



Bellarine Springs Newsletter

April 2026



A message from our Village Manager

KENT HODGSON



The stunning sunny days of autumn are here. It's inspiring to see many residents heading out for trips. Safe travels, and Happy Easter to all.

Intergenerational program

We sincerely appreciate the wonderful residents who have volunteered for the new intergenerational program! We hope you're enjoying the experience just as much as the children are. The next session will commence after the school holidays on **May 1st**, and will continue to run on a fortnightly basis. New residents welcome.

Easter Break Notice

Kindly be informed that during the Easter break, both the village office and sales will be closed, including Good Friday and Easter Monday. In case of any assistance needed, emergency staff will be available throughout the extended weekend.

Retirement Villages Legislation Update:

To date the Victorian Government has advised that they wish the changes proposed in the New Retirement Villages Act to commence on the 1st May 2026.

However, the detail around the changes "The Regulations and Standard Forms" have not yet been released to the Victorian Retirement Village Industry.

In simple terms, the regulations are ultimately the operating manual for the proposed legislation. The Retirement Living Council as a representative of the Industry through the Property Council, is petitioning the Victorian Government requesting a deferment of the requirements until all the information is released and time given to implement the proposed changes.

As soon as more information is available on how the changes will affect the operation of the village, we will let you know.

Emergency Pendants

Testing Emergency Pendants - Stages 1 and 2.

It's time to continue our regular testing of these devices. Please keep an eye out for updates in the monthly newsletter and Buzz. When it's your scheduled turn, remember to test the emergency button on your pendant between 9am and 1pm, Monday through Friday.

If you're uncertain about your home's stage, don't hesitate to ask the reception staff for assistance.

New Residents

Welcome to The Village! We're thrilled to have you join our community. Transitioning to a new home can be a whirlwind, and we want to ensure it's as smooth as possible for you. If you have any questions or need assistance, don't hesitate to reach out to Meagan or Hayley at reception.

Remember, no question is too big or small —your comfort and ease are our top priorities. We're here to support you every step of the way. Welcome home!



A message from our Sales Manager- Fiona Olin

A huge thank you to the Bellarine Springs team for their fantastic effort during the combined Bellarine Peninsula Open Day. With over 30 - 40 attendees, it was a great success, and we're pleased to see several visitors returning for follow-up tours in the coming weeks.

A special thank you to the residents who gathered in the community centre to support the day, connect with guests, and of course, to our wonderful BBQ volunteers and scones volunteer team—you were amazing!



Bellarine Springs is proudly sponsoring the Bellarine North Rotary Easter Art Expo.

We encourage everyone to support our talented local artists and explore the wonderful artwork on display. This year continues the "Expo" theme, with valuable contributions from the Bellarine Camera Club and the Festival of Glass.

The event will be held at Christian College on Collins Street, Drysdale, across Easter weekend:

Easter Saturday, 4 April

Easter Sunday, 5 April

10:00am – 4:00pm



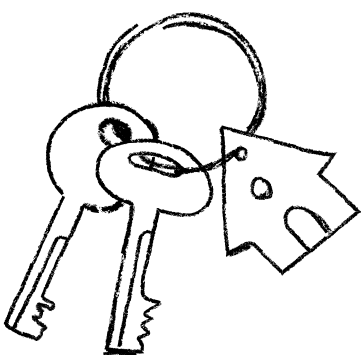
We are delighted to welcome new residents into our community across Stage 9 and the newly completed Stage 10. Additionally, five more groups will be joining us in May, moving into both established homes and new builds. Some of these couples have shown incredible patience while selling their previous homes, and we're thrilled they've chosen to begin their next chapter with us.

Please take a moment to say hello as you see them around the village.

If you have any suggestions or feedback from friends or family about future Open Days, feel free to drop by and share your ideas anytime.

Finally, thank you for your continued support through referrals. Referral forms are available at reception or directly from me. If you know anyone considering downsizing or relocating, please pass along a form and ensure it is completed by both parties prior to their tour. Kindly note that terms and conditions apply. Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Fiona Olin
Sales Manager
0455 112 360



Grounds and Maintenance Team Report



Welcome to Wombat Season!

