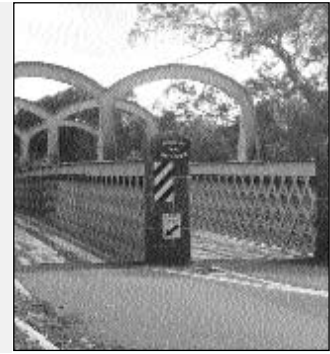


Bridge Connection

Barfold, Baynton, Derrinal, Elphinstone, Glenhope, Heathcote,
Kyneton, Langley, Mia Mia, Metcalfe, Redesdale, Sidonia, Sutton Grange.



Edition 51

March 2014

A community owned newspaper

Building a school in Timor Leste

Reaching out with a hand of friendship

Friends 2 Friends helps other people in a variety of ways. But came to the Redesdale market to raise money needed to transport educational aids to Timor Leste.

The Friends group arranges donations of classroom materials, furniture, and sporting equipment sourced in Australia. Spokesperson Vicki Cronin said some donations were purchased, but most obtained through goodwill and sponsorship. "However, our biggest hurdle is transport because it costs approximately \$300 a cubic metre to ship goods to East Timor. Hence, the weekend markets to raise money to buy shipping container space," Vicki said.



Raising money to send educational aids to children in Timor Leste. From left: Vicki Cronin, Jack Edmondston, Kim Leithhead, and Mary-Anne Scull.

First aid training for youth mental health

Youth Mental Health First Aid courses will be available to parents, guardians, teachers, or anyone who works with young people.

Macedon Ranges Council is providing the award winning program free.

It teaches adults how to help a young person who may be developing a mental

illness or in a mental health crisis.

The council was recognised with a 'community' award in the 2012 Mental Health First Aid Australia Awards for the delivery of this course to parents and teachers.

Become a Youth Mental Health First Aider and you will be joining more than 400 residents who have already been

trained.

They help create a safer, healthier, and more open minded community for our young people.

Further details and bookings are available from Laura at

lgarner@mrrsc.vic.gov.au or 5422 0337.

Dates in Diary page 13.

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Bridge Connection profits are returned to the community

Lisa Chesters MP available to help

LISA Chesters MP says she will not overlook the regional towns of her electorate in her term as Federal Member for Bendigo.

Ms Chesters has visited regional towns such as Kyneton and Heathcote regularly since being elected in September.

She has also been to Parliament in Canberra several times, as well as continuing to meet with community members and organisations to find out how she can best assist them.

The first term MP said she would continue to hold listening posts around the electorate so she could effectively represent the community at Parliament.

"I know from meeting so many people at Heathcote Farmers Market or outside Kyneton Woolworths how important it is to be available and accessible.

"I will continue to hold listening posts at these places," she said.

Ms Chesters said it was an honour to be elected to the role in September.

"I am honoured to be given the opportunity to represent the people of central Victoria, a region I am passionate about.

"I want central Victoria to be a healthy community with a strong education sector, meaningful employment opportunities, thriving local businesses and a strong, connected community.

Ms Chesters said her office could assist members of the community with services ranging from providing Australia flags to helping with immigration enquiries.

"I would encourage members of the community to contact my office if they think we can help them in any way," she said.

Members of the community can contact Lisa on 5443 9055 or by email at lisa.chesters.mp@aph.gov.au.

CLASSIFIEDS

For brochures and newsletters. Contact mynardmedia6@bigpond.com 0417 567 741

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Running a business without advertising is like winking at a girl in the dark

A little bit of history at Redesdale market

Redesdale market grows each year

The Redesdale Hall Committee members held their annual bush market on Sunday 9 March.

Weather was perfect for an outdoor market, with a lovely sunny day and gentle, cooling breeze.

Market goers enjoyed a selection of songs from the Bendigo and District Concert Band and entertainment was also provided by 'Jordy' and his two friends who provided music during rest breaks for the band.

Both groups added a pleasant atmosphere to the event and are available for bookings.

This arrangement worked very well and there were several comments made on how nice it was to hear the music filtering out over the market during the day, adding to the atmosphere.

The committee expressed thanks to groups.

The Kyneton Lions Club train once again proved pop-

ular, as did the jumping castle and slide, the laughing clowns and the fairy floss.

This year we had 64 stalls with a diverse range of items on offer and our advertising slogan of 'something for everyone' certainly rang true. A special thank you must go to all who helped in some way either before or on the day, ensuring it to be both a successful and enjoyable market; which continues to grow year after year.

Carolyn-Anne Boyd.

Graeme Newnham of Redesdale searched around the farm for stuff that had been there since cockie was an egg. Much of it sold to keen gardeners for garden ornaments and will set up a new life for another 100 years or so. This historic outdoor copper easily sold. More photographs on pages 8 and 9.



IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Submission of copy to

Bridge Connection

Deadline 20th of each month

In order to relieve the load on our previous editor, Bernie Campbell, would contributors please send copy to The Editor

mynardmedia6@bigpond.com

or by mail to Bridge Connection,
453 Bourke Rd, Katamatite, 3649
Ph 0417 567 741

Redesdale Community

Barbecue

Redesdale Hall

on

Saturday 3 May

6pm

Meat and Desert provided.

Please bring a salad.

BYO Drinks.

RSVP by Wednesday 30 April to 54253194

An opportunity for Redesdale Community to welcome newcomers to our town.

Invite your neighbours.

