



**Emerald CFA at Cardinia.**



## ***Cardinia Reservoir.***

15th September. Earlier today Emerald Fire Brigade (CFA) Cockatoo Rural Fire Brigade (CFA), Macclesfield Fire Brigade (CFA) and numerous other local brigades responded to a fire within the Cardinia Reservoir along with Melbourne Water and with assistance from **Ambulance Victoria** and **Victoria Police**

The strong winds caused a lot of smoke and presented some challenges but good work by all crews bought the fire under control quickly.

This is a timely reminder that winter has been relatively dry so now is the time to prepare your property for the upcoming fire season. Emerald CFA pictured.

Read ***“HillsNews”*** online at ***“HillsNews.net”*** including  
*all 61 back issues. 1500 pages of local information.*



**Clematis CFA at Cardinia.**



*Scan here to  
learn more*



Daniela   
De Martino


**STATE LABOR MP FOR MONBULK**

 1635 Burwood Hwy, Belgrave, 3160  
 [daniela.demartino@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:daniela.demartino@parliament.vic.gov.au)  
 9754 5401   @danielademartinomp



SPRING ESSENTIALS

## COCKATOO COUNTRY MARKET

 Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October  
8:30AM to 1:30PM

77 Pakenham Road, Cockatoo

Everything you love about  
Spring - all in one market!



# WANTED



## ROAMING PERFORMERS TO PERFORM AT YAKKERBOO

PB Ronald Reserve Pakenham  
5pm - 9pm 14<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Message for more details  
or email [admin@yakkerboo.au](mailto:admin@yakkerboo.au)



Community Bank  
Upwey & District and  
Emerald & District

 **Bendigo Bank**

# Thermal Imaging Camera donation to Cockatoo CFA

## ***Cockatoo Rural Fire Brigade(CFA)***

**13 September at 14:23 ·**

Hi All, we have had a few questions about one of our calls earlier today, sometimes members of the community need help, but it's not something the boarder community needs to be aware of, Today we had one of those calls.

If you see emergency services in town, please slow to 40kph when passing vehicles with flashing lights, take direction from the members on scene if needed.

If the incident is not on the **VicEmergency** App, there is no concern or threat and we will not be able to share any details.

Just hope for the best and carry on with your day.

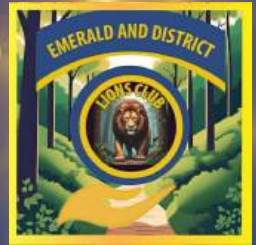
Thanks for your support.







# Lions International Members are shining the light on Mental Health



## Facts:

Mental health is made up of a variety of factors, including our emotional, physical, psychological and social well-being. To best address the need for improved mental health, we must first understand the facts and challenges surrounding mental health.

- 25% Increase in rates of anxiety and depression since 2020.
- 1 in 7 Youths age 10-19 experience mental health conditions, though many are unrecognized and untreated.
- 14% Of adults aged 60+ live with a mental health disorder. Loneliness and social isolation are key risk factors.





**Saturday 11 October 2025 from 13:30-16:30**

## **Emerald Community Safety Expo**

Hills Hub, 400a Belgrave-Gembrook Rd, Emerald

Victoria Police, Cardinia Shire Council, and the Cardinia Shire Safer Communities Partnership Committee are partnering with Neighbourhood Watch- Eastern Ranges to host a 'Community Safety Expo' pop-up event in celebration of October Community Safety Month.

Come along and chat with us about how we can work together to create a safer community.

This is a free event, and all are welcome to attend

Event by **Cardinia Shire Council** & Neighbourhood Watch Eastern Ranges

**The \$100 Power Saving Bonus  
is underway ⚡**

**Eligible concession card  
households can apply\***





You're invited to attend

# NHW Eastern Ranges Meeting Cockatoo - AWBEC

**Where:**

Cnr McBride St and  
Pakenham Road

**Tuesday  
14 October  
6.30 pm**

**All welcome!**

Want to become a  
Neighbourhood Watch  
Member?  
Scan the QR code to join



**Neighbourhood Watch**  
Let's watch out for each other  
Eastern Ranges





# Market Dates for the rest of the year 2025

9am to 2pm 4th Sunday of the Month



26th October  
23rd November

**Save them to your calendar now**

## Cockatoo RSL presents

# BINGO!

## Mondays

## at Gembrook RSL

## 49 Main St Gembrook.



Doors open 6.45 pm , \$3 per book (15 games per session, 2 Sessions). Raffles \$2 per ticket (all prizes donated). 7.30pm Eyes down First session (15 games) 8.30pm First session ends. 8.40pm short break and raffle draw. 8.45pm Eyes down Second session (15 games). 9.30pm Second session ends. Bar open.





# Neighbourhood Watch

Let's watch out for each other

The most recent meeting for Neighbourhood Watch Eastern Ranges was held at Upper Beaconsfield on Tuesday 9th Sept. It was a great turn out of local residents.

The Chairman noted how society was changing, and at one time there was very little crime in our towns. This has changed so we each need to as a community be more proactive working together with neighbours and the Hills community.

Emerald Police-Sergeant Colin Burge noted there is an ongoing surge of residential and retail break ins as the warmer weather increases. He said think logical physical security - dowel/rod in sliding doors and windows. Window locks for all windows.

Casey Cardinia Proactive Policing Unit - Leading Senior Constable Frank Bailey said a new community project is being promoted called 9 o'clock lock. The aim is to encourage us to take responsibility and lock up cars, garages, homes etc at 9 o'clock hopefully this will see less crime.

The next Neighbourhood Watch meeting is Tuesday 14th October at AWBEC McBride Street Cockatoo at 6.30pm. ALL WELCOME



## NEW OFFICE LOCATION

**345 Belgrave-Gembrook Road, Emerald 3782**

- ✓ Small Business Accounting and Tax support
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## ***Local brigades to receive 15 new Thermal Imaging Cameras thanks to Community Bank***

Community Bank Dandenong Ranges Group Chair, Deb Weber, is pleased to announce that 15 local volunteer fire brigades will receive Thermal Imaging Cameras (TICs) which are used extensively by brigades in many emergency situations.

