

# THE BRIDGE

## APRIL 2020

LINKING THE COMMUNITIES OF BOISDALE, BUSHY PARK AND VALENCIA CREEK

### The Editor

There is so much going on out there that all we can say is stay safe and follow the rules! With self isolation and stay at home being the order of the day we decided to focus on "Being creative". There are so many ways to create something, a garden, a piece of furniture or even a jar of relish! It's also a time to catch up on those "one day" jobs, cleaning out cupboards, weeding those forgotten patches or finally finishing that painting job.....

### **Ken & Helen**

### The humble tea cosy!



I was inspired by a visit to Fish Creek in South Gippsland 2 years ago where they have a biennial tea cosy festival. I have created a few and whipped this one up out of scraps and Op Shop bits and bobs for an ABC Radio story. It's amazing what you can make out of a bit of cardboard packaging and glue! **Ken**

### Isolation Garden

Congratulations to Courtney and Ben Skeen, on the arrival of their third son Hamish. Courtney is spending her time reinvigorating her veggie garden! Riley and Tom love the soil pile to play cars in! She's even been making face masks and sharing the patterns with friends.



### Crochet crazy



Elizabeth Kovco is a self confessed crochet fanatic and is constantly trialling new fibres and patterns and creating practical and weird and wonderful items, even an avocado keyring.



### Boisdale Creative Group

Though their agenda for the next few months has been put aside this wonderful group still have a vibrant facebook forum where they share ideas, projects and inspiration. They welcome new members and would love in this time of isolation for members, new and old to share what they are doing with their time.as well as provide support to each other. Its a fabulous little community!

### Boisdale Garden Club

Due to the Corona Virus a decision has been made to suspend all meetings, including the Annual Conference at Orbost until further notice. Hope you all keep safe and well during this difficult time.

### **Joy Morley**

**Ed:** It's a great opportunity to do your pruning and get your gardens in order while we're all at home. The Maffra Tip is still open at present.

### Boisdale Stables

We're very excited to announce that the Boisdale Stables Sub-Committee has been successful in obtaining a substantial grant to install Information Technology equipment. This will enhance opportunities for our functions. A great sound system, a large electronic screen, data projector and an in- built television for one of the stall areas, will be purchased. This equipment will greatly increase possibilities and hopefully increase bookings.

On a sad note, we had to cancel a wedding scheduled for this month. This has been distressing for the bride and groom and for us.

Some progress has been made in preparation for starting the building of our toilets, storage space and outdoor display area. Functions cannot be held at the Stables until the toilets are in place.

**Kath Coggan - Chair Boisdale Stables Sub-Committee**



## Boisdale CFA

In the case of emergency callouts it's business as usual for the Boisdale brigade, we will continue to turnout to all emergency's as required.

So there is no unnecessary call outs please register your burn offs 1800 668 511, check the weather forecast, have a break around the burn, water on hand and someone always monitoring it.

The Boisdale Brigade has suspended all non-essential activities until further notice: No Brigade training, No Brigade meetings and No Community events.

In other news we are slowly moving forward on our quest for a 2nd vehicle. We have received letters from the local CFA Group, the local District CFA Headquarters and the South East Region CFA Headquarters, all supporting Boisdale to get a second vehicle. We still have to obtain support from other committees and then be successful in gaining a grant, as well as using funds that we are raising. Stay healthy everyone.

**Tim Crooke - Secretary Boisdale CFA**

## Boisdale Briagolong Football & Netball club



Due to current COVID-19 crisis, all future club activities, including training sessions, games and social events (including our season launch/community day scheduled for

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> of April) are now suspended until further notice. At this stage, all scheduled home and away games are cancelled until, at least, Saturday the 2nd of May (to be reviewed on or before 12th of April). As more information comes to hand, we will continue to update the facebook page. We, like all clubs in the area, need to be part of the whole community response to slow this COVID-19 virus down – and in doing so, help the broader community and our health systems to cope.

The coming weeks will be testing for the club, and community at large, and we ask that all our members/supporters do their best to support the club and each other during this time. Yes, we will be missing footy/netball games this year, but things should return to normal at some stage. At this point, the health and wellbeing of our players, officials and supporters, is our number one priority and we will be making future decisions based on updated advice we receive. There is a lot of misinformation out there in regards to the virus and its impact on football/netball seasons, amongst other things, so please refer to our facebook page for the correct information based on up-to-date advice that clubs are receiving. We will continue to post updates over the coming weeks. To our members and supporters - it may be a delayed start to the season, but the red and the black will be back bigger and better once we are given the all clear later in the year.

