

Digital versions of this Newsletter are available on the EVA [Website](#) and [Facebook](#) page.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM THE PRESIDENT

At our November meeting, guest speaker Michael Buxton gave some insights into the past and current planning policy. Michael noted a policy agreed upon by the Shire and the Liberal State Government was not to allow future development between the two ends of town. Traffic and parking would increase significantly and it has. The re-elected EVA management committee has a number of planning issues which we would like to address in 2023.

This year the EVA membership has grown from 55 to over 140 which gives us a good base for gathering feedback on issues that affect our town. I would urge all EVA members and the public to have their say, get involved in the sub committees and also attend bi-monthly public meetings which we organise on local matters.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported this EVA this year, our sponsors of the newsletter and local groups. A special thank you to Peter Maloney, the hardworking editor of this newsletter.

WHERE ARE WE IN EMERALD?

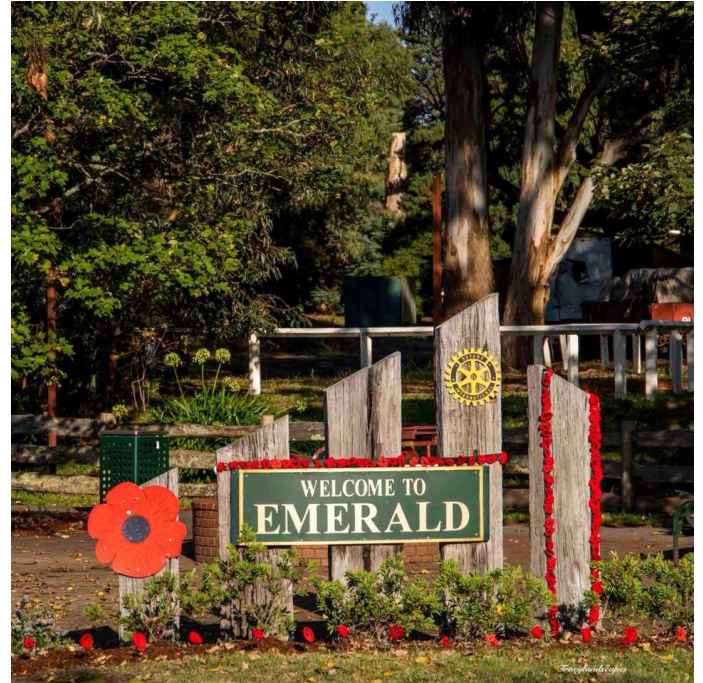


Last time we were on probably the best section on the Rail Trail between the Lake and Wright Road.

This time we are not actually in the town but in a very popular walking area which locals would visit from time to time.

Entries to Dick Bartley: dickbartley08@gmail.com

Dick Bartley - President EVA



[Remembrance Day 2022 - Emerald covered in poppies.](#)

EVA - BUSINESS PLAN - PART 3

Last month's article dealt with part 1 of the EVA Action Plan. This month we will complete the Plan.

2.0 Liaise with the Council and others on matters of public interest.

- 2.01 Continuously liaise with councillors, and other local organisations so that we are fully informed on issues and developments in Emerald.
- 2.02 Undertake an annual inspection of infrastructure to ensure works are to the required standards.
- 2.03 Work together with the Council on strategic issues (particularly the Emerald District Planning Strategy).
- 2.04 Update and improve the MoU with Council.
- 2.05 Ensure regular attendance to meetings by Councillors and Officers.
- 2.06 Respond to issues of Public.
- 2.07 Circulate Minutes of Cardinia Council to members.

3.0 Identify the unique strengths of the community & build proposals.

- 3.01 Continue EVA involvement in the operations of the Hills Hub.
- 3.02 Continue EVA work with the Hills Hub management.
- 3.03 Continue to manage community intergenerational collaborations at the Hub between Seniors and Emerald Primary School students.
- 3.04 Ensure that consultation and communication are constantly ongoing.

3.05 Workshop with members & review the Business Plan and Actions in 2023.

4.0 Provide a conduit for all local organisations and community members to the Cardinia Council.

4.01 See item 2.3.

4.02 Establish specific events forums for discussion and sharing of views of specific interest to Council/Community.

4.03 Refer also to Item 1.

5.0 Build and maintain a network of community groups

5.01 Regular activities to increase the membership of the EVA. (Actions need to be specific).

5.02 To be actively involved with the Hills Hub to ensure that a proper feasible management plan is developed which establishes the best use of this new Council facility.

