

### A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

#### NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 2025

This year we celebrated the power of volunteering to bring people together with the theme "Connecting Communities." At the Bellarine Community Support Register (BCSR) we use simple communication to connect our Volunteers to registrants across the Bellarine Peninsula.

We call our Registrants to check on their wellbeing. In April 2025 we made 211 care calls, Monday to Friday. Our dedicated Care Callers get great joy connecting with our community; they enjoy every conversation and every bit of news that is shared with them.

We have 40 volunteers doing many amazing jobs. There is a promotions and fundraising team talking to various community groups and encouraging people to register with us.

Experienced Data Operators input registrants' details for use by the police in emergencies. Our service is overseen by a volunteer committee of management and we celebrated our wonderful volunteers with a Thank You afternoon tea during National Volunteer Week.

#### PERSONAL INFORMATION UPDATES

Our Volunteers continue to work through the task of updating your personal information. Thank you for taking the time to ensure that our database is as up-to-date as possible for police in case of a personal emergency.

#### HOME SECURITY WORKSHOPS

Bellarine Police are conducting Home Security Sessions for clubs or organisations in local communities. If you are a member of a group that would like a presentation by police, then email [bellarine-neighbourhood-manager@police.vic.gov.au](mailto:bellarine-neighbourhood-manager@police.vic.gov.au) with contact details and a session will be scheduled at a mutually convenient time.

#### 2025 REGISTRANT SATISFACTION SURVEY

Thank you to those who Registrants who provided feedback on the service we operate. We do consider your suggestions seriously and implement those that we can within the scope of our current resources.

#### DONATIONS

Thank you to those who have generously donated funds to help keep our service going. We do rely on them to help support our work and we are grateful for any contribution that you feel you can make.

#### ACKNOWLEDGING OUR SUPPORTERS

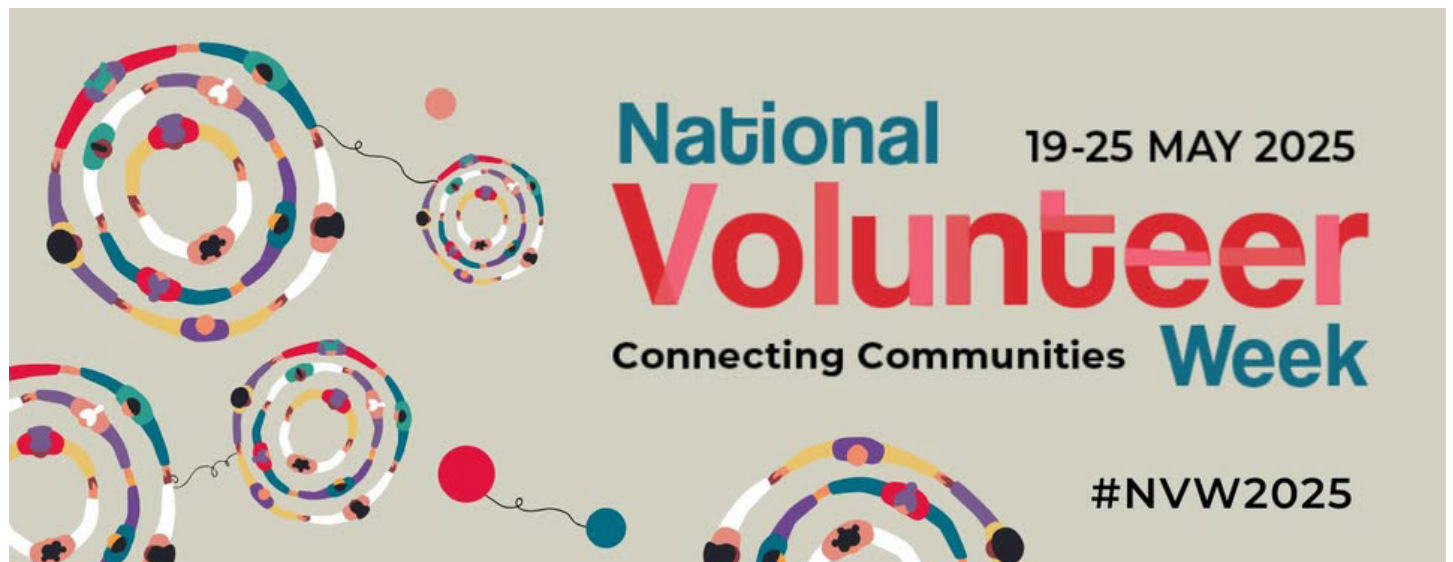
BCSR wishes to acknowledge Bunnings Leopold for their ongoing support to our organisation. Each year we attend community events for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Easter and Christmas.

Container Deposit Scheme donors include: The Groove Cafe, Ocean Grove; the Potato Shed, Drysdale; the Ocean Grove Men's Shed and the Drysdale Retirement Village.

Woolworths Supermarkets and IGA Point Lonsdale and Barwon Heads have provided gift cards to purchase Volunteer refreshments.

Kind regards

*Jenny Speed*



# DEMENTIA CARER EXPO

## Dementia Carer Expo



Australian Multicultural  
Community Services

### Caring for someone that is living with Dementia?

Come along to our mini expo and speak with providers who can assist you with information about services in the area.

