



Merry Christmas

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

A great time to enjoy bush walks, wine tasting and art ...

Shepherds Hut Vineyard (Photo Julia Myers)

There has been a lot of activity in our neck of the woods since our last issue. We wish to welcome both the visitors to our region as well as the new residents who are joining our small but active community. Beyond the beauty and the history of the Porongurup, there is a thriving community who welcome your involvement, whether as a volunteer on one of our many and varied committees, as a volunteer firefighter, or perhaps as a participant or attendee at one of the various events and activities that occur during the year.

If you need to know the local tip days, where to find the Silver Shed for the monthly Social Sunday (on the first Sunday of every month), how to get to Devils Slide, where to find the famous Field of Dreams to see the local cricket team, the Woodburners, or even information on the local trades, simply call in to the Tearooms and ask Scott for information.

A reminder to all that it has been a very dry spring and we are in the middle of the bush fire season. That means no open fires, and no activity that may lead to sparks. If you are a new resident we recommend touching base with the local fire chief who can guide you on the do's and don'ts to ensure a responsible and safe community. There is no excuse for ignorance, be aware of the local area fire regulations.

To our regular readers, we hope you enjoy this month's update and wish everyone all the best for a safe, healthy and enjoyable festive season.

Happy New Year!

Our Art in the Porongurup Committee lead by Sayah Drummond have been busy laying the groundwork for next year's event.

Make sure you put Easter Friday 2025 onwards in your dairies to see what awesome sculptures will be entered for this free annual outdoor family community event.

Entries are now open, but if you are not the creative type, get the family to visit over Easter and check out the works of the Great Southern artists who dedicate many hours producing their creations. Check out our website for last year's amazing entries.

We wish to thank our generous sponsors without whom we simply could not run this special event: **Bendigo Bank, Porongurup Shop and Tearooms, Mount Barker CO-OP, Shire of Plantagenet, Porongurup Promotions Association, Friends of the Porongurup and Scrubby Creek Bush Camp.**

Brought to you by

PCA | PORONGURUP Community Assoc.

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Tuesday 'Art Hang' at 6.30 pm continues at the Tearooms, just rock up, no experience required.

Spinners & Weavers

Usually meet every Thursday in the Porongurup Hall from 10 am until 2 pm. However with refurbishments and the holiday season, best to check out the Porongurup Craft Group Facebook page or email fionajiglen@gmail.com.

Remember it's Fire Season.

No open fires are permitted.

Contact our local bushfire brigade

Porongurupbfb@gmail.com

Or phone: 9853 1133

ART IN THE PORONGURUP

Local sculpture nature trail 18-26 APRIL 2025

A free, sculpture competition in the bushland surrounds of the Porongurup Hall

Enter Now!

Minimum **\$7,000** prize pool

When: 18-26 April 2025

Time: 9am-4.30pm (9am-12pm on 26th)

Where: Porongurup Hall

Entries close: 11 April 2025

Theme: Open concept



2024 Peoples Choice
"Tough Climb" by Kelly Barker



Entry form and more info visit our website (or scan QR code): www.poronguruphall.asn.au/events
Talk to us: artintheporongurup6324@gmail.com










www.poronguruphall.asn.au/events

castle rock estate

Castle Rock Estate, located in the Porongurup region of Great Southern, has launched three new wine experiences in addition to the complimentary offerings in cellar door. These experiences are designed to offer our visitors a deeper understanding of the region and the wines we grow.

We are excited to announce our first tour products offered at the winery, supported by the Prime Mentoring Program, an initiative from Tourism WA.

Our *'Wine Flights'* are a bookable seated tasting at the cellar door, exploring either our Riesling or Pinot Noir range. These are the two varieties that we strive to excel in, and those that the Porongurup region does so well.

The cellar door provides breathtaking views of the Stirling Ranges and vineyards, creating a beautiful backdrop for wine tasting. The wine flight lasts about 30 minutes, allowing plenty of time to savour each wine and explore their intricate complexities.