5.03 Develop a register of skills and competences of EVA members.

5.04 Share the workload, participation, and involvement to maintain member interest.

5.05 Determine the interests of members and build on these by creating formal subcommittees and effective governance arrangements to maintain involvement and interest.

6.0 Develop an Annual Business Plan.

6.01 Commence the draft 2023 BP.

6.02 Confirm EVA Strategies and establish actions for 2023.

6.03 Confirm governance structures and meeting protocols are followed.

6.04 Build on existing representations.

6.05 Establish a finance subcommittee to manage EVA Annual Budget and income.

7.0 Promote specific community projects

7.01 Continue to manage an Emerald Citizen of the Year and Local Group of the Year event.

7.02 The Awards subcommittee to continue to define & determine the annual Awards.

7.03 Ensure reporting back from representatives at the committee meeting. Also see submissions.

EVA has also had its 2022 Awards night and we congratulate the awardees.

EVA has made submissions in 2022 to the Council's 2022/23 Budget, The Emerald Lake Precinct Master Plan, the Council Climate Adaptation Strategy as well as commented on the Puffing Billy Legislation. EVA continues to facilitate various issues of community interest such as the "rabbit problem," Electric Vehicles, and other items of general interest.

Also, against each Action Item, the responsible person or subcommittee is defined, including the timing and ongoing progress is updated every quarter.

Hopefully, these articles have been informative and explain what the EVA does.

Claude Cullino - EVA Committee

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2022



RSL President, Peter Maloney, Vice-President, Kane Falconer and Member for Monbulk, Daniela de Martino.

This year after the service in town, the RSL unveiled the plaques on Anzac Place noting the seven conflicts Australia has been involved in since WW2.

ROTARY CLUB OF EMERALD & DISTRICT

This past month our members have been throwing themselves into activities with other Community groups. On 28 October President Marcus Adams and Youth Service director Tina McInerney attended the Emerald Art Show to present a couple of the awards to some of our local talented artists.

On Sunday 6th November members provided a winning team when we joined with Peter Cook from DRREA - Dandenong Ranges Renewable Energy Association to test a new board game "OnyaWallaby".



Winners are grinners - Rotary grey nomads in their element.

A few days later, along with many of the town's groups and businesses, members attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony to pay our Club's respects.

And the next day Rotary was out in force running the Market at the Emerald Primary School oval. How good was it to see so many stalls and a variety of items for sale! The December/Christmas Market will be held on Saturday 10th December and there will be loads of Christmas items for sale.

Following the Rotary Primary Speech Contest held in August, Tom Ferrier from Macclesfield Primary School and Poppy Sanderson from Selby PS attended the Grand Final on Wednesday 16th November with four of our members at the Manningham Hotel and Club. Rotary had 12 competing from various schools in the region and Tom Ferrier did an excellent job coming 3rd and Poppy gave a wonderful speech. That our youth are so confident and able to express themselves at this early age is a credit to the schools.



That same night President Marcus Adams presented citizenship awards to two amazing year 12 students at the Emerald Secondary College Valedictory evening held at Bunjil Place. Several other members joined Belgrave Rotarians at Ginfinity to enjoy a little tasting and fun!

On Friday 18th November many of our members joined with other guests for a night of Brushstrokes and Bubbles organised by member Kelly

McAllister with the Emerald Art Society - a fabulously entertaining evening.

As we approach Christmas, our Club is again supporting St Marks Emerald and St Luke's Cockatoo by providing hams, supplied by Emerald Village Meats, as part of the Church Hampers; and we will be giving residents at Lifeview Emerald Glades handwritten cards and a small gift.

We take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported our Club's projects this year and wish everyone in our community a safe and wonderful Christmas and of course New Year!!!

As always, you are welcome to join us at either an event or meeting, held every Tuesday 6.45pm for 7pm at The Paradise Hotel to see what we do – Phone 0408 769 491.

Shalini Penny - Publicity

EMERALD U3A

On Tuesday 6th Dec, U3A Emerald's annual Enrolment Day for 2023 classes will be extra special this year! Assisted enrolment at the Hills Hub from 10am to 12:30pm will be accompanied by a Christmas-themed morning tea. At around 11:30am our Musician's Sharing Group will perform some instrumental music and then our Choir will sing two Christmas numbers. The entertainment will finish up with some duets.

