

THE BRIDGE

JUNE 2021

LINKING THE COMMUNITIES OF BOISDALE, BUSHY PARK AND VALENCIA CREEK

The Editor

Another lockdown due to COVID 19!

Take advantage of this period to have your COVID vaccination if you haven't already done so, part of keeping our communities safe. See details below for Vaccine Centres around the Sale area. https://www.hotdoc.com.au/search?filters=covid_vaccine-available&in=sale-VIC-3850&purpose=covid-vaccine

Also Wellington Shire Council is still offering COVID Hardship Grants of up to \$1000 for community groups who have experienced financial hardship since last year. This grant closes on June 30, so get your applications in. <https://wellington.smartygrants.com.au/QRG202021COS>

Lockdown is a good excuse to grab a takeaway dinner from our local pubs and cafes. Not only do you not have to meal plan or cook, you're helping keep local businesses and their staff afloat. It's a win win!

As local school principal Dan Clark said to his students last week: "We've got through it before, we can get through it again."

Editors - Lisa & Helen



Boisdale CFA

Thank you to some quick-thinking locals! When a truck brought down powerlines in Main Street, Boisdale, the locals warned on-coming traffic and kept people away from the downed lines until emergency services arrived.

Also thank you to the locals who provided us with hot tea and homemade slice while we waited for the power company to arrive! What a great community we live in.

Tim Crooke, Secretary- 0418331766

Boisdalecfa@gmail.com

Ed: A fabulous local effort from residents. This was one hazard we didn't identify through the Boisdale & District Community Emergency Plan! Well done to all involved.

Congratulations

To Stratford's Carmel Ripper who has been sworn in as a Councillor for the Northern Ward. Cr Ripper was elected via countback following the passing of Cr Hole in April. She joins fellow Northern Ward representatives Carolyn Crossley and John Tatterson. We look forward to working with Carmel and welcoming her to local events.

Farewell to Donna Cannon



It was with great sadness that we farewelled Donna Cannon on 14 May 2021. Donna passed away following a long battle with cancer and will be sadly missed by her family, friends and the local community.

Despite her illness Donna always had a ready smile and reassured friends that, *she was alright.*

A very brave lady who loved being involved with community events including, Tai Chi classes at the hall, Garden Club and Country Music activities.

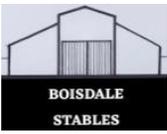
Our sincere sympathies are extended to Bill, her loving husband, children Rodney and Joanne (Clutterbuck), their partners and her adored grandchildren. We will all miss you, Donna.

BOISDALE GARDEN CLUB

On Wednesday 12th May, 13 members went on a bus trip (with four Briagolong Club members) to Orbost for the annual East Gippsland Garden Clubs Conference. Although it was raining in Orbost and we were unable to see the organised open gardens, we still had a very enjoyable day meeting up with gardening friends from other clubs. Thanks to our driver, Wayne for making this possible.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday June 12 at the Boisdale Hall at 12pm for a soup and sandwich lunch, followed by a presentation by Natalie Thorne on her colourful flowers made from soup tins, etc. All welcome. **Joy Morley - 5145 4225**





Boisdale Stables

The building of the toilets, storeroom and display shed at the Stables is

progressing well thanks to Peter Brown, our builder. Once the roof is in place, volunteers can install the galvanised sheets around the external walls (we will use the original iron taken from the Stables roof), so the new structure will look as though it is part of the Stables building.

Thank you to Peter McDavitt for a generous donation when installing the septic tank and to Donna McCarthy and Tony Grimwood from Valencia Creek for donating old bricks from their properties. Also to Michael & Kath Coggan, Sam Montague, Peta Thomas and Jenny Gieschen for loading and delivering them. We may still need a few more bricks to complete the floor in the display shed and for pathways.

We would also like a small, galvanised iron tank in good condition for run-off from the new building. If you can assist with any of these items, please contact Peter Brown 0407 822 520 or Helen (Sec.) 0448 349 420 and we will organise collection.

Kath Coggan, Chair Boisdale Stables Sub-Committee.



This project has been made possible through a grant from the Latrobe Valley Authority.



Boisdale Consolidated School

The Principal's focus

Open Week:

The school held a series of information sessions during the week of the 24th of May for prospective families interested in enrolling their children into Prep in 2022. For anyone who may have missed these information sessions, private school tours and enrolment information can be obtained by contacting the school's office on 5145 4391.

Outside School Hours Care:

The school was recently successful in receiving funding, \$75,000 per year, for the next four years to establish an Outside School Hours Care program. School Council have appointed "Their Care" as our Outside School Hours Care provider. They are a Melbourne based company that run OSHC programs at schools across the state and have extensive experience in this space. The plan will be for the service to begin at the start of Term 3.