Guests can also choose a 60 minute *'Guided Vineyard and Winery Tour'*. This is the first time we have opened our winery and vineyard to visitors. We are excited to lift the curtain and show behind the scenes of our winemaking.

The third experience is our *'Private Wine Flight (Riesling or Pinot Noir) in the Winery'*. Set within our winery barrel cellar, guests can explore either of our *'Wine Flights'*. This tasting provides a more in-depth and intimate experience. It is also well-suited for larger groups, special occasions and group functions.

After the wine experience, guests can relax on our Cellar Door verandah or newly established terrace overlooking breathtaking panoramic views. For an enhanced experience, guests have the option to add a cheese grazing box or a Cheese Grazing and Wine Bundle.

New Wine Experiences launched



WINE FLIGHT RIESLING OR PINOT NOIR

\$15pp Duration 30 mins (approx.)

11am, 12pm, 1pm Daily

Enjoy an explorative tasting.

GUIDED VINEYARD AND WINERY TOUR

\$49pp Duration 60 mins (approx.)

Every Friday 11am (Minimum 2 people
for tour to proceed, max. of 10)

Venture behind the scenes with a guided
tour of our vineyard and the winery.

PRIVATE WINE FLIGHT RIESLING OR PINOT NOIR

\$45pp Duration 30 mins (approx.)

Sat & Sun 11am (minimum of 2 people)

Enjoy an explorative private tasting in
our Winery barrel cellar.

**Gift vouchers for
wine experiences
are also available,
just in time for Christmas.**

For bookings, visit

www.castlerockestate.com.au



Photo: Helen Purves



We look forward to the highly anticipated opening of Jack Shiner's *Scrubby Creek Bush Camp* sometime in 2025. No caravans, just campers with tents, swags etc. Showers, toilets and bush kitchen on site. Its going to be a special place.

Thank you to everyone who joined in the Brigade training session this afternoon. It was great to see some new faces and some of our more experienced members sharing their knowledge and skills.

Thank you also to Brad and Leanne for providing the venue and the pics, Scott and Ron for the post-training bbq and Tristan for organising.

Porongurup Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade



17 November 2024

Merry Christmas to all our amazing volunteers and their families - thank you for your support and commitment to the Brigade.

Thank you to all involved in organising the Christmas party and for everyone's contributions to make it a fantastic day.

Photos: Nicole Selesnew



Once again, Lucia to the rescue....

You can find us online at artchattergallery.com.au



Congratulations to our Porongurup Fire Captain, Tristan Hampel and his wife Danica on their new addition, Willow.



HALL ELECTRICAL UPGRADE

As part of the FRRR strengthening Rural Communities Rebuilding Regional Communities, in October 2024 the PCA acquitted our \$10,000 grant for the electrical upgrades at the Porongurup Hall targeting supporting our community capacity post Covid19. We were able to upgrade the power switchboard, install and replace a range of GPOs to assist with the purchase and install of new gallery lighting for exhibition use. We were also able to purchase and install a new reverse cycle air conditioner in the existing meeting room. We have a very happy Porongurup Craft Group these days, well, except when they had to exit the building for the asbestos removal for the kitchen upgrade. Swings and roundabouts ay!

In addition, greatly improving evening safety use, the hall now has 8 external power pole lights with thanks to the Shire of Plantagenet.



We moved to Porongurup from the States six months ago, knowing nothing about the town or its people. We thought we were moving to a quiet little area until we learned about all of the community's social activities! We keep telling our friends and family abroad how special this place is, as well as how wonderful the people who live here are. We also can't get enough of the stunning scenery and walking trails that surround us. We couldn't be happier thanks to our new Porongurup community!

Julia and Paul Myers

WOODBURNER WAFFLINGS

Can you believe it? We are entering our 11th season as the Woodburners! A rag tag bunch of local blokes who happen to love cricket.

