

# THE FORREST POST

APRIL 2024

FREE  
FMS

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and waters around us, and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We respect their cultural heritage and knowledge here in Forrest where the waters flow over gadubanud and Gulidjan Country.



## The Sweet Life of Andrew Broomfield: A Forrest Beekeeper's Journey



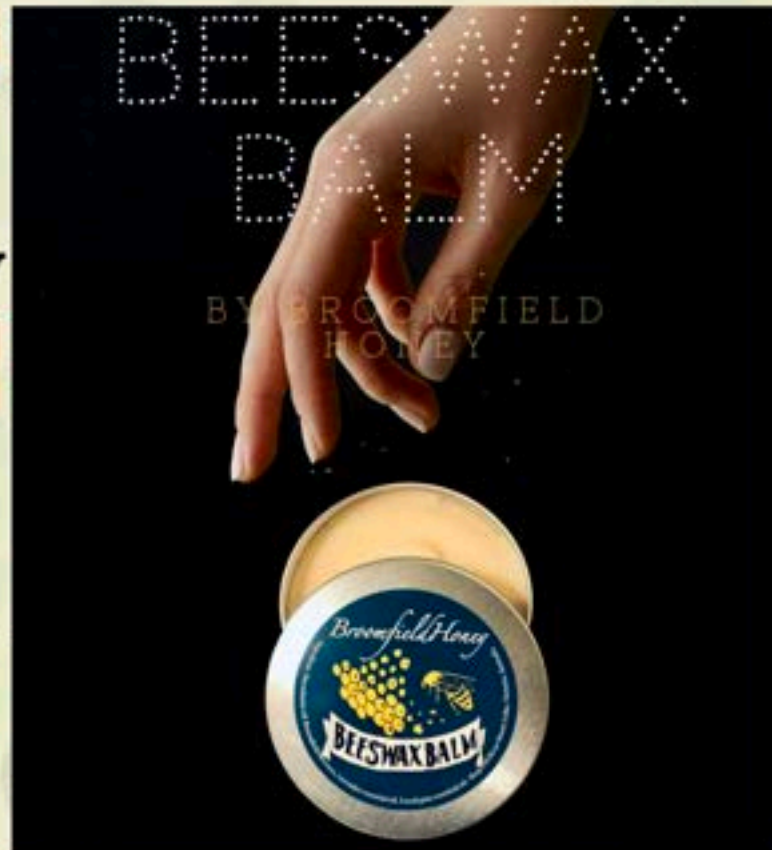
In the heart of Forrest lives a man whose life is intertwined with the gentle hum of bees and the golden glow of honey. Meet Andrew Broomfield, a dedicated beekeeper, whose passion for beekeeping was instilled in him by his father during his formative years growing up in Colac. Today, Andrew and his partner Shizu, as well as his brother and father, continue to carry on the traditional art and science of bee-keeping. They manage around 50 beehives, producing honey from a few selected locations in the Colac Otway area.

Residents of Forrest, Andrew and Shizu live in a house they built with their own hands. The house has earth walls built in the 'cob' style of earth building.

Andrew and Shizu also run a business together as physical therapists at Colac Otway Chinese Medicine Clinic in Colac, which fits in quite well with the beekeeping side of their business. Andrew also has an extensive understanding of the potential health benefits from the products of beekeeping: honey, pollen, beeswax, and propolis. Shizu makes a healing balm for her clients from beeswax. Along with all these incredible health benefits, quite simply, the pure honey also tastes fantastic!

Andrew and his brother embarked on their third harvest for the season in the Cressy area during mid-March, where they collected honey from approximately 50 hives. This is just one of the many harvests Andrew undertakes throughout the beekeeping season, which typically concludes around Easter. Currently, his bees are situated in Cressy due to the abundance of flowering Eucalyptus cladocalyx (sugar gum) trees, which are known for producing premium-quality honey.

Andrew acknowledges that harvesting honey from sugar gum nectar comes with its challenges. The bees tend to be more aggressive when collecting sugar gum nectar, which requires Andrew to exercise caution and composure in managing the hives. Despite enduring countless stings over the years, Andrew's dedication to his craft remains steadfast.



You can purchase honey and beeswax balm at Andrew and Shizu's clinic in Colac at Colac Otway Chinese Medicine.

SCAN ME

For more information on this story and the BroomfieldHoney head to [otwaymanukahoney.com](http://otwaymanukahoney.com) or scan the QR code



Beyond beekeeping, Andrew and Shizu have raised their family here in Forrest. They have two sons who both went to Forrest Primary School, and now one is pursuing engineering at university, while the other is navigating his final year of high school. As a family, they enrich the fabric of Forrest, contributing their skills and compassion to various community endeavours.

Andrew also dedicates his time to the local Men's Shed, fostering camaraderie and skill-sharing among its members.

For Andrew Broomfield, beekeeping is a profound art deeply rooted in family tradition and a respectful connection to nature. As he tends to his hives with care and precision, he continues to uphold the legacy passed down to him by his father who, to this day, is still involved in some of the process.

Laura Shawcross

# Colac Otway Shire News

## Council's Grants Program

Applications are now open for Council's Grants Program 2024 – 25 to assist funding projects and events that benefit the wider community. A total pool of \$311,500\* is available through three funding streams:

- Community Grants
- Events Grants
- Business Grants

\*(subject to budget approval)



Applications are now open and close 5pm on Friday 12 April.

For more information and to apply for a grant, visit Council's website [www.colacotway.vic.gov.au](http://www.colacotway.vic.gov.au) and search 'Grants Program' or contact Council's Grants Officer on 5232 9400.

## Colac Otway Shire Community Awards

The Community Awards celebrate the outstanding achievements and contributions of exemplary individuals and groups in our community. Nominations may be submitted across three categories, Community Service Award, Young Citizen of the Year and Citizen of the Year to recognise the commitment of community-minded residents who have made a significant contribution to the shire. To submit a nomination, visit Council's website [www.colacotway.vic.gov.au](http://www.colacotway.vic.gov.au) (search 'Community Awards'), nominations close 7 April 2024.

