

Bridge Connection

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



Edition 60

December 2014

A community owned newspaper

Merry Christmas



***A nativity scene on
the facade of the Uniting
Church in High Street,
Heathcote.***

Christmas is a birthday celebration. Christmas Day is the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and with it Christianity. Celebrations are usually a time of enjoyment and of

giving thanks. Shops come alive as people search for gifts for friends, during the build up to Christmas, and much of the joy is in the buying and giving as it is in the receiving of gifts. When we

celebrate our own birthdays we are simply celebrating another year of our lives. This tradition was enhanced when three wise men, 'The Magi' called to wish the baby Jesus and his parents well,

and to bestow gifts on the baby. Giving is a symbol of good will and caring for others, perhaps at times, those less fortunate. Giving of one self to assist another is also a treasured gift.

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Looking at the compulsory vote

By Louise Joy

Not United Kingdom, nor Canada, nor the United States of America, 'land of the free and home of the brave', have compulsory voting.

Their election commentaries recently focused on 'low voter turnout' as a sign of disillusion with the main political parties and disenchantment with the Parlia-

mentary system.

What have the commentators been saying about the Saturday 29 November 2014 Victorian State election results?

Do they give weight to compulsory voting?

Victoria led the way in 1924 or 1926, whichever Google entry you prefer, followed by New South Wales and Tasmania in 1928, West Australia in 1936, and South Australia, always a special case, in 1942. Federally, Australia has had compulsory voting since 1912. The Aboriginal Referendum of 1949 gave the vote to Aboriginal people but not compulsory for all voters until 1984. Interesting dates, but why did it happen? I will be boning up on what Australian historians have to say and let you know soon.

Red Cross roses


Seven specially created Red Cross roses have been planted at the northern end of High Street, Woodend, to celebrate the centenary of Australian Red Cross.

The seven Red Cross branches in the Macedon Ranges united to plant the roses in recognition of the important contribution made by Australian Red Cross.

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Checking on Fire hydrants

Fire hydrants in fire danger areas of the Macedon Ranges have been made more visible and accessible to firefighters in the lead up to the

fire season.

Western Water Managing Director, Neil Brennan, asked residents to report fire hydrants they thought might need maintenance. "We also advise people to ensure they have an independent water supply if planning to stay and defend their homes," he said.

Australia Day breakfast at Mia Mia

Mia Mia will celebrate Australia Day, Monday 26 January, with breakfast in the Mia Mia Hall. Breakfast will be served at 8am.

**Redesdale Hall
is available
for hire.**

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if store is closed.

Vital discussion about ice

Macedon Ranges Local Safety Committee is partnering with Inner North West Melbourne Medicare Local to host a community information session on the evil drug, ice.

The seminar will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 16 December at 247 Station Street, Gisborne.

Chairperson of the Community Safety Committee, Victoria Police Inspector Ryan Irwin, said he was pleased to offer this opportunity to the community.

"There is concern that ice is a growing issue here in the Macedon Ranges and we want to provide people with the right information so they can be informed and equipped if they find themselves confronted with this issue,"

he said."

The session will be facilitated by the not for profit drug health and education body, Penington Institute, and supported by a panel of local service providers.

It is designed to be both a practical and informative session and include discussion on what is ice and how does it work?

What can you do to help?

Impact on family and friends, and where to go for support if you or someone you know is using ice.

This session is open and free to all community members in the Macedon Ranges.

For catering purposes please register your interest with an email to:-

leonie.green@police.vic.gov.au

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Oh what a feeling!

Mia Mia sheepdog muster



From left: Vin Gedye, judge Gary Sharrock, and Adam James, with his dogs Liz, and Buster.



Luke Harris, 16, and Banjo, cool off after putting their sheep away.

Todd PROPERTY

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95 High Street, Heathcote

More than 180 dogs competed in the 2014 Mia Mia Muster Sheepdog Trials.

Competition involved a three sheep trial, dog high-jump, and yard dog contest held at the picturesque Mia Mia Recreation Reserve on Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 November.

Bendigo Dog Obedience Club held displays of agility, scent work, and obedience.

The Dog High Jump Competition earned prize money of \$100 and \$50 each day.