The Pigs Arse season fixtures night was great for us. A new rule was introduced that over 70's get three runs scored for every run they make. We have Gary Mulder and Rick Brodala who both qualify! We have a few players over 60 who continue to get two runs scored for every run they make. That's Mark Henson and Mike Thorn.

Our team continue to strengthen with Mike's road sign capturing some star recruits, with 4 new players now wearing the coveted cap.

Pre season has benefited from our secret weapon. A bowling machine donated by the effervescent and generous Stewart McTaggart.. However its not always in use. We are all keen to bowl!

Unheard of training numbers have been appearing showing heights of keenness rarely seen before.

Our first game was with the Elleker Locos who have dominated the competition for many years. We optimistically hoped their star was on the wane with injuries, weight problems and drinking / smoking!!! problems. We realistically see our star as rising with new rules favouring us and keen new recruits.

Batting first we scored a respectable 7 for 230 off 33 overs with Rick Brodala and Paul Meyer each top scoring on 54 not out. Tremendous! Stewart McTaggart finally hit his straps with 38 not out.. Alas they caught up to our score in the 30th over showing their problems are still manageable. We really needed 270 to beat them!

As the golden hour of light shafted across the hallowed ground, it was the usual congratulations and commiserations softened by a beer or two. Another triumph for the game of social cricket and all those who love it..

Come along to our next game on Jan 19th where we get down and get mucky with the Denmark Muckrakers. On Feb 9th we set our trap for the wily Swamprats from Youngs Siding.

Fancy yourself as a Woodburner?

New players are always welcome.

Call Mike on 0457 958 431 and see you at the

Porongurup Cricket ground Saturdays 4pm.

PS: Congrats to Mike and Pam Thorn

who got hitched at Hanging Rock since our last newsletter!!



Paul Meyer is a very tidy cricket package with good breeding and considerable cricketing accomplishments. He is quite a find.

Simon Jennings is a lanky well bred Englishman who brings class and decorum to proceedings. Also known for his olives!



Young Jess comes with raw athletic talent but no prior experience of the complex nuances of bowling and batting. But he is very keen to learn the craft and offers unfathomable possibilities. Watch this space.

His dad Scott is indeed a solid cool headed social cricketer in the prime of his mid life... crisis. (I'm being silly) Crisis be damned, let's play cricket!



After many years of solid captaincy by Greg Baum we now have Tim McGuinness as our new captain. Tim was caught here contemplating our first result. A picture tells a thousand words doesn't it?

Vinnie thinking of what might have been.

But it wasn't!



PORONGURUP PRODUCE EXCHANGE



When: 1st Saturday of every month.

Where: Porongurup Tearooms carport area

Starts: 9.30 am

Swap: 9.45 am

Finish: 10 am

All welcome

Note: this exchange is not just for fresh produce, locals are now bringing veggies, fruit, books, magazines, clothes, household utensils, tools, fresh baked slices and cakes, there is even a sourdough starter. Even if you don't want to swap, it's a good catch up for a chin wag.

RUMOUR MILL..

PORONGURUP WINE FESTIVAL?



Just a heads up, there are rumblings afoot. People keep asking, does the Porongurup Wine Festival still run? There have been lots of changes over time, some wineries have retired, some have sold, some have closed, but, everybody loves a good party right?

So, its not quite official, but there might be a party at Jack Shiner's Scrubby Creek Bushcamp next year. And there might be winetasting, food, music and lots of Porongurup Fun at this party. At the very least, this might be a party to plan the next Festival.

Possible Date: Sunday 2 March 2025

Where: Scrubby Creek Bush Camp

Time: TBA

Cost: TBA

Contact Sarah Date

sarah@dukesvineyard.com



Residents
CHRISTMAS PARTY
Let's celebrate!

Come along for a festive drink and a chat with your neighbours....

Friday, 20 December 2024

- 5.30 pm games commence
- 6.00 pm Santa arrives
- 6.10 pm BBQ's fire up

Porongurup Hall

As the kitchen is closed for reno's
Please BYO food, drinks, glasses, & plates

Remember to add your children to Santa's list in your RSVP below.