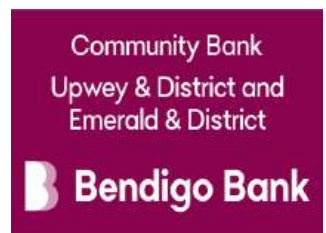
“In 2013 our Company provided TICs to 14 brigades and we are so pleased that these units have been and are still are being used by our local volunteers,” Ms Weber said.

“We know that these units are instrumental in assisting members with search and rescue as well as blacking out operations and assessing active fire situations.

“The additional new state of the art units being delivered to our local brigades will be well received. The additional TICs will allow brigades to have them on multiple vehicles ensuring they have the equipment needed to help keep the community safe regardless of which vehicle responds to an incident. Teams on multiple vehicles will be able to assess a larger area at any incident, whether it’s a bush fire, building fire or a search and rescue operation.

“Thanks to our customers we have been able to support community projects such as this for the last 27 years. \$6.8 million has been distributed for worthy projects and we are proud that we are able to continue to assist volunteer groups in a meaningful way,” Ms Weber said.

The Bank will present to brigades individually over the coming weeks.



Business Development Manager Andrew Gardner and Dandenong Ranges Community Bank Group Chair Deb Weber, who is also the Captain of Olinda Fire Brigade.

## ***The Gembrook-Cockatoo Football Netball Club***

is pleased to confirm the appointment of Troy Tharle as Senior Coach for the 2026 season.

Troy was a star forward at the Cranbourne Football Netball Club with over 250 senior games at Cranbourne, Cora Lynn and Officer to his name, a dual Senior Premiership Player in 2011 and 2016, SEFNL Leage Representative Teams in 2017 and 2018 and a Life Member of the Cranbourne Football Netball Club.

Troy's coaching resume to date includes:

- 2022 – Senior Coach Officer Football Club
- 2023 - 2024 Senior Assistant Coach Officer Football Club
- 2025 - Reserves Coach Officer Football Club
- 2025 – West Gippsland U18 Interleague Coach

With a football journey built on club loyalty, premiership success and player development, Troy brings a wealth of on-field and off-field knowledge and leadership to this role.

A born leader, the club is thrilled with his appointment. With a focus on development and some targeted recruiting we look forward to seeing how Troy can shape our list and results in 2026 and beyond.

Please join us in welcoming Troy, his wife Sarah and their two children Kai and Cleo to the Brookers. The club will have several other announcements around our coaching structures, player re-signings and recruitments in the coming weeks.



**Sunday 5 October 2025 from 11:00-14:00**



## **Get Fire Ready - Open Day**

28 Church Crescent, Cockatoo, VIC, Australia, Victoria 3781

Come and meet some of our members, have a look at our Fire Station and Trucks. There will be activities for Kids and information to help you with your Bushfire Survival Plan and Preparing your property.

Parking will be available on site.

\*Update we will also have a Fire Safety Essentials Presentation at 1pm.





# COCKATOO OVER 50'S

at the Cockatoo Over 50's Centre  
Alma Treloar Reserve, Pakenham Rd,  
Cockatoo

## October

**6th** | Lunch: Pumpkin Soup, Fruit and Birthday Cake

*SCHOOL HOLIDAYS COMMENCE.....*

**13th** | Craft – Salt and Water painting with Marg,  
Wood Burning with Marty | *BYO lunch*

**20th** | Guest Speaker: Ben Owen – Storm Prevention| Open to the  
Community

**27th** | SURPRISE Outing! Leaving 9am.concession & Myki cards needed

**Mondays 10:30am –2:30pm**

*\$2 a session and an Annual Full Membership of \$12. Toasted sandwiches  
available for purchase for \$6 unless otherwise specified.*

## Other Activities...

**Meditation with Danny & Chris** | 0412 468 867

Wednesdays 10am–12pm

*\$10 a session*

**Beginners Line Dancing with Kathy Smith**

Thursday 10am–11:30am

*\$6 a session and an Annual Associate Membership of \$6*



**Chair Pilates with Jeanette**

Fridays 10am–10:45am

*\$7 a session and an Annual Associate Membership of \$6*



*\*\*Feel free to walk in and join us for any of the above sessions\*\**

*Please contact Dot on 0400 070 197 for further information*

**Podiatrist Appointments**

*Please phone Dot 0400 070 197*

Next appointment at Over 50's Centre is on **November 12th**





# ROALD DAHL **CHARLIE** AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY THE NEW MUSICAL

**THE GEM THEATRE - 3<sup>rd</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

Book by  
**David Greig**

Music by  
**Marc Shalman**

Lyrics by  
**Scott Wittman & Marc Shalman**



based on the novel by  
**Roald Dahl**

Songs from the motion picture by  
**Leslie Bricusse & Anthony Newley**



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*the voice of the community*

**MEMBER 2024**

## Report from Cr David Nickell

The following Notice of Motion that I put forward at Council's August 18th meeting was successfully carried:

That Council fund the organising committee for **Emerald Carols by the Lake** an amount of up to \$5,000 (being the Community Festivals Grant shortfall for FY25/26). The Carols Committee were only provided \$5,000 - significantly less than last year, due to changes in the Festivals and Events Grants Policy. I've worked with both the organising Committee and Council staff to see if we can make the event compliant under the new policy, so this motion was a safety-net measure, with Christmas '25 rapidly approaching. It is not good practice to intervene in policy roll-out like this, however I felt that this event which takes considerable organisation, is an exception and if the committee continues to work in good faith with Council officers, the event should become compliant for the higher level of funding for future years – so hopefully the safety-net will not be required.

