

LEOPOLD BUZZ



Leopold Community & Learning Centre

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www.leopoldcommunitycentre.com.au

YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION

ISSUE 23 | SEPTEMBER, 2021



Some ideas to do this Spring

Royal Botanical Gardens Victoria -Experience the Gardens from the comfort of your home with a selection of videos, workshops, talks and tours.
<https://www.rbv.vic.gov.au/initiatives/virtual-garden/>

Freshen up your home - spring cleaning is probably one of the best things to do while you're stuck at home. But you can also find other ways to give your home an update. Pick some spring flowers, change up your decorating scheme, and reconfigure furniture.....

Plant an herb garden Herb gardens tend to be one of the easier things for gardening novices to accomplish—and can be sized to your space, whether you want to create an indoor herb garden in a few pots or have room to dedicate an area to it outdoors. The scent of lavender can help you reduce stress, and herbs like rosemary, mint, and basil make great additions to your spring dishes or drinks.

WHERE TO GET HELP

Bellarine Community Support Register

The Bellarine Community Support Register can offer a sense of safety, security and peace of mind for isolated residents on the Bellarine, by enabling them to register their contact details and next of kin information on a secure data base that can be accessed by police in an emergency.

A regular care call can also be organised on a daily, weekly or monthly basis, to check in regarding their welfare.

You might be lock down, but you don't need to feel alone here on the Bellarine.

To learn more and register today
<https://bellarineregister.org.au>
Email: bpsupportreisger@bigpond.com
Phone: 0480 228 674

KEEPING CONNECTED

Welcome to the 23rd edition of Leopold BUZZ. You can view or download all issues of the newsletter on our website:

www.leopoldcommunitycentre.com.au
info@leopoldcommunitycentre.com.au

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Thursday 9.30 – 3.30

Phone: 5250 1301

Check our website for any updates on our re-opening

Sorry We Are
**TEMPORARILY
CLOSED**
DUE TO COVID-19

**However,
you can
still contact
us by email**

Magpie Larks

Week 7

White Van Man



I am perched on a branch of our new tree by the river waiting for the rest of our Charm to turn up for our “what to do about the White Van Man meeting?” I am annoyed everyone is late. It has been a rough week – there is a kookaburra living in the hollow of the trunk above our branch and he is not happy at our arrival, apart from telling us to nick off, he has not told us his name and refused to engage in any kind of discussion.

The kookaburra is pretty rude, when we start our song to greet the dawn he starts his raucous cackle which you can no way call musical and it drowns us out and gives me and the missus a headache! He also has a habit of perching above me and dropping things on my head – I think he thinks he is hilarious – probably his way of encouraging us to move on. The missus is really fed up, but we cannot go home till the White Van Man is sorted.

To top it off when Horace popped by to give me an update on the happenings down our street I find out he and the kookaburra are long-time enemies. I am still to get to the bottom of that – Horace has been a bit cagey about it, and today is not the day to push it - one problem at a time and my priority is to get the family back to our home. Whilst I am up to taking on a kookaburra, I would rather not.

Horace informs me that White Van Man is putting tastier treats every day, this morning it

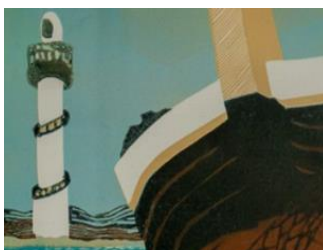


was tasty crickets and he is worried that Swipes is weakening in his self-control, he saw him circling the cage and he had to chase him away. Crickets are Swipe's favourite, he likes the crunch he gets when he snaps down on them. So far no one has been trapped and we are hoping after a while White Van Man will give up if he has no success.

On a very positive note Horace reports that Mrs Greyhead was sabotaging the traps, she throws out all the treats on the nature strip and then hides the traps in her shed. Unfortunately she got caught in the act yesterday by the neighbour with the black car; he is dodgy dude I would like to bomb him whenever I can, he obviously dobbed her in as the White Van Man came knocking on the door.

Horace said it was a real kerfuffle! There was lots of yelling and arm waiving and then Mrs Greyhead chased White Van Man down her drive way brandishing her garden rake! Wish I could have seen that, she is a good old girl and at least she is on our side. Unfortunately White Van Man came back today with more traps, and this time he has chained them to the trees along the street, apparently all he has managed to catch so far is a couple of pigeons, poor things they are not very smart.

Will Mrs Greyhead continue to save the magpies? Will White Van Man give up in defeat? And what about the poor pigeons?



Lino-print Making

Students will enjoy the simple process of designing, carving and printing their own work on paper over two classes in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere; no prior skills required.