Results for the Weekend were:-
Saturday.

High Jump. 1st 'Buffy', and David Palmer; 2nd 'Bandit' and Jodi Patros.

Best Short Legged Dog was 'Willow', and Lachlan Morrison.

Sunday
High Jump. 1st 'Paddy', and Geoff Marriott; 2nd 'Bandit', and Jodi Patros.

Best Short Legged Dog was a Staffy-bull Terrier.

To Page 5

Photographs by Lynda Cody

From Page 4

Yard Dog Novice.

1st 'Mack' and Brian Sharrock; 2nd 'Neville' and Tal-eigha Emmerson; 3rd 'Turbo' and Garry Sharrock; 4th 'Tori' and Geoff Marriott.

Improver.

1st 'Turbo' and Garry Sharrock; 2nd 'Mack' and Brian Harrington; 3rd 'Bruno' and Garry Sharrock; 4th 'Jack' and Joe Ryan.

Open.

1st 'Liz' and Adam James; 2nd 'Buster' and Adam James; 3rd 'Zeus' and Vin Gedye; 4th 'Mack' and Brian Harrington.

Three Sheep Trail Novice.

1st 'Roseneath Will' and Beau McKenzie; 2nd 'Gypsy' and Peter Bromley.

Improver.

1st 'Tarcoola Socks' and David Hines; 2nd 'Cromati' and Barry McKenzie; 3rd 'Rosaneath Clive' and Bart

McKenzie.

Open.

1st Roseneath Banjo' and Luke Harris; 2nd 'Moyella Annie' and Bill Paton; 3rd

'Morgans Nick' and Jess McLeod; 3rd 'Ronlee Rain' and Neville Williams; 4th 'Granlan Lady' and Sue Young.

Mia Mia CFA provided tasty food during the weekend and some trialers enjoyed a delicious Saturday Night Dinner.



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Heathcote U3A activities 2014 Program

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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Redesdale study set to go

The Redesdale community has progressed plans to develop a feasibility study to investigate turning the Redesdale Hall and recreational reserve into a multi-functional community hub.

City of Greater Bendigo Community Development Officers Glynn Jarrett and Andrew Plant met with Redesdale residents during October to workshop ideas on how best to compile a list of the community's top goals for the project.

This meeting formed the basis of a brief sent out seeking expressions of interest from consultants to undertake the study.

A round table discussion and a prioritising exercise revealed the group's top goals were to: review the architectural drawings originally made for the reserve when the oval was developed; upgrade the sporting pavilion, facilities, and general surrounds of the Agnes Mudford reserve; update facilities at the hall including the kitchen, storage, provide rooms for community offices, visiting specialists, tourist information, land-

scape surrounding grounds, and to improve the streetscape of Redesdale.

It is expected the consultant's work will not be limited to these goals, because the feasibility study will likely explore new perspectives.

Seven residents were nominated as key communicators to pass information to and from the consultant and assist in contacting residents and groups.

Members of the committee are Kathy Hall; Redesdale and District Association; Carolyn Boyd, Redesdale Hall Committee; Andrew Campbell, farming; Don White Redesdale CFA; Gloria Pocock, community; Ivan Huston, Recreation Reserve; and Andrew Plant, City of Greater Bendigo.

Mr Jarrett said the meeting was an enjoyable mix of social and practical interaction.

"It provided useful information and helped strengthen the community's vision for this important project," he said.

The City of Greater Bendigo will soon select and announce the successful consultant.

The study will begin during the first half of 2015.

Uniting Church Christmas services

The Mia Mia Christmas service will be held at 11am on Sunday 21 December. The Sutton Grange service will be at 7pm on Sunday 21 December.

A cup of tea will be served at 10.45am at Mia Mia. No services will be held on Sunday 28 December.

Business in Heathcote

Welcome to the world of Audax Consulting

Audax Consulting are accountants providing specialised audit and consulting services to:

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We welcome questions from clients that test our knowledge - if we can't answer immediately, we will undertake research and respond.

Contact Graeme Fleming - 83 High Street Heathcote Vic Ph. 0354332300



Big thank you from Todd Property



The Todd Property team would like to thank the Heathcote and district community for their support in the first year of business. Director Brad Todd and sales consultant Barb Walker have been selling property together in the Heathcote and Redesdale area for the past eight years.