The proposed design of **the Dog Park at Alma Treloar reserve** is out for consultation. I asked for a pre-briefing on the proposed design ahead of its release, and believe that the updated design incorporates most of the community feedback received in the first round.

I also consulted for several weeks with Worrell Reserve CAC, Emerald Tennis Club (ETC) and the Council team, regarding shared access to the Worrell Reserve Junior Football and Cricket pavilion for ETC members when their tennis program is running, so that they can access toilets and some covered space whilst they don't have access to their damaged clubrooms. Access is now provided.

**CRAG21** (Cockatoo Roads Action Group for the 21st Century) – I will be calling a public meeting for anyone who wants to work to develop Special Charge Schemes to continue sealing local residential Roads after the Federal Govt 'Sealing the Hills' money runs out. It's very important to keep the ball rolling in an organised way and find new recruits for CRAG21 to continue to build on that group's legacy. Public pressure on me, your local member to keep building unmade township roads, empowers me to put that pressure on the local government area, State and Federal governments. If anyone is keen to get their road built, its really important that they join CRAG21, Gembrook Community Group's 'Gembrook Roads Action Group' subcommittee, or EVA'S 'Planning' subcommittee, so that they aren't starting from scratch.

**Hills township/village committees joint meeting.** It's nearly a year since I called the first one after the Council elections. Upper Beaconsfield reps are working closely with Eastern Ranges Neighbourhood Watch and Emerald Village Association now, so suggestion is it may be a good time for another catch-up across the towns – with Upper Beac added this time. I agree. I'm currently working with Councillor Brett Owen to progress a proposed date.

**David Nickell, Ranges Ward Councillor**







## *Sing for Unity on World Peace Day*



**Daniela De Martino MP** on facebook.

"Singing is a balm for the soul - for those who perform, as well as the audience - and the call from Sing for Unity on World Peace Day was to ask choirs around the world to sing at 2pm their local time for world peace.

Up at Hills Hub in Emerald, choirs from across the hills joined for an afternoon of song and it was pure delight to be able to launch this beautiful event today.

Children from Tune-in Musocal Group kicked off the performances and were later joined by Lyrebirds Community Choir, Sweet Sassafras and Colour Notes for two hours of joyful refrains.

Here's to music and singing ringing out across the hills for many years to come.

Thanks to the organisers and everyone who performed and came along to enjoy the day and Emerald Lions club for supporting this event"



## Emergency markers, CFA (Country Fire Authority)

When you're in the bush could you tell Triple Zero (000) where you are in an emergency?

New emergency markers have been added to public areas, meaning residents and visitors can pinpoint their exact location and help first responders get to them as quick as possible in an emergency.

There are now over 4,700 emergency markers across the state, each with a unique combination of letters and numbers that will provide Triple Zero (000) call takers vital information about your location if you're in need.

Keep an eye out for these markers next time you're out and about. (3rd July Gembrook CFA)



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# EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

## 2026 SENIOR WOMENS FOOTBALL TEAM



Based on the success of the Women's Vets team in 2025, GCFNC has commenced planning to build a Senior Women's Football team in 2026

The club is currently seeking Expressions of Interest for the following:

- Players
- Coach
- Team Manager
- Trainer



Please scan the QR code to register your interest or contact us via [secretary@gcfnc.com.au](mailto:secretary@gcfnc.com.au)



# CHICKENS FOR SALE

0417 318 458





# ***HISTORY-THE DANDENONG RANGES GOLDFIELDS (p1of 4)***

*Notes compiled by Matthew Leavesley & Robyn Annear, CNR, Historic Mining Sites Assessment Project, June 1995 (Edited by Brett Barker)*

- 1851:** Gold discovered by secretive party of Germans at 'Moondie Yallock' around junction of Menzies Creek and Woori Yallock Creek, about two miles north of Emerald, on the road to Monbulk. Thousands of pounds worth of gold reputedly won.<sup>1</sup>
- 1851:** Gold reputedly discovered in Cardinia Creek.<sup>2</sup>
- 1852-9:** Some digging occurred at Emerald, or Ti-tree Creek as it was then called. In 1858, it was reported that, 'Mining operations have extended to Dandenong, near Fern Tree'.<sup>3</sup>
- 1859:** Gold discovery at Macclesfield or Cockatoo Creek (about same locality as Germans in 1851) caused rush to Emerald goldfield. In February there were 250 diggers, and the 'Little Yarra' or Woori Yallock Creek was worked for 10 miles. In March, diggers were working at 'three separate places, each of considerable extent' and at a dry diggings (possibly McCrea's Creek), six miles from the other place'. Emerald township was surveyed on site of main diggings in April. Gold at McCrea's and Shepherd's creeks (called the Nicholson goldfield) turned out to be poor, suitable only for sluicing.<sup>4</sup>
- February 1859:** Near the junction of the auriferous creek with another larger creek, four temporary stores have been constructed of calico, and the main encampment of the miners formed. The stream of the auriferous creek above the junction ... has been diverted from its bed for a considerable distance, and used for sluicing the quartzose gravel and soft blue shale dug out from the claims in the bed of the creek. These claims, for a short distance up the creek, appear to be highly remunerative.<sup>5</sup>
- December 1859:** Dandenong goldfields are in decline.<sup>6</sup>
- 1860:** Gold discovered on Cardinia and Tarneit creeks—referred to as the 'Eything Goldfield'.<sup>7</sup>
- January 1860:** On Cockatoo Creek, Emerald men are at work on some small flats and gullies.<sup>8</sup>



