over, pregnant women, children aged 6 months to under 5 years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and those with medical risk factors.

- COVID-19 Vaccines: Free primary and booster doses for eligible individuals.
- Shingles Vaccine: For adults aged 70–79 years.
- Pneumococcal Vaccine: For adults aged 65 years and over, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 50 years and older, and those with certain medical conditions.
- Whooping Cough Vaccine: For pregnant women and eligible caregivers.
- Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) Vaccine: For adults born after 1966 without evidence of immunity.
- Human papillomavirus (HPV) catch-up vaccines: For those under 25 years old, eligible under the NIP Catch-Up schedule.
- Meningococcal ACWY: For those young adults eligible under the NIP Catch-Up schedule.
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV): For selected pregnant women

To make booking even more convenient, simply scan the QR Code provided, and you will be taken directly to our booking website where you can book your service quickly and easily.

Luna New Year at Community Pharmacy Wantirna



This year, Lunar New Year falls on Tuesday 17th February, marking the start of the Year of the Horse, a sign traditionally associated with energy, optimism, movement and strength.

Our pharmacy will be celebrating with small in-store giveaways as a way of sharing in the festivities and saying thank you to our community.

We look forward to celebrating this special time with our customers and wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous Lunar New Year.

Other Community Sought-After Services

Our trained pharmacists are authorised to provide:

- Travel Health Vaccinations: Our pharmacists can administer travel vaccines like Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, and Typhoid, as you prepare for your upcoming trips.
- Treatment for Uncomplicated Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs): Women aged 18 to 65 can receive timely care for uncomplicated UTIs directly from our pharmacists.
- Resupply of Select Oral Contraceptive Pills: Eligible women aged 16 to 50 can obtain ongoing prescriptions for their usual oral contraceptive pills without needing a prior prescription.
- Management of Skin Conditions: We offer assessments and treatments for mild to moderate skin conditions, such as shingles and flare-ups of mild plaque psoriasis.

Community Pharmacy Wantirna

Shop 3-4 Wantirna Mall
348 Mountain Hwy, Wantirna

(03) 9720 2872

OPEN 7 DAYS

E: wantirna@communitypharmacy.com.au

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

Website: www.communitypharmacy.com.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/communitypharmacywantirna/

Instagram: www.instagram.com/communitypharmacywantirna/

100 Editions, One Constant – Community

Reaching a 100th edition is no small achievement. It represents years of dedication, storytelling and connection - and for Studfield Wantirna Community News it also reflects something more meaningful - a community that continues to show up for itself.

Over the course of 100 editions much has changed in Wantirna. New families have arrived, local businesses have opened their doors, schools and clubs have grown, and the way we communicate has evolved rapidly. Yet through all this change, one thing has remained constant - a strong sense of community.

Community doesn't exist by accident. It is built through relationships, shared experiences and organisations that are willing to invest locally for the long term. That's why local partnerships matter. For many years, Community Bank Wantirna has proudly supported Studfield Wantirna Community News, recognising the important role local media plays in keeping communities informed, connected and engaged.

This publication has long reflected the everyday moments that shape Wantirna, from local achievements and grassroots sport to school events and community initiatives. As a constant community member and contributor, Community Bank Wantirna has been part of many of these stories, not by telling them, but by helping make them possible. Through funding and ongoing support of local organisations, the Bank helps strengthen the fabric of the community. To mark this 100th edition, Community Bank Wantirna is proud to highlight three such organisations it supports, each playing a vital role in bringing people together and supporting causes that matter locally:

Chinese Association of Victoria

Community Bank Wantirna is proud to support the Chinese Association of Victoria (CAV), a long-standing organisation that has been celebrating Chinese culture, language and community since 1982. From humble beginnings, CAV has grown into a vibrant five-acre hub in Wantirna, welcoming more than 1,000 members each week through programs ranging from language classes and tai chi to dance, table tennis and lion dance. Supporting organisations like CAV reflect our commitment to fostering inclusion, cultural connection and a strong sense of belonging within our local community.

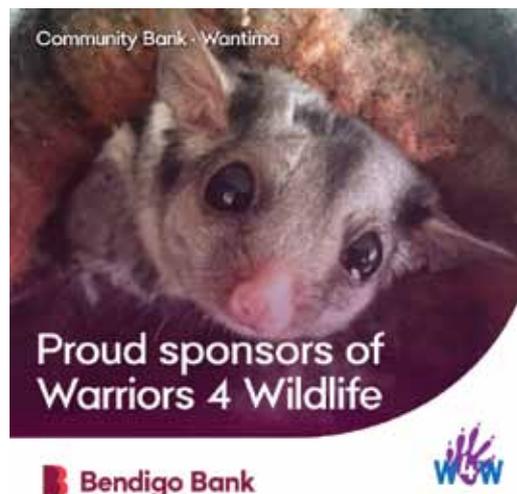


Bendigo Bank



Warriors 4 Wildlife

Dedicated to protecting Victoria's native wildlife, Warriors 4 Wildlife is a 100 per cent volunteer-run organisation providing rescue, rehabilitation and rehoming services for injured and orphaned animals across the state. Support from Community Bank Wantirna, through its Support 4 Shelters program, helps fund vital equipment such as incubators, aviary and enclosure upgrades, along with essential medical and care supplies. This support strengthens their ability to respond quickly and continue their important work in wildlife conservation and community education.



Bendigo Bank

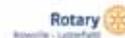


Rotary Club of Rowville-Lysterfield

A long-standing contributor to local connection and service, the Rotary Club of Rowville-Lysterfield plays an active role in bringing people together through community, business and cultural initiatives. Support from Community Bank Wantirna, delivered through Rotary, helps make programs such as Knox Nocturnals, the Knox Business Awards and the Knox Art Show possible. These initiatives celebrate local enterprise, creativity and community spirit, strengthening connections across the Knox area.



Bendigo Bank



As a community-owned bank, Community Bank Wantirna understands that strong communities are shaped by more than transactions, they're strengthened by supporting local voices, initiatives and opportunities to bring people together. Supporting this publication has been one way of helping ensure local stories continue to be told, edition after edition. Celebrating 100 editions is not just about looking back; it's also about looking ahead. The next 100 editions will no doubt reflect new challenges, fresh ideas and emerging community needs, but if the past is any guide, they will continue to centre on what matters most: people, connection and belonging.

Congratulations to Studfield Wantirna Community News and all its volunteers who bring it to life on reaching this incredible milestone. One hundred editions on, the message is clear, while times may change, community remains at the heart of it all!

Pack. Store. Done.

 **Wilson Storage**

For all your Home and Business Storage Needs

- Wide range of units available on a monthly basis.
- Safe, guarded facilities with monitored security.
- Easy access 7 days.
- Free move-in van.
- Moving boxes and packing materials.
- Receipt and dispatch services for business.
- Offices with free parking and wifi.

Call us to discuss your storage needs today!

585 Burwood Highway Knoxfield

Call us on 9801 2299

Visit us online at wilsonstorage.com.au

Wantirna's Lost Expressway by Ray Peace of Knox Historical Society

In the eighteen years since it was opened, EastLink has become an accepted part of the urban landscape, used by thousands of motorists every day. Is there ever a chance Wantirna will see road construction again on such a scale? Maybe, maybe not. But the traces of what might have been, are visible on any street map.

The story goes back to 1967, when a planning body for the Melbourne metropolitan area proposed what the city might look like in 1985. As it turned out, the plan bore little resemblance to what the city looked like in that year, or in 2026 for that matter.

A major item on the plan was the proposed Healesville freeway. This would reduce traffic on adjoining arterial roads (have we heard that before?) and give motorists a smooth run (almost) all the way to the Black Spur.

This hasn't happened as such, for the freeway hasn't been built. But it still could, for the reserve for this ghost expressway is still there. The freeway reservation enters the City of Knox from the west at the southern end of Campbells Croft at Boronia Road, cutting across Wantirna at a shallow angle roughly parallel to Boronia Road and Mountain Highway all the way to the HE Parker reserve in Heathmont, where the reserve for the freeway crosses Dandenong Creek into the City of Maroondah.

A look at street maps from the late 1970s show that at one time a long diversion of Boronia Road to the south was contemplated to accommodate a massive 'spaghetti junction' where what became EastLink and the Healesville freeway would have crossed. This idea was later abandoned, and Boronia Road widened on its existing alignment.

A green swath over one hundred metres wide and about 1.6 km long: that's a lot of open space. Is it ever likely to be used as such? Well, EV's use less power on shallow gradients. But such an area might represent thousands of

new home sites in a city crying out for more housing. Or perhaps an increase in the arboreal cover of the City of Knox, which at 17 per cent is lower than surrounding municipalities. Or possibly both options.

Or, possibly, no alternate option at all. For, such options would entail breaking up the freeway reservation in toto, and the powers that be seem reluctant to do that. So, the next time you're driving along Wantirna Road north of Mountain Highway and wonder why there are no houses on either side between Bateman and Ashley Streets or are following the Dandenong Creek shared use path near the Waldheim Rd linking path and wonder why horses are grazing beside the trail, now you know why.