COURSES -There are many new Short Courses for 2023 - Autumnal Reflections; The Art of Storytelling; You May be a Poet; Art History; Oddball Artists; Arts and the Battle of Waterloo; Philosophy; The Nature of Reality; Evolving Marvels of the Universe; and Pickleball (at last!)

New Long courses - Bridge; Model Railways; Expand Your Cooking Repertoire; Coffee Club; and an additional Book Club -Wattle (morning) & Eucalypt (afternoon).

That's a lot to look forward to in 2023!

2023 enrolment for everyone is open from 10am on 6th Dec, but you can go online now to see the full schedule and make your (difficult) choices in preparation - u3aemerald.org.au

Heather Bishop - U3A Publicity

EMERALD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION INC. - AGM

Wednesday night saw an interested crowd of Emerald Citizen's attend the Emerald Village Association's Annual General Meeting and listen to Emeritus Professor Michael Buxton from RMIT speak about the task of planning Emerald.

President Dick Bartley thanked the Vice President Peter Maloney, the Secretary Heather Bishop, the Treasurer Michelle Jackson and all the Committee members for their hard work during 2022 and Cr Jeff Springfield then opened nominations for 2023.

The following Committee were duly elected: **President:** Dick Bartley **Vice President:** Peter Maloney **Secretary:** Heather Bishop **Treasurer:** Michelle Jackson

Committee Members: Lynne Huberts, Ray Schmidt, Claude Cullino, George Trojan, Trevor Budge, Shelley Beardshaw, Pat Buoncristiani, Howard Winter.

Professor Buxton then spoke to planning Emerald and his knowledge of the history from his time as a Councillor and Mayor for the Shire of Sherbrooke, as well as current day practices.

He was concerned about three issues: The Emerald Township; The Emerald Lake Park and the Emerald Railway Tourist Board's position. As well as broader planning issues including the lack of progress with the Eastern Dandenong Region's Green Wedge.

A full report from Professor Buxton is contained in this issue.

Emerald, please come along to our 25th of January meeting, 2023 and make your ideas known!

Shelley Beardshaw - EVA Committee

EMERALD MENS SHED

The Emerald Men's Shed continues to promote the benefits of belonging to a group of like-minded men who enjoy working with wood among other materials to improve their wellbeing.

Any man within the region of Emerald and district is invited to join our Club On any of the following days at their discretion:

- Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9am - 4pm
- Thursdays: 12 noon - 4pm
- Saturdays: 9am - 1pm

Consider if you will, the long term benefits of service to the community and the personal satisfaction gained by the projects you will be involved in.

Contact us by email for further information or call in for a visit at the Hills Hub and take a tour of the facilities.

mensshedemerald@gmail.com

Please note there is a She Shed that also operates from our facilities at different times - for women interested in woodworking. Go to: [facebook.com/hillssheshed](https://www.facebook.com/hillssheshed)

Peter Bos - Emerald Men's Shed

CARDINIA COUNCIL NEWS

Hills Hub

Christmas Decorations Workshop - 9 December 2022 - 4-5pm.

Our friends from Emerald Library will be hosting a Christmas decorations workshop at the hub. Come along for an afternoon of craft and help decorate our Christmas trees and

also a decoration to take home. For more information or to book you spot head to Eventbrite and search [MyLi Christmas Decorations Workshop Tickets, Fri 09/12/2022 at 4:00 pm](#)

We have had the pleasure of the EVA's Come Sit by Me project at the hub which sees a sharing of knowledge, skill and connection between Grade 3 Students from Emerald Primary School and volunteers of the program. We've enjoyed seeing the Hills Hub as a hive of activity.

Please be advised, the Hub is closed to the public from Thursday 22nd December and will reopen on Monday 9th January.

