

ANAKIE ADVOCATE

Thank you to Anakie Fire Brigade



Our community is deeply grateful for the tireless work of the CFA volunteers at the Anakie Fire Brigade. Their extraordinary efforts play a vital role in keeping our families, homes, wildlife and local environment safe.

Day and night, in all conditions, these volunteers give their time, skills, and energy without hesitation. Their dedication and unwavering commitment to serving the community do not go unnoticed.

Whether responding to emergencies, training behind the scenes, or supporting community safety initiatives, they consistently go above and beyond. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a passionate and dependable group of volunteers protecting our community.

On behalf of the Anakie Community, thank you for all that you do.

Volunteers wanted

Looking to get involved with the CFA?

Anakie Fire Brigade are currently looking for new Firefighters to join their volunteer ranks. Whether you're new to town or a long-time resident, they provide all the training and gear you need to help protect our community.

If you've ever thought about volunteering, come down and meet the team! They are at the station most Sunday morning's at 8:30 am.

Produced by: Anakie & District Community Group

03 5284 1359 | hello@anakiecommunityhouse.org.au

www.anakiecommunityhouse.org.au

@anakiecommunityhouse

The Anakie Advocate is proudly printed by Ella George, State Member for Lara.



Anakie Fire Brigade News

First and foremost, a massive thank you to the Anakie community. The support we've received so far this season has been overwhelming—from kind words in passing and online to the generous donations of food and drinks brought to the station. We are truly grateful.



While we've made it through January, the season is far from over. We have already been kept busy with several calls so far this year, including the recent fire on Geelong-Ballan Rd.

To help us keep everyone safe, please remain vigilant:

- **Check the Rating:** Make it a daily habit to check the Fire Danger Rating for the Central District. You can find this on the CFA website, the Vic Emergency app, or on the roadside signs as you drive through the area.
- **The Vic Emergency App:** Ensure you have the app installed with a "Watch Zone" set for Anakie to receive instant alerts.
- **Have a Plan:** Don't wait until you see smoke to decide what to do. Discuss your bushfire survival plan with your household so everyone knows exactly when to leave and where to go.
- **Leave Early:** On Extreme or Catastrophic days, the safest option is always to leave bushfire risk areas early in the morning.

Other ways to stay informed:

- www.emergency.vic.gov.au
- VicEmergency Hotline – freecall 1800 226 226
- Facebook or Twitter ([#VicFires](#))
- ABC Local Radio, commercial and designated community radio stations

We wish the entire community a safe and happy holiday period.

Thanks Again & Happy New Year!

Edward Atkin
Community Safety & Engagement Officer



Anakie Community House

Office Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs 9am - 4pm

Weds 12pm-5pm

03 5284 1359 | hello@anakiecommunityhouse.org.au

Note: The House policy states that we will be closed on days with a Catastrophic Fire Rating and may be closed during extreme weather events. Contact us if unsure.

Term 1

27 Jan - 3 April

What we do

The Anakie & District Community Group (Anakie Community House) is a not-for-profit community organisation dedicated to supporting the wellbeing of the Anakie community and surrounding areas.

We do this by providing a growing range of inclusive learning opportunities, social activities, and access to information and services in a welcoming and accessible environment.

Through our programs and activities, we focus on strengthening community connection, health and wellbeing, local history, arts, culture & sustainability.

For up-to-date information about our programs, go to our [website](#) or follow us on [Facebook](#).

If you are a tutor or there is a program you'd like to see running at the Centre, we would love to hear from you.

Anakie Community Day Sunday 22nd March

Save the date! Let's celebrate all that is Anakie with our annual Anakie Community Day in March.

We are seeking:

- volunteers; to assist with event coordination, set up, pack up
- stall holders; local produce, craft, information

Contact Anakie Community House to get involved.

Anakie Community House Services

Hairdressing with Joedy

Tuesdays

9am - 1pm

Technology

Use our laptops or printer/
Photocopier.
Smart phone help.

Massage with Sandi

Wednesdays, Monthly
One Hour treatment \$90
Next date 11 Feb

Free Loan

Mobility Aids - wheelchairs,
walkers, toilet seats and crutches.

