

## Emerald - our home, our oasis - green, clean and safe

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Recently EVA Inc. met with the CEO of Cardinia Carol Jeffs to renew our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The EVA's main objective is to be the voice (not the only one!) of Emerald. We strive to represent the best interests of our Village and surrounding area.

We sought a commitment from the Shire that the EVA be informed and consulted on matters of public interest, current and proposed developments, and issues in the Emerald Village and surrounds.

During the last few months we have been increasing our EVA membership (now over 100) so that a more representative community view can be achieved. Our goal is to have representatives from all the organisations in the area. Lately we have -

- Held a public meeting on Climate Change Policy in Cardinia
- Met with James Merlino to support EVER's bid to build a skateboard park in Emerald. (With success! See article below.)
- Submitted a response to the Shire's draft budget.
- Met with other Hills township committees to explore ways we can help each other.

Currently the EVA is renewing its Business Plan and one of our objectives is to maintain the character of the town. What is your view? Please email me your ideas.

### VISITORS VIEWS OF EMERALD

A few weeks 40 members of the Tally Ho Fitness group met at the Worrell Reserve for a run, and in some cases a walk through Emerald township, around the ANZAC Walk, down to the lake and some ran along the Eastern Dandenong's Trail to Cockatoo and back followed by breakfast in one of the Cafes. Participants, who mostly live in Glen Waverley, were very surprised that the town had such an impressive Anzac Memorial. They also remarked about the beautiful Village surroundings including Pepi's Land, the Lake and the Trail. Conclusion was Emerald is a great place to live.

**Dick Bartley - President EVA Inc.**

### ANZAC DAY

Anzac Day services and the march were a great success with over 4000 people participating. The feedback the Club received was that it was a remarkable day that the RSL should be proud of.

The Dawn Service had many highlights with the theme being to honour those Australians who had served in Afghanistan. Puffing Billy saluted and the kookaburras joined in. Suzanne Frisk sang amazing national anthems for NZ and Australia.

Over 1000 people marched to Anzac Place for the morning service. The recently resurrected Anzac Bell outside St Mark's welcomed the marchers to the service.

A highlight of the day was the awarding to Club Vice-President, Affiliate, Matthew Cocks, with an RSL Club Life Membership for his dedication to Anzac Day services over the past 17 years.



**A lone young visitor to Anzac Place after Emerald had laid wreaths and poppies. Lest We Forget.**

**Peter Maloney - President, Emerald RSL**

## EMERALD LADIES PROBUS CLUB

A Probus club is a great place to meet new people if you're retired or semi-retired. It's the perfect place to develop new friendships and enable social interaction with other like-minded people.

Emerald Ladies Probus is inviting all retired or semi-retired ladies to join our club. Interesting guest speakers and the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities and outings are on offer each month. Our club is non-fundraising and purely a social outlet to stay active in our local community.

Our next meeting is on Monday 16 May when our guest speaker will be Carolyn Pethick. Carolyn was due to speak to our club on several occasions last year but Covid restrictions prevented this from happening. Carolyn will talk about her experiences over 30 years of service with Victoria Police and her book 'To Hell and Back – a Policewoman's Story'.

We welcome you to come along as a visitor to meet our members, listen to our guest speaker and consider joining our club. Meetings are held at the Emerald RSL on the third Monday of each month (except December) at 10am.

**Linda McIvor**

Enquiries: [ladiespce123@gmail.com](mailto:ladiespce123@gmail.com)

## ROTARY CLUB OF EMERALD & DISTRICT

Our club is renowned for supporting all parts of our diverse community and the variety of events and initiatives we supported over the last month is no exception.

As one of the most important dates on the events calendar, our members attended both Anzac Day services, and placed a wreath as a mark of respect.

In a joint initiative with Emerald Primary School, we were thrilled to present the elderly residents of Emerald Glades with Easter eggs supplied in baskets hand-made and decorated by the students. We also ran an Easter raffle. Congratulations to the winners! First prize, a child's bike, went to Marilyn Huber; second prize, a pamper pack, went to Alayne Goodwin; and third prize, an Easter eggs pack, went to Sally Dawe.

