



MONTMORENCY COMMUNITY GROUP

www.transitionmonty.org

March 2016

Featuring

- Meet Your Community
- Clean Up Australia Day
- Climate for Change
- Banyule City Council
- Sustainability of Homes
- New Homes for Birds & Bats
- Dogs in Nature reserves
- Classifieds

Next meeting

Wednesday 6 April 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

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.



Meet Your Community

Marcus opened Walkers Wheels in Were Street way back in 1990, before relocating the shop to the corner of Para and Station Roads in 2010.

What is it about Monty that you like?

Monty is more of a country town than a real country town. Once people come here, they don't leave. People know each others business but they don't really care about gossip. No one cares if you're gay or if you left your wife for someone else. There's the familiarity without the intense scrutiny.

Why did you move to this new location?

The space is bigger than the old shop but it's also pure nostalgia. I used to be able to see this place from my bedroom window. It's my valley.

What happens here at Walkers Wheels?

We sell all kinds of bikes and scooters, and we do bike repairs. Kosmo here is



Marcus & Kosmo at Walkers Wheels

my guard dog, basically a big teddy bear.

Do you ride a bike yourself?

I'm in love with my electric bike. I still have petrol in the tank of my car from December. Anyone who's biked the hills in Monty would appreciate the electric bike.

You can meet Marcus at his bike shop, Walkers Wheel six days per week.

www.walkerswheels.com

Clean Up Australia Day – Sunday 6th March

We organised our fourth Clean Up Australia Day last weekend and the results were amazing. Over 15 people took part scouring areas around Montmorency and found over 30 bags of rubbish, filling two trailer loads.



Several families were involved, cleaning up around Monty and along the railway line. One person collected several ute loads from the Greensborough railway station.

I am always amazed at how people can simply throw rubbish out a car window or simply drop it as they walk. I just couldn't do it. Most of the items were drink cans and bottles and takeaway food and confectionary wrappers.

Thanks to all those that participated

Alan Cuthbertson

Climate For Change

Recently I became involved with a group called "Climate For Change". Their aim is "To create the social climate in Australia for effective action on climate change". In other words, to inform people of the real risks of climate change and the need for action.

The way they do this is by holding informal meetings with small groups of people to explain the problem, show solutions and encourage actions.

People are most comfortable about discussing problems when they are in a small group, where they know each other and a friendly space. We therefore are looking for people who are willing to host a 'gathering' in their home and invite 6 -10 friends along. I will attend as a facilitator, present a short film on Climate Change, lead discussions on what people can do to address climate change and (hopefully) encourage people to take action.



Those who wish to be involved then receive email suggestions over the next few months on things they can do. These suggestions go beyond simply living more sustainably to actually take actions, such as discussing the problems with others. Hopefully someone will offer to host their own gathering and we can then meet a wider audience. It's like a Tupperware party, selling action on Climate Change rather than plastic!

If you think you may be interested in hosting a Climate Change gathering, please get back to me.

Alan Cuthbertson

alan@diydoublinglaze.com.au

9439 8205

www.transitionmonty.org

Banyule City Council Meetings

Items of interest for the Montmorency Community

From the meeting of 7 March 2016.

PETRIE PARK AND RATTRAY RESERVE DRAFT MASTER PLANS

In January 2015, Council appointed SGL Consulting Group to work with the community and Council to develop a master plan for Petrie Park and Rattray Reserve, Montmorency. The draft plans are now ready for the final consultation phase.

It was resolved that Council:

1. Release the Petrie Park and Rattray Reserve draft master plans for the purpose of community consultation 8 March – 19 April 2016
2. Invite community members to submit written submissions in relation to the draft plan via communication in the Leader Newspaper (Banyule in brief), Council's website, Facebook page, direct email to the user groups at Petrie Park and Rattray Reserve
3. Receive a further report following the community consultation period.

Moved: Cr Mark Di Pasquale; Seconded: Cr Tom Melican and CARRIED.

With thanks to Ian Endersby for this report.

Are you concerned about the sustainability of our common home?