Room Hire

Find out about hiring our spaces

Library

100's of books available to borrow

Power Saving Bonus

Contact us or drop in during office hours to claim your \$100 Power Saving Bonus



Anakie Community House

Weekly Schedule

Monday

- Playgroup 9:30am - 12:30pm
- History Chats 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Tuesday

- Hair Appointments from 9am
- Art Group 1:30pm - 4pm

Wednesday

- Community Lunch 12:30pm
- UFO Craft Group 1:30pm - 3:30pm
- Yoga with Sandi 4:30pm - 5.30pm

Thursday

- Creative Garden Group (from 26 Feb) 10am - 12pm
- Carpet Bowls (Monthly, 5 Feb) 10am - 12pm
- Games Gathering 1pm - 3pm play Scrabble or cards

Stay tuned for updates on new programs and workshops.
Subscribe to our newsletter, call 5284 1359 or go to our website.

Office Hours:
9am - 4pm Mon, Tues, Thurs
12pm-5pm Weds

SAVE THE DATE

- Mental Health First Aid 12 & 19 Feb
- Carpet Bowls 5 Feb
- Scam Awareness 2 Mar
- Community Day 22 March

Coming up soon

- Mental Health First Aid 12 & 19 Feb
- History Group from 2 Feb
- Yoga from 4 Feb
- Carpet Bowls 5 Feb
- Scrabble & Games from 5 Feb
- Scam Awareness 2 Mar
- Garden Group from 5 March

Treat yourself!



Hair with Joedy

Tuesdays from 9am-1pm
Ladies Cut: \$35, Men's Cut: \$25

Massage with Sandi

Wednesdays Monthly from 9am
next session 11 February. 1 hour, \$90

**Please contact my office
for any assistance
with any State
Government matters.**

Ella George MP
Labor Member for Lara

✉️ ella.george@parliament.vic.gov.au  Ella George MP
☎️ 5275 3898  @ellegeorgemp
Level 1, Corio Village Shopping Centre,
Cnr Bacchus Marsh Rd & Purnell Rd, Corio, 3214



Are you a local practitioner?

Hire our NEW treatment room. \$5 per hour.
Suitable for massage, hair, beauty and
other consulting services.

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone has had a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and found some time to relax over the summer period.

I loved attending the Anakie Christmas Lunch – thanks to Kate, Brian and everyone who helped make it such a great event.



THANK YOU TO OUR FIRST RESPONDERS

This summer has presented some truly challenging conditions, and I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of the volunteers at the Anakie CFA, Lara CFA and Corio SES. Your dedication, professionalism, and tireless efforts in protecting our community, especially while battling recent fires, have been nothing short of remarkable.

The entire community deeply appreciates your commitment, bravery, and the sacrifices you make to keep us safe. Thank you for your outstanding service.

FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From January 1, people under 18 can travel free on all Victorian public transport with the new youth Myki card.

And Seniors, Carers and Disability Support Pensioners will be able to enjoy free travel on public transport on weekends.

This includes trams, trains, buses and coach services.

GET IN TOUCH

If you ever want to have a chat or make an appointment, please get in touch with my office on **5275 3898** or email me at ella.george@parliament.vic.gov.au.

I'm looking forward to a great 2026 with our community.