Recently we supported Rescue Logs Inc. by lending three marquees for the Kalorama Chestnut Festival. All funds raised from the festival will go towards Mt Dandenong Preschool, destroyed by the June 2021 storm. We previously provided funds to the preschool to replace the chestnut roasters, which are needed for the festival to run.

For those wondering about the status of our annual All American Car Show and Man Cave Ally event, unfortunately the event won't run this year due to COVID lockdowns and the required lead time needed to organise an event of this size and scale. However, we're hopeful of running this signature event again in 2023.

In the meantime, don't miss our monthly Emerald Rotary Market with loads of crafts, produce, collectables and treasures on offer. The next market is on Saturday 14 May from 8am-1pm at Emerald Primary School oval on Heroes Ave.



Winner of Emerald & District Rotary's Easter raffle Marilyn Huber (right) is all smiles after receiving her first prize from President Shalini Penny.

**Ros Weadman - Publicity**



## EVA - REPORT

### Adapting to Climate Change in Emerald

At our April meeting, Aruna Dias, Environment Officer, Cardinia Council was introduced to an interested audience by our Mayor and local representative, Cr Jeff Springfield. Aruna introduced the recently released Cardinia Climate Change Adaption Strategy and thanked the EVA for its response and offer of project participation. The Strategy and Action Plan was written in response to the Cardinia Council Climate Emergency Declaration in 2019. A group of South-Eastern Councils are supporting each other in this area.

Aruna detailed a ten year strategy, based on the identification of 7 major risks including loss of life, increased use of Council properties, reduced air quality, family violence, decline of biodiversity and contamination of water resources. Forty eight actions are detailed in the action Plan and the Shire is looking for Community and Council reactions and improvement suggestions. Some of the questions asked by the Emerald Community on the night included:

- Is the Council working with other Agencies such as the CFA and Yarra valley Water?
- Are better housing and building standards being sought?
- Recent storms exposed Communication and power difficulties-what action needs to take place?
- How is education of the Community (eg. heat issues and energy usage) and communication going to happen?
- Could the Council introduce electric vehicles?

Mr Dias has kindly supplied the following information for the community for those interested (view the newsletter via our [website](#) for clickable links).

- Cardinia Shire Household Energy Efficiency Handbook
  - [https://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/info/20018/parks\\_and\\_environment/803/increase\\_your\\_household\\_energy\\_efficiency](https://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/info/20018/parks_and_environment/803/increase_your_household_energy_efficiency)
- Battery Rebate schemes
  - <https://www.solar.vic.gov.au/solar-battery-rebate>
  - <https://www.solar.vic.gov.au/virtual-power-plant-pilot>
  - <https://arena.gov.au/funding/large-scale-battery-storage-funding-round/> (current round closed end March 22. See application streams/requirements to prepare/plan for future funding submissions as there is a probability for future rounds)
- Down to earth newsletter subscription page
  - <https://confirmsubscription.com/h/t/190212915C7B71FC>
- Energy comparison website
  - [https://greenelectricityguide.org.au/\(green energy guide\)](https://greenelectricityguide.org.au/(green%20energy%20guide))
  - <https://compare.energy.vic.gov.au/> (\$\$ cost comparison)

To see the Cardinia Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan go to:  
[https://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/news/article/842/our\\_climate\\_our\\_future\\_%E2%80%93\\_have\\_your\\_say](https://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/news/article/842/our_climate_our_future_%E2%80%93_have_your_say)

**Shelley Beardshaw - EVA**

## EMERALD U3A

We are well into Autumn as the recent cool change serves to remind us. There have been days perfect for our outdoor courses however, as these pictures from the Gardening Group and Exploring Victoria 1 show!



The community and U3A Musical Morning Tea at the Hub was very enjoyable and well patronised, so similar events will be arranged on a more regular basis in the future!

The Pickleball callout last month has resulted in enough interest to go ahead with preparation for this new activity later in the year. Watch this space!

**Heather Bishop - U3A Publicity**



## WHERE AM I?



If you can identify this photo contact Dick Bartley and win a gift voucher to The Laughing Fox. Last month's answer. The Lone Pine on Anzac Place supplied by Peter Maloney, President Emerald RSL.

Contact: Dick Bartley - [dickbartley08@gmail.com](mailto:dickbartley08@gmail.com)

## MUSIC AT THE EMERALD RSL

The Emerald RSL will now have music at the Club on a Friday night every second week - Blues, Country and old Rock.

