



LOCKED-DOWN EDITION

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The last 18 months have been an extremely difficult period for most organisations to operate in. You plan an event and then it gets postponed and then postponed again.

Hopefully, the EVA's community meeting on Planning of Emerald and District will go ahead on Wednesday August 25 in the Hills Hub at 7.30. Thanks to a number of people who have expressed interest.

The EVA meeting program for the rest of the year is as follows:

- August 25 Community meeting on Planning - Speaker Anita Ransom Shire of Cardinia
- September 22 - EVA AGM
- October 27 - Community Groups Night and presentation of Citizenship Awards.
- November 24 - Community Meeting.

Many thanks to the SES, CFA, the Emerald Emergency Group (ECHO), Rotary, Emerald Community House, Lions and the many individuals who supported our Emerald community and helped their neighbours' during the recent major storm. Truly a remarkable effort.

Dick Bartley - President

EMERALD CITIZEN AWARDS - 2021

The 2021 Emerald Citizenship Awards aim to acknowledge local individuals and a local group or organisation that have made outstanding contributions to our local community.

This year we are also seeking nominations for community groups in our district who have made a significant difference over the last 18 months. It has been a period of constant change with a need for resilience. Nomination forms will be available from Peter Maloney, Dick Bartley or from the Emerald Library or Hills Hub.

ROTARY CLUB OF EMERALD & DISTRICT

The core focus of Rotary's work continues to be on supporting the Help the Hills initiative, to assist locals get back on their feet after the June storm event. From supporting project administration to clearing debris on private properties and helping out at the Kalorama Relief Centre, our volunteering efforts have spanned a broad range of activities. We've also contributed approximately \$3,000, with funds going towards providing firewood and food to those in need, replacing equipment and toys at a local preschool and helping a wildlife shelter care for injured and/or displaced native animals. At the District level, Rotary has established a fund-raising effort with the aim of delivering various community recovery projects in late 2021 and early 2022.

While the pandemic and its associated restrictions and lockdowns make planning events challenging, we are hopeful of being able to run a number of our signature events in coming months, many of which raise funds for worthy community causes.

Forthcoming events include running the Deb Ball for Emerald Secondary College students (rescheduled six times already!), speech competition for local primary schools, Cocktails on the Catwalk promoting local fashion outlets and Kids Fun Run With Thomas, scheduled for Sunday, 24 October.

As always, all are welcome to attend our friendly Trash 2 Treasure Market from 8.30am-1.30pm, now on the second Saturday of the month at the Emerald Primary School oval. For more information on Rotary events, visit <https://emeraldrotary.org.au/events>.

Ros Weadman - Publicity

EMERALD LADIES PROBUS

Emerald Ladies Probus Club meets at Emerald RSL on the third Monday of each month at 10am. All retired or semi-retired ladies are welcome to come and join us. The guest speaker at our meeting on August 16 (Covid permitting) is landscape designer, Phillip Johnson, who will talk about his Best in Show winning garden design from the 2013 Chelsea Flower Show which is being rebuilt at the Dandenong Ranges Botanic Gardens.

Anne Simpson - Ladies Probus

EVA MEETING REPORT

What a rollercoaster of a month July 2021 turned out to be. And for the Emerald Village Association trying to hold a Community Meeting - Planning for a future Emerald. We changed dates and possible attendee numbers and finally cancelled!

We appreciated the interest that this topic has drawn, from the establishment of the EVER (Emerald Village Exercise and Recreation) Facebook Group with 380 new Members to our own Planning Committee meeting to draw up a number of questions to ask the Chief Strategic Planner from Cardinia Council.

We have finally moved the date of the Meeting - **Planning Emerald's Future - to Wednesday 25th August** in the Hills Hub. All groups, individuals and interested people are invited. The meeting will be run under Covid Safe protocols with QR or signing in protocol, hand sanitizing and social distancing from 7.15 pm for a 7.30pm start.

On a lighter note - literally-the new Community Roadside sign that the Dandenong Ranges Energy Association has suggested be lit at night (replacing the currently crumbling one close to the Puffing Billy Crossing), has raised a fair bit of interest. Emerald is blessed with many organisations that respond to Community needs and offer Emeraldians the chance to feel involved in making Emerald a better place.