Ella

Ella George MP

State Member for Lara

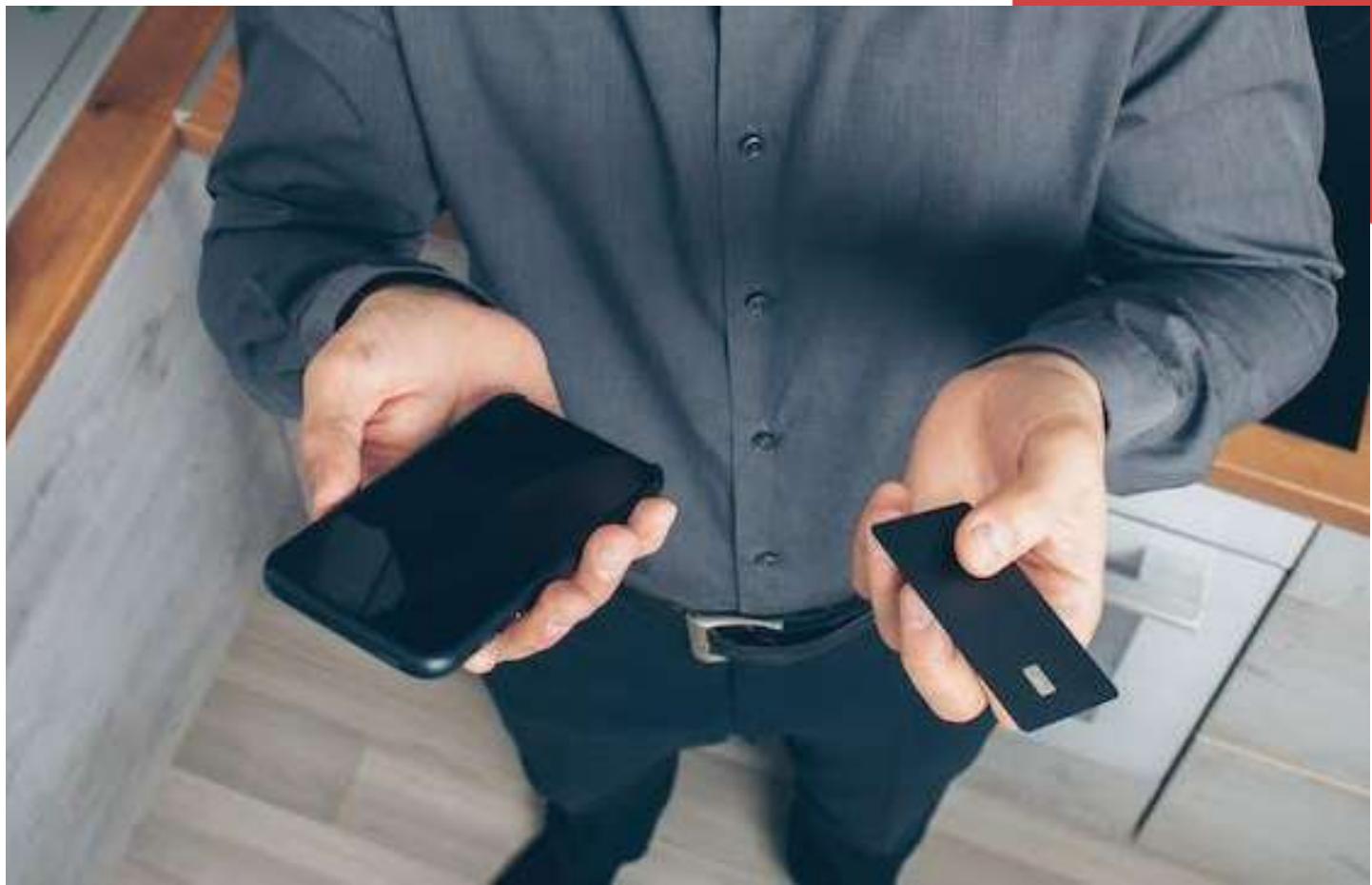
Community Christmas Lunch

We were thrilled with the turn out at Anakie Community House's annual Christmas Lunch. Thank you to all of those that attended we hope you had as fun as we did! Thankyou also to our superstar volunteers for the set up, clean up, decorations, raffle and help with the meal. We couldn't have done it without you.



COMPUTERS & TECH

GEELONG
REGIONAL
LIBRARIES



LET'S TALK SCAMS

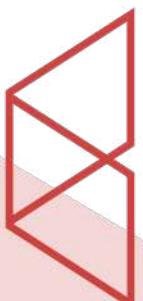
Last year Australians lost more than \$311 million due to scams. Join our informative session to gain practical tips and techniques to help you detect, prevent, and avoid scams.



