

# THE BRIDGE DECEMBER 2022

LINKING THE COMMUNITIES OF BOISDALE, BUSHY PARK AND VALENCIA CREEK

## From the Editor

The end of another interesting year.

Thank you to all who have contributed to our communities and to this newsletter throughout 2022.

We have experienced many highlights this year with the completion of major building projects, successful football and netball teams, visits by politicians and councillors, increased school enrolments and programs and lots of rain!

We invite you all to join in the many local Christmas celebrations and wish you and your families a safe and rewarding New Year.

The Bridge has a holiday in January, so we'll see you again in February 2023!

Many thanks to our proof reader Rachel Dawkins for her valued input into our newsletter.

**Helen**



## Boisdale Garden Club

The Garden Club will hold their Christmas Breakup at the Briagolong Hotel on Saturday 3rd December at 12pm for lunch. We all wish Joy a speedy recovery and everyone a very happy Christmas.

Please contact Judy Traill on 0400 443 167 for further information.



## Boisdale Stables

The building project at the Stables is finally completed and

we have received our occupancy permit and change of classification!

It has been a long haul during COVID and with



shortages of tradesmen and supplies.

The building of the toilets, storeroom and display shed was made possible through the Latrobe Valley Authority grant, our builder

Peter Brown, local tradespeople and all our wonderful volunteers.

Come along and join in the Christmas celebrations on Friday 2nd December from 5.30pm at our community owned building. New residents most welcome.

**Cath Coggan Chair - Stables Sub committee**



**This Boisdale Consolidated School garden area looks a picture for the Christmas season.**

## Boisdale & District Progress Assoc.

For all local residents and anyone interested please join us on Friday 2nd December from 5.30 - 7.30pm for Christmas drinks and nibbles at the Boisdale Stables.

Just BYO drinks and a plate of nibbles to share, tea and coffee provided. A Christmas tree will be auctioned on the night as well as raffles and presentations to our local volunteers. Everyone most welcome.



The Progress Assoc. is also sponsoring the Valencia Creek Christmas Tree on Friday 16th December (see Valencia Hall post). A basket and raffle tickets will be available at the Boisdale Post Office for goods for the Christmas Hamper.

**Raquel Harris Chair 0411 051 295**





## Boisdale-Briagolong Red Cross

We will hold our Christmas Breakup on **Tuesday 6th December from 11.30am at the Boisdale Stables**. Bring and share lunch. Raffles will be drawn on the day. New members and residents most welcome.



**Contact Helen Montague - 0448 349 420**



## Valencia Soldiers' Memorial Hall

The Valencia Creek Christmas Tree will be held at the Valencia Creek Hall on **Friday 16th December from 5.30pm**. BYO food and drinks. BBQ, tea and coffee provided. Santa arriving at 7.30pm. Icepoles, lollies and lots of games for the kids. This is a wonderful family evening so come along and catch up with friends and neighbours. Christmas Hamper drawn on the night.



Contact Danielle 0400 691 055 or Jarrah 0417 546 112 for further information.

[Ed: A big thank you to Danielle and Jarrah who do a wonderful job organising this great event for kids and local families.]

Due to other commitments the New Year's Eve Dance at Valencia Creek will not be held this year.

**For Hall bookings call Cath Noble 0427 149 253**

## St George's Anglican Church, Boisdale

The painting at St George's has been completed and the building is looking wonderful. The congregation is very appreciative of our Anglican Parish of Maffra for enabling this to happen.

Join us for the Christmas Eve Service on Saturday 24th December at 8pm and celebrate the joy of Christmas and our lovely community building. Everyone most welcome.



**St John's Anglican Church Christmas Fair at Maffra will be held this Saturday 3rd December from 9am at the church**. Don't miss out on the great cooking and plants.

**Helen Montague, Joy Morley & Louise Blencowe (Wardens)**

## Boisdale Public Hall

Well done to Sam and Judy from the Boisdale Hall for organising the Garage Sale Trail on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 November at the Hall. It was great to see the stall holders throughout the hall and all the people coming to have a look and snap up some bargains. They are hoping to repeat it again early next year. Exciting times also next year with renovations planned to the hall amenities.



**Tai Chi will go into the recess over the school holidays**. For hall bookings contact;

**Samantha White, Secretary 0428 549 045**  
[boisdalepublichall@gmail.com](mailto:boisdalepublichall@gmail.com)

**A huge thank you to all the volunteers who mow the lawns in the public areas in Boisdale and Valencia Creek.**

The new Boisdale community lawn mower is working overtime, but the areas all look wonderful. If anyone in the community has some spare time to assist it would be greatly appreciated. Several of our community organisations are supporting the Rec. Reserve with funds for fuel and repairs.





## From our local CFA Brigades

### Boisdale CFA

We are very proud of the Boisdale CFA Volunteers who were awarded the National Emergency Medal for their work on the 2019-2020 Black Summer Bushfires. The National Emergency Medal is awarded to persons who rendered sustained service during nationally significant emergencies in Australia.

During the 19/20 fires we had volunteers deployed to work on the fires around Dargo, Licola, Bruthen, Buchan and Valencia Creek

At a presentation held in Sale earlier this month, the medal was awarded to the following members, Paul and Luke Chilton, Stuart and Andrew Noble, Tameaka Shanks, Brayden Atkinson, Phil Sim and Tim Crooke. These members gave their time on multiple occasions in the effort to contain the fires that devastated East Gippsland.

