

Your

# Bass Coast Adult Learning



Newsletter



We are looking forward to seeing you this year!



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[instagram.com/bcaledu](https://instagram.com/bcaledu)



[www.bcal.vic.edu.au](http://www.bcal.vic.edu.au)

# Welcome to BCAL in 2022!

The Committee and staff have had a well-earned break and are planning a diverse and stimulating program for Term 1.

One of the most exciting developments that occurred during the break has been the installation of 14.7 kW of solar panels on the roof of our Admin building.

While the panels will enable significant savings on our power bills, we also want to use them to establish a demonstration site that will inform the Bass Coast community of the benefits of renewable energy and its capacity to reduce carbon emissions.

BCAL is grateful to the Energy Innovation Co-operative Public Fund, which has provided us with an interest-free loan to cover much of the cost of supply and installation of the panels.

The first event of the year will be our Open Food Garden weekend: Bass Coast Edible Gardens, on February 19 and 20<sup>th</sup>. Fifteen gardens across the shire will be open for people to enjoy, learn and be inspired. Growing your own food is good for your health - mental and physical – it's good for the environment and it's good for your finances.

At BCAL we're on a mission to help people grow their own food and gain all these benefits. The weekend will also include a Community Dinner featuring locally grown produce. Visit the website at: [www.basscoastediblegardens.com](http://www.basscoastediblegardens.com), where you can book tickets for the gardens and the dinner.

Most of our many and varied accredited and pre-accredited programs will commence at the beginning of February and I take this opportunity to remind people that participation in any BCAL program delivered on-site requires presentation of evidence of double vaccination against COVID-19 and a mask to be worn.

BCAL strives to create an environment that is welcoming, inclusive and non-judgemental. All our staff work to provide members of our diverse Bass Coast community with opportunities to increase their social connectedness, share their stories, gain confidence and especially, to be excited about learning.

I want to take this opportunity to wish Deb Watson, BCAL's much valued Centre Manager, a speedy recovery and we look forward to welcoming her back at work in the not-too-distant future.

Unfortunately, COVID19 disrupted our end-of-year celebration lunch in December and staff and Committee resolved to re-schedule the event as a *Welcome Back to Deb!*

We all at BCAL look forward to seeing you join a class or just drop in to see what we have to offer.

*Maddy*

Chair, BCAL Committee of Management



# HORTICULTURE with AJ

Now is the time to enrol if you want a piece of the action as we gear up for another action packed year in the garden.

Our Certificate III Program commences on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February.

In terms of gardening action, we're into the 3<sup>rd</sup> Month of summer so there should be plenty to harvest in the veggie patch including zucchinis, tomatoes, cucumbers, chills, egg plants, potatoes etc. etc.

Prune your nectarine and plum trees as soon as they finish fruiting to encourage new growth.

Start planning for the autumn garden and sow that new season seed (leafy greens, broccoli, cabbage, beetroot etc.)

Finally keep a look out for the flowering gum *Corymbia ficifolia* which is in full bloom and looking its best at the moment.

We will see you in the garden!- Adrian James



## COMMUNITY GARDEN with Linda 0429 001 214



Fresh carrots plucked from a garden bed.

Potatoes harvested by volunteers.

Conversations grow as the sun warms the soil and feeds our souls.

Our Community Garden has been bringing people together for fifteen years and provides fresh food for many kitchen tables. We have a couple of garden beds that are looking for people to adopt them. Experienced or novice, becoming a community gardener will enhance your lifestyle in many ways. Drop in on any Thursday morning to have a chat or soak up some ambience. You're always welcome.





# CERTIFICATE III IN HORTICULTURE

AHC30716

**Enrol now to study locally in 2022**

With small class sizes and face to face training in a supportive learning environment, now is the best time to study Horticulture in Wonthaggi.

You will develop the skills, knowledge, and industry connections necessary to succeed in furthering your horticulture career.