Hannah Milne - Shire Community Development Facilitator

COUNCIL DRAFT BUDGET



Council Budget Draft 2023/24

Help shape the Council Budget 2023/24

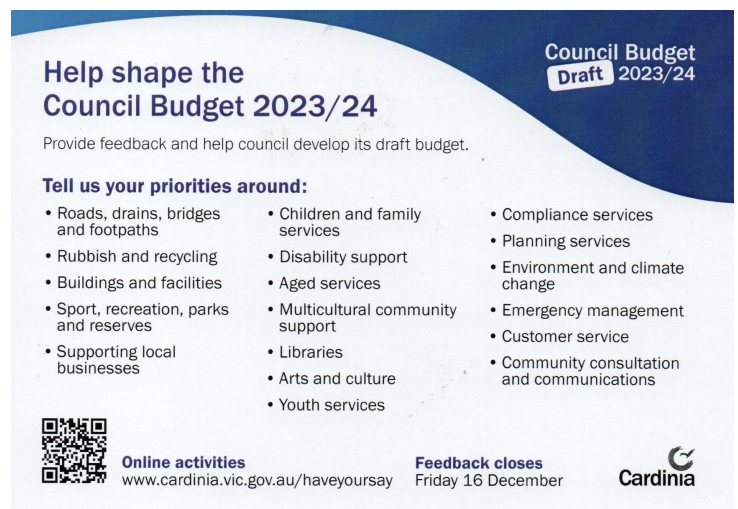
Provide feedback and help council develop its draft budget.

Have your say:

In person activities: See the website for the various events and locations across the shire, or

Online activities: www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay

Feedback closes Friday 16 December




Council Budget Draft 2023/24

Help shape the Council Budget 2023/24

Provide feedback and help council develop its draft budget.


Tell us your priorities around:

- Roads, drains, bridges and footpaths
- Rubbish and recycling
- Buildings and facilities
- Sport, recreation, parks and reserves
- Supporting local businesses
- Children and family services
- Disability support
- Aged services
- Multicultural community support
- Libraries
- Arts and culture
- Youth services
- Compliance services
- Planning services
- Environment and climate change
- Emergency management
- Customer service
- Community consultation and communications



Online activities www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay

Feedback closes Friday 16 December



To **HAVE YOUR SAY** go to - <https://creating.cardinia.vic.gov.au/>

FRIENDS OF EMERALD LAKE PARK

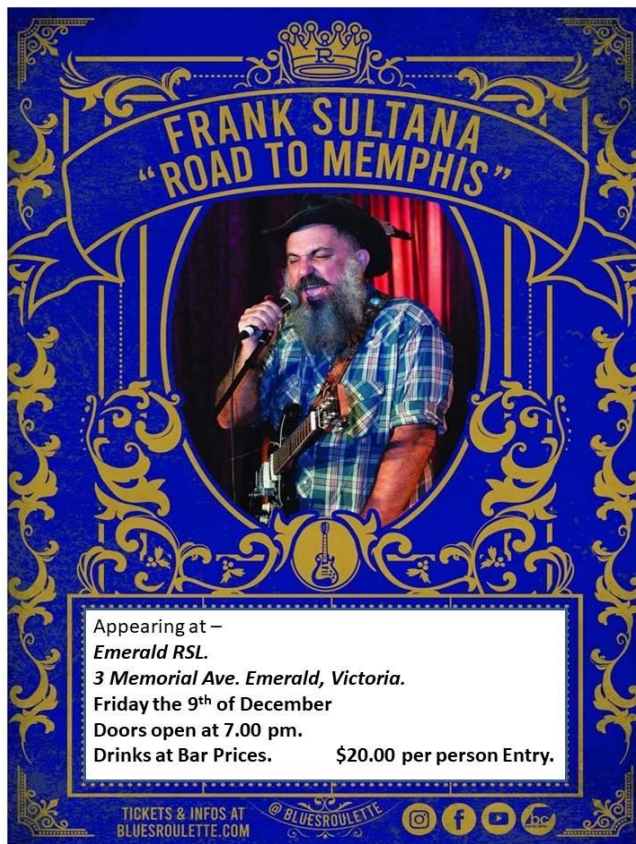
Looking for a volunteer opportunity in 2023? Come to our "Meet and Greet" on Thursday 19th January at 10:30am to enjoy morning tea, meet members and find out more.

Look for the sign near the paddleboats or contact us at friendsofemeraldlakepark@gmail.com

Sheila Hampson - President

ROCKIN AT THE “R”

The Emerald RSL has live music every second week on a Friday night. This Friday 9th December blues legend Frank Sultana takes the stage.



PLANNING EMERALD'S FUTURE

A summary of the recent presentation to the EVA by Michael Buxton, Emeritus Professor Environment and Planning, RMIT University.

