



THE DINGLEY DOSSIER

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www.dvnc.com.au/dossier

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

Small businesses are doing it tough. In 2020 COVID-19 hit and the resulting lockdowns saw small businesses shuttered across the country. Just as businesses started to recover the rapid rise in cost of living expenses has impacted them, with most consumers cutting back on expenses.

Whether it's gift shopping, buying produce, or just essential home maintenance, spend where it counts and buy local.

Why should I support local business?

- Local businesses are generally operated by people within the local community.
- Local businesses are often more sustainable than larger businesses due to their small carbon footprint. A local small business tends to make more local purchases, which requires less transportation.
- By making a commitment to shop local or support small businesses, you cycle money back into your community.
- Local businesses are known to play a significant role in supporting local community charities and causes. It's clear that local businesses benefit from a strong community, therefore the owners tend to be more engaged members of the community themselves. Small businesses donate 250% more than large businesses to local nonprofits and community causes, creating a positive cycle of giving back locally.

- Better customer service is often received from small businesses rather than large corporations. When it comes to a small-business owner, all purchases, deals and positive reviews matter.
- Local businesses offer a point of difference to big corporations and make each community unique.
- They help push economic growth and the local economy by opening up employment opportunities locally.

How can I support local small business?

Before you pop in the car to visit a big chain store or business consider if the product you are looking for can be purchased locally, even if you cannot buy everything you need, every purchase will help.

Pay by cash where possible and save the card for the big stores. COVID saw the drop in use of cash and increasing use of 'tap-and-go' contactless payments. But that convenience comes at a cost, as retailers and businesses are slugged with huge fees, which then pass on the extra costs to consumers either through surcharges or by increasing the cost of goods and services.

Fees for tap-and-go are about four times higher than EFTPOS and add about 40¢ to a \$100 transaction for a retailer or merchant, for small businesses these fees can impact them hard. You can help local small businesses by paying by cash for purchases or by inserting or swiping your payment card and reducing their costs.

Tag local businesses on social. Supporting local businesses can be as simple as sharing photos of them on social media. The more people hear about them, the more sales they can make.

Leave a positive review. When was the last time you bought a product without checking online reviews? If you're having a hard time remembering, you're not alone. Nine out of 10 people worldwide check out reviews before making a purchase—and even negative reviews can have a positive impact on sales. Reviews generate word-of-mouth marketing and add credibility to a small business's reputation.

Recommend local businesses to friends, family, and colleagues. You may not be able to support local businesses with your money, but word of mouth is just as important. Try recommending local businesses to your loved ones and colleagues. Your friends, family members, and colleagues are more likely to support a local business after it's got a recommendation.

Small local businesses provide character and individuality to a community. A strong small business presence—especially one that thrives in the context of a busy, liveable, walkable suburb—is what gives a community its character. It helps create that sense of "place".



FARMERS' MARKET

SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER | 8:30AM - 1:00PM



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, and pay our respects to them, their culture, their Elders past, present and future and uphold their relationship to this land and the important role all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to play within Australia.

WHAT'S ON AT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE?

LIVING IN DINGLEY VILLAGE

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

City of Kingston:
1300 653 356

Emergency: 000

Police: 131 444

Crime Stoppers:
1800 333 000

Lifeline: 13 11 14

Suicide Call Back Service:
1300 659 467

SES: 13 25 00

Poisons Info: 13 11 26

Coronavirus Hotline
1800 675 398

MensLine:
1300 789 978

WIRE
(Women's Information
and Referral Exchange):
1300 134 130

Safe Steps:
1800 015 188

Nurse on Call:
1300 606 024

Tip Smells & Dust:
EPA 1300 372 842

Aircraft Noise:
1800 802 584

Neighbourhood Centre:
8512 0505

Community Association:
dvcasecretary@gmail.com

Men's Shed:
9551 5892

**VicRoads Faults
and Hazards:**
13 11 70

RSPCA:
9224 2222

Justice of the Peace

Malcolm Gilbert: **0418 549 800**
Marion Harriden: **9551-1799**
Allan Harris: **0412 073 719**

Zumba Gold with Norma

Zumba Gold is a low- impact dance fitness class perfect for beginners of all ages and fitness levels. Thurs, 9.30am -10.30am in the Harold Box Hall, \$10.00 per class. No need to book just come along.

Seniors Body and Balance with Norma

This class focusses on balance, ranges of motion and coordination. Thurs, 11am-12pm in the Harold Box Hall, \$10.00 per class. No need to book just come along.

Social Table Tennis with John

Catering to all skill levels both men & women. Come along and join this friendly group. Mon, 9am & Wed 12.30pm in the Harold Box Hall \$3.00 per session. New members Welcome. No need to book just come along.

Writing for Pleasure

Beginners to Established. People write for many different reasons. Would you like to explore your creativity in a supportive group. Wed, 10am to 12pm in the Centre. Free drop-in group.

Social Art group

Art group for those who would like to finish off a project while having a chat and a coffee in the evening. Every Tues evening 6.30pm-8.30pm in the 'Craft Room', near the Harold Box Hall. Free Class, no need to book.

Knit, Craft & Natter with Marlene

Have a knitting or any other craft project lying around or want to learn how to knit. Thursdays 10am -12pm in the Centre. Free Class, no need to book- Just come along.

Tai Chi with James

Tai Chi helps increases flexibility and balance. Tues 9 - 11 am in the 'Harold Box Hall'. To book phone **0430 570 460**.

Chatty Café

The Chatty Café Scheme aims to get people chatting to build and encourage social connections within the local community, and to help reduce social isolation and loneliness. Let's keep our community connected! Wed 10am to 12pm in the 'Harold Box Hall in the Foyer'. Free, just some along.


Safe Seats Safe Kids with Michael

We have free Child car restraint fittings and safety check done here at the Centre carpark. Thursday 10am-2pm. Bookings go to: www.safeseatssafekids.com.au



Southern Taekwondo
Affiliated with No's Taekwondo
Classes for men, women & children of all ages. Qualified Coaches. Gradings at all Levels.
Classes held at Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre, Marcus Rd
For class times or more information Ph 9583 5680 or 0439 304 579

MK Mobile Locksmiths
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Re-Keying Locks
Lock Fitting
Master Key Systems
Contact Michael
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Dress Rings to order from
Winner of 8 Australian Jewellery Design Awards
As we are not a retail outlet, consultation is
STRICTLY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.
Ph: 9551 0195 or
email sales@andolfi.com.au



Gambler's Help
1800 858 858

COMMUNITY

Father's Day

To all the fathers, grandfathers, stepdads, foster dads, dads-to-be, father figures, and all those doing the father role, wishing you all a wonderful day filled with love and laughter.

Australian Welsh Male Choir

Sunday 29th October 2023, 2:00pm, Christ Church Dingley. Tickets available at the door & via Try booking, further information available from Christ Church Dingley Office (03) 9551 7871.

"Hooray for the Men's Shed"

They are building a "Vege patch" at Make a Difference The plan is that when vegetables start to grow – our families may help themselves to tomatoes and whatever in season. Anyone interested in helping to maintain the garden – watering, give us a call on 9551 1799 or email at admin@maddv.com.au"

CWA Father's Day Stall

Get ready to celebrate Father's Day in a delicious way! The Country Women's Association (CWA) Dingley Branch is hosting a fantastic stall packed with irresistible baked goods, including scones, biscuits, cakes, preserves, and more. Whether your dad has a sweet tooth or prefers something savory, we have something to satisfy every taste bud. All of our baked goods are lovingly crafted by our talented CWA members, ensuring a truly delightful experience for you and Dad.

Spoil Dad with a scrumptious treat and show your support for our stall. Please note, it will be CASH only. Rest assured that all funds raised will go directly towards supporting meaningful charitable causes. Join us at Bunnings Warehouse in Keysborough on Saturday, September 2, from 9.00 am till 2.00pm unless sold out. Your presence will make a difference!

Special Dates in September

Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in men in Australia with almost 20,000 diagnoses each year. Today is a time to learn the symptoms, and most importantly, learn how you and your loved ones can reduce the risk of developing it.

Dementia Awareness Month

Dementia describes a collection of symptoms that are caused by disorders affecting the brain. It is not one specific disease though Alzheimer's disease is the most common form. Dementia affects thinking, behaviour and the ability

to perform everyday tasks. Brain function is affected enough to interfere with the person's normal social or working life.

National Stroke Week 31st Aug – 6th Sept

National Stroke Week 2023 encourages the community to fight stroke together so that you or your loved ones can continue to enjoy life during and after recovery. Help others to keep enjoying life too by sharing the F.A.S.T. (Face, Arms, Speech, Time) signs of stroke with your family and friends.

National Child Protection Week 3rd - 9th September

This year National Child Protection Week will continue to champion the message 'Every child in every community needs a fair go.' This message captures the essence of National Child Protection Week which aims to promote a safe and healthy life for every child, now and into the future.

Krishna Janmashtami 6th & 7th September



One of the most important Hindu festivals, and celebrates the birthday of Lord Krishna, believed to be the eighth reincarnation of Lord Vishnu, who gave the vital message of the Bhagwat Gita - the guiding principles for every Hindu.

