

Emerald Village Association Inc.

Reg. No. A01047531

NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2020

The objective of the EVA is to issue a Newsletter - normally after monthly EVA meetings. Copies will be distributed to members, put on our Facebook page, our website, the EVA noticeboard and various outlets around our township. Our aim is to keep residents informed of current developments in Emerald - and encourage all to get involved by attending the EVA meetings.

EVA MEETINGS

The EVA will hold its next community meeting at the Hills Hub on 28th July at 7.30pm subject to CV regulations at the time.

PEN PAL PROJECT

Cardinia Shire is encouraging communities to initiate projects to assist its residents during the Corona Virus pandemic. The EVA, together with Ellen Prior of the Hills Hub and the Emerald Primary School have applied for a Cardinia grant to set up a Pen Pal Project whereby students will commence a 6 month program of corresponding via writing of letters to the elderly citizens of Emerald.

PETER CRAWFORD OAM

A lifetime of dedication to St Marks Anglican Church has resulted in Peter being awarded an Order of Australia medal in the Queen's Birthday honours list. Congratulations Peter.

HILLS HUB UPDATE

Ellen Prior reports:-

It was wonderful to be able to welcome several community groups back to the Hills Hub to resume modified service delivery from 1 June in line with the government's COVID-19 restrictions,. U3A are delivering some classes face to face, while others remain online and some are offered via blended delivery mode. The Emerald Men's Shed and Hills She Shed have resumed sessions in the workshop with restricted numbers to support physical distancing.

The Hills Hub remains closed to the general public, to drop in, at this time, as the community lounge areas and tea stations are closed. However, if folk would like a tour of the Hub they can register their interest by emailing hillshub@cardinia.vic.gov.au.

Enquiries for room hire are currently being accepted. Refer to the Cardinia website.

ECHO

Echo Youth and Family Services is continuing to provide food packages to anyone in need across the Hills community through the Food Store in Cockatoo. Just call St Lukes on 5968 8459 and leave a message. A pick up will then be arranged when St Lukes opens each Monday.

ECHO also provide interest free loans to people on low incomes through the NILS program. Call 0427 895 596. Also refer website - echo.org.au/crisis-support.

CARDINIA COUNCIL REPORT

Pepis Dam

A leak was discovered in the dam in August 2019. Requiring reconstruction works after assessing damage by the wombat population. They have now been completed and extensive flora and fauna repair work is now underway. The area will re-open in October 2020.

Emerald Junior Netball Club

The new pavilion is expected to be completed by October 2020. The courts have been resurfaced and expect to be re-opened next week

Worrell Reserve

Stage 2 works to upgrade oval lighting, ball nets and the coaches boxes have been completed. The car park is under review and the masterplan is in the process of being endorsed; more information will be forthcoming soon.

Trail Signage

All signage has been completed on the Emerald section of the multipurpose trail.

Road Sealing

The list of 58 Emerald roads to be sealed has been published on the Cardinia website. It is noted that Madigan Way is included on this list. Interesting!!!

New Council Ward Map

The Victorian Government has decided to alter the Council wards and the number of Councillors in each ward. Refer local.government.vic.gov.au. or go to the EVA Facebook page for the latest post.

CARDINIA AND COVID19

Cardinia has established an emergency team to manage their way through the current pandemic.

A Covid Online Help Hub has developed to assist residents:-

cardinia.vic.gov.au/onlinehelphub

Community Connection Grants are available to local organisations to help increase social connection, reduce isolation and promote community health. Refer Cardinia website - grants of \$2000 are available.

Business and Community Support Packages of up to \$5000 are being offered to help community members and communities survive the impact of the Covid 19 crisis. Again please refer to the Cardinia website for details.

U3A

President Pat Buoncristiani reports:-

U3A has been continuing on undaunted through the lockdown period. We have run a lot of classes using Zoom.

Our creative writers have been exchanging writing by email, our line dancing tutor has sent out new dances each week so members can rope their spouses in to dance with them, the wine tasters meet regularly on Zoom.

Our gardening group has been growing seedlings to deliver to the Mallacoota U3A when they are ready to rebuild their bushfire stricken gardens again. Now we are now slowly moving back to the Hub as the restrictions ease.

Small groups are starting up using a hybrid model where those who are ready to re-enter the world are meeting face to face and others can still join in via Zoom.

Cardinia and our Hub Place Maker have a set of protocols and limits on numbers for each space and we are operating within those parameters. Large groups such as line dancing and table tennis await further easing of restrictions before they can resume in the Hub.

We normally produce a Newsletter every quarter but decided to put together a special "Tucked Up Safe" newsletter - "lockdown" seems such an unfriendly word. We had a wealth of contributions.

I phoned the members without internet connection several times and it seemed to me they were all spending most of their time in their gardens. I am predicting some amazing sights in spring.

ECH ONLINE MARKET

Our Community House are proving their resilience in this Covid19 experience. They have initiated an online marketplace where we can visit their website to arrange purchases from market suppliers most of whom would normally be seen at the live monthly market. Refer to their current Messenger magazine for a list of providers or go to their website - echvic.org.au.

COCKATOO NEWSLETTER

Great to see the new "3781 News" hit the streets. Excellent production by Dot Griffin and Brett Barker.

Here are a few snippets:-

- New boom gates installed in McBride street
 - Home deliveries by IGA Cockatoo for elderly and needy
 - Free food cupboard at Cockatoo Community House
 - Cockatoo Country Market is now online. Refer their Facebook page
 - St Lukes services on line on Youtube
- The newsletter can be read in detail on their Facebook page.

EMERALD MEN'S SHED

The Men's Shed is back in business. Also the She Shed. Member participation is limited in number at the moment through a booking system. Now located at the Hills Hub. Refer Tom Connolly - 0412 814 340.

EMERALD RSL

The Emerald RSL expects to be re-opening for business in July in line with the opening of public bars and TABs as directed by the State Government.

EMERALD SCOUT GROUP

The Scouts are now returning to normal activities at the Scout hall in Kilvington Drive.

The ESC provides adult supported programs for youths between ages 5 and 26 across 5 units - Joeys, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers. The next program will soon be available on their website - emeraldscouts.org.au
Contact Jeff Latter - jeff@treedenvirons.com.au

FERNLEA

Fernlea House Shop of Opportunities
OPEN FOR BUSINESS. Excellent news.