Waring (or Wombat Season) is a season in the Kulin Nation Indigenous calendar (Victoria), running from April to July, characterized by cold, rainy, and misty weather.

During these months, wombats are more active during the day, emerging from their burrows to graze and soak in the winter sunshine.

It is also the perfect time to begin planting for a Winter harvest, for our veggie growers in the village.

The following are perfect for this time of year,

- Greens such as silverbeet, leeks, celery, watercress, lettuce, rocket, spring onion.
- Herbs such as parsley, thyme, oregano, coriander etc
- Asian greens such as Pak Choi, Kailan, Choi Sum
- Brassicas such as broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, Brussel sprouts.
- Root veggies such as beetroot, turnip, radish, parsnip, onions, carrots and garlic.
- Legumes such as sugar snap peas and broad beans.

The Team would also like to wish everyone a Safe and Happy Easter!



ST PATRICKS DAY CELEBRATIONS

Thank you to everyone who joined us at The Community Centre to celebrate St. Patrick's Day! The atmosphere was lively and cheerful, with everyone sporting their best green attire, adding to the festive spirit. A special shout-out goes to our wonderful volunteers & The BSRA who worked tirelessly to make sure the event ran smoothly. We hope you all enjoyed the delicious pizza and refreshing drinks. It was fantastic to see the community come together in such a joyful way, and we're already looking forward to next year's celebration. Until then, may the luck of the Irish be with you!





The Bellarine Springs Open Day was a great event! A big thank you to everyone who helped make it a success. The talks from Community Chapman Welsh Financial Advisors, Clifton Springs Golf Club, and Five Hounds on pet nutrition provided useful information for everyone. The helpers in the kitchen and on the BBQs, our meet and greet volunteers did an excellent job, making sure the day ran smoothly. It's nice to see everyone working together, and the good turnout shows how hard everyone worked. Was lovely showing off our Village to outside visitors. Well done to all!



MOVIES



In order to make up for the loss of "Cash" during the February movies those of you keen enough will have three films during April. Please note however that "Cash" being a non-Region 4 DVD it will be shown on the big TV.

Quite possibly one of the great comedies "A Fish Called Wanda". Stars John Cleese, Jaime Lee Curtis, Kevin Kline and Michael Palin.

Four conniving jewel thieves, three yorkshire terriers, two heaving bosomes and a very proper English barrister add up to outrageous twists and over the top performances.

Thursday 9th April @ 2.30pm

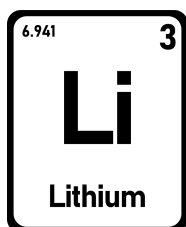
"Cash" this French comedy crime hustle is a continual twist. A con-man is murdered and his con-man brother decides to take revenge in the best way he knows. Part in English, part French but with excellent subtitles it stars Jean Reno, Jean DuJardine, Valeria Golina and Ciaran Hines.

Thursday 16th April @ 2.30pm

Another classic with Denzel Washington and Angelina Jolie in "The Bone Collector". A diabolical killer leaves a series of cryptic clues at the scenes of his brutal murders. early but great performances from both Washington and Jolie.

Thursday 30th April @ 7.00pm

Hope you to see you at the movie.
David



Lithium Batteries talk in Theatre Room 22nd of April at 11am

As a follow up to the RACV warning about Lithium Batteries in a previous newsletter this short discussion is to help people to understand these products. David makes no claim to be an electrician or chemist but his use of these batteries for over twenty years gives him some understanding of the benefits and problems. This is NOT intended to be technical and will be kept basic in simple language.

We hope you can attend; this will be very interesting.



ANZAC DAY 2026

If you would like to take part in the Village ceremony, please join us at the flag pole by 11:40 am on ANZAC DAY. The ceremony will include some 'Voices from the Front', followed by the Ode, the Last Post, a minute's silence, the Rouse and flag raising and the National Anthem.