Some recent Cardinia council decisions have changed Emerald for the worse. Three examples illustrate the need for vigilance by the Emerald Village Association and residents.

The first is recent retail developments in Emerald. New shops have broken with the 1980s strategy to prevent the two ends of town from linking. Instead, development is occurring along the busy main road creating parking and traffic problems and increasing the danger to people leaving and entering vehicles.

The 1980s council policy of requiring traditional verandas for new retail buildings, and encouraging existing shops to add them, changed the town's appearance for the better with a consistent design. But the recent main road developments have broken this continuity, adding a harshness to the town's appearance. If we care for the town's appearance and effective functioning we need to guard it against these kinds of mistakes.

The second example is the new 'discovery centre' built in Emerald Lake Park. This has dealt a shattering blow to the further potential of the retail centre of Emerald. Destination points for major tourist facilities can benefit greatly from visitor spending. But the Emerald Tourist Railway Board has succeeded in depriving Emerald township of railway driven tourist spending by capturing it for itself through the construction of a café, function centre, retail, and food and beverage centre at the Lake Park. In the process, the council has alienated a large area of a major park. Council aided the Railway Board against the interests of the town, even supporting the Board's request that the State government control the approval process, depriving residents of a proper voice. Emerald now resembles a virtual 'ghost' railway station.

The third example is the rapid intensification of multi-unit residential development in Emerald and the expansion of other townships. Such intensification contradicts the planning put in place at all levels of government from the late 1970s to limit new urban development. A critical impact is increased road use. All traffic is funnelled through Emerald. Traffic banked up almost to Clematis is only a taste of what is to come unless council and the government understand the impacts of more urbanisation.

All this points to the need for Council to revert to the policy of continuity in planning and to plan in the public interest, not for private gain.

Michael Buxton



Trevor Budge (EVA) and Prof. Michael Buxton at EVA AGM

EMERALD ARTS SOCIETY

Emerald Arts Society Annual Art Exhibition Cup weekend at the Hills Hub

We were delighted that deputy Mayor, James Kowazik, agreed to open the exhibition at such short notice and special thanks must go to Cardinia Shire for their continued support of this art show.

It was a great turn out for this year's exhibition which started with a grand Friday night opening and continued through to Tuesday afternoon.

This was an opportunity for artists, young and old, to display their skills in a broad range of mediums. We would like to thank all those artists who participated, and who put so much time and effort into producing their splendid artwork.

Also a big thankyou to all our hardworking volunteers who helped to make this such a special occasion.

We are extremely grateful to all our sponsors far and wide, many of them from within the local community who continue to support us year after year.

Barry Plant
Bendigo Bank
Efficient Air
Emerald Community House
Emerald Custom Framing
Emerald Meats
Emerald Village Association
Falcone & Adams
Mitre 10
Paradise Valley Hotel
Property Partners
Rotary Club of Emerald
Shakespeare Solutions

Congratulations to our major prize winners, Karen Bloomfield (Adult section) 'Buoyant' and best NextGen artist Ava Gardiner with her prize winning photo, 'Where the Sky Touches the Sea' The winner of this year's June Barnett Still Life Prize went to Chris Avard Britton for her work titled, 'Bishop of Landaff Dahlia'.



It Hao Pehh - watercolour winner . Photo courtesy Paull Gallant

Our category winners this year were Darrell Hayes/ Oils, Casey Richardson/ Other Media, It Hao Pehh/ Watercolour & Drawing, Kim Oakes/ Printmaking, John

Dellaert/ Photography, and Jacqueline Christians/ Pastel.

Our NextGen Winners were Lily Cochrane (U20), Poppy Rumoller (U15), Ava Doogan (U10). Special thanks to the Emerald Secondary College and the Primary School for their support.

Congratulations this year go to Barbara Naughton who won this year's raffle prize, a delightful pastel painting kindly donated by Judi Roberts titled 'Poppies'.

Wendy Lindrea - EAS

COCKATOO & DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB

VISITORS WELCOME

Cockatoo and District Bowls Club is currently looking for new members to join our friendly club. Come down and try out our Friday night Barefoot Bowls. Enjoy a social night or make it a competition between friends. Daylight savings hours. Starts at 6pm.

Suitable for all ages, fitness levels and a non-contact sport. Our Members are happy to provide some helpful hints and guidance. Enjoy our facilities, bring your own take away dinner and utilise our bar service for drinks, non alcoholic drinks also available.