Anzac Day



The Lone Pine, Gallipoli, on Lone Pine Hill, where many soldiers lost their lives in terrible fighting to secure the hill. The tree was planted in 1920 from seeds of the original group of trees cut down during the battles and remains a sentinel. The species now flourishes across Australia grown from seeds brought from Gallipoli.

Photo by Jim Mynard Friday 25 April 2008

Do you know this World War II soldier?

'Mufti', the Victorian RSL magazine, December 2013, published this photograph of the Second World War soldier in an effort to find his identity. Mufti said the photo was found inside an old frame with information that it was taken at Geelong and it is believed the soldier is from the central Victorian region. The soldier is believed to be from the 2nd

AIF. The colour patch might be an early 2/14 Btn pattern.



Mufti asked that if anyone recognised the soldier to please contact John Lambert by email at jlambert@bdc.nsw.edu.au. Mufti said it would be wonderful if we could help return the photograph to the soldier or his surviving relatives.

Redesdale Hall

is available
for hire.
Carolyn
5425 3194

One hundred years ago Australia feared for its easy going, hard working, way of life as did many other countries in a world facing political turmoil and war.

On Friday 25 April 2014 families will come together during a series of Anzac Day marches and celebrations, to think about those days.

Basically to thank those who warded off aggressive and ruthless enemies to establish the freedom we will enjoy on 25 April 2014. Thinking about the sacrifices made by our soldiers fills most people with horror. The now famous Anzac tradition was created

when Australian and New Zealand soldiers joined forces to force a way through the Gallipoli Peninsula aiming to gain a strategic advantage against Germany during the first world war, fought from 1914 to 1918.

But the Anzacs came up against a brave nation, unwilling, to give a yard of soil. The Anzacs lost the battle, and many soldiers on either side lost their lives, but earned the respect and admiration of those at home. Very quickly, Anzac Day was celebrated each year, until it became a tradition in the Australian way of life.

The Veteran

By Bill Dickens

He is old, bent and weary,
His faltering step is slow,
But a flickering shadow
Of his youth from long ago.
He stands before the cenotaph
In a frosty April dawn,
Head bowed low in reverence,
His fallen mates to mourn.
Buck, Frank, and Bluey,
Rest on a Grecian hill,
In the steaming, tropic jungle,
Joe and Buck are sleeping still.
The Last Post from the bugle
Rings out loud and clear,
Down the weathered cheek
There rolls a glistening tear,
I will not be long old comrades
Before I meet you all once more
In that land beyond the sunset,
On that gleaming Golden Shore.

This poem was written by Bill Dickens, who with his wife, Jessie, lived at 'Leven Vale' Glenhope for many years. The poem is based on fact as Bill served six years with the Australian Army.

The poem includes two of his mates from Mia Mia.

Music month at Burke and Wills Winery

March was Music Month at Mia Mia's Burke and Wills Winery. People from all around Victoria arrived for the Labour Day weekend to relax in the casual atmosphere, and fare, enjoyed in the winery garden just off the Burke and Wills Track. There was more to follow during the remainder of the month, including the annual Peter Russell-Clarke Wine

Dinner. Peter presented a four course gourmet dinner complemented by eight wines, and provided some of his quirky views on many things. On Sunday 16 March a lunch and concert with one of America's greatest exponents of Delta Blues Guitar, Stefan Grossman, provided top entertainment. Stefan learned from the greats and has

played with Eric Clapton, Paul Simon, Bert Jansch, and John Renbourn. Stefan makes it look easy while he plays some of the most difficult pieces. On Saturday 22 March classic '60s folk and bluegrass took over when Suzette Herft presented her fabulous show 'Shining - A Diamond In The Rust', the story of Joan Baez in words and songs, with all the glorious and timeless classics Joan recorded.

On Sunday 23 March lunch and a show with the Peter Rowan Bluegrass Trio provided delight.



Anthony and Karen Hartigan. Anthony grew up at Mia Mia on a property across the road from the Burke and Wills Winery.



Martin Pearson was in charge of CD sales.

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Heathcote U3A activities

2014 Program

Email –

u3a.heathcote@gmail.com

Understanding Technology. First Thursday. 10 am. Guide Hall. Convener Peter Baldwin 5433 2925.

Chair based exercises. Fridays 10.30am. Guide Hall. Except the last Friday. Convener Glenys Baldwin 5433 2925.

Music Appreciation. First Tuesday 2pm to 4pm. Guide Hall. Convener John McClure 5433 3269

History Group. Third Thursday 10.30am. Guide Hall. Convener Win Jeavons 5433 2887.

Garden Club. Fourth Wednesday 1.30 pm. Guide Hall. Convener Peter Baldwin 54332925

Luncheon Club. Third Friday. Ring Barbara Clement 54333278 for the venue and to book a place.

Last Friday. Coffee Morning. Guide Hall. *Some with a guest speaker.*

Further information is available in the U3A newsletter available at the Visitor Information Centre, The Hub, (council offices), the Library, or contact us.



The setting at the Burke and Wills Winery for the music festival was perfect, a cloudless day, and magnificent old trees.



Heather McCormack, Mia Mia artist and horsewoman of note, with Lancefield's Graeme Walker at the music festival.

Survey on new pet rules

Macedon Council will consult with the community about the introduction of new laws for pets in public places, such as dog on or off leash areas, and cat curfews.

The council is conducting an online public survey, where each participant can go into the draw to win \$200 in pet supplies.