Extract of Melway Maps 63 & 64 showing the Healesville Freeway route in green
<https://online.melway.com.au/melway/>

NEW Workshops in 2026
At Orana Neighbourhood House
62 Coleman Rd, Wantirna South

Summer Recipes for Busy people - 15 minutes & only 5 Ingredients! Wed 14th January, 1pm-3:30pm | \$50
Practical, time-saving cooking series, demonstrating four delicious, nutritionally balanced recipes.

Do it yourself - Summer Detox & Cleansing
Wednesday 21st January, 1-3pm | \$40
Easy strategies, supportive tips, and sample detoxing drinks to reset your body.

One-Day Peace Retreat Sat 21st February, 10-2pm | \$60
Join in a day of Sacred Cacao Ceremony, Guided Meditation, Flow Chi, Shamanic Drumming Journey. BYO yoga mat, cushion, and throw blanket, lunch. Light snacks and herbal tea provided.

Create Your Own Personal Ritual / Ceremonial Candle 2 hour workshop, Sat 21st March 2026, 10-12pm | \$60
Make a custom candle to honour life's special moments, Birthdays, Weddings, the Birth of a child, Good Luck, Love, Prosperity, or dedicate a special memorial candle for loved ones who have passed.

Understanding Perimenopause & Menopause - Community Info Session Wednesday 4th March, 7-9pm | \$5
Friendly panel discussion with local health practitioners about what perimenopause and menopause are, how symptoms can affect daily life, treatment and support & practical ways to feel well and confident.

Create, Build & Give Back! Holiday Workshop
Tuesday 14th or Wednesday 15th April 10-12pm | \$30
Build & paint a wooden toy using kits created by the Knox Woodworkers. Together, we'll build Eastern Rosella nesting boxes for Friends of Koolunga Native Reserve.

Intro to AI & ChatGPT Part 1: Sunday 22nd Feb 10-12pm
Part 2: Sunday 1st March 10am-12pm \$50 for both
Dive into the world of Artificial Intelligence run over two sessions that will cover the essentials, i.e. how systems like ChatGPT function, and their everyday applications.

Dream, Dot, Do - Mandala Art Taster
Thurs 5th Feb 6:30-9pm or Sun 8th Feb 10-12:30pm | \$40 inc materials
Paint a mandala on a notebook cover to capture your goals, inspirations, affirmations, and intentions for 2026.

Mandala Basics - A Calming Creative Short Course
Thurs 26th Feb - 26th Mar 6:30-9pm or Sun 22nd Feb - 29th Mar (no class 8th March) 10-12:30pm | \$100
Thurs 23rd April - 21st May 6:30-9pm or Sun 3rd May - 31st May | \$100
This course introduces students to the foundations of mandala painting. Learn to use dotting tools, create symmetry, and develop their own artistic flow, while creating functional art.

African Drumming Taster workshops
Tues 3rd Feb, 6:30-7:30pm or Sun 8th Feb, 3-4pm | \$20
Come and try a feel-good drum circle session! Easy, inclusive fun - no musical experience needed. A drum or percussion instrument is provided for everyone.

African Drumming 4 week courses
Tuesdays 24th Feb-17th Mar, 6:30-7:30pm or Sunday afternoons 1st Mar-29th Mar (no class 8th March), 3-4pm, \$80
Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30pm 21st April - 12th May or Sundays, 3-4pm, 3rd May - 24th May | \$80
Drums and percussion instruments available for everyone, friendly guided facilitation (no musical experience required!).

Zumba evening dance classes!
Thursdays 7:30-8:30pm, 29th Jan - 2nd April | \$140
23rd April - 25th June | \$140
Calorie-burning dance fitness party!

Zumba Gold - for older adults
Mondays 9:30-10:30am, 2nd February - 30th March (no class 9th March) | \$112, and 20th April - 22nd June (no class 8th June) | \$126
Slower-paced, less strenuous - balance, coordination & motion.

Daytime Sound Bathing Tuesdays 1:00-2:00pm
10th February - 31st March | \$112 and 21st April - 23rd June | \$140
Crystal singing bowls can transform our brainwave patterns through their resonant tones, guiding us into a state of profound relaxation.

Visit our website for more courses and programs:
www.orananh.org.au. For bookings, scan QR, visit our website or call the Orana office 9801 1895

Brownie Guides Celebrate

By Jacynta Cox Leader, 1st Wantirna Heights Brownie Guides

Wantirna Heights Brownie Guides hope you had a lovely and safe holiday season with your loved ones!

We had a big year in 2025, filled with a camp, sleepover, badges, craft and lots of other fun activities including a trip to the aquarium. We created our own challenges for a 'world centres' badge in Term 4.

A special highlight of our year was definitely our sleepover and aquarium visit. We travelled via public transport to the Sea Life Aquarium, enjoyed seeing the penguins, jellyfish, sharks and the special 4D show from Happy Feet. After travelling back to the hall, we had fish and chips and watched Finding Nemo. To top off the sleepover, we had pancakes for breakfast.

We also enjoyed welcoming lots of new members to our unit. We've loved spending lots of time together and even helped out running activities at a Bunnings Halloween night.

We're looking forward to an action-packed 2026, including a couple of camps, Bunnings BBQ fundraisers, lots of badgework and of course lots more fun.

We'd love to have some new friends join us on Monday nights. If you're interested, you can find out more about Guides in your area. You can email guides@guidesvic.org.au or visit www.guidesvic.org.au/be-a-guide.



Panda Rounds Round Dance Club

Free Introduction to Round Dancing Class



Panda Rounds annual Introduction Class is on Friday 27th February in the Boronia Senior Citizens Hall at 6 – 7pm. This year you will be taught Waltz. By the end of the session you will be waltzing around the hall! You are welcome to stay after the class and watch the experienced dancers. Refreshments provided.

Round Dancing is social cued ballroom dancing with a partner. It is the easiest way to learn to dance. After the Introduction Class, beginners' lessons will continue at 6pm on Fridays for the following 6 – 8 weeks at \$15 per night. Other rhythms include Foxtrot, Rumba, Two Step, Cha Cha and Tango.

Date: Friday 27th February 2026.

Venue: Boronia Senior Citizens Hall at the western end of Chandler Road, near the corner of Erica Ave. & Genista Ave., Boronia.

Parking: In front of the hall. Enter the carpark next to the pedestrian crossing in Chandler Road.

Public Transport: The hall is 200m from Boronia bus and train stations.

Cost: Free.

Registration: Please contact Phil on 0425 720 442.



Panda Round Dancers



Boronia Senior Citizens Hall

New Dog Park in Wantirna

The new Wantirna Reserve Dog Park, located in Mountain Highway, Wantirna (near the Wantirna Tennis Club), opened late last year. It was developed as part of the Wantirna Reserve Masterplan initiated by Knox Council and supported by the Victorian Government's New and Upgraded Dog Parks Program.

The Wantirna Reserve Dog Park has 3,500 square metres of fenced areas including separate spaces for shy dogs and for larger dogs. There are also walking circuits to make it a more engaging environment. There is a shade pavilion with picnic style tables and seating.



Knox resident, Loki the Border Collie seemed impressed with how much space was available for off leash running and playing. Loki's advice is to get in the car and get down to Wantirna Reserve to enjoy the freedom of running like the wind, and if you are a dog who likes running fast too, I will chase you and run with you!



What's new at Your Library? by Karla Simon

Welcome To Another Year Of Great Reads and Exciting Events!

Love is in the air this month as we celebrate Library Lover's Day on 14 February. We've been counting your votes, so make sure to follow us on social media to find out which book won our 2025 'Readers Choice' award! We also have plenty of fun activities planned in the lead-up to the big day.



Looking ahead, our Autumn What's On guide arrives on 1 March. You can pick up a copy at your local branch to discover a new season of workshops, activities and entertainment. You can also browse the guide online at yourlibrary.vic.gov.au.

New Books and DVDs

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

Top Reads

- The mushroom murders : a family lunch. Three deaths. What really happened? / Greg Haddrick
- The hidden / Bryan Brown
- Book of lives : a memoir of sorts / Margaret Atwood
- Bread of angels / Patti Smith
- Murder in the cathedral / Kerry Greenwood
- Silent bones / Val McDermid
- The seven rings / Nora Roberts
- How they get you : sneaky everyday economics and smart ways to hold on to your money / Chris Kohler ; illustrated by Chaz Hutton
- Styled : how to dress as your most stylish self / Sally Mackinnon ; illustrations by Juliet Sulejmani
- The Japanese pantry : from sake to soy, essential ingredients for Japanese home cooking / Emiko Davies

New DVDs

- The blond boy from the Casbah
- Bride hard
- The Crow Girl. Series 1
- Grace. Series 4
- Ice Maiden'
- Law & order: Special Victims Unit. Season 26
- The librarians: the next chapter. Season one
- The life of Chuck
- Malcolm X
- Miss Austen

Events at Your Library

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

Summer Music at Miller's - Flamenco Andaluz

Friday 6 February 2026, 5:30PM - 7:30PM

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

Join us for a fun, energetic evening of Flamenco dancing in the gardens at Miller's! Experienced Flamenco dancer, Catherine Pellegrini, accompanied by talented guitarist Ramon, will showcase this passionate and complex artform alongside some of her adult Flamenco students. Bookings required (FREE)

