

BALLARAT'S ANNUAL POP CULTURE CONVENTION

PopCON

2025

**SUNDAY 28TH
SEPTEMBER
11 AM - 4 PM**

**CIVIC HALL +
BALLARAT
LIBRARY
300 MAIR ST
BALLARAT**

FREE ENTRY!

**FREE GAMES +
ACTIVITIES**

COSPLAY COMPETITION

**MARKET STALLS +
ARTISTS**

CHILL SPACE

AND MORE...

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO FIND OUT MORE

A Victorian Government initiative, all-ages event, drug, alcohol + smoke-free, safe and secure
The City of Ballarat is committed to being a child safe organisation and has zero tolerance for child abuse and harm

SUPPORTED BY:

YOUTH SERVICES CITY OF BALLARAT

BALLARAT LIBRARIES LOVE YOUR LIBRARY

SONIKA

AMPLIFY

VICTORIA State Government

goodgames BALLARAT

cmv CENTRE FOR MULTICULTURAL YOUTH

SWORDCRAFT KRIEGER

Bakery Hill

Bakers Delight
Baking fresh daily

Shop 6,
73 Victoria Street
Ballarat
5333 3845

Purchase a
white hi-fibre
or
wholemeal hi-
fibre loaf
and receive
**4 free
traditional
rolls!**

Offer valid until
15 October 2025

Only valid at Bakers
Delight Bakery Hill.

Only one pack of 4
rolls per transaction.

One coupon per
customer per day.

Try a FREE Course to Help You

- Improve your Computer Skills
- Find a Job
- Volunteer for the Community
- Improve your English and Literacy
- Learn Something New!

Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre,
11 Tuppen Drive, Sebastopol
www.ballaratnc.org.au Phone: 5329 3273



Victoria has tough new bail laws

These laws are aimed at reducing the risk of reoffending, by making it harder to get bail if you're accused of a violent crime.

There are also new offences if you break your bail conditions or commit a crime while on bail.



Scan to learn more about
Victoria's new bail laws



Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

International Week of Deaf People



Hi All.

I am Gary Kerridge, The Regional Outreach Officer for Ballarat region. I am employed by Deaf Victoria and I have a simple aim, to make sure our Ballarat community is accessible and inclusive for people who are Deaf and hard-of-hearing. Whether this is local services, government services, sporting facilities or the Arts, the aim is to make these areas as accessible and inclusive as possible. Sometimes I work with individuals and families to help them advocate for access and services and sometimes I work with local organisations and disability groups to develop partnerships and opportunities that will make the community more accessible and inclusive.

I am really excited to announce that between **22 and 28 September** it will be the **International Week of Deaf People**. This year's theme is **No Human Rights Without Sign**

Language Rights. What does this mean?

It's really simple, all Deaf people who use sign language throughout the world have a right to access sign language. They have a right to:

- 1) Acquire sign language and be part of the rich and vibrant Deaf community.
- 2) Access sign language for their education.
- 3) Engage sign language interpreters to access services like health, employment, counselling and other supports to meet their personal needs.
- 4) Access sign language so that they can join the wider community in theatre, arts, concerts, local events and so on.

Put simply, there are no Human Rights without sign language rights for Deaf people and the Deaf community, or any hard-of-hearing person who has chosen sign language as a means of communication, even if it is later in life.

Join us in celebrating International Week of Deaf people.

Gary Kerridge
Regional Outreach Officer - Ballarat
0419 811 523
8338 4230
gary.kerridge@deafvictoria.org.au
deafvictoria.org.au

Support for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Community


The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House offers a range of Community Auslan activities including classes and social groups. See p.12 for the Term 4 Activities Calendar and contact details to register.

JOE McCRACKEN MP
MEMBER FOR WESTERN VICTORIA



**I'm here to help
with any state
government matters.**

A: 17 Lydiard St North, BALLARAT VIC 3350
E: joe.mccracken@parliament.vic.gov.au
P: 5332 2405 | W: www.joemccracken.com.au



730 Eureka Street Ballarat East
Open Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9.00am - 3.00pm
5332 4400, becshed.org.au
New Members welcome to join
Facebook: [becs-ballarat east community men's shed](https://www.facebook.com/becs-ballarat-east-community-men-s-shed)

Good governance support for community groups continues

Community Bank

Buninyong

Bendigo Bank

The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House is excited to be partnering with the Community Bank Buninyong to continue to offer governance support to local community groups.

On **Wednesday 19** and again on **Saturday 29 November**, we will be offering two free Community Group Workshop Days. Topics will be specific to community groups and include **Grant Writing, Financial Management, Marketing and Promotion** and **Recruiting and Managing Volunteers**. There will be the option to network with others and lunch will be provided.

The Community Group Workshop Days will be held at Buninyong Community House and registration is required. The Saturday program will be a repeat of the Wednesday program.

Over the past four years, through a Strategic Partnership Grant from the City of Ballarat, the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House developed a series of engaging workshops to support community groups with some of the trickier elements of running an organisation. In addition to facilitated discussions, the Workshop Days will include four of the most popular topics, .