.....
Thursday 2 March 2026
1:30pm to 2:30pm

Anakie Community House

<https://www.anakiecommunityhouse.org.au/>
03 5284 1359



grlc.vic.gov.au

book
now

All events are **FREE** unless otherwise specified.
Bookings essential.
Online grlc.vic.gov.au
In person at any branch, or **phone** 03 4201 0651

Anakie CFA Roster

Date	Tanker 1	Tanker 2	Anakie FCV	Ultra Light	Station
1 Feb 2026	Russell Burns	Paul Moore	Kate Couch	Shane Hill	Carol Brislane
8 Feb 2026	Jackie Primmer	Matt Primmer	Liam Hodges	John Mangrum	Mitch Primmer
15 Feb 2026	Rhiannon Hodges	Gordon Hodges	Clinton Ellery	David Walter	Ben Herholdt
22 Feb 2026	Ian McDonald	Declan Herdholt	Mark Haby	Michael Couch	Andrea Barton

How to support the CFA and communities affected by the recent fires.

If you are in a position to give, the following organisations are trusted channels that provide support to those on the ground and those beginning the recovery process.

- **2026 Victorian Bushfire Appeal:** The official state-led appeal. 100% of donations go directly to fire-affected communities to cover immediate and long-term needs. Call <1800 837 733> or vic.gov.au/2026-Victorian-Bushfire-Appeal
- **Victorian Farmers Federation:** Providing essential relief to our farming communities. <https://www.vff.org.au/vffdisasterrelieffund/>
- **Country Fire Authority (CFA):** Support our frontline heroes by donating to a specific brigade or the CFA Public Fund. cfa.vic.gov.au/about-us/fundraising-and-partnerships/donate-to-cfa You can choose to donate directly to Anakie Fire Brigade.
- **GIVIT:** Coordinates the donation of specific items, services or funds needed by impacted residents. givit.org.au
- **Wildlife Victoria:** Assisting with the rescue and rehabilitation of local wildlife affected by the fires. wildlifevictoria.org.au/donate

Financial donations rather than physical goods are the most effective way to help organisations respond to the specific, evolving needs of the community.

Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group

The Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group meets bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month. Our first meeting for the year is on **Thursday February 19**. Event details coming soon and will be published on [our Facebook page](#).

We welcome everyone from Anakie and district to join our group. Just come along on a night and check us out. No obligation.

For more information, contact President, Robert Hall, on 0401 404 899



Friends of Brisbane Ranges



Friends of Brisbane Ranges aims to learn about the environment, ecology, flora, fauna, and history of the Brisbane Ranges National Park and Steiglitz Historic Park.

www.fobr.org.au

Events, park walks, information and newsletters.

Next event, Sunday 8th Feb 10am

Tidy up and planning at Anakie Depot. Everyone welcome. Contact Diedre 0400 128 578

What's On @ Koala Clancy Foundation This Summer

JOIN A KOALA CONSERVATION EVENT

Our local monthly events are fun, family-friendly, and outdoors. Running from 9:30am-2:30pm, our summer events involve seed sowing at our plant nursery in Staughton Vale, or weeding in the You Yangs.

Investment: \$30 adults, \$20 children/student/concession (Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult)

WATER FOR WILDLIFE CAMPAIGN

This summer, we're encouraging our community to set up Wildlife Water Stations around their homes. An abundance of wildlife lives around Anakie and will be better equipped to endure the summer season if we provide them with water.

Learn how to set up your own here: www.koalaclancyfoundation.org.au/helping-wild-animals-cope-with-the-heat-this-australian-summer/

Or buy one of our ready-to-assemble kits here:
www.koalaclancyfoundation.org.au/product/water-for-wildlife-kit-2/

Contact us at info@koalaclancyfoundation.org.au



Return Visit of Kawabe Shihan

We are pleased to announce the return visit of **Kawabe Shihan** from Osaka Japan, being his third visit to Anakie since the opening of the Daito Aiki Jujutsu Dojo in Anakie October 2018. The Dojo, located at 2310 Ballan Road Anakie is led by Leigh Dicker (Head of School for Australia).

Daito Ryu Aiki Jujutsu traces its roots back to the 11th Century in Japan. The core of Daitō-ryū Aiki Jujutsu lies in using timing, subtle body alignment, and precise control of an opponent's balance and intent, rather than strength to neutralise attacks, this "aiki" methods focus on blending with an opponent's movement with minimal force.

Daito Ryu Aiki Jujutsu has Dojos around the world, Japan, Finland, France, USA, and Australia. Leigh Dicker has been Head of School in Australia since Dec 2000 with Dojos in Anakie, Geelong, Ballarat, Gold Coast, Hervey Bay.

