

Monty Matters

**FEBRUARY
2018**

Next Food Swap,

**4th February, from 10:30am
to 11:30am
in Were St**

TOMATO TASTE OFF



Steering Group

Convenor:

Katherine Barling

Co-convenor:

Claire Holm

Treasurer: Ross Woodham

Secretary:

Alan Cuthbertson

Minute Taker:

Margaret O'Dowd

Editor:

Alan Cuthbertson

Ordinary members:

Jennifer Helmich

Pam Rowley

Vicki Jordan

Julie French

NEXT Meeting:

Wed 7th March

For info, contact:

email:

montymoves@gmail.com

Mob:

Katherine - 0413 941 170

Website:

www.transitionmonty.org

FaceBook:

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/MontmorencyCommunityGroup)

[MontmorencyCommunityGroup](http://www.facebook.com/MontmorencyCommunityGroup)

Araluen Power Generation

| | January | Since Installation |
|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Power generated | 3.6 Mwh | 20 Mwh |
| CO2 avoided | 1.3 tonne | 7.7 tonne |
| Savings | \$850 | \$5,000 |

What's on

- **Sun 18th Feb**—Electric Vehicle Exhibition (Pg 7)
- **Sat 3rd Mar**—Nest Box Workshop (Pg 4)
- **Sun 4th Mar**—Food Swap and Tomato TasteOFF (Pg 5)
- **4th 5th May**—Transition to a safe Climate—Transition Banyule—(pg 6)



Tomato Taste Off—Sun 4th March. See pg 5

Profile—MAUREEN JONES

Maureen Jones is our history consultant for Monty Community Group's project , Walks through Montmorency.

Local resident, Maureen is a social worker, historian and author who has written five books. We know her as the author of the wonderful book "Montmorency- the Farm on the Plenty". She has also collaborated with her husband in producing a family history "Weaving the Threads".

Maureen has had a long association with Monty, first coming to live here in 1963. She and her family have maintained their connections with Monty ever since. Although Maureen and husband Adrian lived in country Victoria for 20 years, they returned to the same house 11 years ago. Maureen appreciates having the large outdoor spaces around her and the treed landscapes of Montmorency.



Maureen Jones has a Social Work degree from Latrobe University and in her writing has combined her interest in social issues with her passion for biography and local history. She is particularly interested in uncovering women's stories and the role women played in early Victorian and Tasmanian history. In writing her books she has developed skills in researching primary resources such as early land documents, wills and diaries as well as consulting to the full the various online resources for family and local history.

Did you enjoy the 2017 August Montmorency BUSHDANCE?

A group of local enthusiasts are meeting on Wednesday March 14th at 7.30pm, to make recommendations for the next BUSHDANCE, to be held later in 2018. Come along and have your say : 41 Philip Street, Lower Plenty, or call Jennifer on 94398007.

Australia Day Awards

5 members of the Local transition Groups received awards at the recent Australia Day Awards ceremony in Eltham. We join in congratulating them.

Peter Gurney - For his work with the CFA, including fighting in the 2009 Black Saturday fires and his deep commitment to safeguard the environment of the Green Wedge Shire

Robert Stringer—For providing support to members of the community with mental health issues and disabilities a chairperson for the Committee of Management for Hope Springs as well as volunteering in the Drop in Program

Robin & Paul Gale-Baker—for their dedication to creating a sustainable community through the McLeod Veggie Swap, Macleod Organics Community Garden and Sustainable Macleod.

Alan Cuthbertson—For his commitment to the scouting movement and support for the Montmorency Community Group



Franciscus Henri's contribution



NESTBOX MAKING WORKSHOP

SAT MARCH 3rd 2018

10am to 12 noon

Pecks Dam Reserve, Melways 21 E7

**Take home a nest box to provide a home for native wildlife in
your garden**

FREE, BUT BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL

Ring Pam on 94391853

All instructions, tools and materials provided by

Banyule City Council and Latrobe Uni Indigenous Nursery

Would you like to help by constructing your own nesting box for wild-life? You can learn how to make one and take it home to install in your garden - or if you don't have a suitable location, you can donate your box to be installed in a public reserve.

