

# Emerald Village Association Inc.

Reg. No. A01047531

## NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2020

**Vision Statement: - The EVA Inc. will work with local community groups and the Shire to make our town, Emerald, a desirable place to live, and to maintain and develop community facilities which enhance the liveability for residents.**

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

During Covid-19 we have not had EVA public meetings; however the Committee has been active behind the scenes:

- We are meeting online with Zoom continuing to act in the interest of residents
- Preparing for the AGM to elect a new committee
- We have a rep on the Hills Hub Operations committee
- Planning an EVA community meeting bi-monthly with the EVA C'tee meeting in between months
- We ask Emerald residents to "stay safe"- Dick Bartley

### 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 has set up this project. 80 senior residents have signed up to start writing letters to 80 Grade 5 students. Will commence early August.

### HILLS HUB UPDATE

The Hills Hub is closed for the duration of the current round of lockdown rules announced by the Victorian Government.

There is a pop-up Covid-19 screening station situated inside the Hub. Residents who are displaying symptoms of Covid-19 are asked to contact the managers, EACH on 1300 219 449 to make an appointment and then to socially isolate awaiting results.

### CFA

Local 100% volunteer Brigades in the Hills will continue as independent fire fighting units but with management drawn from the new Fire Rescue Victoria staff - one can only wonder how that could work!!

We have had a relatively quiet time in winter and Covid has meant no outdoor training - Bruce Ratcliff (CFA Clematis)

### NETBALL FACILITY

Pavilion change room facility for the new netball courts currently under construction providing home and away change/shower facilities, kitchen kiosk, and external amenities. Due for completion - December 2020 subject to Beaconsfield Road roadworks being completed.

### LOCAL ELECTIONS

OCTOBER 2020 - New boundaries in 9 wards across Cardinia. Only one councillor per ward. The map of the new wards can be viewed on the EVA Facebook page.

### WORRELL RESERVE PLAN

**Plan approved by Council - some highlights:**

- Stage 2 approved including high ball nets, coaches boxes and full lighting upgrade.
- Public toilets outside the Hills Hub to be demolished and replaced with single unisex toilet.
- Tennis courts future plan upgrade and redeveloped; paths between courts to be upgraded; some court lights to be upgraded and water supply to courts to be reviewed.
- Car park to be upgraded
- Permission for EJFC to install electronic scoreboard by accessing community grants program
- Multi-use Recreation Space including a skate park to be designed and constructed subject to available finance
- When SES move out to use space for car parking.
- The old netball clubrooms to be demolished and a new picnic area be established.

### CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Applications are open for nominations for the Emerald Citizen of the Year Award. Forms are available from Peter Maloney -

[peter.maloney@emeraldrsl.com.au](mailto:peter.maloney@emeraldrsl.com.au)

There are 2 categories - adult and young citizen (under 25). The award will be made at the Emerald Community Night to be held in November 2020 if the current pandemic subsides.

Previous awardees are listed on the plaque in the library foyer.

### CARDINIA COVID SUPPORT GRANTS

Local agencies and groups providing relief services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic can apply for a grant of up to \$5,000 .

Grants are available to support the provision of COVID-19 related relief services to the Cardinia Shire community, as well as essential costs that can't be met through other funding sources. Refer Cardinia website.

## 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](http://cardinia.vic.gov.au/onlinehelphub)

## WOORILLA POETRY PRIZE

An annual event sponsored by Emerald Community House.

Many categories available to aspiring local poets.

**But don't delay** - entries close on Friday July 31st.

\$10 per entry, youth section FREE.

Go to [woorilla.org.au](http://woorilla.org.au) for information.

## U3A

Emerald U3A is a thriving organisation based at the Hub and dedicated to the provision of opportunities for our older members of the community to remain intellectually stimulated, physically active and socially connected. As strange as it may seem, in these COVID times, our numbers have continued to grow even though we have rarely been able to meet face to face. When the Hills Hub first opened, we were delighted with the facilities in our new home – for a very short time. Everything closed down, but we older folks are a resilient lot and so we set about finding ways to stay involved.

Many of our groups have continued undeterred by using Zoom for classes and discussion groups. Other groups have circulated their writing and thoughts by email and stayed in touch by phone. Every chance we get to meet face to face has been taken. Some of our members have been reticent about resuming face to face contact during times when restrictions were not so strict as they are right now. We don't want anyone to miss out and so we have developed a hybrid model where groups can meet face to face in the Hub and include others who would like to Zoom in using the technology that is provided for us in each of the Hub meeting rooms.

U3A membership is available to anyone over 55 who is retired or semi retired. Our classes range from table tennis to philosophy, Scrabble to Italian conversation and very much more. Check out our web site at <https://u3aemerald.org.au/> or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/U3AEmerald/>

Pat Buoncristiani

President Emerald U3A

**The EVA Inc. thanks the Cardinia Shire Council for funding to allow publication of this Newsletter.**

## EMERALD LIBRARY

The library is asking for donations of \$30 that will enable it to provide a delivery service to locals who cannot leave their homes for one reason or another. This will include books, computers and devices.

Refer to their website - [www.cclc.vic.gov.au](http://www.cclc.vic.gov.au)

Another great initiative in troubled times.

## COCKATOO NEWSLETTER

A few highlights from Issue 2 of the Cockatoo 3781 News:

- Cockatoo Seniors Cottages will be upgraded by Council - great news. Cost \$400,000.
- Cockatoo Town committee will be incorporated and no longer a section 86 committee of council
- Council projects for Cockatoo include \$100,000 for community/senior cits hall, tennis courts lights, \$300,000 and Alma Treloar masterplan implementation, \$130,000
- Free food available for those in need from St Luke's Church - 5968 8459

## BLACKSPOT ROAD PROJECTS

1. Avon Road between Woori Yallock Road and Kennedy Road - safety barriers, sealed shoulders and tree removal.
  2. Paternoster Road west of Bailey Road - safety barriers and audio tactile edge line marking.
- Both projects are underway

## EMERALD FOOTPATH PROGRAM

Extension of footpath network around Emerald including southern areas of Kilvington Drive. Work to commence when weather improves.

## TOWN PLANNING

Most town planning permit applications are published by Council on their website for all residents to see.

The general trend in Emerald for increasing numbers of multi-unit developments is interesting - we looked at the implications and the zones in which these are permitted at a meeting several years ago, Basically much of the central Emerald township is zoned to allow these developments

The result appears to be that many long term residents of Emerald are now able to downsize and stay in the township - which probably is an excellent result. This zone runs through the central streets surrounding the main shopping centre.