

Bridge Connection

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



Edition 61

January 2015

A community owned newspaper

Mia Mia history celebrated



A nostalgic look at the past

Mia Mia Celebrated its History at the launch of 'Mia Mia The Place and its People'.

The book was written by the community of Mia Mia, published by the Mia Mia Mechanics' Institute, and officially launched on Sunday 30 November 2014.

Costs were offset by an Australian Department of Environment. 'community heritage grant'.

This grant assisted with design, copy editing, and printing.

Volunteers provided research, content selection, and writing.

The 90 or so people who attended the launch included descendants of the founding families of Mia Mia, the Coughlan, Madden, Westblade, Dwyer, and Linklater families who ran the hotel

By Kate Hicks

and/or post office from 1848 to 1970.

Representatives from many other Mia Mia families also attended.

Family names recorded in the book include Andrew, Bennett, Campbell, Coombe, Cullen, Daniel, Dempster, Duigan, Ferguson, Hamilton, Hill, Hyslop, Knight, Madden, Marshall, McDonald, Monro, Pigdon, Pohlman,

Ross, and Turner.

The book includes a comprehensive coverage of the first Australian made aeroplane to make a successful flight with a first hand story about the joys and challenges faced by the Duigan brothers, John and Reginald.

Seventeen photographs of the plane chart its progress as the brothers built, tested, crashed, rebuilt, and tested it.

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Bendigo to host international squash championships

Bendigo Squash Club will host the inaugural Bendigo International Squash Championships from Wednesday 19 to Sunday 23 August 2015.

The championship matches will be held at the Bendigo squash courts in Barnard Street, and will feature a highly competitive field of professional internationals, as well as up and coming locals keen to have a crack at the title.

Men's and a Women's Open with prize money of \$5000, plus world ranking points, for each event.

Squash and Racquetball Victoria President, Peta Murphy said Victoria now had a package of high calibre events on the International Professional Squash Association tour calendar for next year.

"With support of sponsors such as the City of Greater Bendigo, we are leading the way for profiling Australian Squash," she said.

Australian 2014 World Women's Squash Team member, Christine Nunn, said she was thrilled to hear of the Bendigo International. "It is great to have these opportunities for Australian players to compete against the rest of the world in our own backyard," Christine said.

Team mate and Glasgow Commonwealth Games member, Sarah Cardwell, said it was fantastic to see the regional areas really getting behind our sport."

Graded events, open to players of all abilities on the Saturday and Sunday, providing an opportunity for our locals to shine.

Please support Cystic Fibrosis research

www.cysticfibrosis.org.au
 Cystic Fibrosis Victoria
 03 9686 1811

Opportunity to age well

Ageing Well, Bendigo, would like to hear from older people interested in supporting peers with disability.

They would share experiences and ideas about ageing well and planning for a good life in older age.

Volunteers would participate in group discussions, take part in planning, reflect on and develop their own plans for a full and meaningful life, and support an older person with a disability.

Further information is available from ageing well project worker, Kir Larwill, On 5441 2666.

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Not all the stories provided by community members fitted into the book, and the Mia Mia Mechanics' Institute plans to add those, and others available, to the Mia Mia website at www.miamiavic.com. If you have any Mia Mia stories you are invited to send them to:-

miamiasocial@gmail.com. The book is beautifully printed and bound, with a stunning image provided by Mia Mia's Deb Agnew who received many accolades from the attendees at the launch. The book can be purchased online at:- www.trybooking.com/110165; at Aesop's' Attic bookshop, Kyneton; and at the Heathcote or Bendigo Visitor Information Centres. Feedback on the book:- Patricia Doherty, a Madden

descendant, who attended the launch, making her first visit to Mia Mia.

"I am so pleased I made the journey to Mia Mia on Sunday to see the place where my side of the Madden family lived.

I am looking forward to returning with a camera.

Many thanks to the people of Mia Mia for their kindness and generosity of time in putting together the story of Mia Mia and its people," she said.

From Judith Ballard, a Dwyer descendant: "Thank you and the Mia Mia community so much for the launch of the book last weekend.

It was a great opportunity to get together and to see where my father's family settled in the 1850s.

The launch was excellent and Mia Mia hospitality was

much appreciated. Thanks also for the wonderful book which is an absolute credit to all concerned, and such a superb production from the initial idea, the gathering of information, the writing, editing and design. It has obviously taken an enormous amount of effort on the part of many people who must now be very proud. Please could you pass on my very grateful thanks to the committee and anyone else involved in the book and the launch. Congratulations to all." Judith Ballard (nee Dwyer).

From a Mia Mia outsider, now an admirer of Mia Mia: "Dear all, And that is what I liked best of your book which I acquired and devoured today - it is a we book and not a me book. Putting the production to one side, which is superb, the

content makes riveting reading and is nicely balanced between the interests of a local Kyneton historian, me, and the people who live in your magical area. In particular I was amazed to find that Howard Nathan a contemporary of mine at Law School at Melbourne Uni is one of yours.

Well done from almost a local - Greenhill. Kind thoughts and congratulations on this fascinating book." Cliff Pannam."

George Marshall, descended from one of the early settlers in the district, was unable to attend the launch; he ordered two books to be mailed to him at Torquay.

The day they arrived his wife sent an email which said: "The books arrived today and George can't put it down. It looks fantastic - job Very well done!"

Anzac Commemorative Book

Bendigo Coucil, Bendigo RSL, and the Hindsight Club are encouraging residents to sign a commemorative book for presentation to the Papua New Guinea High Commission at this year's Bomana War Cemetery Anzac Day Dawn Service.