## Have Your Say

Council currently has the following draft policy and projects on exhibition with the community invited to provide feedback:

- Draft Flag Policy
- Proposed change to speed limit at Kennett River and Colac CBD
- Notice of intention to discontinue road reserve (corner of Queen Street and Murray Street)

To view the policy, and make a submission,

visit Council's website [www.colacotway.vic.gov.au](http://www.colacotway.vic.gov.au) and click Have Your Say from the homepage.

Colac Service Centre: 2-6 Rae Street, Colac Open: Monday- Friday 8:30am-5pm  
☎ 5232 9400 ✉ [inq@colacotway.vic.gov.au](mailto:inq@colacotway.vic.gov.au) or find us : [www.colacotway.vic.gov.au](http://www.colacotway.vic.gov.au)



## Shakespeare's Insult for the Month

'....So surfeit-swell'd, so old and so profane!'

-Henry VI, Part II

Are there any old local crusties that anyone might apply this to?



Editor: Lydia Waddell Designer: Coco (cocowA\_PICS)

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Every effort is made to remain current, accurate and non-partisan.

Feedback, submissions and advertising are encouraged. Submissions may be edited.

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Contact us at [theforrestpost@gmail.com](mailto:theforrestpost@gmail.com).

# THE LITERALLY BREATH- TAKING BIT



Hit the open road and into the loving embrace of Mother Nature. Hike, climb, crawl (or drive, we won't judge) your way to the top. The view will take your breath away in more ways than one.

Get lost in breathtaking places like Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park.

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## FORREST & DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE APRIL 2024

Open Tues & Wed 8.30am- 3.30pm, Thursday (at the hall) and Friday 8.30- 12.30pm.

Ph: 0352366597 or 0493105502

### REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT THE F&DNH:



**MONDAYS** - office not open to the general public

Craft circle: 10am- 12pm. BYO craft projects. Gold coin donation.

**TUESDAYS** - open 8.30am-3.30pm

Seniors morning tea: First Tuesday of the month, 10.30am-11.30am. FREE

Weeding group: 4th Tuesday of the month 10am-12pm. Contact Susan Langridge for more details 0498 592 364.

Playgroup: 10am-12pm. Gold coin or \$10 per term.

Pantry top up and food boxes: please contact coordinator to arrange or just visit the pantry after top up (from 12pm). Food is available to all in the community

**WEDNESDAYS** - open 8.30am-3.30pm

Forrest voices (singing for fun): 10.30am-11.30am. Gold coin

Yoga: 9.10-10.30am, \$15 per class

Studio Forrest art group: 12-5pm, \$200 per semester. Peer led local artist group.

Book club: 1st Wednesday of the month 7.30pm. Gold coin

Pantry top up: evening after 8pm. Food is available to all in the community.

**THURSDAYS** - coordinator located at the hall

Community lunch: Take away or dine in.

Order the day before, pick up from the hall at 12.30pm on the day. \$6. Return containers each week!

**FRIDAYS** - open 8.30am-12.30pm

Youth space: Friday afternoons during school terms. \*3.30pm-4.45pm for grades 4-6. \*4.15pm-5pm for high school aged. Gold coin each week or \$10 per term. Snacks, games and fun provided.

Pantry top up: (late evening)

**SATURDAYS:** Forrest community gym boot camp: 8am and 9am session- gold coin donation.

Contact coordinator for membership information and to sign up.

#### Coming up:

- School holiday movie at the hall! Thursday 4th April at 11am. \$5 donation pp at the door (cash only) or included for Forrest Flicks subscribers. Fresh made popcorn will be available for \$2!
  - Men's gaming afternoon (Settlers of Catan): Sunday 14th April 1-5pm. Contact Hoya to book a spot 0400180644
  - Intro to wildlife emergency response Sunday 14th April 11am.
- Cost is free but a donation to the rescue fund is greatly appreciated.

#### WE ALSO HAVE:

- Free WiFi - Printing services - Room hire - Community spaces - Reading room
- Forrest & District Historical Society display and library
- Food share - Clothes swap - Treatment/massage room for hire
- Office spaces - Meeting rooms - Computers and more!

## Identity and Empowerment Through Play

Local filmmaking company Of Place Films explores the role of play and expression in developing identity through the new documentary, 'Out in the World'. Directed and edited by Barwon Downs creative, Mitchell Withers, this film delves deep into the life of Amy, a transgender Dungeons and Dragons master. Dungeons and Dragons, or 'D&D', is a choose-your-own-adventure and storytelling board game set in a fantasy-Renaissance period. Amy navigates her journey of self-acceptance while advocating for safe spaces for young people in regional Victoria, through play of D&D. Amy's story is not just about her personal struggles and triumphs; it's a reflection of the broader issues faced by LGBTQI+ individuals, particularly in regional areas like Colac.

Colac was once known as Victoria's most homophobic town, and it sets the stage for a narrative that explores the intersection of identity, community, and mental health. According to statistics from the Victorian government, LGBTQI+ individuals are disproportionately affected by issues such as suicide, family violence, discrimination, and harassment. In regional and rural areas, where resources and support systems may be limited, these challenges are often exacerbated.

Director Mitchell says, "Safety is multifaceted, it encompasses physical safety, emotional, psychological, economic and social safety. For individuals to feel truly safe, they must first be able to express themselves freely and celebrate their unique identity without fear of judgement or persecution." Through Amy's journey, viewers are invited to confront the realities of living in a society where expressing one's true identity can be met with judgement and persecution. Mitchell Withers, the visionary behind the documentary, believes in the power of storytelling to foster empathy and drive social change. By sharing Amy's experiences and the supportive community she finds in D&D meet-ups, the film aims to spark conversations about the need for greater resources and visibility of LGBTQI+ initiatives in regional Victoria.

The recent screening of 'Out in the World' at the Bendigo Queer Film Festival marked a significant milestone for the film and its message. As the longest-running regional queer film festival in Australia, Bendigo Queer Film Festival has provided a platform for 'Out in the World' to reach a diverse audience and ignite dialogue about LGBTQI+ issues. The next scheduled screening is at The Pivotonian in Geelong on Sunday, April 28th, as part of the Geelong Pride Film Festival. This event promises to further amplify the voices of LGBTQI+ individuals and their allies, shedding light on the importance of creating inclusive and supportive communities across regional Victoria.

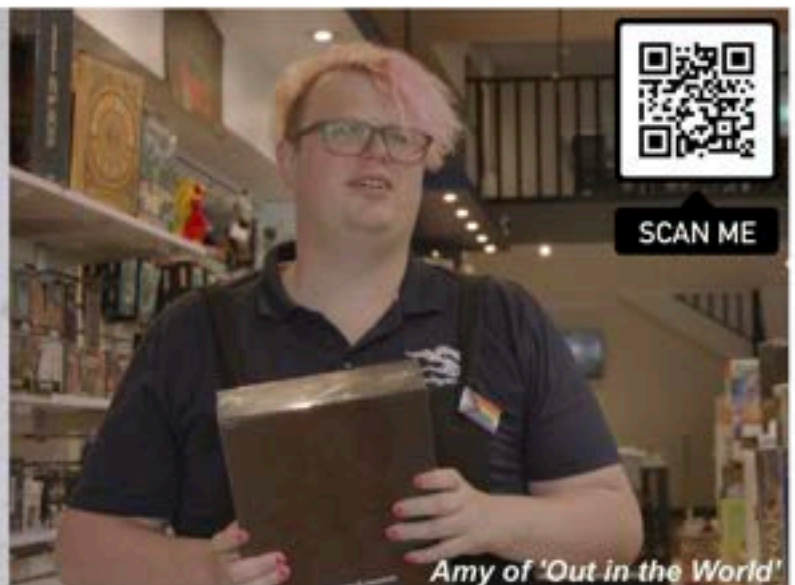
Tickets are available through the Geelong Pride Film Festival Website:

<https://gpff.ferve.tickets> or via the QR code. Through 'Out in the World', Mitchell Withers and the team at Of Place Films invite audiences to not only witness Amy's journey, but also to reflect on their own attitudes towards identity, acceptance, and safety. In a world where diversity should be celebrated and embraced, this documentary serves as a poignant reminder of the work that still needs to be done to ensure that everyone can live authentically and without fear.

*Laura Shawcross*



Mitchell Withers



Amy of 'Out in the World'



SCAN ME

## 'Blow-Ins'

Many years ago, we moved to Williamstown. We attended a public meeting about some proposed development a week later. After listening for a while, my wife Kerry whispered: "I think I have to say something." Just then, someone started, "I have been living here for eight years..." which was as far as he got, before another voice called out, "Sit down, you effing blow-in."

"Perhaps not tonight" I suggested to Kerry.

Having kids was our admission ticket to Williamstown: mum's group, kindergarten, primary school, various sports teams, and the life-saving club. They made our sons into Willy kids and got us upgraded into something between a blow-in and a local.

In 2019 we bought a house in Forrest. Blow-ins again, but the worst kind: weekenders from Melbourne.

Still, the owners of the General, the bike hire, and the Brewery were very welcoming, and seemed to be upgraded blow-ins themselves. A local told me that her grandfather had built our house. This time, the house itself became our ticket into the Forrest community.

The place needed a lot of work, and we used local builders whose grandmother lives in town, and local subbies who went to school with the builders. One had a street with his surname. The bike guy painted the house.

Then we let a friend from Melbourne live in the house while she worked at The General Store, and now she is now one of the owners. She introduced us to the local policeman, the bloke in charge of the firefighters in Barwon Downs, a farmer who supplies firewood, and a bunch of other upgraded blow-ins and locals who serve the town.

I haven't named any of the people in this article because you probably know their names already. Some of them know mine. And now you do, too.

That's been my plan for becoming an upgraded blow-in.

*Rob Cargill*

## Barwon Water Updates



**69%**

West Barwon Reservoir  
as of late March 2024



**61%**

Wurdee Boluc Reservoir  
as of late March 2024



**4ML**

Current minimum daily passing flow at West Barwon

### Water transfers recommence at West Barwon Reservoir

Water is essential for life. Its journey from the environments to our homes in the Barwon region involves long distances and often begins at the West Barwon Reservoir.

It is the largest reservoir in the Barwon Water region and largest water supply source for the greater Geelong region, supplying more than 80% of the region's drinking water demand.

At capacity, the reservoir holds almost 21,500 million litres of water, enough for approximately six months' supply of drinking water.

We are recommencing our annual transfer of water from the West Barwon reservoir to the Wurdee Boluc reservoir from late March to December. Our team of network operators will manage the transfers.

### If we all save a little, we can save a lot

Barwon Water's water security focus extends into the future with the long-term trend to a hotter drier climate, more extreme weather events and a growing population meaning Barwon Water and customers need to continue to think differently about water and where it comes from.

Some simple tips you can do every day to help save water includes:

- Keeping showers to less than 4 minutes
- Turning the tap off when brushing your teeth
- Using half flush on toilets

**Did you know?**

If you hold a valid concession card, you may be eligible for a discount on your water bill. We also offer several payment and customer support options if you are having difficulty paying your water bill.





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Reach local customers and visitors and support your local volunteer run news sheet.

Proceeds go to the Forrest Primary School or the Neighbourhood House for printing costs.

**CONTACT US:**

[theforrestpost@gmail.com](mailto:theforrestpost@gmail.com)  
for rates or more information.