Council manager of community safety Anne-Louise Lindner, said whether people were pet owners or animal lovers they were encouraged to have a say.

“Input will help protect and improve the enjoyment of our public places for all residents in the shire.

“Nearly 14,000 animal registration renewal notices have been issued to all registered dog and cat owners, notifying them of the survey.

“To have your say, complete the five minute survey on our website, mrsc.vic.gov.au/pets-survey, before 30 April 2014,” Ms Lindner said.

Bridge Connection Inc.

Management Committee.

| | | |
|------------|--|--------------|
| President; | Mary Bennett | 03 5425 5551 |
| Secretary; | Regina Bennett | 03 5425 5402 |
| | reginabennett@bigpond.com | |
| Treasurer; | Terry McKenzie | 03 5425 3262 |
| | tezzamack@bigpond.com.au | |

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Editorial:- Jim Mynard 0417 567 741 Anytime.
mynardmedia6@bigpond.com
Hard copy to 453 Bourke Rd, Katamatite 3649

Founders Berni and Brett Campbell.

Distribution

1000 printed copies of Bridge Connection are circulated in the Mia Mia Redesdale Region, taking in Barfold, Baynton, Derrinal, Elphinstone, Glenhope, Heathcote, Kyneton, Langley, Metcalfe, Sidonia, Sutton Grange.

Care about and of the prostate

What is the prostate?

The prostate gland is a solid, walnut sized organ which lies at the base of the bladder surrounding the urethra, which is the urinary tract from bladder to penis.

The size of a pea at birth, it starts to enlarge at puberty until it reaches adult size by age 20.

In most men, it starts to enlarge again after age 50.

The prostate produces secretions which form part of the seminal fluid.

The prostate normally enlarges as part of the ageing process, due to hormonal changes.

The enlargement can put pressure on the urethra, obstructing the flow of urine.

This can eventually lead to problems with the bladder, which in severe cases may need surgery.

Common symptoms of prostate enlargement are increased frequency at night, difficulty passing urine, and dribbling of urine.

Severe abdominal pain and the ability to pass only a small amount of urine require urgent medical attention.

Enlargement of the prostate can be detected during a rectal examination performed by a general practitioner (GP), who may also feel the abdomen for signs of bladder distension.

Urine and blood tests, as well as ultra sound scans may be performed to check for infection, determine the severity of obstruction, and measure kidney function.

Mild symptoms may not be treated with conventional medicine, while treatment

of severe symptoms is usually in the form of prostatectomy; surgical removal of the prostate gland.

Retention of urine is relieved by the insertion of a catheter.

Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) is very effective in the treatment of the earlier stages of prostate enlargement, so preventing further enlargement and need for surgery down the track.

The prostate is seen to be 'nourished' by the reproductive essence or 'Jing', which is stored in the kidneys.

With age, the vital energy of the kidney system decreases, resulting in the disturbance of sex hormones.

Bear in mind that we are talking about the energy of the kidneys here, not pathological changes.

This process also decreases the sexual energy, which in turn affects the prostate and the circulation in this area.

Traditionally Chinese men have used acupuncture and herbs to compensate for the decline in prostate function, and prevent problems. Chinese herbs are used to increase the energy of the kidneys and other related organs.

Acupuncture points are needled on the legs, lower back and abdomen to improve energy and circulation.

Prostatitis, which is inflammation of the prostate, may be acute or chronic and is often caused by infection.

Symptoms include pain in

By Elizabeth Hannah

Government registered acupuncturist

the prostate, lower back and genital area, frequent and urgent need to urinate, pain or burning on urination, difficulty starting to urinate, diminished urinary flow, dark urine with a strong odour, blood or pus in urine, and fever.

Acute prostatitis is less common than chronic, but is a serious condition with severe symptoms, which may require hospitalisation.

Antibiotic treatment may be effective if the infection is bacterial, however chronic non-bacterial prostatitis is the most common form

TCM offers effective treatment for prostatitis.

Acupuncture and herbs are used to clear heat and 'damp' as well as toxins, and to strengthen underlying weaknesses or imbal-

ances of qi (energy).

For more information or appointments contact Elizabeth at Kyneton Acupuncture and Allied Health on 0403 753 221.

Or email:-

bethan.acup@westnet.com.au

Next month Elizabeth writes about prostate cancer.

Training awards nominations open

Nominations are open for the 60th Victorian Training Awards for outstanding apprentices, trainees, industry leaders, training providers, and teachers.

Nominations are open until Friday 2 May and finalists will be announced on Friday 27 June.

Further information is available at www.education.vic.gov.au/trainingawards.

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COMMERCIAL WINDOW FRAMES AND GLAZING

Successful Redesdale market day

Master toy maker, Len Pattison, from Strathfieldsaye



Above. Always popular at community functions. The Lions Club of Kyneton train. The 47 year old train, made by the Kyneton Apex Club, has raised thousands of dollars for community services, and provided fun for children of all ages. Volunteers are from left: Alan McGaughey, Peter Stephens, and David Quarrell.



Above. William Greenfield from Strathfieldsaye is a third year photography student at La Trobe University. He is keen for hands on work and besides making some beautiful prints is set up to do restoration work on old prints. Besides photography he is a musician and a member of the Bendigo Band. He is on 0413 462 569.



Above. In the counting house. From left: Yvonne McGrath, Sue Newnham, and Gloria Pocock count the days takings.

Left: Lisa Campbell from Redesdale made use of some old fencing wire to make these balls into ideal garden ornaments.