## **HISTORY-THE DANDENONG RANGES GOLDFIELDS (p2of 4)**

<b>April 1860:</b>	Emerald goldfield deserted. <sup>9</sup>
<b>September 1860:</b>	On Emerald goldfield, about 30 miners at work at Sassafras Creek. <sup>10</sup>
<b>October 1863:</b>	Several parties on old Emerald diggings, long deserted, and also at Macclesfield. <sup>11</sup>
1869:	The district is wholly neglected by the miner. Though the timber is heavy and the scrub dense, there are now many cleared tracks in various directions, and persons could prospect the alluviums without encountering serious difficulties. Much was done under Mr Hodgkinson's direction, and by the Prospecting Board, to open up the country; but its rich soils, perennial streams, and delicious climate are not sufficient to attract to the spot those who vainly seek employment in the streets of Melbourne. <sup>12</sup>
<b>June 1871:</b>	Ground at Sassafras Creek has been registered (ie. suspended)
<b>June 1872:</b>	Prospecting claim registered at Berwick
<b>December 1872:</b>	Auriferous ground discovered in Haunted Gully, 4 miles south-east of Berwick.
<b>March 1873:</b>	At Haunted Gully, Berwick, several claims paying well.
<b>June 1873:</b>	Discovery of payable auriferous ground called Sailor's Gully, west of Haunted Gully.
<b>September 1873:</b>	At Pakenham (Cardinia Creek), near Berwick, two new gullies auriferous gullies found—Welcome and Burke's. Walkers, Mayfields, and Barnes gullies opened soon after.
<b>December 1873:</b>	Alluvial tunnelling claim at Haunted Gully, Berwick.
<b>March 1881:</b>	Small rush to Turner's Creek, a small branch of Sassafras Creek near Emerald.
<b>September 1883:</b>	At Gembrook, a company erected pumping and winding engine and sank 200-ft shaft.
<b>June 1884:</b>	Deep Lead Co., Gembrook, has driven 800ft under the bas-
alt. <b>September 1884:</b>	Sons of Freedom Co., Gembrook, commenced tunnel to strike new reef.
<b>December 1884:</b>	Creighton's Freehold claim, Gembrook, suspended operations.

## **HISTORY-THE DANDENONG RANGES GOLDFIELDS (p3of 4)**

- March 1885:** Machinery removed from Gembrook Deep Lead. Sons of Freedom Co. tunnel, Gembrook, driven 565 ft.
- June 1886:** Sons of Freedom Co., Gembrook, have erected a horse puddling machine.
- September 1886:** Sons of Freedom Co., Gembrook, suspended operations.
- June 1891:** Number of claims taken up at Gembrook, following discovery of gold.
- 1899:** Report of new gold discovery on Cockatoo Creek, based on assays at Ballarat School of Mines. James Stirling investigated and concluded that the assay results were faulty.
- 1911:** Nangana Co., Cockatoo, prospecting by shafts and tunnels the auriferous dyke exposures which to date have yielded only patchy gold.
- 1912:** Nangana Co. Cockatoo, erected gas suction milling plant.
- 1913: Nangana Co., Cockatoo, closed down.
- 1931:** Reef discovery at Cockatoo. Numerous claims pegged out, and about 40 men on the field, working from shafts. Trial crushing sent to Maldon government battery.
- 1931:** Haunted Gully (except for a few chains of the upper portion) is now included in a water reserve, and is closed to mining. Head of the alluvial gold in Haunted Gully is just north of the water reserve fence—area was recently prospected, by cuts and trenches, but nothing payable found. Several old shafts to SW, including one 90 ft deep. Old alluvial three- compartment shaft at junction of Welcome and Sailor's gullies—about 50 ft deep with NE drive of about 200 ft.
- 1932:** Kirk's Dyke, Cockatoo Creek, worked by Sherlock & party. Dyke had previously been worked by open cut, measuring about 40 ft in diameter and 23 ft deep. Present owners working by tunnel and rise to bottom of open cut. Mine equipped with petrol engine and 3-head battery— suggestion that puddler might be installed. Values not high (2 to 6 dwt/ton), but ore is easily mined.





## **HISTORY-THE DANDENONG RANGES GOLDFIELDS (p4of 4)**

### **SOURCES:**

Department of Mines Annual Reports, 1903-18  
Department of Mines, Mining Surveyors' Reports, 1859-89

Flett, J., *The History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, Poppet Head Press, Melbourne, 1979

Kenny, J.P.L., (1937/1), 'Mining at Cockatoo', in *Records*, vol. 5, part 3, Geological Survey of Victoria, Department of Mines, Melbourne, 1937 (report dated 1931), p. 332

Kenny, J.P.L. (1937/2), 'Gold at Upper Beaconsfield', in *Records*, vol. 5, part 3, Geological Survey of Victoria, Department of Mines, Melbourne, 1937 (report dated 1931), pp. 332-4

Kenny, J.P.L. (1937/3), 'Kirk's Dyke, Cockatoo', in *Records*, vol. 5, part 3, Geological Survey of Victoria, Department of Mines, Melbourne, 1937 (report dated 1932), p. 335-6

Stirling, J., 'Notes on the Rocks of the Gembrook District' and 'Further Report on Gembrook District (Cockatoo Creek)', in *Monthly Progress Reports 8 & 9*, Geological Survey of Victoria, Department of Mines, Melbourne, 1899, pp. 6-8

## **Why join the Casey & District Multiple Birth Association?**



- ✖ Support from people who truly get it
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- ✖ Friendship & community





# CHECK RECENT BURN OFFS

High winds increase  
risk of escaped burns



## ***CFA (Country Fire Authority)***

**15 September at 16:11 ·**

Is your burn off extinguished properly?

Strong winds are expected to stick around tomorrow, and firefighters have responded to more than 40 grassfires across the state since midnight.

