

## Knox Bright Ideas Network

**Wednesday, 7 February 2024 - 2.00 pm - 3.30pm**  
**Ambleside homestead – 3 Olivebank Rd, Ferntree Gully**

*We are the voice of Over 55s in Knox. We work on events, projects and issues that are important.*

*We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of the Wurundjeri and Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation and pay our respects to elders past and present.*

**Present-** Names withheld

**Apologies-** Names withheld

### Welcome and introductions

Acknowledgement and welcome to the first Bright Idea’s meeting for 2024.

### Information session on Knox Historical Society and Ambleside

Karin Orpin provided an informative welcome and introduction to the Knox Historical Society and Ambleside Homestead. Inta gave an interesting tour of the homestead. The Historical Society are in need of volunteers and are recruiting. If you are passionate about history or just looking for a fun way to give back to the community, KHS has a lot to offer. For more information, **phone- 9758 6722 or email- [khs@relics.com](mailto:khs@relics.com)**.

### Discussion “Find Your Joy” event – This is a follow on event from the Housing & Garden Expo

#### Feedback

<b>EXERCISE</b>	Tai Chi Lite paced movement class Active and passive exercise
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>	Restful ideas Creating an environment indoors to promote a good sense of wellbeing – eg. Paint/ décor/ideas for staying at home longer Recycling examples/lessons – Upcycling (ideas, techniques and being creative) Nature tours Carpentry Dulux provide talks about colours and how to arrange your house better.
<b>HEALTH</b>	Healthy Eating -Cooking class demonstration Cooking from plants Chemical free cleaning products Diseases and prevention
<b>GARDEN</b>	Knox Environmental Society -Plants to encourage bees, insects, butterflies, frogs etc



	Composting lessons Build terrariums Community gardening- How to develop shared space Speaker – Costa Georgiadis Indigenous herbs Basin Farm – Bee’s
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	Facilities for people needing to get to activities/groups E-bike trials
<b>CONNECTION</b>	Conversation Groups Volunteering
<b>ANIMALS</b>	Talk on dogs/cats breeds, life expectancy, behaviours
<b>MERCHANDISE</b>	Can opener – ring top can opener

## Council business – What’s happening at Knox City Council

### Improving parking in Bayswater

We are proposing minor parking changes in Bayswater Activity Centre to better meet community needs. Have your say by 3 March.

Council is responsible for effectively managing parking to ensure it is fair, equitable, accessible and safe for our community. Following community consultation in early 2020, we have developed the draft Bayswater Parking Management Plan to improve parking in the activity centre.

The draft plan is proposing minor changes in the commercial area of Bayswater Activity Centre, to support parking turnover, provide accessible parking, and improve access along local roads.

Proposed parking changes include:

- introducing 2 hour parking (2P) time restrictions for parking on Church St near Woolworths to assist with turnover
- introducing an accessible parking space along the northern side of Mountain Highway Service Road, between Church Street and Valentine Street
- trialling 3 hour parking (3P) for half of the Pine Road carpark to support more parking

Future steps of the draft plan includes implementing parking restrictions in the residential area upon community requests and needs. View the draft plan, and provide feedback on our [Have your say webpage](#).

### Training opportunities for community groups –

Each year, we offer free community training workshops to support not-for-profit community groups and clubs that deliver activities, programs and services in Knox.

The workshops provide opportunities for members and volunteers to develop new skills. In the coming weeks you can learn how to apply for Council grants, create compelling project ideas, pick up some new tips for your grant application or encourage more volunteers. Workshops also offer a great way to meet and network with other community group members.

With the annual Community Development Fund opening on 1 April 2024, now is the time for community groups to get grant ready. This is your chance to apply for up to \$20,000 to go towards a local community group or club project



Workshop	Dates
<p><b>Grant Information Session</b></p> <p>This session is designed to help you prepare to apply for a grant. It will explain how to apply, who is eligible and includes a short Child Safety overview as it relates to grants.</p> <p><a href="#">Find out more</a></p>	<p>15 February or 13 March</p>
<p><b>Volunteers - The 3Rs of Recruitment, Retention and Recognition</b></p> <p>This session will help you successfully recruit, retain and recognise the important contribution volunteers make; leading to longer retention rates and a healthy culture.</p> <p><a href="#">Learn more</a></p>	<p>22 February</p>
<p><b>All about Knox - looking at demographics</b></p> <p>Ever wondered how many people live in Knox, who we are and how we live? This workshop is designed to make stats more interesting, this will be an interactive session focused on how Knox is changing and growing.</p> <p><a href="#">Find out more</a></p>	<p>29 February</p>
<p><b>Project Planning and Design</b></p> <p>This interactive workshop will be full of simple tools and principles to help you define a project, including its scope and desired outcomes in preparation for approaching funding bodies and partners. This is the first step in your grant writing.</p> <p><a href="#">Learn more</a></p>	<p>6 March</p>
<p><b>Grant Writing</b></p> <p>This fun and hands-on workshop follows the Project Planning and Design session and will focus on transforming your ideas into fundable concepts. It will walk you step by step through the grant writing process. The session will look at where you can find funding, how to answer application questions and introduce you to the grant making cycle.</p>	<p>21 March</p>

## Awards to honour Knox volunteers

Council is calling for nominations in the Knox Community Awards, recognising and celebrating the valuable contribution volunteers make to our community.

Nominations are invited in categories of Knox Volunteer of the Year, Knox Community Organisation of the Year, Outstanding Volunteer Service, Recognition of Years of Service.

Winners will be announced at an awards ceremony during National Volunteer Week, Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteering, which runs from 20-26 May.

Knox Mayor, Councillor Jude Dwight said the awards will recognise individuals, organisations, clubs and groups for their volunteer efforts.

“Knox has many unsung heroes who have made valuable contributions to our community and improved the lives of others through their selfless and tireless volunteer efforts,” she said.

“The Knox Community Awards are an important way to show we value and appreciate the important work that volunteers do in many different areas, supporting those in need and helping important causes.

“These awards will recognise and celebrate those who have made a difference in our community. As well as recognising individuals for outstanding and continuous service, these awards will honour not-for-profit community groups and organisations whose work has made a positive impact to the Knox community.

“Knox has a higher than average rate of volunteering, which shows how passionate people are about contributing and giving back to our community.”

The 2021 Census shows Knox has 17,300 people aged 15+ who did some form of voluntary work through an organisation or group in the previous 12 months. This is 13.1% of the population aged 15+ and is higher than the proportion for Greater Melbourne overall (12.1%).

The largest group of volunteers in Knox are people aged 40-49 (3,500 people or 16.5% of residents in that age group), while there are 600 volunteers in their 80s and 90s. A total of 11,200 Australian-born residents and 6,100 overseas-born residents in Knox volunteer.

Nominations open Monday 5 February and close Monday 1 April.

For more information visit [knox.vic.gov.au/communityawards](https://knox.vic.gov.au/communityawards)

## 2024 Proposed Meetings

Date	Format
Thur 21 March	@ FTG library
Tues 30 April	@ Knox City Council – Eastgate North
Wed 19 June	@ new Knox Library
Thur 15 August	@ U3A Fair Park
Tues 17 September	@ Miller’s Homestead
Wed 6 November	@ Rowville Community Learning Centre
Thur 12 December	TBA