Free, but bookings essential. All materials, instructions and tools provided by Banyule City Council and Latrobe Indigenous Nursery

No experience necessary- even I managed to make a box for a bat last year and it is now installed in my gum tree

Organised by Friends of Montmorency Bushlands

THE GREAT TOMATO TASTE OFF

Montmorency's annual tomato taste off is on again!

The GREAT TOMATO TASTE OFF is being held in Were Street (next to the Were Street Food Store) Montmorency from 10.30 to 11.30 am on Sunday 4 March.

Local growers are invited to bring along their favourite varieties and put them to the taste test. Growers and non-growers are invited to taste and compare and then cast your vote for your

favourite variety for the People's Award. Besides the glory, the winner will receive a small prize

Come along and taste this year's harvest and be surprised by the variety of tastes, texture and

colours of this summer staple. Who knows – you may discover a new personal favourite!

Enquiries: Vicki 0418 539 714



Mayona Rd Reserve Spared

Following strong representation from the Monty Community Group and other community members, the Banyule council has rejected an application for a mobile Phone tower in Mayona Rd Reserve.

This reserve was identified as a significant part of the Wildlife Corridor through Montmorency and we regularly find sugar gliders resident in the nesting boxes that we have installed.



The train line reserve has been identified as a significant corridor for native animals moving between the Plenty River and the Diamond Creek.

Transition to a Safe Climate: creating a new story for Banyule

a community conference * **Fri 4 & Sat 5 May** * Macleod College

Friday 4 May 7pm:

Ian Dunlop on Emergency action in the face of Climate Change

Think Global: a leading climate expert and former senior executive in the international oil, gas and coal industry will set the scene.



Saturday 5 May 9am - 5.30pm:

Act Local: like to do something concrete with others to tackle climate change? A full day workshop to develop big ideas for community projects in Banyule.

Parents: we encourage you to attend - art program for school-age children and child care for under school age children – limited places, book early.

**Bookings essential at <https://www.trybooking.com/TYIN>
Full conference \$25, or Fri \$15 per person.**

Enquiries: info@transitionbanyule.org.au or Mary on 0431 026 723

Sponsored/organised by:



Supported by a Banyule City Council Environmental Sustainability Grant



Don't miss the Electric Vehicle Expo on February 18

See a range of electric cars, electric bikes and other vehicles at the [Electric Vehicle Expo 2018](#) in Melbourne on Sunday, February 18.

The largest event of its kind in Australia, you'll be able to see [EV displays](#) as well as speak to owners who have converted their petrol cars to electric, hear [tech talks](#) from experts, have a [test drive](#), watch the colourful [Show N Shine](#) competition and enjoy entertainment in a family-friendly environment.

One of the highlights of the EV Expo's [lecture series](#) will be Eva Hakansson, the world's fastest woman on a motorcycle and a passionate advocate for electric vehicles, who will speak about her record-breaking electric motorcycle KillaJoule.

Melbourne University's Bryce Gatton will also give a presentation on what electric cars are on the market and what you should look for when buying one.

Go to the Electric Vehicle Expo website to find out more: www.evexpo.org.au

The Expo is organised by the Alternative Technology Association's (ATA) Melbourne Electric Vehicle Branch.

Electric Vehicle Expo Melbourne 2018

When: Sunday, February 18

Time: 9am-4.30pm

Where: Melbourne International Karting Complex, Todd Road and Cook Street, Port Melbourne.

Cost: Free!

Details: www.evexpo.org.au

Home Harvest FEASTival

Sunday 4th March

This is a free festival sponsored by Nillumbik Shire Council, Banyule City Council, Local Food Connect, Edendale, Bulleen Art & Garden, Eltham High School, and Health Ability

Growers provide produce, volunteers prepare the food and provide it to growers plus their friends. Unfortunately they have enough growers, including some from our group, but you can still register as a volunteer to prepare food, or you can come as a guest of one of our growers.

