



BELLARINE
SPRINGS

Bellarine Springs Newsletter
December 2024



MERRY
Christmas

A message from our Village Manager

KENT HODGSON



Warm Holiday Greetings from Our Office! As we approach the end of the year, it's time to embrace the festive spirit. Whether you plan to celebrate with family or find tranquility at home, we wish you a joyful holiday season. Merry Christmas from our Village Team and Emergency Responders. As the holiday season unfolds, I want to express our gratitude to the village staff. A special thank you to Mary and Meagan at reception, and Fiona in Sales—your unwavering commitment is truly valued. Also big thanks to our emergency on call staff. We also wish to acknowledge our dedicated gardeners, Frank and Robert, who work tirelessly in challenging weather conditions to keep our village beautiful. And to Nathan our village handyman who has been a wonderful addition to our team. Our appreciation extends to the BSRA committee for their hard work and all they do for our lively village.

The office will remain open throughout the festive season, excluding public holidays.


Village Updates

Monthly inspections were carried out by fire service contractors. The water filters for both Billi taps at the community center and the Zip hot water tap in the Pavilion were replaced. We invested in multi-tools for key areas, including the bowling green, tennis courts, and lawns. The hot water service for the community center was repaired, which included the installation of a new set of spark and sensor leads, as well as a gasket. A comprehensive servicing of the system was completed, and grease trap maintenance was also performed. We updated the pathway on community drive to the stage 10. We have also installed a new handrail for the bowling green stairs.

Gardeners Report - Robert Burza

Only three weeks remain until Christmas! The gardeners will be busy tidying up the lawns and cleaning the garden beds, as well as managing weeds and applying weed poison. If you plan to put up Christmas lights, please ensure they are kept off the lawns and timber edging. Should the lights be placed on the lawns, we cannot take responsibility if they get accidentally cut by the whipper snipper. We will of course make every effort to avoid them.



 Lou Maddalon- Corpse Flower at Geelong's Botanical Gardens

A message from our Sales Manager- Fiona Olin

Season's Greetings! Cheers!!!

We have had quite a month of activity including the Drysdale RSL golf day held at Clifton Springs golf club. It was lovely to be a part of the day and to see Bellarine Springs residents in attendance and out smashing some balls to raise money for the Drysdale RSL. Well done to all that helped and to the winners on the day. Bellarine Springs also hosted our annual Wines of the World event in the community centre on Tuesday 26th November.

It was well attended with over 70 residents and guests from our local community groups including Rotary, CS Golf club, RSL and View club.

It is always a fun event if you were not a wine connoisseur you are now! Thank you to the sommeliers on hand Lou, Sam and Mark. I also noticed Geoff Reeve snuck a cheeky Pinot Grigio tasting too!



Would you like to be pampered prior to Christmas? For the next Morning Tea on Tuesday 10th Dec at 10.30am.....we have the wonderful talented students from Geelong beauty of excellence, available from 10.30am to 12.20pm on hand. They will be doing hand massages on any residents who wish to be pampered, or you may even have a quick file and a buff of your nails too! It will be a gold coin donation with all proceeds going to GAWS (Geelong Animal Welfare Society). They will be set up in the community centre lounge on the day and you can pop your name down at the activities station.

A courtesy note: The Sales office will be open throughout the Christmas period (closed public holidays and weekend by appointment only). Please feel free to call anytime if you have a sales inquiry.

To all our delightful residents, your family and friends, and our fantastic operations, head office and development staff.... Have a safe and happy Christmas and cheers to 2025!!

Fiona Olin
Sales Manager
0455 112 360

*have
yourself
A MERRY
LITTLE
Christmas*



BSRA presidents report

Hello fellow residents.

We all know about the four seasons and now we enter into the fifth season - December, the Festive Season. Christmas is almost upon us, are YOU ready for it? The year has just flown by so it seems and what a jammed packed year it has been. The functions, the outings, the musicians, dancing and oh that yummy food.