National Threatened Species Day 7th September

Did you know that 80% of the animal species in Australia are found nowhere else in the world? Sadly, over the last two hundred years, more than one hundred Australian animal and plant species have become extinct. You can help to protect our threatened species!

R U OK? Day 14th September

R U OK? Day is a National Day of Action, reminding everyone that we have all got what it takes to ask, 'are you ok?' and support those struggling with life. You do not need to be an expert to reach out - just a good friend and a great listener. Use these four steps and have a conversation that could change a life:

- Ask R U OK?
- Listen
- Encourage action
- Check in



Rosh Hashanah 15th – 17th September

Rosh Hashanah, first of the High Holidays, is the Jewish New Year and is the anniversary of the creation of the world. Customs include the blowing of the Shofar, a ram's horn trumpet, and the dipping of apples in honey as a symbol of the sweet New Year ahead. Work is not permitted on this day.

Yom Kippur 24th – 25th September

Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) is the holiest day on the Jewish calendar, when Jews fast, pray, seek forgiveness from God and their fellows, and come closer to God. It is the peak of the High Holidays, and many Jews will refrain from work and attend synagogue services.

Birth of the Prophet Muhammad (Mawlid Al-Nabi)

26th – 27th September



Muslims view the celebration, called Mawlid al-Nabi or simply the Mawlid, like many other Islamic celebrations: as a sign of respect and adoration of Muhammad, whom they believe to be God's messenger and final prophet.

It is commemorated in most Muslim-majority countries and is usually marked by prayers, carnivals, fairs and public processions.



DINGLEY VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

DVCA Annual General Meeting

The DVCA Annual General Meeting was held on 8 August 2023 and the newly elected DVCA Executive are:

Chairperson - David Madill

Vice Chairperson - Geoff Blake

Treasurer - Jon Garrard

Secretary - Natan Raykhtin-Breitenfeld

DVCA Chairperson, David Madill, thanked the DVCA executive and members for their service over the past year. Cr Steve Staikos, City of Kingston, addressed the AGM on issues affecting our village:

- Council's current waste recycling bins/ options provided for residents to be reviewed, following commencement of the Victorian Government Container Deposit Scheme, scheduled to start in November.
- Spring Rd Reserve Masterplan to be released soon, following further assessment of car parking and dog off-leash areas in the park.
- The Operation Sandon IBAC Investigation included in its recent key findings and planning recommendations report, a recommendation to remove planning powers /decisions from Councillors, our locally elected representatives.
- (The IBAC investigation examined the City of Casey planning property development decisions and the effectiveness of Victoria's controls for safeguarding the integrity of the state's planning processes.)

2023 Year in Review - DVCA

Reviewing the year, DVCA Chairperson, David Madill, identified some of the issues DVCA members have been actively involved in and the continuing challenges for our village.

Chadwick Reserve

Completion of the Council's major upgrade of Chadwick Reserve. This included a new dog exercise facility and the acquisition of extended open space between the Reserve and the Mordialloc Freeway extension.

Mona's Crossing

The long requested additional pedestrian crossing, at the east end of our shopping strip, has finally been installed.

Souter Reserve

Commencement of the major upgrade of Souter Reserve buildings and surrounding spaces.

Community Centre

Stage 2 of the Dingley Village Community Centre redevelopment in Marcus Rd, construction commencement is now imminent.

Chain of Parks

Continued development of the "Chain of Parks" linking Karkarook Park to Braeside Park.

Looking Forward:

DVCA concerns for our community are ongoing and we will continue to focus on such key issues as

Kingswood Golf Course Development Proposal

This threatens to change Dingley forever and would adversely impact all residents, as the proposed development has an almost complete absence of any additional infrastructure provision in Dingley Village to accommodate the proposed development's 25% population increase.

Currently there has been a delay of over 15 months in the State Government release of the Golf Course Redevelopment Standing Advisory Committee report on the proposed rezoning and residential development of Kingswood Golf Course. DVCA, like the rest of our community, is unable to make any progress on this until this report is released.

Spring Road Reserve

Development of the old Springvale tip as our community park, with the increasing number of residents using the park as a testimony to its need and success.

DVCA has a number of suggestions for park improvements and awaits release of the new Draft Master Plan, which is scheduled to have plans for walking paths, ovals, parking and enhanced recreation facilities.

Moorabbin Airport Noise and Non-Aviation Development

Continuing to try to modify training circuits to share /reduce noise over Dingley Village and also work with Kingston Council, towards the reduction of "Big Box" warehouses over most of the non-aviation land. DVCA member, John Cincotta, actively represents DVCA on the Airport Committee.

Planning Amendment C203

Working with Council on Planning Amendment 203, in particular the 3-storey height limit designated around the Dingley Village shopping centre.

BINSTON - Have You Used The New Phone App For Waste / Rubbish?

Kingston Council's BINSTON App is a great new App and can be used quickly and easily to:

- Determine which colour bins to put out each week.
- Determine how to responsibly dispose of each individual type of waste material, such as which bin or disposal site to use.
- Find out about all the Council waste services.
- Book online
 - o a hard rubbish collection
 - o tree pruning collection
 - o bin repair
 - o bin replacement
 - o report dumped rubbish
 - o report a missing bin

It's in all our interest to look after our environment and recycle as much as possible, which includes making sure we are placing our rubbish in the correct bin - so that our green and yellow recycle bins are NOT contaminated with non-recyclable household rubbish.

Please remember, each time for instance you place a fast food container into your green bin, it can contaminate all the green bin waste being collected, reducing what can be recycled.

So why not give the BINSTON App a try and ensure that you are making the right decisions when disposing of your rubbish.

DVCA Contact Info:

DVCA is actively seeking new enthusiastic members to join and help keep our village a great place to live and work in. Membership is open to all residents who genuinely care about our Village.

Meetings are held in the library, on the second Tuesday each month, February-November 7. 30pm, located at 31b Marcus Rd. New members are most welcome to attend. For further information please contact the DVCA Secretary at dvcasecretary@gmail.com, or visit www.dvca.info

If you are a resident in Dingley Village and have an issue concerning our Village you would like addressed - please let us know. Contact us by email at dvcasecretary@gmail.com or come to our monthly evening meeting and we will see if we can help.



Seniors Rights Victoria

For help with elder abuse
Call: 1300 368 821

Monday to Friday
10am-5pm



OUR COUNCIL

Kingston lodges positive plan to meet housing crisis demand with Planning Minister

Kingston Council has worked hand-in-hand with our local community to develop a positive plan to play our part in tackling the housing crisis, while preserving the unique character of our neighbourhoods. Housing is a critical issue for all levels of government and innovative solutions are needed to deliver much-needed housing supply while retaining Melbourne's status as one of the world's most liveable cities.

New housing zones that will guide future development across Kingston have been reviewed by an independent planning panel and are now awaiting approval from Victorian Planning Minister Sonya Kirkenny. As outlined by the independent planning panel, Kingston's plan will enable sufficient growth to meet the state government's forecast demand for housing in our city over the next couple of decades at least.

Approval is now required from the Victorian Government to adopt the Planning Scheme Amendment, that embeds Melbourne's newest Housing Strategy and Neighbourhood Character Study, and aims to:

- channel medium and high-density housing to appropriate areas, including activity centres and along the Nepean Highway;
 - acknowledge the unique characteristics of Kingston's suburbs;
 - encourage a diverse range of housing options to suit the changing needs of our community;
 - provide some of the most environmentally sustainable building standards in Victoria; and
 - direct key issues including building heights, setbacks and landscaping.
- Kingston Mayor Hadi Saab said Council embarked on this city-shaping process in response to the Victorian Government's Plan Melbourne, which calls on local councils to take a fair share of growth.

"Housing supply is a critical issue for all levels of Government right now, and Kingston has stepped up to work with our community over the past six years to deliver a plan that focuses future growth in and around our key activity centres, close to public transport, shops, and services. We have shown this can be done while also protecting our quieter neighbourhood streets" Cr Saab said.

"We have developed a constructive plan that balances the need to accommodate growth while also protecting the things we love about Kingston." As part of the years-long process, an independent planning panel appointed by the Victorian Government has recently assessed

Council's proposed zones. While largely supportive of Council's draft, the independent panel did propose a small number of changes. While Council agreed with most of the panel's suggestions, it wholeheartedly rejected advice to increase allowed building heights along sections of the foreshore in Mentone and Parkdale from two storeys to three storeys.

"This has come completely out of the blue, and we stand firm with our community that our beautiful foreshore should be protected from inappropriate development. We simply do not support changing the current 2-storey limit introduced by the Victorian Government to safeguard the unique coastal environment right along Port Phillip Bay," Cr Saab said.

"Our housing plan easily accommodates required growth, we have a proven track record of approving new homes in activity centres, and we know further growth is coming via the Suburban Rail Loop project areas in Cheltenham/Highett and Clayton/Clayton South.

"Council is also proud to be a strong supporter of social and affordable housing projects to provide homes for people that would otherwise miss out. Kingston is living proof that councils and local communities can create positive plans for growth in their neighbourhoods."

Mayor Saab said Council was proud to lodge this contemporary and well researched Amendment with the Victorian Planning Minister and believes it demonstrates the constructive role Local Government can play in planning for housing.