## *A Poignant Film About What it is to Live*

Bill Nighy is at his absolute best in the April Forrest Flicks Film Society movie, *Living*. He stars as a painfully polite and constrained senior bureaucrat in 1953 London, spending his days quietly shuffling folders from one pile to another on his desk while nothing ever gets done. A cancer diagnosis sharpens his mind and we see him seeking out ways to finally 'live'. The results are pathetic and funny as Nighy runs gamely up against walls of British convention, but this is no silly romance. The historically-accurate depiction of stifling, red-brick, post-war London is interesting in itself – the place was so ready for The Rolling Stones some nine years later! *Living* was directed by Oliver Hermanus, with a screenplay by Nobel-prize winning novelist Kazuo Ishiguro. Nighy, the film and the screenplay were nominated for dozens of film awards in 2022-23 and netted Nighy Best Lead Performance and best British/Irish Actor of the Year awards.

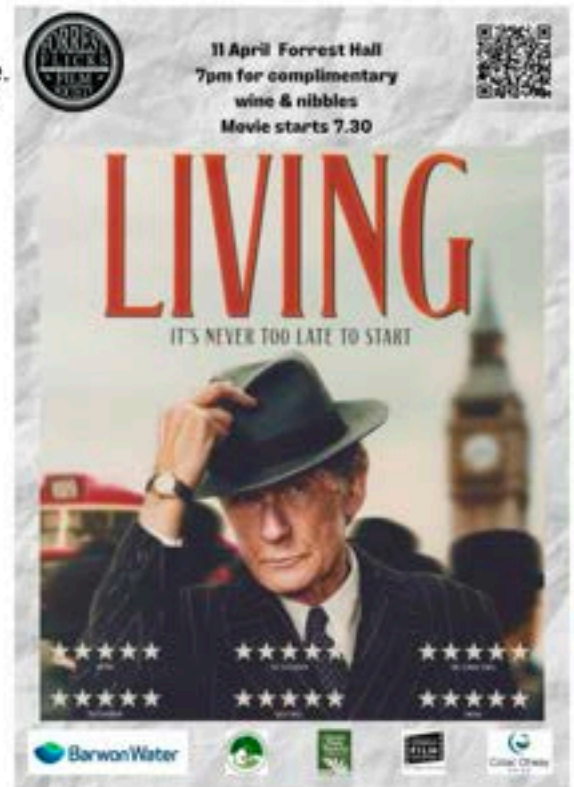
*Living* will screen at the Forrest Hall on Thursday 11 April. Doors open at 7 pm with a free glass of wine, nibbles and cheese. The film starts at 7:30, followed by tea, coffee, biscuits and a chance to chat about the film with neighbours and friends.

Subscriptions can be purchased online using the QR code in the picture or at the door with cash only:

- Any 5 films throughout the year: \$60 – concession \$40
- Any 3 films throughout the year: \$40 – concession \$30

You can also try one film for a donation of \$15/\$12 concession on the night.

*Mary Dracup*



## *Bound by the Paws: New Forrest Feline Confinement Laws*

Since the beginning of time (or the last 130 odd years), cats have roamed freely around Forrest and its surrounds, living harmoniously amongst the locals. But as with many councils and jurisdictions across the country, we've now entered an era where the general public has pushed for stronger laws around when our furry friends can wander the streets. And thus, the Colac Otway Shire Cat Confinement Order was born.

Raised during a council meeting in August last year, the new proposed Order states that all feline critters shall be confined to the boundaries of the Owner's property between sunset and sunrise. This is defined as 6pm to 6am, all year round, and no, it doesn't change in the Winter when the sun never seems to show. As the law states, the confinement must be within:

1. The owner's dwelling or another building on the property; or
2. An escape-proof structure located outside any dwelling or other building on the property.

The Colac Otway Shire has appeared to take a less radical stance on the matter with many councils across the state adopting 24/7 confinement for their felines. The reason behind bringing in such a law is to reduce the issues that stem from wandering cats including public nuisance complaints, wildlife predation, and general wellbeing of the feline itself. The law has been in effect since November last year. While some residents may embrace the change as a necessary compromise for the greater good, others will balk at the idea of confining their beloved companions.

Fortunately we're all living in this beautiful community where others' opinions and beliefs are listened to and respected. Let's just all hope that following the introduction of the law, we still get our fair share of the Otway Panther sightings! If these topics are related in any means...

Further information on the new law can be obtained by contacting the council office.



*Rupert Grout*

# APRIL at COPACC

## School Holidays at



### School Holiday Performance

#### Little Wing Puppets present:

## A Little Bit of Blue



*A Little Bit of Blue* is an interactive detective show for families, told with puppetry. As well as helping to unravel a mystery, the audience will learn about the extraordinary habits of the Australian Satin Bowerbird, and why they are so fascinated by the colour blue.

Monday, 8 April 2024  
 10.30am  
 Ticket \$15, Concession \$14, COPACC 2024 Member \$12



### School Holiday Workshop

#### Little Wing Puppets present:

## Puppetry of Paper



This workshop is based on Bunraku-style puppetry, a traditional Japanese form of theatre which involves multiple puppeteers working closely together to operate one puppet. Participants will start by making a unique puppet out of paper. They will then learn techniques for bringing their puppet to life.

Monday, 8 April 2024  
 11.45am  
 Ticket \$5 with performance ticket (A little bit of Blue)

Tickets at [www.copacc.com.au](http://www.copacc.com.au), at the Box Office and on  
 03 5232 9418 (option #2)



"And I am sure that I never read any memorable news in a newspaper.

If we read of one man robbed, or murdered, or killed by accident, or one house burned, or one vessel wrecked, or one steamboat blown up, or one cow run over on the Western Railroad, or one mad dog killed, or one lot of grasshoppers in the winter, - we need never read of another.

One is enough. If you are acquainted with the principle, what do you care for a myriad of instances and applications?"

Walden, Henry David Thoreau

## Community Batteries

Community Batteries have been a topic of discussion recently amongst some locals. Alongside this, the recent Victorian Government initiative 'Neighbourhood Batteries' has come to light. These are large batteries installed in the community and are much larger than household solar batteries. Typical household solar batteries have a power capacity of about 10 kilowatts (kW), whilst neighbourhood-scale batteries range from 100 kW to 5 megawatts (MW).