It is time to reflect and give thanks for the people and wonders we have around us. This certainly is the lucky country.

Thanks go out to Maree Burn and Steve Merriam for conducting a very pleasing Remembrance Day service on the 11th November.



The December events calendar is filling up already.

Tuesday 3rd December, we have Betty McGrath from Fifth Avenue Jewellery visiting.

Sunday 15th December, the village Christmas Party Lunch and Dinner sittings. We have engaged a new caterer this year. Make sure you put your name on the sign-up sheet at the activity station in the Foyer as numbers are limited for each session.

Friday 20th December, Jacqui and her choir will be giving a special "Christmas Carols"

Performance from 10-11am in the community centre followed by morning tea.

Tuesday 24th December during Happy Hour will be a Christmas themed evening.

A lovely time to break out in that once a year festive garb (clothes).

I could fill pages and pages with gratitude to all who have contributed in any way to the enjoyment, fun and many activities held over the past year. Please take this as a personal heartfelt thanks.

On behalf of all the BSRA committee we wish you a healthy, happy, peaceful Christmas filled with the love of family and friends near and far.

We take the time to remember loved ones we've lost during the year. Being thankful for what and who we have in our lives.

Best wishes to you all.

Sue Kuter

BSRA President





Community Vegetable Garden Update



It's hard to believe that summer is already upon us. Mother Nature has once again posed challenges to the vegetable garden this month, but I'm pleased to report that our vegetables, especially the tomatoes, are thriving. I'm also happy to share that the many flowers we've planted are attracting the essential bees we need.

A big thank you goes to our friend Ross Smith, who generously donated numerous tomato plants to the village community. We hope everyone's plants are flourishing.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new team member, Sandra Adams. She has contributed a fantastic quantity of lemons and hot chilies and has also provided some intriguing recipes featuring our delicious and abundant rhubarb. Feel free to take pictures or copy the recipes!

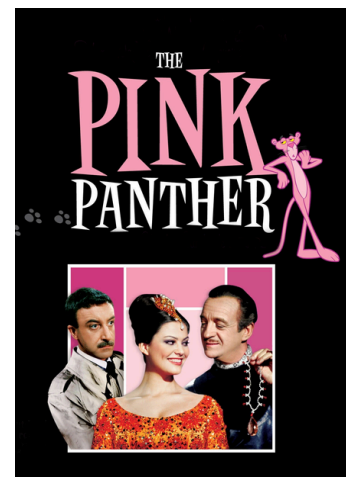
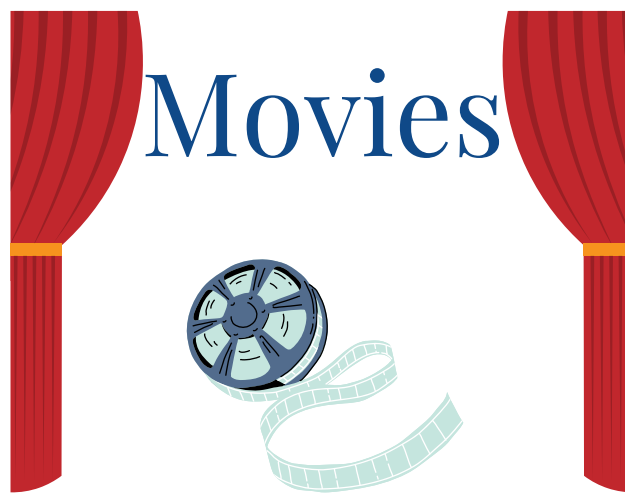
Our summer vegetables are doing well, with lettuce, silver beet, spring onions, and rhubarb ready for picking now. In the upcoming weeks, we expect to harvest beans, beetroot, zucchini, cucumbers, eggplant, and, of course, a variety of tomatoes. You can find us in the veggie garden every Monday and Friday morning, and any extra help is always appreciated.

The garden team wishes to express our gratitude to the village community for your ongoing support throughout the year. Your contributions of compost and monetary donations are vital for the vegetable garden's success.

We wish you all a safe and enjoyable Christmas, along with a very happy 2025.

Best wishes from the garden team.





Let me start with an apology. Our movie "Paint your Wagon" could not be shown. Don't know why and don't think it was me but, will try again in the near future.

Christmas doesn't creep up on us, instead it feels as if it comes rushing in more than even our sea wind. But while it brings in some fun and family pleasure for some there may be others who have a bit of time on their hands. Because of this I've still put two movies available and they have two things in common. One is both films are about diamond theft and another diamond is found in the debonaire David Niven plus they are lighthearted movies and a bundle of Christmas pleasure.

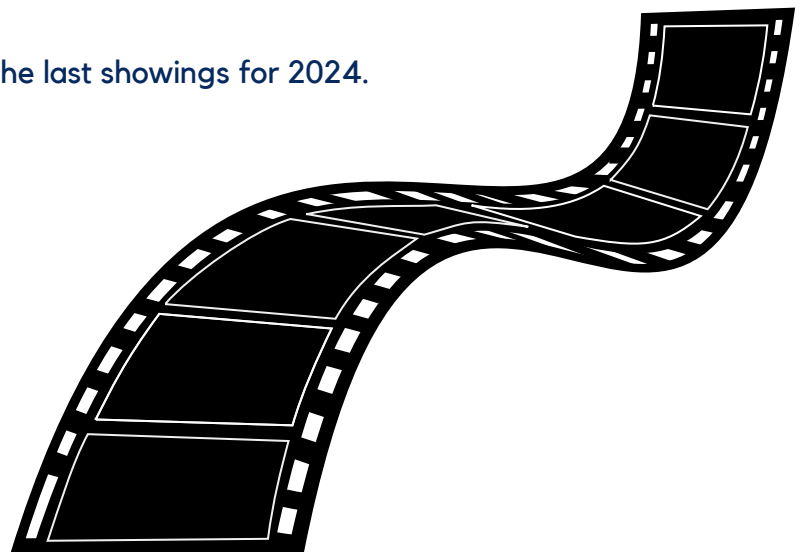
I'm sure we all remember The Pink Panther but may not have watched it for a while as it is now 60 years old this year. Sheer delight starring David Niven, Peter "Clouseau" Sellers, Capucine and Claudia Cardinale plus a raft of other perfect actors. I thought it a top time to bring out this classic for Christmas and a little extra cheer.

Thursday 12th @ 7.00pm

Rough Cut is like the Pink Panther, a delightful crime caper starring Burt Reynolds, Lesley-Anne Down and David Niven. This time made 26 years later in 1980 it carries the same fun but with Reynolds as the diamond thief while Niven becomes the detective all ending with an even better twist.

NOTE! Friday 27th @ 7.00pm

Hope you find time for these two movies and the last showings for 2024.
David



Singles Group

We had a fantastic evening at Claribeaux restaurant, Curlewis Golf Club where 15 members joined us for the steak night where both the food and service were faultless.

We have one more event planned for November where 15 members will be joining us at the Potato Shed then we are having a break in December as people have other things planned during the Xmas month. We will start up again in January and hopefully next year will be as eventful as it has been this year organising dinners and theatre events, and we are always open for suggestions.

We have encouraged some lovely ladies to join us on a Tuesday evening for Sundowners happy hour who would not have had the courage to come down on their own which is what our group is all about. Any single ladies or men who want to have some fun and meet like-minded people then please join us on a Tuesday evening where we all sit at one big table.

Rita and Lyn



New staff

As our village population continues to grow, so does our need for additional staff.

We are excited to introduce Jessica and Alex as our new emergency on-call team members.

Both come to us with valuable experience in healthcare administration. Additionally, Jessica is available to assist at reception if needed. Let's all work together to make them feel warmly welcomed in our village!



Jessica

Jessica's Background

I have a strong passion for the healthcare sector, with a diploma in Emergency Health Care and a Certificate III in Pathology.