Above: Robert Wardle from Redesdale supported the annual Redesdale market by taking a stall.

Left. Members of the Redesdale Hall Committee. From left: Don Tuohey, Bill McGrath, Betty McGrath, Janette Johnson, Gay Shannon, Pauline Judd, Alwyn Charville, and Clark Andrews.



Goods direct from nature and the past



Above. A beautiful day at the market in Picturesque Redesdale. Right. Redesdale Fire Brigade volunteers were happy to accept a donation or two to help protect community property and lives. From left: Jim Boyd, Len McGrath, and Andrew Campbell. Below. Apiarist, Christine Wardell, from Drummond.



Jordan Waldron and Mitchell Wakefield of MJs Music. They are available for hire at functions. 0487 521 217.



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Mapping out Mia Mia's interesting history

By Kate Hicks

Finer details of a map to be published in a history of the Mia Mia district were discussed in detail during a community meeting at Mia Mia on Wednesday 19 March.

One issue was naming the historic bridge between Redesdale and Mia Mia.

Pre European settlement, the area around Mia Mia was split between aboriginal tribes.

Even then the relevant land area was on the edge of land claimed by at least two tribes.

This is an interesting district. Then came the pastoralists who had runs covering what became several districts.

With settlement came local government.

Land once part of the early runs ended up in several shires including Metcalfe Shire and McIvor Shire. These shires built the iron bridge across the Campaspe River. They shared the honour, costs, and arguments, related to building the bridge.

Records show argumentative meetings held at the Mia Mia Inn.

Mia Mia Inn was probably the nearest public meeting place to the border between those two shires.

Then came council amalgamations, and even now, the Mia Mia community covers multiple shires with the north end of Spring Plains parish in the City of Greater Bendigo as is some of Langwornar.

The rest of Langwornar is under water.

All of Glenhope is now in Mitchell Shire.

The township of Mia Mia, part of the Spring Plains

parish, is in Greater Bendigo.

We have been researching all things related to Mia Mia District, which is basically the existing Mia Mia CFA area, the old parishes of Spring Plains, Glenhope, and Langwornar, also known on old maps, as Langwoornar.

This was also the South Western Riding of the old McIvor Shire.

Our initial research found the Mia Mia bridge listed in both the national and state heritage databases, but the entry included 'also known as the Redesdale Bridge'. The bridge is shown on the Redesdale Wikipedia site with a link to 'Mia Mia Bridge'.

Initially we found very little about the bridge in old newspaper searches for either Mia Mia or Redesdale Bridge until a reference in one set of meeting minutes referred to the Iron Bridge.

That appears to have been the name used in early meetings.

We now have much information, including that cattle were not allowed to trot over the bridge.

Our map will be an attractive graphic representation of the district showing significant creeks and rivers and roads. We had the label 'Mia Mia Bridge' on our map.

But a Redesdale representative attended the meeting and made us realise that the name of the bridge is quite an emotive issue for the Redesdale community who feel that it should be called 'Redesdale Bridge', given that on the day it was opened

a champagne bottle was broken on the bridge and the declaration was made that 'henceforth the bridge will be known as the Redesdale Bridge'.

As we were already using icons on our map for things such as the Duigan monument and the bridge we decided the bridge on the map did not need a label.

That led to another discovery - there were mixed responses to the question of how many loops or handles or whatever sit over the bridge.

How many do you think? The answers we got were 'Maybe three', 'Maybe five', and 'no idea'.

Next time you drive over the bridge, check it out.

If anyone out there knows when those loops or whatever were raised in height, we'd be interested in the answer.

The other contentious issue was exactly where did Major Mitchell cross the Campaspe in 1836?

Annette Coombe came to our rescue by reminding us the major's line is very clearly laid out in the 1858 detailed parish map of Spring

Plains as surveyed by Philip Chauncy (the Heathcote street named after him has a misspelling).

You can find the Chauncy survey map online in the historic maps collection at the State Library of Victoria. The same map shows a hut, almost where the Conforti vineyard sits today; we believe that is the hut that was known as Main's Mia Mia. It was directly on the stock trail followed by early pastoralists.

The same map shows another hut labelled 'Old Government Hut'.

We think that was a hut most likely erected by one of the early run holders, later used as a police hut.

Other writers have claimed that 'Main's Mia Mia' (sometimes spelled Maine) was in what was to become the village of Mia Mia, but older writers indicate it was more directly on the old stock route.

Anyone interested in the progress of our history book can email us at miamiasocial@gmail.com and we'll put you on the email list for our little quarterly newsletter.

Maybe support for apprentices is looming

The State Government has asked for a report on a pathway to better understand apprentice and trainee employment patterns. Length of training, workplace experiences, size and location of the employer, employment contract provisions, employment conditions and type of industry could be considered. Apprenticeship completion rates are an issue nationally and it is expected this research will help improve conditions for apprentices and an increase in young people taking up apprenticeships.

The education and training minister said the Government needed to ensure apprentices and trainees were supported to fulfill their training and secure long term meaningful employment.

Banksia stock available

Landcare is seeking good homes for Banksia marginata tubestock.

These trees have been grown from remnant banksias in Baynton.

The group needs people to plant them out and look after them in the areas of Baynton, Sidonia, Glenhope, Benloch, Pastoria, Barfold, and Langley, so they grow and share their pollen with the remnant trees and those planted in previous years.

The plants come complete with guards, weed mats, mulch, a stake, and will be available in June for planting until late August.

