EMERALD Village Association Inc.

MONTHLY NEWS JUNE 2023

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emeraldvillagenews.com.au

400A Belgrave-Gembrook Road Emerald Vic 3782

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.

From the President

Congratulations to Jeff Latter who was recently awarded the Stan Henwood Award by the Shire of Cardinia. Jeff has made a significant impact in the Emerald area for many years.

The CEO of the Cardinia Shire, Carol Jeffs, attended our recent EVA meeting. Planning, the Shire's budget, community funding for the upgrade to the Emerald Village Playground (near the PBR station) and the use of the Hills Hub were discussion points. A report is included in this newsletter .

On Saturday May 20th Lynne Trensky and her EDRA team organised a very successful gathering (EXPO) of community groups and organisations in our district.This and the Trivia night that followed in the Hills Hub hall were well supported by the community.

The EVA is following up objections to the building project (medical centre) on the main road near the new shops. We believe this development is on the agenda for the next Shire Council meeting.

EVA Newsletter

Our objective with the newsletter is to inform the local people on what is happening in our town and to provide an opportunity for community groups to promote their programs.

The feedback has been positive but we are always trying to improve. We are planning to get funding to produce a booklet type Newsletter. In the meantime we will keep the current format for you to enjoy. Any ideas, suggestions, printing options etc would be most welcome.

Many thanks to our Editor Peter Maloney who produces the EVA newsletter each month.

Where Are We?

Last month we were in Church St which an estate agent recently referred to, not the Paris end of Emerald, but the "dress circle"!!!!

Many of our streets have fallen trees to contend with and our SES have come to the rescue. Thanks to them for the great work they do. No winning entries received.

This time we have two pictures. The first one is linked to our Emerald history.





Entries to: dickbartley08@gmail.com

Dick Bartley - President EVA

COMMUNITY GROUPS/CLUBS EXPO

Twenty-six local Community Groups showcased their services at the Hills Hub in Emerald on Sat 20th May to celebrate National Volunteer Week and their valued and committed volunteers.

It was a great opportunity for locals to chat and to see what groups there are locally to get involved in, and for the exhibiting groups to network as well. The EXPO was very well attended and all of the groups received a good number of volunteer enquiries to follow up.

The EXPO was hosted by the Eastern Dandenong Ranges Association and made possible through a Cardinia Events Grant.

A Trivia evening with some fun rivalry followed to show appreciation for the great work our community groups provide and to reward the efforts taken by the participating community groups on the day.

It was so good, we hope to see the EXPO become an annual event.



















Rotary Club of Emerald & District

Dr. Ian (Spud) Macleod Murphy Foundation

Dr. Murphy was an old-style doctor who retired to Emerald to breed turkeys after a distinguished career in the Navy. In 1944 he came out of retirement to become the first GP in the Hills. He practised for 37 years, establishing the Emerald Medical Centre in the old Post Office in the centre of town. The laneway beside the surgery was named Murphys Way in honour of his decades of service and in 1977 he was awarded the British Empire Medal for services to the health of the community.

In 1981 a fund was set up in Dr. Murphy's name, for Emerald Rotary to be overseers for medical and allied service scholarships to students living in the hills. This has been handled each year (except through COVID) by our Vocational Chair and this year Rotarian Susi Wilson, a pharmacist at Emerald Village Pharmacy was able to find 5 worthy candidates. To allow the Trust to retain sufficient funds to perpetuate, Emerald Rotary contributed additional funds and local medical and allied health related businesses gave sponsorship: thank you Emerald Medical Centre, Emerald Village Pharmacy, Emerald Psychology Practice, and the Avonsleigh Veterinary Clinic.



Award recipients with President Marcus Adams and Rotary District Governor, Ken Miller.

On Tuesday 9th May President Marcus Adams presented each candidate (along with the scholarship) a certificate and a copy of a Historical item posted in "The Trader" in March 2017. The five applicants that Emerald Rotary was thrilled to sponsor are Lillian Mackay studying a Bachelor of Paramedicine, Vanessa Dewar studying a Bachelor of Nursing and Midwifery, Shae Jones studying a postgraduate degree in Pharmacy, Tahlia Rossitto studying a Bachelor of Psychology, Ruby Mulloy-Koning who has completed a Nursing degree and now studying a Bachelor of Paramedicine. They each received $1000 towards their fees.

