

The Chronicle

servicing the neighbouring communities of

Yandoit, Yandoit Hills, Franklinford and Clydesdale

In Dja Dja Wurrung Language, Yandoit means



*Brown Snake or
Still Water*



August 2020 Also available at www.Yandoit.net The Chronicle first edition 1996

COMMUNITY VOICE- DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL IN HEPBURN SHIRE

The launch of *Community Voice* in August marks a new era of community democracy in Hepburn Shire.

Community Voice is a non-political grassroots movement that aims to shift the process of local government in Hepburn Shire towards participatory democracy by encouraging continual community participation.

When the results of the 2020 Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey came out in June 2020, it confirmed what many members of the Hepburn Shire community had been feeling for some time. Council wasn't listening.

According to the survey *'Perceptions of Hepburn Shire Council's overall performance (fell) to an all-time low in 2020.*

This is reflected in most service areas, where performance ratings have declined significantly over the past year.

'Performance is significantly lower by the widest margin (in) Community decisions and Consultation & engagement'

Community Voice was born out of this frustration at the lack of genuine consultation and council's failure to listen to the concerns and aspirations of local people on matters of public interest.

community voice

Democratic renewal in the Hepburn Shire

'The overall objective of Community Voice is to be a conduit between the Hepburn Shire community and its Council, to help build a highly valued and collaborative relationship – to be a bridge to democratic renewal in the Shire'.

Community Voice has developed a **Charter** which sets out the core values, principles and processes necessary to build inclusive and participatory democracy in Hepburn Shire. Those standing for election in October are asked to sign up to the Charter. After the election, *Community Voice* will monitor each councillor's commitment to community engagement, push for better models of community participation and hold them to account in their decision making.

Community Voice believes that in the complex and challenging times we now face, participatory democracy is essential to informed and inclusive policies and decisions, to

build a healthier, more resilient community in the Hepburn Shire.

Go to the website or facebook page and share your community voice. Read the Living charter for Participatory Democracy and add your suggestions.

<https://communityvoice.group/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2052262768251480>

LIFE IN THE TIME OF LOCK DOWN

Takes us all back to here and now. What's really important? Maslow hit the nail on the head with his Hierarchy of needs. It's not hard to see how real this is for every human being.

1. Physiological needs - the biological requirements for human survival, e.g. air, food, drink, shelter, clothing, warmth, companionship, sleep. We need to emphasise these needs to our government rather than profit or weapons or punishment.. Physiological needs are the most important. The other needs become secondary until these needs are met.

2. Safety needs – People want and need to experience order, predictability and control in their lives. We need emotional security, financial security, law and order, freedom from fear, social stability, property, health and wellbeing

3. Love and belonging needs - The need for interpersonal relationships motivates behaviour. This includes friendship, intimacy, trust, and acceptance, receiving and giving affection and love; affiliating, being part of a group.

4. Esteem needs are classified into two categories: (i) esteem for oneself and (ii) the desire for reputation or respect from others. Respect or reputation is most important for children and adolescents and precedes real self-esteem or dignity.

5. Self-actualization needs - the realization of a person's potential, self-fulfillment, seeking personal growth and peak experiences and desire to become the most that one can be.

What can we do as a local community?

1. Be aware of each other and in communication with each other (the Chronicle and WhatsApp, and Yandoit.net. Maybe a community email list?). 2. Accept that we are all the same and have the same needs and don't reject or push each other away. 3 Remember when we all believed that we had to put a sign on our gates -Private Property, Trespassers Prosecuted. Why not Welcome? Burglars and thieves don't take any notice anyway. 4. Maybe reopen local trade: milk, honey, eggs, bread, veggies, olives and olive oil are already available.

ORANGE MOVEMENT TO SUPPORT FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE

Yandoit resident Kate Roberts has initiated an orange movement to acknowledge honour and support the status of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as our first nations people. Dja Dja Wurrung people lived and cared for this region for thousands of years before white settlement. There are dream time stories that tell of Mt Franklin (Larnebarramel- nest of the emu) throwing rocks at Mt Tarrengower- a reminder that Dja Dja Wurrung were living here when those volcanoes erupted. Many of us now live on land originally set aside for the Franklinford Aboriginal reserve - a 5



mile radius spreading out from Franklinford.

Orange is the harmony day colour. Kate is asking those interested: to wear something orange when in public- eg wrist band, watch or scarf; tie an orange ribbon to your front gate; send a tiny orange heart to whomever- see website *1,000 hearts* on how to make them.

LOCAL LAW #2 COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUPS

Hepburn Shire Council has extended the opportunity for community members to register for the Local Law Community Reference groups. Expressions of interest from community members are invited to be involved in these discussions and work with council to develop guidelines around three local laws:

- Firewood collection on Council land
- Salvaging at Council managed transfer stations
- Planting on nature strips.

Applications will be received up to 25 August 2020. For more information, visit <https://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/local-law-no-2-community-reference-groups/> or contact David George on 5321 6431

A CALL FOR CHRONICLE EDITORS AND STORY WRITERS

Bill and Nikki invite you to prepare stories and become part of *the Chronicle* editing team. The more the merrier. Share what's happening and what's needed across our communities. Email or phone us- our contact details are below.

YANDOIT HILLS WHAT'S APP - KEEPING PEOPLE CONNECTED

Since the May issue of *the Chronicle* we have had almost 200 messages flying around between 22 people on our Yandoit Hills Whatsapp group. Topics have ranged from garden produce sharing, bad jokes, road blocks, wombat sightings, gold exploration blast noises, excitement at local snow falls to requests for lifts from Ballarat, yoga sessions and Castlemaine restaurant recommendations. Our Whatsapp group plays a big part in local conversations. As a general rule local Whatsapp groups work best if they are focussed and have fewer than 40 members. If you are in Yandoit Hills and would like to join our group, or if you are in the region and you'd help like to set up a group in your area please sms or call Richard Johnston 0422 150 010

PROPOSED YANDOIT HILLS & AREA LANDCARE GROUP

Are you interested in being part of a Yandoit Hills Landcare Group? We are looking for expressions of interest in establishing a local Landcare group. Landcare group volunteers do fabulous work revegetating and supporting our region's unique biodiversity. While volunteers from adjacent Guildford and other groups have done fabulous Landcare work in our area, Yandoit Hills isn't technically covered by a Landcare group. This makes it hard to secure grants for local projects. If you'd like to contribute to making our area even more beautiful and biodiverse please express an interest, providing your name, address, and contact number to the email below, and save the date for our upcoming meeting: 7pm, 24th September : location TBD (maybe online)

YandoitLandcare@gmail.com Marnie Ireland 0407 806 778

Richard Johnston 0422 150 010

NEXT EDITION OF THE CHRONICLE

Our next edition is scheduled for October/November 2020.

Let us know what's going on so we can include it in *the Chronicle*. We welcome local stories and your ideas.



NON SERIOUS SECTION

Here we have a group who fight for justice etc. Name is perfect: The three Masketeers.

DO YOU HAVE ANY STORIES OR INFORMATION?

Contact **Nikki**: nikki.marshall@mmnet.com.au or mobile 0432 232 073 or **Bill**: email billodonnell47@gmail.com or mobile 0439398488, or **John Ross** at Yandoit.net.

This edition was edited/written by Nikki Marshall and Bill O'Donnell. Any comments in the Chronicle are made and written with the best of humorous intentions and no offence is intended to any person, thing, animal or group living or dead.