Thank you to all Boisdale volunteers and their families for holding the fort while people were away on deployment. A great team effort for such a small brigade.



### Valencia Creek CFA

Valencia Creek CFA members David ('Monty') and Stephanie Montague, were also awarded the National Emergency Medal.

During the fire event Monty was deployed to NSW for a week then to Orbost, while Stephanie worked in the ICC for several weeks.

Rachel Dawkins and Anthony Kovco also received the medal through their service with Forest Fire Management Victoria.



**Captains: Boisdale** - Paul Chilton 0418 354 224  
**Valencia Creek** - David Montague 0427 454 207

## The Birdman of Boisdale

### **NEW HOLLAND HONEYEATER**

*This bird reminds me of the hive of activity when families gather and all the children are energetic and noisy.*

***Wishing everyone a safe and happy festive season. Ian.***



*Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*

Meliphagidae

The New Holland Honeyeater is one of Australia's most energetic birds. Fuelled up on high-energy nectar taken from the flowers of banksias, eucalypts, grevilleas and other trees and shrubs, they are always active and pugnacious. Whether they are dashing in pursuit of a flying insect or chasing other honeyeaters away, the New Holland Honeyeater is seldom seen sitting still. One of their more unusual activities is to conduct 'Corroborees', where up to a dozen birds congregate and noisily display together, fluttering their wings.

They are mostly black and white, with a large yellow wing patch and yellow sides on the tail. It has a small white ear patch, a thin white whisker at the base of the bill and a white eye. Sexes are similar in looks, but females are slightly smaller in size. Young birds are browner and have a grey eye.

Its range extends throughout southern Australia, from about Brisbane, Queensland, to just north of Perth, Western Australia and is common in heath, forests, woodland and gardens. It is inquisitive and approaches humans. It also mixes with other types of honeyeaters.

They are active feeders, eating mostly flower nectar and busily dart from flower to flower in search of this high-energy food. Other food items include fruit, insects and spiders. Birds may feed alone, but normally gather in quite large groups. Most feeding takes place in lower areas of bushes and thickets.

Their cup-shaped nest is made of bark and grasses, bound together with spider web. It is lined with soft material and is placed in a bush or tree, anywhere from ground level up to 6 m. Both sexes feed the chicks. A pair of adults may raise two or three broods in a year.

**The Eventurers - Boisdale photographers**  
**Ian and Velta Fellowes Mob: 0427 472 451**



## Boisdale & District History Group (B&DHG)

Following a recent discussion with Boisdale Consolidated School staff, we will be calling on a few former students and/or teachers next year to assist in returning the school history archives back to the school and collating and cataloguing the collection which has been stored at the Boisdale Hall since the school rebuild. We will also begin some fund raising to repair the gazebo and the original Boisdale State School building (Playgroup room), as both need attention. The time capsule is still at the school and due to be opened in 2034-35!

**B&DHG** will host the next meeting of the Wellington Shire Heritage Network in February at the Stables.

**Helen Montague Secretary B&DHG**



## Boisdale Consolidated School (BCS)

Congratulations to all students on a great year at BCS and special wishes to the Grade 6 students for 2023 and their higher education. The Grade 6 students will have their Graduation Ceremony at the Boisdale Hall on Wednesday 14th December. The school Christmas Concert is on Monday 12th December and the final school day will be on Tuesday 20th December finishing at 2.30pm.

## Community Bank Maffra & District

## Community Bank Maffra & District News

Congratulations to the Staff and Board for Community Bank Maffra & District. After being in the running for the last few years, this year they have achieved **Regional Victoria & Tasmania Branch of The Year**.



This wouldn't be possible without the support of our customers and community and our wonderful staff.

Sponsorships are available through Community Bank Maffra & District. Does your community group or club have an event planned, need equipment or

maintenance?

Contact our staff on 5141 1999 or download a sponsorship form.

<https://www.bendigobank.com.au/branch/vic/community-bank-maffra-district>

The holiday season is fast approaching. The Branch will only be closed on the public holidays.

**We wish all our customers a safe and happy holiday season.**

<https://www.facebook.com/communitybankmaffradistrict>

**Rob Christie, Board Chair**



Well done to Julia Reti who performed a whip cracking demonstration at Equitana Melbourne on Saturday 12 November during the Stock Horse Evening Performance. A proud moment for parents Susan and Zane and grandmother Cath Noble.



## **An interesting load coming over the Valencia Creek low level bridge recently.**

According to Paul Chilton there was 50mm to spare each side of the bridge!

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**0437 965 413**

Tina and Dave had a stall at the Boisdale Hall Garage Sale and are living at Valencia Creek. They are able to turn their hand to many things. Being licensed snake relocators may come in handy this summer! Give them a call if you need jobs done.

**The Bridge is appreciative of Wellington Shire Council for the Quick Response Grant for this publication and especially to the Boisdale Consolidated School for the printing of the newsletter. Thank you also to Donna at the Boisdale Post Office for her support.**

## **Wishing all our readers a wonderful festive season.**

If you know of any new residents send through their email address and we'll send them a coloured copy.

Helen- [dhmontague@bigpond.com](mailto:dhmontague@bigpond.com) or 0448 349 420. Hard copies are available at the Boisdale PO.