Mother's Day boosted the stall holders and public attendance of the **Emerald Rotary Market** and to top it all the weather was good. It had one of the best "vibes" so far and the music had everyone happy to be there. Supplies at the BBQ stall needed topping up several times as we kept selling out of egg and bacon rolls. An excellent end to summer and we now take a break for the winter months.

Saturday 20th May was busy for our members - involved in 3 events. We partnered with EDRA (Eastern Dandenong Ranges Association) to run a Rotary stand at their Community Groups Expo and were pleased with how many people showed genuine interest in becoming involved with our Club. At the same time, we partnered for the 2nd year with The Salvation Army to collect funds for their Red Shield Appeal, with a strategic position outside the Emerald Village Bakery. And in the evening our Club put forward a strong team for EDRA's Trivia evening.



At Tuesday night's meeting on 30th May a normal Rotary meeting became a blockbuster held during the International Rotary Convention.

79 attended our meeting when 12 American Rotarians from the State of Alabama, 5 Singapore Rotarians and the New Zealand Rotary International President's Personal Representative, Leanne Jagg, joined the Club with past members, prospective members,

friends and many members other Clubs including the Presidents of Belgrave and Monbulk to celebrate and show the strength and reach of Rotary both locally and internationally.

During the night our Club inducted 3 new members; presented the late Chris Adams' legacy funds totaling $2,200 to Lung transplant expert Professor Greg Snell who gave a fascinating presentation; the Spangles performed "Leanne … RIPPR!!!"; the Club awarded a PHF (Paul Harris Fellow) sapphire to Kristine Ash - a greatly deserved honour; we enjoyed great food and there was plenty of fun. The meeting was enjoyed by all and was an amazing celebration of Rotary.

June promises to be even busier than May with our 2nd Bubbles & Brushstrokes event in conjunction with the Emerald Art Society held on 2nd June - a great night had by all - separate article below.
Last dance practice on Thursday 8th June for our Debs & Partners ahead of the 33rd Rotary Club of Emerald & District Deb Ball on Saturday 10th June at Cathies Lane Reception Centre.

The following Saturday will be the Changeover of Club Presidents from Marcus Adams to Sangeeta Bajaj for the 2023-2024 year at the Independent, Gembrook. Then on Wednesday 21st June members will attend the joint Monbulk and the Belgrave Changeover dinners in Monbulk.

And the final big job for our members – in conjunction with Puffing Billy Railway we will be running a Sausage Sizzle nightly at the Gembrook Railway station as part of the Train of Lights festival that runs for 18 evenings consecutively 22nd June to 9th July. John Henderson, Chair of the Kids Fun Run with Puffing Billy for the last few years, is coordinating this event and has the challenge of estimating supplies.

We would love you to join us at either an event or meeting (held every Tuesday 6.45pm for 7pm at The Paradise Hotel). To find out more please call 0408 769 491 or 0417 038 707.

Shalini Penny, Publicity

EVA Monthly Meeting

Ears were open and pencils poised at our May Emerald Village Association meeting. Our guest, the CEO of the Cardinia Council, Carol Jeffs, spoke at length, explaining issues on the topic of Budget pressures and answering questions submitted prior to and at the meeting. It was an interesting and informative discussion time.

Cardinia Costs are up 30% to 40% and some Tenders and Contracts have been re-let up to 3 times. Labour shortages and higher costs across the board have led to the current period being one of the toughest on record.

A question was asked about how the Hills Hub, an $8.3 million dollar facility, could have its use fully maximised. Carol explained budget pressures would not allow the employment of a Placemaker, nor the provision of a Customer Service Centre.

The Council's main focus in Emerald is currently on the Emerald Lake Masterplan. Sheila Hampson, President of the Friends of Emerald Lake Volunteer Group, expressed concern about parking problems on Emerald Lake Road, with a narrow road and tourist buses using the route to get to the Discovery Centre. Another issue was the lack of a made path along that road for pedestrians. Carol Jeffs committed to putting these issues on the Emerald Lake Masterplan Agenda.

Planning for Emerald fits currently within the Hills Township Planning strategy and it covers residential, economic, traffic etc. Planning for updating of the Strategy should be advertised at the end of this year or early next year. All planning fits within State planning requirements.