Shelley Beardshaw - Secretary EVA

EVA PLANNING MEETING

Anita Ransom, Cardinia Planning & Urban Design Coordinator, will be addressing the meeting on August 25th on the following subjects:

- What is the Council's existing policy for development in the Emerald district?
- Is the existing Emerald District Strategy relevant or useful?
- How can the EVA and the wider Emerald community work with the Council to implement the new Cardinia Council Plan 2021-25?
- How will the Council influence building design and architectural standards in Emerald?
- How can the EVA get information about significant planning permit applications in Emerald and whether they are advertised or not?

All are welcome to attend.

Shelley Beardshaw - Secretary EVA

HOGAN PARK

Hogan Park is a 2.1 hectare bushland reserve located on Kilvington Drive Emerald adjoining the Emerald Scout Centre, the Puffing Billy Railway to the north and Pepis Land to the east and south.

The Reserve is crown land managed by a volunteer committee of management appointed by DELWP every three years.

The objectives of the Committee of Management are to:

- Manage Hogan Park to enhance its environmental values consistent with government approved Victorian Environment and Assessment Council land use recommendations.
- Seek funds through grants to reduce weed infestation within or adjoining the reserve
- Engage with interested community groups and individuals regarding the management of the reserve.

The term of the current Management Committee expires on the 30th August and a new committee will be nominated to DELWP at a public meeting to be held on Sunday 15th August at the Scout Hall, 21 Kilvington Drive, Emerald (or Zoom if lockdown prevails).

All positions will be declared vacant, and nominations will be accepted prior to or during the meeting. Nominations from women, Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, young people and people from culturally diverse backgrounds are encouraged.

For further enquiries contact Jeff Latter - 0419 899 446.

New members are welcome.

Jeff Latter - Secretary

COUNCIL WORKS AROUND EMERALD

The Shire has repaired a number of footpaths in Main Road, Kilvington Drive, Kings Road, Anne Street and many others.

Work on the car park in Worrell Reserve will commence soon. If you park regularly outside the Hills Hub, you will need to find alternative parking for 4-6 weeks during the construction.

Our understanding is that a budget and a contract has been negotiated by Council to replace the current toilet block outside the Hills Hub. Given the building will be demolished to make way for a facility that meets current health standards the building will not be suitable for any murals to be painted.

Dick Bartley - President

FRIENDS OF EMERALD LAKE PARK

Friends of Emerald Lake Park (FELP) have managed a few working bees in between bad weather and lockdowns. Extra support has been provided through Working For Victoria Teams attached to the Natural Reserves Team of Cardinia Shire Council (CSC) and has been greatly appreciated.

Emerald Lake Precinct (Emerald Lake Park and Nobelius Heritage Park and Emerald Museum) has many, many large, historic and beautiful exotic trees throughout the arboretums. Can you identify any?

FELP have been successful in achieving two CSC Beautification Grants to provide Tree Identification Signage for the trees in the Emerald Lake Park Arboretums, following Nobelius Heritage Park and Emerald Museum's example.

Many thanks to Cardinia Shire Council, Nobelius Heritage Park and Emerald Museum, Gem Signs and Emerald Men's Shed for their support with this project.

Check out the signs and learn about the trees as you walk through Emerald Lake Precinct.

Next working bees: Sunday 15th August and Thursday 19th August.

Covid restrictions and lockdowns permitting.

Sheila Hampson - Coordinator

EMERALD VILLAGE EXERCISE & RECREATION

EVER is a community driven group coming together to advocate change in our beautiful town of Emerald.

Local resident, Vanessa Kewish has started this program and contributes as follows:

"Emerald is a beautiful place. We have some of the comfort and convenience of suburban living, with the peace and tranquillity of the country lifestyle. So much so that we are blessed by thousands of tourists each year, coming to see Puffing Billy, Emerald Lake, eat at our cafes, walk through our forests and parks.

Unfortunately our parks, playgrounds, and recreation facilities have been neglected for decades, and so the once proud town centre of Emerald, that boasted beautiful playgrounds, amenities and even a skate park for local youth, have now become sad relics of another time, or have been deleted entirely.

Local kids have nowhere exciting or engaging to play or exercise, and so EVER has begun to give local parents and citizens a voice, a chance to collectively raise the volume on concerns about why Emerald is being forgotten. All of our neighbouring towns have beautiful new facilities, and even though we're a hub for tourism, somehow the local kids and families have been forgotten. When is it time for Emerald to reclaim a position of local relevance, and give our local families and kids the facilities they so desperately need?

The time is now. If you'd like to join head to: www.facebook.com/EVER3782 and join in!