We are urging Victorians to take steps to stay safe:

Check recent burns from the past 24-48 hours to make sure they haven't reignited

Check local weather conditions and postpone planned burn offs until winds have eased

Never leave a burn unattended, and ensure it's properly extinguished with water

Read more: <https://news.cfa.vic.gov.au/.../escaped-burn-offs-prompts...>

## ***HillsNews. Online HillsNews.net***

Contributions for consideration for publication are welcome and must be submitted by the 20th of the month for the next issue, Emailed to 3781News@gmail.com or posted to 3781News, PO Box 3, Cockatoo, VIC 3781. Editor Brett Barker 2/5 McBride St, Cockatoo. 0421 219 899. HillsNews is Auspiced by Cockatoo RSL sub branch inc. Read online and see back issues at HillsNews.net or send an email to subscribe and help save a tree.



### 5th October

Julia Michelle

Paul Klat



### 12th October



### 19th October

Leigh Johnston

Myles O'Dwyer

Cynthia Walton

Elizabeth Maguire

Evan Leyden



### 26th October

Mark Schneider

Patrick Wakefield

Evan Leyden

Mark Gardner





## ***Celebrating Fun & Friendship in Retirement with Emerald Ladies Probus***

October 1<sup>st</sup> is recognised as the United Nations Day of Older Persons.



On that day thousands of older people throughout Australia will begin to celebrate Probus Month with a series of activities highlighting fun and friendship in retirement. This year's theme for Probus Month is "Reinvent Your Retirement".

Probus' purpose is to provide opportunities for retirees and semi-retirees to come together within the community to make new friends and participate in a wide range of activities, designed to keep their minds and bodies active.

Probus Clubs are non-political and non-fundraising. It's all about social gatherings promoting fun and friendship – and it doesn't cost a lot.

Your local Emerald Ladies Probus Club is celebrating Probus Month with a variety of activities including

- Morning Tea at Kallista Tea rooms

- A return visit to the Melbourne Metro HQ Tunnel Experience for an update on the project

- A walk or stroll at the Tim Neville Arboretum followed by a BYO morning tea

- Finding out about retirement living with a visit to Evelyn Ridge Retirement Village in Mount Evelyn

- A bus trip to the Walhalla historic gold mining town in Gippsland.

- A promotional stall at Woolworths in Emerald on Thursday 9 October 10am-2pm

If you're interested in finding out more about these activities and the benefits of joining Probus, please come along to our next meeting at 10am on Monday 20 October at the Emerald RSL. You're welcome to join us for morning tea and listen to our guest speaker from Ambulance Victoria's "Shocktober" campaign.

You can find more information on our website by scanning the QR code or by contacting Michelle on 5968 4922.





Ready to try something new?

# Join Scouts

**1st Cockatoo Scout Group is looking for young people to join their Group!**

Scouting actively engages and supports young people aged 5-25 in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

**Our Section meeting nights are**

**Joeys | ages 5-8 | Wednesday 5:30pm - 6:30pm**

**Cubs | ages 8-11 | Wednesday 6:30pm - 8pm**

**Scouts | ages 11-14 | Thursday 7pm - 9:30pm**

We meet at 73-75 Pakenham Road, Cockatoo

**For more information or to join, please email**  
[gl.1stcockatoo@scoutsvictoria.com.au](mailto:gl.1stcockatoo@scoutsvictoria.com.au)



**1st Cockatoo**  
Scout Group



**1800 SCOUTS**  
[scoutsvictoria.com.au](http://scoutsvictoria.com.au)

Join us for

# Oaks Day High Tea

Gembrook RSL welcomes everyone  
to attend our Oaks Day High Tea  
luncheon.

**\$45 pp**

*Ticket includes mimosa on arrival,  
high tea and unlimited tea and coffee.*

*\$10 cocktails available on the day  
All other drinks are at bar prices.*

*Sweeps and games will be run on the  
day and the races will be on the Big  
screen.*



## Hills Community Gardens

Is feeling excited.

(Facebook)

Dear Hills Community Gardens Members,  
We are excited to share some important updates with you:  
New Garden Development at The BASE

Planning and works are underway on our new gardens at The BASE. This development will create even more opportunities for our community to grow, share, and connect. We'll keep you updated as things progress, and we can't wait to see this new space come to life with your involvement.

### Update Your Contact Details

To make sure we can keep you informed about the new gardens, events, and other community opportunities, please take a moment to update your details via the link below:

<https://forms.gle/Um3hZGsx5SzhFUn8>

Next Hills Community Dig-In – New Start Time

Our next Dig-In is scheduled for:

Sunday, 5 November at 10:00 AM

(Please note the new start time)

This is a great opportunity to connect with fellow members, get your hands in the soil, and enjoy the spirit of community gardening. We'd love to see you there!



## GEMBROOK CRICKET CLUB 2ND XI CAPTAIN



### *Gembrook Cricket Club* 2nd XI Captain Announcement!

It is with great excitement that we announce Aaren Corrin as the new 2nd XI captain of the Gembrook Cricket Club for season 2025-2026.

Aaren joined the Gembrook Cricket Club last year and is fired up to captain the 2nd XI in 2025-2026.

# AAREN CORRIN





CONNECT CREATE  
CELEBRATE



EXPO

Thurs. 9th OCTOBER

10am - 3pm

HILLS HUB

400A Belgrave-Gembrook Rd Emerald



MUSIC ART LANGUAGES GAMES HISTORY BOOKS WALKING



DROP IN

BE INSPIRED

JOIN US





# Crafty Volunteers NEEDED

**LADIES OF THE SWAMP CHARITY QUILTING GROUP INC.**

**DEMAND FOR OUR COMFORT QUILTS IS INCREASING  
AND WE NEED YOUR HELP.**

**Can you sew, knit or crochet?  
Doesn't matter if you sew by  
hand or machine!**



We are in need of craft volunteers for our charity quilts, Santa sacks, soft toys and fundraiser items.

If you can sew, knit or crochet, we'd love your help.

You don't need to come to every meeting (meeting details below).

We can arrange pickups or drop offs, as we have members around Victoria.

