

Connecting

Sebastopol

Community News



DECEMBER 2024 - ISSUE 8



Representatives from local businesses and organisations who have contributed to the Connecting Sebastopol Community Newsletter and initiatives celebrate our win.

Sebastopol Newsletter awarded top honour!

We are excited to announce that our *Connecting Sebastopol Community News* was recently awarded "Best Newspaper 2024" at the Community Newspaper Association of Victoria annual awards! Held in Bendigo on Saturday 12 October, the awards saw dozens of Victorian community newspapers compete in nine categories. The Best Newspaper category is the top honour of the night, recognising excellence in layout, style and content. Judge Jeanette Severs was impressed with our "wonderful and interesting compilation of news, profiles, history and community features," and commended us for providing a QR code on the front page to enable readers to access newsletter content in full colour online. *Continued on page 6.*

Inside this issue:

- Community News
- Historical Feature
- Artscape
- Kids Corner
- Pets & Puzzles Page
- What's On

Use this QR code to view the full colour online newsletters





Acknowledgement of Country



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land we live and work on, the Wadawurrung People, and recognise their continuing connection to the land and waterways. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend this to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

About the Newsletter

Connecting Sebastopol Community News is a project of the Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre. This publication is compiled, edited and designed by volunteers, community contributors and Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre staff.

Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre

Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre is committed to creating opportunities for people to connect, learn and participate in their community. We offer adult education, one-on-one coaching for people looking for work, community activities, a community garden, volunteer opportunities and much more! www.ballaratnc.org.au
reception@ballaratnc.org.au

(03) 5329 3273

11 Tuppen Drive, Sebastopol

Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre welcomes
all LGBTQIA+ communities



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Upcoming Issues

In 2025 this newsletter will be published quarterly in March, June, September and December. The next issue will be published in late March, with articles, events and ads due by **Friday 7 March 2025** to community@ballaratnc.org.au or hard copy to Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre.

Advertise with us!

Printing of this newsletter relies on advertising revenue and donations.

Promote your business and support this valuable community initiative.

Advertising rates per edition are:

\$500 + GST: Half page

\$250 + GST: Banner or quarter page

\$150+ GST: Advertorial + Ad

\$50 + GST: Business Card

For more info contact Emily Macdonald

community@ballaratnc.org.au

5329 3273

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

We are very grateful for the growing number of volunteers helping to deliver this newsletter. Thanks to these dedicated volunteers, the September issue reached 3000 Sebastopol households!

Volunteer With Us!

We are seeking volunteers to help us expand delivery to the whole of Sebastopol. If you can spare an hour or two a few times a year to drop some newsletters into letterboxes, please get in touch!
5329 3273 / community@ballaratnc.org.au

If your house is not yet covered by a delivery volunteer, you can drop into the following Sebastopol organisations to pick up a copy:

Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre
Open Door & Op Shop
Sebastopol Library
Sebastopol Mens Shed
Salvos Sebastopol
G Gay & Co Mitre 10
My Local Store @ Hertford Street
(Shell Service Station)
Coles Sebastopol

Connecting Sebastopol Community Meet-Up



Some of the attendees at the October Sebastopol Community Meet-Up. Photo by Will Lay

Our Spring Sebastopol Meet-Up was held on 4th October at the Sebastopol Fire Brigade. We were pleased about the success of our 'Runt' Film Fundraiser, attended by 58 community members and raising \$350 towards the printing of this newsletter. Those who attended had a great afternoon, and it was noted that a film fundraiser is relatively easy to organise so could be an option again in future. We talked about capturing feedback about the newsletter and its benefits for the community. Businesses owners and community groups who have featured in the newsletter have reported new customers / attendees from the newsletter. We plan to ask for testimonials to assist us in seeking future advertising. Additionally, we would like to gather written feedback from community members to find out what people enjoy about the newsletter or think could be improved. This feedback will help shape the future of the newsletter and could also be useful for funding applications. We discussed the Connecting Sebastopol Facebook page, which is close to reaching 500 followers! We would like to appoint some volunteer content creators / admins to help keep the page active and engaging. If you would like to share your thoughts about the newsletter or find out more about volunteering with the newsletter or Facebook page, drop into Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre at 11 Tuppen Drive, or contact Emily via email: community@ballaratnc.org.au

Also at the meet-up, we finalised details for the Children's Week Family Fun Night, an event that grew out of partnerships developed at meet-ups between Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre, Journey Early Learning Sebastopol and St. James Parish School. A feature and photos from the night is on page 13.

The Sebastopol Senior Citizens provided an update on the new Sebastopol Community Centre. The tender for construction has been awarded to A.W. Nicholson and work is due to begin next year. The Sebastopol and District Lions Club let us know that they will soon be selling fruit cakes and raffle tickets for their annual fundraisers. The Sebastopol Fire Brigade's Calendar Drive was about to begin. In addition to being a major fundraiser, this also provides an opportunity for brigade members to talk to the public about fire safety, and conduct an informal survey of the neighbourhood, checking access to street hydrants, building sites, and parking. We were lucky enough to get a demonstration of how street hydrants work from brigade member Clayton. Thank you to Siobhain and Clayton for hosting us and to all who attended!