**Ryan Evans**

## Boisdale & District History Group (B&DHG)

In a shared project with the BBFNC, all the football, netball photos from the social clubrooms have been scanned, catalogued and many reproduced and framed ready to be placed back on the newly painted walls.

The earliest Boisdale Football Team photo is from 1884, courtesy of the Maffra & District Historical Society, with other photos held by the B&DHG and some from the Brideson's collection of football photos. The Club now has a wealth of photos and will have an archivist to maintain the collection. Hopefully when the football season recommences the public will be able to view the photos.

**Helen Montague- B&DHG Contact 0448 349 420**



**First Boisdale Football Team 1884 (M&DHS) P02596VMFF**

**Back Lt - Rt:** Alf Rowly, W. Gibbs, Bob Warriner, ----- Kelly, G. James, Ern Hawkins, Bill Amey, Jack James, W.Fielden, Army Foster, Jack Smith.

**Front Lt-Rt:** Unknown, Bill Burley, Unknown, Bill Lestrangle, Unknown, Jack Gibbs, Unknown, Ralph Turner.



**Girls Football Team 1970's**

1953 - Last year Boisdale played at Football Lane



Pictured: Ray Walton, who later played for Maffra & St Kilda. No 15. is Ray Brideson. Tin shed in background is the change-rooms.

**Photos scanned from Mona Brideson's Album.**

Catching the Bus - 1950's



Run weekly for passengers to the football from Boisdale to Briagolong

## Cassie at the National Gallery of Victoria



It seems totally appropriate that artist, weaver, cultural educator Cassie Leatham now lives in the former school teachers residence on the original site of the Boisdale State school. Cassie has become an educator in culture, art and bush

tucker amongst other things from her Koorie ancestor's heritage and has been generously sharing this knowledge with many people. She has been in much demand at festivals, schools, community groups and even with university medical students. Her profile has been growing as she works hard at her crafts and skills and she has been recognised publicly in many ways with her work being commissioned and being purchased by such institutions as the Museum of Victoria, the Magistrates Court and the National Gallery of Victoria. She has shared her knowledge on the national TV program "Gardening Australia" and been featured in many publications.



Her latest recognition comes in a collaboration with the National Gallery of Victoria who have commissioned her to produce a jewellery range. Cassie worked with the NGV design team and professional jeweller Blanch Tilden to create a contemporary collection of stunning jewellery. The collection, "Spirit within" was featured in Melbourne Design Week and available at the NGV Design Store. Cassie, amid her busy schedule, collected natural materials such as feathers and reeds during the summer bushfire season and worked with experts in the field to make modern fashion jewellery with a unique indigenous style.

This is definitely a coup for any artist and high praise for a Gippsland artisan such as Cassie and shows the respect the National Gallery have for her work. She will continue to work from her Boisdale home, using it as a base to expand her practice and share her knowledge. **Congratulations Cassie!**

## Maffra & District Community Bank



The Board of Maffra & District Community Financial Services Limited, which

operates Maffra & District Community Bank Branch franchise, is happy to announce the payment of the Company's first dividend to be made to shareholders this month.

The concept of a Community Bank is to return up to 80% of profits to the community which supports the bank. Our branch has returned \$112,460 by way of grants and sponsorships back to our local community.

The success of the Maffra & District Community Bank branch is thanks to its shareholders, our customers who choose to bank with us and our Branch Manager and Staff who are dedicated to providing a great product to you. We look forward to being able to deliver further dividends and greater reinvestment in the community as our business continues to grow.

If you are interested in purchasing shares in Maffra & District Community Financial Services Limited they are traded as Low Volume Market shares. You can find out more details, including current shares available for purchase on our web page.

The Board also currently has vacancies for additional Directors. Ideal candidates need to demonstrate a strong interest in community and willingness to further develop our businesses relationship within Maffra and surrounding areas. It is a volunteer position with an expectation to attend monthly board meetings and from time to time attend other functions as a representative of the Company. If you think this sounds like you, we encourage you to get in touch with us and see about joining our team.