Together with the Community Bank Buninyong, we will continue to support local community groups through offering Workshop Days and also by providing 1:1 support to

community groups with specific issues or concerns related to governing their organisation, such as following the constitution, conflict within a Committee, implementing the Child Safe Standards, running an Annual General Meeting (AGM), reporting to the Australian Tax Office (ATO) and more.

Supporting this project, the City of Ballarat engaged the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House to continue to deliver Workshops supporting their Community Impact Grant Program for 2025-26.

To join our Community Group mailing list, find helpful online resources or enquire about 1:1 support visit:
ballarateastnh.org.au/communitygovernance/community-groups

Parent Pathways
An Australian Government Initiative


Djerriwarrh
Community & Education Services

\$1,250
in individual
funding support
Program eligibility applies

**Your Path.
Your Future.
Your Way.**

With **Parent Pathways**, you'll be matched with a mentor to guide you every step of the way. Together, you'll create a clear plan for your personal, study, or career goals, with tailored support and resources. All in a safe, supportive space **where your children are always welcome.**



Where to find more information **1300 000 175**
Helping Parents Thrive | Geelong & Ballarat
www.djerriwarrh.org.au/parent-pathways 

Participation is voluntary, people can self-refer, join anytime and leave whenever they choose.

Power Saving Bonus Support



The Ballarat East Neighbourhood House is an official community outreach provider for the State Government's \$100 Power Saving Bonus. We are assisting eligible community members to receive this one-off payment to help ease energy bill stress and to help them seek out a better energy deal.

To be eligible, households will need to:

- Be a Victorian residential energy consumer (i.e. have a residential electricity account) - applicants must be the account holder.
- Have a recent residential electricity bill.
- Hold one of the following concession cards:
 - Health Care Card
 - Pensioner Concession Card
 - Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card
 - Veterans' Affairs Gold Card

One payment is available per household. Drop-in times and details for appointments are on p.12.

Digital Skills Support



Join the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House for a free Get Online Week event from **1.00 pm - 3.00 pm** on **Thursday 23 October** during our weekly Community Auslan (Australian Sign Language) Practice Group session at Barkly Square, Ballarat East. Learn digital skills to help practise the basics of Auslan in a welcoming group setting. All levels are welcome and voices are used to help clarify, support and encourage understanding Auslan.

Supported by our Community Auslan teacher and local Deaf Victoria Regional Outreach Officer for Ballarat, learn how to access a range of resources to support people wanting to learn Auslan, such as the Auslan online dictionary and relevant educational videos. Be introduced to great resources for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing community.

People who register will receive a free hot or cold drink from the cafe. See p.12 for contact details.

Financial Wellbeing



Cafs will be delivering these free sessions at the Ballarat East Neighbourhood House in November (registration details are on p.12):

Renter rights and responsibilities:

Wednesday 5, 10.00 am - 11.00 am

- Renter rights and responsibilities
- Common rental problems and what you can do

Financial Wellbeing:

Friday 7, 10.00 am - 11.00 am, also on

Wednesday 26, 10.00 am - 11.00 am

- Being money smart
- Budgeting and tips for saving/reducing costs
- Credit and loans

Scams and being safe online:

Tuesday 11, 10.00 am - 11.00 am

- Types of scams and how to spot them
- Ways you can protect yourself online and against scams
- What to do if you think you have been scammed

Gambling Harm Awareness:

Wednesday 12, 10.00 am - 11.00 am

- Gambling harm statistics and signs to look out for
- How to get support, both financial and therapeutic

Budgeting:

Tuesday 25, 10.00 am - 11.00 am

- What is a budget and what are the benefits? Where do you start?
- Budgeting language
- Long term budgeting techniques

Quality, affordable, pet friendly, over 50's living



263 Scott Pde, Brown Hill 3350 | 03 5332 2009 | ballaratlifestylevillage.com.au



Term 4, 2025: Activities

Mondays

Tuesdays

Wednesdays

Thursdays

Fridays

Community Auslan: C
with Jane - Learn Local Course*
9.30 am - 12.00 noon
Barkly Square, Rm #103
\$95, 8-week course,
from 13 October

Power Saving Bonus
10.00 am - 12.00 noon
Barkly Square, Rm #102
FREE assistance to apply
\$100 Power Saving Bonus

Community Auslan: B
with Jane - Learn Local Course*
12.30 pm - 3.00 pm
Barkly Square, Rm #103
\$95, 8-week course,
from 13 October

**Monday Mend-Along &
Art-and-Crafternoon**
with Liz
12.30 pm - 3.00 pm
Barkly Square, Rm #102
FREE, from 6 October
BYO art, craft, sewing or
mending projects, supplies
& equipment. All welcome.

Climate Café
with Susan and Gerry
5.30 pm - 7.00 pm
Barkly Square, Rm #103
FREE, monthly Mondays:
6 Oct, 3 Nov, 8 Dec
A supportive facilitated
space to share thoughts
and feelings about the
climate crisis.