RSVP:
15 December 2024
to Scott Drummond
at the Shop 9853 1110 or
shop@porongurupinn.com.au

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Porongurup Hall Kitchen Renovation Project



Before



In progress

Some residents and hall users will be aware of changes taking place in our Porongurup Hall. With \$50,000 received from FRRR our Leanne Cluett has been coordinating the trades for this upgrade. The grant has targeted supporting the Porongurup community to be more prepared for, and resilient to, the impacts of drought by building capacity to host activities and facilitate the use of small scale community infrastructure projects to improve connectedness, well being and facilities.

In a nutshell we will have a commercial kitchen to run more events and activities, educating the community along the way.

Kitchen completion ETA March 2025

This project is supported by FRRR, through funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund.



Lots has been happening at ...

Karribank

Mountain Country Wellness Retreat



We welcomed our new alpaca friends who are very happy settling into the front paddock.

Our new veggie patch and orchard are planted ready for the kitchen to open.

We've been receiving enquiries about New Year's Eve at Karribank, and we're thrilled by your excitement! While we're making excellent progress on the refitting of the kitchen, café, and tavern, we're not yet able to confirm whether we'll be open for the big night.

Preparations for New Year's are already underway, and we're hopeful we can make it happen. However, at this stage, we're asking for a little more patience as we finalise our plans. We expect to have a definitive answer in the next week or two, so stay tuned!

Thank you for your continued support — we can't wait to welcome you back soon!

Warm regards, The Karribank Team



A drive in the Stirlings was very fruitful for orchid spotting in September... Helen Purves

THE 'A TEAM' AT TWIN CREEKS, PORONGURUP.

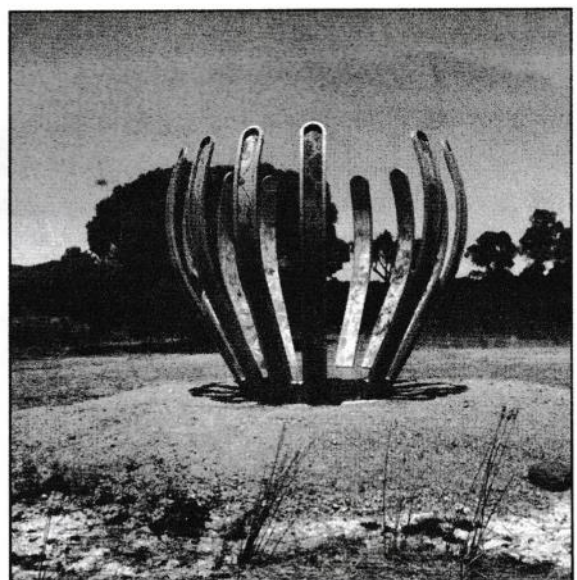
Well not quite, but with machines and assorted, aged gadgets and team members, we descended upon the Gondwana Link sculpture grounds on Knights Road. Spring growth had dried out and the area looked shabby around the striking sculpture which features story lines of the First Nation people.



The members of the Friends of Porongurup did a great job of cleaning up so the summer visitors can enjoy this sculpture and the stunning views which can be seen from the area. Just follow the signs on Knights Road, Porongurup. The 'A Team' (!) were rewarded with lunch at the shed.

The final 'Suzie's lunch' for the year was held on Sunday 1st December, when Friends' members and locals got together. Thanks to the support from everyone, another productive year was had at the Twin Creeks Conservation Reserve and many native plants and animals feel protected.

Judy O'Neil – Committee Member.





Leanne & Brad Cluett
Melbourne Cup Lunch
Karribank



Peter and Brent
Tearooms Markets



Tuesday night art
at the Tearooms



Mike Thorn's Field of Dreams,
our Woodburners team



Michelle Stanley at the 'Ta Da'
opening at Art Chatter Gallery



Fresh produce Exchange at the Tearooms



Thursday golf anyone, check
in with Scott or Gary!



