

EMERALD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION INC. AND COMMUNITY GROUP NEWS

**EVA and Emerald U3A welcome
you to an exciting 2024**

We need to reject the word "old". It makes me think of mouldy things at the back of the fridge; things only fit for throwing out. "Older" is fine and true. It holds a hint of growing wiser, of having seen and experienced things. It's an additive word - a word filled with expectation. "Old" is a full stop word.

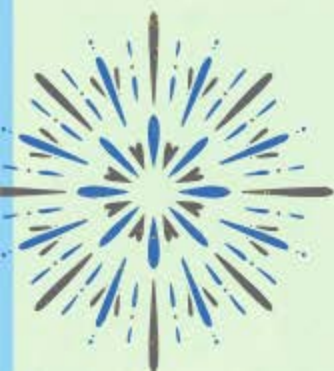
I love an argument. Please, come and change my mind. As long as my mind can be changed I will know that I am still learning. I'll know that while I'm getting older, I'm not yet old. I still want to see things I've never seen before. I want to hear music that is nothing like my old favourites. Show me art that has me scratching my head, poems that I need to read three or four times before I get the point.

Explain a moment in history from a perspective I had never considered before. Each new thing ensures that as we are getting inevitably older, we are not getting old, we're not ready to be thrown out.

U3A is a golden gift for any person interested in growing older without growing old. The very foundations of U3A are that as we get older we can keep our brains learning
....continued inside on P3



Pat Buoncristiani, U3A President



**MAY THE COMING YEAR BE
FILLED WITH HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS**





**WE THANK OUR SPONSORS &
ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO
BUY LOCAL**

*Buying
locally
creates local
jobs*

*Buying
locally has
environmental
and social
benefits*

*Local businesses
strengthen
Emerald's
community*

*Local
businesses
are invested
in Emerald's
future*

Platinum level

*** Bendigo
Bank
* Emerald
Co-Op**



Gold level



**Falcone & Adams
Bell Real Estate
Bam Bam
Emerald
Village
Pharmacy**

Silver level

**Emerald Village: Newsagency | Pilates |
Family Dentist | Eyes Optical |
Wellness Pharmacy**

**KLR legal | Tree Range Arborists |
Fernlea | Tinkar's Corner | Mindful AF |
Alexander Neil | Barry Plant | EMCAR
Hills Physiotherapy | C-Me Uniforms |
Cellarbrations | Avonsleigh Vet |
Gingers Hair | Auto Plus | Flavour Bomb
Lauritos Pizza | Hush Cosmetics**



Bronze level

**Efficient Air
Emerald
Fruit Barn
Emerald Meats**

From the EVA President

The EVA committee had its first meeting for the new year on January 24th. You are most welcome to attend any of our monthly meetings which are all held at 7.30pm in the Hills Hub. (Planning on the 3rd Wednesday, or Committee/Community on the 4th Wednesday).

Enquiries about meetings or community issues you would like to raise, can be made by emailing our secretary Heather Bishop or myself, or you can use the letterbox which has just been installed near the front entrance of the Hub. If you visit the Hub, you can also speak to one of the hosts who very generously man the desk between 10am and 1pm on weekdays.

One of the main objectives of the EVA in 2024 is to involve our 200 members. We would definitely appreciate feedback, suggestions and ideas to support our Emerald Community.

Currently, the EVA is supporting a local residents' group who are objecting to the Shire granting a permit for the relocation of a Medical Centre. Their major concern is the lack of a comprehensive traffic/parking plan and its impact on current and future development in Emerald.

Funding Our Newsletter

Peter Maloney and his team do a great job keeping locals informed on what is happening, and we receive great support from the Emerald business community for our newsletter. The EVA also receives a grant from the Shire (\$900pa). Together these cover our costs of printing around 800 copies every month except January. To cover other operating costs such as Indemnity Insurance we need additional funding.

To this end we are in the process of becoming a ticket seller for the Dandenong Ranges Community Raffle sponsored by the Bendigo Bank. In a classic win/win, when EVA members buy tickets in this raffle, they could win one of 6 prizes (1st \$20,000 or \$1,000 x 5) and the revenue from their ticket purchase is donated by Bendigo Bank to EVA.

Upcoming meetings will be accessible online as well via a link we will send out to members. This should make attendance easier for some who have found the timeslot problematic, or travelling time a hindrance.

Feb 21st Planning

Feb 28th Committee, with guest speaker on 'Policing and Safety in Emerald'

March 20th Planning

March 27th Community with guest speaker Daniela De Martino, MP Monbulk

Where are we?

The Flavour Bomb Asian Fusion Cuisine have agreed to sponsor the prize for our monthly quiz. The monthly winner will receive a voucher for \$20.



An easy one for the walkers of Emerald. A section of which walking track?

Email to: dickbartley08@gmail.com

Dick Bartley - President EVA Inc.

Rotary Club of Emerald & District

Happy New Year. Following the festive season our members are back "on board" and are all full of energy, enthusiasm, and ideas. It is shaping up to be a bumper year!

Leading up to the break we ensured that we were able to again assist financially to allow St Marks and St Lukes to have hams in their hampers for those families struggling at this time plus we gave Christmas cards and gifts to all 60 residents at Lifeview/Glades.



[Christmas Hampers ready for distribution to struggling families.](#)

Rotary Markets - It was disappointing that the weather was WET for our December market and like the Cockatoo Market the week previously we had to cancel. We aim to have a mega one though for

February on Saturday 10th. Put the date in your diary and come along to Emerald Primary School Oval, Heroes Ave 8am -1pm.

Our Christmas raffle was very successful and thanks to our generous local businesses we raised \$3386. This will enable us to fund more Community needs. The winner of the whole "lot" estimated at \$2000 was Rita Wuit from Cockatoo. Rita says she has never won anything before so Congratulations and enjoy. Pictured is Rita with her dog and there is even a voucher from Emerald Stockfeed & Pet Supplies included!



Now that we are in the New Year and following an enforced COVID break, we finally will be hosting the All-American Car Display & Man Cavel Alley on Sunday 18th February at Gembrook Recreation Reserve. This is a family day with American cars, trucks, hot rods, custom cars, market stalls, kids rides, food and more. Display cars will arrive from 8am and we open to spectators from 9.30am.

Bookings are open for the next Debutante Ball to be held on 15th June at Cathies Lane Receptions. Information is available on the Rotary web site www.emeraldrotary.org.au

The final tally for funds raised for Monash Children's Hospital Cancer Centre via The Kids Fun Run with Puffing Billy on 26th November is \$45,000 and over 4 events increases the sum donated to the Centre to

\$191,000. Total funds raised for Children's Charities via Kids Fun Run: 2002 - 2023 is \$766,250.