In the last two years, I have acquired significant experience as a medical receptionist, assistant, and blood collector.

I reside in the local area and cherish moments spent with my partner and four children. My interests include music and art!

I pride myself on being friendly, approachable, and dedicated to delivering exceptional care in all my endeavors.



Alex

Alex's Background

Hi I am Alex, I work in the health care services administrative support.

I am thrilled to join the team and look forward to contributing to our community. When I'm not juggling family and work, I enjoy exploring new recipes and creating handmade crafts, which is a wonderful creative outlet for me. I'm eager to meet everyone and become a part of this vibrant village community!



About 40 residents participated in a very stimulating and entertaining session at the most recent VIP session. Jayne Huson gave us a wonderful presentation full of insights into her rich, colourful and at times challenging life. She shared with the group, examples of beautiful ornaments and artifacts, works of art and even a delicious drink (Amarula Cream) made from the berries of the Amula Tree which when fermented results in very drunk monkeys and elephants! Of course, what most Residents know is that Jayne loves cats, and loves the CATS. It is likely that this love of cats arose from encounters with a playful lion cub who wanted a baby's bottle rather than the young daughter who held the bottle! (Thank goodness we all sighed!) Jayne's account highlighted how challenging the move from South Africa to Australia was but how rewarding her life in Australia has been. It made the downsizing move into Bellarine Springs Village a piece of cake!

Peter's presentation took us down a very different path – after many years in the Policeforce, he left to establish BioClean.

This company provided clean up services dealing with the human and physical messes created by criminal drug makers producing amphetamines in kitchens and lounge rooms.

Peter showed pictures of these houses illustrating how catastrophic the damage can become. The strategies and methods used for cleaning up include toxic chemicals requiring whole body protection, masks and specialised breathing equipment. The type and intensity of chemicals needed ultimately determines whether the premises can be salvaged or whether the premises are beyond recovery and are designated as unfit for human habitation. This was an eye opening and shocking presentation and the group were mightily impressed by the dangerous work Peter Guerin and his associates undertake.



Although the session went well over the scheduled time those attending were initially fascinated by Jaynes stories and then gob-smacked by the horrible situations Peter had to manage!

Steph and Rod Wellard
VIP Conveners





VIP SERIES

Very Interesting Presentations

Last Laugh and Wrap Up
with
Rod & Steph Wellard

Steph and Rod will convene the session and present some light hearted observations and anecdotes. Participating Residents will be invited to discuss and share feedback arising from the VIP Series and provide suggestions for 2025.

- **Tues Dec 10th**
- **11:30 - 12:30pm**
- **In the Theatre**

SIGN UP NOW
AT THE
COMMUNITY
CENTRE

WRAP-UP

ROD & STEPH WELLARD

Remembrance day



At 10:30 AM, our Village flag was lowered to half-mast in preparation for the resident service, and it was raised again following the minute of silence. On November 11th, 2024, our residents observed a moment of silence at 11 AM to remember a loved one, friend, or ancestor, and to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who have served and perished in wars, conflicts, and peace operations.

A special thanks to Maree Burn for her reading of The Ode. We honor the memory of those who suffered or lost their lives while serving in wars, conflicts, and peace operations.



15th
December



Merry
Christmas

Community Christmas Party

2 SITTINGS		\$10
<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Dinner</i>	
12 noon for 12:30pm start	6:00pm for 6:30pm start	Subsidised by BSRA

PLEASE SIGN UP AND PAY AT THE
ACTIVITY STATION BY DECEMBER 10TH
SEATING LIMITED TO 70 PER SITTING FOR
THE COMFORT OF RESIDENTS






Fifth Avenue Collection

BEAUTIFUL JEWELLERY

Presented by: Betty McGrath

Beautiful
Jewellery

Tuesday Dec 3rd, 2024

10:30am - 12 noon in the
Community Centre

We look forward to seeing you there.
Come along and join the fun.

A decorative border of red musical notes, including treble clefs, eighth notes, and quarter notes, surrounds the text.

Musical Moments

This year has been fantastic for Musical Moments, filled with great music, positivity, and camaraderie. Our growing membership throughout the year highlights our increasing popularity, which is truly heartwarming.

We have showcased diverse talents from various soloists, adding richness to our programs. On December 21, 2024, we will be presenting Christmas Carols to the village.

We are also excited about what 2025 will bring in terms of more musical experiences.

Jacqui Brough

Frog Heaven

FrogID is an Australian Museum citizen science project, and November 8–17 was 'Frog Week', so we recorded and submitted the wonderful frog chorus at the dam on Saratoga Circuit.

The calls were confirmed as being those of the Common Eastern Froglet (sounds like a cricket chirping, with three to five repeats; "crick crick crick"), the Brown Tree Frog (a series of rapid, harsh, whirring pulsing notes repeated 5–15 times, the first note usually the longest - "creeeeeeee creee creee creee creee") and the Spotted Marsh Frog (a short, sharp "click" or "plock" regularly repeated, like two stones being struck together). Enjoy the lullaby!

Helen and Lance Rowley



Drysdale Foodbank Drive 2024

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's collection.

This is the fifth year that Geoff and I have run this drive, which allows Village residents to make in-kind donations from their doorstep, and once again all items were gratefully received. A Certificate of Appreciation from the Foodbank is on display on the Library Noticeboard until the end of the year.

This year Geoff and I had the privilege of assisting with unpacking your gifts at the centre and stocking the shelves with them. It was very gratifying to see the empty shelves fill up and then overflow, with extra items going into storage cupboards for next week.


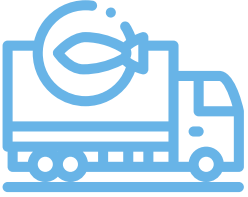
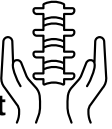




Clients come to the Foodbank every Tuesday, usually once a fortnight but sometimes every week. The coordinator told us that demand has never been so high, with 50 families receiving support in each of the last two weeks, and 2 more families registering on our collection day. So, rest assured that your donations are distributed both quickly and locally.

Thank you to our collectors, Barb and Alan (who also helped with the unpacking and shelving), Graeme, Steve, and Ross.

Geoff Turner and Judith Jones



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>8:45 am: Cycling Group 1 pm: Mahjong at CC 1pm: Aqua 1:30 pm: Rumikub at CC 2 pm: Scrabble at CC 3pm: Book Club in the boardroom</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>9am: Walking group 10.30am: Jewellery Party at CC 1pm: Craft at pavilion 2pm: Golf croquet at bowling green 2pm: Chicks with Cue sticks at CC 2pm: Indoor bowls at CC 5pm: Sundowners at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>9am: Social Tennis 9.15 am: Bus to Drysdale 9.30 am: Tai Chi Pavilion 1pm: Mahjong at CC 1.30 pm: Rummikub at CC 2pm: Physiotherapy at Pool 2pm: Outdoor bowls</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>9:30 am: Exercises at Pav 11am: Aqua 1:30 pm: Social Bridge at Pavilion 2pm: Golf Croquet 2pm: Cuppa and games at CC 2pm Blokes, Billards, Beers at CC</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>8:45 am: Cycling Group 1 pm: Mahjong at CC 1pm: Aqua 1:30 pm: Rumikub at CC 2 pm: Scrabble at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>9am: Walking group 10.30am: Birthday Morning tea at CC 1pm: Craft group at Pav 2pm: Golf croquet at bowling green 2pm: Chicks with Cue sticks at CC 2pm: Indoor bowls at CC 11.30am: VIP at theatre 5pm: Sundowners at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>9am: Social Tennis 9.15 am: Bus to Drysdale 9.30 am: Tai Chi Pavilion 1pm: Mahjong at CC 1.30 pm: Rummikub at CC 2pm: Physiotherapy at Pool 2pm: Outdoor bowls</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>9:30 am: Exercises at Pav 11 am: Aqua 1:30 pm: Social Bridge at Pavilion 2pm: Golf Croquet 2pm: Cuppa and games at CC 2pm Blokes, Billards, Beers at CC 2pm "The Pink Panther" at theatre</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>8:45 am: Cycling Group 1pm: Mahjong at CC 1pm: Aqua 1:30 pm: Rumikub at CC 2 pm: Scrabble at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>9am: Walking group 1pm: Craft at pavilion 2pm: Golf croquet at bowling green 3pm: Indoor bowls 3pm: Chicks Cue Sticks at CC 5pm: Sundowners at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>9am: Social Tennis 9.15 am: Bus to Drysdale 9.30 am: Tai Chi Pavilion 10am: Bus to Westfield 1pm: Mahjong at CC 1.30 pm: Rummikub 2pm: Physiotherapy at Pool 2pm: Outdoor bowls</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>9:30 am: Exercises 11am: Aqua 1:30 pm: Social Bridge at Pavilion 2pm: Golf Croquet 2pm: Cuppa and games at CC 2pm Blokes, Billards, Beers @ CC 7pm Whisky Night at CC</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>8:45 am: Cycling Group 1:00 pm: Mahjong at CC 1.00pm: Aqua 1:30 pm: Rumikub at CC 2:00 pm: Scrabble at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>9am: Walking group 1pm: Craft at pavilion 2pm: Golf croquet 3pm: Indoor bowls at CC 3pm: Chicks Cue Sticks 5pm: Sundowners</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Merry Christmas</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">12pm in the community centre dining room for a BYO lunch</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>9:30 am: Exercises 11am: Aqua 1:30 pm: Social Bridge 2pm: Golf Croquet 2pm: Cuppa and games 2pm Blokes, Billards, Beers</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>8:45 am: Cycling Group 1:00 pm: Mahjong at CC 1.00pm: Aqua 1:30 pm: Rumikub at CC 2:00 pm: Scrabble at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>9am: Walking group 1pm: Craft at pavilion 2pm: Golf croquet 3pm: Indoor bowls at CC 3pm: Chicks Cue Sticks 5pm: Sundowners</p>		

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>10am: Musical Moments at Theatre 1pm: Mahjong at CC 1.30pm: Rummikub at CC 5pm: Happy Hour at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>2pm Line Dancing at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>2pm Cuppa and games at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">December 2024</p> 
<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>10am: Musical Moments at Theatre 10.30am: Fish Van at CC 1pm: Mahjong at CC 1.30pm: Rummikub at CC 5pm: Happy Hour at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>2pm Line Dancing @CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fish Van 10.30am - 11am Friday 13th December Friday 22nd December</p> 
<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>10am Musical Moments Sings Carols at CC 10am Bus to Westfield Lux Beauty bus at CC 1pm Mahjong at CC 1.30pm Rummikub at CC 5pm Happy Hour at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>2pm Line Dancing at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>2pm Cuppa and games at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lux Beauty Bus 9am Friday 6th November To book appointments for that day, please contact Fiona at 0404 043 096</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>10am Musical Moments at Theatre 1pm Mahjong at CC 1.30pm Rummikub at CC 5pm Happy Hour at CC 7.00pm "Rough Cut" at theatre</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>2pm Line Dancing at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>2pm Cuppa and games at CC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Physiotherapist</p>  <p>Keegan FitzGerald is located in the practioners room in community centre 0411 096 099 to schedule appointments.</p>
			<p style="text-align: center;">Hairdresser</p>  <p>Sally is located in the community centre hairdressing salon. Please contact her direct on 0428 150 094 to arrange your appointment.</p>

**Morning Tea
Tuesday 10th
Dec 10.30am**



Indulge yourself with the talented team at Beauty of Excellence, offering luxurious hand massages and cuticle care for your hands.



**Gold Coin Donation.
All Proceeds going to Geelong
Animal Welfare**