Bomana is located at the southern end of the Kokoda Trail, near Port Moresby, and is the largest war cemetery in the Pacific. It is the final resting place for 3779 soldiers, sailors and airmen, who fought in PNG and includes the graves of 3069 known and 237 unknown Australians. Bendigo Mayor Peter Cox said the book would be located at the Bendigo RSL Club in Havilah Road until early April and then be available to sign at the City's offices in Heathcote for a week.

"The book is designed to allow the Bendigo community to acknowledge this year's Anzac Day centenary and our brave war heroes."

The idea for the book came from the Hindsight Club, a group of 19 local businessmen following in the footsteps of our armed services and completing the 96 kilometre Kokoda Trail. Bendigo RSL President Cliff Richards said: "No element of war is easy but the fight by our servicemen on the Kokoda Trail was nothing short of remarkable considering the horrendous conditions. Lest We Forget all that has been done for us so we can enjoy the world in which we live."

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Private Robert Mactier Victoria Cross

By Ross Mactier - second cousin twice removed



Robert Mactier VC

A ceremony was held at the Tatura War Memorial on Friday 31 October to unveil a statue of Private Robert Mactier who was awarded the Victoria Cross (VC) for his part in the battle of Mont St Quentin.

The ceremony which took place in front of a crowd of 500 people, was conducted by the Tatura RSL with the unveiling performed by The Hon Peter Ryan MP, the then Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional Development of Victoria.

The Mactier family has been well known in this district for nearly 150 years and a number of the original set-

tlers' descendants from Central Victoria attended the ceremony to honour their heroic relative.

John Mactier, Robert's uncle arrived in Melbourne in 1852.

After some years in business he bought Stratford Lodge, Metcalfe, in 1869.

Descendants of John Mactier continued to farm in the Metcalfe Elphinstone district for more than 100 years, Descendants, Robert and William still remain at Elphinstone.

Robert Mactier VC was born on Saturday 17 May 1890.

His father, Robert, migrated from Wigtownshire, Scot-

land in 1872 and selected land at Tatura, calling the property 'Reitcam' which is Mactier spelt backwards!

In 1878 he married Christina Ross, daughter of another pioneer Angus Ross, the storekeeper in Tatura.

They had 10 children, Robert being the seventh child.

He attended the Tatura state school where there is now a memorial plaque.

On leaving school he worked on the family farm and later with his brother Jack growing cereal crops at Caniambo on the banks of the Broken River.

Robert enlisted at Seymour in the 19/23rd Battalion at the age of 26.

The battalion went into camp at Broadmeadows before sailing to England in July 1917.

Robert was a natural sportsman, a good runner, boxer, talented footballer, and an excellent shot, however constant drill and standing to attention was not what he wanted.

"I don't think they will ever make a soldier of me" he wrote in his diary, after a ducal inspection.

This was proved wrong when the battalion left for France in November 1917.

On Sunday 1 September 1918 the ANZACS, were under the command of General Monash, with 1000 soldiers who had been fighting continuously for the previous three weeks.

He was ordered to send his men into attack to secure Mont St Quentin, then occupied by several thousand German troops who could

clearly see the position held by the ANZACS.

Monash's plan was to attack from a number of sides rather than a full on frontal assault.

Prior to the advance of the battalion it was necessary to clear up several enemy strong points close to the ANZAC'S line.

Bombing patrols sent forward failed to effect this and Mactier, a battalion runner, was dispatched to see why there was a hold up. On inspection he found there was a well placed enemy machine gun near the 'jumping-off point'.

On his own initiative he jumped out of the trench in daylight and charged the gun, killing its crew of eight men with his revolver and bombs.

He then charged two other machine guns, killing more crews and causing forty of the enemy to surrender.

He was killed by a fourth machine gunner at close range.

Undoubtedly his solo effort enabled the ANZACS to capture Mont Quentin and take 2500 German prisoners.

In the posthumous award of the Victoria Cross the citation stated: "It was entirely due to this exceptional valour of Private Mactier that the battalion was able to move on to its 'jumping off' trench and carry out the successful operation of capturing the village of Mont St Quentin a few hours later." (London Gazette Saturday 14 December 1918).

An acknowledgement by the

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officers and men of the battalion presented to Robert's parents dated Sunday 8 December 1918 stated: "Private Mactier VC gave his own life, but by doing so saved the lives of many of his comrades, and what he accomplished at Mont St. Quentin contributed greatly towards the ultimate success of the Battalion's operations. Here your son was honoured by us as a man among men, and those of us who are left will always cherish the memory of a fine character, and for duty well done the example he set will never be forgotten".

Robert Mactier is buried in the beautifully maintained Hem Monacu cemetery overlooking the River Somme.



The Victoria Cross

Those who survived to wear it, fought in the face of death.

Fought for the land they worshipped.

For their mates and their kin at home.

Grateful we are to them.

Those who were never to wear it,

Who fell down as their task was done.

Lost to us all forever, but forgotten?

Never was one.

Grateful we are to them.

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The memorial at Tatura is a constant reminder of the price we pay for preserving our way of life in Australia.

Church services

Catholic Church.

St Laurence, Redesdale.
Service at 11am on second Sunday each month.

Uniting Church.

First Sunday.
Barfold.
Second Sunday.
Metcalf.
Third Sunday.
Mia Mia.
Fourth Sunday.
Sutton Grange.

All services at 11am.
On the fifth Sunday the Uniting Churches combine with Kyneton for a 10am service at Kyneton.

Heathcote U3A activities

Email – u3a.heathcote@gmail.com

Chair-Based Exercises. All Fridays 10.30am in the Guide Hall. Coffee morning moved to first Friday thereafter. Convener Glenys Baldwin 5433 2925.