Judith J & Geoff T

A little note from Sue Kuter

There will be no April report as I Sue Kuter the president of the BSRA has been away enjoying her life. Let's all remember to do the same before it's too late.

Happy Easter!

BSRA Website

Did you Know ?

The BSRA website contains a section called "Blue Pages" . This works similar to the old Yellow Pages, it lists local businesses by category, Electrician, Plumber, Painter etc. Blue Pages incorporates all the business's found in the Village Tradie list but also includes additional local businesses that residents have recommended as doing a good job at a reasonable price. Being online, you can browse the listing from the comfort of your residence rather than having to go to the CC.

Access the BSRA website at www.bsra101.org . Select the "Helping Others" tab and you will see Blue Pages in the drop-down menu. There is an index, so you can go straight to the category you need, each category has a Return to Index button so you can browse other categories without wading through multiple entries.

Questions? ... or if you wish to suggest a new business for inclusion. email to bsracommittee2@gmail.com

Rick G

Home care that brings peace of mind

When Carmen needed both knees replaced within 12 months, her family knew it was time to plan ahead. At 90 years young, Carmen radiates the kind of infectious positivity that comes from a life well-lived in the home she loves.

Her daughter, Lourdes, first heard about Five Good Friends at a home care presentation at her village.

Today, Carmen's tailored support keeps life running smoothly while preserving her independence. An occupational therapist was arranged, new taps installed, grab rails fitted, and a recliner measured specifically for Carmen's height.

The additional support also means Carmen has more time for the things she loves; crochet, baking for her grandchildren and attending her women's group.

For families considering starting support with Five Good Friends, Lourdes' message is clear:

"You've got to remember there's a long waiting list," advises Lourdes. "You have to think ahead. Time can go by very quickly."

When asked what planning early has meant for her family, Lourdes doesn't hesitate: "Peace of mind."

Book a free consultation with your Nurse Concierge. Tiaha is next in the village on Wednesday 15th April and 29th April.

Or contact our care advice team on 1300 787 581.



 **five.good.friends**

Introducing your Nurse Concierge
Tiaha Holdsworth

Tiaha is here to support you in your ageing well journey and can provide guidance about support at home.

Fill out the booking sheet at reception for a 1:1 appointment. Contact our Care Advice team on 1300 787 581 with any questions.

E: tiaha.holdsworth@fivegoodfriends.com.au



Village Outing

Wildlife Photographer of the Year Exhibition
Wool Museum, Geelong

When - Thursday 23rd April

Time - Bus leaving at 9:30am

View Exhibition - Cost \$10 concession

Lunch at Sailors Rest - At own cost

Return by 2:30 - 3:00pm

Sign up required

The world-renowned exhibition, now in its sixty-first year and on loan from the Natural History Museum in London, will be featuring some of the most exceptional nature photography taken today from across the globe.

The exhibition shines a light on powerful and fascinating images that capture hidden animal behaviour, spectacular species and the breathtaking diversity of the natural world.



Singles Group Outing

Last Saturday 11 of our group went to the Souva Bar, the Greek restaurant in Drysdale and had a really good evening, the food was excellent, as was the company, and they really looked after us. We try to organise a meal or go to the theatre each month and have a good response most of the time. If there is any person on their own and would like some company then please let myself or Lyn know and we can put you on our members list so you get regular emails from us. Also you can come to the Community Centre on a Tuesday at 5.0pm to Happy Hour and join us for a chat or if you don't drink then you can have a coffee. Don't stay in on your own, we are always around and would welcome more people, male or female into our group.



The session of the VIP 2026 series held 10th March was titled: Maintaining Your Strength and Physical Health.

The session was attended by approximately 30 residents and was conducted by Bec Manson assisted by Sharon Gyngell both physiotherapists at Kieser Gym Ocean Grove.

The presentation was very clear and effective in providing residents who attended with an opportunity to gain an understanding of the connection between muscle strength and good health as part of the ageing process. The presentation highlighted the scientific evidence support muscle strengthening and the difference between a life span perspective and a health span perspective.