Dicker Sensei is 6th Dan Black and recently awarded in Nov 2024 the level of "Kyoju Dairi". A certified level to designate a high level of understanding of the Daitō-ryū aiki-jūjutsu system. All are most welcome to take this opportunity to witness and experience for yourself.

**Come along to the formal KOBUKAN EMBU (Public Demonstration):
Sunday March 15 at 11:00am at the HSC Hall 86 Barrabool Road Highton.**

**There will also be an opportunity for Public Viewing and Participation:
Monday March 16 at 4:30pm, Anakie Hall, Staughtonvale Road, Anakie.**

Contact Leigh via 0419 432 472 dicker@dicker.net.au

Visit aikiaustralia.com.au for more information



We would also like to acknowledge [Lara District Community Enterprise Limited](#) for Funding Assistance for the Embu in bringing Kawabe Shihan out to Australia.

**Mental Health First Aid
for Older Adults**
Support Someone When It Matters Most
Free 2 day certified Mental Health First Aid Training

Understand the signs and symptoms of common mental health problems in older adults

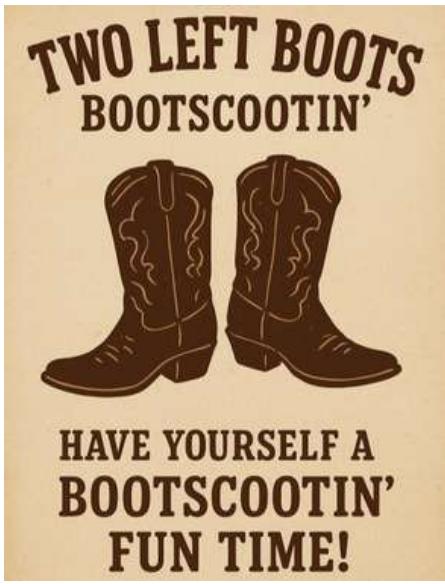
Learn how to:

- Identify and respond to emerging or worsening mental health concerns
- Understand the treatments, supports, and services available
- Use a practical, evidence-based action plan
- Start supportive conversations with confidence
- Provide initial help, information, and guidance and encourage the person to seek appropriate support

February 12 and 19
10am - 4.30pm
Anakie Community House



BOOK NOW. Contact 5284 1359 or hello@anakiecommunityhouse.org.au



\$10 entry, Anakie Hall

**Bring your Boots bring your friends
& Let's Dance!!**

No partner needed – just a smile & your Dancing Boots
www.facebook.com/groups/1320485496342086

**Aiki Jujutsu Australia
KOBUKAN**

A not-for-profit organisation established to practice this traditional this traditional Japanese Martial Art.

Dojo Location: 2310 Ballan Road ANAKIE

Class every Thursday
based on School Terms

Children's classes: 5:30 – 6:30pm
Adult classes: 6:30 – 8:00pm

Free trial Classes available.
Dicker Sensei 6th Dan
30+ years' experience
0419 432 472

Website: aikiaustralia.com.au

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ANAKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS



Dear Community,

Welcome back to the start of a new year. We hope everyone enjoyed a safe and refreshing break and had time to rest, reconnect and enjoy all that our wonderful community has to offer.

The school is once again looking forward to being full of energy, learning and connection. We are excited to see familiar faces return and to welcome our new families and 2026 Prep students. Our staff are excited for the term ahead and the opportunities it will bring.

Thank you to our families, local groups and wider community members for your ongoing support of our school. Your involvement, care and shared pride in our young people play an important role in helping them grow, learn and thrive.

We look forward to another positive term of learning and working together as a connected and supportive community.

Warm regards,

Karina Darling and Luc McKay
Principals



Looking for Farm Fresh,
Sustainable and Seasonal Flowers??

Blooms in the Bush

Flower Farm & Boutique Florist

Specialising in growing sustainable, seasonal farm grown fresh flowers and foliage.

- Workshops- more coming in 2026!
- Farm Bunches,
- Made to order personal and boutique arrangements for everyday occasions and functions.



Contact Michelle
0439 070 177
shell.77@live.com.au



Blooms in the Bush

Flower Gate Flowers for Sale
405 Staughton Vale Road, Staughton Vale

Steak
NIGHT **EVERY**
FRIDAY **\$35**



del Rios

300g. porterhouse
with spanish potatoes or chips
and your choice of sauce.