Visit our website: www.emeraldrotary.org.au There is so much information of interest there plus photographs from previous events. And we would love you to join us at either an event or meeting (held every Tuesday 6.45pm for 7pm at The Paradise Hotel).

Our calendar of Speakers is: 6/2 Jane Moschetti –The Compassionate Friends VIC (TCFV), 20/2 Helen Disler – Farming secrets, 27/2 Dr Nerida James – Natural Healing Centre Ferny Creek, 5/3 Tanya Neilson – Lawyer Guardian Injury law

To find out more please call 0408 769 491 or 0417 038 707.

Shalini Penny, Publicity



Laugh a Little or Smile a Lot

Emerald U3A

Continued from the front page.....

U3A is a golden gift for any person interested in growing older without growing old. The very foundations of U3A are that as we get older we can keep our brains learning, we can encourage our bodies to keep moving, and provide our creative juices ample opportunities to flow. Research also tells us that if we learn, move and create in the company of others we will be able to continue growing older for longer.

Emerald U3A is currently offering 53 different courses and activities from which you can choose. The variety is astonishing – from marvels of the universe to art and the Battle of Trafalgar, from pickleball to yoga, from philosophy to current affairs, poetry, painting, needlework, woodwork, the history of rock and pop, photography ... the list goes on and on. You can enrol in as many or as few as you wish for a single, annual subscription fee of \$40. I'm prepared to give a chocolate frog to anyone who can honestly say there is nothing there to interest them.

Come along to the Hills Hub any week day between 10 am and 1 pm and talk with one of our wonderful Hub Hosts. Signing up is easy online too at <https://u3aemerald.org.au/>

Pat Buoncristiani

President - Emerald U3A

Emerald Fire Brigade

Good House Bad House

Selby CFAs good house/bad house is currently on display at the Emerald library.

The display house was built by one of Selby CFA's members, Neville, and one of their local residents. The house has one 'good side' showing a well prepared property for bushfires and a 'bad side' showing a poorly maintained property.

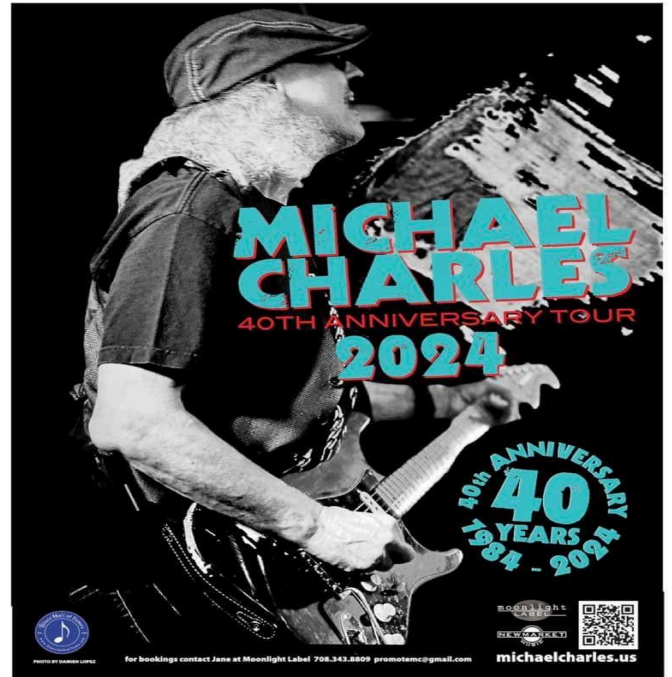
It is a great example to help show residents that live in bushland areas what a well prepared house looks like in comparison to one that is not prepared. There are 24 differences to look for in the display and includes bushfire safety information brochures for visitors to take.

The house will be on display until mid February.

Leanne Johnston - Emerald CFA

Emerald RSL - Music Night

Next gig is on Friday 23rd February.
Bookings - ring Paul: 0418 420 042



FRIDAY 23RD FEB 2024
EMERALD RSL / 7PM TILL LATE
\$25 AT THE DOOR OR ONLINE VIA TRY-BOOKING.COM

Gemco Players

Gemco Players
COMMUNITY THEATRE
Presents

*Book a table
& Solve the
Murder!*

*Dress in
1920's to
win prizes!*

**ROUND
THE WORLD
in 72 days**

A three course murder mystery dinner experience

**Feb 10th
Bar Opens
6.30pm**



**Dinner
+ Show
\$45/\$48**

**The Gem
Theatre
Emerald**

<https://www.trybooking.com/COMRF>

BOOKINGS -

<https://www.gemcplayers.org/whatson/roundtheworld>



Emerald Probus Club

Emerald Ladies Probus Club have resumed their meetings for 2024. The club meets on the third Monday of each month at the Emerald RSL, 3 Memorial Ave, Emerald.

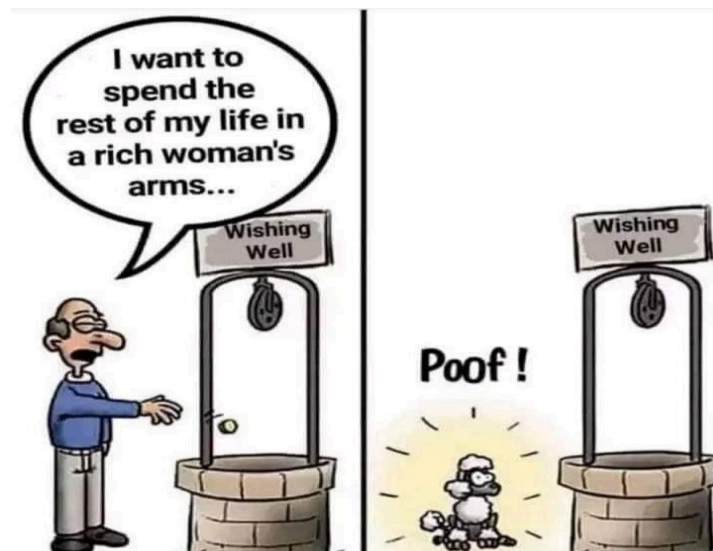
Lots of activities, outings and events are planned for the coming year including a monthly Morning Coffee & Chat, a monthly Nosh & Natter lunch, a craft group, cinema and theatre outings, garden visits, walkers & talkers group, as well as participation in local community events. At our monthly meetings, members and guests have the opportunity to hear from interesting guest speakers with entertaining, informative and thought-provoking subjects.