The Kieser method and strategies for improving balance and core strength and extending high functioning years were described. Residents found this to be interesting and informative session. It was noted that Kieser Gyms were having an Open Day on the 14th March which enabled interested residents to inspect their facilities and equipment at Ocean Grove.



Rod Wellard

Gardening Team

Some lovely rain has been very welcome to our garden.

We have seen the last of our cucumbers, zucchini, lettuce and squash.

Tomatoes are finally red but we still have a lot of green ones, which ladies have used to make chutney/ relish .

Only a few pumpkins this year which are not yet ripe.

Grounds prepared and broad beans, onions, garlic, peas and first of brassicas (broccoli & cabbages) now planted.

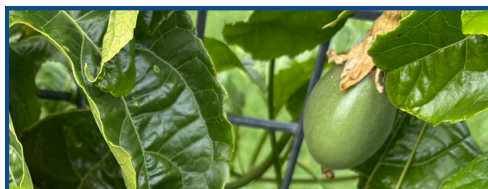
We have been given a generous donation of passion fruit vines by Bernice and the plants are thriving. With one small fruit already happening. Finally it is our aim to provide fresh produce to our residents.

Big thank you for supporting our gardening efforts.

Your gold coin donations are proving us with funds to purchase ongoing the fertiliser, seeds, seedings and other gardening supplies.



Happy Easter from the
Village Garden Team



The Community Centre really came alive with The Black Pearls' event. The night was full of laughter, friendship, and fun, making it memorable for everyone there.

Guests enjoyed a nice selection of drinks and food, which added to the cheerful mood and sparked conversations. Events like these are key to building community spirit, bringing people together to celebrate and enjoy each other's company. It's great to see the Community Centre continue to be a place for connection and joy.

Black Pearl Group



Bellarine Springs Residents Fire Aid Fundraiser

On Tuesday 10th March over 75 residents gathered in the Community Centre for the culmination of the Fire Recovery Raffle and Auction. A great night was had by all, with pies and sausage rolls provided courtesy of the BSRA, and the bar doing brisk business. Over \$4,600 was raised which will be split between the CFA and the CWA (Country Women's Association), with a presentation planned for later in March. A huge thanks must go to Allan Nettley for organising the event and obtaining the many raffle and auction prizes from local businesses, and to Terry Baker for assisting.

Thank You!