Poetry in the Park

Tuesday 10 February 2026 at 10AM

Ferntree Gully Library, 1010 Burwood Hwy, Ferntree Gully

We're celebrating Library Lovers' Day with a relaxed morning tea in the Park—and you're invited! Bring along a poem you adore (or one you've penned yourself!) to share aloud with fellow poetry lovers. If performing isn't your thing, no worries at all—come along, sip some tea, soak up the atmosphere, and enjoy listening to others reciting their chosen pieces. Bookings required (FREE)

Puzzles After Dark

Monday 16 February & 16 March 2026 at 5PM, Boronia Library

Boronia Library, Park Cres, Boronia

Join us for Puzzles After Dark, part of our Libraries After Dark initiative. Enjoy riddles, board games, NY Times word and number games and others while creating new social connections. Pizza will be served from 5PM while you mingle, make new friends and find a gaming buddy. Or find your own quest. Bookings required (FREE)



Summer Music at Miller's - Piper Iain Townsley

Friday 20 February 2026 at 6PM

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

Join us in the Homestead gardens for a fascinating journey through time with striking bagpipes and tales from inside the UK Special Forces and SAS. Bring your own picnic snacks, chairs and/or rug to spread on the beautiful lawns of Miller's Homestead for a 6pm start. Bookings required (FREE)

Meet author Tony Green: A Mouse at Moresby

Wednesday 25 February 2026 at 2PM

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

Join Dr. Tony Green to discuss 'A Mouse at Moresby,' featuring his father's unseen WWII photos and diaries documenting the heroic Australian struggle during the Japanese advance in New Guinea. Bookings required (FREE)

Your Library Membership: 10 Free Tools You're Missing Out On

Friday 13 March 2026 at 2PM

Boronia Library, Park Cres, Boronia

Join us for a power-packed session where we reveal 10 amazing free tools included with your membership—resources that can help you stream movies, learn new skills, read eBooks, listen to audiobooks, and more. Bookings required (FREE)

Teas from around the world

Saturday 21 March 2026 at 11AM

Knox Library | Ngarrgoo, 425 Burwood Hwy, Westfield Knox - Above Rebel Sport, Wantirna South

Sample teas from around the world with Dionni from Tea Leaves! Discover global tea cultures, taste delicious samples and shop for your favorite blends at Knox Library. Bookings required (FREE)

Author Talk - Christopher Bennett discusses 'Roy Boy'

Friday 27 March 2026 at 2PM

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

Join author Christopher Bennett for a witty talk on his book 'Roy Boy.' Discover charming, boisterous stories about growing up in 1950s Fitzroy—a journey full of adventure and laughs. Bookings required (FREE)

Fermented Food for Gut Health

Saturday 28 March 2026 at 10:30AM

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

Learn the benefits of fermentation, explore popular probiotic-rich foods, and get simple tips for making them at home. Perfect for anyone wanting to improve gut health naturally through delicious, easy-to-prepare foods. Bookings required (FREE)



EDUCATION NEWS

Celebrating 2025, Welcoming 2026 at Wantirna South Primary School

85 years of learning, friendships, laughter and community was celebrated at Wantirna South Primary School (WaSPS) in 2025.

It was a wonderful year of celebration, change, community and creative inspiration. So many lasting memories from our outstanding production 'Shindig' with an amazing and talented main cast, our choir entertaining residents at Wantirna Village and people at Westfield Knox, success in so many sporting events with students representing the school at District and Division levels, two teams representing WaSPS in the First Lego League competition, a collaborative art project in the graduation mural and all the success with learning and growth in the classroom contributed to the essence of WaSPS.



We welcomed past students and descendants of the class of 1940 to reminisce and connect with stories from the past. It was interesting to listen to the changes yet humbling to hear things that still hold strong within our community.

A strong community connection was very evident in supporting the growth over 85 years. Opportunities for the community to come together was important then and now.

The events slightly different but successful in connecting in 2025 included a Trivia Night, Disco, Colour Run, Mother's and Father's Day stall and afternoon, Grandparents and Special Friends afternoon, WaSPS House Athletics, class reading support, sausage sizzles, working bees and Canteen helpers.

What a fabulous community we have! Forty weeks, approximately 200 days of learning and connecting lies ahead for our community in 2026.



Want to know more?

Our school leaders and Etta are ready to welcome you, so visit our website <https://wantirnasouthps.vic.edu.au/> and book a tour or call on 98011900.

**ONE
STOP
POOL SHOP**

📞 9753 3929 ✉ info@onestoppoolshop.net.au

📍 5 Darryl Street Scoresby 3179

- 💧 Pumps
 - 💧 Filters
 - 💧 Heating
 - 💧 Spas
 - 💧 Cleaners
 - 💧 Chlorinators
 - 💧 Chemicals
 - 💧 Toys
 - 💧 Accessories
- Follow us on [onestoppoolshopscoresby](https://www.facebook.com/onestoppoolshopscoresby)

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Knox Sings with Lady Shaula by Sorina Grasso

For the second year in a row, Knox Sings community choir performed at the popular Knox Carols on 13th December last year, this time with a new Conductor, the multi-talented and high-spirited Lady Shaula Salathe.

A tremendous initiative by Knox City Council to bring the community together through song, this truly inclusive community choir comprised men and women of all abilities. Singers did not need to audition and ranged in age from teenagers to people in their eighties. They rehearsed 1.5 hours per week from mid-November and really enjoyed the experience under Lady Shaula's capable, encouraging hand.

At Knox Carols, the choir performed three songs at the end of the Pre-Show Entertainment, including the well-known Jingle Bell Rock as well as two original compositions by Lady Shaula: the beautiful 'It's Not Long Until Christmas Day' and the fun and upbeat 'Santa's Dropping Off the Reindeer', which gave the proceedings a delightful Aussie twist.

Knox Sings were thrilled to perform for the thousands of locals enjoying the lovely family atmosphere of this cherished community event at Wally Tew Reserve. It was also great to hear from members of the audience afterwards how much they enjoyed the choir's vibrant and lively performance.



Jazz on Sundays 2026

Ringwood Bowls Club 1:30-5:00pm
 2-12 Loughnan Rd, Ringwood 3134 • 15 Mar • 12 Apr • 24 May • 14 Jun
 • 19 Jul • 16 Aug • 20 Sep
 • 11 Oct • 8 Nov • 6 Dec



Drinks at bar prices
 Meals and snacks available
 Bring your family and friends; children U16 free
 It's a whole afternoon of great entertainment

Two bands • Guest artists • Jazz open mic • Jazz jam
Bookings strongly recommended
trybooking.com/BVWQE

Online or by phone 0412 063 603 • Tickets at the door – subject to availability

\$15



community music and performances
www.cmapinc.org.au

Maroondah Concert Series 2026

Saturdays 2:30-4:30pm
Federation Estate
 32 Greenwood Ave, Ringwood 3134

Info and tickets
 All three concerts **\$45**
 or \$20 each
trybooking.com/DHMKL



Sat 21 Feb 2026

Swing the afternoon away with The Pearly Shells playing Swing Jazz, Jump Blues, RnB and Latin styles.

Sat 7 Mar 2026

Bohemian Nights. This enthusiastic duo will transport us from a Parisian café to Argentine tango to Klezmer and Aussie bush music.



Sat 21 Mar 2026

Bach to Bacharach to Cole Porter to Bruno Mars and Ed Sheeran – the Regent String Quartet plays it all.

A chance to meet the musicians over refreshments.



CMap presents free and low-cost music for community wellbeing.
 CMap acknowledges the support of Maroondah City Council's Arts and Cultural Grants Scheme



News from the Australian Jazz Museum

Preserving Australian Jazz for Current and Future Generations

Museum Reaccreditation *by Ken Simpson-Bull OAM*

The Australian Jazz Museum is officially recognised by the Australian Museums and Galleries Association (AMaGA) as an accredited museum. To maintain this rating the official CMAP (Community Museum Accreditation Program) must be renewed every five years, so just recently the Jazz Museum was visited by a team from AMaGA with the task of renewing the existing status.

The Jazz Museum has the culturally important task of safely storing, maintaining, and displaying many items of great social value such as musical instruments, clothing, photographs, posters, programs, books, magazines, press clippings – the list goes on. There is also the all-important sound and vision collection which exists on all manner of different media.

Accreditation means the attainment and maintenance of high standards of record-keeping, a disaster plan, appropriate physical treatment and conservation of materials, business and financial plans, and open sharing of the collection. This includes display of collected items, exhibitions, and the dissemination of rare recordings of outstanding or historic jazz in the form of CDs, downloads, and streaming.

The Museum is required to “ethically preserve and manage” its collection and “enrich community

experiences” by adherence to the National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries.

The team from AMaGA were particularly impressed by the professional attitude of the staff, who although volunteers, are skilled in the tasks they perform. Also impressive were the many and various high-quality methods of preservation employed to prevent deterioration of the valuable artefacts.



L to R: Span Hanna, Anne Thornton, Mel Blachford from the AJM; Caroline Wall from AmaGA; Ian Rutherford, David Canterford from the AJM; and Monica Cronin from AmaGA.