Other issues that came up at the meeting included:

* EVA response to the Council Budget. Cardinia Council's borrowings are projected to rise from $16 million to $46 million over the next 4 to 5 years.

*Emerald Secondary College Leadership Program - being supported by the EVA.

*Communications - Newsletter sponsorships for the next 12 months are currently being arranged.

* A new Photocopier to print the Newsletter needs to be obtained. A Grant is being applied for, together with possible sponsorship from local businesses.

* Planning is underway for a Community Meeting specifically for helping new young families in the Emerald District.

Shelley Beardshaw - EVA Committee

Emerald U3A

The U3A had its AGM at the end of May, and two new members were elected to vacant positions i.e.

Russell Soderlund is replacing Maurie Lean as Treasurer; and Tanya Cooke is replacing Mal Bowmaker as Course Coordinator. Roy Bowyer, who joined the Committee some months ago, will be the U3A Network Delegate. That had also been filled by Mal Bowmaker. These are all important roles and we welcome them all. The replacement for retiring Events Manager Helen Waring is still open pending a change to how these will be run being finalised.

At this time of year we submit membership data to U3A Network, and it is interesting to note that of our 373 active members, only 125 are male. Basically, there are twice as many women as men. Why would that be? Are you of the right gender to make a small dent in that statistic?? Our ages are mostly spread amongst those in their 60's (140) their 70's (170) and their 80's (47).
Our Winter Quarterly Magazine is just out. It's really worthy of a good read – always interesting, but this one is a ripper.
https://u3aemerald.org.au/newsletters

Heather Bishop - U3A Publicity

Cardinia Council News

What does community mean to you? A simple question we asked attendees at last month's community expo at the Hills Hub. The top answers were "together" "connection" "belonging" and "friendship". Check out all the responses in the word cloud, below.



Free Training- Joining a committee
Thursday 6th July - 6.30pm – 8.30pm
Online and in-person option.

Community organisations, large and small are the backbone of strong, vibrant communities. They contribute to community cohesion and reach out and support those who may not have access to support they need. These groups come in all shapes and sizes and are often looking for volunteer committee members, regardless of whether you have been on a committee before or not. You don't need any particular background; just the skills that make you - well you!
Everyone brings a unique contribution and it's the diversity of a Committee that adds to its success. If you have been looking to join a group or just want to know what committees do and the benefits of being on a committee, this session will help to unpack those questions.

Please find below a link to Cardinia Shire Council's other upcoming training opportunities for community members and groups:
Cardinia Training Opportunities
If you have any questions or issues with the registration link please email Grant White – G.White@cardinia.vic.gov.au
or ccwg@cardinia.vic.gov.au for assistance and further information.

Reconciliation Week Exhibition
This year's National Reconciliation Week theme is 'Be a Voice for Generations'. It urges all Australians to use their power, their words and their vote to create a better, more just Australia for all.
Council's Arts team have worked with local artist Alex Kerr to curate and deliver a Reconciliation themed exhibition at Hills Hub from Monday 22 May to Friday 23 June. We encourage everyone to come down to visit the exhibition.

Stan Henwood Award
The Stan Henwood Award is presented each year to a person who has made a positive, long-term contribution to the Cardinia Shire community. It honours the late Stan Henwood's lifetime contribution to the township of Tynong, and to the wider community. Each year, nominees are invited to the annual Mayor's Volunteer Reception dinner in May, where the award winner is announced.
Congratulations to this year's winner - Emerald's own - Jeffery Latter!



Jeff Latter receiving award from Mayor of Cardinia, Tammy Radford.

Jeffrey Latter is a committed, consistent and courteous member of every organisation to which he belongs. He is described by those around him as amenable and persistent; qualities which have resulted in some of his greatest achievements.

Jeffrey is not only an accomplished leader of community groups, but he also exercises significant influence on committees. He brings his broad knowledge and skills to the table, representing his views with clarity and grace.

He has been a founder and key contributor to many environment, conservation and land care groups and initiatives. He has also contributed greatly to Scouts and has received a number of awards in recognition of his community work.

Jessica Nichols - Connected Communities Liaison Officer - Shire of Cardinia.