The next meeting is on Monday 19 February at 10am and the guest speaker will be from the Office of Public Advocacy talking about Powers of Attorney. If you're a retired, or semi-retired lady, you're invited to come along and listen to our guest speaker, enjoy some morning tea and get to know all about Emerald Ladies Probus for fun and friendship in retirement.



Enquiries:

Chris Britton on 0421 338 124



Victorian Container Deposit Scheme

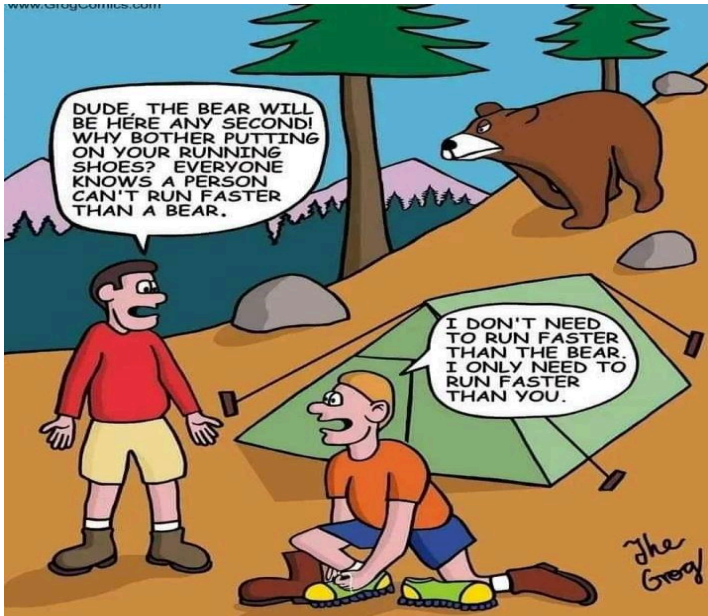
AT THE EMERALD RSL - 3 Memorial Avenue

The Emerald RSL now has a Deposit Centre at the rear of the Club. Open to the public 24/7.

The RSL and the SES share the proceeds of your donation. Thank you.



The Emerald RSL



ECH Supports Community Needs

Emerald Community House creates programs that respond to identified need and community interest, providing support to those who are affected by crisis or displaced by disruptive events and providing services with learning and development outcomes, especially for disadvantaged individuals.

Our enterprises include the Emerald Community Market (3rd Sunday), the Dig In Community Grocery, short course program, childcare and community free food resource. ECH operates two solar power arrays including battery storage to increase operational sustainability and resilience. The Dig In Community Grocery operates totally off grid.

ECH auspices the Hills Community Focus (HCF) magazine, a volunteer run local publication for the Yarra Ranges and Cardinia Shire hills area which was created in response to the June 2021 hills storm disaster. Those interested in joining current volunteers would include lead editors, writers, proof readers and graphic design. Tertiary placements and Centrelink job seekers are considered for volunteering positions to develop workplace skills. Employment for qualified childcare educators is currently on offer. Other specific volunteer opportunities may be available from time to time at ECH.

ECH office hours: 10-3 Monday, Wednesday and Fridays.

emhouse@iinet.net.au www.echvic.org.au
market@echvic.org.au 03 5968 3881

Banking in Emerald

IT'S OFFICIAL

The NAB Emerald is closing - March 7th 2024

Which does make for interesting conjecture - who will move into the prime real estate building where NAB currently resides? I guess - watch this space!!! The For Lease sign is now up.

Good news that we still have the CBA and the Bendigo Bank Sub-Agency at the Emerald Co-Op. That will also mean a significant increase in traffic in the local Post Office.

Emerald Lake Pool - time to play

The ELP pool season commenced on 23 November, until 14 March, between noon and 6:30 pm on open days. The pool will NOT open if the forecast temperature for Emerald at 4 pm the day prior is less than 26 degrees or if heavy rain and lightning conditions are forecast.

Following community feedback, the EVA committee has supported retaining the pool at Emerald Lake rather than removing it and replacing it with a (apparently low key) water feature.

It is not perfect but is the best we have locally for youngsters to cool off and practise safe swimming over the summer season. Even better, Cardinia residents may now park for free at the lake so it is all at no cost to you (You will need an Annual Emerald Lake Park parking pass - see the Council website).

Why I Live Where I Live

I live in Avonsleigh/Emerald and have done so for most of my life. I was recently asked why I live in Emerald ... My family history in the town and surroundings probably answers that question. I am the middle daughter of Frances and Norman Nobelius, who both grew up in Emerald.

Having grown up here the memories of life in Emerald remain, going to the Emerald Kindergarten and then to the Primary school, walking from school to Emerald Lake for swimming lessons, learning to dance the Pride of Erin and the Barn Dance in preparation for the annual Fancy Dress Ball at the Hall.

As I think about our township, I remember the old store (Andersons) where I could buy chocolate flavoured straws to make the daily school milk more

bearable. Searles Corner Store (Woollies now) Mr Searle would buy blackberries we picked and then sell them to Monbulk Jam Factory. The house where Aunt Sarah Nobelius lived on the main road (now the lawyers) and how frightened I was of her and would cross the road so I didn't have to walk past her house. Our grandparent's house along Beaconsfield Road and the many visits there. The Emerald Country Club where I now walk my dog but where 43 years ago I got married!

I love to sit on my deck and watch spectacular sunsets, looking at the patchwork of different greens of the trees planted on the hill towards Emerald and Monbulk. In Autumn the colours of the deciduous trees, many of which were planted by Carl Axel Nobelius (my Great Grandfather), are amazing! We could once see the family home "Carramar" on the hill but the trees have now grown too big.

History is important as are memories and family... that is why I live in Emerald and would not want to be anywhere else!



Pauline Murphy - (President Emerald Museum)

Emerald RSL

Certificates of Appreciation of Service in the forces for Australia can now be organised, including WW1. A Presentation Day with Jason Wood will be held at the RSL on Sunday May 19th at 2pm. If interested in organising a certificate please ring Daryl Bristowe on 0409 359 509.

EVA - Planning Committee

Proposed Medical Centre 337 Belgrave – Gembrook Road: VCAT Appeal – Update

Previously we informed you that the EVA was proposing to join with four residents who were intending to lodge an appeal against Council's decision to grant a permit for the development. We asked for any comments from EVA members on this proposed action. We received two emails both supporting the action. EVA has now joined the appeal. Note no EVA funds have been spent in lodging the appeal.

The grounds of appeal that have been lodged are essentially that Madigan Way is not suitable for the volume of traffic that will use it if the development proceeds, that a long term traffic management plan is needed as the area along the north side of the Belgrave – Gembrook Road develops and that the development is not consistent with the Emerald Strategy Plan and the requirements of the planning scheme to protect the views to the north of the town.