Add-on a glass of wine for \$10

FRI 5:30 pm. - 9 pm.
SAT - SUN 11:30 am. - 5 pm.

2300 Ballan Rd Anakie
Book now 0482 085 300

Anakie Rainfall in Millilitres

	2025	2024	2023	2022	Average
Jan	10	61	23	146	60
Feb	37	8	30	5	20
Mar	29	7	38	72	37
Apr	38	53	57	87	59
May	14	16	56	35	30
Jun	73	7	36	45	40
Jul	21	46	23	35	31
Aug	42	14	27	56	35
Sep	29	47	21	58	39
Oct	68	63	55	170	89
Nov	103	31	56	123	78
Dec	52	30	147	58	72
Total	518	385	569	890	591

Recorded by Cambria Parkinson



Anakie Natural Therapies

Reflexology | Lymph Drainage | Foot & Hand Care | Ear Candling



Carole Hofflin

Dip. R, RLD Certified
Cert III Foot & Hand Care

By Appointment

www.anakienaturaltherapies.com.au

0425 731 295 carole@anakienaturaltherapies.com.au

Clinic: 380 O'Neils Lane, Anakie

Anakie Natural Therapies is an agent for **Sigvaris** compression garments. **Compression Stockings** measured, fitted and supplied.

Foot & Hand Care home visits can be arranged for elderly Anakie residents: ring Carole for details.

Happy New Year; I hope 2026 is going to be a happy and healthy year for us all!

This year I will be highlighting Edible Green Plants. Some of them you may know, like Artichokes but others may not be so familiar to you. There is a diverse variety of perennial greens that return every year, easy to grow and will keep on giving you delicious varieties of salads and leaf and root vegetables. Whilst the humble lettuce is a reliable staple in summer, it can be difficult to keep going in very hot weather and will readily 'bolt'- go to seed. Some of the more unusual greens we will look at are much hardier.

I look forward to presenting you with some exciting edibles to spice up your daily ration of greens!



**Happy New Year!
Carole Hofflin**

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE



ANAKIE

Location	Ballan Road, near Anakie Primary		
Time	2:00pm – 4:00pm		
Day	Alternate Tuesdays		

2026 DATES						
January	6	20		July	7	21
February	3	17		August	4	18
March	3	17	31	September	1	15
April		28		October	13	27
May		26		November	10	24
June	9	23		December	8	22

For service updates visit
grlc.vic.gov.au/mobile-libraries



NO CARD? NO WORRIES - JOIN UP NOW!

grlc.vic.gov.au

Online
in person
or phone

grlc.vic.gov.au
at any branch
03 4201 0660

Anakie Community Information

Anakie & District Community Group (Anakie Community House)
(ABN 59 938 073 014)

2115 Geelong-Ballan Rd, Anakie, 3213

Phone: 5284 1359 Email: hello@anakiecommunityhouse.org.au

Office hours

Mon, Tues, Thurs 9am-4pm

Weds 12pm-5pm

Vision: Locals caring for the local community

Mission: To be a welcoming and caring community house that reaches out and supports people

Values: We are committed to being: Welcoming, Inclusive, Helpful, Safe, Friendly, Fun

Anakie Hall Hire

Call Adrian 0425 798 938
anakiehall@gmail.com

or call the Community House 5284 1359

Ideal Venue for gatherings, meetings,
parties and events

Do you have weed problems?

Hire a spray trailer from
Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group
with 2 hand guns a boom spray
and a 500 litre tank \$25 a day.

Contact Jacki 0438 350 121

Sewing Alterations

Zip replacement, hems taken up
on dresses and trousers.

Reasonable rates

Pauline

0427 183 832

Brisbane Ranges Landcare Group

Meets the third Thursday of the month usually
at 7:30pm at Balliang Hall.

Interested residents are welcome - come and find
out about the benefits of membership!

rambling2robert@gmail.com

Anakie Community Garden

Monthly social gathering
First Tuesday of the Month
9.30am to 11.30am



email: Helena.lindorff@bigpond.com
anakiecommunitygarden.wordpress.com

Friends of Brisbane Ranges

Get to know and help our local National
Park! Everyone welcome
www.fobr.org.au

Events, park walks, information and
newsletters.