"We have undertaken everything asked of us by the Victorian Government and are confident the Planning Minister will welcome the extensive community consultation and detailed work that underpins our plan," Cr Saab said.

"We are looking forward to having a resolution very soon and moving forward with our action plan for carefully balancing how we manage population growth in our city." For more information on the draft plan, known as Amendment C203, please visit the project page or call Council's Strategic Planning team on **1300 653 356**. Building a more vibrant and connected community with a funding boost for local groups.

Building a more vibrant and connected community with a funding boost for local groups.

More than \$1.6 million will be shared among local community groups and charities thanks to Kingston Council's annual grants program. Kingston Mayor Hadi Saab said Council was proud to support the great work of local groups including emergency support organisations, social welfare, community groups, multicultural communities, sporting clubs and more, to continue their great work.

"Kingston has so many amazing community groups and clubs that help make this area such a great place to live, work and play. Council is very proud to partner with them to support the positive impact they have in our community," Cr Saab said.

"We continue to live in challenging times and these organisations provide invaluable support networks, social engagement opportunities and a real sense of belonging for so many across our community. If you know a great local community group, encourage them to apply early next year for this annual funding program."

More than 115 Community Grants have been allocated this year including:

- Support for pre-schools, play groups and other early learning activities who serve our youngest residents.
- Funding for multicultural and seniors' organisations to enable these groups to meet for regular social, educational, and cultural activities which help to break down social isolation and build community connections.
- Much-needed grants for emergency service providers who lend a hand to those most in need.
- Support for groups to hold lively events and activities to bring people together in their neighbourhood.

Some of the projects supported include:

- \$3200 for the Mordialloc Men's Shed Inc – who provide a workshop environment for community connection while making items that support other community groups.
- \$1500 for new toys for the Kingston Toy Library to support local families.
- \$5000 for the Mentone Community Garden Club for new fencing and gate.
- \$2000 for the Peninsula Dragonfly's Dragon Boat Club for a safety coaching boat for their training on the Patterson River in Carrum.

New strategy to guide the way

With so many things to see and do in Kingston, we are making it easier to find your way around our city. Our new wayfinding strategy provides a clear and unified approach to the planning, design and implementation of our open spaces and activity centre signs.

Designing good signage is surprisingly complex – with best practice recommending that signs need to be simple, easy to read, easy to understand and accessible for all. Developed by a leading consultant and based on the internationally recognised Legible London, the strategy was widely supported during recent community consultation and guides how to do this, with considerations including font sizes and best colours for vision impaired people, height of information, use of symbols, simple English, and heads-up maps all covered.

Acting Mayor Chris Hill said by providing signage that is easy to see, read and understand we hope to make Kingston an easier and even more enjoyable place to visit for all. "We want to make it clear and simple for people of all abilities to be able to enjoy Kingston's many parks, cycling/walking paths, shopping precincts and more," Cr Hill said.

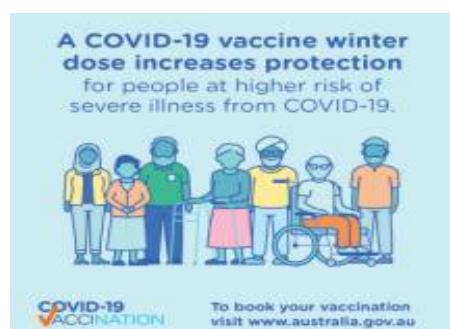
"Kingston has a lot of varied signs. Some of them are good, but some of them are quite old and need replacing. We now have a consistent approach moving forward, with the signs to follow an agreed contemporary format. "We want our signs to provide important information, while keeping Kingston looking good."

The new signage designs feature artwork from well-respected elder and artist Heather Kennedy and Bunurong women. The artwork featured is titled Coming Together to Meeting Place As One.

Among the key features of the new signs are:

- Inclusive, DDA accessible information that is easy for everyone to use.
- Informative and useful but non-intrusive design.
- Information is clearly and consistently structured.
- Consistent look and feel.
- Integrates with surrounding environment (i.e.: park furniture) to reduce visual clutter.
- Links with public transport and major destinations.
- Appropriately sized and located to suit pedestrians, cyclists and (where appropriate) motorists
- Use maps that are oriented the way the user is facing.
- Robust materials that are easier to maintain and repair.

Read the strategy at <https://www.kingston.vic.gov.au/council/council-documents/plans-policies-and-reports/wayfinding-strategy>.



YOUR LOCAL RETIREMENT VILLAGE

See why Retirement Living at Spring Gardens is the perfect choice

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T: (03) 8558 1654
E: sales@baldwinliving.com.au
w: melbourne.baldwinliving.com.au

Baldwin LIVING | Spring Gardens

Talk to your Dingley Village Specialist

JAKE MABEY



Welcome to my neighbourhood.

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a Dingley Village specialist.

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Jake Mabey
Sales & Marketing Executive
0416 147 767
9586 0500
jmabey@barryplant.com.au

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DINGLEY VILLAGE



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THE VOICE REFERENDUM

THE CONVERSATION

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First Nations people have made a plea for 'truth-telling'. By reckoning with its past, Australia can finally help improve our future.

Published: April 11, 2023 6.02am AEST

Julia Hurst

Faculty of Arte Indigenous Postdoctoral Fellow, Indigenous and Settler Relations Collaboration, The University of Melbourne
Sarah Maddison

Professor, School of Social and Political Sciences, Director, The (so-called) Australian Centre, The University of Melbourne

Australia has never been good at listening to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Despite the truths that have already been told in processes like the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody or the Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families, time and again governments have ignored recommendations designed to address the impacts of Australia's settler-colonial past and present.

State refusals to respond to truth have led to renewed calls for processes that will detail the impacts of colonisation in the everyday lives of Indigenous people. These calls were an important part of the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which sought "the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution", complimented by "a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history".

As legal scholars Gabrielle Appleby and Megan Davis have commented, the call for truth-telling in the Uluru Statement is just one part of a wider call for structural reform intended to ensure improvement in the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Why truth?

Beginning in the 1980s, formal truth-telling processes (usually called truth commissions) emerged as a method of reckoning with the past in deeply divided societies around the world. Perhaps the most famous example is the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which aimed to address the gross violations of human rights that happened under apartheid.

Truth commissions like this are generally temporary, state-sanctioned inquiries that typically last from one to five years, with a remit to investigate particular events and examine specific violations over a defined period of time. This typically involves collecting testimony from victims and (sometimes) perpetrators. It is only relatively recently that truth-telling processes have been used as a response to settler colonial violence, most notably via Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which arose after a class action lawsuit on behalf of the roughly 150,000 First Nations children taken from their families and placed in residential schools.

The Uluru Statement isn't the first time First Nations on this continent have called for truth-telling. Since colonisation, Indigenous peoples have insisted that Australia must not look away from their experiences of dispossession and survival. When these truths have been told, however, they have all too often been met with denial, defensiveness or even aggression. For example, when the Stolen Generations inquiry pointed to evidence of the forcible removal of Indigenous children that, it charged, constituted a breach of the UN Convention on Genocide, there was an immediate conservative backlash. The Howard government rejected the findings of the inquiry in one of the earliest salvos against what conservatives have termed a "black armband" view of Australian history.

There is a reason, settler governments have been reluctant to engage in truth-telling. First Nations often seek truth as a means of changing an untenable status quo, reshaping society's attitudes so as to improve their own future prospects and reaffirm their distinct sovereignties and their right to self-determination. As the non-Indigenous Canadian political scientist Courtney Jung has argued, while settler governments may try to use the conclusion of a truth commission to "draw a line through history", First Nations seek to build "not a wall but a bridge", using truth-telling to "draw history into the present, and to draw connections between past policy, present policy, and present injustices".

Whose truths? What truths?

Broadly speaking, First Nations peoples seek truths that address three key themes: narrative and memory; trauma and healing; and responsibility and justice. We have described this potential as "the promise of truth", in which truth-telling leads to a kind of agreement between Indigenous and settler peoples, rather than being a process centered on the state and its violence. The promise of truth is that it will change national narratives and produce a new, shared collective memory that acknowledges crimes of the past; it will contribute to the healing and recovery of Indigenous people who have been harmed by colonisation and dispossession; and it will compel settlers and their institutions to take responsibility for the harms of colonisation.

This approach stands in contrast to what we have called the "colonisation of truth", through which truth-telling is seen primarily as rehabilitative of the settler colonial state while obscuring ongoing injustices. When truth is colonised, it may reproduce narratives that restore aspects of settler legitimacy and treat injustices as being solely in the past. Alternatively, this version of truth may treat First Nations people merely as victims, telling stories of harm and trauma without delivering reparation. Or it may suggest that the demand for responsibility and justice has been fulfilled simply by engaging in the truth-telling process, rather than treating the telling of truth as a starting point for a fairer future.

Truth, then, is complex, and what it may achieve in the Australian context is not yet clear. As treaty processes progress in several Australian jurisdictions, the commitment to truth-telling seems likely to be a part of future negotiations. This close connection between treaty and truth is unique to the Australian case and confirms the strongly held belief that truth has transformative potential. We do not yet know whether the linking of truth and treaty will produce the transformation in relationships that is so urgently needed.