Planters need to have a stock and pest free planting area.

They need to be kept free of weeds for at least two years, either by spraying, suppressing, cutting, or pulling, and watered fortnightly if the summer is dry and hot.

Orders can be made with Clare on 5423 4 152.

Myna bird trapping

Campaspe landcare is targeting Indian Myna birds.

Members have trapped and euthanased several of the pests. The group is working with another group in the Macedon Ranges which supplies traps and coordinates the trapping and eradication of the birds.

Caring for the Campaspe

Angela Gladman from North Central Catchment Management Authority will be guest speaker at the Campaspe Valley Landcare Group meeting at 7pm in the Mia Mia Hall on Friday 4 April. Caring for the Campaspe project, is the first large scale on ground works project to deliver river health improvements for the Campaspe River from its headwaters near Ashbourne, to the Murray River at Echuca.

The Campaspe River contains several threatened vegetation communities, aquatic life, and provides habitat for many terrestrial species, such as the threatened Swift

Parrot and Squirrel Glider.

The goal of the four year project, funded by the Victorian Government through the Securing Priority Waterways program is to improve the condition of riparian vegetation leading to improvements in the aquatic and riparian ecosystem health of the Campaspe River.

The project will work with both private river front landholders, public land managers, and community groups to deliver fencing, weed control, and revegetation incentives.

Landholders along the river were given an opportunity via direct mail to express an

interest in becoming involved.

However, for people who have Campaspe River frontage and would like to find out more, it is not too late.

Please contact Angela Gladman on 5440 1825 or email angela.gladman@nccma.vic.gov.au.

For more information regarding Campaspe Valley Landcare Group, please contact president Phillip Don on 5423 4182 or mrdon@westnet.com.au or secretary Barbara James on 0458 590 642.

Email:-
archiemcleod1@gmail.com

Campaspe Landcare are champion weeders

Free plants and good advice were drawcards for Campaspe Valley Landcare Group at the annual Redesdale Bush Market held on Sunday 9 March.

Campaspe Landcare has a serious focus on the eradication of Texas Needle Grass.

The group is mapping the invasive weed and informing landholders about identification and control.

Workshops have been held for landcare members and residents with the help of Mt Alexander Shire and Caring for Country support.

The group is targeting the weed and is hoping to gain funding for eradication after mapping its spread.

Residents are encouraged to identify and report the weed to the group so that mapping and support is continued.

Funding has been received from grants to target other weeds such as gorse, which

are being eradicated from roadsides in the area.

Contact with the Campaspe Landcare Group is through secretary Barbara James on 0458 590 642, or president Phillip Don, on 5432 4182.

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Please send news items about community groups

to The editor

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453 Bourke Road, Katamatite 3649

email: mynardmedia6@bigpond.com

0417 567 741



Federal Member for Bendigo

LISA CHESTERS MP

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Cnr. Williamson & Myers Sts, Bendigo 3550

T: 03 5443 9055 • F: 03 5443 9736

E: Lisa.Chesters.MP@aph.gov.au

@LMchesters • /LisaChestersBendigo



Busy time at Buffalo

Buffalo Sports Stadium in Woodend needs more teams for its Mixed Volleyball Competition and Tuesday night ladies netball competition.

For more information,

phone 5427 3411 or buffalo@mrsc.vic.gov.au

The Rotary Club of Gisborne is coordinating the 2014 Great Macedon Challenge Ride/Run over

70 kilometres and 116

kilometres, with the run 15 kilometres.

This will be on Sunday 4 May at Macedon Community Centre, Waterfalls Road, Macedon.

Further information is available from Barry Wills on 0408 284 510 or www.gisbornerotary.org.au.

Macedon Ranges Basket-ball Association capped off a terrific summer season with its Grand Final Day for Sunday 23 March at Buffalo Stadium.

Registrations are now available online for the Winter Season which runs across Term 2 and Term 3.

Competitions (including training for all junior levels) are available in Woodend for boys and girls from Under 10s right through to senior levels.

Visit macedonrangesbasketball.net.au for more information. Zumba classes will be held at the Macedon Community Centre on Wednesdays from 10am -11am.

Zumba classes are also held at Buffalo Sports Stadium on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 8.30pm and Friday morn-

ings from 11am to noon.

Registration is with Zumba Instructor, Karen Francis, on 0432 807 682.

Signature Cheer and Dance Studio are offering cheerleading and dance classes in Macedon and New Gisborne. Our cheerleading teams are looking for more members so we can compete in competitions from July 2014.

Cheerleading classes and teams are available for children five to 18 years old. Call or text Amy Citroen on 0417751868 or visit www.signaturecheerdancestudio.com.au

Strength for Health is a progressive strength training program designed specifically for older adults, with classes on Tuesdays from 1pm to 2pm and Fridays from 9.30am to 10.30am.

Fees are \$60 for a 10 pass card or \$118 for a 20 pass card.

Please tell your friends to come along and enjoy the benefits of regular exercise with our experienced instructors who offer an individual exercise program.

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DyslexiClever

Macedon Ranges

- Empowering out-of-the-box thinkers

Dyslexia Support Group

Meets 9am first Friday of the month @ Ethic. Café 63 Urquhart Street, Woodend.

Enquiries: Marg 0409 550 238 - or just come along!



0409 550 238

dyslexiclever@gmail.com

Diary Dates

To Sunday 1 June.

Red Poppies Display in the Bendigo Library.