Any of those in Forrest and surrounds who have rooftop solar would be well aware that when the sun is shining strongly and your system is running at full capacity, your power generation will likely be in excess of your household needs. Those with household batteries can at least use the generated power to fill their batteries, but at times, your power will still be put to the grid. While some would be aware, many would not know that by mid-to-late afternoon, when your batteries are full and there is plenty of renewable energy in the grid, the payment per kWh for your excess power can often actually be negative. A Neighbourhood Battery is one way of overcoming this. Your output would go to the battery at these times and then be available for reuse later in the evening when the sun has gone down.

BUT (there's always a But), there is a cost. Normally this kind of project would be seriously expensive for participants. However, it happens that the Victorian Government has a recent Statewide program for installing community batteries. Neighbourhood Batteries enable the network to support more rooftop solar by storing solar-generated electricity during the day, and discharging it during the evenings when demand is highest. This enables consumers to generate and consume more renewable energy locally, better supporting the Government's greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy targets.

Specifically, there are Grants available for Stream 1 –Business Case

- Up to \$200,000 for business case development and related works for neighbourhood batteries located behind or in front of the meter. Stream 2 – Neighbourhood Battery Implementation
- Up to \$750,000 for implementation.

In order to go to a stage where an initial decision can even be made regarding feasibility in the Forrest context, the level of community interest has to be clarified. A neighbourhood battery may meet community objectives,

but alternatives may be cheaper, easier or more efficient. So, the following has to be clarified first:

- What problems is the community as a whole needing to solve?
- The resources and skills at our disposal
- The process of developing a 'Forrest' Neighbourhood Battery business case before launching a project.

A Preliminary Register of Interest has been developed (available at the General Store) so that anyone wishing to take part can register their details. Once numbers and details are clarified, it is envisaged that a Community Meeting will be held, where a Steering Group will be formed.

For more direct information, those interested can go initially to <https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/renewable-energy/batteries-energy-storage-projects/neighbourhood-batteries>.

The Age newspaper of 13/3/04 also has an up to date outline of some recent local projects.

Mike Juleff

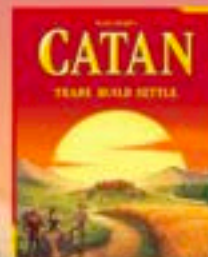
SCAN ME



## Mens Gaming Afternoon

Forrest Neighbourhood House  
1-5pm Sunday 14 April

Join us for Settlers of Catan  
an exciting and interactive board game  
for 3-6 players



Places are limited

For bookings contact

Renee (03) 52 366 597 [forrest.nh@gmail.com](mailto:forrest.nh@gmail.com)  
or message Hoya 0400 180 644

Aged 16+



## The Forrest Demography

The latest census results were recorded in 2021 and released in parts from mid-to-late 2022.

The data is used by a variety of organisations to help with designing public policies, fueling market research... and understanding our own town demographics.

Forrest is a town of 257 people with a median age of 52 and an average of 2.1 people in each household. Almost half the town is made up of childless couples, and another quarter of the town is made up of single-person households.



Fifty of the 165 homes in town were unoccupied at the time of census (presumably showing that Forrest caters to a lot of city-goers with 'weekender' properties. 31 of these homes are currently listed on Airbnb). About 80% of the town owns their own houses, and those who still pay a mortgage were paying around \$1509/month. Those who were renting were paying \$290/week, although valueourhouse.com.au suggests that it's gone up by \$100/week.

Of the adults in town, there are 67 who are married, 82 people never married and 28 in de-facto relationships. Half of the town has done some form of higher education, with 25.7% having gone to university.

Thirty percent of Forrest people were born outside of Australia in places such as England, and almost half the population has at least 1 parent born outside Australia.

Half of Forrest is in the labour force, the majority of whom work on a part-time basis; and one third are also volunteers. Forrest's labour force are mostly professionals, managers, labourers and community service workers.

We are a diverse town of hospital workers, dairy farmers, scientific researchers, allied health service workers, and beer manufacturers (hello Brewery!).