**Start Date:** 14th February 2022

3 Days per week (Mon, Tue, Wed)

**Duration:** 38 Weeks

**Time:** 9:30am-3:00pm

**Location:**

Bass Coast Adult Learning

239 White Road Wonthaggi

Call 5672 3115

[www.bcal.vic.edu.au](http://www.bcal.vic.edu.au)

[fb.me/bcadultlearning](https://fb.me/bcadultlearning)



**TAKE THE NEXT STEP**

With Bass Coast Adult Ed

[www.basscoastadulthood.org.au](http://www.basscoastadulthood.org.au) // (03) 5672 3115



# EDIBLE GARDENS 2022 –Show and tell

A plant 'show and tell' is coming to gardens near you. Fifteen of Bass Coast's finest edible gardens will open to visitors between 10am and 4pm on Saturday February 19 and Sunday 20.

They include four small acreages, five community gardens and six backyard gardens. Two things they have in common are passionate gardeners and edible plants.

The people who created and maintain this eclectic mix will be available to show you through their garden and discuss different approaches and methods of achieving your ideal.

Whether you live in an urban or rural area, in a house with a small yard, in an apartment or on a larger block, this fabulous selection of gardens has something for you.

It's for everyone from beginners to experienced gardeners seeking insight into fields as diverse as water management, wicking beds, permaculture, composting and insect pollinators.



## CELEBRATORY DINNER

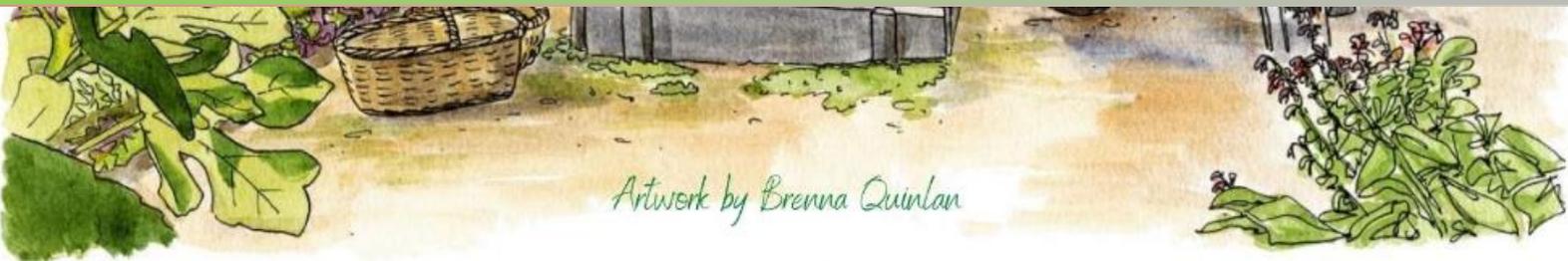
Tickets are \$5 per garden or \$20 for all gardens over the two days. The event also includes a celebratory three-course dinner featuring local produce at the Corinella Public Hall on Saturday night. The cost is \$55.

*Online bookings for all the gardens and dinner are now open at [www.trybooking.com/BTVWB](http://www.trybooking.com/BTVWB)*

Bass Coast Adult Learning are also seeking volunteers for three-hour shifts to help with check-ins at the gardens.

Contact Leslie on 0491 217 584 or [leslie.adams@bcal.vic.edu.au](mailto:leslie.adams@bcal.vic.edu.au) if you can help.





*Artwork by Brenna Quinlan*

Bass Coast Edible Gardens presents

# Open Food Gardens Weekend

**Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th February 2022**

**10am to 4pm**

*A wonderful weekend visiting food growing gardens in Bass Coast  
and learning how to create your own.*

*Visits may include chickens, bees and passionate growers - you've been warned!*



# CREATE your FUTURE



STUDY



# HAIRDRESSING

WITH SALON ASSISTANT (SHB20216)...

WITH A PATHWAY TO:



CHAT WITH US!

(03) 5672 3115

[www.bcal.vic.edu.au](http://www.bcal.vic.edu.au)

[fb.me/bcadultlearning](https://fb.me/bcadultlearning)

Study mode: On Campus | Location: Wonthaggi  
Duration: 6 Months, 1 day per week + home study  
and 100 hours work placement | Type: Accredited course

RETAIL COSMETICS  
HAIRDRESSING  
BEAUTY SERVICES  
MAKEUP  
BARBERING  
NAIL TECHNOLOGY  
PHEW! THAT'S A LOT!



