

"BUSHLANDS BANTER"

No 4 - Summer 2017/18



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello all! Here we are, post Annual General Meeting 2017, with a busy time ahead in 2017/18. Our thanks to the Committee of 2016/17 for a very positive year and particularly to those who are not continuing on the Committee this year: Margot Ryan, Fran Joyce, Hannah Nicholas and Tim Purdie. Thank you for your important individual contributions!

Our ongoing aim: To make the Chewton Bushlands Association a positive one that promotes the interests of our residents, permanent and part-time, so that we are constructively working together to better our community and our environment.

Plans: We plan to schedule our usual list of events to align more closely with the financial year to facilitate our reporting and membership year. We also intend to have more general meetings and community gatherings. You will find information below on

- Road issues
- Rubbish disposal
- Fire preparedness and our role in dealing with the complexities of safety for all of us
- The social world of the Bushlands
- Getting with it on the Bushlands' Facebook page
- Our Committee for 2017/18.



Sticky Everlasting

Welcome: To all ongoing members for the 17/18 year. If you have not renewed your membership please do so. If you are not yet a member, please consider joining. Membership is \$10 per person per year - bank details are below and subscription forms are on Chewton Bushlands website (chewtonbushlandsassociation.org.au).

Bushlands Resources: This information brochure provides an annual update on essential Bushlands information including contacts and events. Our many new residents of the last twelve months have made us realise that this document has been very helpful. It will be posted on the website as a pdf document and hard copies are also available from the Secretary.

In our 10th year we look forward to a happy and well represented gathering at the Xmas Party - 16th December.

Ken Savage

ROAD SIGNS

We are always concerned for wildlife, dust, road quality and worry about the few cars that manage to go sideways around corners. So the committee has asked the council for some traffic management advice. The council can provide speed advisory signs (40k/h) but, unlike VicRoads signage, the speed is not enforceable. The committee have identified the four entry points to the Bushlands as possible locations for a sign: Sparks Road, Commissioners Gully Road, Bubbs Lane and Kennedys Lane. **Feedback welcome to Charles Affleck** (0414 802 649), our roads committee person, or **email** contact@chewtonbushlandsassociation.org.au.

RUBBISH MATTERS

The council does not provide a rubbish collection service to Chewton Bushlands residents. Would you find a communal Chewton Bushlands rubbish skip, collected by the council, useful? If this concept is something that you would be interested in, and would like discussed further, please email: contact@chewtonbushlandsassociation.org.au

FIRE SEASON

CFA Chewton Fire preparedness briefing : On the last weekend in November, Chewton Bushlands residents were briefed on fire season preparedness by volunteer CFA Chewton Captain, Jo Willen. Thanks to Bushlander Antoinette Birkenbeil for organising this briefing.

We have now created a separate *Fire Preparedness Season 17/18* document that includes information from the briefing as well as useful resources. Please find this document as a second attachment to the Bushlands Banter 4 email.

Summer 17/18 Community Fireguard: The Bushlands Fireguard is the group of residents who share phone numbers so that they can communicate with each other on fire danger days. A Fireguard notice with advice and an annotated map of Bushlands properties showing road names, Lot numbers, road numbers and driveway entry points will be lodged with the Chewton CFA and posted on our Facebook Page and our website. For circulation to Fireguard members only, the notice will include property owner names and phone numbers. **If you wish to be a member of the Community Fireguard please ring Antoinette on 0414 802 738.**

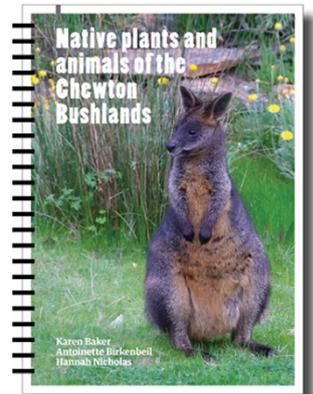
Fire danger days: The Chewton Bushlands Association doesn't offer central co-ordination of information sharing in real-time on fire danger days. The most effective way to access real-time information is through the VicEmergency app. Bushlanders are individually responsible for keeping informed of fire conditions and for their own fire plans.

AND A NEW BOOK FOR THE BUSHLANDS

Native plants and animals of the Chewton Bushlands

Some 18 months ago we successfully applied to Council for a grant of \$3000 to produce a guide to the local native plants and animals of the Chewton Bushlands and the immediate surrounds. And now we are there! *Native Plants and Animals of the Chewton Bushlands* is a free publication for all Bushlands area households.

Hannah Nicholas, Antoinette Birkenbeil and Karen Baker have done the research, writing and compilation with the enormous help of many others, too numerous to mention here.



Have you ever wondered what that bird is? Or that eucalypt? Or that orchid? Well, this little book will help you, and even inspire you, as we have been inspired throughout the process.

The diversity of native plants and animals in our area is amazing! From mammals, frogs, reptiles and birds to creepers, climbers, ferns, herbs, groundcovers, lilies, orchids, grasses, rushes, sedges and trees, all 224 species recorded in these pages have been observed by community members and visitors to the area. And there is a photo or two and a description for every one of them.

KNOW YOUR BUSHLANDS

Did you know that the Bush Sanctuary Road reserve has a name? And quite a beautiful one - *Wallaby Crescent Reserve*.

GATHERINGS

Christmas Party: It's bells and (biodegradable) tinsel time of year again. Come celebrate the festive season in a relaxed bushlands gathering.

Kim and Mark's
38 Miners Hut Road
Saturday 16th December, late afternoon onwards
BYO plate, beverage, and self

Come when you can, go when you must!!!!

And pick up your copy of our new Native Animals and Plants Book

Queries to Mark on 0419 034 567 mcarter@markmaking.com.au

Film nights: We're always looking for content from Bushlanders or people in the area. If you know of any films that may be of interest, please contact Tim Purdie 0407 331 084 or Mark Carter.

DIY Gathering: Feel like organising a gathering? Performing at a local gig? Threading the boards with the Castlemaine Theatre Company?

Promote your events on the Chewton Bushlands Association Facebook page.

CHEWTON BUSHLANDS' FACEBOOK PAGE

Our Facebook page is active! You can see Invitations, the latest environment news (Red-anther Wallaby grass pics), Tim Purdie's indigenous tucker ABC vid, and photogenic Pobblebonks. Send a request to join up. It's fun! Any questions, contact Tim 0407 331 084.

Your COMMITTEE

President: Ken Savage 0411 090 378
Vice President: Kate Elliott 0438 567 573
Secretary: Mark Carter 0419 034 567
Treasurer: Karen Baker 0439 714665
Committee members: Charles Affleck (Roads) 0414 802 649,
Antoinette Birkenbeil (Fireguard) 0414 802 738
Mandy Huppert 0418 498 732

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Account name: Chewton Bushlands
Assoc. Inc
Account no: 143749968