*Lydia Waddell*

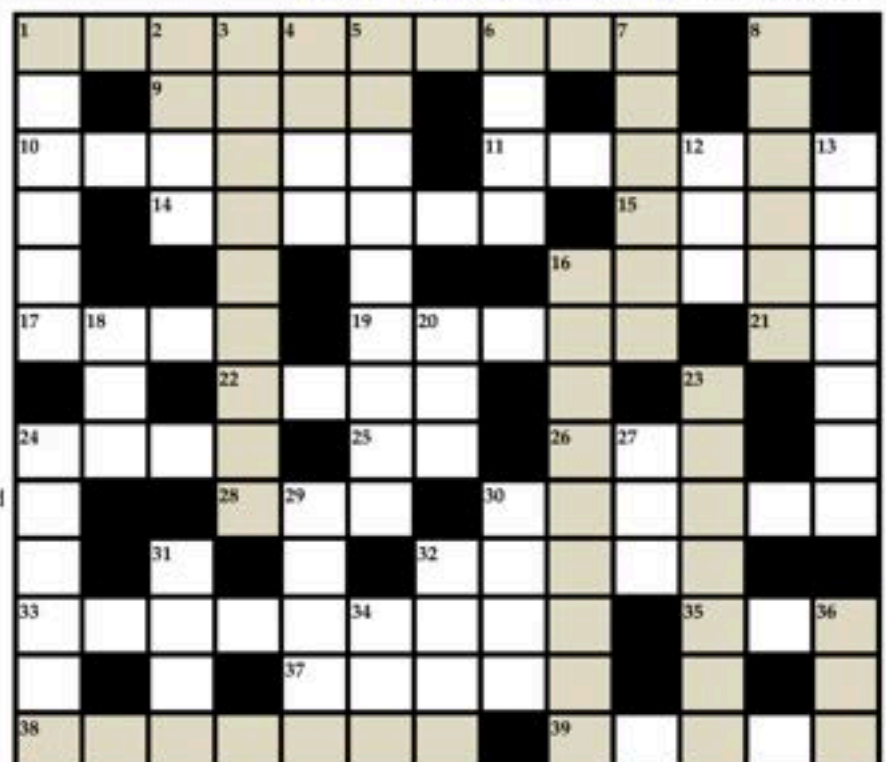
### ACROSS

- 1 Locality on the way to Skenes Creek
- 9 Otways river
- 10 Compelled
- 11 Musical instrument
- 14 Lethal
- 15 Relax
- 16 Small sailing warship
- 17 Viewed
- 19 Bean used to make chocolate
- 21 Darwin is its capital
- 22 Expression of surprise
- 24 Male bovine
- 25 Negative response
- 26 Pass away
- 28 Allow
- 30 Decipher
- 32 Dismissed from a job
- 33 See 1 down
- 35 Recede
- 37 Game of chance
- 38 Restaurant within the Forrest guest-house (3,4)
- 39 Deprived

### DOWN

- 1 & 33 ac Fun Aust. name for mens' bathers
- 2 Surprise attack
- 3 Lane off Grant St.
- 4 District
- 5 Beggar
- 6 Maritime force
- 7 & 36 dn Otways coastal town
- 8 Forrest street name
- 12 Language of Laos
- 13 Roman god of the sea
- 16 Lane off Grant St.
- 18 See --- later
- 20 Fuss
- 23 Locality on the Colac Rd
- 24 Unfairly prejudiced
- 27 Frozen water
- 29 Bird
- 30 Soil
- 31 Sound made by a contented cat
- 32 Salty Greek cheese
- 34 A great deal
- 36 See 7 down

## A Forrest Crossword by Greg Ware



Notification of Road Closures - Saturday 27 April 2024



The **Great Ocean & Otway Classic Ride** will be held on Saturday 27 April. Road closures will be implemented along sections of the course to provide the safest possible environment for road users.

Period of closure	Road section closed
5.00am – 9.30am	Torquay (Event Start Line), The Esplanade, from Beach Rd to Gilbert St
9.30am – 5.30pm	Torquay (Event Finish Line), The Esplanade, from Zeally Bay Rd to Gilbert St
7.30am – 10.00am	Section 2: Hendy Main Rd to Cape Otway Rd Moriac
8.00am – 10.30am	Section 3: Cape Otway Rd Moriac at Church Rd to Winchelsea-Deans Marsh Rd
8.30am – 11.00am	Section 4: Cape Otway Rd from Winchelsea-Deans Marsh Rd to Birregurra-Deans Marsh Rd
8.30am – 12.15pm	Section 5: Birregurra-Deans Marsh Rd to Deans Marsh
9.00am – 1.00pm	Section 6: Deans Marsh-Lorne Rd to Neade St Lorne <i>Note: access will be available to Pennyroyal Valley Rd from Deans Marsh General Store</i>

Please also note the following:

- Section 1: please avoid the Anglesea Rd from the Bellbrae roundabout to Hendy Main Rd from 7am - 9.15am, to minimise delays
- Section 7: Great Ocean Road from Skenes Creek to Torquay will be open in both directions
- A small number of riders (approx. 450) will leave Torquay at 6.30am. These riders will be participating in an extended ride that follows the event course through Moriac before heading to Forrest and Skenes Creek, and then back to Torquay via the Great Ocean Road. There will be no road closures in place for these early starters.

The majority of residents on the course will still be able to leave and return to their property during the event. The exception to this will be residents on the Deans Marsh-Lorne Rd between Deans Marsh and Neade St Lorne. For safety reasons, local access for these residents will not be possible during the road closure period from 9am to 1pm.

If you have any other queries about the event, please call the Event Director during business hours and on event day on: 0456 479 606.

Road Closure Map

**Great Ocean & Otway Classic Ride Course**

- Stoken Course
- Leggin Course
- Stapen Course
- Road Closures
- Open to traffic

**Sections 2 - 6 Road Closures**

**Sections 1 & 7 Open to traffic**

For more information:  
[www.greatoceanotwayclassicride.com.au](http://www.greatoceanotwayclassicride.com.au) or 0456 479 606

No other road closures will occur throughout the course however please be aware that there are a number of speed restrictions and other traffic measures in place to ensure a safe event. Apologies for any inconvenience that these delays may present.

Crossword Solutions

B	A	R	R	A	M	U	N	G	A		F
U		A	I	R	E		A	P		R	
D	R	I	V	E	N		V	I	O	L	I
G		D	E	A	D	L	Y		L	A	Z
I		N		I			S	L	O	O	P
E	Y	E	D		C	A	C	A	O		N
	O		E	G	A	D		N		Y	U
B	U	L	L		N	O		D	I	E	N
I			L	E	T			D	E	C	O
A		P	A			F	I	R	E	D	
S	M	U	G	G	L	E	R	S		E	B
E		R		L	O	T	T	O		N	A
D	A	R	T	E	T	A			N	E	E

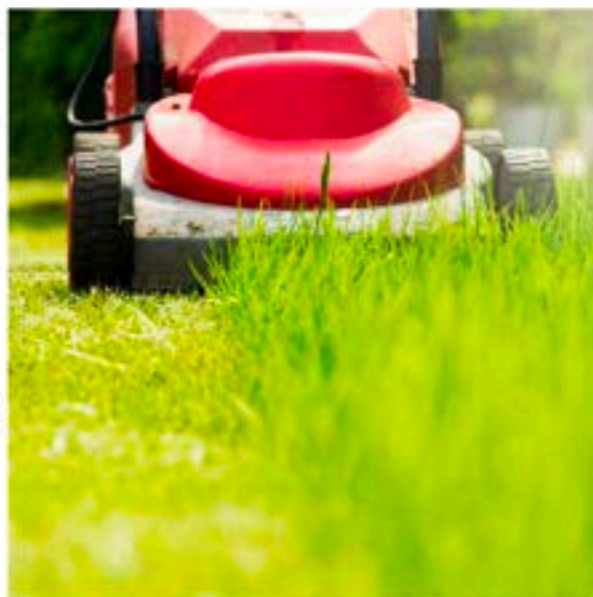
## Jock's Jobs: Turning Grass into Lawn Since 2022

For Jock Roberts (12), a love of motors and lawn maintenance started at a young age. With the internet at his fingertips, Jock discovered prominent Canadian YouTuber, Diesel Creek. "He takes old, broken tractors and cars and fixes them up. I started watching when I was 6."