Inclusive Schools Funding:

Our application for an "Inclusive Schools" grant has been successful. We will be receiving \$200,000 which will go towards a new playground that will be inclusive to all, with students across the school being able to access and utilise this playground. In addition to the new

playground, some of the grant funds will be going towards landscaping the area behind the shade shelter where a new sensory garden will be built.

The Department of Education will begin working with the school over the coming months to develop and carry out this project. As part of the project, students, staff and school council will be heavily involved with the scope and design of the project which should be completed by 2022.

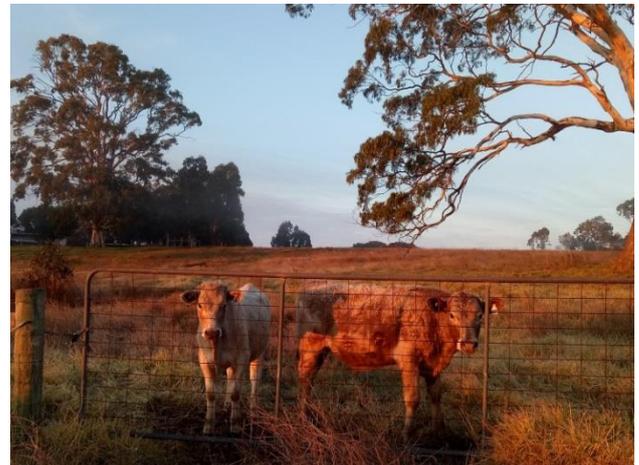
I would also like to highlight and acknowledge all of Mrs Lambourn's hard work and effort in putting the grant application together. She spent many hours during the first few weeks of the school year compiling and submitting all of the relevant information for the application.

FOCUS ON THE FARM- Interview with Lisa Herbert

The school's surrounding farmland makes it the largest primary school in Victoria in area. The 18 or so hectares isn't utilised like it once was. Occasionally families donate calves to be reared and then auctioned to raise funds for the school.

Sometimes local farmers put cattle in the paddocks to graze and to keep vegetation in check. While principal Dan Clark admits its use as a functional farm and learning opportunity for students isn't viable, the topic of the land's longevity is something loosely on the radar of the school council.

In the meantime, you'll continue to see the two Charolais steers that call the school's paddocks home. In case you were wondering, their names are Stewy and Coop; named after two members of the Miller family who donated the pair to the school.



Boisdale -Briagolong Red Cross

Members met at the Briagolong Hotel for a Senior's Lunch on Thursday 6th May.

Wonderful to all catch up and even join up some new members. We hope to meet again on the first Thursday in July. All welcome to attend.

All the funds donated to the Vic. Red Cross Bushfire Appeal have now been distributed to those affected.

Helen Montague - 0448 349 420



Boisdale & District Progress Assoc. Inc. Representing Boisdale, Bushy Park & Valencia Creek.

Our May meeting was postponed until Wednesday 23 June, 7.30pm at the Boisdale Hall (unless COVID restrictions still apply). If you have any local issues to discuss or some suggestions for our communities, come along or send your queries through to Judy or Helen. All welcome to attend.

Judy Traill, Chair - 0400 443 167



Boisdale-Briagolong Football Netball Club

After a 589-day break between games, our football and netball teams finally had the chance to run out on the ground/court again in late April/early May and, since then, each of these sides have had the chance to record resounding wins.

Our women's and reserves football teams currently sit on the top of the ladder whilst our senior men's team holds onto second position on the table.

It was also great to see our youth girls football team recently record their first win for the season. In netball news, our six netball teams have all been progressing well and several look the goods to go deep into finals this year with all teams sitting inside, or just outside, the top four.

Unfortunately, COVID restrictions have recently returned and, once again, have put a pause on all club activities. Hopefully, this will only be a short period of time and we can get back to doing what we do best soon.

Please keep an eye on the Club Facebook page for updated information about club games and social functions: <https://www.facebook.com/boisdalebriagolong>
Go the Bombers! **Ryan Evans**

Valencia Soldiers' Memorial Hall

Unfortunately, due to the COVID lockdown, the Davidson Brothers concert at the Valencia Hall on Saturday 29 May had to be cancelled. Hopefully they can reschedule soon.

But we did have the Gourmet Fuel Taco Van on site providing take away meals for those hungry locals who braved the weather. Hopefully we can get them back on a regular basis.



We will have **Felicity Urquhart and Josh Cunningham (Waifs) in concert at the Valencia Hall on Thursday 8 July, at 7:30 pm.** \$30 entry. Bookings to Garry on: 5145 4428 or 0439 454 428.

Details will be available on our facebook site.