At this stage a compulsory conference has been scheduled by VCAT for March 15 to determine if the matter can be resolved prior to it being formally heard on 31 May, 3, 4 June.

Recently those who are appealing the Council decision met with representatives of the developer at their invitation to discuss the development and see if there is any compromise in the development that would lead to a withdrawal of the appeal. EVA representatives indicated their concerns about the development, particularly the problems with reliance on Madigan Way for all access. We will continue to keep EVA members informed as this matter progresses.

Planning Sub-Committee Membership

Currently the Planning Sub-Committee comprises mostly members of the EVA Committee – although two members of the wider EVA are members. We encourage any EVA members to join the Committee. Please contact Trevor Budge who Chairs the sub-Committee if you would like to join, - trevorbudge49@gmail.com

The Planning Sub-Committee focuses on land use and development issues, submissions on Council projects e.g. Emerald Lake and Puffing Billy Park, advocacy for renewal of the outdated 2009 Emerald Strategy Plan, Council's annual budget, EVA Business Plan and general items about the development of our village and district. The Planning Sub-Committee meets at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday of each month at the Hills Hub. The first meeting for 2024 will be on 21 February.

Trevor Budge - Convenor

EVA Monthly Meeting

Planning for a Liveable Community in Emerald

The Emerald Village Association's February meeting was filled with lively discussion about our way forward for this coming year. We will revise our Business Plan for 2024 at our next meeting and **your** thoughts and opinions are welcome.

Our next meeting is at the Hills Hub, 400A Belgrave-Gembrook Rd, Emerald, Wednesday February 28rd, 2024 at 7.30pm. All are welcome...

Trevor Budge and Claude Cullino reported on the progress of several issues studied in depth by our **Planning Sub-Committee**. He included the progress of our VCAT Objection to the development of the proposed Medical Centre at Belgrave-Gembrook Rd.

The EVA believes that not enough Council attention is being paid to the traffic problems with Madigan Way associated with the increased patronage of an estimated extra one thousand cars per day. The continuing development of this strip is at a critical reflection point, following the precedents set by past buildings. A "line in the sand" if you will.

The Worrell Reserve Bike and Skate park is due to commence construction in July this year and the Puffing Billy Reserve Park Plan is being worked on at Council planning level. However, no funds for this park are outlined in the next 5 year plan...

Further information and ways that you can help us be active and contributing citizens can be found elsewhere in this month's Newsletter.

We discussed ways of continuing to finance the production of the Newsletter, which we believe is a vital communication tool in Emerald and District. We are grateful for the Sponsor's that help make it happen. Please shop locally...

We decided to continue with a **Well-being Committee** after the success of Intergenerational Projects such as "Come Sit By Me" and installed a **Maintenance Committee**, led by Dennis Alexander-Hale, to work with the Council on

footpaths and the built environment around the Township.

And we talked about the importance of hearing all voices, ages and issues in the Community and to help our local government and state government understand our needs through our representations to them- a liveability plan. Stay tuned!

Shelley Beardshaw - EVA Committee

ECHO Youth and Family Services

As our programs get underway for 2024, we are looking for volunteers who are interested in mentoring children at our 2XL program in Cockatoo. We have an obligation free information session on February 8th for anyone wanting to learn more.

Nicole Lane - CEO

2XL

Mentoring Program

IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD

2XL is a mentoring program for children in grades 2-6 to enhance developmental abilities, social skills, self confidence and resilience.

We are looking for caring individuals to mentor selected students on a weekly basis at St Luke's Cockatoo.

Mentor Information Evening
7pm, Thursday 8th February, 2024
@ St Luke's Cockatoo
McBride Street, Cockatoo
light supper provided

Make a difference in a child's life.

This evening is obligation free.
Come and see if you are interested in participating in this great opportunity.

For more information:
0418 382 857
Naomi.dewar@echo.org.au



FRIENDS OF EMERALD LAKE PARK

(FELP) working bees begin for 2024 on **Saturday 3rd February, Sunday 11th and Thursday 15th**, 9-11am
New volunteers are most welcome.

Contact us at friendsofemeraldlakepark@gmail.com

FELP are now registered as a Donation Partner through the Container Deposit Scheme Victoria and would appreciate any donations of cans and bottles to us. The collected funds will be used in our projects. **ID number C2000010253.**

Summer has been a busy time for weeds. Time to deadhead your **Agapanthus** plants. These plants seed prolifically and invade other gardens, bushland and roadside reserves. The large clumps take over indigenous grasses and groundcovers and attract many slugs and snails. Some alternate suggestions are Spiny Mat Rush, Tasman Flax lily, Butterfly flag or Kangaroo Paw.

Sheila Hampson - President

Emerald Museum

Emerald Museum is looking for volunteers

Would you like an opportunity to give back to your community? Are you looking for a place where you can indulge your interest in history and culture and contribute your own experience and skills whilst learning new things in a friendly and supported environment?



Your local museum, the Emerald Museum, might be the place for you.

We are fortunate to have our own purpose-built museum. The Museum conserves and exhibits the history of Emerald and surrounding districts so people, now and in the future, can better understand the region and its people. The Museum houses more than

8000 artifacts including household items, machinery, documents and photographs.

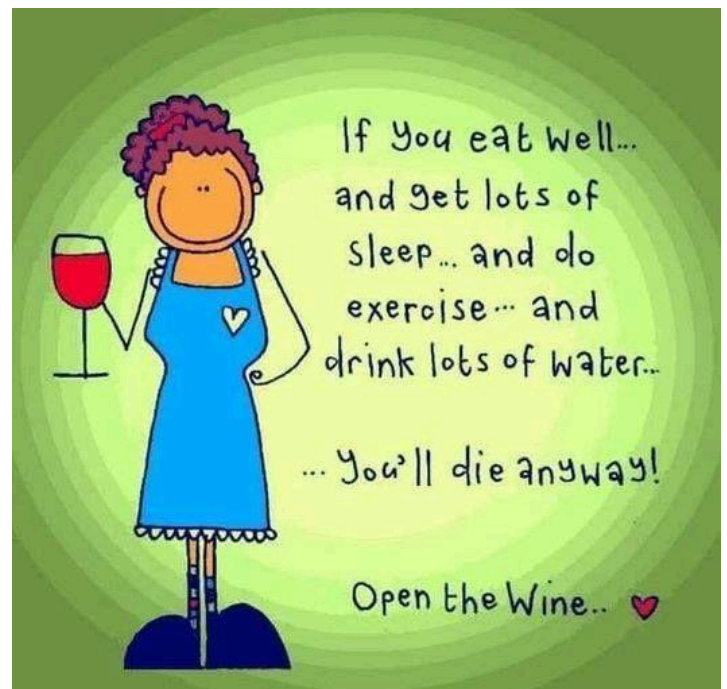
The Museum has a special collection relating to the historic Nobelius Nursery which was once the largest tree nursery in the Southern Hemisphere. This is an extraordinary yet little known fact of Emerald history.