Coffee Morning. Moved to first Friday from Friday 1 August. Organiser Stephanie Bastock 5433 3649.

Current Affairs discussion group. Second Monday at 1.30pm. Convener Win Jeavons 5433 2887.

French Conversation (Beginners). 2nd Saturday 2.30pm. Convener Sally Heley 5433 5363.

Garden Club. Fourth Wednesday 1.30pm at Guide Hall. Convener Peter Baldwin 5433 2925.

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

Luncheon Club. Third Friday. Convenor Barbara Clement 5433 3278.

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

Understanding Technology. First Thursday 10.am at Guide Hall. Except for May due to the Art Show. Convener Peter Baldwin 54332925.

Walk and Talk. First and third Monday 10am. Meet at Guide Hall.

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Compulsory voting yes or no

By Louise Joy

Perhaps compulsory voting and primary schools in Australia have something in common, both organising lines for the main event.

We enjoyed the line up at Heathcote RSL Hall for the Saturday 29 November 2014 Victorian State Election.

Whereas we could chat with friends, and there was a cheerful banter between opposing sides handing out how to vote cards, as school children we were kept in strict silence.

I promised to write more after my comment on compulsory voting in the the December Bridge Connection once I'd had time to explore the field.

'Infantile' pronounced Professor Geoffrey Blainey in an article for The Australian on Wednesday 21 February 1990, and reproduced in the 'Blainey Eye on Australia Speeches and Essays of Geoffrey Blainey (Schwartz and Wilkinson 1991).

Professor Blainey is described as an immensely popular commentator with a large and faithful following who have come to expect his

fresh, forthright, and sometimes controversial insights into issues of contemporary Australian life.

What more could we expect on the topic of compulsory voting in Australia.

Blainey concludes, 'In a democracy, all voters are equal, but not all are responsible. Compulsory voting ignores that elementary truth'.

Blainey argues that surprisingly few of those who fail to vote are actually fined.

Unlike the hope that political knowledge in the country would improve, the main interest people have taken is in avoiding the fine.

Experience of other nations suggests most people will vote whether voting is compulsory or not, giving the examples of Netherlands, Austria and Sweden.

This was written well before the US Primaries in 2014 which had electors crying out a general disaffection with both political parties and the system of government.

On Google I discovered only 22 countries in the world were registered for compulsory voting and only 11 out of 22 enforced the law.

In a sort of school primer in the Heathcote Goldfields Library, 'Australia's System of Government Issues in Society', edited by Justin Healey (The Spinney Press 2008) I found on page 21: "Compulsory voting at federal elections has been Australian law for 83 years, perfunctorily endorsed by the Federal Parliament after a collapse in voter turnout at the 1922 election spooked MPs on all sides.

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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.

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From just 60 per cent of eligible voters at that election, the turnout impact was immediate, with Australia's participation rate one of the highest in the world.

In the 24 elections since 1946, it has averaged 95 per cent."

Blainey, of all historians with the most acute eye for detail, noted that election day in 1922 when the vote fell from 72 per cent in 1919 to 59 per cent in 1922, was on Saturday 16 December, one of the preparation days for Christmas.

Feeling himself into the mindset of the people in 1922, Blainey writes: "Election Day, therefore, found so many busily preparing for a special holiday that naturally they were tempted to forget their opportunity to vote."

In Heathcote on Saturday 29

November 2014, I heard no rumblings or grumbings about being forced to vote.

We all seemed to be happy to be in the town on a fresh warm day doing our bit for democracy, even if we did not voice our marks on the papers, in such high flowing terms.

Infantile we may be, but at least we got out of bed.

Chad Morgan at Mia Mia

The legendary Chad Morgan will perform at Burke and Wills Winery on Sunday 15 March.

Tickets are \$65 for lunch and show, and \$35 for show only.

Ten dollars from each ticket goes to the CFA.

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Volunteers needed for Bendigo Easter Festival

The Bendigo Easter Festival is looking for volunteers to work at the festival from Friday 3 April to Sunday 5 April 2015.

This is a great opportunity for students who are required to complete volunteer hours. Training is provided and working hours are flexible. Uniforms are supplied and include a free pair of shoes from Peak Sport.

A Working with Children certificate (WWC) check may be required for some roles. Applicants must be over 15 years old and are required for a wide variety of

roles including, but not limited to stage supervisor; entertainment activity assistant; hidden creatures assistant (WWCC required); information Tent Assistants (WWCC required); spic and span assistants; parade assistants; survey data assistants; bike parking attendants; torchlight procession Lantern carriers; and roving entertainment chaperone. Information and application forms are available at: www.bendigoeasterfestival.org.au Applications close on Friday 20 February 2015.

Business backs need for Bendigo airport upgrade

Bendigo Airport could inject \$34.9 million into the local economy and create 84 jobs.

A business argument developed to support a bid for Commonwealth funding to share the cost of upgrading the airport with the City of Bendigo and State Government is highly optimistic about the plan.

The business case put by SED Consulting argues the upgrade is needed because Bendigo Airport is a declining facility of restricted capacity.

The facility is said to be in increasingly poor condition and at a standard well below that of airports with comparable populations and regional significance.

The State Government and Bendigo Council have al-

ready contributed \$5 million each for the \$15 million project.

Five million dollars is being sought from the Commonwealth Government's Stronger Regions Fund.

Proposed works include a new parallel runway able to accommodate passenger aircraft carrying up to 70 passengers and development of a business park.

Bendigo Council is owner-operator of the Bendigo Airport, and is required to maintain airport infrastructure to a standard approved by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to retain a license to operate.

A report before the council says the airport requires upgraded runway facilities that can accommodate Regular Passenger Transport

Aquathon series to suit all comers

Swimmers and runners of all ages and abilities can test their fitness levels and compete at any of four aquathon events in Woodend, Lancefield, Kyneton, or Gisborne.

The first event will be held at the Lancefield Outdoor Pool on Sunday 1 February, followed by Woodend Outdoor Pool on Sunday 22 February. Kyneton Toyota Sports and Aquatic Centre will host its 8th annual event on Sunday 15 March, and the Gisborne Aquatic Centre will host its event on Sunday 12 April.

While the courses are slightly different at each venue, they offer something for everyone; a long course for those who like a challenge, short course, and a mini event for those who just

want to 'have a go'.

The event is open to all age groups and abilities, with a mini, short and long course, and the option to enter individually or as part of a team. Competitors who enter three or more races will be in the running to become the first Macedon Ranges Aquathon Series Champion.

Age categories exist for both the short and long courses. Team entries are for the short and long courses only.

All mini course participants will receive a medal, certificate, and voucher for a sundae from Soltan Pepper restaurant, Romsey.

Entry forms and course details are available from Council's website: mrsc.vic.gov.au/Aquathon2015

Information about participating in the event or volunteering to help with running events is available from Kerry Hammond: khammond@mrsc.vic.gov.au or by calling 5422 0333.

La Trobe University to host Ambulance care conference

La Trobe University will host a paramedicine conference highlighting clinical advances in pre-hospital care.

The aim of the conference is to share groundbreaking research relating to the clinical management of acutely ill patients with out-of-hospital care providers.

Key speakers will share knowledge on emergency and internal medicine, physiology, and cardiac arrest research.

Discover the mystery of Hanging Rock

Celebrate Valentine's Day and the 40th anniversary of Peter Weir's 'Picnic at Hanging Rock' at the exclusive twilight viewing of the film on Saturday 14 February.

Pack a picnic basket and blanket.

Enjoy the supernatural atmosphere of watching the film as the sun sets behind the mysterious rock.

Based on the 1967 novel, the Australian classic was filmed in 1975 and continues to intrigue with its eerie tale of vanishing school-girls.

Where could they have gone?

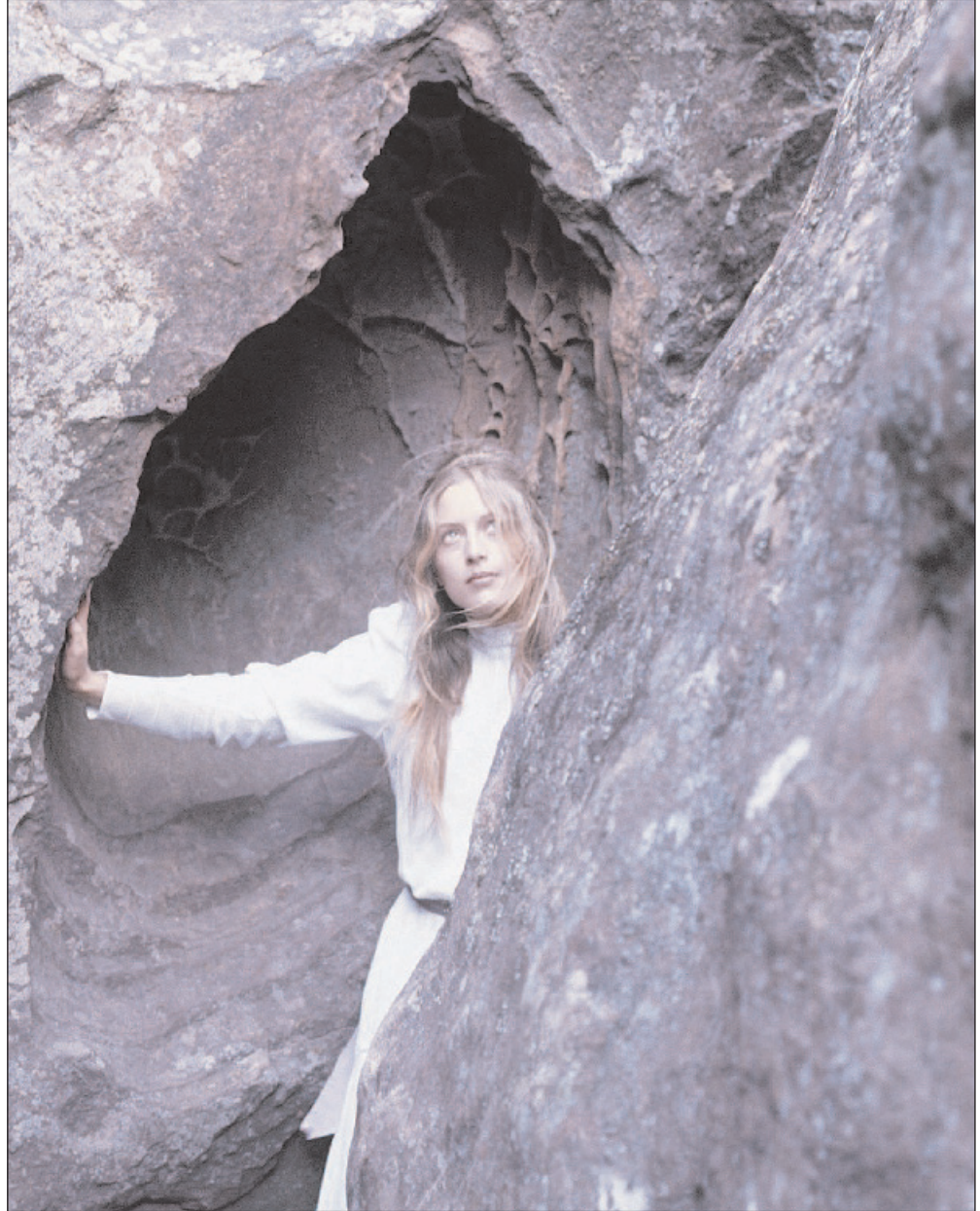
Tickets are adults \$25; children \$10, and families \$60. Gates open at 7pm with the film beginning on dusk around 8.30pm.

The café will be open for coffee and light snacks before the film begins.

Tickets are available on 1300 888 802 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/filmnight.

Enquiries can be made at Macedon Ranges Council on 5421 1468.

Just checking where those school girls could have gone.



Sharpen up on tourism service knowledge

Tourism event organisers, accommodation, transport, day spa, restaurant, or cellar door providers can add to their service skills by attending the Macedon Ranges Tourism Excellence Workshop.

Learn how packaging tourism products can help increase your exposure to the marketplace and, important-

ly, your bottom line.

Tourism experiences are generated by the people met, places visited, activities participated in, and memories created from travel.

This is particularly through watching, tasting, smelling, touching, listening, and being part of a culture or lifestyle that is distinctly different from everyday life.

The workshop will be at Moto Bean Café, Malmsbury from 5pm to 8.30pm on Monday 9 February.

Facilitator is Rachel Donovan from Insight Communications.

Online bookings are available at mrsc.vic.gov.au/business-events.

Tickets are \$50, including facilitated workshop, de-

tailed workbook, light refreshments, and a follow-up session to identify potential packaging partners.

Further information is available from Lianne on ecodevadmin@mrsc.vic.gov.au or 5421 9616.

The CFA has asked people to check for fire hazards

'Community'

By Louise Joy

Whenever I am in a park celebrating small community occasions, big cities roll away as not the way to live, especially when we hear of increasing sizes for Melbourne and Sydney. Even in the cities, small communities are making their mark.

In Axedale and Heathcote, there are always Christmas carols al fresco. We hear that Mia Mia has restarted their cricket at the MMCG with characteristic flourish. So many occasions when we feel our identity.

On Saturday 13 December we joined the community of Northcote at the Park for All Nations Christmas Carols. The park was crowded with little children running everywhere and parents sitting back on collapsible chairs or rugs. The Mayor praised the occasion as 'religious and community'. The Northcote Uniting Church Minister was splendid with his drums, lifting up a prayer as he moved around a brass bowl in meditation.

My son was in the first choir, the High Street Bells Choir. A group of children with

their instruments were most engaging. An all women's choir (Brunswick Women's Choir) with varied songs in the most delicate timbre came on to the little stage under the tent while the vigorous MC kept everything moving. There was a Men's Choir starting in Italian and moving on to English carols. Wonderful to have the contrast between the voices of women and men.

Finally a huge choir of mixed voices led an hour of carols for the evening. The organisation was superb with a tent for lost children, and a real little tent city for all emergencies or food sales. We loved watching the toddlers playing with each other, one bent over rather like the croquet hoop of Alice in Wonderland while the other kept trying to remove her position.

Then they rushed to the open arms of their parents.

These children certainly have a good start in life.

A true community celebration and such a relaxing way for a family to spend the summer evening.

How will the shire grow?

How many people will live in the Macedon Ranges Shire in 15 years or in 25 years?

Where will most people live?

What is driving population change in our shire? These and many more questions can be answered on Council's new online population and household forecasts.

The Macedon Ranges Shire Population Forecasts will help us understand how the population, age structure and household types will change each year between 2011 and 2036.

Forecasts are available for the shire and the seven districts within the shire.

The population forecasts are available at:- mrsc.vic.gov.au/population

Council wants healthy eating at aquatic and leisure centres

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is reviewing products stocked in kiosks and vending machines at aquatic and leisure centres in an effort to improve healthy eating options.

Council aims to promote healthy active lifestyles through programs offered at its leisure and aquatic centres in Kyneton, Woodend, Romsey, Riddells Creek, and Gisborne.

It therefore makes sense to offer healthy eating options to patrons who visit these facilities.

Over the next six months, Council will review stock at kiosks and vending machines, explore practices at aquatic and leisure facilities outside the shire, and consult with members and patrons for views and feedback. Recommendations will be presented to Council and the Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee before being implemented.

The project is expected to be completed by July 2015.

Members and the broader community will be notified of the proposed changes.

Further information is available at:-

www.mrsc.vic.gov.au

People needed for health survey

We are seeking adults interested in the health of their rural or regional community to participate in research to help develop a framework to assess how a community understands and uses health information and participates in health promoting behaviours.

This research has been approved by the Faculty of Health Sciences Human Ethics Committee La Trobe University.

The study is being undertaken as part of a PhD project, and will be carried out according to the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, as defined by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia. Participants will be asked to complete an online survey requiring approximately 10 to 20 minutes on up to four occasions, over four to six months.

The first survey includes basic background questions such as gender and age.

Full details from chief researcher, Diana Guzys via email at:- d.guzys@latrobe.edu.au, or Virginia Dickson-Swift via email at:- v.dickson-swift@latrobe.edu.au

February is Ovarian Cancer Month

Each day in Australia four women are diagnosed with ovarian cancer and three will die from the disease. Ovarian cancer has the lowest survival rate of any women's cancer. Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month is an annual national campaign to raise awareness of the symptoms, risks and impact of ovarian cancer, as well as to raise funds for support, awareness, advocacy and research. Awareness packs are available by calling 1300 660 334.

Fire truck for sale by tender

The Redesdale Fire Brigade is selling a redundant tanker by tender. Documents are available from Jim Boyd on 5425 3194. Tenders close Monday 16 February 2015.

Injured wildlife number

People in the district who find injured wildlife are asked to ring the Macedon Ranges number.
0476 158 080.

Do not leave children in cars
unattended.
Even for one minute.

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coffee at
Redesdale Rural Cafe



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Children's author, Danielle Snowdon, is Bendigo youth citizen 2015

Children's author, Danielle Snowdon, is the 2015 City of Greater Bendigo Young Citizen of the Year.

Bendigo Mayor Peter Cox said it was a pleasure to acknowledge Danielle for her significant contribution to Bendigo.

"To be named Young Citizen of the Year is the greatest honour the City of Bendigo can bestow on an individual," Cr Cox said.

Danielle is author of 'The Nerdy Birdy', which delivers an

important anti-bullying message.

She turned to crowd funding platform Pozible to raise funds to publish her book.

A range of teaching tools and activities have since been developed to accompany the book to remind children to celebrate their differences.

The Nerdy Birdy took 18 months to develop, with Danielle writing and her husband, David, doing the illustrations.

Their book aims to remind us we are all strong in our own ways and each have different talents that allow us to shine.

The Nerdy Birdy was shortlisted for the 2014 Children's Book Council of Australia Crichton Award for New Illustrators.

Danielle hopes her book will encourage young people not to 'dumb themselves down' in order to fit in, to strive to be themselves rather than blend into the crowd and look beyond what they initially see.

Prior to writing her book, Danielle was actively involved with Lead On Bendigo, a community development organisation, from 2007 – 2010.

She was editor of The Loop, a youth supplement in the Bendigo Advertiser.

Learn to identify youth mental health issues

Parents with children of secondary school age can learn vital skills to identify and address youth mental health issues by

attending courses run by Macedon Ranges Council.

The fully accredited Youth Mental Health First Aid course teaches adults how to assist young people who might be developing a mental health problem such as anxiety, depression, psychosis, alcohol, drug issues, or eating disorders.

Participants receive advice on steps to take if they think a young person is in a mental health crisis or suicidal.

The 14 hour course is being offered in March, May, June, July, and October.

Dates, times and locations can be found on Council's website:-

mrsc.vic.gov.au/live4life.



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Diary Dates

Sunday 1 February.

Lancefield Aquathon. Details 5422 0333.

Saturday 14 February.

'Picnic at Hanging Rock' Twilight screening. Tickets 1300 888 802.

Friday 27 February.

Outdoor cinema. 8.30pm. Free entry. Barrack Reserve Heathcote. 0439 858 083.

Sunday 22 February.

Woodend Aquathon. Details 5422 0333.

Saturday 28 February.

The Rock'N'Roll Eagles at Hanging Rock.

Sunday 8 March.

Redesdale Bush Market. Stalls 0419 513 976 or 5425 3194.

Sunday 15 March.

Carlton versus Collingwood NAB Cup Challenge game. 4.40 pm at QEO Bendigo.

Sunday 15 March.

Kyneton Aquathon. Details 5422 0333.

Friday 20 March.

Spanish Festival Heathcote.

Saturday 21 March.

Spanish Festival Heathcote.

Sunday 22 March.

Spanish Festival Heathcote.

Saturday 28 March.

Rod Stewart Concert at Hanging Rock.

Friday 3 April. Good Friday.

Monday 6 April. Easter Monday.

Sunday 12 April.

Gisborne Aquathon. Details 5422 0333.

Saturday 18 April.

Australian DrillDance championships. Bendigo Sports Centre.

Sunday 19 April.

Australian DrillDance championships. Bendigo Sports Centre.

Sunday 25 July

National Tree Week.

Wednesday 19 to Sunday 23 August.

Inaugural Bendigo International Squash Championships.

September 2015 (12 days)

National Gymnastics festival - Bendigo.

October

State calisthenics championships - Bendigo

Tuesday 6 October.

Elmore Field Day.

Wednesday 7 October.

Elmore Field Day.

Thursday 8 October.

Elmore Field Day.

Saturday 10 October.

Victorian Netball State Titles - Bendigo.

Editorial

Lest we forget

'Lest we forget', poignant lines in Rudyard Kiplings 'Recessional' written for a queen. A prayer, written with his thoughts, probably searching for words to match his task.

But a warning, because of those days of lesser comfort in the community, a warning that his readers had better not forget the sacrifice of Christ.

Little did he know the world would be thrown into turmoil for the next half century because some wanted to enforce their will on others.

Let us not forget those days as we 'remember' and honour, and thank, the people who were willing to place their lives on the line to protect our emerging way of life in Australia.

'Lest we forget' the effort and sacrifices made by people like Robert Mactier VC.

These next few weeks, and hopefully beyond, because of the Gallipoli Centenary celebrations, we will remember them more than ever, and we hopefully will not forget the freedom and way of life we in Australia enjoy, shared with many nationalities, because of the welcoming country our forebears built us. Let our leaders see the love people have for this country, the way it is, and their will to protect what we have. Those leaders need to 'watch it', lest we lose it.

Sunday 11 October.

Victorian Netball State Titles. Bendigo.

November.

Redesdale Festival.

Thursday 26 November.

Bridge Connection email addresses

bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com
bridgeconnection.secretary@gmail.com
bridgeconnection.treasurer@gmail.com
bridgeconnection.advertising@gmail.com

Rainfall

Mia Mia

2013 538.00

Jan 0 0	
Feb 63.5	63.50
Mar 24.5	88.00
April 5.0	93.00
May 63.0	156.00
June 32.0	188.00
July 78.5	266.50
Aug 88.0	354.50
Sept 83.5	438.00
Oct 40.5	478.50
Nov 38.5	517.00
Dec 21.00	538.00

2014

Jan 8.00	08.00
Feb 1.00	09.00
Mar 51.5	60.50
April 72.5	133.00
May 77.50	210.50
June 59.5	270.00
July 61	331.00
August 7.5	338.50
Sept 52.5	391.00
Oct 23.00	414.00
Nov 38.5	452.50

Redesdale

2013 514.90

Jan	00 00
Feb 54.0	54.00
Mar 28.5	82.50
April 4.7	87.20
May 24.3	111.50
June 65.0	176.50
July 63.0	239.50
Aug 94.0	333.50
Sept 79.0	412.50
Oct 32.9	455.40
Nov 50.5	505.90
Dec 9.00	514.90

2014

Jan 10.50	10.50
Feb 1.00	11.50
Mar 57.00	68.50
April 85.00	153.50
May 46.50	200.00
June 72.00	272.00
July 71.5	343.50
August 3.5	347.00
Sept 67.00	414.00
Oct 22.00	434.00
Nov 42.5	476.5
Dec 18.5	495.00

Redesdale Hall
Carolyn
5425 3194

Penny Davies is Bendigo Citizen of the year

Bendigo Mayor Peter Cox named La Trobe University Honorary Associate Penelope Davies 'City of Greater Bendigo Citizen of the Year 2015'.

Cr Cox said to be named Citizen of the Year was the greatest honour the City could bestow on an individual.

"Penny has served her community for more than 40 years," he said.

Penny Davies has served on consumer advisory committees for the Melbourne Royal Children's Hospital, Mt Alvernia Hospital Bendigo (now St John of God) and Bendigo Health Care Group and is current Board Chair of the Bendigo Tertiary Education Anniversary Foundation.

In 1984 Penny was a founding member of Cystic Fibrosis Victoria and served on the board for five years.

She also fundraises for local support services and counsels Bendigo families deal-

ing with the disease encouraging them to live a positive life with CF.

Penny is passionate about organ donation awareness and maintains a connection with the Heart Lung Transplant Trust, which provides support for people who, like her own son, have undergone organ transplantation.

She has also advised State and Federal Governments on the issues facing rural and regional Victorians in accessing medical services in Melbourne, after spending more than 30 years travelling to the city to access health-care for her children.

Penny has been instrumental in raising more than \$1 million for the Bendigo Tertiary Education Anniversary Foundation, which was established to encourage philanthropic contributions that support scholarships and awards for tertiary study at La Trobe University Bendigo, and Bendigo TAFE.

She has been the Foundation's Board Chair since it

began in 1998 and has also served on the La Trobe University Bendigo Regional Advisory Board.

In 2007 Penny was awarded the La Trobe Medal and Distinguished Alumni Award for her contribution to the university and in 2008 was a

joint recipient of the inaugural City of Greater Bendigo Community Leadership Award.

When not serving her community, Penny enjoys travel with her husband Cled, and pursuing their shared interest in classic motoring.

Marist College to develop major educational and community precinct with council

Marist College Bendigo and the City of Bendigo will develop a range of facilities to be shared by the school and community.

Each will contribute \$4 million to facilities across two stages and a six year funding agreement.

The partnership will deliver a car park, internal road, senior sports oval, junior sports oval, netball courts, walking and cycling paths, play space, and multi-purpose community centre at Maiden Gully.

Bendigo Mayor Peter Cox said a partnership of this scale was significant for the City.

"This is a win-win for the community, the school, and Council. To be able to share the costs of a project such as this ensures the delivery of top quality facilities.

"Maiden Gully is one of Greater Bendigo's fastest growing areas at a rate of five per cent a year," Cr Cox said.

Marist College Bendigo Principal Darren McGregor said the facilities ushered in an exciting chapter for the Maiden Gully community.

"We are building more than just a school for local fami-

lies, these facilities will help us to build an engaged, fit and healthy community," Mr McGregor said.

CFA Alerts

ADVICE

There is fire activity in the area and you should keep informed on its status through a range of sources including radio, smart phone, computer, and local networks.

You can also call the Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667.

WATCH AND ACT

Conditions are changing, you could be impacted in the next two hours and you should enact your fire plan. If your plan is to leave, then now is the time to leave.

Go to the place you have identified in your plan e.g. family, friends, Melbourne

EMERGENCY

WARNING

You are about to be impacted by a fire and it is too late to leave.

The safest option is to shelter in place.

This means stay where you are indoors.

Redesdale Hall Bush Market

Bookings are open for stalls at the Sunday 8 March 2015

Redesdale Hall Bush Market.

More than 60 stalls will be available at \$20 each.

Please contact

Alwyn on 0419 513 976

Carolyn 5425 3194.

Business sponsorship is available.

Redesdale Website

www.redesdale.net

info@redesdale.net

Clear

Fire hazards

Away

Macedon Ranges Farmers' markets

Saturday 7 February.

Woodend Farmers' Market. Corner High and Forest Streets. Sharon Kittson 0487 444-090.

Saturday 14 February.

Kyneton Farmers' Market St Pauls Park, Piper Street. Veronica Manifold 5422 1025.

Saturday 21 February.

Riddells Creek Farmers' Market. Riddells Creek Primary School. Amanda Johnson 0419 523 324.

Saturday 28 February.

Lancefield and District Farmers' Market. Centre Plantation, High Street. Meggs Hannes 0407 860 320.

Bring your own bags, baskets and trolleys. Friendly dogs are welcome on a leash. Free face painting for children. Buskers welcome.

Redesdale Hall activities

Sunday 8 March.
Redesdale Bush Market.

Consultant appointed for Redesdale study

The City of Greater Bendigo has appointed Community Leadership Loddon Murray Inc. to complete a feasibility study to investigate development of the existing Redesdale Hall and Recreation Reserve.