We invite you to join us at the

Sebastopol Meet-Up

10:30 - 11:30am, Friday 6 December

Open Door & Op Shop

106 Albert St, Sebastopol

Join us for a cuppa and chat!

Everyone is welcome

**To RSVP or stay informed about future meet-ups
contact Emily Macdonald:**
community@ballaratnc.org.au / 5329 3273
Or follow Connecting Sebastopol on Facebook

Community

Girl Guides Adventures!

In the latter half of the year, the Sebastopol and Delacombe Girl Guides have had a fantastic time, with Thursday nights packed full of activities that build skills, boost confidence, and offer plenty of social fun.



Many of the girls earned their Book Badge after an engaging visit to the Sebastopol Library, followed by making bookmarks, identifying parts of a book, the challenge of a book scavenger hunt, and deciphering codes to learn about Braille, hieroglyphics and the Dewey Decimal Classification system.



Food-themed nights are always popular, and have included making camp doughnuts for Doughnut Day, toasting pizza jaffles and damper over an open fire, popping corn in coals, a Masterchef challenge, making tacos in a bag and cooking s'mores for National S'mores Day. The dads were invited along

for a memorable Talk Like a Pirate Day, filled with swashbuckling games and pirate-themed fun. Some dads attended a special Dad & Daughter Night at Bunnings.

When spring arrived, the girls created and dressed unique scarecrows to take home for their gardens. Other exciting weekly meetings included Halloween magic, performance opportunities, campfire, Olympic Games-inspired challenges, Winter Pyjamas, escape room games and events like Melbourne Cup.

The girls also enjoyed the more adventurous activities of indoor rock climbing, gymnastics, and laser tag. The final weeks of the Guiding year are planned to include canoeing, volunteering at the Bunnings Family Night, and an exciting family ninja challenge to wrap up the year.

Sebastopol offers a Guide group for 10-16 year olds, and a separate group for 5-9 year olds, both on Thursday nights. And if that doesn't suit, there are other Guide groups that meet on different nights of the week. For more information, visit girlguidesballarat.org.au

Carmel Church Activities

Written by Chris Glare



Carmel Church Op Shop

One of Sebastopol's hidden treasures is the Op Shop hidden behind the Carmel Welsh Presbyterian Church at 263 Albert Street Sebastopol.

This Op Shop has been running for 18 years now and is open Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10am until 12 noon. The odd months (Mar, May, Jul, Sept, Nov) the Op Shop is open on Saturday morning from 10 – 12. All takings from the Saturdays goes to the Carmel Mission Partners Australia (CMPA)

The Op Shop has a great range of items for sale including clothing (men's, ladies, children and baby), toys, books, craft and bric-a-brac. The prices are kept to a minimum and the stock is constantly changing. A big white collection bin is in the driveway for donations. We do not have the capacity to take furniture. Beds and mattresses are often left which necessitates us having to pay tip fees. Electric blankets, pillows and mattress protectors are not re-sellable due to health issues – more tip fees if they don't fit in our rubbish bins.

Community



Carmel Mission Partners Australia (CMPA)

On the first Saturday of even months (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) the Foragers Fair is held with stalls in Bethal Hall next to the church as well plant sales and trash and treasure stalls out the front, great Filipino food and the Op Shop – all open from 9am until 2pm. All takings from the Saturdays goes to the Carmel Mission Partners Australia (CMPA) who have been giving wonderful support to its mission field in the Philippines – building a multi-purpose hall at one church, increasing the size of another church, including living quarters, kitchen and toilets, re-roofing several churches after disasters, sponsorship of secondary school students and feeding programs for malnourished primary aged children. Quite a lot of the cotton children's clothing and toys that are donated to the Op Shop are also sent to the Philippines where there is a great need.

Christmas Bags

Another program through Carmel Church is the Christmas Bags. Through the course of the year Chris collects school requisites, toys, books and clothing. Each year a different church in the Philippines is chosen and asked to send a list of sixty

children's names and ages. Several ladies make cotton carry bags and sponge bags, they have the child's name tag attached and get packed with that child's age in mind. The sponge bag has a face washer, soap, comb and toothbrush. The school requisites include 2 exercise books, a pencil case, coloured pencils, sharpener, eraser, grey lead pencils, biro and a note pad. An item of clothing which may be a t-shirt, hat, undies, socks, dress or shorts. A soft cuddle toy and several smaller toys to play with.



The girls get hair bands, hair ties, purse and jewellery. The boys may get a ball, car, marbles or puzzle. A book to read and maybe a colouring book. Extra clothing, books and toys are sent for the other children within the church who do not receive a bag. This is a very exciting project, being able to bring a smile to the faces of these under-privileged children who may never have had a toy of their own. Donations of new items always welcome.

Connecting *Sebastopol*

Follow us on Facebook!