Contact us with any enquiries M 0483 842 992
Email - cockatoobowlsclub@outlook.com

EVA NEWSLETTER - AVAILABLE AT WOOLWORTHS, RITCHIES, NEWSAGENCY AND POST OFFICE





1ST EMERALD SCOUT GROUP

21 Kilvington Dr, Emerald

CHRISTMAS TREE SALES

December weekends
9am - 1pm

3rd/4th
10th/11th
17th/18th



ST MARKS CHRISTMAS EVENTS CALENDAR



AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUN 27TH NOV
ADVENT BEGINS

FRI 16TH DEC
EMERALD CAROLS AT EMERALD LAKE PARK

SUN 18TH DEC
FAMILY CHRISTMAS SERVICE 9:30 AM
FOLLOWED BY FAMILY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

THUR 22ND DEC
BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE 7:30PM

SAT 24TH CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 7:30PM

SUN 25TH CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE 9:30AM

ALL SERVICES TAKE PLACE IN THE CHURCH BUILDING
1 CHURCH ST EMERALD

FLYERS WITH MORE INFORMATION ARE
AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH FOYER
OR GO TO

STMARKSEMERALD.ORG.AU



CAROLS BY THE LAKE

Our Emerald Carols event is back on site this year! This is a community focused event for the whole family. Carols will be led by the talented Cardinia Civic Concert Band, and there will be entertainment from other amazing local artists. Join us from 6pm for the community picnic, with the carols starting at 8pm. More information at: www.emeraldcarols.com



Emerald Carols
BY THE LAKE
DEC 16TH

EMERALDCAROLS.COM

brought to you by   

Vivianne Diaz - St Marks

EMERALD LADIES PROBUS CLUB

During November members of Emerald Ladies Probus enjoyed outings to Coombe Cottage in the Yarra Valley and also the fabulous Time exhibition by Rone in the Old Ballroom at Flinders Street Station.

We're now winding up our activities for the year but looking forward to our final activity which is our Christmas lunch. Emerald Ladies Probus would like to thank local Emerald businesses for their very generous donations and support of our celebrations.



We don't hold a meeting in December so our next meeting will be on Monday 16th January. If you're a retired, or semi-retired, lady looking for a social outlet, why not come along to one of our meetings and consider joining our non-fundraising club? We meet at Emerald RSL on the third Monday of each month (except December) at 10am.

Enquiries: Linda McIvor Email ladiespce123@gmail.com

EASTERN DANDENONG RANGES ASSOCIATION

Festive artworks activate our main streets

Our Village's main streets are vital for community well-being, prosperity, and employment.

To attract & remind the local community of this, the Eastern Dandenong Ranges Association (EDRA) has engaged local artists to create festive-themed pavement chalk artworks that capture & reflect the qualities of the hills and why they're special.

Nine artworks have been commissioned, six in Emerald, one in Cockatoo & two in Gembrook making for a festive art trail for families to experience & enjoy leading up to Christmas and over the holiday season.

Lynne Trensky from EDRA said small local businesses form an invaluable network in our local communities. The artworks will be promoted as a trail and will enliven the pedestrian experience as well as create a sense of pride & belonging for the neighbourhood. For more information visit: easterndandenongranges.com.au

Lynne Trensky - EDRA

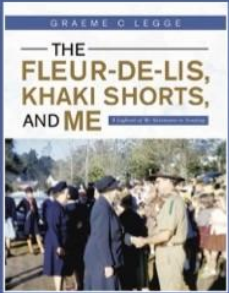


GRAEME LEGGE - AWARD WINNER

Our inimitable and senior local resident, Graeme Legge has continued to distinguish himself and now has achieved overseas honours for his new book.

Graeme Legge's book "THE FLEUR-DE-LIS, KHAKI SHORTS, AND ME - A Logbook of My Adventures in Scouting" has been recognised in the American Writing Awards. Congratulations to him on becoming a 2022 American Writing Awards Finalist!

Graeme is qualified to employ the beautiful seal for 2022 American Writing Awards Finalists.



THE FLEUR-DE-LIS, KHAKI SHORTS, AND ME
A Logbook of My Adventures in Scouting
GRAEME C LEGGE

When Graeme joined Scouts aged twelve, who knew it would lead to a commitment beyond forty years? Challenges and adventures within Victoria, interstate and international sites led to an enthralling life.