WILDLIFE SHELTER

SANDI MURDOCH
care of injured & orphaned animals
5284 1380 all hours



Is this your space?? Advertise with us, see more on pg 12.

Next edition February 2026

Local organisations contact details

Anakie CFA

Anakie Community House

Anakie Football & Netball Club

Anakie General Store/Post Office

Anakie Hall

Anakie Primary School

Balliang District Rural CFA

Balliang Memorial Hall

St George's Anglican Church

Adam 0410 886 567

Kate 5284 1359

Heath 0418 138 112

Ruby/Andrew 52841 177

Adrian 0425 798 938

Principal, Karina 5284 1291

Campbell 0439 611 031

Steve 0400 419 024

Andrew 0490 831 427

Advocate Advertising Costs

Paid in advance, NB prices are ex GST.

Please contact Anakie Community House for more information.

11 issues a year, no issue in January

	12 months	monthly
1/8th page	\$80.00	\$8.00
1/4 page	\$150.00	\$15.00
1/2 page	\$250.00	\$25.00
full page	\$400.00	\$38.00

Deliveries to: Anakie, Staughton Vale, Balliang and Steiglitz.

Also available from: Anakie shop, Anakie Community House and online www.anakiecommunityhouse.org.au

Submissions for the next issue must be received by 21st of month prior.
hello@anakiecommunityhouse.org.au

The Anakie Advocate is proudly printed by Ella George, State Member for Lara.



Kev the carpenter (local)

Pergolas, decks, house maintenance and odd jobs.

All your carpentry needs

0408 960 876

Anakie Hall AGM

**14 February 2026, 10am
At the Hall**

**55 Staughton Vale Rd,
Staughton Vale**

New members welcome
All positions are open

Birds in the Bush Nursery



Healthy indigenous plants ready to go.
Check out the list of available species on our website

www.birdsinthebushnursery.com.au

call 5292 0606

robert@birdsinthebushnursery.com.au

610 Staughton Vale Road, Balliang



**Anakie Rainfall
Dec 2025: 52mls**

Recorded by Cambria Parkinson



Blame Mabel Cellar Door

Open Saturdays & Sundays from 12 noon

Wine tastings, relaxed platters and sunny afternoons among the vines. Pop in for a glass, throw the ball for Mabel, or simply say hello.

We also stock a small range of local goodies, including Don's Liquid Gold Honey.

Looking for a spot for your next gathering? Blame Mabel is made for bringing people together.

Grateful always for our local community – your support means the world (and the toots of encouragement).

Gareth, Mel & Mabel hello@blinemabel.com



Anakie Rural Supplies

ABN 93 492 665 123

Stock & Pet food, Potting Mix,
Compost & Fertiliser

sales@anakieruralsupplies.com.au
89 Mornington Street Nth Geelong
Pickup: 8:30am to 5:30pm

380 O'Neils Lane Anakie
Pickup: Mon & Fri 3 to 6:30pm

Albert 0425 731 294

albert@anakieruralsupplies.com.au

Carole 0425 731 295

carole@anakieruralsupplies.com.au

- Penrite chain-bar oil 5L \$36
- layers pellets 20kg 2 for \$50
- comp. poultry mix 20kg \$26 or 2 @ \$50
- premium potting mix 30L \$9.90
- Composted Sheep Manure 25L \$7.50, or 4 for \$28
- For Equine feed contact us



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Shaun Bubb
email: shaun.bubb@bigpond.com
66 Brunel St. Lethbridge 3332

**ANAKIE FRIDAY NIGHT
COMMUNITY TEAS**

CHOICE OF MEALS INCLUDING DESSERT



**1ST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH, FROM 6PM
ALL ENQUIRIES CALL 0408 609 050**



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Inquiries contact Shayne Hill
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FIREARM SAFETY COURSE

Longarms Categories
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Contact Sharron PH 0418 337 145

For Enrolments

www.geelongfirearmscourses.com.au



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- TREE STUMP REMOVAL
- DRAINAGE
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- SEPTIC/UNDERGROUND TANKS
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