Victoria, which announced a commitment to treaty in 2016, is the jurisdiction most advanced in testing this proposition. In 2022, Victoria established the Yoorrook Truth and Justice Commission (Yoorrook is a Wemba Wemba word meaning "truth"), marking a new era in Australian truth-telling focused on the history of invasion and colonisation of First Nations' territories. Until the creation of Yoorrook, no previous commission, royal commission, or inquiry into colonisation in Australia has included the word "truth" in its official title. Yet still, truth is not a straightforward proposition. "Truth bums," as Indigenous academic Marcia Langton recently put it. Sometimes, truth-telling is painful and connects directly to harm and injustice.

Truth is tricky. It can appear to open spaces for new understandings, while simultaneously shutting these spaces down and reinforcing the colonial status quo. Ultimately, truth-telling is uncomfortable but necessary, as change in any relationship inevitably is. But this is where the possibility lives. As new truth-telling takes place across this continent we have an opportunity to imagine what it might mean to be in a relationship that does not deny the truth of First Nations' lives, or the truth of how Australia has come to be.

Disclosure statement

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CHANGING SCHOOLS

THE CONVERSATION

Academic rigour, journalistic flair

How do you know when it's time to seriously think about changing your child's school?

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Going to school can be challenging for children and young people at times. Most young people will have patches during their school career where it feels hard. That's normal. Getting through those hard times can bring with it sense of mastery, confidence and resilience. Of course, this is not the experience of all young people, and many families find themselves asking whether a change of schools might be the best option for their child. This is a big decision and one that parents don't make lightly - few parents think it's a good idea to change their child's school on a regular basis.

While there are no black-and-white answers around this, there are some questions that might help your thinking.

Involve the current school if you can.

Sometimes, when things are very difficult for your child at school, it can be easy to forget teachers and schools - just like parents - want the best possible outcomes for the children in their care.

If you haven't already, contact your child's school or teacher. The best solutions are usually reached when parents and teachers can work as a team to understand and help children who are unhappy or struggling.

Understanding why school feels like such a struggle.

There are many different aspects to school. Students need to manage academic work, peer interactions as well as their own behaviour and emotions in the classroom and playground.

To figure out how best to support your child, you will need to work with them and their teacher(s) to develop a good understanding of exactly what it is about school that is hard. Maybe they are confused in math lessons, maybe they are having problems with their friends or maybe your child is experiencing bullying. Often it will be a combination of factors.

Anxiety is often the big emotion behind children's struggles with school. If this is the case for your child, your child may benefit from learning about how to manage anxiety (there are evidence-based free online programs).



Another important factor to consider is the "goodness-of-fit" between your child's strengths and abilities and the school they are attending. Maybe you set your heart on your child attending a particular school (perhaps one that has a reputation for academic or sporting excellence). Maybe you enrolled them as soon as they were born. But is this emphasis right for your child?

Once you've identified the aspect(s) of school that are presenting challenges for your child, think about whether there are skills they can be helped to develop to manage these more effectively.

This might include learning how to manage frustration when things don't go their way, or how to respond assertively, rather than being aggressive when they are challenged. There might be supports that can be put in place by the school to help, such as extra learning support. Speak to your child's teacher if you are concerned, they might be being picked on and see if you can work collaboratively to address the problem.

Is changing schools going to help?

Once you feel like you understand your child's challenges at school, it's important to ask yourself: "how likely is it that their specific situation is going to be improved by changing schools?" Keep in mind too, the message you may be unintentionally communicating to your child by changing schools - we want to avoid reinforcing avoidance of anxiety-provoking situations that are manageable with the right support.

Also keep in mind that, apart from home, school is the place that children spend the most time. This means that it is likely that sometimes, children's distress at school is influenced by factors that aren't necessarily caused by school. This could include mental health issues that are not specifically related to school or worries about the family's financial situation.

A fresh start

Sometimes, despite everyone's best intentions and efforts, there might come a point where it's time to acknowledge a challenging situation at school is not changing. And a child's mental health and wellbeing is being negatively impacted. If this is the case, a fresh start at a new school may be the best option.

One way to explain it to your child could be to say something like I believe in you. With your teachers, we've tried our best, but this school isn't the best fit for you and now it's time for a fresh start. Leaving one school for another one doesn't represent a failure. Rather, it represents a change in direction based on the available information.

Disclosure statement

Vanessa Cobham: I am the first author of the Fear-Less Triple P program linked to in this article. The online program is freely available to Australian parents. Julie Hodges does not work for, consult, own shares in or receive funding from any company or organisation that would benefit from this article, and has disclosed no relevant affiliations beyond their academic appointment.

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LOOKING AT LOANS



Housing Nightmares

What a year for property headlines!

Rising rents are now the headline, replacing misguided predictions of a property price collapse. There is a property shortage, with not enough houses to accommodate everyone, and the problem is getting worse.

Dozens of applicants are often chasing one property, some offering higher rent or to pay three months' rent in advance to get a home.

Why is there such a problem?

Returning international students have revitalised demand in the inner-cities, and immigration policies have resumed. However, the current budget papers predict that by 2024 there will still be 215,000 fewer migrants in Australia than were expected in the 2019 budget. So, we have fewer migrants than expected, that should be causing a housing surplus!

Part of the reason is the existing populace are demanding more space to themselves. RBA figures show a decrease in average persons living in each property. That means we need more homes just to house the existing population, without accounting for any population growth.

So, what to do?

However, you look at it, we need to build more houses. The Labor government pledge to build 1 million homes in 5 years would certainly help – if they fulfill the promise – but that alone will not fix the problem, we need more than that.

Traditionally investors are a primary source of building new properties. There is a 'normal' demand for about 30% of housing in Australia to be available for rental, that is a balanced market. Investors are a primary funder of new properties, subsequently sold to owner occupiers some years later. So perhaps investors will be the solution?

Increasing taxes on private investors from State and Federal governments adds an interesting dynamic. Unfortunately, some investors are exiting the market due to being targeted. This will decrease new builds and make the shortage worse.

What this means depends on your perspective:

1. For investors, run your numbers carefully. I am seeing some exit the market due to construction industry issues, government tax changes, increased interest rates, rent control threats/discussions.

My advice: Don't jump ship too early! There is now a shortage of investors in the market. In the long run we will always need 30% of properties available for rental. As increased costs and taxes worsen the housing shortage it will result in higher rents and housing prices in the longer term. Owning investment property comes with risks and challenges, however renters need you!

2. For renters, the problems of today are not a short-term phenomenon. The benefits of owning your own home have increased. Higher rents are likely here to stay. Increased government regulation of landlords will cause more problems for renters than it solves (we

(we are already seeing that). If you can buy your own home, you should do so: The short-term sacrifices to move to being a homeowner will be well worth it in the long run.

It is interesting to note commentary from outgoing RBA Governor Philip Lowe on the housing shortage: "The way that this ends up fixing itself, unfortunately, is through higher housing prices and higher rents," says Lowe. "Because as rents go up people decide not to move out of home, or you don't have that home office, you [get] a flatmate."

"The increase in supply can't happen immediately, but higher prices do lead people to economise on housing. That's the price mechanism at work.

We need more people on average to live in each dwelling, and prices do that," he said. That's OK for those who want to stay living with Mum and Dad, Philip. But what about the rest of us?

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Authorised by Mark Dreyfus MP, ALP, 566 Main Street Mordialloc VIC 3195.

MEDICAL MATTERS

Thirty years ago, suicide was a taboo topic. Fortunately, much has been done to raise awareness of suicide. More people are comfortable talking about suicide and reaching out to their family, friends and colleagues to ask - are you ok?



Suicide has a devastating impact on families, friends and whole communities. The following statistics can be confronting, behind every number is a human life. Lifeline believe most suicides are preventable and will continue to advocate, educate and work to keep people safe until they achieve their vision of an Australia free of suicide.

Suicide Statistics

- 8.6 Australians die every day by suicide. That's more than double the road toll (ABS, 2022).
- 75% of those who take their own life are male (ABS, 2022).
- An unknown number of Australians attempt suicide every year, with some estimates suggesting this figure may be over 65,000 (Slade et al, 2009).
- Suicide is the leading cause of death for Australians between the ages of 15 and 44 (AIHW, 2022a).
- The suicide rate in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is twice that of their non-Indigenous counterparts (ABS, 2022).
- People in rural populations are 2 times more likely to take their life by suicide by suicide (AIHW, 2022b).
- LGBTIQ+ community members report having attempted suicide in the past 12 months at a rate 10 times higher than the general Australian population (Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, 2021; Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, 2020).
- Beyond the tragic loss of the person, the impact of a suicide death is felt by up to 135 people, including family members, work colleagues, friends, first responders at the time of death (Ceret et al, 2019).
- Males aged 85 and older experience the highest age-specific rate of suicide (ABS, 2022).
- An estimated 1 in 3 of Australians reported feeling lonely (AIHW, 2021). Lifeline is here to listen.

A person who is thinking about suicide will usually give some clues or suicide signs to those around them that indicate they are distressed.

These are often referred to as suicide warning signs. Suicide prevention starts with recognising these suicide warning signs and taking them seriously. The following is a list of common suicidal signs that someone may give when they are feeling hopeless, helpless, anguished and overwhelmed. It is likely that a suicidal person will display a combination of these signs rather than one single sign.

