

From the President



Invitation

Our first meeting for the new calendar year will be held at **6:00pm at the George Pepperell Gazebo on Wednesday 13th January.**

BYO food and drinks.

Please join us for a relaxed and fun evening.



We would love to see you there – especially our new members! For those who haven't been before, the George Pepperell Gazebo is on the eastern side of TH King Oval in Glen Iris. There is ample parking just off High Street Glen Iris.

Upcoming Events

There is still a good deal of uncertainty when it comes to staging events given the ongoing Covid19 restrictions.

We are working on various events and will do our best to keep you posted as to what is coming up and how the event may need to be modified in order to obtain the necessary Covid-safe accreditation.

Bunnings BBQ's

Bunnings BBQ's resumed in December and at this stage they can continue.

Bunnings BBQ's are a regular and hopefully ongoing fundraising opportunity. Therefore, we have committed to a larger number of BBQ's for 2021 – essentially 2 per month. Please see the dates below.

This is a significant commitment and we will be asking all Members to participate when they can, hopefully at least twice during the year.

Sunday, 24 January 2021
Saturday, 6 February 2021
Saturday, 6 March 2021
Saturday, 20 March 2021
Sunday, 11 April 2021
Saturday, 24 April 2021
Sunday, 16 May 2021
Saturday, 5 June 2021
Sunday, 27 June 2021
Saturday, 10 July 2021
Saturday, 24 July 2021
Sunday, 1 August 2021
Saturday, 28 August 2021
Saturday, 11 September 2021
Sunday, 26 September 2021
Sunday, 10 October 2021
Saturday, 23 October 2021
Saturday, 6 November 2021
Sunday, 21 November 2021
Saturday, 4 December 2021
Saturday, 11 December 2021
Sunday, 19 December 2021

Craft Market

The next Craft Market is scheduled for Saturday 13th February at Phoenix Park. With current restrictions we would be limited to approximately 75 people in the area we have hired.

This will mean we can't have a full quota of stalls. If we had 25 stallholders (normally we aim for 40 stalls), and 10 Rotarians, we could have 40 customers at any given time.

We would need to submit a Covid-safe plan to Council in order to run.

As well as considering whether the event is viable for us, we also need to consider if it is viable for the stallholders, without whom we have no market.

We are contacting our "best" stallholders to gauge their level of interest.

A decision on whether or not to run will be made this week.

Gardiners Creek Garden Working Bees

The City of Stonnington is keen to work with RCEM in establishing a "Friends Of..." group for the parklands surrounding the TH King Oval, George Pepperell Gazebo and Glen Iris wetlands.

We plan to run a number of events this year to build interest in this project.

The first event is scheduled for Saturday 16th January starting at 9:00am at the George Pepperell Gazebo. This will be an introduction to the project, a small clean-up/rubbish collection, and potentially some watering or mulch spreading.

We anticipate that we will start out small but build the level of interest and activity over time. Please bring covered shoes, gardening gloves and a good sun hat.

Additional working bees are scheduled for **Sunday 7th February and Sunday 7th March which is Clean Up Australia Day.**

Australia Day

The Stonnington Cluster has received a grant from the National Australia Day Council to run an event or activity that compliments the 2021 Australia Day theme of "respect, reflect celebrate".

The Cluster has proposed that the funds be used to sponsor an essay competition. There would be three levels – primary school, secondary school and adult – with prizes for each.

Separately RC Brighton is running a BBQ at the end of North Rd Brighton that we have been asked to participate in.

Melbourne Design Week

RCEM has been asked to participate in a NGV Melbourne Design Week event Regenerating Kooyongkoot (Gardiners Creek) on **Saturday 27th March.**

The event will include a walking tour of the Glen Iris Wetlands led by Dean Stewart. Members who attended the walking tour we took along the Yarra in the city in 2019 will remember Dean was our leader that evening.

Further details are being worked out. RCEM will be providing a BBQ at a minimum.

Family Fun Day / Pets in the Park

Pets in the Park is nominally scheduled for Sunday 28th March.

RCEM has not submitted an event plan for a full blown Family Fun Day as we consider it unlikely we would be granted an event permit, and there is a significant risk that our efforts to organise an event could be thwarted as they were in 2020.

We have submitted an expression of interest to the City of Stonnington events team to run a takeaway food/BBQ tent and a limited number of other stalls at the Pets in the Park. As yet we have not received a response.



Dates for your diary 2021

13 th Jan	Wednesday	First meeting for 2021 at George Pepperell Gazebo
16 th Jan	Saturday	Working Bee Gardiners Creek.
24 th Jan	Sunday	Bunnings BBQ
26 th Jan	Tuesday	Australia Day
7 th Feb	Sunday	Working Bee Gardiners Creek
13 th Feb	Saturday	Craft Market Phoenix Park – to be confirmed
20 th Feb	Saturday	Australian Henley Regatta BBQ
7 th March	Sunday	Clean Up Australia Day Gardiners Creek
27 th March	Saturday	NGIV – Melbourne Design Week – Regenerating Kooyongkoot
28 th March	Sunday	Pets in the Park – to be confirmed
2 nd May	Sunday	MS Walk Run & Roll BBQ
8 th May	Saturday	Craft Market Phoenix Park



Wonderful work by Rosemary pictured delivering these hand knitted beanies to PDG Bronwyn Stephens. Dawn has also been busy knitting.

The beanies will be distributed to seafarers who spend long periods at sea venturing from summer back into winter. Currently they are unable to come ashore to purchase necessities, so these beanies will be a reminder of kindness and goodwill and will no doubt provide them with some comfort and warmth.

Great work ladies!!

Bunnings BBQ – new serving bench



We get great support from Bunnings including this new bench to serve from – come along and support our fundraising efforts on Sat 24th Jan! Please let Lyle know what time you are available!