

Community Update 18 - March 2017

Future Newsletter Issues

Each quarter the Junortoun Community Action Group, put together a newsletter about the community for the community. To date we have produced this newsletter in printed and electronic version. Due to the ongoing costs of producing the newsletter in printed format and delivering it to each mailbox in the Junortoun area, we have made a decision that from September our newsletter will ONLY be issued in electronic format.

From the Chairman

The Junortoun Community Action Group has been operating for several years.

Our aims are to;

- Improve the community of Junortoun, Victoria by developing activities and initiatives in accordance with the wishes of those who live and work in Junortoun.
- Achieve a friendly, safe and peaceful, semi-rural environment, with a sense of community and a focus on families.

To do this we need community support. We often have members of the community make suggestions or highlight areas for improvement, but as a small group, we are limited with our time and resources.

This is where **YOU** can step in. If you would like to see a greater sense of community, or improvements for our residents, we would love you to reach out and contact us. We have a good strong Social Media presence and with a growing email list of locals who wish to stay informed, but we need people to contribute their ideas and effort. That's it, IDEAS & EFFORT.

So, please, why not consider getting involved? Email us if you can help in anyway, we'd love to hear from you.

Bob Jamieson, Chairman

Nesting Box Update

The students at La Valla Catholic College have put the finishing touches on the boxes and they are now ready to be erected. The City of Greater Bendigo Parks staff will erect the boxes over the next few weeks and hopefully the

Upcoming Events

Sunday 2nd April 2017

Adopt a Highway Clean Up

Sunday 23rd April 2017

O'Keefe Rail Trail Marathon

Regular Meetings –Thursdays

1st Thursday Monthly; JCAG - Executive Team

Connect with our community



Like our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/junortoun



Tweet with us on Twitter [@junortoun3551](https://twitter.com/junortoun3551)



Subscribe to our e-mailing list or contact us via: community@junortoun.org



boxes will become homes to sugar gliders and Tuans (Phascogales). Both of these species are small mammals and are listed as threatened.

The students will monitor the nest boxes with the new pole camera that the Junortoun Community Action Group (JCAG) has purchased as part of this project. The camera allows the students to view inside the boxes from the ground and allows video footage to be captured for later



viewing and identification.

We hope to see some good photos soon of new residents in the boxes. Keep an eye out for these boxes along the O'Keefe Rail Trail as you enjoy your next walk or ride.

Community Profile

In this issue, we introduce—**Julie Andrews**, Junortoun Resident and Chief Saponifier at Urthly Organics

How long have you lived in Junortoun?

11 years

How might those outside the Junortoun community know you?

Through my business Urthly Organics, other parents from Axedale kindergarten, Strathfieldsaye PS and Girton Gramma or from seeing me at local markets in and around Bendigo.

Tell us about your family, and their connection to Junortoun.

The only connection to Junortoun that my children have is that they reside here!

Tell us about your involvement within the Junortoun community. How did you first become involved?

Attending the Junortoun market and donating to the community my products

If you could change one thing about Junortoun, what would it be?

Bring back the old growth trees that were cut down many years ago

From your perspective, what has been the greatest achievement for Junortoun?

Having residents that are actually interested in the growth and community spirit. Newsletters are important part of this.

What do you love the most about Junortoun?

The fact that I live 15mins from the centre of Bendigo and the feeling of living in the country with no neighbours at my back door.

Do you have a closing message?

Every year the Somerset Park Road community has a Christmas party, usually held on the first weekend in December. We always welcome neighbouring resident to join in.

Junortoun Fire Brigade

After several callouts early in the summer fire season (several due to illegal burns), the Junortoun Fire Brigade has had a relatively quiet fire season in spite of heavy fuel loads following a wet winter and spring. We attribute this partly due to milder conditions, and only 2 days of Total Fire Ban, but also due to improving community fire awareness. A reminder to all though that we are still in the Fire Danger Period and that fire restrictions remain in force, and we could still get days of extremely high fire risk few a few more weeks yet.