We share news and events to connect you with our Burra community!

www.facebook.com/connectingsebastopol



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Community

Local Peace Poster Winner

Hannah Rudd, a grade 6 student at St James Primary School, has taken the first step to become an internationally recognized artist by winning a local competition sponsored by the Lions Club of Sebastopol & District. Hannah's poster was among more than 600,000 entries submitted worldwide in the annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest.



Chris from the Lions Club with winner Hannah Rudd

Lions International is sponsoring the program to emphasize the importance of world peace to young people everywhere. "My art represents no matter where you are in the world and what race you are, we can all be equal and peaceful. Together." the 12 year-old said. The poster was selected by three members of the Lions Club for its originality, artistic merit and portrayal of the contest theme, "Peace Without Limits". The judging was held on Friday 25th October at St James Primary School. Lions Club President Wayne Woodhouse said he was impressed by the expression and creativity of the students. "It is obvious that these young people have strong ideas about what peace means to them. I'm so proud that we were able to provide them with the opportunity to share their visions." Thanks also go to the 35 other students who participated.



Hannah's poster will advance through the district, multiple district and international levels of competition if she is to be declared the international grand prize winner Wayne said. One international grand prize winner and 23 merit award winners will be selected. The grand prize includes a cash award of \$5,000 and will be recognized at a special Lions International awards ceremony. The 23 merit award winners will each receive a certificate and a cash award of \$500. "Our club is cheering for Hannah as her poster advances in the competition, and we hope that her vision will ultimately be shared with others around the world," Wayne said.

For additional information about the Lions International Peace Poster Contest visit: www.lionsclubs.org/peaceposter

Continued from front page . . .

Amongst the 26 entries for Best Newspaper, equal third place was awarded to *The Westsider* and *North and West Melbourne News* and equal second place to *Traf District News* and *Manningham and Nillumbik Bulletin*. Judge Jeanette noted that the ultimate decision to award first place to *Connecting Sebastopol Community News* was based on our front cover photos for the issues we submitted, which were "alive, showed movement, engaged the reader, and were very relevant to the community."



This award is recognition of the amazing contributions from Sebastopol residents, groups and organisations that bring the newsletter to life and keep it going. To everyone who has been part of the *Connecting Sebastopol Community News* journey so far – whether you have written an article, sent us a photo, shared an event, volunteered to deliver the newsletter, placed an advert to support us financially, or simply read and enjoyed the newsletter, we say congratulations and THANK YOU! With your support, passion and contribution, we hope the *Connecting Sebastopol Community News* will continue long into the future!

Community

Let's Stay Safe This Fire Season: A Message from the Sebastopol Fire Brigade

As the warmer months approach, we at the Sebastopol Fire Brigade want to remind everyone how important it is to prepare for the fire season. A little effort now can make a big difference in keeping your family, neighbours, and community safe.



Getting Ready for Fire Season

Taking some time to prepare your home and property can help reduce the risk of fire:

Clean Up Around Your Home: Make sure leaves, sticks, and other flammable materials are cleared from your gutters, garden beds, and yard. Keeping things tidy can help prevent fires from spreading.

Plan Ahead: Have a bushfire survival plan in place, and talk it through with your family. Know your evacuation routes and what you'll take if you need to leave quickly. Identify your trigger for evacuation. If you plan to leave, leave early.

Stay in the Know: Keep an eye on fire alerts and conditions. The Vic Emergency app and CFA website are great resources to stay informed. Learn and understand the Fire Danger Ratings and what they mean to you.



Photographer: Will Lay

Help Us Get to You Faster

When emergencies happen, every second counts, and clear access to streets and hydrants is essential. Here's how you can help:

Mind Your Parking: Fire trucks are big! Please make sure there's enough space on your street for our appliances to get through quickly.

Don't Block Hydrants: Parking over or near hydrants slows us down when we need water fast. Make sure hydrants are clear and visible. Do you know what a hydrant looks like? Do you know the markers to look for? Adopt a hydrant and keep it clear for us to access.



Look Out for Each Other

Check Your Surroundings: If you notice something that could block emergency vehicles, like overgrown trees or a car parked awkwardly, see if you can fix it.

Chat with Your Neighbours: A quick conversation can go a long way. If you spot a problem, kindly bring it up. We all play a role in keeping Sebastopol safe.

At the end of the day, we're all in this together. By taking these simple steps, you're not only protecting your home but also helping us do our job more effectively. If you'd like more information or advice, head over to the CFA website, or reach out to us—we're here to help.

Thank you for being part of a fire-safe Sebastopol. Let's work together to make this fire season a safe one for everyone.