Emerald needs help now, so that Emerald can be great for EVER."

EMERALD CO-OP - COMMUNITY DONATION

The Emerald & District Co-Operative Society has long been a community oriented business - for 75 years..

CEO, Len O'Donnell, has donated the photocopier (pictured below) to the Emerald Village Association. It has been located at the Hills Hub for use by the community groups that use this facility.

From the Emerald community - thank you.



KINGS ROAD - TRAFFIC

Letter to the Editor from resident - Brian Hannan

"Since moving to Kings Road we have noticed a vehicle log jam each day at school / kindergarten time – worse for some reason in the afternoon – with cars banked up the length of Kings Road.

The difficulty is partly due to poor driving by those exiting Kings Rd and taking up the entire exit space. This is exacerbated by the white line being well off the median island so people do not think to use all the available space.



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE SUPPORT OF THE EMERALD NEWSAGENCY FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE THE PUBLICATION OF THIS NEWSLETTER HAPPEN. Newspapers and magazines, Hallmark greeting cards, Tattsлото, Toys and gifts, Art supplies, Stationary, Photocopying and laminating, Daryl Lea confectionery, Paperbacks, Children books and magazines.

Many are turning left, many are turning right. And those turning left when there is no challenging traffic are often held up by someone in front turning right and waiting for a gap.

The solution is to have 2 lanes at the exit, not one. Good drivers often create that but if the road was marked it should be a 100% success and improve traffic flow thus reducing emissions."

Editor's note: Makes sense Brian. Cardinia please note.



EVA WEBSITE - VOLUNTEER

The Emerald Village Association website - emeraldvillagenews.com.au needs a person to take full responsibility for its continual update and maintenance. To be done in conjunction with other social media duties.

If you are interested please make contact with Peter Maloney (email address below).

TIME TO SMILE

A PESSIMIST sees a dark tunnel
An OPTIMIST sees a light at the end of the tunnel
A REALIST sees a freight train
The TRAIN driver sees 3 idiots standing on the tracks.

EMERALD HISTORY

The late Gus Ryberg lived in Emerald his whole life. The Scout Hall is named after him. During this time Gus wrote a weekly column in the local paper - "The Trader". In 1984 Gus wrote a book called - The Four W's being - What When Where and Who. A compilation of those weekly articles.

This is an excerpt from one of those articles - No. 40 - 13th October 1983.

"The year 1922 saw the Liquidators move into the holdings of Carl Axel Nobelius and the area known today as Emerald Country Club and all the land topside of Lakeside Drive, Emerald going north to the vicinity of Stewart Road, and mostly girded on the west by what is Nobelius Street today was acquired by a syndicate headed by Dr. Bottomley, a Collins Street Melbourne practitioner.

The syndicate included a Melbourne accountant named Chambers (who was connected with a Shale Oil enterprise in Tasmania). Others involved were another accountant named Lawson, Bib Stilwells father Bertie (who was Australian rep for spices firm McLintock), another accountant named Appleford and later a surveyor named Webb of Webb & Webb Surveyors..... Webb carried out the survey that resulted in Lakeside Drive, Sycamore Avenue, Poplar Crescent, Elm Street, Carramar Court and Oak Avenue forming the new subdivision of the Emerald Country Club.... It was subdivided into half acre blocks sold to finance the new Club.

Persons who purchased these blocks at 25 pounds were then listed as club members and this situation led to (once established) it being known to be the exclusive club that remained for many years until recently when membership was opened up to the public.

As these 1920's really were the forerunners to the years of "The Great Depression" and many of our local people were struggling to make a living and even the members of the original syndicate had become financially embarrassed.

Ab Watson of Macclesfield did all the early formation work and formed the lake which was an extension of a smaller one built by distillers - Bosistos. Bill Hunt, Perce Chapman and Sam Foxford were also involved in these works.

By the early 1920's the Club was established and the first Club Manager was a Mr Boys and his wife became chef at the Nobelius "big house". The next chef was a Mrs Summers and at this stage a Pro Golfer named Jackson masterminded and supervised the layout of the first 9 holes of the golf course. He acted as manager and directed the green keeping which was done by Sam Foxford."

Gus Ryberg - Emerald resident (deceased)

FEEDBACK (please)

The EVA encourages those in the Emerald community to provide feedback on local issues that concern them.

Contact Dick Bartley at dickbartley08@gmail.com or Peter Maloney at evanews3782@gmail.com