What are some suicidal warning signs?

Physical changes

- Loss of physical energy
- Loss of interest in personal hygiene or appearance
- Major changes to sleeping patterns, too much or too little
- Loss of interest in sex
- Sudden and extreme changes in eating habits, either loss of appetite or increase in appetite
- Weight gain or loss
- Increase in minor illnesses.

Behaviours

- Unexplained crying
- Emotional outbursts
- Alcohol or drug misuse
- Uncharacteristic risk-taking or recklessness (for example, driving recklessly)
- Fighting and/or breaking the law
- Withdrawal from family and friends
- Quitting activities that were previously important

- Prior suicidal behaviour
- Self-harming
- Putting affairs in order e.g. giving away possessions, especially those that have special significance for the person
- Writing a suicide note or goodbye letters to people
- Preparing to enact their suicide plan e.g. stockpiling medications.

Conversational signs

- Escape: "I can't take this anymore."
- No future: "What's the point? Things are never going to get any better."
- Trapped: "I feel like there's no way out of my situation."
- Guilt: "It's all my fault, I'm to blame."
- Alone: "I'm on my own, no-one cares about me."
- Damaged: "I've been irreparably damaged", "I'll never be the same again."
- Helpless: "Nothing I do makes a bit of difference", "It's beyond my control"
- Threatening to hurt or kill themselves
- Talking about suicide or death
- Planning for suicide.

Feelings

- Despair
- Sadness
- Anger
- Shame
- Guilt
- Worthlessness
- Powerlessness
- Loneliness
- Isolation
- Disconnection
- Hopelessness.



Responding to suicide signs

A person may exhibit one or more of the suicidal warning signs. Some people might also show signs that are not on the list. If you have concerns, it's important that you speak to the person. The important thing to remember about suicide warning signs is that they are often unique to the individual. Not every person will react the same way. The one thing that is typically similar is that they all involve some degree of change: change from what is usual for the person.

Speak up if you are worried.

Talking to a friend or family member about their suicidal thoughts and feelings can be difficult. If you're unsure whether someone is suicidal, the best way to find out is to ask. Ways to start a conversation about suicide. I have been concerned about you lately. I wanted to check in with you because you haven't seemed yourself lately.

Questions you can ask the person.

1. How can I best support you right now?
2. How long have you been feeling this way?

If you don't think you can start the conversation, talk to someone who can help. It can be a family member, friend, or health professional. You can also call a helpline like Lifeline 13 11 14 or Suicide Call Back Service on **1300 659 467** for advice.

Help and Support

There is help and support available providing a range of service; from immediate crisis care to bereavement support for families. If life in danger call Triple Zero 000. Lifeline is Australia's largest suicide prevention service provider. If you are thinking about suicide or experiencing emotional distress, or your worried about someone help is available. Call Lifeline on **13 11 14** for 24/7 Crisis Support. Lifeline also has a range of resources, information and self-help toolkit on their website. They also have an extensive list of contact details for other organisations and healthcare providers. www.lifeline.org.au

Information in this article provided by Lifeline and Suicide Call Back Service. Lifeline is a registered ACNC charity. Donations \$2 and over are tax-deductible in Australia. Suicide Call Back Service is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care.

DOLLARS & SENSE



Financial Success: More Than Just Money

When discussing financial success, many people tend to use the terms "rich" and "wealthy" interchangeably. While being rich is often associated with having a lot of money or material possessions, being wealthy is about having financial abundance that is sustainable over the long term.

Being Rich

Being rich is often associated with having a high net worth, a large income, or significant assets. It's a term used to describe people who have accumulated substantial money or wealth.

However, being rich does not necessarily guarantee financial success. Someone who is rich may have a lot of money, but they may not have the financial stability or security that comes with being wealthy.

Being Wealthy

On the other hand, being wealthy is a more sustainable form of financial success. Wealth is often created through long-term investments, passive income streams, and wise financial planning.

A wealthy person has accumulated enough assets and income-generating investments to provide a steady income stream, allowing them to live comfortably without relying on external factors.

Financial success requires more than just having a lot of money... it is about having financial security AND freedom:

- Financial security means having enough money to cover your basic needs and some comforts.
- Financial freedom is the ability to make choices based on what you truly want rather than being constrained by financial limitations.

The path to financial success requires a good understanding of financial literacy, clearly defined personal values, a long-term perspective, and the ability to establish, and stick to, a strategic plan.

Financial Literacy

Understanding how money works, including managing, investing, and saving it, is critical to achieving financial success. This knowledge will help you make informed decisions about your finances and enable you to take control of your financial future.

Personal Values

Successful people achieving financial freedom often clearly understand what is most important to them. They know,

their values and use them as a guide when making financial decisions.

This approach helps them focus on their priorities and avoid impulsive purchases that jeopardise their long-term financial security.

Long Term Perspective

True financial success and wealth isn't built on the back of "get rich quick" philosophies. There is no "magic pill" for financial success; it's a lifestyle, not an overnight fix. Building wealth takes time. It requires focus, discipline, patience, and long-term commitment.

Strategic Planning

Achieving financial success requires strategies such as creating a budget, investing wisely, and building passive income streams.

Again, these are all strategies that require patience and commitment. It is essential to stay focused on your goals and take the necessary steps to achieve them.

While the above factors each play a critical role in your journey to financial success, the secret ingredient lies in defining what financial success and wealth mean to you personally, as someone else's definition of financial success may look very different to yours.

Some ways to achieve this are to:

- Assess your lifestyle - Consider what your ideal lifestyle looks like; where are you, who are you with, what are you doing?
- Define your values - Figure out what is important to you and define your values based on this. Your values can then provide a framework to make decisions based on what is important.
- Set Financial Goals - Be clear on what you want to achieve in life. You can then define your vision further by setting specific financial goals.

If you are ready to start your journey towards achieving financial success, a financial adviser can help. They will assess your financial situation, identify your goals, and create a long-term financial plan tailored to your individual needs.

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EYES RIGHT

The Importance of Regular Eye Tests for Children by an Optometrist

Introduction

Good vision is a fundamental aspect of a child's development and learning process. The ability to see clearly is vital for academic performance, social interactions, and overall well-being. As children grow, their eyes also undergo significant changes, and any vision problems that go unnoticed can lead to potential complications. This is why it is crucial for children to undergo regular eye tests conducted by qualified optometrists.

Detect Vision Problems Early

Children may not always realise they have vision issues, as they may assume their sight is normal. Since vision problems can develop gradually or may be subtle, early detection is key to prevent potential vision-related challenges from affecting their academic and social performance. As optometrists we are skilled at conducting comprehensive eye exams that can identify various vision issues, including nearsightedness, farsightedness, astigmatism, and eye coordination problems. Detecting these problems early on allows for timely intervention and appropriate management.

Academic Performance and Learning

Clear vision is crucial for optimal learning.

are introduced to various visual tasks such as reading, writing, and using computers or tablets.

If they are struggling with their vision, it can significantly impact their ability to absorb and retain information. Undiagnosed vision problems can lead to difficulties in reading, spelling, and comprehension, which may result in decreased academic performance and a lack of interest in learning.

Regular eye tests by an optometrist help ensure that children can see properly and reach their full potential in the classroom.

Preventing the Progression of Nearsightedness

Modern lifestyles often involve extensive use of digital devices such as smartphones, tablets, and computers. Prolonged screen time can cause the progression of myopia or nearsightedness. An optometrist can identify the progression of nearsightedness and implement interventions to slow its progression. This includes contact lens and spectacle options or even the use of drops.

Eye Health and Disease Detection

Regular eye tests are not only essential for evaluating vision but also for monitoring the overall health of the eyes. Certain eye conditions and diseases may not exhibit noticeable symptoms in their early stages, making them difficult to detect without a professional examination.

Optometrists can spot signs of eye diseases such as glaucoma, cataracts, and

retinal issues, enabling timely treatment and preventing potential vision loss.

Conclusion

The eyes are windows to the world, and children rely heavily on their vision for learning, playing, and exploring their environment.

Regular eye tests by qualified optometrists are critical for detecting and managing vision problems early on, ensuring that children have the best chance at academic success and overall well-being.

By prioritising their eye health, parents can set their children on a path to a bright and successful future, allowing them to experience the world with clarity and confidence.

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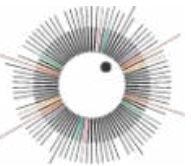
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Stay in touch with what's happening at the former golf course site at Centre Dandenong Road in Dingley Village.

The exhibition period for the redevelopment plans is now complete but you can still see what's being proposed by visiting the project website.

The website will publish the latest information about the planning process, about maintenance, tree and site management. And there are contact details for those with queries.

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Dingley Football Netball Club



I write as the football season approaches the final two games of the year and with our netballers already successfully involved in finals action. The whole club has achieved amazing on-field and on-court success under the most difficult circumstances this year, as the Sports Club complex is being rebuilt. All those who have worked hard to keep the wheels turning have done an amazing job. Suffice to say that we are looking forward to enjoying what will be a state of the art club facility sometime in early 2024.