A committee of local community groups is exploring ways in which to act upon the messages in the Pope's encyclical, 'Laudato Si'. Would you like to be involved? The group currently meets once a month on a Tuesday morning in the parish house, and is planning an exciting event for later this year to emphasise the necessity of creating an integrated, harmonious ecology.

If you are passionate about the environment, you can make a difference beginning at the local level.

Contact Gloria Lappin at

brianlap@optusnet.com.au or 9435 4151

New homes for birds and bats

Did you know?

The tiny bats we sometimes see above our gardens can consume 1.200 mosquitos and other pest insects in one evening? Microbats are an unappreciated chemical-free method of pest control in gardens and on farms.

I discovered this surprising fact at the weekend at the nestbox making workshop. Participants were told about the importance of providing boxes for native species because of the loss of tree hollows that they traditionally used for their nests. We were provided with tools and a kit of pre-cut materials; we could take home our completed boxes and install them in our gardens.

At first we made a box designed for musk lorikeets. It looked great, but with dozens of musks already visiting my garden every day, I didn't think I needed to provide them with another home. Then we made a very different type of box – it was very narrow, with an opening underneath – designed to provide shelter for microbats. I was delighted to think I might be able to attract these tiny creatures to my garden, especially if they could keep the mosquitos under control! This box was proudly

EVENTS

Friends of Monty Bushlands

Saturday 2 April

10am–12noon

Belmont Reserve Map 21 F6

Direct Seeding: From previously collected native seeds through both bollard areas

ENQUIRIES:

Rattray, Belmont and Wooded Way Reserves

Contact: Pam on 94391853

or Julia on 94392378

Pecks Dam

Contact George on 94397375

Monty Food Swap

Sunday 3 April

10.30–11.30am

Were Street

Montmorency Asylum Seekers Support Group

Location: Uniting Church, cnr Mountainview Rd and Rattray Rd

or Monty Primary School

Convenor: Maree Krohn

9432 0190, maree.krohn@

bigpond.com

Open Mic Night

Busybird Publishing

Wednesday 20 April

7–9pm

2/118 Para Road

Montmorency

Entry \$5.

Read your poetry, stories, sing us a song.

taken home and is now installed in my yellow box tree.

Thanks to the Bush Crew for organising this very interesting workshop for our monthly working bee and thanks to Stuart from Parks Victoria for instructing us in how to construct the boxes.

Pam Rowley

Friends of Montmorency Bushlands

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

We are now on Facebook!

facebook.com/friendsofmontmorencybushlands

Dogs in our nature reserves – What laws apply?

There has been some discussion recently about the rules relating to dogs in Montmorency's nature reserves. The Banyule City Council website tells us that dogs are allowed off-lead in our reserves, but this is on the condition that the dogs are always under the effective control of their owners. This means that dogs must be within clear view of their owner and must return to their owner upon command.

However, there are some environmentally sensitive parks and reserves in nearby suburbs which have special controls and signs have been erected to inform the public, eg Brown's Nature Reserve in Greensborough, St Helena Bush Reserve and Yandell Reserve.

Did you know that it is an offence not to clean up after your dog? It is also an offence not to have a receptacle for this purpose when walking your dog in a public place!

As research has shown that the presence of dogs has a negative effect on plants, wildlife and wetlands, dog owners need to know the importance of following the rules in order to minimise these effects.

Pam Rowley



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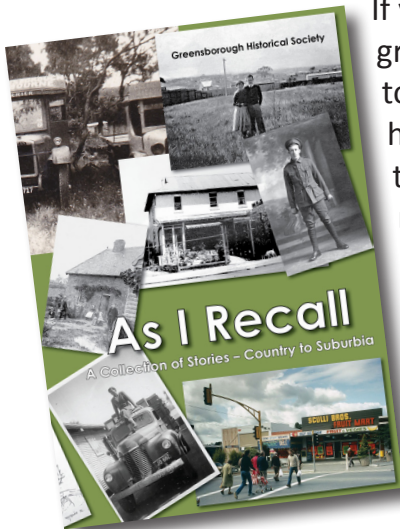
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Busybird Publishing

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If you are part of a group that wants to write about its history or want to celebrate a milestone? Drop by our studio for a chat about your project and we'll help you get that book in your hand.

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

www.bushbird.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



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.

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