The Museum is staffed by volunteers and a museum officer who is employed by the Shire.

Volunteers help with various tasks including:

- Meeting and greeting visitors, showing them around and answering their questions.
- Organising and cataloging the collection so that items are safely stored and easy to find on the online catalog.
- Preparing displays
- Hosting visits of local school children and of various community groups

Pauline Murphy - President Emerald Museum



Emerald Star Bush

The Federal Environment Department has recently listed the Emerald Star Bush (*Asterolasia asteriscophora* subsp. *Albiflora*), which is one of Cardinia Shire's rarest plants, as "Critically Endangered" under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act. This listing is the highest protective status in the country and acknowledges that in the absence of conservation action the species will become extinct over time.

The advocacy for the protection and conservation of the species has been a collaborative project with the Emerald Community, Yarra Ranges Council and Cardinia Shire Council which began in 2010. Initial knowledge of the

species was poor with only 2800 plants known in approximately 25 sites. Now after 13 years and many thousands of hours invested by the community more than 80 sites have been identified supporting more than 9000 plants that live in the whole world.

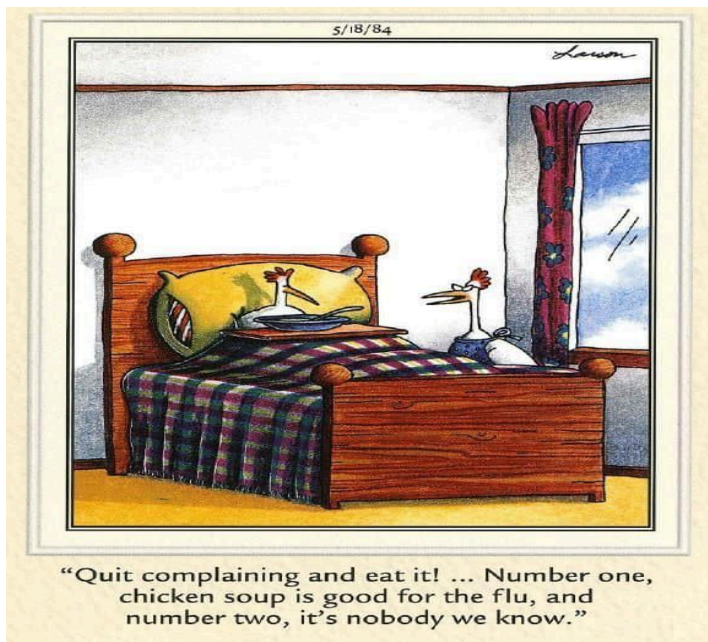


Approximately 10% of the known locations are on land reserve for conservation purposes, while approximately 80% of sites are found on private land or utility land which until now had no planning controls to protect these populations.

The species germinates well after fire, but appears to die back and reduce in numbers 10 years after a fire.

Future conservation efforts include continued propagation of the species, removing weeds from known sites and continued surveying to understand the species extent.

Sheila Hampson - On behalf of the Emerald Star Bush Community Partnership Project.



Emerald Arts Society

2 big workshops coming up in February.

- Pen & Wash Sketching workshop on Feb 10th
- 2 day Solar Plate Etching workshop on the 17th and 18th Of Feb.

Please ring - Gina 0400 598 059 if you have any queries or would like to attend any of these workshops.

WORKSHOP

PEN & WASH

EMERALD ARTS Society

Teacher: Judi Roberts

Discover the wonderful art of pen and wash to capture scenes and moments in time. Judi has been using this technique for many years to create wonderful travel diaries to remember favourite places and things and she will teach us how to create our own.

Come away from this workshop with the skills you need to create your own pen and wash drawings using basic materials and the inspiration to use them on your travels.

DATE: Sat 10th February 2024

TIME: 10am to 3pm

LOCATION: EAS Studio, Cnr Church & Anne Sts

COST: \$50 members / \$80 non-members
Pay by direct debit to Emerald Arts Society Inc Bendigo Bank BSB 633000 Acct 196996249 Ref: your name and workshop

BRING: Any basic watercolours (materials will be supplied if you don't have them), A5 or A6 brush, an unlined sketch book & your lunch.

INCLUDED: Morning and afternoon tea provided and a waterproof pen.

SKILLS: Open to all levels

BOOKINGS:
ginamaymiller@icloud.com
or call Gina on 0400 598 059

CNR CHURCH & ANNE STS, EMERALD

EMERALDARTSSOCIETY.COM.AU

TRUDY RICE - INTRODUCTORY

SOLAR PLATE ETCHING

EMERALD ARTS Society

TWO DAY WORKSHOP:

In this hands-on workshop, Trudy will introduce you to the magical printmaking process of Solar Plate Etching.

Solar Plate Etching is a non-toxic intaglio etching process. Using the sun's natural UV and water rather than toxic acids and solvents to etch the plate with remarkable results. Trudy has been working with this medium for the past 9 years and her work is represented at Queenscliff Gallery.

Trudy is deeply connected to our natural world. Her works on paper are created by printing many layers of solar plate etchings. With mindful observation, the initial drawings are etched in the very sun and water that her specimens are found. Delicate textures and atmospheric depth bring Trudy's love and empathy for the natural environment directly to the viewer.

Be inspired as you transform your existing drawings, paintings and/or photographs into imaginative fine art prints, printed on beautiful printmaking papers and luscious printing inks.

LIST OF MATERIALS TO BRING:

(If you don't have everything, that is fine - Trudy will bring things to share.)

2 small containers for water and ink, Brushes for ink work, Nib pen for ink work, Black pens (opaque) PITT Pens are ideal, HB pencils in various shades, Rubber gloves for inking up light garden gloves are reusable, Ruler, Stanley knife, Cutting Matt, Pen & Notebook, Apron, Closed toe shoes, your drawn images you may like to draw them on trace paper, Photographs for reference.

PLATE SIZE: each participant will receive two A6 plates to work on. There will be additional A6 and A5 plates for purchase at the workshop. Please keep this in mind with your sketches.

Note about using photographs to etch: If you have great photos have these photocopied onto a transparency film in black and white. Please keep in mind the A6 size of the solar plate and make your images slightly larger. The dark areas need to be dense enough to block the UV. If you have further questions don't hesitate to ask.

I look forward to meeting you for an exciting weekend.