Blues night - Friday 13th May 7pm - Paul Slattery

Rock & Roll 50's and 60's - Friday 27th May 7pm - The Vincents.

## EMERALD VILLAGE EXERCISE & RECREATION



James Merlino with Dick Bartley, Vanessa Kewish and local young residents.

## Great News for Emerald - new Skateboard Park.

Local MP, James Merlino, visited Emerald during the week and promised \$1 million to build a skateboard park at Worrell Reserve.

*"I recently met with a terrific group of Emerald young people who shared with me their vision for a skate park in Emerald.*

*Fast forward to today - I was delighted to join Harriet Shing MP today to share the news that the Andrews Labor Government has secured \$1 million for a brand new skate park!*

*The skatepark will replace the old asphalt netball courts with a new multi-use recreation space – delivering a dedicated, safe space for local skateboarders and scooter riders.*

*A huge thank you to Vanessa from EVER- Emerald Village Exercise & Recreation, the Emerald Village Association and students at Macclesfield Primary, Emerald Primary and Emerald Secondary College for their tireless advocacy - you are all community superstars!"*

*James Merlino*

A big shout out - **WELL DONE** - to Vanessa Kewish and the EVER team, for making this happen.

## VICTORIAN MP'S TO VISIT EMERALD

Deputy Premier, James Merlino, and Shaun Leane, Minister for Veterans, will be visiting Emerald soon to officially open the **Emerald Library Upgrade**.

While in Emerald they will also visit the Emerald RSL. The Club recently was advised that the Victorian Government has given a grant of \$50,000 for the Club to seal their car park. This will assist greatly in enabling their Welfare Office to operate efficiently.

## EMERALD MENS SHED

The Mens Shed recently completed a second playground project for the Menzies Creek Primary School after recently supplying Emerald Primary School with garden furniture.

They are currently building 9 Bench Seats and a picnic table for the Macclesfield Primary School and are also involved with building Display A frames for the Cockatoo Primary School, plus other projects for the Hills Hub.

So all the support you give to the Mens Shed results in us being able to support the local community.

Well done Members of the Shed.

**Tom Connolly - Men's Shed Committee**

## HILLS HUB - FLAMENCO WORKSHOPS

### Introduction to Spanish dance/Flamenco workshops.

These workshops will be run over 3 Saturday afternoons; the 11th, 18th and 25th June from 2-4pm at the Emerald Hub arts/performance space.

Whilst it is not essential to do all 3 workshops, it is highly desirable as the third session will be a culmination of all 3 workshops that will result in a short dance with live guitarist accompaniment. Workshops will be a basic introduction to 3 parts of this complex Spanish art form; the rhythm (el compas), the clapping (las palmas) and of course the dance (el baile).

You will need a full skirt, a leotard or leotard type top and shoes with a Cuban or chunky type heel (no stilettos please!).

Dates: Saturday 18th and 25th June and July 2nd 2022, 2-4pm

Cost \$60 per workshop (\$180 for all 3). Early bird special \$150 for the course if booking made before May 15.

No experience or dance background required. Just a good dose of curiosity, a desire for movement and some passion in your life will be enough to get you started! Opportunity for classes on a continuing basis, either group or private will be offered upon completion of the workshops.

For enquiries and registration email:

[catherinefalconer@hotmail.com](mailto:catherinefalconer@hotmail.com)

## ST MARK'S CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

St Marks always comes up with great ideas for the kids in our community. They have been doing this for many years.

st.mark's emerald Family Life

**powerhouse kids**

**Term 2 2022**  
May 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, June 7th

**Tuesdays 3:45-6pm**  
ST MARK'S CHURCH  
\$6 PER SESSION / \$30 PER TERM

Register or find out more at:  
[www.stmarksemerald.org.au/powerhouse-kids](http://www.stmarksemerald.org.au/powerhouse-kids)

st.mark's emerald Family Life

**5/6 @ STM**

TERM 3 2022  
MAY 5TH, 12TH, 19TH, 26TH  
JUNE 2ND, 9TH  
\$2 PER WEEK

THURSDAYS 4-5:30PM  
ST MARK'S CHURCH  
EMERALD

STMARKSEMERALD.ORG.AU/KIDS/5-6

A PROGRAM DESIGNED FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN GRADES 5-6 WHICH AIMS TO DEVELOP VALUES THROUGH EXPLORING THE BIBLE, SOCIAL SKILLS AND HAVING LOADS OF FUN THROUGH GAMES & ACTIVITIES