We need volunteers for;

- Sewing quilt tops. We can supply kits, so you only need to sew it together!
- Quilt Bindings to be sewn on by hand or machine.
- Quilters to quilt the quilts, either on domestic or longarm machines.
- Handmade soft toys/dolls; either sewn, knitted, crochet.

Sewers to make items for us to sell on our fundraising stalls eg; microwave bowl cozies, zipper pouches, iPad stands, glasses case etc. We can supply fabrics and supplies.

We are 'Ladies of the Swamp Charity Quilting Group' from Koo Wee Rup, Victoria, Australia. Meetings are held every 2nd & 4th Friday of the month at Koo Wee Rup Masonic Hall.

If you can spare some time, we'd love and appreciate your help.

Please DM us or email [ladiesoftheswamp.lots@gmail.com](mailto:ladiesoftheswamp.lots@gmail.com)





# You'll learn how to:



**Detect fires  
once they  
start**



**Prevent fire  
starting**



**Escape  
safely**

**FREE 40 MINUTE**  
ON-DEMAND TRAINING ONLINE

## 🔥 **Free Online Training** 🔥

If you have, or care for someone with a disability, please consider taking under an hour out of your evening to go through FREE ON DEMAND training that could save your, or a loved one's life.

This training is appropriate for anyone who may be at higher risk and their carers.

Did you know that almost two thirds of people who die in house fires have a disability? On average, 18 people die in preventable residential house fires in Victoria every year.

CFA and **Fire Rescue Victoria** have an online learning module to support at risk people with planning for fire emergencies at home. Prevent, Detect, Escape – Home Fire

Safety for people at higher risk is made for people at increased fire risk, and for people who support or care for them.

[www.cfa.vic.gov.au/atrisk](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/atrisk)

**Did you  
know?**

**36.4%**

of people who  
die are over the  
age of 65

**61.8%**

of people who  
die in house fires  
have a disability







# PLEDGE FOR PREPAREDNESS

Our region has experienced repeated natural disasters over the past several decades, including the devastating Ash Wednesday fires, the Black Saturday bushfires, major flooding in 2009, the 2019–20 bushfire season, and the widespread storms that struck our hill communities in 2022 and 2024. These events have repeatedly highlighted the need for rapid, coordinated, and community-led response and recovery.

To address this, the Foundation has taken a proactive step by establishing a dedicated Natural Disaster Relief Fund. The aim is simple: to build a reserve of committed philanthropic pledges that can be activated immediately in the event of a local emergency, enabling early relief and effective support for those most affected.

We invite you to consider pledging your support, which would only be called upon in the event of a locally declared disaster. This is a practical, forward-looking approach that enables swift assistance, rather than waiting for post-disaster fundraising appeals.

Follow the QR code to pledge your support today, or get in touch.

Email: [admin@cardiniafoundation.org](mailto:admin@cardiniafoundation.org)

Phone: 03 5945 0766

<https://cardiniafoundation.org/natural-disaster-fund/>





## ***Helping residents to detox their homes***

Cardinia Shire Council's free Detox Your Home event is back for 2025.

Delivered in partnership with Sustainability Victoria, Detox Your Home provides residents with a safe, free and easy way to dispose of unwanted common, toxic household chemicals without harming your health or the environment.

This includes most chemicals used in the bathroom, laundry, kitchen, shed, garage or garden.

Once dropped off, collected chemicals and sorted and transported to a specialist waste treatment facility for safe disposal.

### **Detox your Home 2025**

**Date:** Saturday 18 October, 9am to 2pm

**Location:** Cardinia Shire Council depot, 18 Purton Road, Pakenham.

Registration is required to attend this event as spots are limited.

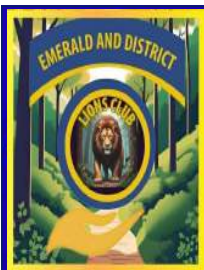
For more information and to register for Detox Your Home, visit [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dropoff](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dropoff)



# RE-SIGNED

JORDAN LESKIE RECOMMITTS AS  
HEAD COACH FOR 2026





# Lions Myths BUSTED!



1



## Myth: Lions Clubs are just for older men.

Fact: Not at all! Lions Clubs International is a diverse and inclusive organisation. Membership is open to men and women of all ages, backgrounds, and professions. We also have youth-focused Leo Clubs for those under 30.



2



## Myth: Joining a Lions Club is a huge time commitment.

Fact: The commitment level is flexible. While clubs are active in their communities, members contribute what they can, when they can. The motto is "We Serve," and every hour of volunteer time makes a difference.

3



## Myth: The money you donate doesn't go to the community.

Fact: At Lions Clubs International, you can be confident your donation is making a real impact. Lions pay their own membership fees and administrative costs, ensuring that 100% of all public donations go directly to service projects.

4



## Myth: Lions Clubs are a secret society.

Fact: Lions Clubs are open, transparent community organisations—not secret societies. They are non-religious and non-political, with a focus entirely on public service. Their mission and finances are a matter of public record.



**HELP WANTED!**



## The litter bird-en: monitoring bird - litter interactions.

Litter (rubbish, trash, garbage) is a threat to birdlife due to the ways birdlife interact with litter. This can include:

**Ingestion**



**Entanglement**



**Use as nesting  
material**



All that is required is that whenever a bird-litter interaction is observed, take a photo of it and upload it to our website  
"The litter bird-en"

We need your help to understand the types of interactions that are occurring in Australia!

**Who is involved?** Anyone with a camera and a keen eye for bird - litter interactions!

**What do I need to do?** Whenever you come across a bird - litter interaction, take a photo of it and email to [ho.faraone@federation.edu.au](mailto:ho.faraone@federation.edu.au) along with information about the location of the interaction.

**What types of photos should I take?** Types of photos include birds carrying litter, ingesting litter, entangled in it, incorporating it in nests, using litter to get the attention of another bird etc.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the project, please contact us at [ho.faraone@federation.edu.au](mailto:ho.faraone@federation.edu.au).