Nowadays Jock's backyard is a burial ground for forgotten motors waiting for their chance at redemption. "I get given broken lawnmowers. I fix them up and sell them. I want to be a mechanical engineer and design motors when I'm older."

For now, though, Jock is keeping the neighbourhoods of Forrest tidy and tamed. "I offer a range of services, mowing, log splitting, stacking and basic motor repairs. My favourite grass is Buffalo, cutting that is so satisfying. I recommend it for anyone laying lawn in the Otways." A strict professional of the highest ethical standards, Jock refused to deal any dirt on problematic local clients or trying business negotiations. "I'm open for business any time, please call or text on 0431 566 532."

*Mitchell Withers*



## The Phytophthora Workshop

On the first weekend in March around twenty people gathered at the Forrest Hall to learn about Phytophthora Cinnamomi - a water mould that causes dieback in certain plant species. The mould most notably affects the stunning grass tree (Xanthorrhoea Australis) in our region. The workshop was hosted by the Gerangamete Forrest Landcare Group and run by the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA).



As part of the Wild Otways initiative, the CCMA was funded to undertake a project on small mammals, particularly those protected under the Environment and Biodiversity Act. Small mammals are particularly susceptible to habitat loss due to Phytophthora and dieback of grass trees, which provide crucial nesting sites and shelter in parts of the Otways. Phytophthora has the second highest negative effect on threatened species, after rabbits, which is an alarming statistic.



SCAN ME

In Western Australia the mould harms Jarrah trees, and so significant research has been undertaken to protect this part of the timber industry and protect state forest.

Phytophthora mostly affects grass trees in the Otways region, but can also affect other plants, including citrus and garden plants, such as azaleas or crops, such as avocados.

This makes it important to not only prevent the mould from spreading within the Otway forests, but also into private property in the area.

The workshop covered simple steps to take to prevent the spread of the mould, such as using the bike washes installed at the Southern and Yaugher trailheads for bikes and walkers.

The key idea is to 'arrive clean and leave clean' to prevent moving any soil from one area to another.

A short video is available at:

<https://youtu.be/3OZI62nXeel> and

more information can be found on the CCMA website.

*Freya Bennett*



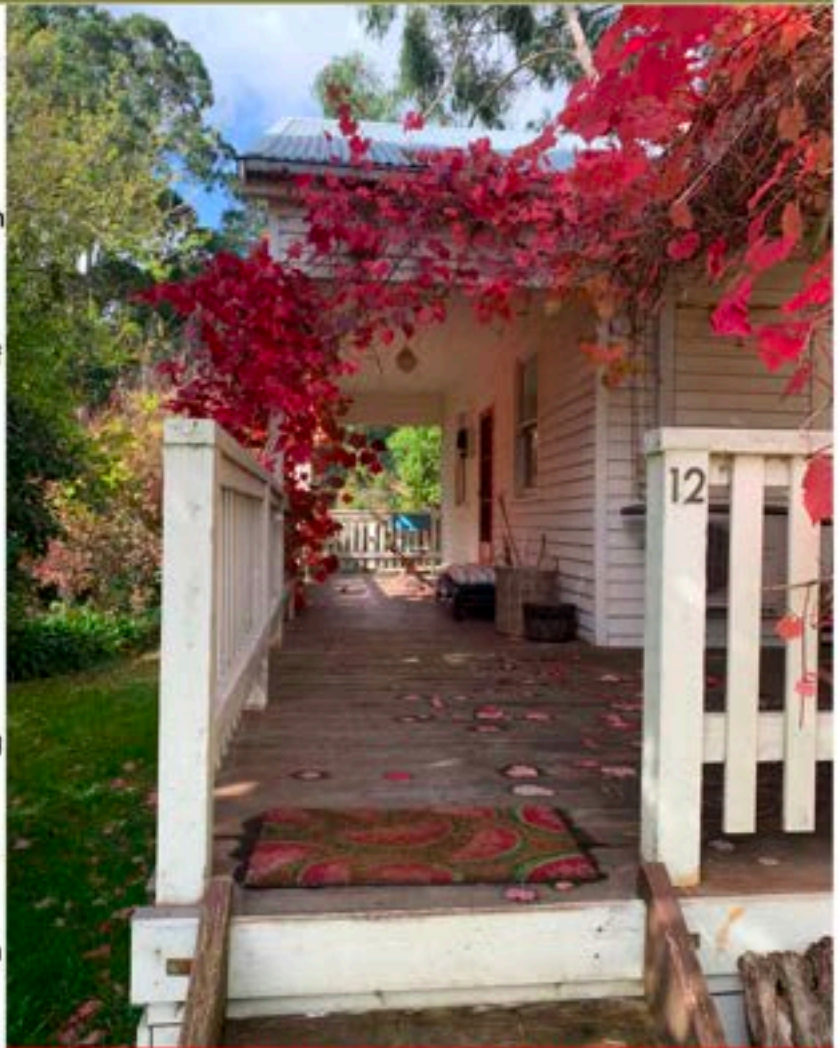
## Changing of the Seasons

It's that time of year where we're picking the last of the wild blackberries and harvesting just a couple more zucchinis (that'll probably end up in the compost because now we're all sick of them!). School's back, the Odyssey is behind us and Autumn has arrived in Forrest. This year is proving to be a much drier time than last, which is great for water cartage contractors. And on the bright side for others, it means more time to get those last loads of firewood under cover!