Twenty-three Redesdale residents met in October 2014 to discuss their shared vision of transforming the hall and reserve into a community hub to service a broad range of community needs.

The group compiled a list of goals that formed the basis of a brief for the study and included opportunities to support specialist and general medical visitations, a public internet café and provide office space for community groups.

Community Leadership Loddon Mallee operates across rural and regional Victoria and runs various programs and projects that aim to increase community capacity, vibrancy and sustainability, and has proven expertise in

the area of feasibility studies. The Redesdale study will focus on how a community hub could optimise social and

economic outcomes for the town. It is anticipated the study will be completed by Tuesday 30 June.

Strong commercial floor usage

Bendigo City Centre has a commercial floor space vacancy of only 3.3 per cent and 4.5 per cent in the retail core. This indicates strong performance for Bendigo's commercial real estate market compared with other regional cities, where floor space vacancy averages around eight per cent.

City Director of Planning and

Development Prue Mansfield said the sector was very dynamic and was constantly changing.

For example, new retail floor space has been created as part of The Grand development in the Bendigo Advertiser's former building in Pall Mall that will provide an opportunity for existing businesses to relocate."

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We strongly recommend that an SMSF have a sole purpose corporate trustee rather than individuals as this greatly enhances succes-

sion. The up-front cost of establishing the company generally give long-term benefits that far outweigh the upfront cost.

The introduction of the new administrative penalty regime in mid-2014 can now result in an administrative penalty ranging from \$850 to \$10,200 for each contravention. Importantly here, the penalties are imposed on a per head basis for individual trustees. In contrast, the directors of a company are only jointly liable to one penalty per contravention. Thus, if an SMSF loan is made to a member or related party, and there are two individual trustees, the minimum penalty is \$20,400 (compared to \$10,200 for an SMSF with a corporate trustee).

Legal Case, Katz v Grossman [2005] NSWSC 934 a family relationship between two children (Linda and Daniel) was jeopardised as a result of Linda being admitted as a co-trustee on her mother's (Evelin Katz) death to satisfy the SMSF trustee-member

Paid advertisement

rules. Linda used this power on her father's (Ervin Katz) subsequent death to pay herself approximately \$1.2 million of his death benefit.

Ervin and Evelin were the original trustees/members of their SMSF. After Evelin's death, Ervin appointed his daughter Linda as the other co-trustee. Shortly after Ervin's death, Linda appointed her husband (Peter Grossman) as co-trustee and refused to follow her late father's non-binding nomination (an equal sharing between her and her brother Daniel). This case could have easily been avoided if a corporate trustee had been appointed with Ervin gifting an equal number of shares (in the corporate trustee) to each child via his will. In addition, Ervin could have left a binding death benefit nomination ('BDBN') paying his death benefit to his deceased estate (ie, his executor as legal personal representative ('LPR')). Cara Hall CA, Dip FP
E cara@rsd advisors.com.au

Bendigo new home to national gymnastics festival

Bendigo will host the 12 day Festival of Gymnastics for three years from September 2015.

Gymnastics Australia said City of Bendigo and Sport and Recreation Victoria, support meant both the annual Aerobics Australian Championships and AEROSchools competition, and the inaugural National Clubs Carnival will be held in Bendigo from 2015.

The event will attract almost 4000 competitors, officials, and support staff, plus spectators from across Australia. Gymnastics Australia chief executive Mark Rendell said the event would be an explosive fusion of fun, entertainment and athleticism, featuring incredible displays of gymnastics from seven sports.

"The event will showcase

performances of the Olympic disciplines of men's, women's, rhythmic and trampolene gymnastics, as well as the highly energetic sport aerobics, acrobatic gymnastics, and non-competitive gymnastics.

"Gymnastics is a truly global sport with 140 countries affiliated to the international governing body.

"Gymnastics Australia has more than 165,000 registered members and has enjoyed continuous growth during the last 10 years," said Mr Rendell.

Bendigo Mayor Peter Cox said he welcomed this fantastic major event to Bendigo.

"This is an exciting event that highlights the city's reputation and capacity to host national sporting events at facilities such as Bendigo

Stadium, Flora Hill Stadium, and the new Ulumbarra Theatre.

"The City continues to work hard to attract events to the region.

"This carnival will provide

significant economic benefits for our local economy over the next three years and will showcase Bendigo's wonderful facilities and lifestyle to 4000 people," Cr Cox said.

Bluelight support for suicide prevention

Macedon Ranges Bluelight committee, donated \$700 to the Macedon Ranges Shire Live4Life program.

Youth Resource Officer for Victoria Police Senior Constable Joe Grbac said the committee hoped the money would go towards helping the worthwhile program for the young people.

Live4Life is a mental health promotion initiative targeting young people in the shire.

Macedon Ranges Mayor Jennifer Anderson said donations to Live4Life were always welcome.

"We are extremely grateful for the Macedon Ranges Bluelight's ongoing support and interest in the work we do.

"The funds will go towards the delivery of Teen Mental Health First Aid Training to year eleven students at

Kyneton Secondary College," she said.

Further information about Live4life program is available at live4life.org.au

Recycled water for Kyneton botanic gardens

Heritage trees, and lawns, in Kyneton Botanic Gardens will be connected to the town's recycled water pipeline.

This means the drinking water supply is no longer needed to irrigate trees and lawns in the gardens.

Work on the extensions will be completed by the end of February 2015.

The council hopes to extend the irrigation system to incorporate the entire Kyneton Botanic Gardens.

Photographs

published in Bridge Connection

are available for sale - \$10 each pre paid to Bridge Connection
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bridgeconnection.treasurer@gmail.com

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