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

New improvements to the Museum include a freshly painted and carpeted welcoming foyer, QR codes now attached to the Georgia Lee and Judith Durham displays which give access to relevant audio content, and a new shipping container attached to the building which houses, among other things, the late Denis Farrington's 4000 music arrangements.

MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
LEARNING CENTRE

**READ
WRITE
NOW**

In our Learning Group you will:

- Grow Your Confidence
- Feel Proud Of What You Learn
- Be Supported By The Group
- Enjoy A Relaxed Environment

Wednesday 5.00 - 7.00pm
at MDLC, Ferntree Gully

Thursday 6.00 - 8.00pm
Bayswater Library

Friendly
and
Supportive
Tutor

More Information:
Call 9758 7859
www.mdlc.org.au

JOIN NOW! >>

THE FERNTREE GULLY ARTS SOCIETY

At THE HUT GALLERY

157 UNDERWOOD RD FERNTREE GULLY

Thursday to Sunday

11am-4pm or when the flags are flying

FEBRUARY EXHIBITION

7th to 27th February

GALLERY

“ANYTHING GOES”

This exhibition displaying a wonderful variety of our members' works.
Not to be missed.

FOYER

“12 BOYS”

Our very talented artist Johanna Boehm exhibiting her colourful artwork.

MARCH EXHIBITION

28th February - 27th March

GALLERY

“NATURAL WORLD”

An exciting members exhibition, depicting all things natural.

FOYER

Marg Thompsons' “ECLECTIC EPHEMERA”

An outstanding Artist.

ALL WELCOME, FREE ENTRY

www.thehutgallery.com.au

All Workshops and classes resume in February
Come and visit us.

Don't bin batteries



**BATTERIES
IN BINS
CAUSE FIRES**



Recycle your batteries for free by dropping them off at Bunnings supermarkets and other locations.
bcycle.com.au/drop-off



Move Your Way 23 February - 8 March

Find your new way to move and take part in fun and free activities across Knox.

Sign up today:
knox.vic.gov.au/MoveYourWay



Shape a safer, better Knox

Your feedback will help shape our new Local Law. Share your thoughts on our everyday rules to support residents, neighbourhoods and our environment from 9 February.

Find out more:
knox.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay



Free community training

Register for upcoming workshops to build new skills, strengthen your organisation or club, and connect with others.

Register now:
knox.vic.gov.au/CommunityTraining

knox



Knox City Council

KNOXFIELD & SCORESBY NEWS



Hello from Knoxfield Ladies PROBUS Club by Bev Bishop

We have recovered from Christmas and New Year celebrations and are due to meet again to resume our friendships and activities.

At our last meeting for 2025, two members of the Knox & District Woodworkers Club Phil and Harry told us about the formation of the Club, its growth and aims. They brought with them some beautiful toys and objects which they distribute to various organisations to give to children at Christmas time.

December is a very busy month, but we managed to fit in our Christmas Lunch this year at the Dandenong Club. The room was decorated, we were decorated and the Kris Kringle gifts were waiting under the tree. After a delicious lunch the raffle tickets were drawn and the generous hampers donated by our local MPs Mary Doyle and Kim Wells were won, along with other donated gifts.

The hard working Committee members treated themselves to a Christmas Lunch at the very busy Knox Club the following week, which was also very much enjoyed.

Our programme is almost complete with guest speakers booked and bus outings planned. Sunday brunches and evening dinners have also been decided, so we are looking forward to a relaxing and fun time in 2026.

If you would like to join us, please contact Jan Waters on 0407 577 921 or Bev Bishop on 0429 439 131 for further details. We meet at the Wantirna Club, 350 Stud Road Wantirna on every third Wednesday of the month 10.15 for a 10.30 start.



Marie our speaker convenor & one of the "Woodies"



Ladies' Christmas Luncheon



Christmas Fun





KNOXFIELD NEWSAGENCY

1597 FERNTREE GULLY ROAD TEL: 9764 8260
KNOXFIELD FAX: 9764 9215
VICTORIA

EMAIL: knoxfieldnewsagency@hotmail.com

Monday to Friday 7.00am to 5.30pm
Saturday 7.30am to 3.30pm
Sunday 7.30 am to 10.30am

Ruth Same Pty Ltd
ACCOUNTANT
ABN: 83 137 077 680

EXPERIENCED
F.C.P.A / TAX AGENT
Wantirna South

All Tax Returns/Financial
Statements
Discounted rates
Self Managed Super
Business Activity Statements

T: 9800 2482
M: 0408 395 510
Email: accountant@ruthsame.com.au
www.ruthsame.com.au



DESIGNS BY
APPOINTMENT

WALK INS WELCOME,
HOWEVER TO AVOID WAIT TIMES:
BOOK ONLINE OR CALL US TODAY!






TUES TO FRIDAY: 9AM - 5PM
SATURDAY: 9AM - 2PM

9763 0069  

12/3 HI-TECH PLACE, ROWVILLE
WWW.ROWVILLEFRAMING.COM.AU

Howard Roofing

- Small Job Specialist
- Roof Repairs
- Spouting & Down Pipes
- NO job too small

James: 0408 553 024
Michael: 0419 871 810
Email: Howardroofing1@gmail.com

Over 40 Years Experience

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



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

2025-26

**Excursion: November - Western Treatment Plant
Leaders – Alan & Hazel V.**

A really great day was had at The Western Treatment Plant (you might think this is a funny place for an excursion) with very good weather. Access to this place is by key, so not readily available. Our Leaders had restricted the day out to 24 members broken up into 3 different groups who travelled throughout the area with a guide for each group. The purpose of the visit was to see and observe as many birds as we could. These were bush birds, but mainly water birds. A very interesting day out and no it was not smelly. Gathering the 3 groups back at the carpark we tallied the birds seen finding we had spotted and confirmed 92 different species.



Pink eared duck and friends. Photo by Peter Rogers

Meeting: December - 2 members giving short talks.

Speaker 1 - Neal S "Tasmanian Treasures of the Earth"

Neal started with a short history of Tasmania, its discovery and settlement. He showed images of a number of different landscapes including Tessellated Pavement, rivers, caves and waterfalls with basalt columns. One of the other treasures included in and around Queenstown with its mines, old buildings and mountain bike trails, the Seahorse Centre, Beaconsfield Mine and lighthouses. This was an informative talk with many of us thinking we should do another visit to Tassie.

Speaker 2 - Don R "Nature as I see it"

Don showed a variety of Natural History videos that he has taken over the years in Victoria, South Australia, Queensland and Central Australia. These included many birds (some feeding, some on nests or feeding young), some orchids, butterflies and wombats. The highlights were a Cassowary with 2 chicks, a Tree Kangaroo in Qld and a spectacular showing of a Yellow-footed Antechinus.

A very much enjoyed presentation.

No excursion in December.

Meeting: January - Outdoor meeting Tarralla Wetlands, Croydon. Leaders Davis and Jenny W

This is traditionally an outdoor evening meeting with a picnic dinner, short meeting and a walk.

A picnic tea was held in the park accompanied by numerous screeching corellas with 31 members and visitors attending. Lovely to catch up with friends after the Christmas break. This was followed by a short meeting with members reporting what they had been seeing over the past month.

David then took us for a stroll along the well-maintained paths beside the Tarrall wetlands. Although there was not much water in the wetlands, this actually helped us see a lot more birdlife paddling and feeding in the area. 32 bird species were seen with a special sighting of a Latham's Snipe. This bird usually breeds in Japan and migrates to other countries, including Australia. For many members this was the first time they had seen this bird. A very pleasant evening

**Excursion: Doongalla Homestead Forest Reserve. The Basin.
Leaders Karen M and Jennifer G**

This Reserve is a part of the Dandenong Ranges National Park. It is looked after by Parks Victoria. The area is used by many for picnics, walking, bike riding and much more. We of course were observing the bush plants and birds. Some of the tracks can be quite challenging but we were able to wander beside beautiful tree ferns and under tall towering Eucalypts. Interesting to see that many exotic plants that were still surviving from the gardens of the old homestead that was once in this area.

Good sighting of two Tawny frogmouths and hearing Lyrebirds close by.



Tree ferns. Photo by Alison Rogers

Future Program

Meetings

February: Nicole Kearney - "Biodiversity Heritage Library"

March: Chris and Graham Ellis "African Safari"

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

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

Meetings are always held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7-30pm now at our new venue the Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall. Lawrence Ave, East Ringwood. All visitors are welcome.

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

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



ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

Knox Environment Society

Since Europeans came to Knox, much of the natural vegetation and green spaces have been cleared for agriculture and housing.

Now, up to 84% of plant species in Knox are thought to be locally threatened. This is an indication that scores of species could die out in Knox unless positive action is taken. Some of these species are also threatened state-wide.

And with the loss of the flora, we will lose the fauna that depends on the plants for habitat and food resources. The fauna includes birds, mammals, frogs, lizards and the host of invertebrates so important for pollination and a thriving ecosystem.



Fortunately, Knox Council and the Knox Environment Society came together 20 years ago to form the Gardens for Wildlife partnership to safeguard the natural environment.

Under the banner of the Gardens for Wildlife, local residents and businesses are providing safe havens for endangered flora and fauna. By planting local native plants, residents are creating habitat stepping stones or corridors for local wildlife to use to travel between our bushland areas. This practice is vital to the long-term protection of our shared environment.