# SHORT SEASON



## Netball COMP

**DATES - TUESDAY OCT 7<sup>TH</sup> - TUESDAY DEC 2<sup>ND</sup>**

**NO GAMES TO BE PLAYED ON  
MELBOURNE CUP DAY**

**TIME - 5:30PM ONWARDS**

**COST - \$80EA UPFRONT FOR ALL 8 GAMES**

**MONBULK  
NETBALL  
CLUB**

**13 MOORES ROAD  
MONBULK**

**OPEN WOMEN'S  
OPEN MIXED**

*Ready. Net. Go!*

REGISTER NOW VIA NETBALL CONNECT

*Supported by*



# Cardinia

Cardinia Shire Council





## Gembrook Cricket Club

The Gembrook Cricket Club endorses and adopts:

- Australian Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children and Young People
- Australian Cricket's 'Looking After Our Kids' Code of Behavior for Affiliated Associations and Clubs
- Australian Cricket's Commitment to Safeguarding Children and Young People
- Cricket Victoria's Member Protection Policy
- Cricket Victoria's Reporting and Complaints Policy

For full policy details, visit: [https://](https://www.cricketvictoria.com.au/child-safe-member.../)

[www.cricketvictoria.com.au/child-safe-member.../](https://www.cricketvictoria.com.au/child-safe-member.../)

Child Safety Officer and Complaints Manager: Name:

Peta Candy, Email: [petacandy@bigpond.com](mailto:petacandy@bigpond.com)



**WE ENDORSE THE VICTORIAN  
CRICKET INTEGRITY POLICIES  
AND ARE COMMITTED TO BEST  
PRACTICES IN CHILD SAFETY  
AND MEMBER PROTECTION**



## The Friends of Gembrook Park

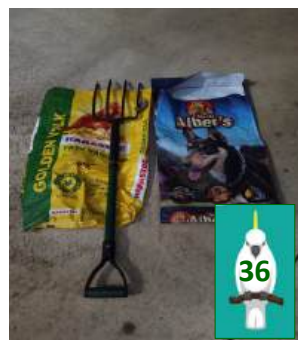
are needing more bags to put the weeds in that we bring out of the park.

Many weeds can be pulled out and left onsite to decompose naturally.

Others, like Tradescantia fluminensis, have to be carried out in bags.

The bags pictured are the ideal size.

Please leave at the rear of the Craft Cottage in Redwood road





Do you have a Health Care Card? You could be eligible to join Saver Plus, a free, online program that helps build your financial skills. Save up to \$50 a month for 10 months and ANZ will double it. Want to learn more? Visit [saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au) and complete the online enquiry form.

## Save \$500 and we'll double it

For every dollar you save, you'll get a dollar from ANZ to spend on education costs, up to \$500.

Income, eligibility and participation criteria apply  
Click here for more info or call us on 1300 610 355

**Top Win Tennis Academy**  
**Give Tennis A Try For Free**  
**At Cockatoo Tennis Club**  
**0404 352 049**  
**[topwintennisacademy.com](http://topwintennisacademy.com)**



## Trees in Melbourne just got stronger protections

The Victorian state government has announced new protections for urban tree canopy, which is an important factor in keeping cities cool. An RMIT expert explains why this type of initiative is important in future proofing Australian cities. **Dr Thami Croeser, Vice Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellow**

"It's fantastic that the state government is moving to protect existing trees across Melbourne, especially given that this week's National Climate Risk Assessment report warned of devastating heatwaves in the future. "Trees can help mitigate these climate issues by acting as big outdoor air conditioners. But to see significant cooling we need a threshold of about 40 per cent canopy within 60 metres of a home.

"It's around this threshold that there is enough shade and water being sucked up and blown out of the leaves to avoid 'heat island' effects associated with lots of unshaded concrete and tarmac.

"Currently, only a fraction of homes meet this threshold in Melbourne, and many suburbs are way short of this level, at 10 per cent canopy or below.

"It's very easy to diminish a city's canopy, so the state government's plan to protect more urban trees is an important step in the right direction. Careful monitoring of the initiative will be critical to ensure we close any loopholes and find win-win ways to retain tree canopy while also constructing new housing."



*Dr Thami Croeser is an urban planner with a focus on practical, large scale initiatives to improve nature in city areas.*



**Hello, Debbie and David here from Happy Dayz Mowing!**

**We are a family owned Business local to the area, approved by NDIS, Veteran Affairs & Work Cover and My Age Care. Working with children's check . Commonwealth home packages .**

**We offer:**

- Lawn mowing
- Garden maintenance
- Property clean ups (overgrown / unkept Gardens )
- Areas we cover  
Pakenham , pakenham upper ,officer, Gembrook, cockatoo, emerald , Avonsleigh

**Dm for a free quote or message us on 0493126356 🌻🌻**



# 2025 MARKETS

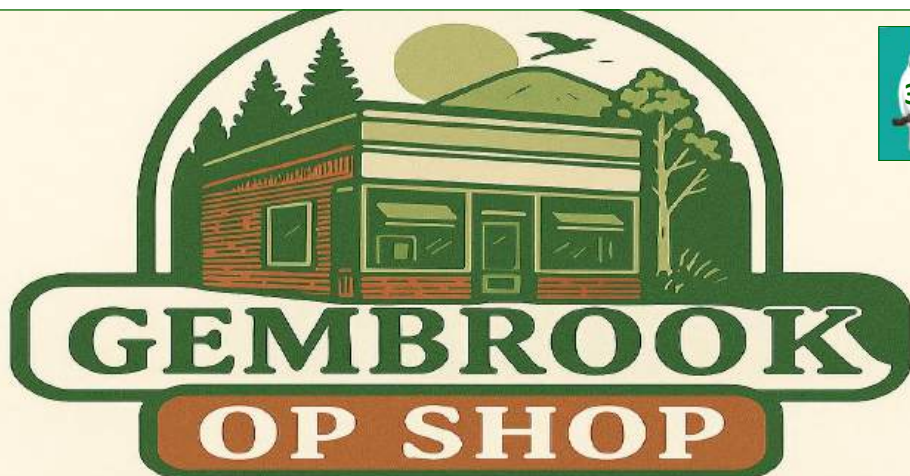


*Add some spring colour to your home, wardrobe and garden.*

*Or maybe even start your holiday shopping early to find the perfect local gifts! Mark your diary so you don't miss out.*