<https://www.facebook.com/valenciacreekhall>

The Birdman of Boisdale

EASTERN WHIPBIRD

Psophodes olivaceus (Eupetidae)



Having mostly-green plumage and living in the dense undergrowth, the Eastern Whipbird is seen far less often than it is heard. Its whip-crack call is a characteristic of many of the moist forests in eastern Australia. The unusual feature of this call is that it is often performed by two birds calling in unison, with one bird contributing the first part of the call and another giving the second part. This so-called 'antiphonal' calling involved great co-ordination between the two birds to give the call its familiar whip-crack sound.

Adult Eastern Whipbirds are mostly dark olive-green above, with a long tail, and a grey-white belly. The head and breast are black, with a broad white patch on the side of the face and a black crest. The eye is pale cream and the bill is black. Young whip birds are generally duller, with a smaller crest. The white cheek patch is absent in very young birds, and increases in size as the birds mature.

The range of the Eastern Whipbird is from northern Queensland to Victoria along the coastal band of eastern Australia. Eastern Whipbirds live in wet habitats, including rainforest, eucalypt forest and dense scrub near watercourses, in dense vegetation near the ground. The birds are secretive, but can be curious, and will be seen if the observer remains patient. The Eastern Whipbird feeds on insects and other small invertebrates, which are caught on the ground by bill. Feeding takes place alone, in pairs or in small family groups.

A breeding pair of Eastern Whipbirds occupies a territory, which is defended year round, with the mates staying together for many years. The female makes a cup nest of sticks and bark, which is lined with finer grasses, and placed in dense vegetation near the ground. The female also incubates the eggs. The young birds are fed by both parents. Sometimes two broods are raised in a single season.

The Eventurers - Boisdale photographers Ian and Velta Fellowes specialise in event photography.
M: 0427 472 451

St George's Anglican Church, Boisdale



Repairs to the front of the church have been finalised and we even have our cross back on the roof. Thanks to Wayne Goddard and his apprentice, who worked in very wet conditions to complete the work. Thank you also to those who have made donations towards the

repairs. The next major undertaking will be having the building painted.

Hopefully services will resume (following COVID restrictions) on Sunday 13th June @ 2pm and continue on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month at 2pm. All most welcome. **Louise Blencowe, Church Warden**



This great photo was taken by Nadine Pleydell of Briagolong, maybe there is a pot of gold at the base of the church!

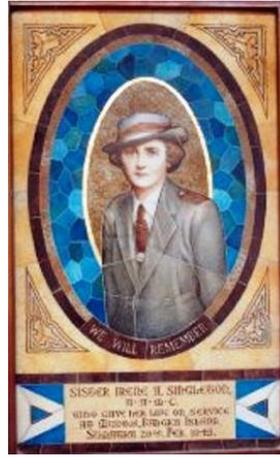
Maffra & District Community Bank



The Trivia Night held on Saturday 1st May at the Maffra Football Club Social Rooms was a great success and lots of fun, with \$4000 being raised on the night for Lifeline. The winning team was the Harry Potter table. Thanks to all who attended and supported this very worthy cause.

<https://www.facebook.com/communitybankmaffradistrict>

Local History - Nurses Talk at Maffra



Sister Irene Singleton, a nurse who survived the World War 2 Bangka Island Massacre, will be remembered at a special talk by Arlene Bennett, president of the Australian Nurses Memorial Centre, at Maffra Library.

Irene Singleton was born in Riverslea, near Maffra, and a historic mosaic dedicated to the memory of Singleton is mounted on the wall of Maffra Library.

On what would have been Irene Singleton's birthday, Ms Bennett will discuss her life as a WWII nurse, the bombing of her ship the *SS Vyner Brook*, her survival of the Bangka Island Massacre on Sumatra, and her death in a prisoner-of-war camp.

The talk will be held at **Maffra Library, 150 Johnson St, Maffra, at 1.30pm on Monday 21 June.**

Afternoon tea will be provided. To reserve your place, call Maffra Library on (03) 5147 1052.



Don't forget the **Briagolong Film Festival** at the Mechanics Institute from 11-13th June 2021, Covid permitting. A great range of films as usual. Well done Briagolong.

<https://www.facebook.com/briagolongfilmfestival>

At the Newry Hall, the Maffra Dramatic Society's **Blithe Spirit** has been postponed until June 11. **Fanny Lumsden** is appearing at the Hall, Friday July 2 @ 6.30pm. <https://www.facebook.com/Newry-Hall-Upper-Maffra-Mechanics-Institute-136521270464088>

The Gourmet Fuel - our new local Take Away Food Van is available for bookings. Call 0408 486 009 or email: thegourmetfuel@gmail.com



Articles for The Bridge are due in by the last week of each month. Send your submissions to Lisa at LisainBoisdale@gmail.com and/or Helen at dhmontague@bigpond.com

If you would like to be on our email distribution list for an electronic, coloured copy, email Helen or phone on 0448 349 420.

Hard copies are available at the Boisdale P.O.