Editor's Note: Jeff was also Emerald Citizen of the Year way back in 2011. See submission presented by Johns Hill Landcare Group below. Very impressive contributor to the wellbeing of our fair town over many many years.

Come Sit By Me - #2

What a great day we had! Seniors teaching, talking and laughing with juniors. Children being challenged to persist with hard tasks that take a little bit longer, to try putting things a different way, problem solve the way forward and communicate with older folk they had just met for the first time…what a challenge!

Table Tennis balls being bounced, little cakes being decorated, woven pot plants being potted, scones and pinwheels smelling deliciously baked, watercolour landscapes and objects coming to life, furious cards and games being played and a whole Pom Pom Mousery coming to life and squeaking away!



Sixty nine Grade Threes with their teachers and Educational Support staff from Emerald Primary School had walked down to the Hub at the beginning of the day, bags on their backs and eagerly anticipating the day ahead. They chose three activities from nine options prepared by 25 Senior and not so senior Volunteers from the Community, who had been setting up and preparing from early in the morning. The doors opened, the children were welcomed and briefed and then for the next six hours conversations flowed and creative minds joined. Connections made across the Community and across the ages.



A wonderful shared lunch was supplied by the local Catering firm, The Grub Club (Bam Bam) and then our final session began. We shared our experiences at the end with representatives from each Activity Group; nine year olds speaking to the nearly one hundred people assembled “showing and telling”. And then a walk back to school!

A fabulous experience for all.

Thank you to all the Volunteers for all the skills and hours donated, the staff of Emerald Primary School for such support and the Committee members of the Emerald Village Association. Special thanks to Heather Bishop, Lynne Huberts and Michelle Jackson. The Cardinia Council supported this Project with a Well Being Grant without which it could not have happened in the fabulous way it did.

Shelley Beardshaw - Emerald Village Association.

Fernlea - Shop of Opportunities



Sharon Wilcox - Manager, Fernlea Shop of Opportunities

opshop@fernlea.com.au

GEMCO

Gemco Players COMMUNITY THEATRE | THE GEM COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

OPEN STAGE 2023

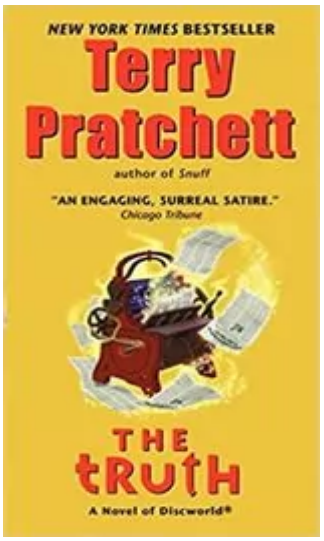
Welcome one and all to Gemco's ongoing Open Stage Night. Hosted by Ted and Carol, our popular open stage has been running for many decades. Held in the cosy hall, you are welcome to perform anything you like or just come for the lovely entertainment.
Enjoy music, poetry, singing, monologues or anything you wish to show! Running the first Saturday of every month from 8pm.

If you'd like to perform just turn up and register your interest when you arrive with Carol McCoy or Ted Horton.

Upcoming dates:
July 1st.
August 5th
September 2nd

THE TRUTH

By - Terry Pratchett



Friday July 7th till Saturday July 22nd
Directed by Evie Housham.
For more information - Gemco website

Gemco Management

Laugh a Little - or Smile a LOT



Friends of Emerald Lake Park

Working Bees this month of the 3rd,11th and 15th June. Time 9-11 am. If you have two hours to spare come along and join us. Tasks this month involve emptying the soil in the leaf hoppers and raking fallen leaves to refill them. Keep warm raking on the cold mornings.

Many thanks to the **Emerald Men's Shed** for assistance in making and installing a new notice board for us.

New plants have been planted alongside Lake Treganowan.

Exciting news that the Emerald Lake Precinct Master Plan has been approved by Council. We look forward to the positive changes that this will bring to the Precinct.

Sheila Hampson - President

Emerald CFA

Recruitment Night

Have you thought about volunteering and not sure how to take the first step?

Emerald CFA's 2023 volunteer intake is now open and we are looking for new members to join the brigade. Our volunteers come from all walks of life where they live or work in Avonsleigh or Emerald, are passionate about the community and want to give back. There are roles for everyone that range from firefighting and emergency response through to community education and fundraising.