Gardens For Wildlife by Anne Morton

The process for a Gardens for Wildlife visit is via the Knox Council website.

1. Register your interest in a garden visit on the Knox Council website
2. Two volunteers will organise to visit and offer helpful advice
3. You will receive a report with comments and planting suggestions for your garden
4. You will also receive a booklet and letterbox sticker to help promote the program.
5. And a voucher for 20 indigenous plants provided by the Knox Environment Society Nursery

For more information and to register your interest go to <https://www.knox.vic.gov.au/our-services/gardens-environment-and-sustainability/trees-plants-and-gardens/gardens-for-wildlife>.

The Knox Environment Society has been an active partner in the scheme, supplying the voucher for 20 local native plants for those who have a garden visit. The volunteers at the Nursery also offer information on species and planting advice and several also volunteer with Gardens for Wildlife.

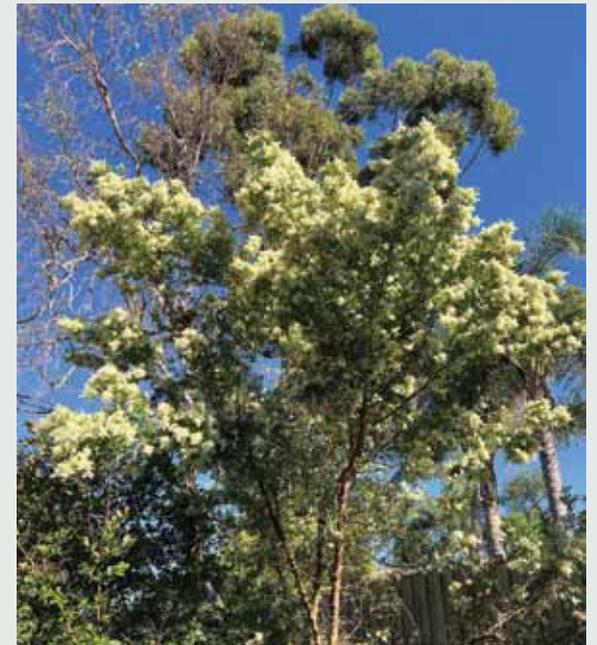
The Gardens for Wildlife scheme is now celebrating 20 years in 2026. There are lots of wonderful achievements to celebrate with over 1000 participants building habitat in their gardens to build a sustainable natural environment in Knox.

The success of this initiative has been noticed and other local government areas throughout Victoria are using the Knox model to design their own programs. Over half the local government areas in Victoria are involved under the umbrella of Gardens for Wildlife Victoria. And now interest has also spread into New South Wales and South Australia.



Gardening in summer

Summer is not really the time of year to be planting in the garden. With the extreme heat and dry weather, wait until the cooler days return. Weeding or pruning in the garden are the jobs for a cooler summer day, as well as planning all the changes you might like to bring about during the year.



The most important job for summer is to provide water in the garden for the fauna that might visit. Even invertebrates need water. So keep the water available and top up or refresh regularly.



The Knox Environment Society Nursery is closed in January but will reopen on Sunday 1st February. Visit www.kes.org.au for heaps of useful indigenous flora information and <https://www.kes.org.au/homeandgarden/g4w> for more about Gardens for Wildlife.

Laughter Club News

Anniversaries, Laughter Yoga and the Cycle of Life

Giddy. Welcome to the 100th edition of this awesome community newspaper and what an incredible resource for all of us to be reading, contributing, ruminating over all these years. I commenced in January 2015, enthusiastically writing for the 33rd edition. That means this is my 68th contribution and it has been a highly positive experience. Initially there was some slight trepidation, unsure where it would lead me and whether or not people would be interested to hear about the laughter club. And you did!

It is also the Ferntree Gully Laughter Club's 20th Birthday. I received an email from a friend to inform me that Dr Kataria, the Founder of Laughter Yoga International and laughter clubs worldwide was coming to Melbourne. I had seen on television people coming together, laughing as a community and having a ball. It blew me away and I wanted to become involved, which I did. It was a day in a large hall in Williamstown hosted by Laughter Clubs Victoria Inc. We were all laughing uproariously and I left feeling uplifted, energised and with the decision to do the laughter leader training and start a laughter club at the Arboretum in Boronia.

Phillipa Challis, the founder of Laughter Clubs Victoria Inc trained us on Sunday 6th March 2005 and I started the laughter club two weeks later on the 20th March 2005. It has been a large part of my life and for a couple of years not many people came along. Often nobody. But being stubborn and not wanting to give up something that I believed in with all my heart I moved it to behind the Ferntree Gully Library. Numbers were quite small at first and Tom was the only true regular for a long time. After about five years, hubby John felt sorry for me and started to come and lend his support. Still people were not turning up much and we said to each other, if Tom doesn't come today, that's it, we are giving it up. Lo and behold! Tom did turn up and said that we had to keep coming until he died. Well Tom didn't die; he stopped coming after about ten years and we keep in touch from time to time.

I will repeat something that I have often shared, which is that the laughter club is a wonderful social club where we come together in laughter and friendship. For some people it has been extremely transformative and life changing. One lady we often mention as a positive example of the good that laughter can do for you, and she will recognise herself if she reads this article, also stays in touch. A gentle soul, who had been in a depression for ten years after her marriage break down. She wore black all the time and the third time she joined us, she was wearing periwinkle blue, which is a purplish blue colour. Over time she bought a new wardrobe of bright, colourful clothes and does not wish to wear dark colours any more. That is not to say that there is anything wrong with those of us who prefer to wear black and dark colours. In this example it



became important to become outgoing and involved with life rather than hide away in isolation. To step out, greet life anew and stop grieving.

We all need certain things in our lives, stimulation, interests, hobbies, work, friendships and for some, annual holidays in which to recharge. For others, regular get aways, maybe something competitive like a hobby or interest which provides a reason to take a short break.

Are you looking after yourself in this area? As we are still close to the beginning of another year perhaps it is time to reinvent yourself and review where you are. Looking back, has it been a fruitful year or fraught with unnecessary intensity, grief, anxiety? We thrive, growing in wisdom with beneficial stress. I am referring to not handling the most difficult periods in our lives as well as we could have and to learn from those times, which is after all, 'life happening'. This is a friendly little reminder to check in with yourself, take stock of your life across the board and make it more purposeful, bringing growth, peace and harmony? Remember always, Tolerance, Patience and Kindness towards everyone, including yourself. xo

Coming back to the laughter club, it is one thing that people often love to come along to either frequently or spasmodically. The benefits are huge physically as it is an aerobic exercise, it releases emotions and uplifts, mentally stimulates and brings us closer to the essence of life.

Email or phone me to find out more and I can send you information about the benefits and of neuroplasticity, which it helps us with, our brain neurons. I sincerely would love to hear from you and invite you to come along sometime and give it a go. You are in safe company and haven't anything that I can think of to lose.

So, go on, give it a go, or even write an email sharing how you are and what floats your boat if you choose

to because it is beneficial to be introspective, to reach out and share with others something about your life as we are all in this together, this wheel of life.

Thank you for reading and wishing you a productive and harmonious year. Congratulations to the team who put this newspaper together, with dedication and resilience.

Cheerio for now and lots of love, Lynette xo

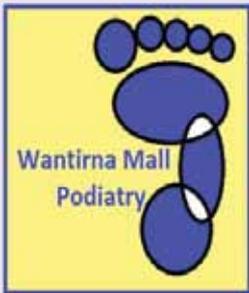
When we meet and Contact information

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

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

Phone: 0425 799 258
 Email: lynette@laughterforliving.com.au
 Website: www.laughterforliving.com.au
 Ferntree Gully Library: 9800 6455

<p>Mr. Mina Williams B.Pod. M.A.Pod.A. Podiatrist</p>  <p>PhysioSpot 1621 Ferntree Gully Road Knoxfield 3180 Telephone: 9764 9359 Facsimile: 9763 3114</p>	<p>Corns and Callus Ingrown Toenails Flat Feet Children Heel, Arch and Forefoot Pain Sporting or Occupational Injuries Diabetic and Arthritic Foot Care Veterans Affairs</p>
--	---



Wantirna Mall Podiatry Melina Linardatos

(B. Pod, MBA and MHA, MAPA)
4/322 Mountain Hwy, Wantirna
Ph: 9720 1235

www.wantiramallpodiatry.com

Online booking available

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



Common Problems With Ageing Feet

As we all age our feet age too causing many age-related foot problems; one very common issue is tough nails. Your toenails can change as part of the ageing process becoming thick, discoloured and /or distorted so it is important to maintain them to avoid future problems. If you can cut your nails yourself trim them without cutting down the sides with a pair of nail clippers and file them gently in a downwards motion with an emery board for a smooth edge. At Wantirna Mall Podiatry we can help you to maintain your nails if you are unable to, treat the thickness of nails and we can also treat any thick calluses and corns. Dry skin can also be a problem, using a Urea based cream can help soften the skin but its best to wear something on your feet after applying the cream so that you don't slip.