Don't forget our Community Grants program is open for applications. If your community group, club or organisation is looking for funding for your next project, email us at [admin@mdcfs.com.au](mailto:admin@mdcfs.com.au) or drop in to our Maffra & District Community Bank branch for an application form.

### **Rob Christie - Chairman Maffra and District Community Bank**

### Boisdale Recreation Reserve

At the beginning of March the Rec. Reserve Committee hosted the Briagolong Film Crew who are making a film of the train that ran return trips from Maffra and Briagolong.

The Boisdale station was located on the Rec. Reserve and trains ran three return trips per day during the busiest season.

Lunch was provided for the Briagolong members at the Boisdale Hall and they were given a tour of the Stables as well.

A photo board has been created by the Boisdale & District History Group to hang in the Corporate Box at the Rec. Reserve.



## The Birdman of Boisdale

### **EASTERN SPINEBILL**

*Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*

Meliphagidae



The Eastern Spinebill inhabits shrubs in open eucalypt forests, as well as shrubland, heathland and suburban gardens. They use their long, slender, decurved bills to probe deep into flowers, at all levels from the canopy down to the undergrowth, to feed on the sweet nectar. Some plants appear to have evolved specially to be pollinated by them. Fuelled with this energy-rich nectar, Eastern Spinebills are also often seen actively darting about on whirring, fluttering wings, after flying insects.

**Description:** The Eastern Spinebill is most easily recognised by its very long, fine, down-curved beak and energetic flight, during which its white outer tail feathers are prominent. Males have a grey-black crown which extends in a black line on either side of the breast. The breast and throat are white, with a rufous patch in the centre of the throat. The wings and lower back are dark grey and the underparts and upper back are buff. Females are similar to males but have less distinct markings.

**Distribution:** The Eastern Spinebill's range is generally east of the Great Dividing Range from Cooktown in Queensland to the Flinders Ranges in South Australia.

**Habitat** The Eastern Spinebill prefers heath, forest and woodland.

**Feeding:** The Eastern Spinebill feeds on insects and nectar while perched or while hovering. Nectar is obtained from a wide array of flowers, including grevilleas, but its beak is particularly well-suited to extracting nectar from tubular flowers such as epacrids.

**Breeding:** The Eastern Spinebill's nest is a small cup of twigs, grass and bark, combined with hair and spider's web, built in a tree fork, generally between 1 and 5 metres from the ground. Only the female builds the nest and incubates the eggs, but both parents feed the young when they hatch.

### **The Eventurers**

Boisdale photographers Ian and Velta Fellowes specialise in event photography. FB: thephotoeventurers M: 0427 472 451 E: [theeventurers2@gmail.com](mailto:theeventurers2@gmail.com)

## Boisdale & District Emergency Planning Group

No doubt you will all have been over saturated with the latest Corona Virus updates, but it is extremely important that we follow the regulations to keep our small communities safe.

- The Government website has the latest information available <https://www.australia.gov.au/>
- The Wellington Shire Council link is also attached for the latest information from Council re closures. <https://www.wellington.vic.gov.au/alerts/covid-19-coronavirus>
- Please phone friends and neighbours to check on them, especially if they are elderly and already isolated. Shopping can be dropped at their gates / driveways if needed.
- **Stay safe everyone.**

### Most local facilities are closed at present

- The Boisdale & Valencia Soldier's Memorial Halls are currently closed and bookings have had to be cancelled until further notice.
- St George's Anglican Church, Boisdale is currently closed.
- Boisdale Consolidated School and Playgroup is closed until further notice.
- Most local groups and organisations are only meeting via teleconferencing, skype or Zoom. But their facebook sites are still active so keep up to date on-line.
- The Boisdale Post Office is operating as normal from 8.30am to 12md. Monday to Friday. At the moment the Gippsland Times is still available on Tuesday mornings (with thanks to Amy).
- For doctors or other essential appointments ring ahead and talk with the receptionists.
- Residents are all encouraged to have Flu Vax immunisations when available. Talk with your local clinic.

### Hand Sanitizer Recipe (Per Shannon Lush)

1 Cup of Alcohol (least 60 per cent- Gin or Vodka) or Mentholated Spirits  
1 Teaspoon of Tea Tree Oil  
2 Teaspoons of Glycerine  
Put in a spray bottle and off you go.

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### **Contact details for the editors:**

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