You are all invited to attend our information night where you will:

- Learn how to become an operational fire fighter
- Understand what other support roles are available
- Chat to a firefighter
- Tour our station

When: Thursday 8 June
Time: 7pm - 8pm
Where: Emerald CFA Fire Station
5 Emerald-Monbulk Road, Emerald

Bendigo Bank - 2024 Calendar

Glimpses of the Past: An invitation to all keen shutterbugs to please submit your best photography shots for our 2024 Calendar!

The Community Bank Upwey, Belgrave, and Cockatoo-Gembrook are part of the Bendigo Bank network and are excited to announce their 2024 photography calendar will feature the theme "Glimpses of the Past." The calendar will showcase photographs that provide glimpses into lives past, long-ago events, and forgotten places within the Dandenong Ranges.

"This will be the fifteenth year that we have produced the calendar which is provided free of charge to our customers and shareholders," said Deb Weber, Chair. "The theme of 'Glimpses of the Past' is open to interpretation and aims to celebrate the rich history of the Dandenong Ranges. We can't wait to see the images that are submitted."

Don't miss your chance to showcase your talents and be a part of the 2024 Calendar. The photographs must capture the essence of the theme and be taken within the Dandenong Ranges.
The deadline for submissions is August 25, 2023. For more information on how to submit photographs, please email calendar@drcbg.com.au for an information flyer.



Emerald Ladies Probus Club

May was a busy month for members of Emerald Ladies Probus. At our general meeting we commemorated the 35th birthday of our Club with a celebration morning tea and awards to club members.
Emerald Rotary Club president, Marcus Adams, congratulated our club president, Anne Simpson, on achieving the milestone and presented a certificate from Probus South Pacific.



Two long serving members, Maibry Sayers and Peggy Stonehouse, were also awarded certificates for their service to the Club. Anne Simpson, was joined by Maibry Sayers to cut the birthday cake before enjoying morning tea with guests which included past members.

We were also pleased to participate in the EDRA Community Groups Expo in May along with 25 other local community groups. It was a wonderful opportunity to make contacts with other groups and introduce our club to the local community.

Emerald Ladies Probus Club is open to all retired, or semi-retired ladies, for fun and friendship in a social atmosphere. Our meetings are held at the Emerald RSL on the third Monday of each month (except December) at 10am.
Our next meeting is Monday 17 June when our guest speaker will be Kate Rispetto from the Office of Public Advocate talking about 'Planning for the Future'. We welcome you to come along and meet our members, enjoy some morning tea, and listen to our guest speaker.



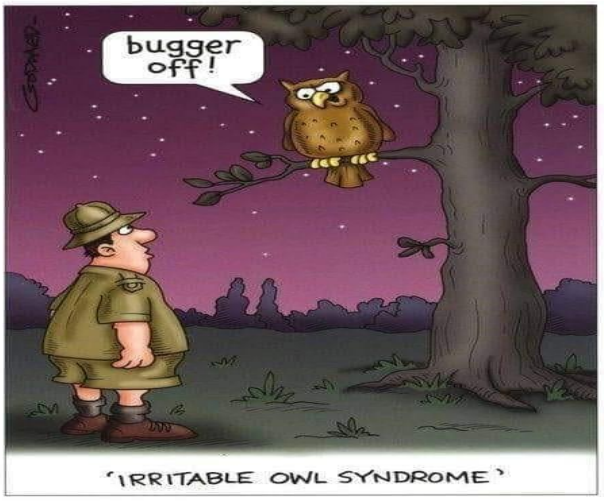
Probus Enquiries: Linda McIvor
Email: ladiespce123@gmail.com

Emerald Museum

The Emerald Museum's hours during winter until August 3st are as follows:

Wednesday: 10am-3pm
Sunday: 12-3pm
Members of the public can continue to book group visits and collection access visits outside of these hours by appointment.

To book, email us at:
enquiries@emeraldmuseum.org.au or visit emeraldmuseum.org.au



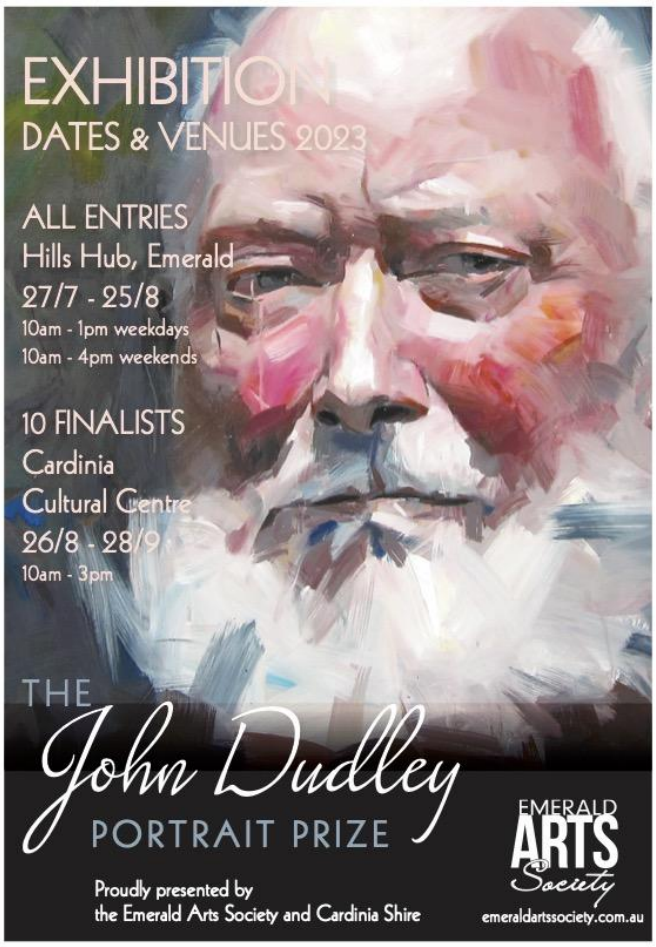
"Bank with the Bendigo"

The EVA is liaising with the Bendigo Bank to assist with the purchase of a modern photocopier to produce a modern booklet style newsletter. This copier may also be able to be used by other community groups and regional townships.

To assist the EVA to move forward with this project we would encourage members of EVA and residents to consider sharing their banking with the Bendigo Bank.

For more information you can email: mick.spruhan2@bendigoadelaide.com.au anytime.

Emerald Arts Society



An Invite to Artists

Entries close on the July 1st 2023
An entry form can be downloaded from our website
emeraldartssociety.com.au

Puffing Billy Railways

Train of Lights



SOLD OUT
But at least you can watch it go by
- Lakeside to Gembrook -
23rd June - 9th July - nightly
or watch on Youtube:-
https://youtu.be/PSAlo8bpAhI

Johns Hill Landcare Group

Submission for Jeff Latter re Stan Henwood Award

Johns Hill Landcare Group was pleased to nominate Jeff Latter for the 2023 Stan Henwood Award in association with other groups that provided letters of support. Jeff is a foundation member of Johns Hill Landcare Group and has been on the Group executive since 2003 and is currently Vice President. Jeff has supported a wide range of successful community initiatives over many years. This is both through his role as a consultant, assessing vegetation and preparing tree, native vegetation, and bushfire management reports for development applications and as a community advocate. Jeff's passion and expertise have been instrumental in achieving

outcomes. Jeff was the Emerald Citizen of the year in 2011.

Meander
Whilst working for local government in 1990, he was involved in the establishment of Meander, an early environment group in Emerald. He joined Meander in late 1990's and remained a member until 2014 when Meander restructured and became an activity group within Johns Hill Landcare Group.

Liwik Barring Landscape Conservation Area
In 2005 Jeff arranged a forum "my creek, your creek our creeks" in conjunction with the Meander AGM. The forum was the first step that led to the formation Woori Yallock Creek Park Alliance which comprised 18 community groups. Jeff as convenor of the Alliance, prepared "A park for today - Yellingbo State Emblems Park" which outlined the values and need for greater protection of public land between the Dandenong Ranges National Park, Kurth Kiln and Bunyip Parks and the Yarra Ranges National Park. Government referral to the Victorian Environment Assessment Council (VEAC) resulted in the recommendation and Government acceptance of a new park, which is now known as Liwik Barring Landscape Conservation Area of approximately 3000 hectares. Not only is this a new park but it is also the first of a new type of park under the National Parks Act. During this fourteen-year journey, Jeff worked on every Committee, and through every structure set up by the government. The first parts of the new park (about 1790 hectares) were created in 2020.

Hogan Park Committee of Management
Jeff was elected as secretary to the Hogan Park CoM in 2001. He steered the CoM to become incorporated and advocated for part of the closed government road to be added to the reserve and the reservation to be changed to Conservation. Jeff remains Secretary of Hogan Park (Emerald) CoM Inc.

Emerald Scouts
Jeff has strong ties with Emerald Scout Group having been a youth member in the 1960's, 70's and 80's including being Emerald's first Baden Powell Rover Scout Awardee in 1983. Returning to Scouting as an adult in 2005 Jeff took on various roles in the Group Support Committee including developing a vision and advocating for the upgrading of the Emerald Scout Centre. The centre upgrade was completed and opened in 2013. Jeff's role with Scouting pivoted following the completion of the upgrade and he is currently Group Leader. He was presented the Meritorious Service Award in 2016.

Jenny Lyndon - Johns Hill Landcare Group

Emerald RSL Music Nights

Next gig at the Emerald RSL 3 Memorial Avenue - **Emerald's own Mark Fenby.**



Cardinia Shire Council

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



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READ THIS NEWSLETTER ON OUR WEBSITE
EMERALDVILLAGENEWS.COM.AU

The Rotary Club of Emerald through the organisation of Kellie McAllister, in conjunction with the Emerald Arts Society, hosted their second "artistic" Brushstrokes and Bubbles event on June 2nd at the Arts Society on Friday June 2nd.

With 35 participants and being instructed by artist Sally Adams, who is not only an amazing artist but loves her bubbles, this was a night full of fun and artistic flair! The paintings created were very expressive and exciting abstracts and around $1,500 was raised whilst having fun - a great way to do it!
Sally set the group the task of painting a tree scene from Emerald Lake Park - paintings displayed here in all their glory.
Even the one bloke in attendance (me - the tall tree at rear) embraced the occasion.



A LITTLE BIT OF EMERALD HISTORY FOR YOU

Bob James Emerald Quarry Reserve

The Cardinia Shire Council owned Emerald Quarry Reserve. It was about 3.2 hectares in area and separated from Liwik Barring Landscape Conservation Area by Emerald - Monbulk Road. The adjoining property to the south contained very high-quality bushland and Jeff Latter considered that this bushland would make a great addition to the reserve and the Emerald Star bush plants it contained.

The Trust for Nature was gifted land in Charman Avenue by Bob James. This land had been sold and some of the proceeds of the sale had been set aside for local conservation. When the adjoining property came on the market Jeff advocated to Trust for Nature for the purchase of the property. In 2011 the Trust for Nature purchased the site. Rather than covenanting and reselling the whole property Jeff advocated for subdivision of the Trust property into a lot to be sold with covenant and the transfer of bushland to the Council as an addition to the Emerald Quarry Reserve. The subdivision and transfer of the reserve to the Council and the sale of the remainder of 106 Emerald Monbulk Road with a covenant was completed in 2014. The site was named Bob James Emerald Quarry Reserve in recognition of the historical use of the site as a soft rock quarry by Council. The funds from the sale of Bob James' land enabled the Trust for Nature to complete the purchase, subdivision, and transfer to the Council 2.1 hectares of the land. Johns Hill Landcare Group added to the project by obtaining a grant to enable pine trees and debris on the Trust land to be removed.

The Emerald Quarry had been used as a site for disposal of table drain cleaning for many years up to the early 2000's but the floor of the quarry became a significant weed source to the adjoining bushland. Jeff started advocating for the floor of the quarry to be capped to permanently solve the weed issue and allow for revegetation. The first attempt was to try and get soil from the Emerald police station excavation, but timing was not right. Council allocated funds for hire of equipment to spread excavated soil and this provided flexibility in obtaining and managing soil.

In early 2019 fill from commercial development in Emerald was available and delivered to the site. Several thousand cubic metres of fill capped the site. A Council organised community tree planting was undertaken and about 700 plants were planted, and the site was largely revegetated.

Thank you Jeff Latter and Jenny Lyndon of The Johns Hill Landcare Group.