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday



		1	2
		9.15 am: Bus to Drysdale 9.30am Tai Chi at Pavilion 9am Social Tennis 1pm: Mahjong at CC 2 pm: Rummikub	9.30am Exercise - Penny 11:00am: Aqua 1:30 pm: Social Bridge 2pm: Golf Croquet 2pm: Indoor bowls at CC 2pm: Cuppa and games 2pm Blokes, Billards, Beers at CC
Public Holiday: Easter Monday Office closed 8:45 am: Cycling Group 9am Gardening group 1 pm: Mahjong at CC 2:pm: Rumikub at CC 1:30pm: Scrabble at CC	6	7	8
		9.15 am: Bus to Drysdale 9am Social Tennis 9.30am Tai Chi at Pavilion 1pm: Mahjong at CC 2 pm: Rummikub	9
			9.30am Exercise - Penny 11:00am: Aqua 1:30 pm: Social Bridge 2pm: Golf Croquet 2pm: Indoor bowls at CC 2pm: Cuppa and games 2pm Blokes, Billards, Beers at CC 2:30pm: "Movie " A Fish called Wanda"
	13	14	15
Nathan Handyman Services 8:45 am: Cycling Group 9am Gardening group 10am Chair Yoga at Pav 11am Aqua 1 pm: Mahjong at CC 2:pm: Rumikub at CC 2 pm: Scrabble at CC		9am: Walking group 10.30am Birthday morning 1pm: Craft at pavilion 1:30pm: Pickleball 1:30pm Chicks Cue Sticks 2pm: Indoor bowls at CC 5pm: Sundowners	9.15 am: Bus to Drysdale 9am Social Tennis 9.30am Tai Chi at Pavilion 10am Five Good Friends at CC 1pm: Mahjong at CC 10am Social Tennis 2 pm: Rummikub
			9.30am Exercise - Penny 11am Aqua 1pm Aqua 1:30pm: Bridge at Pav 2pm: Golf Croquet 2pm: Indoor Bowls CC 2pm:Cuppa & game 2pm: Blokes, Billard & Beers CC 2:30pm Movie- "Cash"
	20	21	22
8:45 am: Cycling Group 9am Gardening group 10am Chair Yoga at Pav 11am Aqua 1pm Aqua 1 pm: Mahjong at CC 2:pm: Rumikub at CC 1:30pm: Scrabble at CC		9am: Walking group 1pm: Craft at pavilion 1:30pm: Pickleball 1:30pm Chicks Cue Sticks 2pm: Indoor bowls at CC 5pm: Sundowners	9.30 am: Tai Chi Pavilion 9am Social Tennis 9.30am Tai Chi at Pavilion 11am Lithium Batteries Theatre Room 1pm: Mahjong at CC 2pm: Rummikub 7pm: Whiskey Night Pav
			9.30am Exercise - Penny 9.30am - Village Outing 11am Aqua 1:30pm: Bridge at Pav 2pm: Golf Croquet 2pm: Indoor Bowls CC 2pm: Cuppa & game 2pm: Blokes, Billard & Beers CC 7pm: " Movie " Mr Right"
	27	28	29
8:45 am: Cycling Group 9am Gardening group 10am Chair Yoga at Pav 11am Aqua 1pm Aqua 1 pm: Mahjong at CC 2:pm: Rumikub at CC 1:30pm: Scrabble at CC		9am: Walking group 1pm: Craft at pavilion 1:30pm: Pickleball 1:30pm Chicks Cue Sticks 2pm: Indoor bowls at CC 5pm: Sundowners	9.30 am: Tai Chi Pavilion 9am Social Tennis 9.30am Tai Chi at Pavilion 10am Five Good Friends at CC 1pm: Mahjong at CC 2pm: Rummikub
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			30

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Good Friday 3

Office closed

9am Gardening group
10am: Musical Moments
1pm: Mahjong at CC
2pm: Rummikub at CC
5pm: Hot Cross Buns Happy Hour at CC

10am: Pickleball



Daylight Saving tomorrow

2pm Left, right and centre at Community centre

2pm: Board Games in cc



Village Handyman

services - Nathan

April 13th from 9am.

Book in at reception \$15 per 15 minutes

10

9am: Gardening group
10am: Musical Moments
10.30am Fish Van
1pm: Mahjong at CC
2pm: Rummikub at CC
5pm: Happy Hour at CC

11

10am: Pickleball

12

2pm Left, right and centre at Community centre

2pm: Board Games in cc



Hairdresser

Sally is located in the community centre hairdressing salon. Please contact her direct on 0428 150 094 to arrange your appointment.

17

9am Gardening group
10am: Musical Moments
1pm: Mahjong at CC
2pm: Rummikub at CC
5pm: Happy Hour at CC

18

10am: Pickleball

19

2pm Left, right and centre at Community centre
Office closed

Hairdresser - wed only

Karon is located in the community centre hairdressing salon. Please contact her direct on 0427 565 735 to arrange your appointment, Wed only.

24

9am Gardening group
10am Bus to Westfield
10am: Musical Moments
1pm: Mahjong at CC
2pm: Rummikub at CC
5pm: Happy Hour at CC - Jenkins fish and chips- Happy Hour at CC

10am: Pickleball 25

Anzac Day
Morning Tea 10:30am
&
Ceremony & raising of flag 11:40am



26

2pm Left, right and centre at Community centre
Office closed



Physiotherapist

Keegan FitzGerald is located in the practitioners room in community centre 0411 096 099 to schedule appointments.

Jenkins Fish Van
Happy Hour at
Community Centre
Friday 10th April