Bass Coast  
Adult Learning

RTOID: 3702 [Learn More.](#)

# HAIRDRESSING with Kate McNish.



**Rachael Evans, Mia Weisse, Kate McNish (Trainer) Brooke Thatcher, and Chloe Sevenich.**

If you are interested in fashion, styling or health, a hairdressing or beauty therapy career is an excellent path to choose.

Here at BCAL , we offer Salon Assistant Certificate II as your first step.

We are constantly updating this course to stay on top of new ideas, styles and industry trends.



For your training, we have models who come to our Campus Salon and, of course, you can bring a friend or family member along to practice on.

Then you do work experience in a local Salon to hone your skills, (the number of hours can vary).

Our course teaches you to become a valued, high performing Salon Assistant who can work at salons in our area.

Our campus is friendly and welcoming.

Come along and meet your teacher, Kate and see our on campus salon.

**“We deliver the theory and practise the practicals.”**

February 25th



# Free Business Breakfast

Your host,  
Josh Latham



Guest Speaker  
Beau Vernon



With any ability,  
everyone deserves  
the best chance to work

Friday 25th February, The Clubhouse, Wonthaggi Golf Club

7am-9am

Limited booking, RSVP - [www.trybooking.com/BTOBB](http://www.trybooking.com/BTOBB)



# DIVERSEABILITY Breakfast 25th February



## Local businesses are struggling.

Staff retention levels are falling. Hiring new people is more challenging than ever.

I can introduce you to a fresh pool of workers who are ready to become effective members of your team.

As a starting point, I would like to invite you to a fully catered Business Breakfast that will spotlight inclusive employment.

It's headlined "DIVERSEABILITY" and will be held at the WONTHAGGI GOLF CLUB from 7AM on Friday, Feb 25th.

Friday morning is premium diary space so I have to give you great reasons to get out early and start your day with us.

Beau Vernon is one of our guest speakers. He will be backed up by a panel of industry experts and me.

**I'm Josh Latham and I'm the Marketing officer at Bass Coast Adult Learning.**

That's a role that makes me get out of bed early and hit the ground running. I write newsletters, media releases social media posts and ensure we stick to our mission - capacity building.

My core role is to circulate information to help people find their place.

My employers are really happy (I hope!) with me and I have my dream job which motivates me to aim higher and try harder. I'm confident. I'm a hard worker. I'm positive.

I can run faster than Forest Gump 😊

But seriously, I have faced barriers. I have a disability. Bass Coast Adult Learning helped build my resilience and my capacity in many areas. Providers such as Maxima matched my skills with employer's expectations. A lot people are job ready with no Jobs.

Here's something I can tell you that you might not know - people with a disability can be the best worker you've had.

As Dylan Alcott said last week: "We're not just ready to work, we're ready to take your jobs, alright? We are coming. We are coming. But we've got to get those opportunities".

To learn more, get up early on the 25th and head for the Golf Club.

<https://www.trybooking.com/BTOBB>

**"Show me the coffee!"**

# Coastal Connections: Work Ties



Coastal Connections – Work Ties (CCWT) is a program designed to link newly arrived migrants with local employment opportunities.

It is based at Bass Coast Adult Learning (BCAL) and combines on-site activities as well as an online hub.

Participants may be migrants currently living in Bass Coast or those who wish to move to the area.

Individuals may be looking for a job or currently working, but would like to meet more members in their local community.

In CCWT, people will have the opportunity to:

- Join a supportive network of like-minded people.*
- Gain awareness of local employment practices.*
- Learn more about local community groups and activities.*
- Receive relevant training.*
- Practice and enhance English language skills with support.*
- Highlight your success and contribute skills.*
- Build relationships with service providers, community groups and employers*

If you, a friend, family member or workplace, would like to join our program, please email us,

**[ccwt@bcal.vic.edu.au](mailto:ccwt@bcal.vic.edu.au) or call our centre on (03) 5672 3115.**



## EAL with Daryl and Olivia

### Migrant English

#### English as an Additional Language

Small, fun social classes at all levels with a relaxed and social atmosphere. For all persons of non-English speaking backgrounds who need assistance. Meet some friendly faces and get the help and support you need from our dedicated team!