Sat 17th & Sun 18th FEB 2024

TIME: 10am-4pm each day

LOCATION: EAS Studio, Cnr Church & Anne Sts

COST: \$340 Membrs; \$390 Non-members

PROVIDED: All materials, morning & afternoon tea

BRING: Own lunch, sketches, photographs or specimens for inspiration to produce A6 size etchings

SKILLS: Open to beginners and ALL levels

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!
ginamaymiller@icloud.com
or phone GINA on 0400 598 059

THE TEACHER:
Australian Artist Trudy Rice has a deep connection to nature which creates an alliance that enables ease from eye to paper using the non-toxic print process of solar plate etching. Her love and empathy for the natural environment enables her to engage the viewer directly through her delicate works on paper. More details: www.trudyricedesign.com

CORNER CHURCH & ANNE STS, EMERALD

emeraldartssociety.com.au

News from Emerald Secondary College

At Emerald Secondary College, we celebrate and encourage Student Leadership, Agency and Voice and provide students with a diverse multitude of opportunities to contribute to College decision-making and be a part of our leadership team.

At the end of 2023, Senior students were invited to apply for a position on our College Captaincy team. We acknowledge the efforts of the many students who applied, provided Campaign Briefs and were interviewed for the positions.

It is our absolute pleasure to introduce to the Emerald Community our College Captains for 2024, Year 12 students

Lily Cochrane
Mitchell Blackwell
Keilah Dewar and
Charlotte Scott

Here are the Campaign Briefs submitted by the successful candidates.

We look forward to working with this very capable team.



Lily Cochrane

I will make a great College Captain because:

1. I am committed to being a positive role model for all students.
2. I pride myself on working hard to achieve my best at everything I do
3. I want our school to have more support and student participation in fun and competitive events and activities throughout the school.
4. I believe I can gain more confidence in myself with the role of School Captain.
5. I am determined to make Emerald Secondary College an enjoyable place for everyone.



Mitchell Blackwell

I will make a great College Captain because:

1. As a captain I bring guidance and assistance - I'm always there to help.
2. I bring leadership towards the role with management in any situation.
3. I believe in doing your best work. Every time.
4. I am determined and will push anybody to their full potential.
5. As captain I'm here to support and encourage you to do your best.



Charlotte Scott

I will make a great College Captain because:

1. I have care and compassion regarding all staff and students
2. I can collaborate and cooperate with others
3. I am keen to develop the understanding of leadership
4. I wish to ensure that future students enrolled at this school encounter the same positive experience that I have
5. I aspire to speak on behalf of those who may not articulate their troubles, respecting and supporting them



Keilah Dewar

I will make a great College Captain because:

1. I prioritise student voice to create a better school environment
2. I will work to improve the school's culture and inclusivity
3. I value collaboration with others to achieve excellence
4. I work to further connect the community to the college
5. I aim to be an inspiring and encouraging role model

Tanja Korsten - Assistant Principal ESC

Emerald Community House



Term 1, 2024 Short Course Program

Upgrade your life!

Fired Arts Courses: Ceramics/Pottery – create functional and sculptural clay based art
 Friday daytime, February 2nd - March 22nd, 1:00 - 3:30pm, \$330
 Monday evenings, February 5th - March 25th, 6:30pm - 9:00pm, \$330

Children's Fired Arts Courses: Mixed Media - clay hand building, glass fusion and jewellery making
 Wednesdays, February 7th - March 27th, 4:00 - 5:30 pm, \$220

Garden to Plate – Food for all, increase cooking skills, use local produce, support local food needs
 Mondays, February 5th - March 25th, 9:30am-1:30pm, \$80

Introduction to Permaculture – improve your garden design, sustainability and lifestyle
 Wednesdays, April 17th - May 1st, 9:00 am - 3:00pm, \$250

Successful Gardening - improve your garden yield, planting expertise, farm excursions
 Wednesdays, March 6th - March 20th, 9:00am-3:00pm, \$250

Introduction to Herbalism - enhance general health and wellbeing with herbs, make herbal products
 Wednesdays, May 8th - 22nd, 9:00 am - 3:00pm, \$250

Emerald Wellbeing Group – fun gathering, develop friendships and support network
 Thursdays, February 1st - March 28th, 10:00am - 12:00pm, Free

Yoga – regular yoga practice for beginners to experienced, improve your health, increase flexibility
 Fridays, February 2nd – ongoing, 10:30 - 12pm, 10 sessions for \$250

First Aid - Provide CPR and Provide First Aid
 Expressions of interest, CPR, 9:00 - 10:30am, \$70, First Aid, 9:00am - 1:00pm, \$150

CLEMATIS PARK RESERVE

FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NATIVE FLORA AND FAUNA

A Public Meeting was held at the Emerald Community House on Saturday 27 January 2024 to elect a new Committee of Management for the next 3 year period. The meeting was chaired by Dick Bartley and 7 people were elected to continue the local oversight of this significant pocket of land (approximately 1.5 hectares).



The land was originally reserved in 1958 due to the efforts of local resident, Gus Ryberg, and was officially designated as "a reserve for the preservation of native flora and fauna" in 1974 by the state government due to the efforts of Stan and Stella Turner and other local citizens concerned by the destruction of native animal habitat and the loss of indigenous plant species.

Clematis Park consists of natural bushland and is kept as weed-free as possible. It is home to many indigenous animals and plants (including Emerald Star Bushes) which have been documented in recent inventories. The reserve can be accessed from the end of Church St Emerald or from Clematis Park Rd Emerald.

Lance Walker

Chairperson - Clematis Park Reserve Committee of Management



What's New in Emerald

New Children's Play Therapy and Wellbeing Clinic in Emerald!



Welcome to our newly opened Play Therapy and Children's Wellbeing Clinic in Emerald, catering to children aged 2-13 and their families.

Services offered:

Individual play therapy: Tailored sessions to support emotional growth.

Learn to Play program: Specifically designed for neurodiverse children to enhance play and social skills.

Family-connection therapy: Educating parents on facilitating special play sessions with their children.

Additional Services:

Lego Therapy

Girl Power Social and Wellbeing Group

Boy Crew Social and Wellbeing Group

Ready Set Prep

Preschool Play Therapy Group

Music, Movement, and Mess: Baby and Toddler Messy Play Programs

Explore a range of programs and services designed to meet the needs of children and families in our community.

Contact us today or find out more on our website:

www-foundationsforchildhood-com-au

Jordan Mepstead - Owner

Mobile: 0438 943 999

Worrell Reserve

A safer place of last resort this fire season

Emerald's Neighbourhood Safer Place, a bushfire place of last resort, has been relocated from Pepi's Land to Worrell Reserve in December 2023.

