Surrey Hills Neighbourhood News News

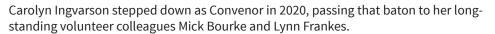
Issue No. 249 April/May 2024

FROM LITTLE THINGS, BIG THINGS DO GROW

In October 2006, local resident Carolyn Ingvarson wrote to Neighbourhood News, after she had seen Al Gore's documentary 'An Inconvenient Truth', expressing her concern about the risks of climate change. She sought others who she could work with to try to reduce the risks that we all face. Twelve people responded. They were a diverse group - socially and politically - who agreed to meet monthly; a group of people just trying to do their best. They joined together to hire a marquee and took a stall at the Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre's Sustainability Festival 2007 to build awareness in our community. They invited Origin Energy along to talk to local residents about green power. This stall proved a great success.

This group never aimed to build a big base: its focus was, primarily, 'what can we do?' Approaching the 2007 federal election, they came across another local group whose focus was to have the local political candidates present their climate policies to an audience. These groups were pursuing similar goals, so they agreed to co-operate. Their forum went very well, filling the Boroondara Town Hall. The two groups agreed to merge, gaining a broader focus and a strengthened passion. They adopted the name 'Lighter Footprints'.

Lighter Footprints' activities have two focusses. The first focus is to provide community education. They hold regular meetings keeping supporters informed about key climate topics such as the transition to renewable energy, sustaining forests, regenerative farming, and how individuals can reduce their own carbon footprints. Their most recent meetings have featured forestry expert Professor David Lindenmayer, and a seminar on how your home might operate in 2030, given the advances we are seeing in renewable energy. They also meet people through street stalls at festivals and markets. Lighter Footprints' second focus has been to advocate to government at federal, state, and local council levels for better, stronger climate policies and practices, making submissions regarding forthcoming legislation, and writing to the media. They are also very active around elections, seeking, without taking sides, to raise the profile of climate change issues for voters and to provide a climate profile for each candidate standing.





Carolyn Ingvarson – local resident and Founder of Lighter Footprints.

Lighter Footprints remains a vibrant, active association, and has remained united with a common purpose, whilst representing often diverse views. They continue to support and advocate for positive action to restrain our changing climate. They remain, as they have always been, politically non-partisan. They do not support particular parties or governments; they seek only the implementation of sound climate policy, and the ending of poor policy and practice. They give credit where credit is due.

The group has strong links with other climate-focussed organisations including peak bodies Victorian Climate Action Network and Climate Action Network Australia, and a supporter base, mostly from our local community, approaching four thousand. From a letter to this local paper, a thriving, robust organisation has grown.

See: https://lighterfootprints.org/

DONATE LEFTOVER DISPOSABLE NAPPIES - THANK YOU SURREY HILLS!

The Surrey Hills community has been supporting The Nappy Collective for over ten years. The Collective is a not-for-profit association collecting leftover, unused disposable nappies and redistributing them to families in need. This includes families facing financial hardship, experiencing or at risk of homelessness, escaping family violence, seeking asylum or those impacted by natural disasters.

Over the last ten years, 6.9 million nappies have been collected across Australia! Whilst nappies can be donated at any time to various locations across the country, there is a large annual collection every Mother's Day to encourage people to dig out leftover nappies lying around at home. Spring Osteo Clinic is the Surrey Hills dropoff point for the Mother's Day collection, providing a place for our community to contribute greatly.

Catherine O'Donnell, founder of Spring Osteo Clinic says 'it's a grass roots cause that we have loved being a part of for ten years and we really thank the Surrey Hills community for always getting behind this cause and dropping off their nappies to us'.

The annual collection is on again! Spring Osteo Clinic will take donations from Friday

Spring Osteo Clinic:

Shop 2, 486 Whitehorse Road, Surrey Hills Open Monday-Friday 7.30am-8pm and Saturday 7.30am-1pm. Tel: 9830 7044 www.springosteo.com.au

You can also check out the Nappy Collective at https://www.thenappycollective.com



The team at Spring Osteo, collection point for donations to the Nappy Collective.



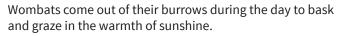
26 April to Friday 24 May. The Nappy Collective happily accepts disposable nappies of all sizes and either full packs or individual nappies leftover from packs which have been opened.

ON WURUNDJERI COUNTRY

It is Waring Wombat Season¹

The Wurundjeri's 7 seasons of the year follow patterns of nature across Country.

April to July is Waring Wombat Season, the season with highest rainfall and lowest temperatures - cool and rainy days with misty mornings. Days are shorter and nights are longer. The constellation of Sagittarius rises in the southeast after sunset, to show the mid-point of cold weather.





Bulen-bulen (Superb Lyrebird) males fan out their feathery tails to perform their courtship display to attract females.

¹ https://museumsvictoria.com.au/melbournemuseum/resources/ forest-secrets/#:~:text=Waring%20Wombat%20Season%20 (April%2DJuly)&text=The%20time%20of%20highest%20 rainfall,when%20no%20fruits%20are%20available



IN THEIR WORDS

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Surrey Hills Historical Society In-

Rotary



Issue No. 249 April/May 2024

SURREY HILLS NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS



SURTEY HILS Course Highlights



Welcome to Term 2 at the Neighbourhood Centre. As Autumn sets in, we're excited to extend a warm invitation to the community to join us for an enriching journey.

At the heart of our Centre lies a commitment to fostering

connections, learning, and growth, and we're thrilled to offer you a number of new workshops and programs that will facilitate exactly that!

Term 2 promises an array of exciting courses, workshops, and activities tailored to suit diverse interests and aspirations. Whether you're eager to develop a new skill, explore creative outlets, or simply connect with neighbours, there's something for everyone here.

Join us as we dive into courses and events that range from DIY home maintenance workshops, through to artistic pursuits, fitness and wellness programs and learning a language.

Come along to our Community Dinner in support of Refugees for Refugee Week on June 20th. It's fabulous value at just \$20 per head. Also enjoy our FREE Qi Gong class for Neighbourhood House week on Wednesday 15th May at 10.30am. Bookings essential.

We invite you to be a part of our vibrant community, where friendships develop, new talents emerge, and learning knows no bounds. Come and discover the joys of lifelong learning and community connection in Term 2. Together, let's make this term one to remember!

Don't miss out - secure your spot today and embark with us on a journey of discovery and growth. Our full program can be viewed by visiting our website (see QR code below) or select from the tempting range highlighted on this page.

See you at the Neighbourhood Centre!

Rochelle Anderson, Centre Manager

Diary dates

Term 2, 2024

Unlock your potential this Autumn! Join us for our exciting lineup of classes and courses at the Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre. Whether you're eager to learn a new skill, explore a hobby, or expand your knowledge, there's something for everyone. Visit us at surreyhillsnc.org.au for a full list of our classes and activities on offer.

Community

Community Dinner

Join us for a community catch-up over a shared meal. Celebrating Refugee Week 2024, the casual dinner will be catered for by an organisation that employs and empowers people from migrant and refugee backgrounds. Each dish will tantalise your tastebuds and take you on a culinary cultural journey.

Thursday 20 June 7pm-9pm \$20.00 **Bookings essential**

Community Pantry

We know times are tough right now. Whether you're seeking food assistance, nourishment for body and soul or simply a warm welcome, our Community Pantry doors are open to all. Join us every Thursday (during term) and access a range of free fresh food and grocery items. Please bring your own bag. Thursdays, 10am-1pm during term

FREE

Chatty Café

Chatty Café is about building friendly social connections over a tea or coffee and brightening your day. Everyone is welcome at Chatty Café! Mondays, 10am–11am during term

Free with Centre Membership



Come along for a FREE Qi Gong class. Harness the power of gentle movements, breathwork, and meditation and unlock the profound benefits of this ancient practice

Wednesday 15 May 10.30am-11.30am Free

Bookings essential

Electrify Boroondara



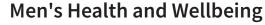
Discover easy and affordable ways to reduce your energy bills. Hear from home energy assessors who have years of experience helping households reduce their bills and increase their comfort.

TBA - more details to follow **FREE** - Bookings essential

Workshops

How to Repair a Leaking Tap

In this 2-hour workshop, participants will learn to fix leaking taps including turning off water mains, changing washers, o-rings, and body washers, replacing mixer tap cartridges and shower heads. All necessary tools provided, with take-home notes for future reference. Monday, 20 May 7pm-9pm \$49.50



Monday Men's Walk

This weekly walk is intended to get men out and about, get some fresh air and do something good for your mental and physical health, in a relaxed, informal setting. You can come along just for the walk part, before heading off to work, or stay on to enjoy a cup of coffee and chat afterwards. Men of all ages and walks of life are welcome.

Mondays, 6.30am-7.15am

(followed by optional coffee break afterwards) Free with Centre Membership (\$20 per year) Please contact our office to join

Culture and Languages

Italian: Beginner's Level

Beginner's Italian is designed for students who have completed one term of Italian classes or have a basic understanding of the language. Building on the skills learnt in Term 1, students will continue their journey into the language and culture of Italy.

Thursdays, 6.30pm-8pm \$220 (10 sessions)

Italian: Intermediate

Our 'Intermediate' Italian class caters to learners with some prior knowledge of Italian, helping them build upon their existing skills. It is suitable for our continuing students, or new students with some basic Italian language skills.

Wednesdays, 6.30pm-8pm \$242 (11 sessions)

Fitness & Wellbeing

Group Personal Training

Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned fitness enthusiast, this class is the perfect blend of personalised attention and group synergy. Focusing on overall wellness and designed to help you reach your fitness goals in a fun and engaging environment.

Mondays 11.30am-12.30pm \$198 (10 sessions)

Wednesdays 9.15am-10.15am \$217.80 (11 sessions)

Active Living

Join our Active Living seniors exercise class for a fitness experience aimed at enhancing overall health and wellness. The class focuses on improving strength, flexibility, and balance. Participants can tailor their exercises to their individual abilities, ensuring everyone feels included and empowered to challenge themselves. Come along and enjoy a unique and engaging experience as you work towards your fitness goals.

Mondays, 9.15am-10am \$198 (10 sessions)

Qi Gong

Experience a holistic approach to wellness as you harness the power of gentle movements, breathwork, and meditation in our Qi Gong class. Whether you're a beginner or seasoned practitioner, our inclusive class offers something for everyone. Join us and start your journey towards improved harmony, vitality and wellbeing!



ANZAC Day Public Holiday Thursday, 25 Apr 2024

Community Dinner Thursday, 20 Jun 2024

Neighbourhood House Week 13 - 19 May 2024

Term 2 Concludes Friday, 28 Jun 2024

King's Birthday Public Holiday Monday, 10 Jun 2024



Did you know that you can book a space at Surrey Hills. Neighbourhood Centre for your next event? Whether you're looking for a space that can accommodate 2 people or 60 people, the Centre has a range of rooms. that can accommodate your room hire needs.

We regularly host parties, meetings, workshops and classes for our community,

For further information and to book, please visit our website (www.surreyhillsnc.org.au) and refer to the 'venue hire' menu tab.



How to Replace a Broken Tile

This hands-on workshop will cover tile removal, replacement, cutting and grouting. All necessary tools and materials are provided for a hands-on learning experience.

Friday, 28 June 6.30pm-9.30pm \$49.50

Families

Playgroup



From imaginative play and arts and crafts, to interactive storytelling, music and movement sessions, our Friday playgroup is full of fun, creativity and imagination!

Per term: \$132 (11 sessions) or Casual attendance: \$15 per session Wednesdays, 10.30am-11.30am \$170.50 (11 sessions)

To book a course at Surrey Hills scan the QR code below or visit our website at www.surreyhillsnc.org.au



Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre 157 Union Road, Surrey Hills 3127 Phone: 98902467 enquiries@surreyhillsnc.org.au

AUTUMN IN THE GARDEN - TONY'S TIPS FOR APRIL GARDENING

Now that we have had significant rain and the weather has assumed a more typical Autumnal pattern, we can get gardening. Autumn is the best time to do major and minor planting, because, we have eight months for plants to become established before Summer.