Ageing can also change the structure of feet which can cause foot pain. Arches can become flattened, the foot joints less flexible and deformed, the natural padding at the bottom of the feet can go. Changes to the structure of the foot can change the way you walk, increase pressure on the soles of the feet and increases the risk of

instability and falls. Treatment of age-related foot pain can be dependent on the problem and this can involve further investigation and treatment.

But if you have a general ache, one easy thing you can do to help this problem is to be fitted and wear Orthopaedic footwear with a non-slip sole. Orthopaedic shoes differ from fashion footwear, they can come in different widths and can contain different design features to help you with your specific problems. At Wantirna Mall Podiatry we have a range of Dr. Comfort Orthopaedic Medical Footwear we can fit you with to help you with your specific foot health needs, another place to be fitted would be your local Orthopaedic footwear retailer.



Image by Sabine van Erp from Pixabay

wantirna
osteopathy



New Rehab Gym

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

Call or book online
9800 0388
www.wantirmaosteopathy.com.au



Community News

Available online at
www.studfieldwantiranews.org
Find us on Facebook

JOIN OUR TEAM
Volunteers are welcome at
Studfield Wantirna Community News



Hands on Myotherapy



Celebrating 10 Years of Hands On Myotherapy

In March 2026, Hands On Myotherapy proudly celebrates 10 years of caring for the Wantirna and wider community.

Hands On Myotherapy started as a single treatment room in Scoresby back in 2014. Two years later, in 2016, we proudly established our dedicated clinic in Wantirna. Over time, we have evolved into a trusted space within the community, where individuals come to heal, recover, and regain confidence in their bodies. This growth and transformation would

not have been possible without your ongoing support and trust.

As the owner and senior Myotherapist, I feel incredibly grateful for the ongoing trust our community has placed in us. Over the past decade, our team has had the privilege of treating a wide range of injuries, from everyday aches to complex, long-standing conditions. Every recovery journey has been a partnership built on trust, commitment, and open communication.

Small businesses don't reach milestones like this without strong community support. Your referrals, kind words, and loyalty have allowed Hands On Myotherapy to continue doing what we love most—helping people move better, feel stronger, and return to the activities that matter to them.

I would like to sincerely thank each and every client, past and present, for being part of our journey. Your support has shaped this clinic into what it is today, and I'm excited to continue serving Wantirna and the wider community for many years to come.

Warm regards,
Alison Whitehead
Owner & Senior Myotherapist



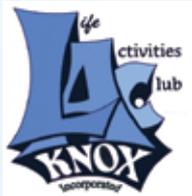
- Back and Neck Pain
- Pregnancy Massage
- Knee and Leg Pain
- Deep Tissue Massage
- Sporting/ Occupational Injuries
- Golfer/ Tennis Elbow
- Headaches
- Sciatica

8740 3991

Unit 10/603 Boronia Road
Wantirna VIC 3152

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

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



Life Activities Club Knox

Well! Happy New Year to all who are reading our latest article for our local Knox Newspapers. Hopefully you will find with activities mentioned that there is at least one in which you would like to be included.

On the 8th December we had our 2025 Christmas celebratory lunch which was very well attended. The day was also added to with the dulcet tones of that talented singer and instrumentalist, Brendan Scott, PLUS the attendance of Santa Claus. We finished off the day with a myriad of those present winning lucky number prizes.



Christmas Party

In the up and coming year we have Line Dancing, which I've been assured is low impact. Our annual Picnics in the Park at the Tim Neville Arboretum which will be held on 5th February and 5th March. For this occasion please bring your own chair, food and drink. In addition there will be two film afternoons, with pizza and talks being given. Once a month.

Another opportunity to meet a few members which may appeal, is that each month there are coffee mornings. The Ladies' is held on the first Tuesday of each month and the men on the second Tuesday. These occasions give you the chance of getting to know other members in an informal environment.

Furthermore, to add to 2026 activities are Bush Dancing, monthly Golf, Dining out. Etc.etc. Bus trip to Bright in May for a five night and six-day sojourn with lots of touring around. In September there will be a trip via Alice Springs to Darwin on The Ghan.

All in all we will be having a very active year. One call our very talented and knowledgeable Lorraine on 0438068334 and she will direct you to the appropriate co-ordinator who will guide you in the right direction.



Walkers at the Knox Arboretum



Knox Over 50s

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

Our next General Meeting will be held at 10.30 am on Tuesday the 24th of February, 2026, at Club Kilsyth, 1-15 Canterbury Road, Bayswater North, followed by lunch for those who wish to stay on.

We provide guest speakers, many day trips and an annual trip, visits to Boronia Cinema, coffee mornings, regular lunches at different locations around Knox and morning melodies.

A large group of members enjoyed a trip to the West Coast of Tasmania during November 2025. From all accounts it was a wonderful event and thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated. Our photo shows the group enjoying a beautiful sunny day.

During early December we held our Annual Christmas celebration at the Churchill Waverley Golf Club in Rowville. As always, a most enjoyable and entertaining event.



Group Members in Tasmania

This month we will be touring the Coombes Estate in Coldstream. A former home of the fabulous Dame Nellie Melba.

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

Boronia Ladies Probus Club

Our Christmas meeting on the 17th December was a wonderful success, with the Boys Choir from St. Joseph's College entertaining us with Carols and some solo performances. These boys come every year to our club and we appreciate that they give up their time to entertain us, this year they even handed out chocolates. The ladies then had lunch in the Bistro at the Knox Club after the meeting.

9th February is going to be a Fashion Parade and High Tea for the ladies and their friends, at the Anglican Church hall in Dorset Road Boronia. This event is held every year and is always very successful, full of friendship and a very happy get together for everyone and perhaps something new for your wardrobe.

Our next meeting will be on the 21st January 2026 at 10am at the Knox Club. If you are feeling like trying something different this year, please come and visit us. We are a friendly group of ladies of all ages, and our meetings are always interesting and fun.

Please ring Jan 0438 059 783 with any questions you might like to ask. We meet every month on the 3rd Wednesday at the Knox Club.



If you are interested in joining our group, please contact Kerry (on 0419 995 084) for further information.

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



COMMUNITY NEWS

200 Walks and Still Going

David and Glenys Mallen were first introduced to Street Orienteering by Wally Cavill and Stan & Sue Gurman in 2005. They ran a weekly orienteering walk as part of the Waverley Retirement Activities Group (WRAG) in Glen Waverley. David and Glenys participated every Tuesday until they resigned from WRAG in December 2013. (Although no longer associated with WRAG, that orienteering group is still walking every Tuesday!)

After moving to Knox in 2011 David and Glenys joined the Life Activities Club Knox (LACK). They organised a 'trial' orienteering walk around Rowville for the Club's Friday Walkers Christmas Walk on 13th December 2013. It was enjoyed by most walkers and David submitted a proposal to the LACK Committee to set-up and subsidise a Street Orienteering Walkers Group as one of the Club's Activity Groups. It was accepted and they held the walks on the 3rd Friday every month.

The walkers have maps showing 20 clues and have to find the answers to as many clues as possible in one hour. They then go to a local café for a coffee and a chat. Knox SOW's first walk was held from Canterbury Gardens Reserve in Bayswater North on 20th June 2014.

For the next 3½ years they averaged 14 walkers each month but by 2018 it was so popular they were getting over 25 walkers. The group was getting too large, as many cafes were not big enough for so many people. David & Glenys resigned from LACK at the end of June 2018 and continued to run the group. They split it into two and ran 2 walks in the same area each month: Course#1 on the 1st Friday

and Course#2 on the 3rd Friday of the month. By the end of 2018 they had 48 members. They have continued running the group ever since.

During the COVID lockdowns in 2020 and 2021 David introduced Virtual Orienteering. He set-up a page on the Group's website enabling one to 'walk' without having to leave the house. This involved downloading a map and using Google Maps Street View on a computer, tablet or phone to 'walk' around the streets and find the answers to the clues. This was particularly popular for Primary Schools. He even had an orienteering group in Genoa, Italy participate!

Knox SOW occasionally runs orienteering walks as a special activity for local seniors groups, businesses and schools. One of their walks in October is often nominated as a 'Seniors Walk' for the Knox Council's Seniors Festival or their Over55s Zest4Life promotion.



2020-21 Virtual Orienteering

The S.O.W. Secret

Street Orienteering ticks all the 'great activity' boxes

- ✓ Exercise your body
- ✓ Use your brain
- ✓ Challenge yourself
- ✓ Enjoy social interaction
- ✓ Have fun

The Group now has 25 members and most walk every month. If it is too hot or too wet the walk is usually postponed to the following Friday. David and Glenys now select only the flatter parts in and around Knox to walk these days.

For their 200th walk in January 2026 the Group returned to the same location as the first walk – Canterbury Gardens Reserve in Bayswater North, with coffee and a chat at the same Canterbury Garden Café in the nearby shopping centre. All walkers who came along got a special 200th Walk Certificate.

If you would like to give Street Orienteering a go, contact Walk Organiser, David, on 0419 337 311 or david.knoxow@gmail.com. You will also find them on Facebook.



The 200th Walk. Knox SOW Group (16th January 2026)

Ferntree Gully View Club

Our monthly luncheon meetings are held on the 4th Monday of each month and includes a 2-course lunch menu (meal of your choice menu to be in by 11.00am), tea/coffee, raffle tickets, cost \$30. 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 7 disadvantaged students through the 'Learning for Life' Program with The Smith Family. We also support a refuge for women and children escaping domestic violence.