— Your Sebastopol Fire Brigade

Follow us online on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/sebastopolcfa/

Community

Building a garden with community help



Urban Farming students at Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre have been building a trial vegetable garden at the Sebastopol Community Garden. The challenge has been to do it with a very limited budget. A site with plenty of sun was marked out, but the nearest tap was 40 metres away. Midland Irrigation in Delacombe helped solve the problem by generously donating equipment for a new garden tap. Students also visited the store to learn about the range of pipes and fittings. Bunnings at Delacombe kindly helped out with watering equipment, fertiliser and garden safety gear. A 'no dig' method was chosen for creating the garden beds in the ground. This involves laying down cardboard to smother the existing grass and weeds rather than spraying or tilling. Materials are then piled on top which break down into compost, including wood chips, straw, manure, lawn clippings and lake weed. Various local organisations have donated these materials including the City of Ballarat, Alpine Tree Management, and Giant Ballarat. Once the beds are complete, summer vegetables will be planted including tomatoes and green beans.

A big thanks goes out to all those in the community who have helped so far.



Recognition for lifetime of volunteering

Congratulations to local volunteer Anne Hives, who was a finalist in the Ballarat Council Ageing Well Awards in November. Anne was nominated in the Lifetime Achievement Award category and has a long history of volunteering for organisations including The Young Farmers, Country Fire Authority, Ballarat West Rotary Club, Cancer Council – Biggest Morning Tea, Cake Decorators Association of Victoria, the 3BA Christmas Appeal and Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre. Anne recalls volunteering with a community group in her early 20's, some 40 years ago. "We raised funds for a local charity by collecting sheep manure from under shearing sheds. Although this was an unpleasant task, I remember fondly the sense of comradery, lots of laughter, community connection and a sense of achievement". This connection to community and a calling to help others has remained with Anne throughout her life. Anne is an exceptional cake decorator and for 37 years, has generously produced and donated a speciality Christmas cake to auction for the 3BA Christmas Appeal. Anne currently volunteers at the Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre alongside cookery students and other volunteers, sharing her knowledge, compassion and kindness. We congratulate Anne on this recognition of her years of volunteering and dedication to the local community.



Joe McCRACKEN MP
MEMBER FOR WESTERN VICTORIA

Always fighting for Sebastopol!



17 Lydiard St North, Ballarat VIC 3350



www.joemccracken.com.au



joe.mccracken@parliament.vic.gov.au



03 5332 2405

Community

Snippets from the Mens Shed

Our final big Christmas market for 2024 is on Saturday 14 Dec, 10 am till noon. Fantastic buys in plants, Christmas items, restored tables/furniture, mowers, etc. Don't miss out - we'll have some great bargains at the right time of the year!



Les Shimmin presents Life Membership to Joe Lofts

Recently our oldest member, Mr Joe Lofts OAM was farewelled from the Shed on his 93rd birthday! Joe has been an active shedder for many years, especially enjoying his work on the lathes. Joe has now moved to Torquay: he says he is ready for retirement! President Les Shimmin presented Joe with a Life Membership to the Shed, and a huge birthday card signed by all members to wish him well. A rich chocolate cake decorated with candles was a fitting tribute to celebrate Joe's many achievements. Joe has had a magnificent life, having been a farmer for many years and a brilliant leader in music in the Beaufort and Ballarat area, plus 60 years in the CFA. We wish him well, and look forward to his occasional return.



John Brander commemorates Remembrance Day

The Sebas Mens Shed is honoured to have several ex-servicemen among its members, and participates in the local commemoration services on Anzac Day and Remembrance Day. One member, John Brander, aged 85, observed the 11th November ceremony at Sebastopol, proudly wearing his service medals. John served Australia with distinction from 1961 in Malaya, Borneo and Vietnam over a lengthy period of service with the Australian regular Army, and went on to senior ranks in a range of posts around Australia. Congratulations on an outstanding service record, John!

Members of the Sebastopol community are always very welcome to pop in to see us at the Shed, whether you want to buy some plants, or perhaps have your mower serviced, or maybe get some furniture restored! Our first market for January will be listed on Facebook.

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/SebasMensShed/>

201 Vickers Street

Sebastopol Vic 3356

Phone: 03 5379 9256

Email: office@sebasmenshed.org

Sebastopol Mens Shed wishes all our readers a merry Christmas and a very happy New Year.





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Reduced speed limits around road worksites have been designed to keep drivers and road workers safe. Following these limits is also the law and penalties apply.



Learn more at
transport.vic.gov.au/respect

Transport
Victoria

Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre

We are busy finalising an exciting schedule of courses for Term 1, 2025. Our free and low cost classes will help build your skills and knowledge, whilst providing opportunities for social and community connection. Contact us to find out more or register your interest.