Friday 4 April.

Dyslexia Support Group. 9am at Ethic Cafe, Woodend. Marg 0409 550 238.

Sunday 6 April.

Daylight saving ends.

Thursday 10 April.

10.30am. Coffee morning at Redesdale shop.

Friday 18 April.

Good Friday.

Sunday 27 April.

1pm to 5pm. Afternoon tea dance. Redesdale Hall. Enquiries to Gloria on 5425 3123.

Monday 28 April.

Registrations close for Rural Businesswomen Conference, Beechworth.

Friday 2 May.

Dyslexia Support Group. 9am at Ethic Cafe, Woodend. Marg 0409 550 238.

Saturday 3 May.

6pm. Redesdale community barbecue. RSVP by Wednesday 30 April to Carolyn on 5425 3194.

Sunday and Monday 4 and 5 May.

Rural Businesswomen Conference, Beechworth.

Monday 5 May.

Japanese Children's Day.

Thursday 8 May.

10.30am. Coffee morning at Redesdale shop.

Thursdays 15, 22, 29 May.

Macedon Ranges youth mental health training. Sacred Heart College, Kyneton. 6pm.

Friday 30 May.

Applications for Ian Morton Memorial Scholarship close. Alana 5448 2600.

Thursday 5 June.

Macedon Ranges youth mental health training. Sacred Heart College, Kyneton. 6pm.

Friday 6 June.

Dyslexia Support Group. 9am at Ethic Cafe, Woodend. Marg 0409 550 238.

Saturday 7 to Monday 9 June:-

Queen's Birthday Weekend.

Thursday 12 June.

10.30am. Coffee morning at Redesdale shop.

Saturday 21 June.

Winter Solstice.

Monday 30 June to Sunday 6 July.

World Open Snooker Championships, Bendigo.

Friday 4 July. American independence Day.

Friday 4 July.

Dyslexia Support Group. 9am at Ethic Cafe, Woodend. Marg 0409 550 238.

Thursday 10 July.

10.30am. Coffee morning at Redesdale shop.

Tuesdays 22, 29 July.

Macedon Ranges youth mental health training. Gisborne Council office. 6pm.

Friday 1 August.

Dyslexia Support Group. 9am at Ethic Cafe, Woodend. Marg 0409 550 238.

Editorial

Anzac Day thoughts

The horrible battle on the Gallipoli Peninsula 99 years ago impacted on two nations in a terrible way, but despite the tragic losses, both nations in those few months forged their place in the world. The fledgling Australian nation came of age by setting its own tradition, win or lose, and the loosely political Turkey, led eventually by Gallipoli veteran Kemal Ataturk who became president, to unify and build the Turkish nation. The war shall never be forgotten by either nation. Ataturk left a moving message on a large stone in the Gallipoli Memorial grounds: *"Those heroes that shed blood and lost their lives you are now lying in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore rest in peace. There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehmets to us, where they lie side by side in this country of ours you, the mothers who sent their sons from far away countries, wipe away your tears. Your sons are now lying in our bosom and are at peace. After having lost their lives on this land, they have become our sons as well."*

Tuesdays 5, 12 August.

Macedon Ranges youth mental health training. Gisborne Council office. 6pm.

Thursday 14 August.

10.30am. Coffee morning at Redesdale shop.

Friday 29 August to Sunday 31 August:-

Heathcote Film Festival.

Sunday 14 September.

1pm to 5pm. Afternoon tea dance. Redesdale Hall. Enquiries to Gloria on 5425 3123.

Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 October:-

Wine and Food Festival Weekend Heathcote.

Friday 5 September.

Dyslexia Support Group. 9am at Ethic Cafe, Woodend. Marg 0409 550 238.

Thursday 11 September.

10.30am. Coffee morning at Redesdale shop.

Thursday 9 October.

10.30am. Coffee morning at Redesdale shop.

Saturday 11 October.

Mia Mia opera.

Sunday 12 October.

Mia Mis opera - matinee.

Monday 20 and Tuesday 21 October.

Macedon Ranges youth mental health training. Lancefield Neighbourhood House. 9am.

Thursday 30 October.

Mia Mia Flower Show.

Tuesdays 11, 18, 25 November.

Macedon Ranges youth mental health training. Victoria Hotel, Woodend 6pm.

Thursday 13 November.

10.30am. Coffee morning at Redesdale shop.

November.

State election.

Tuesday 2 December.

Macedon Ranges youth mental health training. Victoria Hotel, Woodend 6pm.

Rainfall

Mia Mia

| | |
|-----------|--------|
| 2013 | 538.00 |
| Jan 0 0 | |
| Feb 63.5 | 63.5 |
| Mar 24.5 | 88.0 |
| April 5.0 | 93.0 |
| May 63.0 | 156.0 |
| June 32.0 | 188.0 |
| July 78.5 | 266.5 |
| Aug 88.0 | 354.5 |
| Sept 83.5 | 438.0 |
| Oct 40.5 | 478.5 |
| Nov 38.5 | 517.0 |
| Dec 21.00 | 538.0 |
| 2014 | |
| Jan 8.00 | 8.00 |
| Feb 1.00 | 9.00 |

Redesdale

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 2013 | 514.9 |
| Jan | 0 0 |
| Feb 54.0 | 54.0 |
| Mar 28.5 | 82.5 |
| April 4.7 | 87.2 |
| May 24.3 | 111.5 |
| June 65.0 | 176.5 |
| July 63.0 | 239.5 |
| Aug 94.0 | 333.5 |
| Sept 79.0 | 412.5 |
| Oct 32.9 | 455.4 |
| Nov 50.5 | 505.9 |
| Dec 9.00 | 514.9 |
| 2014 | |
| Jan 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Feb | |

The 'Redesdale' Bridge

Redesdale is situated about midway between Heathcote and Kyneton.