Lunch Date - Monday 23rd February 2026 - Our AGM - No Speaker

Lunch Date - Monday 23rd March 2026 - Speaker from the Stroke Foundation.

If you want to join a welcoming and fun club, come join us. Visitors are most welcome. Time: 10.30am for a 11.30am start at The Knox Club, corner Stud & Boronia Roads, Wantirna South.

Contact: - Romaine on 0421 400 549 to book in.

Wantirna Day View Club

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

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

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

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

Boronia VIEW Club

Boronia VIEW meets on Fridays at 11.30am at Eastwood Golf Club Liverpool Rd, Kilsyth with a 2-course lunch costing \$30

On Friday, 20 February the lunch will be followed by a day of catch-up chat.

On Friday, 20 March it will be the Club's 36th birthday and there will be extra goodies so the lunch cost will be \$35. Also come dressed in Autumn Colours.

There will be a raffle, book stall and trading table with all monies raised going towards the children that the club sponsors through the Smith Family for their educational needs. The club is looking for new members so ladies of all ages and backgrounds come along and you will be warmly welcomed.

There are also small groups within the club e.g. coffee and book clubs etc and occasional outings.

Enquiries to Judith on 9764-8602

What's On?

Event	Date & Time	Location	More Information
OLDER MEN : NEW IDEAS	2nd & 4th Fridays each month	Orana NH, 62 Coleman Rd ,Wantirna	Call Orana on 9801 1895
Changing Seasons Cafe	Wed to Fri 10.30am to 3.30pm Sat & Sun 9.00am to 4.00pm	31-34 Elizabeth St, Bayswater Access from the road	8720 1382 Facebook @ChangingSeasonsCafe
Wantirna Day View Club	1st Wednesday each month 10:30 am for 11:00 am start	Stamford Hotel Cnr Stud & Wellington Rds, Rowville	Kate on 0421 650 684
Ferntree Gully View Club	4th Monday of each month 11.30am	The Knox Club. Cnr Stud and Boronia Rd. Wantirna South	Romaine Meadowcroft - 0421 400 549
Boronia View Club	3rd Friday each month 11.30am.	Eastwood Golf Club Liverpool Road Kilsyth	Judith 9764 8602
Boronia Ladies Probus Club	3rd Wednesday of each month	Knox Club, cnr Boronia & Stud Rds Wantirna	Enquiries: Jan on 0438 059 783
Combined Probus Club of Wantirna Heights	First Wednesday of every month at 10am	Knox Boat Fishing Club, Schultz Reserve, Kingloch Pde Wantirna.	Michael 0439 551 209
iShred - Community Shredding Day	Sat. Feb 14 & Mar 14, 9am-12pm	5/7 Samantha Crt. Knoxfield	1300 763 688
Ringwood Field Naturalists Club	2nd Wednesday each month at 7.30pm	Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall. Lawrence Ave, East Ringwood	Alison or Peter on 9801-6946 http://www.rfnc.org.au
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 Reserve.	Jeanette 0491 258 657 or John 0405689554.
Knoxfield Ladies Probus	3rd Wed. of the month at 10.30am.	Wantirna Club, 350 Stud Road Wantirna	Jo 0414 914 091
Lions Club of Knox	1st & 3rd Tues of month at 7.00pm	Our Saviours Lutheran Church Knox 646 Burwood Hwy, Knoxfield	Sue 0411 529 293
Probus Club of Wantirna Sth	2nd Wed of the month at 10.30am.	Wantirna Club, Stud Road Wantirna	Lesley Kelly 0409 028 959
Scoresby TOWN Club	Wednesdays 8.30am	Scout Hall behind 91 Lewis Road Wantirna	9761 1875
Boronia Probus Combined Club	2nd Thurs of the month at 10.00am	Boronia Bowls Club, 5 Marie Street, Boronia	Keiran Smith 0404 079 636
Wantirna Cricket Club	Saturday Summer Competition	Schultz Reserve Wantirna	President David Orlandi 0418 147 456
Rotary Club of Knox	Wednesdays 12.45pm	Knox Club, cnr Boronia & Stud Rds Wantirna	Gary Weston - 0409 553 168
Rotary Club of Boronia	Tuesdays 6.30pm	Knox Club, cnr Boronia & Stud Rds Wantirna	Greg Mossop - 0437 599 949
Rotary Club of Bayswater	Wednesdays 6.00pm	Rotary Club Rooms , Marie Wallace Reserve, King Street, Bayswater	Ron Bridges - 0414 843 427
The Boronia branch of CWA	2nd Wednesday of the month Craft Meeting - 4th Wednesday	CWA Hall at 4 Sundew Ave Boronia	Evelyn on 9762 1537 or 0434 722346
Ringwood View Club	2nd Wed of the month 11am	Ringwood Club, Maroondah Hwy	Heather 0411 219 248
KSSSG-Knox Stroke Survivors	2nd & 4th Wed of the month 10.30am	Crave Restaurant, 236 Dorset Road Boronia	Lister 0413095061 Rob 9758 8582 Anna 0414976619
Knox Photographic Society	2nd,3rd,4th Wednesdays 7.30PM	Boronia West Primary School. Tormore Rd Boronia (Enter via Swimming Pool car park).	Rob 0401943354
Studfield Wantirna Probus Club	2nd Tues monthly at 10.30am	Knox Club, 480 Boronia Rd Wantirna	Pauline 0458 003 985
Elm Street Mission	Mon, Wed, Fri 10 am to 2 pm	654 Mountain Highway Bayswater.	Ethne 0428 330 873 or info@elmstmission.org.au .
Knox Masters Athletics	Wed. 7.00pm-9.00pm	Knox Athletics track, Bunjil Way, Knoxfield	Peter - 0427880143, Helen 0425743977

from Knox Council with input by Theju Anand

Council proudly congratulates Knox Multicultural Advisory Committee member Ruchi Sharma for being recognised in the Victorian Multicultural Awards for Excellence, one of the state's most prestigious honours celebrating individuals and organisations who strengthen Victoria's rich multicultural fabric.

Ruchi received the Premier's Award for Community Harmony for her transformative work in keeping Victoria's multicultural and multifaith communities connected, supporting community health and wellbeing. The award recognises outstanding leadership, commitment to inclusion and meaningful impact across communities, and highlights individuals whose work actively builds social cohesion and understanding across cultural and religious boundaries.

The Premier's Award for Community Harmony is presented to a person who has demonstrated exceptional dedication to collaboration and unity among Victoria's diverse communities. Ruchi's recognition places her among a select group of leaders whose work has helped shape a more inclusive and connected community.

Ruchi is the former secretary of the Australia India Society of Victoria. She has been on our Committee since 2023, helping advise the Council on multicultural issues and promote diversity in Knox. Through her role on the Knox Multicultural Advisory Committee, she has contributed to shaping policies, programs and initiatives that reflect the needs, experiences and aspirations of culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Her involvement has strengthened partnerships between Council and community groups, ensuring that multicultural voices are heard and represented in decision-making processes.



Award Winner, Ruchi Sharma

"My work with the Knox Council in promoting multiculturalism is deeply meaningful to me because it allows me to help build a community where every person, regardless of where they come from, feels seen, valued and included," she said.

"I believe that true harmony begins when people feel they belong, and this work gives me the chance to contribute to that sense of belonging."

"It aligns with my values of compassion, connection and shared humanity. Every time I see people from different cultures come together, understand each other a little more, or share a story with pride, I feel reaffirmed that this work is not just important — it is necessary."

"I also see myself as a bridge — connecting cultures, creating understanding and ensuring that our Indian community feels included in the broader story of Knox."

Ruchi's award also recognised her work as founder of the Hello Zindagi radio show on Radio Eastern 98.1 FM and HuHaHo (Human Happiness and Hope), a wellbeing initiative that promotes inclusivity and collaboration. These initiatives have created platforms for storytelling, community dialogue and mental health awareness, helping people feel heard and supported.

Hello Zindagi has become a trusted space for sharing experiences, celebrating cultural identity and discussing wellbeing issues that affect multicultural communities, whilst HuHaHo focuses on promoting emotional wellbeing and resilience through inclusive programs that bring people together across cultures and backgrounds.

About a third of Knox residents were born overseas. We originate from nearly 160 different countries and speak more than 130 languages. This remarkable diversity reflects Knox's identity as a vibrant, multicultural community.

The top 10 countries of birth are China, United Kingdom, India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Philippines, Vietnam and Italy.

There are 28.7% of people who use a language other than English at home, with the top 10 languages being Mandarin, Cantonese, Sinhalese, Greek, Hindi, Tamil, Italian, Vietnamese, Arabic and Persian.

Ruchi's recognition in the Victorian Multicultural Awards for Excellence is a powerful reminder of the impact one individual can have in strengthening social harmony and inclusion. Her work continues to inspire collaboration, understanding and unity, helping ensure that Knox remains a place where everyone belongs and feels valued.



News from Knox District Cub Scouts

Cubs Go Exploring The Jungle!

by Nicole Klep, District Leader of Cub Scouts.