Short Courses for Term 1 - 2025



GARDENING

Landscaping from Scratch
Urban Farming
Garden Basics
Horticulture

ART & CRAFT

Beginners & Intermediate Sewing
Knit & Crotchet for Beginners
Op Shop Upcycling
Art, Create & Learn



COMPUTERS

Basic & Intermediate Computers
Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI)
Excel
Xero, MYOB

JOB & INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS

Become Work Ready
Independent Living Skills
Resumes, Interviews & Job Applications
Find a Job - Trades, Aged Care, Hospitality, Retail



HOSPITALITY

Commercial Kitchen Skills
Cooking up Jobs
Cooking Skills for Men
Become a Barista
Front of House

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ESL Level 1 & 2
Practical Literacy & Numeracy
Reading & Writing Basics
Baking with Language
Literacy through Community Gardening



Volunteer Opportunities

Our Garden - Summer Watering Volunteers

Help maintain our community garden between 20 December - 20 January by signing up to our watering roster

Sebastopol Community Newsletter - Advertising, Sponsorship and Fundraising Volunteers

Help secure essential funding for the Sebastopol Community Newsletter by liaising with local businesses and organisations to seek advertising and donations or by planning and running fundraiser events

Connecting Sebastopol Facebook Page - Content Creators / Administrators

Create and share engaging content for the Sebastopol community on the Connecting Sebastopol Facebook page

 03 5329 3273  reception@ballaratnc.org.au

 11 Tuppen Drv, SEBASTOPOL  www.ballaratnc.org.au



Community



Digital Sisters Program

Free in person sessions to support women use technology and learn new digital skills

What we offer

Customised digital skills training for women aged **18 to 50** from diverse cultural backgrounds. Whether you're just beginning to develop digital literacy or already have some experience, it will boost your confidence, help you stay connected with the world, and ensure you navigate the online space safely and effectively!



What You'll Learn

- Essential digital skills
- Staying safe online
- Navigating new technologies like AI

Contact us for more information




 (03) 5329 3273
  reception@ballaratnc.org.au
  Ballarat Neighbourhood Center



Happy Holidays

From Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre & Connecting Sebastopol Community News

We hope you enjoy the festive season!

For a list of food relief and other support services available over the holidays, scan the QR Code or visit:



www.ballaratnc.org.au/program-support/quick-links

Catherine King MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BALLARAT

Standing up for our community!

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- ✓ \$300 energy bill relief for households
- ✓ \$325 energy bill relief for small businesses
- ✓ Pay rises for low paid workers
- ✓ Cheaper medicines
- ✓ Biggest ever investment in bulk billing
- ✓ HECS-HELP relief for 18,829 students in Ballarat
- ✓ Fee-free TAFE
- ✓ Increasing Commonwealth rent assistance
- ✓ Cheaper childcare



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Community

Celebrating Children's Week at Family Fun Night!



A fantastic time was had by all at the Family Fun Night to celebrate Children's Week in October! Held on 25th October at St James' Parish School in Sebastopol, this free event was for children aged 3-12 and featured face painting, balloons, sports, arts and crafts activities, an art display, historical artefact table, sausage sizzle, popcorn, fairy floss and healthy snacks. There were also special visits from a Sebastopol Fire Brigade fire truck and the Grampians Health Community Ambulance. The event provided an opportunity for children to engage with their surroundings in a positive and enriching way, aligning with the 2024 Children's Week theme "Children have the right to a clean and safe environment."



Family Fun Night was developed through a partnership between Sebastopol based organisations, Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre, Journey Early Learning Sebastopol & St. James' Parish School. It was the first time the organisations had collaborated to create such an event.

Organisers and attendees agreed it was a huge success and hope to work together on another event in future. This Children's Week event was presented in partnership with the Victorian Government. We would like to thank the following



local organisations for their support: Sebastopol Historical Society, Sebastopol and District Lions Club, Sebastopol Fire Brigade, Grampians Health, Kelly Sports Greater Ballarat, Country Women's Association Sebastopol Branch, Bunnings Delacombe, Ringin's Butchery, Bakers Delight Sebastopol, Mia + Talbot, Radmac Office Choice, Acclaimed Kids Party Hire and BalloonGirl.

Recycle and support the Sebastopol Community News!

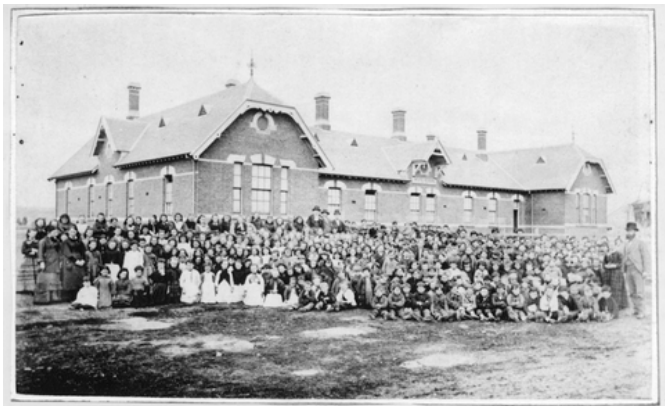
As part of the Victorian Container Deposit Scheme, when you take your recyclable bottles to a refund point, you now have the option of donating your refund to this newsletter! Ask in person at a depot, search on a vending machine or download the CDS Vic West app and search for



**Connecting
Sebastopol
Community
Newsletter**

Historically Speaking

Happy Birthday Redan Primary School!



On November 22, 2024 the Redan campus of Phoenix P - 12 Community College celebrated its 150th anniversary. The deadline for newsletter articles is before the actual celebrations so rather than report on the celebrations this article tries to give a short history of the school.