There is a picnic type format for the FEASTival 2018 beginning in the late afternoon. The Feast will include entertainment and music. There will be an opportunity to learn from others and swap gardening tips, tricks and seeds and taste some more unusual foods in beautiful surrounds. So don't miss out next year.

We will have workshops running from February through to April for Harvest Time. Some of the workshops will be about producing condiments and preserves for the Home Harvest FEASTival picnic.

What does it involve?

Registrations have closed for 2018 but next year, you just need to register to grow and supply the produce for the Home Harvest FEASTival.

Spend the summer growing the produce and in the week leading up to the FEASTival donate some in return for your place at the picnic.

Attend the FEASTival and enjoy a delicious vegetarian meal and great day!

For more information, visit:

www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Environment/Home-Harvest-FEASTival

Insulating Paint

Last month I had some thermal images of insulating paint. Most people found it confusing, so here it is again.

The theory is that if you add the insulating additive to the paint, it will reflect heat from the sun better and keep your house cooler. I tried it and it didn't work!

I painted some wood in three different colours, added some additive and painted again, then added more additive and painted the 3 colours again. I also added a square of insulation, a square of aluminium and a square of aluminium and insulation

I placed it in the sun and then took a thermal image from the back of the wood. If the areas reflected the heat better, it would look cooler. In the image, orange areas are cooler than the yellow areas. I have numbered the areas and measured the temperatures from the image. The results are shown in the table.

The coolest area is the aluminium plus insulator (4) followed by the insulator (9) then the aluminium (5). Surprisingly, white paint is pretty good (1), much better than green (3) which is better than Brown (2)

The additive doesn't do much at all—sometimes it is better than paint on its own, sometimes its worse.

Conclusions:

- Wall insulation works
- Foil in walls works
- White paint much better than green or brown
- Additives don't really work

| # | Description | Temp | # | Description | Temp | # | Description | Temp |
|---|------------------|------|---|-------------|------|----|------------------|------|
| 1 | White | 34.1 | 6 | White + Add | 33.8 | 10 | White + More add | 36 |
| 2 | Brown | 48.3 | 7 | Brown + Add | 49.6 | 11 | Brown + More add | 50.1 |
| 3 | Green | 46.6 | 8 | Green + Add | 46.9 | 12 | Green + More add | 48.3 |
| 4 | Alum + Insulator | 31.6 | 9 | Insulator | 32.2 | | | |
| 5 | Aluminium | 33.8 | | | | | | |



Photo —from front



Thermal image facing sun - from back

CONTRIBUTIONS to our newsletter are welcome. Please send articles of interest to the newsletter coordinator by the 10th of each month. The newsletter is issued on the 15th of the month.

Please email to montymoves@gmail.com and send a copy to the Editor alan@diydoubleglaze.com.au .

Please use the subject line "Newsletter - (then add anything else after that)

ADVERTISING

Advertising is \$10 per quarter page but must be in line with the MCG ideals of community and sustainability.

Newsletter coordinator is Alan Cuthbertson

Email: alan@diydoubleglaze.com.au

Please ask permission to reproduce material. Montmorency Community Group endeavors to publish great content but holds no responsibility for opinions held or wrong information.

Montmorency Community Group Inc. Membership Form 2016–2017

You are invited to become a financial member of the Monty Community Group, by filling out this form and posting it (with your membership fee if you would like to pay by cheque) to the Monty Community Group at the address below.

Your membership will help to support initiatives of the Monty Community Group and our Transition Town program.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Mobile Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Membership Fee: \$10 per individual/household, \$5 concession, \$25 per business.

Payment Methods: Bank Deposit: Receipt Provided No. _____

Bank Account: Montmorency Community Group

BSB: 633 000

Account No: 140371089

When making a bank transfer, please ensure your name is noted so we can reconcile your payment with your application.

Payment by Cheque: Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

Cheques payable to: Montmorency Community Group
PO Box 87 Montmorency 3094