

Delacombe Community Newsletter

Families, friends and neighbours enjoyed a great evening at the Delacombe Christmas Party on Friday 29th November last year, which was hosted by the Delacombe Chairs Forum and due to the rain forecast was held in the Doug Dean Stadium.

The community were entertained by local school choirs and the Phoenix P-12 Community College Band was joined by Bairnsdale Secondary College Band. The children had fun with free face painting, games, art activities, and the smoothie bike. Of course, everyone was excited to see Santa arrive in a CFA Truck. A wonderful evening was had by all!

Many thanks to Kelly Pickford from SalvoConnect Western for the photos.



DELACOMBE GARDENING CLUB

The Delacombe Garden Club started about 18 months ago at the Delacombe Community Hub - 17 Nandiriog Drive, Delacombe near the blue building known as the Delacombe.

This very dedicated group of volunteers meets Tuesday mornings about 10.00 -10.30 am to 11am with a morning tea provided afterwards.

The produce from this garden is available for anyone in the community who may wish to visit.

We are always welcoming of anyone wishing to help out or join us on a Tuesday.

DELACOMBE HUB BORROW, SWAP, or KEEP LIBRARY

DONATIONS OF BOOKS WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED

If you have any books in a good condition that you no longer want
i.e.: Novels, Gardening, Kids books please feel free to donate them to the

DELACOMBE HUB BORROW, SWAP, or KEEP LIBRARY

You can Borrow (return when you've read it)

You can Swap (bring a book to replace the one you are taking) or

You can Keep (just keep the book if you have really enjoyed it)

Please enjoy our Swap, Borrow or Keep Library.

Most Tuesday's 10.30am till 12pm



Delacombe Gardening Club
Hard at work and then enjoying
a well earned cuppa.

What's Inside?

- 03 The Salvation Army - Youth Camp
- YMCA - Improved safety at Doug Dean Stadium
- 04 Developing a plan for Delacombe Estate, Safe Seats Safe Kids
- Your Feedback

02 Family Connections - Let's Plan, Learn and Grow in Delacombe



Family Connections

Let's Play, Learn and Grow in Delacombe

Magic happens when parents, carers and children come together on a Thursday morning for the Play, Learn and Grow playgroup. The playgroup commenced in 2019 and is proud to promote itself as a totally inclusive playgroup where parents and children from all cultures, abilities, backgrounds, orientations and beliefs are welcomed. A recent new mother to the group stated, 'I haven't felt welcomed anywhere else, but as soon as I walked into this group, which was hard for me to do, I felt comfortable and my child was appreciated and has responded well'.

Alison Ford, Child and Family Coordinator from The Salvation Army's Family Connections program, is responsible for the coordination of the Play, Learn and Grow playgroup. Alison says, 'I have noticed true connections building between the parents and also a greater connection to their local communities. It is great to see both parents and children forming trusting relationships whilst participating in meaningful play opportunities'.

Some of the parents attending Play, Learn and Grow, also attend other playgroups throughout the week. One parent stated, 'The difference between Play, Learn and Grow and the other groups I attend, is that Play, Learn and Grow feels like home and my child is more engaged here and I think this is because of the way it is facilitated'.

Play, Learn and Grow provides children with the opportunity for free play with various toys and activities and also includes music, singing, dance and stories within the sessions. Children explore the space, their bodies and interact with other children building social and emotional skills, as well as fine and gross motor and cognitive development. 'This is an amazing playgroup which is truly inclusive. All children and parents are welcomed regardless of ability, which is why we come', stated Megan who enjoys attending Play, Learn and Grow with her son.

Play, Learn and Grow is held on a Thursday morning from 9.30am to 11am at The Salvation Army Delacombe Community Church, 104 Greenhalghs Road, Delacombe. Morning tea is provided for parents, carers and children. The playgroup is free and facilitated by Early Childhood Educators. If you would like to know more please contact Alison Ford on 0437 028 256 or

Alison.ford@salvationarmy.org.au



The Salvation Army Delacombe started off 2020 with over 20 young people attending summer camps throughout January. The camps aimed to bring fun and respite to families during the school holiday period. The youth camp was held at Phillip Island with over 300 young people from around Australia also attending. Campers were involved in many fun outdoor activities including the Giant Swing, kayaking, yabbing, water-craft making and a day of carnival style rides. The children's camp was held in Bacchus Marsh with over fifteen families from Delacombe and wider Ballarat attending. Children also participated in many team based activities exploring themes such as belonging, self-esteem, and spirituality.

"The aim of the camps are to provide a place of safety, belonging, friendship, fun, and respite for parents and caregivers", says Major Craig Farrell from the Salvation Army Delacombe.



Improved safety at Doug Dean Stadium

Visitors and program participants at Delacombe's Doug Dean Stadium can look forward to improved lighting at the facility before the shorter days of Autumn set in.

Currently over 400 people a week attend the Stadium with many of the 15 user groups' sessions occurring in the evenings. Existing lighting is being replaced

additional floodlights will illuminate the car park by late March. To provide a better experience for all, timers will ensure that the system shuts off late evenings minimising impact on homes backing on to the Reserve. The lighting is part of a wider initiative by the YMCA and the City of Ballarat to improve facilities following the finalisation of the Doug Dean Recreational Reserve Masterplan and has been made possible by a \$8,494 grant from the Department of Justice and Community Safety.



Georgia Savage, the YMCA Ballarat's Healthy Living and Community Recreation Coordinator, said, "We are really excited to be able to deliver a community safety lighting initiative at the Doug Dean Stadium in Delacombe. With hundreds of individuals using the stadium every week for a range of recreational activities, it's great to be able to improve the safety and accessibility of this community venue."

There are further works planned, with the YMCA Ballarat securing funding through the City of Ballarat's Community Program Delacombe and Ballarat Foundation's Delacombe Subfund for the installation of an audio visual display system, which will enhance community events and add to the users' experience.



Developing a plan for Delacombe Estate

March 2020



You can help shape the future of the Delacombe housing estate - all it takes is 10 minutes.

There's 10 million dollars in funding from the Victorian Government to improve Delacombe Estate and the Government wants your input on a plan to decide how it's spent.

Have your say by filling out our online survey at www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/ballarat-delacombe-estate

Survey closes 29th March 2020.

Safe Seats Safe Kids

Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre invites local parents and carers to book in for a free child car restraint fitting or safety check!

WHERE: 11 Tuppen Drive, SEBASTOPOL

WHEN: Friday 27 March 2020 @ 9am - 1pm

HOW: Bookings are essential. Parents and carers (including grandparents!) can book in a free child car restraint fitting or check by registering through Kidsafe Victoria's:

<https://safeseatssafekids.com.au/venues/ballarat-neighbourhood-centre/>

Please note, if you need to have more than 1 child car restraint fitted/checked, you will need to book multiple appointments.

WHY: 70% of child car restraints are incorrectly installed or used, posing a serious safety risk to children travelling in those restraints. For peace of mind, have a professional fitter check your restraints so you know your child is safe. For more information about the program, please visit kidsafevic.com.au/road-safety/free-child-car-restraint-checking-program

These events are hosted by Kidsafe Victoria in partnership with Neighbourhood Houses Victoria, with support by the Victorian State Government.

We want your feedback!

We would like to hear from you regarding the Delacombe Newsletter.

What do you love?

What would you like to see?

What would you change?

Email engagement@ballaratnc.org.au or call 5329 3273 and let us know!

This newsletter is proudly produced by the Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre.

 5329 3273

 www.ballaratnc.org.au

 reception@ballaratnc.org.au  11 Tuppen Drive, Sebastopol  www.facebook.com/BallaratNC