**Registrations &
Payments**
You can register for our
activities online, or contact
our office on 0422 612 052.
Payment plans are
available on request if
needed.

Office open hours
9.00 am - 3.00 pm:
Mondays, Wednesdays,
Thursdays and Fridays
9.00 am - 5.00 pm:
Tuesdays
(Closed Public Holidays &
School Holidays)

**FREE Financial
Support Information
Sessions with Cafs**
10.00 am - 11.00 am
Barkly Square, Rm #102
FREE
Scams and Being Safe
Online: 11 November and
Budgeting: 25 November

**Tuesday
Walking Group**
9.30 am - 10.30 am
Meet outside the Café at
Barkly Square for a walk
along Specimen Vale
Creek to Eureka Centre
FREE, from 7 October

Chatty Tuesdays
10.30 am - 12.00 noon
Atrium or the Café
Barkly Square
FREE, from 7 October

Community Auslan: A
with Jane - Learn Local Course*
12.30 pm - 3.00 pm
Barkly Square, Rm #103
\$95, 8-week course,
from 14 October

Power Saving Bonus
1.00 pm - 3.00 pm
Barkly Square, Rm #102
FREE assistance to apply
\$100 Power Saving Bonus

Tanzpro (6-12 yo)
with Liz
4.00 pm - 5.30 pm
Barkly Square, Rm #103
\$150, 10-week course,
from 7 October
FREE Come & Try sessions

Expressions of Interest
also being taken for
Tanzpro (3-6 yo) with Liz
Time and date TBC

Ballarat East Neighbourhood House is on **Wadawurrung Country**,
Ground Floor @ Barkly Square, 25-39 Barkly St, Ballarat East.

To register or find out more: ballarateastnh.org.au
Contact Us: 0422 612 052 or reception@ballarateastnh.org.au
Follow us online: facebook.com/BallaratEastNH
instagram.com/ballarateastneighbourhoodhouse/

**FREE Financial
Support Information
Sessions with Cafs**
10.00 am - 11.00 am
Barkly Square, Rm #102
FREE
In November: **Renter
Rights and
Responsibilities (5th),
Gambling Harm
Awareness (12th) &
Financial Wellbeing (26th)**

**Wednesday
Walking Group**
9.30 am - 10.30 am
Meet outside the Café at
Barkly Square for a walk
along Specimen Vale
Creek to Eureka Centre
FREE, from 8 October

Chatty Wednesdays
10.30 am - 12.00 noon
Atrium or the Café
Barkly Square
FREE, from 8 October

Winter Woollies
with Sandra
1.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Barkly Square, Rm #102
FREE, from 8 October
Craft/Knit/Crochet/Create
All welcome

**Feldenkrais with
Lynden**
2.00 pm - 3.00 pm
Barkly Square, Rm #103
\$90, 6-week course,
from 22 October

Tai Chi with Jack
3.30 pm - 4.30 pm
Barkly Square, Rm #103
\$135, 9-week course,
from 15 October

Power Saving Bonus
10.00 am - 12.00 noon
Barkly Square, Rm #102
FREE assistance to apply
\$100 Power Saving Bonus

Book Group
10.30 am - 12.00 noon
Atrium, near the Café
Barkly Square
FREE, monthly Thursdays
during school term:
9 October, 13 November,
11 December.
Additional sessions on 23
October and 27 November
to chat about books with a
particular theme.
See website (or contact us)
for book/theme details.

Qigong with Klyti
**11.15 am - 12.15 pm or
1.00 pm - 2.00 pm EOI**
Barkly Square, Rm #103
\$135, 9-week course,
from 9 October

**Community Auslan:
Practice Group**
2.00 pm - 3.00 pm
Atrium or the Café
Barkly Square
FREE, from 9 October

Be Connected
Digital Skills Support
12.30 pm - 2.30 pm
Barkly Square, Rm #102
FREE, from 9 October
Supporting people aged
50+ to use technology and
learn new digital skills.

*Contact us to let us
know what activities
you'd like to see on our
calendar in 2026!*

**FREE Financial
Support Information
Sessions with Cafs**
10.00 am - 11.00 am
Barkly Square, Rm #103
FREE
Financial Wellbeing:
7 November

Power Saving Bonus
10.00 am - 12.00 noon
Barkly Square, Rm #102
FREE assistance to apply
\$100 Power Saving Bonus

Saturdays

**Community Auslan:
"Voice Off" Practice**
10.00 am - 11.30 am
Sebastopol Library
FREE, monthly Saturdays:
27 September, 25 October,
29 November

Several activities supported by:



*All Learn Local Courses
receive Victorian State
Government funding through
the Adult and Community
Further Education program,
which covers the tuition costs
up to a rate of \$9.35/hour
per person.
Participants pay a course fee
to cover our administration,
amenities and materials
costs.

Please see our website for
additional information
including course codes.

Venue information

Our Office, Community
Rooms #102 and #103, the
Atrium and Café are all on
the Ground Floor @ Barkly
Square. See accessibility
map of Barkly Square at:
[barklysquare.org.au/
accessibility](http://barklysquare.org.au/accessibility)