General Planting tips

My top tips for planting success are:

- 1. Never tease, (destroy), the roots;
- 2. Always improve the soil around the root ball with compost/manure to facilitate root growth; and
- 3. Never plant the plant deeper than it was in the pot (I'm always happy to see surface roots exposed at the base of the stem).

The secret to planting success is to make the transition as seamless as possible for the plant.

Seeds & Seedlings It's time to plant Winter/Spring seedlings or sow seeds of flowers and veggies. This gets them up and running before Winter whilst there is still warmth in the soil.

Who needs feeding? Whilst it's still warm, we need to feed Gardenias, Buffalo/Kikuyu lawns and other cold sensitive plants to fatten them up for Winter.

Feed plants like Camellias, Citrus, Hellebores etc. that work hard through Winter to ensure their maximum productivity.

Bulbs April is the month to plant bulbs for a little Winter cheer. Plant in clumps for effect. Remember that tulip bulbs require six weeks in the fridge crisper to emulate the Winter chilling they require, that Melbourne's climate won't provide.

Bugs The last two months have been dry. This has meant Azalea Lace Bugs have 'gone nuts' on Azaleas and Viburnums and should be controlled.

Sasanquas Camellia sasanquas are flowering nicely now and will get even better after the change in weather. Sasanquas are my favourite flowering hedge, bearing masses of flowers from March until June. Always plant up on a slight mound of enriched soil.

On 4 April the boxes reappeared and the unpacking began. The 'new' Heritage Centre provides excellent collection storage, as well as dedicated spaces for volunteers to work and research facilities for community members. It will be open for tours on Saturday 18 May, 10am-noon. With more space, we're also looking for more volunteers to work with the collection.

If you are interested in joining the team or would like further information, contact Sue Barnett on 0417 368 990, email Shhistory3127@gmail.com or fill out the Expression of Interest Form on the Society's website at https://surreyhillshistoricalsociety.org.au/volunteering/.



Allison Guerrieri of Style Queen Interiors in Union Road, has won a "Best of Houzz" award for Customer Service on Houzz $^{\rm o}$, the leading platform for home renovation and design. Her boutique interior design firm was chosen by the millions of homeowners that comprise the Houzz community from among more than 3 million active home building, renovation and design industry professionals. You can see more of Style Queen Interiors' work on Houzz at:



154 Union Road Surrey Hills Victoria 3127 Monday to Friday, 11 am - 3 pm (or by appo Allison Guerrieri: 0414 393 144

oenturo

Care

Centre



Camellia sasangua: Paradise Blush

Finally, if you do nothing else, then plant up a pot of Pansies, Violas, Primulas or Winter bulbs for a pot of 'happy' at the front or back door.

Tony from Acorn Nursery

Surrey Hills Historical Society moves to its new location

History: An 'end' and a new beginning

After 45 years the local history collection moved out of the Neighbourhood Centre's Cottage at the end of January. It has been in storage since then, awaiting the completion of renovations by Boroondara Council to what was the original Canterbury Library at 190A Canterbury Road. These have taken longer than anticipated, but the Heritage Centre will soon be opened to the public. It is to be shared by the Surrey Hills Historical Society and the Canterbury History Group. Both groups will hold their monthly meetings there.



The old PlayStation building in Canterbury Gardens now re-purposed to house the Surrey Hills & Canterbury Historical Societies.

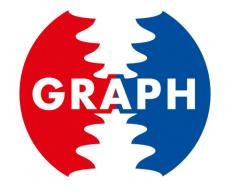
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Thanks to Mosdorfer Graph for their recent donation to Viv's Kitchen; a group of local women who cook for charity. Mosdorfer Graph supplies a wide range of products to the Australian electrical, utility and railway industries.

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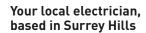
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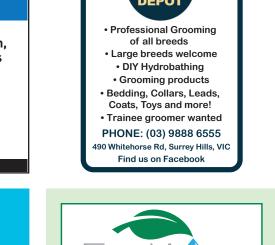
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Surrey Hills Neighbourhood News - Issue No. 249 April/May 2024

ARTS AND CULTURE

Chicago

John Kander and Frank Ebb, Her Majesty's Theatre

Chicago is currently the longest running musical on Broadway and the second longest running musical after The Phantom of the Opera. With the current

Australian production touring all our capital cities, one can see why.

The show itself is funny, acerbic witty, dark humoured and stripped back to a sexy Brechtian style. What really elevates this current revival production though is the inspired casting.

The star of the show is, of course, Anthony Warlow. Vocally, this is not a stretch for this Australian musical theatre legend, but he manages to give the character of Billy Flynn the necessary sophistication and style.

Lucy Maunder is outstanding as Roxy Hart. Her dancing, singing and heart-tugging acting is just sublime. Maunder's dancing is superb and her comic timing spot on.

The veracious vamp of the show is Velma Kelly, played with cutting precision by Zoe Ventoura. Her opening 'All That Jazz' certainly purveys the sassiness that is about to arrive. A shout out should go to Peter Rowsthorn, who plays a different version to his Kath and Kim persona, Brett, as the invisible Amos Hart. Asabi Goodman as Mamma Morton is also a knockout with her numbers. I was so glad I made the decision to revisit this production. The first time was over a decade ago and this show is still as fresh, and appropriate as ever. May it reign long and proud on Broadway... and all that jazz!

Chicago is currently playing at Her Majesty's Theatre until June. Tickets through Ticketek.

Making Mun-dirra

If you were lucky enough to visit the National Gallery of Victoria's (NGV) Triennial over the last few months you would have seen Mun-dirra – Australia's largest-ever woven sculpture. This incredible labour of love and artistry was created by 13 Burarra women from a remote coastal community in North-West Arnhem land. Specially commissioned by the NGV for its Triennial, the 100-metrelong woven fish fence took two years to complete and includes more than 35,000 threads.



Mun-dirra; a collaborative work by artists from the Maningrida Arts Centre, which was, until recently on display at the NGV Triennial.

In Burarra, mun-dirra means 'fish fence'. These were traditionally made by Burarra men using coastal sedge grass. Before the days of casting nets, these fences were teamed with conical fish traps and positioned in ocean shallows or riverbeds to catch seafood such as crabs and catfish. The use of these traditional fences and fish traps had dwindled by the 1980s – so now these items are lovingly made as works of art and Burarra women are now considered the knowledge holders.

The fibre artists hand-picked and stripped some 4,400 pandanus leaves, which are native to coastal Arnhem land; these were then dyed with pigments from plant roots to produce the artwork's rich yellow, orange and brown hues. Crushed kurrajong branches, with their sinewy inner bark, made the traditional rope outer netting for Mun-dirra, and the pandanus leaves were then woven in-between. The work is made up of 10 pieces, each measuring 10m x 2m. The pieces were hung as if they floated in water allowing visitors to move between the folds, just like the fish themselves.

Chris Kabay, Red Brick Cafe

KINDNESS CORNER

Do you have a helpful neighbour?

One who will drive you to an appointment if you are unwell? Or has solved the "Which bin on which night" dilemma for your street? Maybe your nature strip is magically mown?

Have you heard of a volunteer who delivers donated food to the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre, braving the roadworks on Footscray Rd? Or maybe a barista who welcomes you with a big smile and enjoys giving your latte bespoke coffee art?

Perhaps a member of a local Facebook group who reads your post, finds your fortnight-lost hearing aid, fetches it from a gatepost at 10pm, returns it - and it still works? And more importantly, family harmony is restored!

We would love to print your good news stories in the Neighbourhood News. No names, just the story.

Please email your "kindness tales" to reception@ surreyhillsnc.org.au marking them 'Attention Kindness".

And finally, a little "treasure" hunt for kids - big and small. Instead of "Where's Wally" it's "Where's the Weighbridge". Somewhere, in this edition, is a tiny photo of the **red weighing scales** that live in the Neighbourhood Centre forecourt. Have fun.



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