**Date:** Monday, 16 June

**Time:** 11am – 2pm

**Venue:** Leopold Community Hub, Level 1,  
31-39 Kensington Road, Leopold

On site at the event: Free light lunch, tea & coffee provided, local providers, relaxing music by Gary Dean, and a presentation from Dayle Johnson of Calm Minds Clinic to end the day. This is a registration-only event.

Please register by contacting Cindy Jobe at  
[Cindy.Job@amcservices.org.au](mailto:Cindy.Job@amcservices.org.au) or by calling 0403 183 022.

*\*First 20 people to register will receive a \$50 gift card.*



## Caring for someone that is living with Dementia?

Come along to our mini expo and speak with providers who can assist you with information about services in the area.

**Where:** Leopold Community Hub,  
Level 1, 31-39 Kensington Rd  
Leopold

**When:** Monday, 16 June  
11am – 2pm

On site at the event: Free light lunch, tea & coffee provided, local providers, relaxing music by Gary Dean, and a presentation from Dayle Johnson of Calm Minds Clinic to end the day.

This is a registration-only event.

Please register by calling 0403 183 022 or contacting Cindy Jobe at  
[Cindy.Job@amcservices.org.au](mailto:Cindy.Job@amcservices.org.au).

The first 20 people to register will receive a \$50 gift card.

## WANT A SAFER PLACE TO LIVE?

Want to help make your neighbourhood a safer, stronger and better place to live?

- Are you concerned about your personal safety and that of your family?
- Would you like to be involved in potentially doing something about it?

With local support, Neighbourhood Watch is being revived across the Bellarine.

If this is something that interests you, contact Neighbourhood Watch either by :

- email to [neighbourhoodwatchgeelong@gmail.com](mailto:neighbourhoodwatchgeelong@gmail.com) or
- call Rhonda on 0418 351 913.



# Neighbourhood Watch Bellarine



## SPEED ALERT



Drivers in the state of Victoria will be required to slow down to 40km/h or less when passing a greater number of roadside services personnel from July.

The new law sees the 40km/h speed limit - which already applies to roadside police, fire and ambulance vehicles when their emergency lights are flashing - expand to include tow trucks and roadside assistance vehicles, as well as traffic management and incident response workers.

The new law essentially means motorists must slow to 40km/h for any vehicle stopped on the roadside with red, blue, magenta - and now yellow - flashing lights.



## IT WAS THE BEST THING WE EVER DID!

Joan and David from Indented Head moved from Hawthorn in 2001 when David retired.

**‘It was so quiet here then but we don’t regret a minute of it – especially after what happened to David.’**

Joan had read about the Bellarine Police Community Support Register in The Port Report when the service commenced in 2006 and signed them up. ‘It was the best thing we ever did.’

Their initial Volunteer Caller was a former Portarlington Police Member and local resident.

‘Barry was a wonderful man. He was never in any hurry to finish a chat. We missed him dreadfully when he died.’

Their new BCSR Caller, Margaret was alerted to unusual activity one morning when David answered the phone instead of

Joan. When asked, David said that he did not know where his wife was.

The Caller asked David to check all the rooms in the house, the garden and garage. When David finally returned to the phone call, he was quite agitated.

Margaret noted that their First Emergency Contact, Warrick lived next door to them.

Once David agreed, Margaret called Warrick to be informed that Joan was having a day procedure at the Epworth Hospital. Warwick said he would go in and reassure David that Joan was ok and sit with him until Joan returned.

When Margaret informed David of all this, David calmed immediately.

Acting on Margaret’s advice, the neighbour then rang Joan and David’s son, Jarrod to tell him what was happening.

Later that day, Jarrod left a message on the BCSR office phone to say how appreciative he and his family was for alerting them to what turned out to be a significant decline in David’s memory.

As a result, they were putting in place some MyAgedCare home visits and respite support through Bellarine Community Health should there need to be future separations between the couple for any other reason.

Joan, in particular, was the most relieved. ‘I can’t thank you enough’ she said when her Monday morning calls resumed. ‘I was beside myself not knowing what to do.’

**Do you know anyone who lives on the Bellarine who would benefit from a weekly phone call from one of our Volunteers?**

The Bellarine Community Support Register operates from the Bellarine Police Station in Ocean Grove and does just that to those who request it.

A weekly check-in call from a Volunteer can significantly enhance the quality of life for couples caring for each other or where one partner is caring for the other.



Published with permission from the artist, William Linford

**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: ☐ \$5 ☐ \$10 ☐ \$20 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please tick the appropriate amount.

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

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

Our account details are: **BENDIGO BANK** Branch **633 108** Account **127 715 209**.

**BELLARINE COMMUNITY SUPPORT REGISTER INC**

Proudly supported by



**GEELONG  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**



& St Leonards  
Neighbourhood Watch

## IT MAKES SENSE TO PRE-PLAN

- Fix the cost of a funeral forever.
- Record exactly how to be remembered at the service, in your own unique way.
- A Funeral bond can help preserve your pension entitlements.

Call our team or visit our website for an obligation-free consultation on **03 5248 3444**

[www.kingsfunerals.com.au](http://www.kingsfunerals.com.au)



GREATER GEELONG THE BELLARINE PENINSULA THE SURF COAST 65+ YEARS

If undeliverable please return to:  
**Bellarine Community Support Register**  
PO Box 819  
Ocean Grove Vic 3226



**POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA**