

**LOCAL LIVING**

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**Regaining the Wonder of Life**

By Andrew Jasper

Do you remember growing up as a child and being awestruck by the things you saw in nature? How birds fly, frogs hop and butterflies form? Whatever happened to the wonder?

As we grow it seems the spectacular gives way to reasoned explanations and we explain away the amazing phenomenon we see all around us. Just think of the plethora of colours, patterns, textures, scents, and actions of every living plant, person, pet and protozoa!

Envision you're in the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt and winter is in full swing. As the sun comes out, you marvel at the more than 300 million Monarch butterflies sunning, drinking and flapping around. The Monarch was the first butterfly to have its genome sequenced with the draft sequence comprised of 273 million base pair elements and 16,866 protein-coding genes. All within one of 18,000 species of butterflies. Staggering!

And how is it that a nectar drinking, compound-eyed, flying butterfly gives birth to a leaf eating, crawling, virtually blind caterpillar that later commits biological suicide and refashions itself into a butterfly again?

I'll admit, life is extremely complicated, and we behold it in so many ways that it begs another question. Have you ever wondered where it all originated? How did it start? Who came up with the idea of life anyway? Come view a free screening of the movie, Evolution's Achilles' Heel in the Moondah Centre at the Drouin Secondary College this Sunday at 5pm. Featuring 15 PhD scientists, you can join the growing number of critical thinkers who allow science to help understand the work of an intelligent designer.

It may just bring the wonder back into your life!

**Local students take a big step towards Hollywood**

Filmmakers workshop gives eager amateur film directors a jump on the competition

It was standing room only at the Waterford Rise sales office last Wednesday night as a group of dedicated, young movie makers soaked up all the info they need to take the first step towards a career in film.

With just over four weeks until their final submissions are due, the 2015 BAW BAW RAW! Filmmakers Workshop gave competitors invaluable advice on everything from how to get started scripting and filming, to composition and special effects, and even how to score or add a soundtrack to their films.

"All the kids were glued to the screen as two of our judging panel, Wayne Dwyer and Robert Lloyd of the West Gippsland Arts Centre, ran a practical, informative and very interesting presentation and workshop session that covered every aspect of amateur film making," said Marcus Tainsh, BAW BAW RAW! Competition Manager.

"To wrap it all up we were treated to a short comedy film called "On Reflection," the latest project of La Trobe Valley composer Ben Fowler, which he followed up with some tips on how competitors can get the most out of



Head judge, Wayne Dwyer, imparts some film making knowledge to a room full of keen young future Hollywood heavyweights.

using music and sound effects to help tell their stories," he said.

At the very end of the night, the youngest entrant in the competition, 12-year-old Tomi from Warragul, was thrilled to take home a brand new HD camcorder that was raffled off as part of the event.

"It was a fantastic night and we were absolutely thrilled to see so many enthusiastic and energetic young people committed to getting involved and trying something new, something challenging and something creative," Marcus said.

The BAW BAW RAW! Film Prize, which is sponsored by the Waterford Rise residential development in Warragul, is a short film competition offering secondary school students and young adults the chance to share in \$3000 worth of cash prizes and at the same time kick start a career in film and television production.

In an effort to make the competition accessible to as many future directors, producers and screenwriters as possible, entrants have been encouraged to record their film on a smartphone and edit the footage on their laptop, or home or school computers.

All entries will be uploaded to YouTube and facebook for viewing and feedback from the local community before the winners are announced at the Screening Night and Awards Ceremony in April, details of which will be announced soon.

If you've entered the competition don't forget to 'like' their facebook community page at [facebook.com/bawbawfilm](http://facebook.com/bawbawfilm) for competition updates, important dates and details on the upcoming awards ceremony, tips on filming, scripting and formatting and a forum for questions, discussions on filming and much more.

**Ripplebrook Winery**

Ripplebrook Winery recently opened their resident restaurant 'Giuseppes of Ripplebrook'.

An enchanting mix of wine, wood-fired pizza and music

Overlooking the lush vines of the winery, you relax to some acoustic music as you bite into what some people are already describing as 'some of the best pizza to ever appear from a wood-fired oven.'

It's now that you truly appreciate how lucky we are to live in such a beautiful, produce-rich region like Gippsland.

Ripplebrook Winery and their resident restaurant 'Giuseppes at Ripplebrook,' recently opened to little fanfare.

That is quickly changing as more people come to experience and appreciate, the quaint, atmospheric rich venue that rises from the remains of an old shed.

Overlooking the acres of vines, the shed is well fitted with contrasting old chairs and tables and a beautiful artistic bar, designed to serve some of the wineries award-winning wines.

However, if wine isn't your thing, the pizza could make all the difference. Giuseppes at Ripplebrook features a custom built wood-fired oven designed to bring out the rich flavour of Giuseppes hand-made doughs and rich local ingredients.

If you'd like to experience Giuseppes at Ripplebrook, they have live music by local artist Todd Cook, on Sunday March 22.

Bookings are essential, so call 5687 6298 to reserve your table.

**West Gippsland Medical Clinic**

**NEW PATIENTS WELCOME!**

Phone **5623 2251**

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## Rock-a-Jerry' street party comes to Warragul

Justin Cant from the Courthouse and Travis Demsey, a musician now based in Warragul, have dreamed of an outdoor event in the Warragul CBD for a long time. Finally, this has come to fruition with the help of Stuart from the Press Cellars. They are holding a "Street Party" in Barkly Street, Warragul to raise funds for the West Gippsland Hospital.

The idea came about with Travis and Justin talking about bringing some old school entertainment to the area. They have got 'The Original' Sailor Jerry on board who are proud sponsors of the event. Sailor Jerry have a long association with rum, tattoos, vintage cars and rock-n-roll.

Doors will open at 12 noon and there will be giveaways from Sailor Jerry, the Courthouse in Smith Street will be cooking free pizzas from 2pm - 5pm and a raffle will be held during the day with prizes including tattoo vouchers and skateboard decks. Four Rock-a-Billy and Rock-n-roll bands will be playing from 1pm till 7pm.

**Make sure you pre-book your tickets by calling  
5622 2442 or 5623 3880**

If you have a classic vehicle, bring it down and enjoy Warragul's first street party blowout.