Free, secular and compulsory education for children aged 6 to 15 was made law in Victoria in 1872. Until then a number of church and other private schools had been operating. Redan State School opened on 2 Feb 1874 at two separate sites (former private schools leased by the new Education Department), one in Verdon Street and the other on the corner of Clarkson and Kent Streets. 359 children attended on the first day, and many more were turned away due to lack of space. Rooms at the Wesleyan Church in Rubicon Street were then hastily leased to accommodate the overflow and became the infants' classroom. Three weeks later 507 students were attending, spread over three or four sites.

In March 1874 tenders were invited for the erection of a brick building for a state school at Redan. Land was reserved for a state school at Redan and on March 2nd a tender for the building of the school was awarded to William Sealey at a cost of £3,025 5s. 9d. In January 1875 the new school building opened at current Hertford Street site and all students were now accommodated on one site. Due to an economic depression the Education Department suffered massive cutbacks and Redan State School was made an adjunct of the Sebastopol State School. From 1 May 1893 until 31 Dec 1909 only the infant classes were held at Redan. Older children had to attend Sebastopol State School.

In the following years when the most of the mines in the area had been closed down and the miners had moved on the school's enrolments fell and the north wing of the school was closed and was left unused for almost 50 years.

1920 saw the unveiling of the school's Honor Board by the Hon. Major Baird. The Honor Board commemorates the service of past students and staff in World War One. In 1921 the Redan Old Scholars Association was formed and held regular reunions at Easter each year for many decades. The association was very active and the Sebastopol Historical Society have many of their records. The jubilee gates donated by the Old Scholars for the school's 60th anniversary still mark the school's



entrance. School enrolments reached an all time low of just 99 students in 1947. There was a Head Teacher and 3 assistants on staff. Fortunately power was connected to the school in 1948 and in 1949 milk was provided to children who had lunch at school.

Having been out of use for half a century the north wing of the school was renovated in 1956 and two further classrooms were added. With the support of the Mother's Club, optional school uniforms were introduced in 1958. The uniform consisted of grey tunics, trousers and jumpers with the school colours of maroon and gold on the trim of school jumpers and ties. The 1960s saw the introduction of school crossings and attendants funded by parent contributions from Redan Primary School and Sebastopol Technical School. A timber building comprising of two classrooms and a staffroom was completed in 1963. The school oval opened in 1965 and the school house system was introduced. The houses were named for the surrounding streets, Alfred, Hertford, Kent and Vernon. The school canteen was built in 1967.

Artscape

The growing suburb of Delacombe put pressure on enrolments at the school in the 1970s. Two neighbouring properties were purchased allowing for the upgrade of facilities for the growing Prep enrolments. Student numbers peaked at 522 in 1979. Numbers dropped to 372 students in 1981 after the opening of Delacombe Primary School.

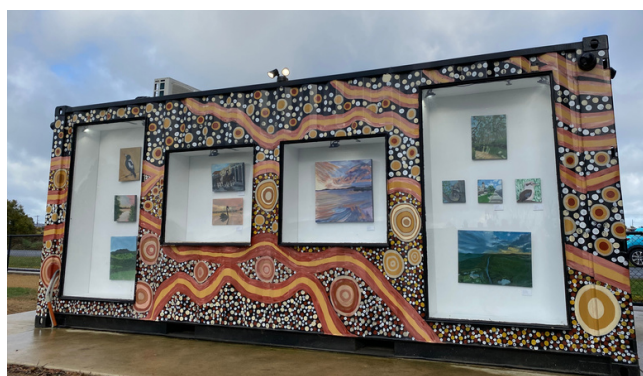
In 1996 staff computers were connected to the Internet with students being given access to the world wide web in 1997. A new playground was installed in 1998 and the following year the school celebrated its 125th anniversary.

Redan Primary School merged with Sebastopol Secondary college to become Phoenix P-12 Community College and in 2013 after input from students, a new uniform with a black, purple and gold colour scheme was introduced.

Are you interested in the history of Sebastopol?

Join our Facebook group:

Sebastopol Historical Society Victoria Australia



ArtBox@BNC

ArtBox@BNC is a community space located onsite at Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre, 11 Tuppen Drive, Sebastopol. It can be used for displaying art works or other artifacts of interest, as well as running small workshops or residencies. If you're interested in exhibiting or working in the space, contact us: reception@ballaratnc.org.au / 5329 3273

Art, Create & Learn

In Term 4, Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre commenced an Art, Create and Learn class, aimed at giving learners a solid understanding of foundational art skills and art techniques including, drawing, painting, mixed media and colour theory. The class encourages participants to creatively explore art concepts and visual language.



Art, Create and Learn will run again in Term 1, 2025 and is best suited to adults at the start of their creative journey. Learners' will have the opportunity to explore a variety of art mediums and techniques as they explore concepts and ideas through practical exercises, theoretical discussions and visual art journal entries, increasing language, creative skills and confidence. The course will include: Starting an Art Journal, Basic Drawing Techniques, Colour Theory, Mixed Media, Portraiture, Landscape and Nature painting, and Final exhibition. Lessons will integrate independent and small group work towards creative outcomes. Dates and cost are currently being finalised. To register your interest or find out more, contact:



Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre
11 Tuppen Drive, Sebastopol
Email: reception@ballaratnc.org.au
Phone: 03 5329 3273



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Kids Corner

Emotion Coaching

Written by Narelle Dare

Are you struggling with your children's emotional wellbeing? Would you love to connect to your children more? Have you considered emotion coaching?

Emotion coaching is where we help our children work their way through their emotions, rather than dismissing them. For instance, maybe your child doesn't want to go to their friend's birthday party. Rather than dismissing their emotions as being irrational and telling them they are going, emotion coaching would be sitting down with your child and working through the reasons why they don't want to go to the party. During this process you will become more aware of your child's emotions, recognising your child's expression of emotion as a perfect moment for intimacy and teaching, listening with empathy and validating your child's feelings, helping your child learn to label their emotions with words



and set limits when you are helping your child to solve problems or deal with upsetting situations appropriately. As your child becomes a master of their emotions, being able to understand them and regulate them, they will become more self-confident, perform better in social and academic situations and even become physically healthier.

If this sounds like something that you would like to know more about, contact CAFS on 5337 3333.

LOVE DRIVING? BECOME A VOLUNTEER SUPERVISING DRIVER

1-2 hours a week can
make a difference

CALL
NOW

0422 809 587



How the program works

You can help drive a future and create safer roads.

We're looking for enthusiastic people who can commit 1-2 hours a week to help learner drivers aged 16-23 to complete their 120 hours of driving to apply for their P plates.

You don't need any experience as a supervising driver as all training is provided before you are matched with a learner.

- ✓ Free training
- ✓ Vehicle provided
- ✓ 1-2 hours a week

Volunteer requirements

- Be over 21 years of age with an interest in helping young people
- Hold a full, current Victorian drivers licence
- Undertake a screening process with the Ballarat Foundation

More information

Email: l2p@ballaratfoundation.org.au
Phone: 0422 809 587
www.ballaratfoundation.org.au



Kids Corner

Term Four Fun at Sebastopol South Kinder

During term four we have been enjoying our great outdoor space. The children spend lots of time busy in our sandpit and digging patch and playing with water. We have been supporting the children's independence and self help skills helping them to apply their sunscreen and open containers for their lunch. Term Four is a wonderful time to reflect on the learning we have been doing all year as some of the children are getting ready to move onto school next year.



Learning Together Playgroup

Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre has been running the Learning Together Playgroup in the Delacombe Hub throughout this term. It has been a small, but enthusiastic group and we have had lots of fun learning new things and making new friends. With themes such as community, culture, and family, our highly experienced early childhood educator, Jodi Dorney, leads the children's fun learning activities. Children and parents participate together in gardening, cooking, and outdoor activities, story time and play with a focus on language, literacy and numeracy. The Delacombe Hub is located in the heart of Doug Dean Reserve, where there is plenty of space for energetic outdoor play and indoor activities.

The Learning Together Playgroup is equally focused on the needs of parents who might be thinking about getting back to work, or reskilling and building confidence ready for a new job, once their child starts attending school. Parents are offered information and encouraged towards the many job readiness and skill building training courses delivered at Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre.

This free 8 week playgroup program is for parents, carers and guardians with preschool age children (0 to 5). Bookings for 2025 open soon for our first course from 3rd February - 31st March 2025.

Playgroup runs 10:00am - 12:30pm on Mondays, at Delacombe Community Hub, 18 Nandiriog Drive.

For more information contact Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre on 03 5329 3273 / reception@ballaratnc.org.au



New Parent Pathways Program in Ballarat Region

Djerriwarrh Community & Education Services is thrilled to announce that it has been awarded the contract to deliver the new federally funded Parent Pathways program across 17 locations in the Ballarat and Barwon regions. In the Ballarat region, Djerriwarrh will be offering services to eligible parents and carers from eight locations, including our Sebastopol office, located at the Ballarat Community Hub, 11 Tuppen Drive, Sebastopol.

Parent Pathways is a flexible and voluntary program designed to provide personalised support and financial assistance to eligible parents and primary carers of young children. The program aims to help families balance the demands of parenting with their educational and employment goals. If you are a parent or primary carer of a child under six years and live in the Sebastopol area, and would like to learn how Parent Pathways can assist you and your family, please contact our local Parent Mentor, Len Bauska, at our Sebastopol office on 0400 819 835.

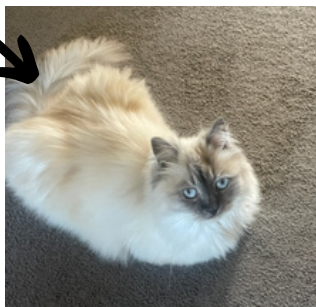
For information about our other locations in the Ballarat or Barwon regions, please contact our Regional Manager, Samara Mabbott, on 0407 461 307 or email us at parentpathways@djerriwarrh.org. You can also visit our website <https://djerriwarrh.org.au>

Pets & Puzzles Page

Meet a Local (or two!)

Name: Snowball

Bio: Hi, my name is Snowball and I am a ragdoll cat. My birthday is 21/1/19 and at 6 weeks old I was a rescue cat. I am very spoilt and I am the love of my family, they say there is never a dull moment. I don't like it when my mum sprays me with the water bottle because I love to get up on the kitchen bench. Mum also gets told very loudly if she takes too long to clean my toilet tray and mum says "Snowball, stop that noise, I will fix it soon!" Us ragdolls are precious, very fussy and very elite.



Name: Opal

Bio: This is 3-year-old Jack Russell, Opal, who was adopted from the Ballarat Animal Shelter. At 13 months she found herself surrendered after the pandemic lockdown was lifted. Her caring owner could no longer look after her. She is a valued family member, a very happy girl and always a delight.

Guess where?

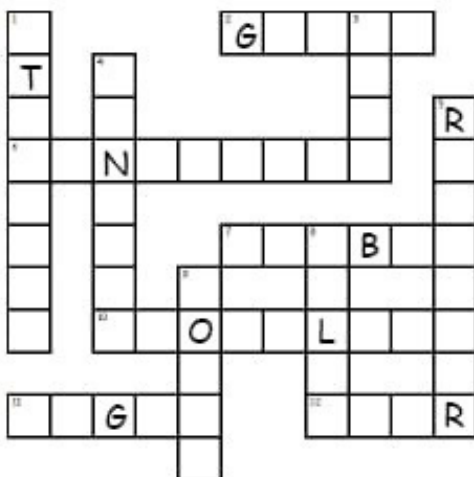
Put your knowledge of Sebastopol to the test! Where might you spot this intricate stained glass window in the Burra?

Answer at bottom of page

Send us your pet pics!

Want to see your furry friend on this page? All kinds of pets are welcome. Send your submissions including a pic, your details, and your pet's info to: community@ballaratnc.org.au

'Tis the Season



ACROSS

2.	10.	1.	5.
6.	11.	3.	8.
7.	12.	4.	9.

DOWN



Photographer: Will Lay

Guess where: Located in Carmel Welsh Presbyterian Church, this window is a tribute to the Welsh miners.

WHAT'S ON

December & January

Stick me on your fridge

Cheesy Little Christmas Movie Screenings at Sebastopol Library



Christmas bikkies and mint hot chocolate included!

Feliz Navidad
Thursday 5 December
1pm - 3pm

Christmas with a Crown
Wednesday 11 December
10:30am - 12pm

12 Dogs of Christmas
Thursday 19 December
4:30pm - 6pm

Sebastopol Library
181 Albert St, Sebastopol

FREE Book now:  

Memory Makers
Christmas BBQ

Join us to spread Christmas joy, with a BBQ, fun and games for people with dementia, their families and carers

When: **11:30am - 1:00pm Tuesday 10th, Dec**

Where: **Ballarat Neighborhood Centre**
11 Tuppen Drive, Sebastopol.

How: This event is free but you must book using the QR code above, go to our website or ph: 5329 3273

SEBASTOPOL MENS SHED CHRISTMAS MARKET

10am-12pm, Saturday 14 December
201 Vickers Street, Sebastopol
www.facebook.com/SebasMensShed



CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Get creative with a kids D.I.Y. workshops at Bunnings Delacombe

Festive Wreaths
Saturday 7th December

Make a Clay Ornament
Saturday 14th December

Festive Treat Tray
Saturday 21st December



BUNNINGS
307 Smythes Rd
Delacombe

Meet Santa in-store on
Saturday 21 December and
take your own free photo!

Check website for times and to book:
bunnings.com.au/services/in-store/diy-workshops

UPCOMING CELEBRATIONS!

Bodhi Day (Dec 8)

Commemorates the day that the historical Buddha, Siddhartha Gautama (Shakyamuni), experienced enlightenment.

Christmas Day (Dec 24)

A significant Christian holiday that celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ. The celebration is an opportunity to spend time with loved ones, exchange gifts, and enjoy a feast.

Hanukkah (Dec 25 - Jan 2)

An 8-day Jewish festival marking the miraculous victory of the Maccabees, the Jewish freedom fighters

Chinese New Year - Lunar New Year (Jan 29)

Celebrations of Chinese New Year traditionally last for 16 days, starting from Chinese New Year's Eve to the Lantern Festival. 2025 is a year of the Snake.



YOU CAN'T CONTROL FIRE, BUT YOU CAN PREPARE FOR IT.

The best way to keep you and your loved ones safe this fire season, is to make sure you have a fire plan.



Go to fireplanner.vic.gov.au to create your personalised fire plan now.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW FIRE?

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



ALWAYS OBEY THE STOP SIGNS