In December 2013 Brad decided to open Todd

Left: Brad Todd

Property.

Being an independent agency allows them to offer a personalised and proactive service to clients.

Over the past year the team has achieved some fantastic results, which includes a record \$975,000 sale for a farmlet in the Tooborac area.

Call Todd Property on

5433 2228.

Heathcote's car parade

By Louise Joy

"There's a Ferrari. Beg pardon it's a Lotus." Such is life driving with my mate who sold and valued cars for 40 years, now enjoying those days through cars he sees on the road in

Heathcote and on the way to Melbourne. He loves the old films for the cars. "Look at that Silver Shadow Rolls Royce. A beautiful car." We always watch "Poirot" for the cars and "Downtown Abbey" was a treat. Down the street in Heathcote he spies "a 1950 Dodge Ute, probably an import. The colour is called Inca Gold." He carefully examines the back of an Audi as

we are driving past Latrobe University. Pointing to minor discrepancies on each side which I cannot see, he thinks the back left hand panel would reduce the sale price. "There's a 1966 Holden. A beautiful car I remember when I started selling." He recognises a "Yankee" Chrysler and reflects that he never sold a Skoda so would not know how to value them.

Then there was a Humber Super Snipe with no plates. "I had a '59 model but the better body model was in '62." My mate knows everyone in Heathcote by their cars. "He's got a big Skoda and she's got a little Skoda, keeping it in the family." We watch the big sand trucks going through to Bendigo; we think for the new hospital building.

Business in Heathcote



Jodie Warren at Swirls Gifts and Decor, 89 High Street, Heathcote.

Top shelf gifts for Christmas

Swirls Gifts and Decor at 89 High Street, Heathcote, has combined a classic gift shop with a convenient online marketing service to supply a range of brand name goods and gifts to suit all styles and budgets.

Jodi Warren has established a gift store in Heathcote complemented by an easy to use online selling service.

Free wrapping and a hand written gift card with your words is part of the service.

Customers can shop online and pick up at the shop in Heathcote so gifts are wrapped and ready.

Try the range from home-ware, handbags, top line perfumes, to toys and novelties.

It all starts at www.swirls-gifts.com.au

Who will buy my lollies today

Jenny Allen enjoyed camping with her family at Heathcote for 17 years so this was the ideal place to start her business, Sweets and Treats.

The business came in the process of a midlife career change from working as an instrument technician sterilising theatre instruments. No wonder everything is so spotless at Sweets and Treats.

Jenny now weighs out sweets between customers so she is

ready with packets to hand over to busy passersby. Jenny sells sugar free and gluten free sweets. We found Newmans dark peanuts, dark green ginger chocolates, Turkish delight, coffee beans, milk marashimo, fan-tales, honeycomb, fruit drops, sherbert bars, not forgetting those large bottles full of good old fashioned Australian boiled 'lollies' on the top shelves. Well worth a visit to 115 High Street.



Jenny Allen can help fill your Christmas stocking.

A proud tradition at Connally's Real Estate



The iconic Connally office in Heathcote

For more than three decades Connallys Real Estate has built a name of honesty, trust and integrity. This was the vision of the founders of the company. The company specialises in Commercial, Residential, Rural, Farmlets, Development Land, Units and Houses and can also take care of your clearance sale needs.

The three offices at Heathcote, Kyneton and Romsey have pride in their local communities and enjoy supporting and contributing to these communities. The company excels in its knowledge of the local real estate market and takes immense pride in satisfying both vendors and purchasers alike.

Business in Heathcote

Local people and local knowledge at Heathcote Real Estate

Members of the sales team at Heathcote Real Estate all live in Heathcote, know their town and area, and love the place.

Adrian Harris heads the team and his enthusiasm is infectious. His people think so well of Heathcote that they sell the place in conjunction with a property sale.

This local knowledge places them well when it comes to marketing your property or finding a property to suit your needs.

Adrian says: "We work very hard to deliver this feeling to every client, without exception, and without compromise. So when the transaction is complete, we want people to feel that if they were to have their transaction over again they would come to us."

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Larry Abel

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Contact:-

Judith Reeves - PetersenReeves, 18 Princes Street Gisborne, Victoria, 3437. Phone (03) 5428 1077.

Larry Abel - Petersen Reeves, 83 High Street, Heathcote, Victoria, 3523. Phone 0423 846 750.

Mad Hatters tea party for cancer research

By Louise Joy

Karen and Glen Wilson have opened their beautiful garden at 188 High Street, Heathcote, for a Cancer Council Relay for Life fund raiser for three consecutive years. Karen conceived her fund raising idea, 'The Mad

Hatters' Tea Party' and in 2013 The Mad Hatters won the prize for the Best Dressed team in The Relay for Life. They raised \$2500. Karen was resplendent in a black and white polka dot hat greeting guests at the 2014 Tea Party while her nephew,

Pat Ward, played guitar with his own folk music giving a gentle lilting sound as the trees swayed on a warm gentle windy day. This Edwardian scene of ladies in flowing dresses with luscious hats was complemented by the tones of Heathcote's own

David Park, his basket hat, trimmed with burgundy Christmas frill.

'Miss Lotus regrets she is unable to lunch today,' announced David, telling the story of Miss Lotus caught by the police after murdering her unfaithful lover.

The bands have played on - and on

We heard one brass band in the RSL Hall, Heathcote and then six bands in the Bendigo Capital Theatre, on Sunday 23 November.

Time was when Heathcote and every small town around Victoria had a band.

Band numbers have reduced to a few.

We have Bendigo and District Concert Band, Bendigo Youth Brass, Marist Brothers Band, Eaglehawk Citizens' Brass Band, Thompson's Foundry Band from Castlemaine, and the City of Greater Bendigo Brass Band.

We were reminded of the film 'Brassed off' and Liverpool football club singing that famous band number at each game.

It was good to feel part of a long tradition, 100 years and more for some of the bands and some players approaching their centenary alongside the youngsters taking up the challenge.

We tapped our feet and swayed to the familiar tunes, none more so than an elderly man in a wheelchair in space reserved for him.

There was a boy with a dis-

By Louise Joy

ability rising to his feet, and even a 10 week old baby cradled in the arms of parents.

We heard 'A String of Pearls' and 'The Dam Busters', among the first numbers.

There were the unusual 'Game of Thrones', and 'Smoke on the water', with each band providing variety within the bracket and not overlapping with other groups. The Eaglehawk Citizens' Brass Band, was given the accolade of 'the most entertaining', with

conductor Ron Moore moving his body with expressive gestures for light and shade. 'Breezin' down Broadway'.

They played many familiar numbers and a memory from my mate's Saturday night dancing days.

"I used to jive to that one," he said.

Then there was a complete change of mood with 'All through the night'.

We are fortunate to be living in Heathcote with only a short trip through our 'sun-burnt country' for such a delightful offering and it was free.

\$2000 from Dinner Plus Talk night

Redesdale's first dinner and talk was attended by more than 70 people on Friday 21 November.

The talk was about the new Bendigo Hospital.

Project officer Catina Evers, explained the progress and status of the new hospital and answered a host of questions. Catina then mingled with guests at the tables.

The Hall was decorated with bows of eucalypts, huge vases of native flowers, and some excellent local art that sold well on the night.

To begin their meal, guests were treated to tasting plates of local produce including olives, sesame-glazed walnuts, beetroot dip, and hummus, all made locally.

Slow-cooked and pulled Windomal

Farm lamb with olive oil, red wine, and oregano jus served with couscous and salad followed.

Orange and lemon pudding with home-made lemon ice-cream finished the meal.

The organisers recognised the generous contributions of many local families including Yalookaridge, Redesdale Estate, Windomal, Riverslea, Boonderoo, Coliban Springs, Mount Lofty, and especially Rocklands to the production of the meal. This was either by way of food, cooking, or tableware. The event raised almost \$2000 for the Redesdale and District community chest and it was announced at the dinner that the Redesdale and District Association had undertaken to fund the Redesdale Mia Mia Primary School swimming program for the next three years from these funds.