As April rolls around we enter the Eastern Maar's Gwangal Moronn, or 'Honeybee' Season, from late March to May; when morning mists cover the land and all sorts of fungi appear with the rains, as the ground is still warm. River red gums, manna gums and candlebarks are flowering, along with some heaths and grevilleas; and while the greenhood orchids are showing their first rosettes. Flocking birds arrive at the tree tops feeding on the emerging wattle goat moths and other critters. The Eastern Grey Kangaroos and Wallabies keep busy with the new growth, battening down the hatches before the winter kicks in.

Enjoy the emerging colour in the deciduous trees on Grant Street and make the most of the sunny days and the cooler nights. Won't be long now until we're dusting off the gumboots in preparation for the wet!

*Rupert Grout*



**Forrest accommodation, 'The Riders Palace'**

## Have Your Say

### **Ingredients:**

- Ginger and honey simple syrup
- Forrest General Store cider
- Great Ocean Road gin
- Lemon
- Rosemary

### **Ginger and honey simple syrup:**

1/2 cup honey  
1 cup sugar  
1.5 cups water  
100g ginger (peeled and cut into cubes)  
Chop ginger into 2cm cubes.  
Put all ingredients in a saucepan and simmer for 15 minutes.  
Take off the heat and let sit until cool. Blend and strain (strain without blending for a weaker ginger flavour).

### **Cocktail:**

Fill chilled glass with ice. Add 1 shot of gin, 3 shots cider, 1 shot simple syrup and a squeeze of lemon.  
Stir and garnish with a sprig of fresh rosemary.

### **Options:**

Top with soda for a more sessionable beverage. Adjust simple syrup for your preferred sweetness.

### **'Autumn in Forrest' Cocktail Recipe by Rachel King**



Have you got a photo, a favourite recipe, an artwork, a poem, a skill or some thoughts you'd like to share with the community? Submit your ideas (text 300 words or under) titled 'Attn:Lydia/Have Your Say' to [theforrestpost@gmail.com](mailto:theforrestpost@gmail.com).



# Drug driving? The consequences will blow your mind.

Police are conducting drug tests across Victoria, which helps to keep our roads safe. Being caught with illicit drugs in your system could result in a minimum fine of \$577 and possible licence suspension. Drug driving? Chances are you will be caught. Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.

**TAC** **VICTORIA**  
The Government of Victoria





## Overheard in Forrest

Welcome to the latest segment of 'Overheard in Forrest', a new addition to The Forrest Post. Intended to put a smile on your face, featuring funny conversations and comments overheard in our wanderings about town.

Visitor: "I grew up in New York, what's it like living in a small town?"

Local: "It's like being stuck in a group chat you never asked to be a part of"

Woman: "Could you please stop smiling at me?"

Man: "I'm smiling at your dog; I would never smile at a human"

Friend 1: "I had the best day today. I poured some wine into my flask drink bottle & went down to the park to read. I ended up having a three-hour nap in the sunshine - it was bliss".

Friend 2: "Sounds like you got drunk at the park and passed out."

Yours sincerely,

The Forrest Fink

If you've overheard something in Forrest that made you giggle, please feel free to contribute to this section. Email [theforrestpost@gmail.com](mailto:theforrestpost@gmail.com) titled 'Attn: Forrest Fink'. Disclaimer: All submissions will be anonymous under the alias of 'The Forrest Fink'. All accusations in this segment are most likely incorrect & are intended as a bit of a laugh.

EASTER SCHOOL HOLIDAY

# FAMILY MOVIE AT THE HALL!



**\$5 PP DONATION AT THE DOOR OR FREE TO FORREST FLICKS SUBSCRIBERS**

**CASH ONLY - POPCORN, WATER & FRUIT \$2**

**THURSDAY 4TH APRIL 11AM**



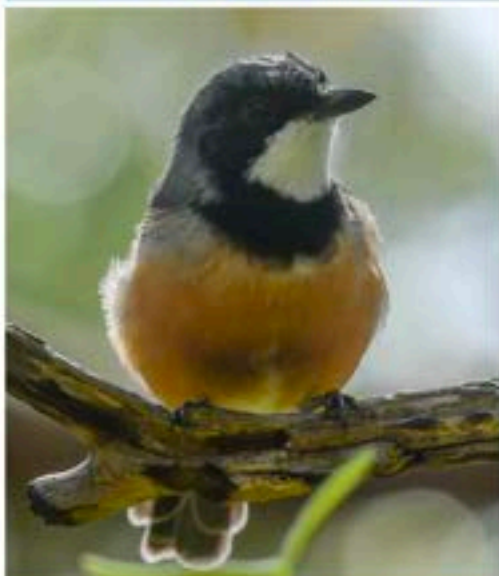
**PADDINGTON 2**

THIS MOVIE IS PRESENTED BY FORREST FLICKS FILM SOCIETY AND THE FORREST & DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

## BIRDS OF FORREST



SPONSORED BY **BarwonWater**



### The Rufous Whistler

The Rufous Whistler is one of our more common and accomplished Whistler birds, being found all over Australia except for Tasmania. They are a medium-sized Whistler, roughly the same size as its more colourful cousin, the Golden Whistler. It inhabits most Eucalypt forests, heaths and woodlands; avoiding the wetter rainforests. In the springtime that is before the breeding season, their almost-continuous calls of 'ee-chong' and 'joey-joe' ring out through the bush.

They are quite common in our district, and can be found right throughout our areas except for the wetter rainforest areas on top of the ridge.

Their nest consists of a bowl of twigs lined with spider webs, grass and rootlets that are placed in a tree fork or dense scrub up to 10m above the ground. They lay 2-3 eggs that are light olive-green in colour and covered with dark brown blotches. Their food consists of insects, spiders and berries. They are a rather common but delightful bird to have around.

*Ian Davies and Adam Fry*