Designated as a place of last resort for the community during a bushfire, a Neighbourhood Safer Place is a clearing that provides separation from bushfire hazards if all other fire plans have failed.

Neighbourhood Safer Places are not a substitute for leaving early or staying and defending a property during an emergency.

The carpark and netball court area at Pepi's Land in Emerald was declared an alternative safe place in 2018, while oval improvement and upgrade works were carried out at Worrell Reserve.



Worrell Reserve is located close to the Emerald CFA Fire Station in the centre of Emerald.

Cardinia Shire's Neighbourhood Safer Places for the 2023-24 Fire Danger Period will include:

- Cockatoo Community Centre, Cockatoo
- Gembrook Community Centre, Gembrook
- Worrell Reserve, Emerald

For more information, contact Council's Emergency Management Team on 1300 787 624 or email - mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au

Stewart Matulis | Coordinator - Emergency Management | Cardinia Shire Council



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28th ANNUAL EVENT
Gembrook Recreation Reserve
Belgrave-Gembrook Rd, Gembrook

DISPLAY CARS arrive from 8:00 am
SPECTATORS 9:30am - 3:00pm
AWARD PARADE & TROPHIES at 1pm

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Rotary Club of Emerald



Rotary
Debutante Ball

A Project of The Rotary Club
of Emerald & District Inc

2024 Debutante Ball

SATURDAY 15th June 2024

**Applications are being
accepted from 1st January 2024**

For further information and to
download an application form, go to
www.emeraldrotary.org.au



Emerald Mens Shed

Community Group

Since the closure of the Hills She Shed, the Emerald Men's Shed Incorporated (EMS) has had several enquiries from women asking what woodworking options are available for them.

To this end the EMS is opening a Community Group which will meet on Wednesdays between 9.00am and 4.00pm. Other sessions may follow at a later date, as the need arises.

This Community Group is available to all people over the age of 18 years. It is designed as a self-paced learn-as-you-go group and NOT a structured learning activity. Learn to safely use hand and power tools and woodworking machinery. Other skills can be introduced as required

Learn to undertake basic maintenance around the home, such as: change a tap washer, fix a sticking door or window, etc. Make projects of your own design using your own materials. Some current members of the Men's Shed are expected to attend the Community Group day (Wednesdays) and will be willing to assist when needed.

To cover legalities/Insurance the members of the Community Group will become part of the Emerald Men's Shed. The cost of membership is \$50 per year. This cost does not include any materials used by any members wanting to make their own projects.



Enrolments open on Wednesday 7th February. As numbers are limited, please enroll early.

The group is expected to start on 28th February 2024

Enjoy the camaraderie of like-minded people

For further information contact Emerald Men's Shed on 0490 851 835 or email to: mensshedemerald@gmail.com or visit us at Hills Community Hub, 402A Belgrave-Gembrook Rd, Emerald (corner of Belgrave-Gembrook Rd and Beaconsfield-Emerald Rd)

Tom Connolly - EMS

DANDENONG RANGES COMMUNITY RAFFLE

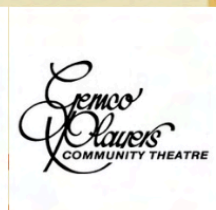
**\$25,000 OF GOLD
TO BE WON**

Tickets are priced at:

- 1 ticket for \$5
- 5 tickets for \$20
- 10 tickets for \$40
- 15 tickets for \$60
- 20 tickets for \$80
- 30 tickets for \$100

**BUY TICKETS
ONLINE**

**100% OF TICKET SALE PROCEEDS MADE VIA THE
GROUPS UNIQUE QR CODE SUPPORTS THEM**



PROMOTER



BURRINJA

Raffle will be drawn on the
2 May 2024.

PRIZES PROVIDED BY

Community Bank
Upwey, Belgrave and
Cockatoo-Gembrook

Bendigo Bank

T&C'S APPLY AND ARE AVAILABLE ON THE RAFFLE WEBSITE.
VIC PERMIT NO: 10406/23

EDRA Report



No matter what size business or sector you operate in, key steps & processes are required to grow and run successful events, and/or to participate in.

The timing of Event Evolution is perfect for all businesses and community groups looking to apply for a Cardinia Festivals & Event Grant, or embarking on running or growing an existing event.

Our guest speaker, Melanie Rankin-Smith, Event & Festival Manager of the Tesselaar Tulip Festival & Kabloom Festival, will share with us Tesselaar's insights and their journey which began with their first festival in 1954 and has grown to become one of Victoria's most iconic tourist attractions and events for our region.

Melanie will cover the history and growth of the festivals, the economic benefit to the region, sourcing and contracting vendors and entertainers, our target market and visitor profile and sustainability.

TICKETS \$30

1 x breakfast meal

Enjoy a tea, coffee, or fruit juice of choice during the event. Water (self serve on table)

HOW TO BOOK:

Head over to edra.org.au and follow the link on the home page. This will direct you to Bam Bam Italian's Booking page and choice of seven delicious breakfast meals to choose from.

Secure your spot and network and collaborate on the opportunities our business breakfasts present including promoting your business.

We will also be sharing our Flower Power Campaign strategy, an adjunct to the Kabloom Festival from MAR 23 to APR 14

GET ON BOARD!



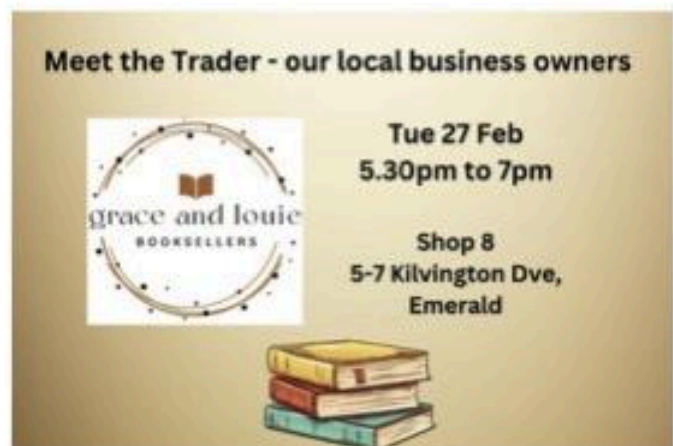
The 2024 Kabloom Festival runs from Sat 23 Mar to Sun 21 Apr and takes in Easter (29 Mar to 1 Apr) and Victorian School Holidays (29 Mar to 14 Apr).

The increased traffic we annually experience from people travelling through our villages to the Tesselaar Kabloom festival, provides our townships and businesses opportunities to collaborate with Tesselaar.