Helen & Peter at fire training



Bug and Flora survey at Twin Creeks Reserve,
well done to our Friends Volunteers, 14.11.24



Bug and Flora survey at Twin
Creeks Reserve with our
allrounder, Sayah Drummond



Two of our famous dames, Judy
and Wendy, the organisers of
this year's Melbourne Cup
luncheon, well done ladies!



Helen's fruitful drive to the Stirlings



Trish & Jason
Jordan enjoy-
ing Shepherd's
Hut Winery on
the September
long weekend.



Congrats to Ben & Sarah Date,
3 years in with Dukes Vineyard!



Julia Meyer at
the Fire Brigade
Open Day



With thanks to Julia Myers for most of the photos!

PCA



The Porongurup Community Association Inc. is a 100% volunteer group who's objective is to foster community spirit and fellowship in the Porongurup. The Porongurup Hall is managed by the (PCA). Events at the hall include art exhibitions, balls, craft groups and music performances.

For your free membership and further information please go to www.poronguruphall.asn.au.

Your PCA Team

President: Scott Drummond, Treasurer: Fiona Glen, Secretary: Helen Purves

Committee: Leanne Cluett, Lucia Quearry, Sayah Drummond, Susie Woytaszek, Dylan Kennedy

Please support our local businesses:

Please check business website and Facebook for Christmas hours and New Year hours...

Castle Rock Estate

2660 Porongurup Rd, Porongurup PH: 9853 1035

Wine tastings, cheese platters. 7 days, 10 am to 4.30 pm. www.castlerockestate.com.au

Duke's Vineyard

1328 Porongurup Rd, Porongurup PH: 9853 1107

Wine tastings and art gallery. Friday to Monday, 11 am to 4.30 pm. www.dukesvineyard.com

Ironwood Estate

2191 Porongurup Rd, Porongurup PH: 9853 1126

Wine tastings, morning & afternoon tea and lunch. Wednesday to Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm. www.ironwoodestatewines.com.au

Karribank Mountain Country Wellness Retreat

1983 Porongurup Rd, Porongurup PH: 0408 882 200

Under major renovation with new Six Season Restaurant opening soon. www.karribank.com.au or check out Facebook

Maleeya's Thai Cafe

1416 Mount Barker, Porongurup Rd, Porongurup PH: 9853 1123

If you want to try this popular café you had better book ahead. Usually open for dinner Friday and Saturday night, and lunch on Saturday and Sunday. www.maleeya.com.au

Porongurup Chalets

3 Bolganup Rd, Porongurup PH: 0493 219 850

A-Frame chalets at the entry road to the range. www.porongurupchalets.com

Porongurup Range Tourist Park

7 Boxhill Rd, Porongurup PH: 0404 062 943

Powered and non powered camp sites. www.poronguruprangetouristpark.com.au

Porongurup Tearooms

1972 Porongurup Rd, Porongurup PH: 9853 1110

Enjoy breakfast, lunch, morning or afternoon tea, gifts, art and fuel. Open 7 days

Monday to Friday 8 am to 4 pm, Saturday 9.30 am to 5pm, and Sunday 8 am to 5 pm.

Woodlands Distillery

1455 O'Neill Rd, Porongurup

Whiskey, spirits and light meals. Friday to Tuesday, 11 am to 4 pm, track them at www.woodlandsdistillery.com or on Facebook

New to the area, why not meet the locals at our monthly Social Sunday



Check out the Friends of the Porongurup's

"Social Sundays" All welcome

When: the first Sunday of every month

You do not need to be a member of the Friends to join this social lunch!!

Where: Midday at the Silver Shed, Twin Creeks, 326 Knight Road, Porongurup, entry is south of the sculpture

Please bring a plate to share or something for the barbie and we'll catch up on what is happening within the Porongurup area

Occasionally the date changes, check with Susie on 0428 854 110

www.porongurup.org.au

The Barker Art Scene

There are some great local artists displaying in a range of media. For who is open when check out this website...

www.thebarkerartscene.com