The football season is far from over with the senior team assured of playing in yet another finals series with two rounds to play as I write. After a dramatic mid-season losing stretch with losses in Rounds ten, eleven and twelve, the Round thirteen clash against Springvale Districts ended in a disappointing draw; disappointing because we looked like winners and led for most of the day. That 'half win' turned our form around however and we were able to get over Mordialloc at Mordialloc by thirteen points the following week. A severely undermanned St Kilda City came visiting in Round fifteen where we recorded our second highest ever score, with key forward Manny Dolan contributing eleven of our thirty three goals for the day.

A hard fought twenty one point win at Chelsea Heights in Round sixteen saw the seniors rise into second position behind Cheltenham who are red hot premiership favourites, having recorded fifteen wins on the trot.

Given an opportunity in future weeks, we look forward to upsetting their plans. Our Reserves still hold hopes of finals participation sitting in sixth position with two games to go but are in need of other results to go their way to sneak into the five. Young Stef Lamble has his Under 19 charges in second place, behind an unbeaten Bentleigh team and are looking forward to again challenging them in September action.

Our Netballers are already into their finals, with our Division One stars holding off East Malvern, 47 to 46 in their first semi-final. The Division Four girls also moved past the first semi with a ten point win. Both sides will be hard to beat in future weeks. Watch this space as the ensuing weeks unfold or get all our results on the club website each week. Sometimes important milestone events can go unnoticed due to timing issues or because of clashing game interests. Club stalwart, Colin Craney recently took the field on a cold Friday night at Chadwick Reserve in charge of our Thirds team in his 250th game for the club. Colin's contribution has been significant over fifteen years at the club as a past President, as a coach, and as

a player at every senior level. Dingley Football Netball Club is what it is, because of the contributions of people like Col. Well done and thanks from us all. Go Dingoos.

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YOUTH CORNER



Dingley Scouts

And that's a successful wrap from our amazing overseas travellers. Kyle is now home from South Korea and oh the wonderful stories he had to tell.



I'm sure everyone heard the news stories of the extreme weather and the threat of a typhoon, but here's the awesome thing about scouting – they get in there, they work together, and they solve issues – the Jamboree continued, albeit in an altered fashion, and the fun continued. So here our 5 travellers now are, at the end of this once in a lifetime trip, with memories and friendships to last a lifetime and plenty of encouragement for the next group of potential travellers.

The group is now gearing up for Cuboree, one of the biggest Cub Scouts events in the world. This state-based event will be held during the September school holidays. A fun event for all involved, it is held every 3 years and this year is at the ever popular Gilwell Park, Gembrook. Our Cubs will be in for 5 days and 4 nights of adventure and fun and for those will some left over energy, there is evening entertainment too. Cubs will camp out with their Leaders and parent helpers and enjoy some good ol' camp cooking.

For more information about Dingley Scout Group contact Vanessa on **0402 489 773** or email dingleyscoutgroup@gmail.com

Joeys 5 – 7yrs	Please contact our Group Leader below.
Cubs 8 – 10yrs	Monday 6:45pm – 8:15pm
Scouts 11 – 14yrs	Thursday 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Venturers 15 – 17yrs	Friday 7:30pm – 9:30pm
Rovers 18 – 26yrs	Monday 7:30pm – 10:00pm

For more information contact Vanessa on **0402 489 773** or email dingleyscoutgroup@gmail.com



WRITERS CORNER



Violins and Ruby Slippers

It hadn't been a particularly eventful day for Nik. He had been standing in his vantage point at the village market, near the rotunda for three hours, playing his shabby violin. Busking was something he did when he wanted a little extra in his pocket. He was a full-time student and on weekends would apply for a permit and busk at the local markets and community events. The instrument had definitely seen better days. It had been his father's and was gifted to Nik on his twenty first birthday. Nik had been taught how to play on it by his father as a child therefore it held a great significance to him.

Nik hadn't been playing a particular set that day, just whatever popped into his head, all off the cuff. This came easily to a musician who could play fluently by ear.

Just as he was readying himself to break for a drink and a bite to eat, he spotted a little girl of approximately three years of age, wearing a Wizard of Oz T-Shirt, with bright purple leggings and finished with a pair of shiny red Mary-Jane shoes. His first reaction was surprise that children that young knew of the film, let alone the fact they enjoyed it enough to wear the shirt. Then he felt joy, remembering how much he had enjoyed the same film as a small child. Sweeping the dark curls from his eyes he once again held his violin in position and promptly began performing Over the Rainbow, keeping his eyes firmly fixed to the little girl as he did so.

He watched as the tiny child stopped in her tracks in instant recognition and turned to face his direction, mouth gaping in awe. Her parents clearly wanted to move on, but the child refused, staying rooted to her spot. Her parents had no option but to allow the tiny person to stay and enjoy the tune.

When she knew she was safe to stay and listen she began singing along, stumbling over some of the words and danced gleefully on her eager young feet, soon having a small crowd smiling and gathering around her.

When the piece finished, she watched as the crowd she had helped to create, dropped coins and notes into Nik's open violin case. She begged her parents for a coin so she too could do the same. They reluctantly obliged her with a five-cent piece.

When she dropped the small coin importantly into the open case, hearing it chime against the rest of the coins already sitting there, Nik insisted on giving her 'change', a crisp five dollar note. It was the least she deserved for drawing the crowd to him. As she walked away beaming from ear to ear, Nik sifted through the case for that lone five cent piece, it was the payment that meant the most to him.

He held it before his eyes, then swiftly slipped it into his pocket. As the tiny patron walked away on the cobbles he played We're Off to See the Wizard. However, by that point she was too far away to hear.

J S 2021

Dingley Village Writers Group

We need you! We are a small group who have been enjoying creative writing experiences and great casual conversation for a few years now. We meet each Wednesday morning at the DV Neighbourhood Centre - when it's not school holidays. Attend when you like and participate whenever you like, there is no cost. We have all improved our writing from learning from each other and if you want a tip or two, we can offer those too. Call **8512 0505** and leave your details. A member of the Writing Group will call or email. No obligations.





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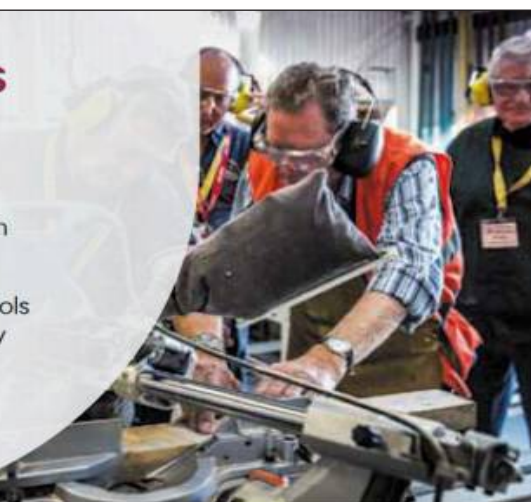
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CHRIST CHURCH 150 YEARS

Christ Church Dingley - Celebrating 150 Years Est 1873

Vision: Rivers of living water will flow from within you.
John 7:38

Christ Church Dingley is turning 150 years old in 2023!

In the 1800s, Mary Attenborough's family moved to Dingley. The Attenborough's called their home "Dingley Grange". Mary was a woman of prayer and started a prayer group in her tin shed. Her vision was to build a church for the community of Dingley. In 1873, her dream was realised and the beautiful Heritage Church we still see standing at the roundabout today, was built. A few years later, Attenborough Hall was completed.

Over the years, Christ Church Dingley (CCD) has grown and developed. In 1974, the buildings were extended and the "new" building - The Peace Worship Hall - was built, with further extensions being opened in 2007. Worship has grown to include a modern style of worship, whilst also maintaining the traditional services in the Heritage Church. CCD is more than its buildings; it is the people of the congregation.

The Toronto Blessing was brought to Christ Church Dingley in the 1990s and many people from all over Melbourne came to be blessed. It was an amazing time! Some Dingley residents may still remember the tennis courts at CCD. Others may remember attending Sunday school at Attenborough Hall. COVID presented challenges to worship, as it did for many, but the people of Christ Church Dingley adapted and continued to worship throughout the global pandemic.

Today, CCD partners with nine organisations to support those in our local, national, and international community. The money we raise through our wonderful op shop and generous donations is shared amongst these organisations as well as supporting CCD and its programs.

Christ Church Dingley celebrates weddings and baptisms, and we support people farewelling their loved ones in their final service in our beautiful Heritage Church. As well as the Sunday services, around 70 people meet regularly in small Connect groups to study the Word of God and to pray. We also have a Youth and Children's Minister and the number of young members joining us for Sunday Worship and Friday night Youth Group is growing. The church still stands at the roundabout with its magnificent stained-glass windows as a light to the community and is open to all who come.

Mary Attenborough started Christ Church Dingley with prayer, and we continue her example today as a praying church. This church is alive and well. We have a rich history and are blessed to have wonderful people both in our congregation and leadership teams with Jesus at the centre. In celebration of this wonderful milestone of 150 years, Christ Church Dingley is opening its doors to the community with a Devonshire Tea Drop-in on Saturday 2nd September, 10am-1pm. On Saturday the 9th of September we will have a day of prayer and fasting, ending in a gathering of the people to pray together.