- Saturday 4th October 8:30am - 1:30pm
- Saturday 1st November 8:30am - 1:30pm
- Saturday 6th December - Twilight Market 3pm - 8pm



## OPENING TIMES

MONDAY	<b>CLOSED</b>
TUESDAY	10:00AM - 2:00PM
WEDNESDAY	11:30AM - 4:30PM
THURSDAY	11:00AM - 3:00PM
FRIDAY	11:00AM - 3:00PM
SATURDAY	11:00AM - 3:00PM
SUNDAY	<b>CLOSED</b>



## ***Drop-off your green waste and 'leaf' it to us!***

Residents are encouraged to drop-off their green waste for FREE at the upcoming Green-waste drop off events in Pakenham and Lysterfield.

Hosted by Cardinia Shire Council, these events help residents clean up and reduce their fire fuel load on their properties throughout the year.

Council's green waste drop-off events are accepting residential amounts of green waste including garden prunings, tree branches and trunks (up to 30 centimetres wide and 1 metre long), weeds, grass clippings, leaves, and flowers.

### **Lysterfield - Friday 3 to Monday 6 October**

Cleanaway Resource Recovery Centre, 840 Wellington Rd, Lysterfield

Friday 3 Oct: 7am-3:30pm

Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 Oct: 8 - 11:30am

Monday 6 Oct: 7am - 3:30pm

Residents must present photo ID as proof of residence within Cardinia Shire to access the free service.

Waste will only be accepted from residential vehicles and trailers; commercial business operators cannot use this service.

Residents can make the most their visit by taking advantage of the free year-round e-waste and battery disposal options available at these transfer stations.

For more information about Council's green waste drop-off events, visit [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dropoff](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dropoff)

## ***Cardinia Foundation Grants***

Grants of up to \$1,000 are now open support projects that promote inclusiveness and encourage participation from community members who may face barriers to engagement, including people with disabilities, those from low socioeconomic backgrounds, elderly residents, migrant populations, and individuals experiencing mental health challenges. Funding can sponsor children to participate in team sports by covering registration fees and uniforms, support youth engagement through positive social activities that promote physical activity, foster social connection and build confidence through sports and active pursuits, or deliver essential water safety programs for adults.

We encourage applications from diverse community groups including sporting clubs, pony clubs, service organisations such as Rotary, and religious organisations. Eligible applicants must be registered associations, not-for-profit organisations, or hold Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR1) status – business applications will not be accepted. Grant opens 15th September and closes 31st October with funds to be available by the end of November. Follow the link to read our policy and for the application link:

<https://cardiniafoundation.org/grants/>



# SENIOR NETBALL COACHES VACANCIES FOR 2026



The Brookers are on the lookout for passionate and committed netball coaches to join our team for the 2026 season!

Whether you're an experienced coach or ready to step into your first leadership role, we'd love to hear from you!



If interested please contact Head Coach,  
Jordan Leskie on 0400 970 131  
or email [secretary@gcfn.com.au](mailto:secretary@gcfn.com.au)

**CARLA**  
SKIN AND BEAUTY

**0480673204**

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

Shop 1/74 Main Street  
Gembrook

Empowering women of the  
Hills through self care

Laser Hair Removal

Laser Facials

Ombre Brow Tattoo

Skin Needling

Chemical Peels

Lash Lift

Brow Lamination

Brow Shaping





# The FoodStore is OPEN!!

The Food Store is open on Mondays to welcome those in need. We open between 10am-1pm | for you to come and collect some food. You will receive a friendly welcome and a warm smile, as well as access to the wide range of food available. There are no requirements other than being in need to access our services.



St Lukes Church Cockatoo

*All are Welcome to our*

## SUNDAY NIGHT

## *Service*

EVERY SUNDAY

**6pm-7pm**

**7pm-7.30pm . Cuppa, cake, bikkies  
and chat with locals.**

*With Youth Pastor Luke Hotchkin van Neuren*

**1 McBride St Cockatoo. Driveway beside  
the creek opposite the Bowls club.**





# **ROTARY KIDS FUN RUN**

with **PUFFING BILLY RAILWAY**

**30th November 2025 at Puffing Billy Station Gembrook**  
Children 3-12 years running to benefit other children.

Trophies  
to 1st Girl  
& Boy in  
each run!

Train rides  
on the day

Show bags &  
certificates  
for runners

Proudly supporting  
**Rotary**  
**CHILDREN'S  
HEALTH  
PROJECTS**



**Registrations Open!!  
Kids Running for Kids  
Supporting the  
Angliss Hospital Children's Ward**



<https://emeraldrotary.org.au/5395/Page/rotarykidsfunrunwithpuffingbilly>



## *Cockatoo RSL (sub branch)*

*Local Container Returning point.*



**RockN Roll Night**  
**Saturday 25th**  
**October**



**Pool Comp.**  
**Sat. 18th October**  
**7pm start. 16 only.**



**Poker Night.**  
**Sat. 11th October**  
**7pm Start.**



**UNO Comp**  
**Frid. 10th October**  
**7pm start.**



**Darts Comp.**  
**24th October 7pm**  
**start**



**Karaoke with Shelley**  
**Saturday 4th October.**



**COCKATOO RSL**



**COCKATOO RSL SUNDAY MUSIC SESSIONS**

**FROM 2PM EVERY SUNDAY**

**FREE ADMISSION**