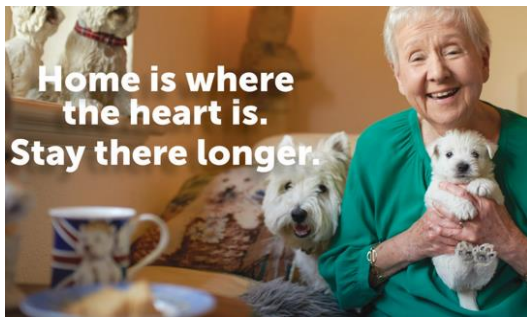
Wednesday September 27th & 28th

Cost: \$30 per class

1.00pm – 3.00pm

Bookings essential

YOU ARE INVITED TO THIS FREE SESSION



Wednesday 27th October at 11.00 am
To register for this session phone us
at the Centre on 52501301

HOW TO LIVE AT HOME LONGER

Our health needs change as we age, but one thing stays the same: our desire to remain living in our own home. Living at Home for Longer is a free seminar that provides advice, tips and insights on how to continue living in your own home well into your senior years. The seminar conducted by Latrobe Community Health is tailored for those aged over 65 years who want to know how to access government-funded subsidies to help them live happily at home for longer. The seminar also provides advice on navigating the 'My Aged Care' system.

Adventure Walking Club

Change of date



ACTIVE AUSTRALIA
INNOVATION CHALLENGE

Enjoy a free bus ride to a secret location, healthy lunch and a guide. Participants will enjoy a walk around the mystery location and head back to Leopold.

First Mystery Walk: 25th October, 2021

9.30am – 1.30pm

Cost: \$5.00 to join club
(for insurance purposes)

Limited number of places remaining



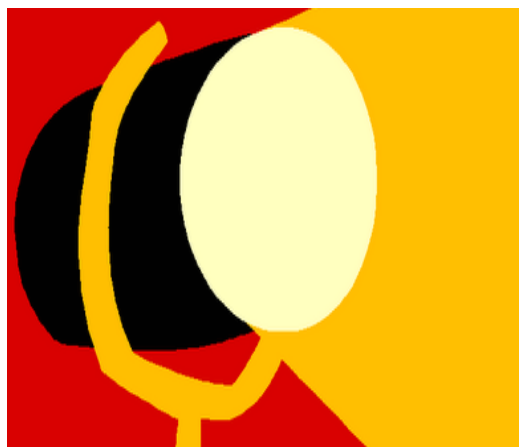
We can help
you apply for the
State Government's

\$250
Power Saving Bonus



We are helping people in our community apply for the \$250.00 Power Saving Bonus. This is a one-off payment to help you with the cost of living. To be eligible, someone in your household must have a pensioner concession card or receive Jobseeker, Austudy, Abstudy or Youth Allowance.

Please contact the Centre to arrange an appointment on 5250 1301 when we re-open



We are searching for dynamic community minded volunteers who have a strong connection to the greater Leopold area to join our Committee of Management.

For further information email us at:
info@leopoldcommunitycentre.com.au

TRISTAN'S TECH TIPS



PlantNet

With the weather outside improving some of us are starting to take advantage of the sunny weather, even if it is within our own backyards or permitted exercise times. As such, I was thinking about how we may be able to use tech to our advantage when surrounded by nature. So after some research I came across the app PlantNet, found on both Google Android and Apple App stores.

PlantNet is free and easy to use. The way it works is: millions of users submit their photos of their plants, leaves, fruit and other vegetation onto a database and over time, many millions of photos have been stored and catalogued. So now if I was to see a plant I thought was unusual that I would like to identify, I can open the app, select my region (Australia) and take a photo of the plant to submit. I can also submit photos I already have in my Gallery. PlantNet then cross references my photos with others and returns results in what it thinks it is, with impressive accuracy.

Most of the time according to reviewers it is spot on in its diagnosis, but occasionally it has trouble. This is where experts can correct it and make it even more accurate in the future. And to be fair, it can be difficult to know the difference between a raspberry and blackberry bush by the leaves alone, at least it is to me.

While we are certainly not sponsored by PlantNet, I do think it may be a fun thing to give a try. Not only in your own garden where you most likely already know all your plants, but why not give it a go on a walk and discover what plants people may have in their front gardens, or in our local nature? Sounds like it could be fun.



Leopold Garden Club



Garden Club Members like all Gardeners are enjoying or about to enjoy the beginning of spring. It means things are starting to happen in the great outdoors. Time to get planting; but what to plant?

If you are an old hand you have probably worked out your program well in advance. The following is for those who are just starting out or have found with the lockdown; what a wonderful time can be had in the garden. Growing your own food is one place to start. This can be done in a very small area to start with it can even be done in pots. If you want quick success try radishes, lettuce, herbs. Radish is best done from seed. You can grow lettuce and many herbs easily from seed. If you want to save time; start with seedlings of lettuce and herbs. These do not take up a lot of space and each seedling planted into a pot (15 cm diameter) with a good potting mix will grow one lettuce or a herb easily. If you are feeling adventurous, there are many more types of plant seeds or seedlings that you can try.

Spring is the time to get the most out of your garden. The Leopold community Centre Garden Club is one source of Information and Inspiration it meets Covid permitting on the 3rd Monday of the month at 1pm (cost \$5 per session). Get ideas, get information, get a cuppa, get conversation, get a laugh you may even get a plant! so get along to a meeting.

Next Meeting (Hopefully): 20th September at 1.00

Dimitrij Betz,
Garden Club Co-ordinator