Our major celebration is on Sunday 24th September, with a 9.30am service followed by lunch. If you would like to join us on Sunday 24th, please RSVP to the office at **9551 7871**, or admin@ccd.org.au by Friday 15th September. No RSVP required for Sat 2nd. We hope you can join us in this wonderful celebration.



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CIRCLING THE CLUBS



Dingley Village Historical Society

The Society is pleased that many local people visit the Society on Farmers Market Day and have an interest in the Society and Dingley's past. We welcome all to visit with us, and membership forms are available.

It is often that our visitors have information to share, regarding the Village, and its past and its present. We are about to publish our book – Dingley – Journey to the Village – thanks to the generosity of the Bendigo Bank."

Please feel free to contact us via email – enquiries@dvhs.com.au or drop by the Society one morning. We are open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. 10 - 12noon and during Dingley Village Farmers Market. 3rd Saturday of the month 8.30am – 1pm. (closed public Hols.)

We can open other days if and as requested, we are at 31A Marcus Rd, near the library. Ph **95514374** (a message can be left) or email, enquiries@dvhs.com.au

Dingley 60 Plus Social Group

Our gatherings adjacent to the Sports Bar of the Dingley International Hotel are being held only on the 2nd Thursday of the month so the next one will be on the 14th of September and the October one is on the 12th. Starting time is 7.00 PM and meals and snacks are available if you want to make a night of it. Of course, you have the usual wide choice of beverages being dispensed for your indulgence.

Our regular dinner on the last Saturday of the month is proving popular with members and the next one will be on the 30th of September. Advice of future activities and venues are made at the Thursday gatherings and to facilitate bookings you can indicate which particular events you wish to attend.

Our activities are suitable for those in the 60 plus age group and provide an opportunity to socialise with your peers. Events can be proposed by members and those interested can get on board. We are more than happy to welcome new members to the Group. Enquiries can be made to Graeme on **9551 3462**. PS – Spring into Spring.

Dingley Village Senior Citizens Club Incorporated

Many of us are looking forward to the forthcoming Spring weather – with all of the associated new leaves and flowers on the trees and shrubs. Our Trivia Days are very much enjoyed by our members, so we thought that we would arrange them more often. We are now having a Social Lunch Outing once a month of a Wednesday.

Club Activities arranged for September are as follows:

- 4th – Bingo followed by afternoon tea.
- 11th – Games and Cards followed by afternoon tea.
- 18th – Bingo followed by afternoon tea.
- 25th – Games and Cards (or even another Trivia Afternoon) followed by afternoon tea.

For more information, contact our Vice President, Joan, on **0421 736 795**.

Country Women's Association Dingley Village



"All women, all ages, all places. grow, connect, improve."

CWA Dingley Branch meets at the Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 10am. If you need any further information about CWA or would like to consider becoming a member, please contact Sue **0434 879 875**.

Probus Club Dingley Central



Our day tour was to Wandin Nth in the beautiful Yarra Valley, to visit the historic homestead of Mont De Lancey. Run by a group of dedicated volunteers, we were shown a video and given an insight into the history of the property established in the 1880's, by a pioneering family the Sebires.

A beautifully restored homestead, a timber slab kitchen, and a modern comprehensive museum were some of the highlights featured on the tour. We then travelled onto Healesville for lunch at the RSL club.

Our guest speaker at the August meeting was Ian Crawford, his subject Crawford Productions and the dramas of early television. The Company was founded by Hector Crawford and his sister Dorothy. Hector first came to notice of the public when he inaugurated the outstanding "Music for The People" concerts at the Melbourne Botanic Gardens. With the Advent of television, the Company went on to produce numerous high quality programs.

Activities planned for September: Happy Hour, MTC, Legs and Morning Coffee, iPad group, Wine Tasting, Camera Club, Morning Melodies, Day Tour, Men's Lunch, Craft Group, and Games Day. Our meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at The Salvation Army Kingston City, 13/12-16 Boulevard, Dingley Village. New members are always welcome. For further information please contact Jean on **0438 272 232**.

Spring Park YWCA Golf Club

A friendly welcoming group of ladies of varying standards meet at 7.45am for an 8.00am start on Monday mornings at Dingley's Spring Park Golf Course. Cup of tea & biscuit is shared after the round.

We play 9 holes & provide an excellent starting point for those who have completed golf lessons & are ready to hit the fairways.

Further information:
Jillian Sanders **0419 501 365** (Captain),
Julie Westcott **0438 269 622** (President),
Jan Boyes **0497 096 377**

Boomerang Bags, Dingley Village



Our aim is to REDUCE waste, REUSE quality shopping bags and RECYCLE fabric. Boomerang Bags Dingley Village is a community group which creates reusable shopping bags from donated recycled fabrics. You can help yourself to one of our FREE bags at the Dingley Village Farmers market or pick one up at the Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre reception.

If you have clean sheets or fabrics you would like to donate, please contact Debbie **0411 058 804** or Helen **0425 862 718**.

Dingley Village Men's Shed



Opening Hours and General Activities:

Day of Week	Open Hours	General Activities
Monday	9:00am - 1:00 pm	Metal Work, Wood Work, Art, Bicycle & Car Maintenance
Tuesday	9:00am - 12:00 pm 1:30pm - 3:30pm	A' Team workgroup & Bike Riding Group Photography
Wednesday	9:00am - 12:00 pm	Bike Riding Group & Music Group
Thursday	9:00am - 12:00 pm 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	A' Team workgroup Pool / Snooker
Friday	9:00am - 1:00pm	Members Muster This is our main day!

Every Friday Morning (except holidays as designated). come along, enjoy a cuppa, a chat & meet with your fellow shedders. We also hold a great Raffle (fundraiser) for members & visitors, and also a Golf Putting Comp. Other Activities from time to time include Golf Days, Special Event Days e.g., Cup Day & Australia Day BBQ's. plus, the occasional outing to places of interest.

The Dingley Village Men's Shed is in Cypress Drive, Braeside Park (near Visitors Centre), Lower Dandenong Road.

Ph. **9551 5892**, E-mail: info@dvms.org.au
www.dvms.org.au

NO EXCUSE FOR ABUSE

Lions Club of Dingley Village



If anybody has any of the following items, they can be left at the Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre. Pre-loved spectacles, sunglasses and hearing aids and used stamps are still needed. Thank you to all who have donated, please keep them coming in.

Our meetings are held on the 4th Monday at 7.00pm at the Dingley Village Neighbourhood Centre, 31B Marcus Road, Dingley Village (Public Holidays excluded). These meetings are informal and friendly.

For any enquiries, please contact Lynne – 9551 3770 /0488 004 809. dingleylions@gmail.com

Rotary Club Noble Park – Dingley



Active Rotarians – making friends and making a difference.

The Rotary Club of Noble Park-Dingley has an active social and project program. Our members love being part of our club and enjoy participating in our activities. Once you get to know us you might like to join us in being part of a network of 1.2 million Rotary volunteers worldwide.

We meet at 6.30pm on the first three Thursdays of each month at Keysborough Golf Club in Hutton Road. Please email info@npdrotaryclub.org.au for more information.

Dingley Cheltenham VIEW Club (Voice Interest Education of Women)



New members are most welcome to join our monthly meetings and learn from our guest speakers and enjoy our monthly social outings. VIEW (Voice Interests, and Education of Women) Clubs support The Smith Family and their Learning for Life Programme which provides education for vulnerable Australian children. Australia has over one million children living below the poverty line.

Dingley Cheltenham VIEW Club are currently sponsoring 7 Children with their education. Women from all walks of life are most welcome to join us please contact Fran Thomas for further information. franniet@gmail.com or 0419 309 931. Meeting: Second Tuesday of the month at 10am. Where: Keysborough Golf Club, 55 Hutton Rd Keysborough, easy parking.

Italian Senior Citizens of Kingston - "La Baracca"

The Italian Senior Citizens of Kingston offer a two course homecooked lunch with coffee and biscuits every Wednesday and Sunday at 12 pm. \$17 for members, \$20 non-members. New members welcome.

All are welcome to socialise, play billiards, bocce and cards and once a month Sunday Bingo. The last Sunday of every month we hold a lunch dance at 12pm offering a three course meal with coffee and a live band. Booking essential Giovanna 0421 045 648.

Keysborough & District Multicultural Senior Citizens Inc.

This over 55s club is located at 352 Cheltenham Road Keysborough and the following activities are available for members and visitors:

Tuesdays – Bingo on the 1st, 2nd and 4th of the month 1pm to 3pm. \$3.00 entry and \$1.50 book. Concerts with professional entertainers on the 3rd Tues of the month 1pm to 3pm. \$3 entry

Wednesdays – Line Dancing 1pm to 3pm \$6 entry

Thursdays – Ballroom dancing lessons 12.30 to 1.00pm and Ballroom dancing from 1.00pm to 3.00pm. \$3 entry

Tea and coffee are supplied for all activities.

Entertainment schedules arranged are 17 October – Brandon Burn & 21 November – Sandi Dodd.

Note: The Club will be closed from 18th September until 1st October for renovations.

Club membership for F/Y 23/24 is \$10.00.

