



Summer 2018


UPCOMING EVENTS

26th January 2018 – Australia Day Breakfast

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Junortoun Community Action Group

Welcome to your summer Junortoun e-newsletter, full of information of our plans for 2018 and a summary of our busy year in 2017.

We are looking forward to another busy year next year and hope that as many residents and community members get involved in our activities.

From the JCAG committee we wish all Junortoun residents a very happy Christmas period and a safe summer and New Year.

Junortoun's Nest Box Project

Junortoun's Nest Box Project - Brush-tailed Phascogales (Tuans), Sugar Gliders, Owlet Nightjars and Eastern Rosellas – first stage is now completed

The City of Greater Bendigo Community grants funded the Junortoun Community Action Group (JCAG) to build and erect nest boxes along the O'Keefe Rail Trail between Knuldoorong Woodland – 5 Ha (Somerset Park Road) and the Junortoun Flora and Fauna

Reserve – 9.2 Ha (Trotting Terrace). The project focuses on the only contiguous linear reserve - the O'Keefe Rail Trail- that runs through Junortoun which is well known and used by this community. The nest box project funded the materials that enabled students at Catholic College Bendigo to build wooden nest boxes.



City of Greater Bendigo Natural Reserves staff held several information sessions with the students. The City of Greater Bendigo Natural Reserves staff erected the first 23 nest boxes and JCAG gratefully acknowledges their expert knowledge that guided the number and placement of boxes. More boxes (25) have now been completed by the students and these have now been erected.

The nest boxes have openings suitable for brush-tailed Phascogales, sugar gliders, Owllet nightjars and Eastern rosellas and they should become homes to these animals and birds. Brush-tailed Phascogales are also known as Tuans which is their Australian native name.

The students have completed the finishing touches on the remaining boxes and they are all numbered so the students will know which box they have constructed.

A pole camera (a small digital camera on a long pole) was purchased as part of the project and is being used to see which marsupial or bird is using the box as a new home. The camera allows video footage to be captured for viewing and identification and will show the small threatened Phascogales (Tuans), sugar gliders and birds in their new homes.

We are pleased that we have been able to involve local students and thank Catholic College Bendigo for their support and involvement.

The Junortoun Group plans to erect more boxes in future years for other animals such as small insect eating bats and birds such as pardalotes.

The Junortoun Community Action Group gratefully acknowledges the City of Greater Bendigo Community Grants for Environmental projects that provided the funding for this project and the North Central Catchment Management Authority for providing a Landcare maintenance grant.

Fantastic News – Funding for the 2nd Stage of the Nest Box Project has now been approved.

City of Greater Bendigo through their Community Grants for Environmental Projects have recently approved funding for the next stage of this project that will be from Somerset Park Road to Bennetts Road along the O'Keefe Rail Trail. JCAG will again be working closely with Catholic College Junortoun as the new students will be making the boxes. The project will probably commence in 2nd term and hopefully the nest boxes will go up soon after they are completed. The plan is to have a 3rd stage of the project which will be from Bennetts Road to the Axe Creek.

Report from McIvor Highway safety forum - 16 November 2017

We were pleased to have 50 local residents in attendance in November at our McIvor Highway safety and infrastructure forum, as well as five representatives from VicRoads, an

employee from Transport for Victoria and a staff member from the office of Jacinta Allan MP.

Our guest speaker was Brian Westley, Acting Regional Director, VicRoads Northern Region, who covered each of the issues we asked him to. Even if the meeting didn't always receive the answers we were looking for and hoping for there is no doubt that the safety and infrastructure of McIvor Highway is certainly on the VicRoads agenda.

Some key points from the meeting:

- A speed review of the highway through Junortoun has been conducted and is currently sitting with the Minister's office. No indication was provided of the findings from the review.
- The highway is reaching a point of capacity where infrastructure improvements will be required if vehicle growth continues to increase. However there are two other highways in Bendigo which are also a priority for upgrades - Napier Street/Midland Highway and Marong Road/Calder Highway which are likely to see improvements before McIvor Highway in Junortoun.
- Safety of road crossing points at St Vincents Road and at Popes Road were discussed.
- The conflict between through traffic and local traffic was acknowledged - especially for vehicles turning off the highway at local intersections.
- The intersection of Pratts Park Road was acknowledged as dangerous and Brian stated that some design improvement sketches had been prepared.
- The risk caused by the blind crest at Popes Road was identified, and the impact on west-bound truck was discussed.

The Junortoun Community Action Group has established very constructive dialogue with VicRoads and we hope that this will lead to measurable improvements along the highway next year.

We wish we could claim credit for the recent resurfacing outside the Post Office and Catholic College, but we suspect that these works had been in planning for a few months! In 2018 we hope to have a public discussion with representatives from the City of Greater Bendigo about local road safety issues.

Report from Welcome to Summer BBQ and picnic

Our annual community picnic was held at the McIvor Forest Estate Playspace on Sunday 3 December, with over 120 people in attendance. Although the weather was variable and the rain even paid a short visit, a lot of fun was had by everybody who came.

Our sausage sizzle and ice-poles were popular. As were the face-painting, the visit from the CFA vehicles and the novelty games.

Thanks to the hard working team members of the Sense of Community Group who helped organise the event, purchase the food and cook the sausages. Especially to Denise John who put a lot of effort into the organisation.

Thanks and acknowledgement also to the City of Greater Bendigo community grants, whose event funding allows JCAG to run events such as these.

Thanks to Landcare Australia

The Junortoun Community Action Group (JCAG) would like to thank the North Central Catchment Management Authority for its support of our group through its Landcare Maintenance Grants program. JCAG has been fortunate to receive a Landcare Maintenance Grants in each of the past three years (\$500/year).



This funding assists in paying the public liability insurance for the Action Group, which ensures that JCAG is able to continue as a group, conduct events and act as an advocate for the community with both Council and State Government.

The recent public meeting held with VicRoads is just an example of our activities, aimed at alerting VicRoads about the issues and ensuring that there is a safer McIvor Highway. The funding we receive also allows JCAG to continue to hold successful events such as “Welcome to Summer” and the “Australia Day Ceremony” (jointly with Junortoun CFA at the CFA shed).

Report from JCAG Annual General Meeting

The Junortoun Community Action Group Inc. is an incorporated association under Victorian Consumer Law. The Action Group held its Annual General Meeting on Thursday 31 August 2017.

Copies of the [minutes of the AGM](#) and of the [2016-17 financial statements](#) are available from the links provided, or from the Junortoun website at www.junortoun.org/jcag/

Executive committee

The office bearers of the Junortoun Community Action Group for 2017-18 are:

- Robert Jamieson – Chair
- Colin Smith – Deputy Chair
- Kevin de Vries – Secretary and treasurer
- Tom Devlin – Chair: Sense of community group
- Ann Howe – Executive committee member
- Heather Stanmore – Executive committee member

The work of the Action Group is strongly supported by the other volunteer members of the **Sense of Community group**. Thank you very much to our helpers who work hard to plan, organise, promote and run events that build a sense of connection for people in Junortoun.

Give something back to your community and make Junortoun an even better place to live

Junortoun is your community, and JCAG is your voice for the community – please help us to help you by coming to a meeting to see what you can do for your community.

We welcome volunteers in whatever capacity you are able to assist. From helping to

organise events, being part of our campaigns, helping with the administration of the group or even just cooking some sausages at a BBQ, there is a role for everyone within JCAG. Our first meeting for 2018 will be held on Thursday 1 February 2018 at 7:00pm. Send an email to admin@junortoun.vic.au and we will send you venue details and an agenda so you can come along and be part of our activities and advocacy.

How did Junortoun get such an unusual and unique name?

Brian Stanmore has been researching this question while reading the family history of the “Junor Family”. The history is on loan from Mrs Heather Santini of Shepparton and is a detailed account of the “Junor’ family. I am sure you will find it an interesting account of what was known as Homebush District and how it became known as Junortoun.

Like all good things the name “Junortoun” came from a public meeting where Mr. Samuel Lazarus the local wealthy landholder suggested that the name be “Junor” after his wife Mary Junor. ‘Homebush’ was Mr. Samuel Lazarus’ property and the district was known as Homebush. Homebush was often confused with Homebush in Sydney and the authorities disliked Junor as it was similar to Junee in NSW so “toun” was added to Junor to make Junortoun. The full article can be read on the Junortoun website.

Honeyeater Reserve - a new reserve for Junortoun!

Honeyeater Reserve as it is now known locally – was previously known as the disused Binks Road Quarry. The reserve is between Binks Road and Somerset Park Road to the south of Honeyeater Lane. It has not been a functioning quarry for more than 25 years has previously been used illegally for dumping fill/ soil and also used as an illegal rubbish dump as well as a hoon hotspot for cars and motorbikes.

JCAG wants to make the reserve a feature for Junortoun and is in the process of negotiating a change with the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning (DELWP) where a Committee of Management (COM) will administer and manage this reserve. This COM will be a sub-committee of the Junortoun Action Group and will be looking for ideas and the Junortoun community vision of what will happen to this reserve over the long term. If you are interested in this reserve then watch our newsletters, web site or social media sites for more information early in the new year. We will be looking for volunteers to become members of the Committee of Management.

If you see issues such as rubbish dumping etc. then take a photo and send it to JCAG via one of our media sites.

Have you seen a Platypus or Rakali?

The Australian Platypus Conservancy (APC) is trying to identify the conservation needs of platypus and water-rats (Rakali).

You can play a vital part in this process by providing details of any sightings (both present

and past) of these species. All that is required is approximate date of each sighting and location.

Please provide your reports online directly via the [APC website](#). All information is entered on a secure database that is only used for conservation purposes and no specific details are released to third parties. If you haven't seen a Platypus then locally you can see them in the Campaspe River anywhere from Kyneton right down to Elmore. Next time you are out at along the river if you are very very quiet you may see a Platypus or a water-rat particularly early in the morning and later in the evening.

Website update 2018

One of the City of Greater Bendigo community grants received by the Junortoun Community Action Group was for \$500 which will be used to upgrade and enhance the digital presence of our Action Group. This means a new internet domain, new email address, and new website. This project will also aim to build the number of people subscribed to our Facebook page, Twitter feed and those who receive our newsletter by email.

The project has already commenced and JCAG is now the proud owner of the Community Geographic Domain Name: www.junortoun.vic.au

Our new email address is: admin@junortoun.vic.au – although the old email address still works, and will do for some time.

The next stage in the process is to construct a new website www.junortoun.vic.au and to migrate the content from our old site. This will take a couple of months. Again, in the meantime the old website is still in operation.

We will keep you updated with the progress of this project in the e-newsletter and on Facebook.

Junortoun Fire Brigade



Please view the attached flyer for information on

- “do’s and don’t’s” for the fire danger period,
- Fire Ban districts and
- Fire Danger Ratings.

[Click here to view the Flyer](#)

Volunteers Needed

JCAG exists to help the Junortoun community on a range of topics that are important to residents.

Manned by local volunteers, we can only do so much. We need your help to achieve more. Can you help with any of the following areas?

- Bookkeeping
- Secretarial skills
- Grant writing
- Lobbying for change
- Organising events
- Maintaining a website
- or any other skills that can help...

If you would like to give back to your community, we'd love to hear from you. Send us an [email](#) or come along to our next executive team meeting on the first Thursday of the month.

Many hands make light work!

Upcoming Events

Australia Day flag raising and breakfast

Friday 26th January 2018, from 8am

Junortoun Fire Shed, Popes Rd, Junortoun



Junortoun Community Action Group
in conjunction with the Junortoun Fire Brigade
presents

Australia Day Breakfast

Come along and join other locals at the Junortoun CFA
(Popes Rd) on **Friday January 26th, 2018** for an 8:00
a.m. breakfast followed by our Australia Day ceremony.

Visit our website

www.junortoun.org

www.facebook.com/Junortoun



We hope to
see you there!



Contact: admin@junortoun.vic.au

Are you subscribed to our e-newsletter?

The Junortoun newsletter is now published in electronic format only. We distribute it by email, via Facebook and on our website four times a year. This saves us a lot in printing and distribution costs.

To be the first to receive our e-news we ask you to subscribe to our mailing list.

If you have received this newsletter through Facebook, please subscribe by visiting our website at www.junortoun.org and complete the form under the heading "Connect to our electronic newsletter."



This newsletter is a community project, if you would like to add something to contribute to the publication, please email us at admin@junortoun.vic.au

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