Hard to imagine how many have been uplifted and encouraged by Graeme in his variety of roles. He's certainly made a highly valued contribution to the well-being of others around him and has a real gift of being able to enrich young lives, serve the community and support two emergency services.

The inspirational memoir "The Fleur-de-Lis, Khaki Shorts and Me" contains narrative and anecdote with spiritual overtones. It has been excellently written, appropriately illustrated and is about real life that was inspired only to reach its zenith in community service.

Graeme 'Promised'; he meant it and lived it throughout all stages of his life. His eminent achievements and exceptional service to Scouts Australia and elsewhere makes outstanding reading.

Available at the Emerald Village Newsagency

COME SIT BY ME - AN EVA PROJECT

EVA's Shelley Beardshaw brought lots of joy to young and old these past four weeks, with the Come Sit by Me program that ended on 1st December.

It took 26 mostly Senior Volunteers, 66 children and 4 Emerald Primary School staff to make this happen - thank you for the joy.



Students under the guidance of Alan Bennett, Men's Shed President.

There were little hands finding their way around a set of knitting needles for the first time; working their magic in weaving wool; making magical creations by Origami; playing Mousetrap, Draughts and an ancient Dutch

shuffle-board game. Table tennis made them run; Choir made them sing; and the budding chefs also broke into song whilst cooking up some treats! The Men's Shed seniors taught their students some handy skills for looking after their bikes.



Meryl Thompson taught the students weaving group



Darina Seal, choir leader with student and Heather Hamilton on Ukulele

Heather Bishop - EVA Secretary

EMERALD AND DISTRICT CO-OP

The Co-Op recently held its 75th AGM at the Emerald RSL. Chairman, Ray Spencer, and CEO, Len O'Donnell reported to the meeting on the operations of the Co-Op in a successful but very difficult business environment.

A new board member was elected - Robert Herring of Macclesfield - a local of 35 years.

The Board or Directors consists of 5:

Ray Spencer: - Chairman

Members: - Peter Maloney, Christine Weller, Ric Holland and Robert Herring.

The Co-Op encourages all Emerald residents to join and receive the benefits of discounted prices. Pays for the membership fee very quickly.

PHOTO GALLERY - OUT AND ABOUT IN EMERALD



PREMIERS ❤️🖤 Congratulations Emerald netball team 15/2 THUNDER !!!



2017 - Emerald in action with the Governor at the Senior Cits awards at Government House.



Two of our very distinguished citizens - born and bred in Emerald - Chris Britton and Graeme Legge. Catching up for a chat at the recent Rotary Market at the EPS.



Anzac Place with new plaques of conflicts after WW2



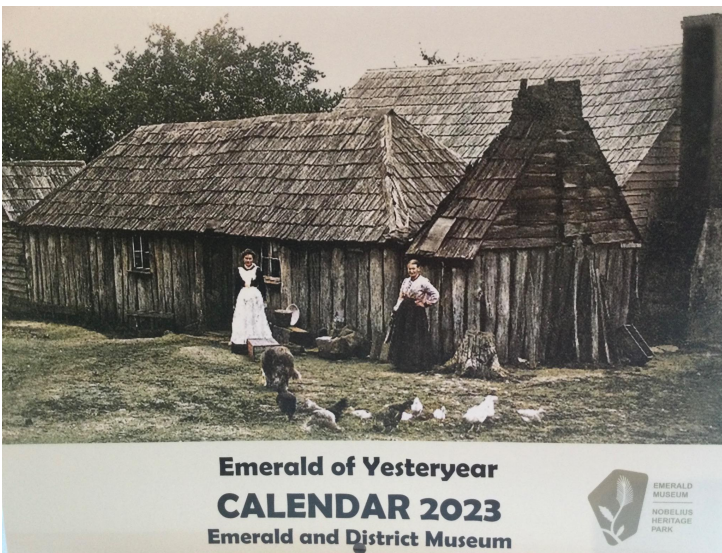
CARDINIA SHIRE COUNCIL

The EVA acknowledges the financial support of the Cardinia Shire Council in making the publication of this Newsletter possible.



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Available from the Emerald Museum or the Emerald Village Newsagency

[READ THIS NEWSLETTER ON OUR WEBSITE EMERALDVILLAGENEWS.COM.AU](http://EMERALDVILLAGENEWS.COM.AU)