With the cooler months approaching it is time to remind people of several house-keeping rules to help remain safe:

- Never leave cooking unattended, and keep grills and cooking surfaces free from grease and residue.
- Ensure all heaters are off before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Keep clothing, curtains and toys well clear of heaters.
- Never overload powerboards, and replace faulty appliances and leads.
- Change smoke detector batteries at the change of daylight saving time, and test each monthly
- Clean chimneys and flues at least once per year

Junortoun Adopt a Roadside Program

Sunday April 2nd

Junortoun Community Action Group are looking for volunteers to help clean along McIvor Highway, aiming to reduce litter and stop pollutants entering local waterways.

Meet at Manning Reserve, Atlas Road (East end) at 9am for registration.

Brief safety instructions and safety clothing provided, clean-up areas will be sign-posted. Volunteers must be 16yrs and over.

For more details contact Tom Devlin (Ph. 0434 235 504)

O'Keefe Rail Trail Marathon

Sunday April 23rd.

JCAG is looking for volunteers to assist with BBQ and act as race marshals and parking attendants.



Please contact Tom Devlin (Ph. 0434 235 504) if you can help out on the day.

For more information about this event go to the O'Keefe Rail Trail Marathon Inc. website at <http://www.theokeefe.com.au/>

Those Pesky Rabbits

The K5 strain of Calcii virus has been hitting the headlines in the past week or so, and there is good reason.

The Invasive Animals CRC has publicised that RHDV1-K5 will be released at 640 sites across the country including 150 in Victoria from February 25 to March 6.

Conventional control methods need to be applied as soon as the virus comes through your area, so it's well worth chatting to your neighbours about it now.

You can track the virus spread and contribute disease reporting on the free Rabbit Scan app or website. Head to www.rabbitscan.org.au

Bats: fascinating creatures of the night

Some people think they are cute, others think they are



ugly.

Some people recognise their importance to their property, others run in fear just at the mention of their name.

Whatever your thoughts, bats play an important role in the environment and landholders can benefit a great deal from becoming their friends.

These amazing mammals often go unnoticed because they are small, nocturnal and hard to hear. But their role in controlling insects is important.

They are an unknown mammal that occurs in the Bendigo area. There are nearly 1000 species of bats and, of the 70 estimated in Victoria, up to 14 call Bendigo home. Most people have a fear of bats but when they get to see what they are like they realise the benefits they bring. Bats do good deeds for the environment yet negative perceptions mean they are often maligned.

Individual bats can eat up to half their body weight in insects every night, so the role they play in reducing insects can be particularly important. Bat species in the Bendigo region typically roost under loose bark, in fissures or in the hollows or spouts of trees. In the photo this is a special case where they are under the eaves of the house in a corner and close to the front door

These species are predominantly micro-bats or insectivorous bats and can weigh between 5g - 18g. Using sophisticated echolocation (a high frequency sound) to locate and capture prey such as beetles, moths, mosquitoes and aquatic insects, these tiny creatures will

Some Photos from the Australia Day Breakfast.



Be one of the first 20 bookings and you will receive a free coffee voucher to use at the Strathfieldsaye Bakery and your pooch will enjoy a Greenies treat. Mention this advert to claim the offer!



Dog Grooming Service

We can now take your dog from smelly slob to heart throb! We have three services you can select from:

- + A bath and tidy up
- + A bath and full groom
- + A clip, bath and full groom.

Prices start from \$40 for a small breed and up to \$100 for a giant breed.

Drop your dog off and go over the road for a coffee or do your groceries, and come back to a well groomed and happy pooch. Or drop your dog off on your way to work and pick up a clean and beautiful smelling pooch after you clock off.

Bookings are essential. Give us a call on 5439 5066 or email clinic@myvetstrathfieldsaye.com.au

Visit our website www.myvetstrathfieldsaye.com.au

CONTACT US

942 Wellington Street
Strathfieldsaye
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Travis Moore
0488 493 310

This community update has been prepared by the **Junortoun Community Action Group**. The Action Group evolved from the group convened to develop a community plan in 2012 and consists of a dozen community members working towards the actions identified in the plan. In particular the Action Group promotes:

- Developing a sense of community for Junortoun
- Advocating for transport, sport and recreation services and facilities.