On the 14th to the 16th of November, just under 100 Cubs from 8 Cub Units and many Cub Leaders from Knox District descended on Bay Park Scout Camp in Mt Martha for a weekend of 'Jungle' fun. The weather was great on the Saturday, not so great on the Sunday. The leaders and some Cubs dressed up in jungle costume and created a wonderful atmosphere.

On the Saturday the Cubs made jungle masks and jungle woggles and climbed along the walls of the bouldering shed. They flew on the flying fox and created shelters out of the equipment provided. They took on the mini golf course and had to spot the jungle animals hidden along the course. They tackled the jungle scavenger hunt and found all the clues and jungle objects along the way. The Cubs also went canoeing and earned their level one paddling badge. On the Saturday night all the Cub units put on a jungle act or performance of some sort on the stage at camp and it was an awesome night. The leaders all got up and performed to the song 'The Bare Necessities'.

On the Sunday, we had a reflection in the chapel and then we went yabbying in the dam. I think the yabbies' were feeling a bit shy that day, perhaps they were scared off after all the canoeing from the day before. We closed the camp earlier than anticipated as the rain came over and everyone was dropping tents before the wild weather set in.

Such an awesome weekend! The Cubs went away tired, but extremely happy and they loved the Bay Park Camp badge.

If you are interested in trying Scouting go to: <https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/locations/all-groups/>

2nd/3rd Bayswater, 1st Wantirna South, 2nd Wantirna, 1st Knoxfield and 4th Knox are the local Scout Groups. You can try three nights for free! So come along and join in the fun. Scouting is for youth from age 5 to 26 years and after 26 lots of fun is to be had by becoming a leader!





Wantirna Tennis Club

2026 by Alison Rogers

SPORT NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

Australian Open

Well currently the Australian Open is being played. Haven't we got some wonderful players out there on the courts. Both Male and Female players have been doing themselves and their country proud.

It has been a great time to sit back and watch the tennis while our hot summer sun is keeping us inside. If you were lucky enough to go into Melbourne Park, you will have found plenty to see both on and off the courts.

Tennis at Wantirna Tennis Club

There is so much happening down at Wantirna Tennis Club. We currently have 25 weekend teams playing, along with Night tennis and Midweek Ladies.

The new seasons are about to start, with Juniors resuming their 'Summer season'.

Book a court

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

Social Tennis

Social Tennis is still going strong on Tuesday mornings. Even if the weather is hot or cold come

on down and join the others or just have a coffee and a chat. It is lovely to see our group of social players expanding. They are a great group of friendly people.

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

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

Juniors

The Juniors Summer season is half way through and it is great to see all our Junior Saturday and Sunday competition matches going well. Many of the Junior players have been seen having a hit during the break, which is great.

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

Coaches Corner at Wantirna

Momentum Tennis

TERM 1 -2026 ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN!

Wantirna Tennis Club and Momentum Tennis are now welcoming new enrolments for Term 1, 2026!

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

As we head into the New Year, Term 1 Coaching will commence on February 2nd. We look forward

to welcoming both returning and new players back to the Courts.

There are currently spaces available in our Hot Shots program which is fun, engaging introduction to tennis for younger players. Hot Shots focuses on developing fundamental skills, confidence and a love for the game in a supportive environment.

New players are welcome to take advantage of a free trial session, making it a great opportunity to give tennis a go.

For more information or to book a free trial, please get in touch early as places are limited.

Join our friendly tennis community and experience the best of local tennis at Wantirna Tennis Club.

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

Cardio has been extremely popular. Classes are Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes as well as Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Sessions are 45 minutes and it's a fantastic way to enjoy tennis while getting a huff and puff!

For anyone who hasn't tried Cardio Tennis yet, don't forget you're welcome to come and have a free trial.

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

Contact Troy Murrell, Head coach at Momentum Tennis. All Bookings should be made by calling or SMS to Troy at 0434 804 719

About Wantirna Tennis Club

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

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

Club coaching team: Troy 043 804 719 and his Coaching team or email t_murrell@bigpond.com
Wantirna Tennis Club Inc Melway Ref: 63C8
Wantirna Reserve, Cnr Mountain Hwy and Burwood Hwys Wantirna
PO Box 5295 Studfield 3152
Club Secretary: Alison 0408576025 or email wantirnatennis@gmail.com
Web: www.tennis.com.au/wantirnatc/ WTC Face book: www.facebook.com/.../Wantirna-Tennis-Club

Club Championships

Towards the end of last year, we held our Annual Club Championships. A wonderful day was had, with many members entering and being very competitive. This is a most looked forward event at the Club each year. Our Ladies Club Champion for 2025 is Ashleigh K with Runner Up Alex M. A great match. A shame there can't be two winners. Our Men's Club Champion for 2025 is Tristan N with Runner Up Bill T. Another great match.



L-R Alex M, Runner Up & Ashleigh K, Club Champion



L-R Bill T, Runner up & Tristan N, Club Champion

Templeton Tennis Club News by Neil Houlston, Secretary

Upcoming Open Day and Summer Season Midway Progress

We wanted to start off by congratulating Studfield Wantirna Community News for reaching its 100th edition!

Summer 2025-26 Competition Midway Progress

Out of our 12 weekend competition teams at the mid-season break, we currently have half our teams in the top 4 of their respective ladders.

- 2 Saturday Junior Teams,
- 1 Saturday Adult Team and
- 3 Sunday Junior Teams.

Monday Night Social Tennis

Looking for an exciting way to start your week? Join us for our Monday night mixed social competition!

We have just started a new season of our in-house competition starting at 7:30pm every Monday (no play during school holidays or public holidays).

We are always looking for fill-in players each week and additional players for current teams to more easily allow for rotating players on each team.

Now is the perfect time to try out Monday nights being early into the new season.

For all enquiries, please contact Neil at secretary@templetontennis.com.au



Straight Sets Professional Tennis Coaching

Kelly and the coaching team at Templeton are available to provide their services for all ages and experience levels, from very beginners to those trying to perfect their backhand.

Details on all coaching programs available on our club website, including group coaching and private lessons are available on our club website under the Coaching tab.

Follow Us On Socials

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

Templeton Tennis Club Inc.

Templeton Reserve,

Templeton Street, Wantirna 3152.

Membership: Leanne 0493 450 111

President: Chris 0425 763 106

Coaching: Kelly 0414 874 482

Website: www.templetontennis.com.au

Email: president@templetontennis.com.au

Annual Open Day Sunday 8th February 2026

11:00am to 3:00pm

Templeton Reserve,
Templeton Street, Wantirna

Our club head coach will be in attendance alongside many activities available to try out, including ball machines, testing your serving speed and Pop Tennis.



Wantirna Cricket Club News

A host of Wantirna Cricket Club players have recently celebrated milestones as the countdown to finals cricket gets up.

Since the last edition, Ned Eyres (94), Will Auld (64 and 87*), Michael Tufvesson (80) and Vilfred Correa (61*) have all posted half-centuries in various 1st XI matches, while Lachie Green (5-21 & 3-25) and Riley Hansen (3-15 & 3-23) have impressed with the ball.

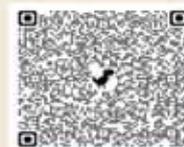
Also passing 50 in the 2nd XI in recent weeks have been Byron Parton, Xavier Andrew, Mark Pemberton and Scott Adams, while Adam Divkar snagged incredible figures of 6-12 in a win against Norwood. Ben Beveridge (4-16), Scott Andrew (4-13) and Shahbaz Ahmed (3-4) have all bowled well in the same team.

The milestones have continued through the club's 3rd XI, too, with Gurvinder Singh, Will Dunsford, Harry Whittle and Vish Konde all scoring recent fifties. Those performances with the bat – and bowling efforts from Jordan Rennie (4-23) and Luke Jones (3-8) - have helped the team find form.

At the time of publication, Wantirna's 1st XI and 2nd XI sit entrenched in finals positions, while the 3rd XI are within touching distance of finishing in the top four, and the club is hosting a Past Players & Families Day at Schultz Reserve on Saturday February 7.



Register Your
Interest With
our QR Code



OPEN DAY

Join our Melbourne Eastern Ranges
community for a day of sports and fun!

- Games & Sports
- Market stalls
- Food & Drink

MARCH 7, 2026
10am - 2pm

Rowville Community Centre,
40 Fulham Road
Rowville

CURRENT & FUTURE
MEMBERS WELCOME

Further details to be announced
on our Social Media!

[@soa_melbourne_eastern_ranges](https://www.instagram.com/soa_melbourne_eastern_ranges)
Special Olympics - Melbourne Eastern Ranges
<https://www.specialolympics.com.au>
Find a Local Activity > VIC >
Melbourne Eastern Ranges



Experience you can count on

LOCI Real Estate is powered by people who genuinely care.

Our boutique agency brings together a team of experienced professionals who understand that no two clients, properties or journeys are the same.

With strong local knowledge, thoughtful strategy and a personalised approach, we take the time to listen and tailor every campaign to suit your goals. It's this commitment to people, not just property, that allows us to deliver results that truly matter to you.

Love it. Live it.



Selling | Buying | Property Management

1300 562 400

www.locirealestate.com.au