## EVENTS IN EMERALD - HILLS HUB

www.storyart.com

Story Art EXHIBITION

**THE STORIES**

ON SHOW APRIL 20 - MAY 13  
AT EMERALD HILLS HUB

Karen Alsop is an international award winning local photographic digital artist.

Head up the hill to the Hub between 10am and 1pm Mondays to Fridays until Friday 20 May to see how Karen weaves whimsical tales inspired by classic fairytales and faway places into her work.

## PUFFING BILLY RAILWAY NEWS

Take a deep stretch and recharge your mind and body in the heart of the Dandenong Ranges with Puffing Billy Railway's all-new Yoga & Pilates classes at the Lakeside Visitor Centre.

On Saturdays beginning May 14, join a passionate and dedicated team of instructors from Emerald Pilates as they guide you through a 50-minute mat-based Pilates or yoga class that engages you



to unlock your happiest, healthiest self. Whether it's finding some stillness on the mat with a restorative yoga flow or building core strength and stability, their Yoga and Pilates classes are suitable for all fitness levels.

Participants can even pair it up with a post-workout breakfast curated by the Lakeside Visitor Centre Head Chef, offering only the freshest seasonal produce from the Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges region. There's no better way to restore the mind and refuel the body before enjoying the rest of your weekend in the hills!

To find out more, or to book your spot visit <http://www.puffingbilly.com.au/lakeside.../yoga-and-pilates/>.

## EMERALD TENNIS CLUB

Emerald Tennis Club has seen an increase in membership in 2022 and many more enquiries regarding coaching. Our membership currently sits around 120, while numbers involved in coaching under club coach Ian Paterson, are very healthy. Six junior teams competed in the recently completed 2021-22 summer season.

Three teams played in the Grand Final in early April. A fantastic result with the Open Rubbers 6 winning on the day, while Open Rubbers 4 and JDC3 were runners-up.

There are 7 junior teams entered for 2022 winter season which commenced on Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Six teams are entered to play on Saturday mornings and an Open Rubbers team to play on Sundays. We welcome 7 new juniors to the club and playing competition for the first time. Social tennis is thriving, held from 9-11am each Thursday (men's), mixed social tennis on Friday and Sunday and all sessions are well attended. Social tennis is for all members who wish to attend and non-members are also welcome to participate at a cost of \$4 per session - and a gold coin donation on Sunday for the purchase of new balls for that session. We have midweek ladies teams who play competition on Wednesday and Thursdays in the Ferntree Gully Midweek Ladies Association and ladies' and men's teams playing in the Knox District Night Tennis Association.

Each fortnight we welcome Reclink to the courts and facilities to enable the delivery of their recreational program for the Smart Support Group who promote and encourage physical activity as a means of improving the well-being of members of the community.

Tennis has great benefits physically, mentally and emotionally and is an excellent sport for families to play together. Tennis is a life sport, a sport you can start

playing at a very young age and continue to play in your 60's, 70's and 80's, a sport that caters for all-abilities and all age groups.

Emerald Tennis Club welcomes all enquiries, participation and new members. Membership packages and contact details available at:

<https://play.tennis.com.au/emeraldTennisClub>

Membership enquiries:

[membership@emeraldtennisclubvic.org.au](mailto:membership@emeraldtennisclubvic.org.au)

Coaching enquiries to Ian Paterson, Intense Tennis on 0417 516 854



Three keen junior members of the Emerald Tennis Club.

**Ros Trojan - Emerald Tennis Club**

## FRIENDS OF EMERALD LAKE PARK

Over the last two years Friends of Emerald Lake Park have been fortunate to have secured grants to remove woody weeds from the western forest of Emerald Lake Park. Now this work has been completed it is time for re-vegetation with indigenous plants grown from locally collected seed. The community is invited to assist in the planting on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May. Time: 9am-11am. Meet at Lakeside car park and follow the signs. BYO Gloves.

