



# MONTMORENCY COMMUNITY GROUP

[www.transitionmonty.org](http://www.transitionmonty.org)

February 2016

## Featuring

- Great Tomato Taste Off
- Volunteers Needed
- Clean Up Australia Day
- Sugar Glider Project
- Asylum Seekers
- Friends of Monty Bushlands

## *MCG is a Transition Town*

We are connecting local people with ideas, vision and action to move from oil dependency to sustainable communities.

Be part of this vibrant group and help create a community that YOU would like to live in:

Growing food  
Community gardens  
Climate change action  
Transport advocacy



The Transition Town (TT) movement is a global network of localised TT groups.

MCG aims to inspire and enhance connectedness and sustainable living within community.

## Next meeting

Wednesday 2 March 2016,  
7-9pm  
at Busybird Publishing  
2/118 Para Road  
Montmorency 3094

## Steering Group

**Convenor:** Alan Cuthbertson

**Co-convenor:**

Katherine Barling

**Treasurer:** Ross Woodham

**Secretary:** Pam Rowley

**Member Secretary:**

Alison Johns

**Ordinary members:**

Barbara Jackson

Rohan Johns

Blaise van Hecke

Karl Bates

Margaret O'Dowd

Jane Oldfield

Kathryn Landers

**For info, contact:**

montymoves@gmail; or

phone Alan on 9439 8205 or

Katherine on 0439 652 680

## Friends of Montmorency Bushlands

Want to help restore and beautify our nature reserves?

To find out how, or to receive our 2016 calendar, ring

Pam on 9439 1853

or email [prowley@chariot.com.au](mailto:prowley@chariot.com.au)

**We are now on Facebook!**

[facebook.com/friendsofmontmorencybushlands](https://facebook.com/friendsofmontmorencybushlands)

## 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 11.30am on Sunday 6 March.

Local growers are invited to bring along their favourite varieties of home-grown tomatoes, and put them to a taste test. Growers and non-growers are invited to taste and compare and to cast a vote for your favourite variety for the People's Choice Award.

In 2015 43 varieties were available for tasting, almost double that presented at the inaugural taste off in 2014. Last year's winner was Green Grape, closely followed by Green Zebra. Come along and taste this year's harvest and be surprised by the variety of tastes, textures and colours of this summer staple.

Enquiries: Julie on 0438 115 853



### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Would you like to work with our small, friendly committee and do the important job of recording decisions at our meetings?

The Steering Committee of the Montmorency Community Group is looking for a new minute taker for their monthly meetings, starting as soon as possible. Meetings are held in the evening of the first Wednesday of the month. The minute taker is also a general member of the Steering Committee and takes part in discussions. Minutes can be done by hand or on your own laptop. Time commitment would be about 3 hours per month.

Contact the chairperson, Alan Cuthbertson on 9439 8205 or email [montymoves@gmail.com](mailto:montymoves@gmail.com)

### **There are many ways of volunteering with community organisations in Monty**

Members of the Monty Community Group volunteer to do many and varied tasks during the year. Participating at meetings, writing grant submissions, posting information on social media and organising events such as Earth hour, monthly food swaps, movie evenings and our annual bush dance. If you would like to be involved or want to know more, contact Monty Moves at [montymoves@gmail.com](mailto:montymoves@gmail.com)

MASSG (Montmorency Asylum Seeker Support Group) needs volunteers to help out at their giant garage sale to be held on Sat 12th March. Distributing flyers, moving and displaying items, cleaning and pricing goods. Contact Barbara on 0406588417

Friends of Montmorency Bushlands needs a volunteer to help keep our Facebook page up-to-date and interesting. This would suit someone interested in revegetation, natural history and/or nature photography. Come along to one of our working bees first to meet us and get to know what we do. Contact Pam on 94391853

\*\*No experience is needed for any of these roles.

*[www.transitionmonty.org](http://www.transitionmonty.org)*

## Clean Up Australia Day – Sunday 6th March

We are setting up a Clean Up Australia Day site in Montmorency. If you visit us at the Food Swap in Were St, Montmorency between 10:30 and 12:00, you can pick up a bag and some gloves and collect rubbish on your way home. You can either return the bag to the Were St base, or tell us where you live and we will pick it up. The main 3 areas we will concentrate is that parking area around the shops, The railway area and Petrie Park.



You can register online at <http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/Montmorency>

This is a great way to make our suburb a little tidier.

You can also visit our monthly food swap from 10:30 to 11:30. This month we are holding our “Tomato Taste Off” where home growers bring their special breed of tomatoes. Last year we had over 40 varieties. So come along and taste them and give your vote to your favourite.

If you can't make it on Sunday, but still want to participate over the weekend, please contact me and I will get some bags to you and collect the rubbish afterwards.

Any questions, email me [alan@diydoubleglaze.com.au](mailto:alan@diydoubleglaze.com.au)

*Alan Cuthbertson*  
0418 102 483

## The Monty Sugar Glider project continues to fly.

On Tuesday the second of February 8 of us gathered in Pecks Dam Reserve with Mark from Treetec to practise climbing ladders and abseiling down a tree in harnesses. We were a motivated bunch and required minimal encouragement to climb up 6 metres and more. After a full day and a written test we were qualified as being able to do basic tree access with ladder harness and lifelines.