The Redesdale Bridge crosses the Campaspe River, which is the boundary between the Shire of Metcalfe, and the Shire of McIvor.

A series of conferences between the

A name annointed in champagne

opened and lowest for the design B iron bridge, a cheaper version than design A, was seriously considered until the



The Redesdale Bridge, on the Heathcote to Kyneton Road, where it crosses the Campaspe River.

two shires concerning the proposed bridge, began on Thursday 23 August 1866.

Building the bridge was a joint venture between the two shires and as with many partnerships, differences of opinion arose about the site and the type of structure.

Conferences about the project were held in the Mia Mia Hotel, so it may be imagined that at the end of business, after a brief adjournment, a cordial relationship would prevail.

Engineer Strong of McIvor and engineer Muntz of Metcalfe both submitted designs for a timber bridge.

It was decided to submit the plans to the engineer in chief in Melbourne for his selection.

It was also decided to award a bonus of forty pounds, \$80, to the successful planner.

Considerable progress had been made behind the scenes as Mr Muntz produced plans of a timber bridge and two of an iron girder bridge marked respectively A and B.

Tenders from four contractors were

tenderers, Messrs Kelly and Drake, declined to comply with the deposit requirements.

The next lowest tenderer, Mr Thomas Doran, about 300 pounds, \$600 higher at 3585 pounds, \$7170 was then called, and after satisfactory assurances, the contract was awarded.

McIvor councillor Morris and Mr Muntz were appointed to proceed to Melbourne to negotiate terms for the purchase of the iron bridge and arrange for its defects to be remedied.

It is here that is seen another case of a bridge coming to rest where it was not intended.

The bridge has had an eventful history. The most accepted version is that it formed portion of a bridge weighing 350 tons intended to be placed across the Yarra River at Hawthorn, costing 10,000 pounds, \$20,000, including cranes for erection. The vessel in which the bridge was to be shipped, The Herald of The Morning, caught fire in Hobsons Bay before its cargo was discharged and consequently scuttled.

This was a probable cause for Keilor

Council's insistence on insurance for their bridge.

Messrs Ingles and Gresham were successful in raising the sunken bridge and transported it to Sandridge.

They negotiated with the government for its purchase.

The sale might have been made for 6000 pounds, \$12,000, except for an unfortunate offer being made by the firm to the inspector general of public works, Mr T Higginbotham, of a 2.5 per cent commission for the transaction.

This indiscretion led to breaking off the negotiation, to a correspondence being laid before parliament, and Ingles and Gresham's removal from the list of government contractors.

The bridge was then bought by Langlands and Company for 2000 pounds, \$4000, but the venture did not prove profitable, because they sold the 200 ton portion now at Redesdale for 1000 pounds, \$2000.

The remaining section was sold for the price of old iron.

Immersion in the sea caused severe rusting and a battle ensued between the councils and Langlands over who would pay for the scraping and painting.

Langlands offered 30 pounds, \$60, towards an estimated cost of 200 pounds, \$400, which was finally accepted.

The girders were transported to Redesdale by bullock dray, where they were scraped and oiled on site, and erected with the aid of a temporary wooden bridge.

Originally intended to be completed by April 1867, work on the bridge dragged on interminably because of difficulty obtaining the correct rivets.

Technical adviser with the Railways Department, Mr Ford, recommended three overhead transverse ties instead of the two planned, in order to provide more strength. The stone masons pressed on with the abutments and finished that section of the job well in advance of the iron work. Finally the great day arrived for the official opening on Thursday 23 January 1868.

To page 15.

Champagne toast on the birth of a district icon

From page 14.

Mayors and presidents of neighbouring and surrounding districts, accompanied by their ladies, and many other visitors, attended the function.

Notable by their absence were representatives from Malmsbury.

Shortly after 2pm, the McIvor Shire president introduced Mrs JB Morris, who, in a very ladylike and appropriate manner broke a bottle of champagne over the iron ribs of the bridge, declaring it to be duly opened, and to be known in future as 'The Redesdale Bridge'.

The company then sat down to enjoy the good things provided by host Gillam of the Black Hill Hotel.

Toasts were many and varied, with no worthwhile organisation neglected.

Proceedings terminated by toasting the chairman and vice chairman.

The principal portion of the company then left, but another assemblage began to arrive and a ball took place on the bridge, which went on to the early hours.

Although acclaimed by local residents the bridge was not so well regarded in some parts of the McIvor Shire, derided as a waste of money and a future white elephant.

Time, however, proved the bridge supporters to be right because it was a boon to travellers during the early days and its solid construction has withstood the strains of modern traffic.

Its width is restrictive, but its record of safety is good, in spite of the awkward approaches.

One fatality occurred on the bridge when a two horse buggy driven by Mia Mia resident, Mrs Russell, bolted down the hill.

This resulted in tragedy when the horses went either

side of the abutment.

Many huge loads of wool and firewood have passed over the bridge carried by road trains usually consisting of a traction engine, two wagons, and fuel carts.

Modest bluestone abutments support three iron lattice double web girders in a single span, between which passes a narrow two lane roadway.