**Further information; Sheila Hampson - 59684603**



### THE HUB - IN ACTION



Taking a rest - U3A members



U3A table tennis in progress



The Duggan and Sheehan families enjoy the Toy Library group - Tinies Time.

### COMMUNITY NOTICES

**EMERALD HANG OUT**

Come and join in the fun with various activities each week!

**Where:** Hills Hub, 402 Belgrave-Gembrook Road, Emerald  
**When:** Tuesdays at 3.30-5pm  
**From** 10 May to 14 June 2022  
**Age:** 12-17 yrs  
**Cost:** Free

If transport is a barrier to residence of Emerald, Gembrook and Cockatoo to participating in this program contact youth services

For more information call 1800 496 884 or email [myplace@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:myplace@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

Cardinia **YOUTH SERVICES**

**BELL REAL ESTATE**

**HILLS UKULELE FESTIVAL**  
 14-15 May  
**2022**

[WWW.UKULELEFESTIVAL.COM.AU](http://WWW.UKULELEFESTIVAL.COM.AU)  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HILLSUKULEFEST](https://www.facebook.com/hillsukulefest)  
[WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/HILLSUKULEFEST](https://www.instagram.com/hillsukulefest)

CONCERTS 4 STAGES  
 WORKSHOPS MARKET STALLS  
 BARISTA COFFEE WINE BAR  
 FOOD ON SITE RAFFLE  
 OPEN MICs

1880 Ukulele Co. **MAHALO**  
**hansmusic**  
 CROYDON SINCE 1973



**EMERALD RSL PRESENTS -**

# The Vincents

*50's & 60's Rock & Roll*

- **Where** - Emerald RSL, 3 Memorial Ave. Emerald.
- **When** - Friday Night - the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2022
- **What Times** - 7.30 pm till 10.30 pm.
- Doors open at 7.00 pm.
- Mobile Contact - Tracey -0411 675 513
- **Admission** - \$20.00 per person.
- Drinks available at bar prices.



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**MITRE 10**

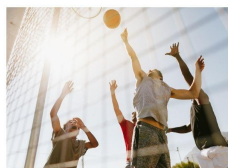
## ECHO YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

Latest news below re. courses available from Echo. Contact Nicole Lane for more information:

[nicole.lane@echo.org.au](mailto:nicole.lane@echo.org.au)



**Creative Leadership Opportunity**



- Develop life and leadership skills
- Attend weekly peer meetings
- Create & lead a youth community event
- Recruitment starting Term 2, 2022
- Open to high school students 12-19 years

This is a drug and alcohol free program.



Scan to apply  
[www.echo.org.au/youth](http://www.echo.org.au/youth)

Contact Cherylee or Michael  
[youth@echo.org.au](mailto:youth@echo.org.au)  
03 5968 4460



This program is supported by the Victorian Government.

## EMERALD ARTS SOCIETY

John Dudley Portrait Prize. \$1000 first prize.  
Entries close 2nd July 2022

Download entry form at:

[emeraldartsociety.com.au](http://emeraldartsociety.com.au)

## WHEN THE GRID GOES DOWN - seminar

Whether it be a storm, bushfire, a falling tree, or even flood it is highly likely that in an emergency situation in our region the Grid Power will go off. The aim of this seminar is to examine and discuss strategies for you to maintain a level of functionality and critical communications in your home, during what may be a few hours a few days or even weeks of no mains power.

**Date: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July @ 7.30-9.00 pm**

Venue: Emerald Hills Hub 402 Belgrave – Gembrook Road Emerald

**Presentations and Q&A will be followed by discussion and refreshments.**

Presenters:

Ian Conibeer, a long time member of DRREA and technician with many years experience in the renewables industry

Ewen Williams, MTCO Electrical Monbulk, an electrician with broad experience in solar and off grid systems

Russell Marnock, Electronics Engineer retired and treasurer of DRREA

RSVP email to [info@drrea.org.au](mailto:info@drrea.org.au) by 4/7/22

## CARDINIA SHIRE COUNCIL

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



**The EVA also acknowledges the support of two local businesses - the Emerald Village Newsagency and the Emerald and District Co-Operative Society.**

## FEEDBACK

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