

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE COMMITTEE

The Bellarine Community Support Register Committee and all our Volunteers wish you a safe and enjoyable Christmas and festive season.

We look forward to supporting you and your families in 2020.

Our volunteers will be taking a small break over the Christmas and New Year period, so our Office will be closed from Monday 23 December, 2019 and re-open on Monday 13 January, 2020.



REGISTER TELEPHONE

The Register Office has been experiencing some intermittent telephone outages.



While our volunteers have endeavoured to continue to make calls to Registrants via a mobile phone, you may have experienced difficulties calling the Office.

We are hopeful the issue will be corrected soon.

PLANS FOR SUMMER POLICING ON THE BELLARINE

Victoria Police will be opening the Portarlington Police Station from 22 December 2019 – 2 February 2020 permanently. The station will have a dedicated day shift as well as twilight shifts over peak days such as Friday & Saturday. This has been done to offer the communities on the northern side of the Bellarine a stronger police presence over summer.

Operation Satellite and Backroads continue. These are our community and road traffic operations and ensure that police will be seen in the Bellarine communities as well as enforcing road policing.

There will be a water policing operation commencing over the summer period with local police working closely with Water Police members and targeting boating behaviour.

There will be an increase in policing numbers over the summer for the Bellarine and this falls under Operation Summer Safe (this name may change).

Police request residents to call 000 for any jobs requiring immediate police attention.

WHERE DO I GET INFORMATION IN AN EMERGENCY?

With summer here, it is time to consider your preparedness if an emergency was to occur in your neighbourhood.

If you are in a life threatening situation, you should always **call Triple Zero (000) for police, fire or ambulance.**

Be prepared to describe your location as accurately as possible. Your mobile phone only shows the call-takers your billing address, not your current GPS location. And don't hang up until the call taker tells you to.

The following information has been taken from the Vic Emergency website for your information - <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>

Ways to get warnings and information

During an emergency, there are a range of ways you can get warnings and information.

VicEmergency app

The VicEmergency app aligns with the VicEmergency website to provide a centralised location for Victorians to access timely emergency information and warnings.



The app includes warnings and incident notifications for fire, flood, storm, earthquake, tsunami, weather warnings, shark sightings, beach closures and more.

In order to receive location specific app alerts when warnings are issued or incidents occur, you need to set up your watch zones.

You can download VicEmergency from the App Store or Google Play.

Social media - Follow VicEmergency on Facebook and Twitter for real-time warning notifications.

Radio and TV

During emergencies, Victoria's emergency broadcasters will provide information, including updates and community alerts, to help you to make decisions based on the advice of the emergency services. If necessary, emergency warnings will interrupt normal programming on the radio and TV.

You can get this information from any of Victoria's commercial radio stations, **ABC local radio, a number of community stations and SkyNews TV.**

VicEmergency Hotline **Call 1800 226 226**

The VicEmergency Hotline provides information during and after major incidents in Victoria. It also offers information to help householders, landowners and small businesses plan for and recover from emergencies.

In a situation where you can see or smell smoke, the VicEmergency Hotline can also advise whether or not a planned burn is in progress.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service. TTY users phone 1800 555 677 then ask for 1800 226 226

Telephone alerts

A Telephone Alert is one way emergency services can alert the community to official warning information using the National Emergency Alert system.

You don't need to sign up – information can be targeted to you by your landline (voice), or mobile phone (text) – either by address or by a specific geographic area.

Alerts will begin with "Emergency, Emergency" and will only be received if your landline and mobile phone (based on its billing address and/or the your last known location) is within the defined area and has service.

Telephone Alerts are not used in all circumstances, and depends on the nature of the incident. You should not wait to receive a Telephone Alert before you act.

Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS)

A distinctive siren sound may be played over the radio or TV before an alert message is broadcast.

UNDERSTAND WARNINGS





Warnings will be issued when an emergency is likely to impact you.

They provide you with information on what is happening and our best advice on what you should do.

Our aim is to provide you with as much information as we can - to help you to make good decisions to protect yourself and your family.

The warning level is based on severity, conditions and the likelihood that the emergency could impact on the community, so the first warning issued could be an Emergency Warning - the highest level.

Do not rely on an official warning to leave. Emergencies can start quickly and threaten you within minutes.

	Emergency Warning You are in imminent danger and need to take action immediately. You will be impacted.		Warning (Watch and Act) An emergency is developing nearby. You need to take action now to protect yourself and others.
	ADVICE An incident is occurring or has occurred in the area. Access information and monitor conditions. Can also be used as a notification that activity in the area has subsided and is no longer a danger to you.		Prepare to evacuate/evacuate now An evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate.

Information courtesy of VicEmergency

FROM THE COMMITTEE.....

DO YOU REQUIRE A NEW WINDOW STICKER, FRIDGE MAGNET OR ID CARD?

Registrants are reminded that if they need replacement BCSR Window Stickers, Fridge Magnets or Laminated ID Cards (for wallet or purse) they should forward a stamped self-addressed envelope plus an indication of items requested to the Register, PO Box 819, Ocean Grove, Vic 3226.

Further, those of you who are not already receiving regular telephone calls from the Register but would appreciate weekly, fortnightly or monthly calls should ring the office on 5255 3968 between 9.30am and 12.00 midday, Monday to Friday to make arrangements to do so. Our volunteers love chatting to our Registrants.

AUXILIARY MEMBER

Volunteers who wish to assist with promoting BCSR such as delivering Brochures to designated locations but who do not wish to undertake any office related activities can become Auxiliary Volunteers. To do so they need to:

- Complete an Auxiliary Volunteer Application Form
- Be a Financial Member of the Register to ensure valid Insurance Cover
- Attend an interview with a designated Register Committee member at a mutually convenient location.
- Agree to uphold the values of the Register
- Report any difficulties encountered while acting as a BCSR Auxiliary Volunteer to the nominated BCSR Committee member.

Whilst not essential, Auxiliary Volunteers are invited to undertake an initial Volunteer orientation, regular training sessions and to attend Volunteer meetings as scheduled.

BELLARINE COMMUNITY SUPPORT REGISTER INC.
PO BOX 819, OCEAN GROVE. VIC 3226 TELEPHONE: 03 5255 3968

DONATION FORM

NAME: ID NUMBER:

ADDRESS:

I ENCLOSE A DONATION OF: Please circle the appropriate amount.

\$5 \$10 \$20 \$100 Other \$

All donations of \$2 and over are income tax deductible.

Receipts will be issued only on request. Please tick the appropriate box. YES NO

Donations will be accepted at any Bendigo Bank Branch in the Geelong Region.

Our account details are: BENDIGO BANK Branch 633 108 Account 127715209.

Receipts will be issued only on request.



BELLARINE COMMUNITY SUPPORT REGISTER INC.

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Bellarine Community Support Register

PO Box 819

Ocean Grove Vic 3226

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