Overhead, three pairs of iron arches provide transverse stability, and viewed from directly in front, suggest a spider like appearance to the structure.

The inner faces of stone in the abutment pillars are dressed and finely picked.

The wooden decking has been replaced and the iron-work repainted several times, the approaches widened, and the traffic speed increased, but the scene is still much as it was when the bridge was annointed with champagne

and danced upon, 146 years ago.

Sutton Grange Hall community activities

April.

Sunday 20.

10am. Easter egg hunt.

Friday 25.

11am. Anzac Day memorial service and morning tea.

May.

Wednesday 14.

1pm Cottee afternoon. Admission \$5. Many prizes.

Saturday 31.

6pm. Trivia night.

June

7pm. Saturday 14.

Redesdale Revellers.

July.

Saturday 26.

6pm. Carpet bowls and table tennis.

August.

Friday 29.

8pm. Church gala night.

Saturday 30.

6pm. Movie night.

September.

Sunday 14.

Historical bus tour of region.

October.

Saturday 25.

6pm. Carpet bowls and table tennis.

December.

Sunday 7. 6pm. Christmas tea. Details about BYO meals from Natalie 0419 799 987 or Jenny 0427 931.

Crisis care for horses

Macedon Ranges Council has established an Emergency Management Task

Kittens are looking for a home

Cat lovers can adopt a feline friend through Macedon Council's cat pound and shelter, operating at Tony's Practice Veterinary Centre in Woodend. The Council and Tony's Practice are working in partnership to find homes for a range of desexed, vaccinated, microchipped, wormed, and vet checked cats.

Group to help develop fire ready information for horse owners and horse properties.

Part of the task group's role will be to identify refuges for horses in the event of fire. The council is also urging people to make their own private arrangements and look at relocating horses to safer areas on days of high fire danger.

The Emergency Management Task Group is one of many appointed to work with the council to deliver some of the actions in the Equine Strategy.

These task groups have

been formed out of a new equine industry network, the Ranges Equine Industry Network (REIN) in partnership with members of the equine community.

REIN. represents a broad cross section of the equine industry, including large and small businesses, clubs and riders.

People who would like regular updates about equine activities in the Macedon Ranges, are invited to contact Leanne Davey, Economic Development and Tourism Department on 5421 9617 or email

ldavey@mrc.vic.gov.au

Lancefield market lunch

Lancefield and District Farmers' Market will hold a Sunday lunch in the Mechanics Institute, High Street, Lancefield, presented by the spice man, Pieter Siebel, of Pete's Travelling Pans, the 'curry man', on Sunday 13 April from 1pm to 4pm.

Pete's Sri Lankan heritage will be showcased in an authentic Sri Lankan buffet, over a shared table in the wonderful old Mechanics Hall supper room.

Pete will share his culinary skills as well as stories from his homeland.

Tickets are strictly limited to 24 people, \$45 each, BYO drinks.

Bookings on 0407 860 320.

Healthy active people

Macedon Ranges Council's Healthy Active people program will celebrate its success with a healthy lunch in the Kyneton Mechanics Institute on Tuesday 8 April.

Cooking activities and giveaways will be a feature of the luncheon afternoon.

The program ends in April after 73 programs and activities which have helped residents live healthier lifestyles.

The program has tackled

weight related health issues and disease by increasing participation in physical activity and promoting healthy eating.

It was funded by the Australian Government through the National Partnership on Preventative Health and began in September 2011.

Everyone is welcome, but

RSVP by Friday 4 April to 5422 0206 or healthy-communities@mrsc.vic.gov.au.

Baynton Sidonia Landcare seminars

Baynton Sidonia Landcare (BSL) will offer lectures on native bees and the important honey bee.

During July, BSL will work with the Kyneton Woodland Project, to have a workshop on platypuses and koalas.

Aboriginal cultural workshops will be held in August, in response to strong demand.

Stone tool making, story telling, and basket weaving will be followed by an evening talk

about Aboriginal life in this area.

Towards the end of the year, the group will arrange tours of successful revegetation projects.

The seminars will be funded by Victorian Landcare grants, from the Kyneton Woodland project, and from our own Landcare funds. Each seminar at the Baynton Hall will include a meal with time for socialising.

Gisborne Aquathon

The Gisborne Aquathon will be held on Sunday 13 April. Gisborne Aquatic Centre manager Paul Ross said whether you are looking to get fit or knock out the competition, now is the time to be in training for the big day.

"If you are a runner but not a great swimmer or vice versa, you can enter as part of a team to tackle the swim and run sections of the race," Paul said.

The mini course is suitable for any age group and first timers, consisting of a 500 metre run, followed by a 50 metre swim.

Paul said the short course included a three kilometre run and 300 metre swim.

Feistier participants can enjoy the long course of a six kilometre run and 600 metre swim.

Both short and long courses are completed in age categories. Team entries will be accepted for these courses only. Gisborne Mitre 10 is the official sponsor of the event and have provided \$450 in cash prizes. The first male and female long course

winners will receive \$150 cash, while the male and female short course winners will receive \$75. Lots of spot prizes up for grabs for all participants, including vouchers from local businesses. Further information about training and participation is available from Paul Ross at the Gisborne Aquatic Centre on 5421 1452.

Please send news items
about community groups

to
The editor

Bridge Connection

453 Bourke Road,
Katamatite 3649

or
email:

mynardmedia6@bigpond.com

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