**New arrivals - AMEP eligible students can receive FREE tuition.**

Study Part time: 1 day per week  
Study Full time: 2 days per week

Mondays and Tuesdays, 10am - 3pm.

Certificates delivered:  
22484VIC, 22485VIC, 22486VIC  
Certificate in English as an additional Language

# Mon Eager, Admin and Compliance Officer

Mon Eager is often the first person to greet you at Bass Coast Adult Learning.



I work at the front desk from Monday to Friday. I help people with general admin assistance including the enrolment process. I also work in the Compliance section to ensure that all our paperwork meets the all the very demanding requirements.

*I look forward to welcoming you to BCAL!*

## NDIS Capacity Building with Ethan



Design and create board games.  
Tuesdays, 9.30 to Noon

## NDIS Capacity Building with Geoff

The great weekly sessions I run include:

***Bike! (On yer bike)*** where people learn the art of bicycle maintenance by rebuilding donated bikes which are passed on to people in need.

Every Monday morning 9.30am till Noon.

***Thru the Lens (Photography and Friendship)***: Participants learn how to get the best from their cameras or phones on outings and discussions with guest speakers.

Every Wednesday from 9.30am till noon.



# Exploring Art

**Wednesdays 9.30am -12.30,  
1-30pm – 3.30pm**

The Capacity Building Exploring Art groups see participants get creative through painting, printmaking, ceramics, drawing decoupage, paper mache, scrap booking and other mixed media and crafts.

Over Summer we made colourful soy wax candles, scented soy melts, pour paintings and glass jewelry. A big thanks to Erin, Fiona and Deb Watson for sharing their expertise.

Following on from the successful production and sales of cards featuring participants artwork, the groups plan to look for further opportunities to exhibit and sell their “art cards” at local galleries, cafes and markets. 2022 will continue to see activities led by the interests and expertise of participants and support workers.

**Lisa Ovejero. Exploring Art facilitator**



# Practical Music

The Practical Music Course ran for the first time last year. Despite lockdowns, this hands on ten-week pre-accredited course, saw students successfully introduced to various aspects of the music industry and finished with two public performances! Topics included sound production, music theory, song writing, performing, copyright, promotion, singing, recording and so much more!

Specialist facilitators including community music educators Brian Strating and Lyndal Chambers led brilliant sessions where participants were encouraged to collaborate and compose.

With participants regularly playing together, their common interest in gospel and old time music saw the band “Class Act” form!

On the 12th of January this year the band performed at the Inverloch Soundshell Twilight Market an event supported by 3MFM, Lions and Bass Coast Council. A great experience for all and brilliant way to start the year! The Practical Music Course runs again early March.

**Lisa Ovejero. Practical Music facilitator**





# Work Safety

## Construction Induction (White Card)

Also known as White Card, this is the nationally recognised OH&S induction course for anybody wishing to set foot on any building site.

*CPCWHS1001 - Prepare to work safely in the construction industry*

Thu, Feb 10 or Fri, March 25\*

9:00am—3:30pm

Cost: \$160 (\$150 concession)



## Traffic Management Course

Includes the Stop-Slow bat and principles of safe traffic control including correct signage. For people wanting to work in the civil construction industry and with local councils and VicRoads.

*R11WHS205E - Control traffic with stop-slow bat*

*R11WHS302E - Implement traffic management plans*

Fri, Feb 11 or Fri, Apr 1\*

9:00am—5:00pm

Cost: \$180 (\$170 concession)



## Chainsaw Safety

This course is essential for anyone needing to use a chainsaw either for work or personal use. Learn safe methods including kickback, chain tension, large and small log cutting and cutting above your head. This is an accredited unit.

*Bring your chainsaw with you.*

*AHCMOM213 - Operate and maintain chainsaws*

Fri, Mar 18

9:00am—3:30pm

Cost: \$250 (\$230 concession)



\*Please note: unless there is a group booking, the second dates will not open until the first dates have passed.

Work Safety courses delivered by Australian Safe-T Consulting Services RTO: 21852.