[www.treetec.net.au](http://www.treetec.net.au)

We are now able to revisit the 30 boxes in our reserves installed a year ago and see who has moved in.

A further 70 boxes have been installed by local residents. Our tree climbers are willing to assist with their monitoring as well. If you would like some help contact us on [montysugargliders@gmail.com](mailto:montysugargliders@gmail.com).

We know the gliders appreciate our offer of a homes by the glider sightings reported. To date 5 households have reported seeing between 2 and 5 gliders in their garden. This is a great response when there were no sightings for 10 years prior. We will keep you posted.

Jane Oldfield on behalf of the Monty Bio Diversity Group

*This project would not have been possible without the support of a Banyule City Council environmental grant.*

## EVENTS

### Friends of Monty Bushlands

Saturday 5 March  
10am–12noon

Ratray Reserve Map 21 E6

Nest Box Construction: constructing nest boxes to be placed through the reserve, with information about local fauna

ENQUIRIES:

### Ratray, Belmont and Wooded Way Reserves

Contact: Pam on 94391853 or Julia on 94392378

### Pecks Dam

Contact George on 94397375

### Food Swap

Sunday 6 March  
10.30–11.30am  
Were Street

### GIANT GARAGE SALE

Sat March 12th  
9am to 4pm

Monty Uniting Church  
cnr Ratray and Mountainview Roads  
All proceeds go to the ASRC (Asylum Seeker Resource Centre)

### Montmorency Asylum Seekers Support Group

Location: Uniting Church, cnr Mountainview Rd and Ratray Rd  
or Monty Primary School  
Convenor: Maree Krohn  
9432 0190, [maree.krohn@bigpond.com](mailto:maree.krohn@bigpond.com)

### Open Mic Night

Busybird Publishing  
Wednesday 16 March  
7–9pm  
2/118 Para Road  
Montmorency  
Entry \$5.  
Read your poetry, stories, sing us a song.



Your help is needed!

Please donate good quality  
**SECONDHAND GOODS**  
to the  
**Montmorency Asylum  
Seeker Support Group  
GARAGE  
SALE**  
on 12th March



We are looking for books, DVD's, LP's,  
games - Xbox and playstation,  
toys, ornaments, homewares,  
workshop and garden tools,  
bric-a-brac, small furniture items,  
sporting goods, good quality  
women's clothing and handbags.

All proceeds go to the  
**Asylum Seeker Resource Centre**

Please contact **Barbara Jackson**  
on 0406 588 417 for collection or  
**storage of goods**

MASSG thanks Vicki Ward MP for printer this flyer



**MASSG**  
Montmorency  
Asylum Seekers  
Support Group

### **March working bee to be a workshop**

Friends Of Monty Bushlands will be having a working bee with a difference on Saturday 5th March. Our aim will be to create new homes for some of our disappearing birds and animals and encourage them to return to our suburb. With the help of our friends from the Council Bush Crew, we will be assembling nestboxes – previous experience not required. Materials will be supplied. Participants will need to register, as numbers will be limited. We are offering places at this workshop to non-members, but preference will be given to members who attend working bees.

More information (about how to register etc) will be available soon.

Pam

## **Busybird Book Swap**

Just like a library, it's free. The difference is that it's open 24 hours a day and to take a book out, you need to put a book in.



Located at Busybird Publishing  
2/118 Para Road (cnr Station Road)  
Montmorency VIC 3094.

**[www.busybird.com.au](http://www.busybird.com.au)**



## **Please send us your contributions for the Monty Community Group Newsletter**

What is your burning issue?

Do you want to:

- Form an interest group?
- Write a paragraph on your favourite topic?
- Advertise a community event?

Keep the Monty Community informed.

Email us at: [montymoves@gmail.com](mailto:montymoves@gmail.com)



## **Vision and Purpose**

### **Montmorency Community Group – A Transition Town**

The Montmorency Community Group acts as a catalyst to bring together residents and locally-based groups that share a common goal of building a stronger more resilient local community. It utilises the Transition Town model to help create a community that is socially, environmentally and economically sustainable, in the face of changes brought about by Climate Change and Peak Oil.

It achieves this through:

- awareness raising activities
- building strong networks to build an inclusive community
- undertaking practical projects to reduce our impact on the planet,
- promoting the well being of local residents.

The Montmorency Community Group is guided by principles of social justice, the valuing of differences, a respect for all views and personal and community empowerment, and principles embedded in the Universal Declaration of Human rights and The Earth Charter.



LIKE us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/MontmorencyCommunityGroup?fref=ts>

**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.

**ADVERTISING**

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

Newsletter coordinator is Blaise van Hecke

Email: busybird@bigpond.net.au

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

## Montmorency Community Group Inc. Membership Form 2015–2016

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  
c/- 251 Old Eltham Rd, Lower Plenty, 3093