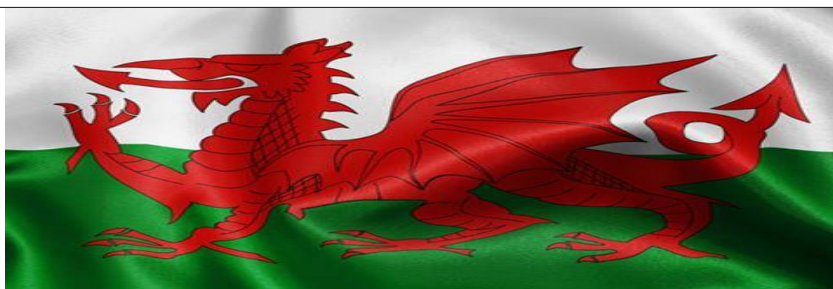
Contact is Julie on 0428 561 694.

Mentone Hub Activity Group

We are a group of seniors who get together every Tuesday to play cards and various other games at the Mentone Hub in 29 Venice St, Mentone. We play Bingo very few weeks (for chocolates as prizes, not sheep stations), also Crazy Whist for similar prizes.

We don't take it too seriously; the point is to enjoy ourselves. We are under the auspices of Kingston U3A, so if you are a member there, you are already paid up.

We start at 10am, BYO lunch, we supply tea, coffee, milk and biscuits and finish at 3pm. If you are registered with the Kingston Council for Home Help or other services, you can arrange to be picked up and brought home, we are happy to welcome new members.



Return CONCERT Australian Welsh Male Choir Sunday 29th October 2023 2:00pm

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Christ Church Dingley Office (03) 9551 7871

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Kingston City Church



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Our Mission: Reach, Restore, Relate, Resource And Release.
Ph: **8551 6600**, Fax: **8551 6690**.

Web: www.kcc.crm.org.au
Email: admin@crm.org.au

Senior Pastor: Dan Parker

Sunday Services: 10am Service has Children's Ministry.

Men's Group at Kingston City Church.

The purpose of this group is to connect with men in our community, to build strong friendships and support each other, whilst developing from being good men to being great men.

Our focus is to mentor men to develop into great sons, husbands and fathers, and be a positive influence in the community. In order to achieve this, we get together every 2 to 3 months and hangout for a chat or social night going ten pin bowling or playing lawn bowls.

We also have events to focus on areas of interest that impact men and our progress in life. Our program is built around encouraging men to develop physically, mentally, spiritually and socially. Our events are driven by this purpose and vision.

We believe in developing good networks and support groups for our men to not only deal with the challenges of life, but to enjoy and cherish the moments in life with a positive attitude.

If you are a man in our local community and looking for a group of like-minded men to hang out with, then please contact us.

You can email us on men@crm.org.au or call us on **8551 6600** and we can keep you updated on our events, so you can join us and check us out. Looking forward to having you join us and make new friends, as we support and empower each other.

Dishan Rajaratnam

Heatherton-Dingley Uniting Church



Cnr. Kingston and Old Dandenong Roads, Heatherton

Sunday services at 10.00 a.m.
Sacrament of Holy Communion second Sunday of the month at 10.00 a.m.

All enquiries phone **0431 244 561**
www.heathertondingleyua.org.au

Our Vision and our Mission

To seek to connect people to God and each other.

Heatherton-Dingley Uniting Church - Meeting U at the Crossroads of Life

What's On:

Second Tuesday Of Each Month

Queer Allies - A Peer Support Group for family and friends of LGBTQIA+ people to share the journey of growing in understanding, acceptance and support. Meets at 7.00 p.m. Questions: Andrea Mayes **0408 65 939** or heathertondingleyunitingchurch@gmail.com.

Wednesdays - Prayer meeting at the church 9.00 - 9.30 a.m. If you have a concern that you would like prayed about ring Margaret on **0401 392 772**.

Know Your Bible

9.30 - 11.00 a.m. An interdenominational study of the Bible for women. For further information contact Jennifer on **0419 115 811**.

Second And Fourth Thursdays Of The Month

Unleash the Music in You - 8.00 p.m. at the Church. For further information contact Bob Lorraine on **0418 998 714**.

First Friday Of Each Month

Indoor Carpet Bowls - 2.00 p.m. in the Church Hall followed by a cuppa.

Third Saturday On Odd Months Of The Year.

Bark And Chat - This is an informal group of dog lovers who bring their dogs along for a chat and short information session on different topics relating to dogs, followed by morning tea. For further information contact Margaret on **0401 392 772**.

Third Saturdays On Even Months Of The Year

A special service for dog owners and lovers to which you can bring your dog. For further information contact Margaret on **0401 392 772** or Rev Deacon Andrea Mayes on **0408 65 93**.

Village Church Inc.



"Inspiring People to Discover and Develop Life in Christ"

Church Office: 7-9 Fiveways Blvd, Keysborough. 3173

Phone number: **8712 8254**

Email: admin@villagechurch.org.au
www.villagechurch.org.au

Our Church offers a range of ministries as follows:

Sundays

10.00 a.m. Worship Service at 7 Fiveways Boulevard, Keysborough and via livestream through <https://www.villagechurch.org.au>. *Kids Church at 7 Fiveways Boulevard, Keysborough - 10.30am for 4-year-olds through to Grade 6. All welcome.

Prayer Time

Weekly - Wednesdays 10-11am at the church. Monthly - This month is Saturday 16th September; 9-10am at the church and Monday 18th September; 7.30-8.30pm via Zoom Only.

Bible Studies

We have different fortnightly groups that run throughout the week.

Monthly Ladies Group

Once a month 2nd Saturday of the month at 1.30pm.

Monthly Men's Group

Once a month on the 4th Sunday of the month at 5pm (BBQ and study)

Young Adults' Life Groups

Fortnightly on Wednesday evenings 7.30pm.

Youth Group

Every Friday night during school term 7pm till 9pm*

*Youth group not held during school holidays. Please contact the office for further details

Marriage & Family Support

For nearly 90 years, Village Church has served the people of Dingley Village and its surrounding suburbs. We greatly value the involvement that we have always had in our community and desire to make a difference for the greater good of all. As a caring church, our heart is to serve the community, by having an impact in and amongst its families. In today's climate, families and marriages are under attack; many relationships are strained and are at breaking point. Many don't know where to turn, who to trust and as a result become despondent and disillusioned with life.

We believe that now more than ever, Village Church can play a pivotal role in strengthening and encouraging families, as we commit to giving our all to help you out. We have many gifted, equipped and willing members who would love to listen, encourage and give sound advice to you. Village Church desires to help and would love to present practical solutions, to any and every area that brings tension, pain and confusion.

Please give us a call on **0481 352 404**, we'd love to be able to encourage, support and strengthen you. Our Church Office is at 7 Fiveways Boulevard, Keysborough. Please feel free to call Helen or Lesley on **8712 8254** with any enquiries you might have and leave a message if the office is unattended.

Our Pastor is Rodney Hole who may be contacted through the Church Office.

Christ Church - Anglican Church Dingley Village



Vision: "From within you shall flow rivers of living waters"

CCD celebrates 150 years in September. Please join us on Sat 2nd from 10am-1pm for a drop-in Devonshire Tea and visit the Heritage Church.

9:30am service and lunch on Sun 24th. Please RSVP to the office by Fri 15th September.

Sunday Services

8.30 AM (Heritage Church) Holy Communion Service. 10.30 AM (Auditorium) Worship Service with Kids' Church.

Connect Groups for Bible Study

For more information, please contact our office.

Youth Group Friday

Drop off 6:30 pm, pick up 9 pm (sign-in essential) Lots of fun and engaging activities for ages 11 to 17 years. Contact our office for details.

2nd Tuesday Monthly Service

2pm Pleasant Tuesday Traditional Holy Communion with favourite hymns in the Heritage Church followed by social afternoon tea. Please contact our office for transport if needed.

Weekly Prayer Meetings

Wednesday 1pm in the Heritage Church
Saturday 8am in the Atrium. Healing, Deliverance & Prayer Ministry available upon request.

Roundabout Op Shop

Supports communities Locally, Nationally, and Internationally. Offering many bargains (good quality clothing, books, bric-a-brac and toys.

Volunteers Welcome!

Opening Hours:

- Wednesday 9.30 am – 4 pm
- Thursday 9.30am – 1.30 pm
- Saturday 9.30am – 1.30 pm

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Parish Office: 03 9551 7871

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Website: www.ccd.org.au

St. Mark's Catholic Church

511 Lower Dandenong Road,
Dingley Village, 3172.

Phone: **9551 6930** or **9547 4877**

Email: Springvale@cam.org.au

Website for further information:

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Office Phone: **(03) 9558 2045**

Facebook.com/KingstonCitySalvos

www.salvationarmy.org.au/kingstonsalvos/

Corps Officers (Ministers): Major Jennifer Cloke and Major Andrea Elkington.

Hours of operation

10:00am – 4:00pm Monday to Friday or by appointment.

Our Mission

The Salvation Army Australia is a Christian movement dedicated to sharing the love of Jesus, by caring for people, creating faith pathways, building healthy communities, & working for justice.

Our Vision

Wherever there is hardship or injustice, Salvos will live, love and fight alongside others to transform Australia, one life at a time, with the love of Jesus.

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THE DINGLEY DOSSIER

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Email: dingleydossier@dvnc.com.au

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