# Capacity Building



## The Good Bowl

Mondays 9:30am - 12:00pm

## Bike!

Mondays 9:30am - 12:00pm

## Life Skills

Mondays 1:00pm - 3:30pm

## Group Fitness

Mondays & Wednesdays

1:00pm - 1:30pm

## School Lunches

Tuesdays 9:00am - 12:30pm

## Digital Discovery

Tuesdays 9:30am - 12:00pm

## Games with Ethan

Tuesdays 9:30am - 12:00pm

## Employment/Job Skills

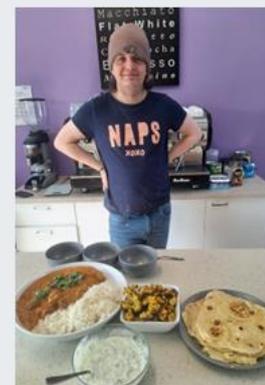
Tuesdays 1:00pm - 3:30pm

## Photography & Friendship

Wednesdays 9:30am - 12:00pm

## Exploring Art

Wednesdays 9:30am - 12:00pm  
or 1:00pm - 3:30pm



BCAL's capacity building program aims to improve the lives of participants through building practical and personal skills. New participants are encouraged to come and take a tour of our facilities and sample a session or two.

*We acknowledge that the BCAL Newsletter is produced on the lands of the Bunurong, Boon-wurrung, members of the Kulin Nation who have lived here for thousands of years. We offer our respect to Elders, past, present and emerging and all First Nations People, everywhere.*



Wonthaggi U3A is for older community members who want to continue learning.

We are an incorporated, not-for-profit organisation and a learning co-operative of people no longer in full time employment.

Anyone can join; no qualifications are required and none are given. A very broad range of over 25 programs and courses are offered; all prepared and taught by volunteers who share their knowledge, talents and life experiences.

Typical courses offered include Art, Computers, Crafts, History, Languages, Literature, Music, Sciences and Philosophy, Yoga.

Some study groups do not have a prepared syllabus, but draw on reports of current affairs in their topic subject to prompt conversation and research.

Some groups are designed to cross disciplinary boundaries, for example, combining Society, Technology and Science in a fashion not practical in more formal academic environments.

Our contact details are:

**U3A Wonthaggi Inc**

239 White Road Wonthaggi

Website:

[www.u3awonthaggi.org.au](http://www.u3awonthaggi.org.au)

Email: [talktous@u3awonthaggi.org.au](mailto:talktous@u3awonthaggi.org.au)

Phone: 0491 093 300



Construction of an international specification Bocce arena is well underway on the U3A section of the Jean Melzer Campus.

**A refresh of the courtyard  
will include more outdoor seating and shade.**



## We have a new course!

New you in a new year, through our new mindfulness course.

**This course** has been created in response to our continuing overwhelm instigated by busy daily lives and the current COVID crisis. Decision fatigue, overwork, deadlines, loneliness and many many other situations can throw us off guard and challenge us. This course is designed to offer positive, practical, tried and tested solutions, aids and practices to evolve and grow your resilient self. A resilient self offers us the experience of light, joy, spaciousness and a sense of perspective on overwhelm.

**We take the opportunity** to explore and deepen our meditation and mindfulness practices. We aim to evolve our resilient selves so as to begin to move through life as a tree bending rather than breaking in the wind.

**Tools, worksheets, videos, practices and experience** combine to grow our knowledge and practices. We commit as a community with care, candour and a respect for our own and others vulnerabilities.

**We give ourselves the opportunity and time to deepen our practices both as a group and individually.**

**When:** Tuesday evenings 7-8.15 - optional catch up later in the week

**I look forward to meeting you all in the zoom space.**

Warm regards

Anny Bevan

# Talk to us about your future

## Our Centre

239 White Road  
Wonthaggi, VIC 3995

## Website

[www.bcal.vic.edu.au](http://www.bcal.vic.edu.au)

## Open Hours

Monday - Thursday  
9am - 5pm  
Friday 9am - 4pm

## Phone

(03) 5672 3115

## Email

[info@bcal.vic.edu.au](mailto:info@bcal.vic.edu.au)



This Newsletter is published by Bass Coast Adult Learning

Edited by Josh Latham and Geoff Ellis