EDRA is developing a campaign that will provide opportunities for retailers, accommodation providers, hospitality & tourism businesses and community groups to participate.

The campaign is designed to attract increased visitation & stay over the festival period, to provide local Easter fun for families and include a shop local Easter promotion.

If you would like to keep updated and not already an EDRA member, drop us an email at ask@edra.org.au.



Our Meet the Trader 'in person' networking meets kick off again for 2024 providing an opportunity for local businesses to meet each other and to hear first hand from the owner about their background, business & vision.

Come and meet Lyn Watson and see her beautiful store.

Nibbles & drinks provided.

An Emerald Puzzle

(Thanks to an EVA member)

Emerald roads WORD FIND | Letters are each used once. Words read forward, backward, up, down, and diagonal. Remaining letters make up the important words **'EVA MEET @ HILLS HUB'**

C	K	I	L	V	I	N	G	T	O	N	D	R	V	R	A	Y	W	O	O	D
L	V	R	L	A	Z	A	L	E	A	C	A	R	O	L	I	N	E	P	S	O
O	I	E	A	S	U	M	M	I	T	S	Q	A	V	A	R	D	E	A	I	R
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E	T	O	D	C	R	T	K	I	N	G	S	L	E	G	G	M	O	T	V	H
R	A	B	C	R	O	S	S	V	R	O	N	A	L	D	O	L	A	O	A	A
L	M	A	J	E	S	T	I	C	A	M	A	R	Y	C	C	M	K	N	N	R
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C	E	N	U	R	O	A	D	R	E	D	H	I	L	L	D	E	A	F	R	B
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U	O	A	E	H	M	A	N	E	S	T	A	R	Y	H	K	M	A	R	D	L
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U	F	E	R	N	G	L	A	D	E	B	E	B	O	T	T	O	M	L	E	Y

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CL	Kilvington	Cascade		Main	Marks
Emerald	Lakeside	Curtis		Mary	Murphys
	Majestic	Ferres			Poplar
EVA MEET	Vista	Ford		SQ	Raywood
@ HILLS HUB				Ladd	

Connected Communities Update

Grant Opportunities Open Now

Our grant programs support community groups, not-for-profit organisations to develop projects, activities, and services that contribute to the wellbeing and quality of life of those who live, work and play in Cardinia Shire. The grant programs include -

- Community Capital Works Grants
- Wellbeing Support Grants
- Festival & Event Grants

For more information visit
www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/grants

Stan Henwood Award Nominations

If you know a local legend that deserves to be recognised for their outstanding, long-term contributions to the local community, now is the chance!

For more information or to nominate visit
cardinia.smartygrants.com.au/Stn2024

HILLS HUB

We are excited to welcome the Emerald U3A back to the Hills Hub for the 2024 classes.

The Puffing Billy Toy Library are back for 2024, open Wednesdays 9.30-11.30am and Sundays 2-4pm. Feel free to pop in during these hours to check out their treasure trove of toys.

FREE EVENT

Beginners Needle Felting Workshop

Monday 12 Feb 2024 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Join Rebecca Matthews, a local fibre artist, as she walks you through the foundations of creating your own needle felted artwork. the workshop will allow you to develop an understanding of the process, tools, and resources required to develop your own artworks at home.

Each participant will take home a completed artwork at the end of the session. No experience required. Materials will be provided.

To book:
www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1169822



Coming up at the Hub

Exhibition

Rebecca Matthews: The Fabric That Binds Us: Experience the Australian landscape through textile art.

22nd Jan - 16th Feb

Monday - Friday 9:30am - 2:30pm

This display showcases local landscapes through the delicate and intricate techniques of needle felting.

Creative Networking Night

Thursday 7th March

6pm-8pm

Hills Hub Arts Space

Discover upcoming opportunities, programs, and events to spark your imagination while networking with like-minded local creators. Get your creative juices flowing, enjoy some delicious food, and boogie along to a live DJ set at our first Creative Networking Night for the year! For more information visit -

www.facebook.com/cardiniaarts

NEED PRINTING?? The Emerald Village Association is now in a position to offer printing services to local organisations who may wish to print booklets like this Newsletter. Very competitive prices available. Simply email Peter Maloney with details. This is an opportunity to financially support your EVA.

Cardinia Shire Council

Report any issue to the Council relating to the services they provide that requires their attention.
Email: mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au

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

[READ THIS NEWSLETTER ON THE EMERALD VILLAGE NEWS WEBSITE](#) - helps reduce our print costs

FEEDBACK

Dick Bartley - dickbartley08@gmail.com
Peter Maloney - evanews3782@gmail.com (Editor)

We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation, who are the Traditional Owners of the land on which the Emerald Village Association Inc. operates in Emerald, Eastern Dandenong Ranges. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

SPONSORS OF THE EVA NEWSLETTER

THE EVA APPRECIATES THEIR SUPPORT - PLEASE BUY LOCAL

Emerald Village Pharmacy is now stocking **'HERBAL TEAS AUSTRALIA'**

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With great tasting tea with super benefits you will LOVE this range!



emerald village pharmacy

Did you know our pharmacist at Emerald Village Pharmacy can give vaccinations?

Are you up to date with your COVID vaccinations?

Are you over 65 years old and looking at getting a Shingles vaccination?

Come in and have a chat to our vaccinating pharmacist



ARE YOU BUSHFIRE READY?

We can pack 'Medication Packs' for you to have on hand ready to take in any emergency. We can pack 2 weeks of medications (or more) in blister seal packs to ensure your health is always a priority even under pressure.

Ask us today about how we can help you be prepared for this bushfire season.

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Bottom Left: Chelsea Vanderaa, Simone Donnelly, Clare Day, Samantha Scott.

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📍 Community Bank - Cockatoo-Gembrook
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*Roy Morgan Single Source (Australia), May 2023. All loans are subject to the bank's normal lending criteria. Fees, charges, terms and conditions apply. Please consider your situation and read the Terms and Conditions, available online at www.bendigobank.com.au or upon request from any Bendigo Bank branch, before making a decision. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 045 178 AFSL 237879 (1676688-1734981) (06/22) OUT_30781425, 08/06/2023

THE EMERALD & DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

Emerald Co-Op Mitre 10 has a great range of herbs and indoor plants at the moment.
Large range of plants/herbs that contain medical benefits, including orris root, anise, borage and many more!
Plant's ranging in price from \$6.99 up to \$34.99 get in before this lot of amazing plants are gone.
If you have any special request for plants/herbs or food, let a staff member know and we will try our best to get them in for you!



Morgan and Erica taking stock of all the fresh veggies ready for Emerald.