

Mount Victoria Community Association Inc.

NEWSLETTER

March 2020 | 16a AILSA ST, MOUNT VICTORIA NSW 2786 |

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The Mount Victoria Great Train Weekend

Well it has happened again! This time the pandemic has thrown a spanner in the works and it has to be the biggest spanner in the toolbox! The committee had put so many hours of work into organising what was to be a really great weekend and it is such a shame that it has had to be postponed. Transport Heritage NSW made the call by cancelling all of their events until further notice. We would like to thank those who have put their names on the volunteer list and have completed their inductions, so that when this bug goes away, we will be ready to forge ahead and get The Great Train Weekend back up and running.

Only six years later...

In 2013 Mount Victoria was impacted by fire from Mount York Road. Again we experienced a heightened moment of concern as fire again tore through Mount York and into the valley leading up the the Darling Causeway. This time we were lucky - no homes were lost. Unfortunately our neighbours in Dargan, Clarence and Bell and villages along Bells Line of Road were not so fortunate and our hearts go out to them.

We extend a big thank you to Gary and Denise from the Manor House who made rooms available at no charge for people who needed to feel safer, and also to Margaret Gough who opened up St Peters Church Hall to provide some respite from the drama by providing refreshments and a friendly shoulder to lean on.

For all of you who had a plan and put it into action, well done. Now is the time to review it and think about whether you would do the same again or modify it. For those of you who didn't have a plan start preparing. Having a fire plan helps you to stay focussed and calm.

It was good to see residents coming up the RFS shed to get information and advice. The HUFF facilitators were able to pass on the newsletters from Fire Control and members of the Closeburn Drive/St Georges Parade Community Fire Unit swung into action well before the approach of the fire. They are to be highly commended on their preparation and commitment to assisting the fire fighters and remaining vigilant for several days after the threat had diminished.



St Georges Parade

At this month's meeting we welcomed Andrew Kaye from Blue Mountains District Rural Fire Service as our guest speaker. Andrew offered us more insight into the fires and provided lots of useful information regarding personal preparation for fire emergencies.

Local business woman Rebekah Zara attended an information gathering session of the Royal Commission into Natural National Disaster Arrangement recently and provided us with feedback from that meeting. Rebekah spoke of the hardships being endured by our local businesses due to lack of tourists and she reported that the information was well received by the commission representatives.

WELCOME to our new PICCOLO DELI owner
Congratulations to Sue Barclay who has taken over the delightful Piccolo Deli from Erin, who has done a wonderful job over the last several years, and we wish Erin a successful future in whatever new venture she embarks upon.

Sue has opened at a very tenuous time so we hope that she is able to deal with the many obstacles that the Corona Virus will cause. Sue said that she was grateful for the many locals who called in recently to make her welcome, and was appreciative of everyone accepting the restrictions of three customers at a time in the shop. She is planning to reintroduce some more deli products in the future and for now will keep business hours the same - Wed thru Sun 10am until 4pm.

Our other local businesses need your support as well as we wend our way through this difficult time.

*Sue Barclay, right, with assistant, young local,
Evie McKenna*



Corona Virus Care



You may have noticed the construction fence around the Imperial Hotel. Is this the first sign of hope? According to the owners work will start this year but will the virus bring a temporary halt to proceedings? We wait in anticipation. Meanwhile don't forget to "shop local".

As we hunker down to see out this potentially deadly virus please be mindful of any vulnerable neighbours. If you are going shopping ask if they need anything. Check in regularly by phone or email and ask if they're okay.

Make the most of our clear air and beautiful surrounds and go for regular walks. Do some spring cleaning in autumn. If you're a normally busy person make the most of the time you have at home. And if you still need to go to work, stay safe. If your job is an essential service providing for others we thank you and hope you keep well. And when its all over, celebrate!

Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre has compiled a list of local businesses that may be of assistance if you don't want to venture out. If you would like the list emailed to you please email The HUFF Coordinator, Mina Howard at mina.howard@banc.org.au. For accurate information about Covid-19 go to

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert>

This page is managed by the Department of Health and contains the current status of the nationwide coronavirus alert, along with information about the symptoms and when you should consider getting tested.



The Blackheath/Mt Victoria RFS and Mt Victoria F&R brigades would like to thank our community for your support and generosity throughout the recent bush fire event.