It is hoped the Dinner plus Talks will continue next year and the District Association is hopeful people will come forward with suggestions for topics and speakers. This was a great way to catch up with friends and neighbours and to enjoy local produce and artworks.



Guests enjoyed a delightful meal at the Dinner plus talk

Breast screen unit for Kyneton

The BreastScreen Victoria mobile screening service will be at Kyneton until Tuesday 24 February. The service will be closed for Christmas from Monday

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

22 until Monday 5 January. Location will be outside the Kyneton District Health Service, in Caroline Chisholm Drive.

The age for screening has been increased to 74. Bookings can be made online.

Further information is available at:-

www.breastscreen.org.au

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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.

The CFA has asked people to check for fire hazards

Dogs at large are a big problem

Several repeated incidents of dogs escaping properties led to dog owner prosecutions in the Kyneton Magistrate's Court.

Repeat offenders included the owner of a Staffordshire terrier that attacked another dog in Romsey causing serious injury.

The dog was previously involved in an attack on a sheep.

Fines, impoundment, and court costs to the owner were more than \$3000.

Macedon Ranges Council sought a destruction order from the Magistrate, who ruled the dog instead was to be declared dangerous and kept in an enclosure.

The Magistrate will order the dog's destruction if it escapes again.

Two other court matters involved dogs escaping their properties on multiple occasions.

In one case the dog escaped the property seven times within a ten month period.

In the other case, the dog escaped the property five times within a four month period.

The owners were fined \$1736 and \$1161 respectively and ordered to pay council court costs.

The Judicial Registrar ordered that the owners carry out works to the satisfaction of Council to ensure their dogs could not escape.

Council will also have addition-

al powers to seize their dogs if they are found at large again.

Macedon Ranges Council Manager of Community Safety, Anne-Louise Linder, said 80 per cent of dog attacks in public places could be prevented if all dogs were adequately confined. "By securing your dog, you are also keeping it safe from traffic, injuries, or fights with other dogs.

"Yards must have a closed gate, and an escape-proof fence.

The use of electronic collar confinement systems are not sufficient," she said.

Further information is available at:-

mrsc.vic.gov.au or at the council service centres.

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Diary Dates

Saturday 6 December.

Macedon Ranges swimming pools open.

Saturday 13 December.

Kyneton Farmers' Market.
5422 1025.

Saturday 13 December.

Woodend Love Your Twilight Market.
4pm to 8pm in High Street.

Saturday 13 December.

Heathcote Christmas Carols. 7pm. Barrack Reserve, High Street.

Tuesday 16 December.

Respectacular. Redesdale Mia Mia Primary School. 6.30pm.

Saturday 20 December.

Heathcote Farmers' Market. 9am to 1pm.
Barrack Reserve. 0417 598 460.

Saturday 20 December.

Lancefield Farmers' Market.
0407 860 320.

Saturday 20 December.

Gisborne Love Your Twilight Market.
4pm to 8pm in Aitken Street.

Thursday 25 December.

Christmas Day Community Lunch. All Seasons Hotel. Noon to 2pm.

2015

Tuesday 13 January.

Play in the Park at Heathcote. 5pm to 7pm. Interactive family fun. Details 4408 6653.

Saturday 24 January.

Robbie Burns Dinner. Barfold Estate.

Monday 26 January. Australia Day.

Mia Mia Australia Day Breakfast. 8am Mia Mia Hall.

Friday 30 January.

Kyneton U3A 2015 registration day. 34 Mollison Street.

Friday 27 February.

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

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.

Friday 20 March.

Spanish Festival Heathcote.

Saturday 21 March.

Spanish Festival Heathcote.

Editorial

Christmas blessings

Bridge Connection president Mary Bennett, committee members, and staff, extend best wishes to our readers and advertisers for Christmas and the New Year.

Mary said: May you have a happy, peaceful, and blessed Christmas. May 2015 be a year of peace around the world and may we embrace with enthusiasm ways to protect the good things we have in this country and all other countries. Happy and safe holidays to everyone."

Saturday 28 March.

Rod Stewart Concert at Hanging Rock.

Friday 3 April. Good Friday.

Monday 6 April. Easter Monday.

Saturday 18 April.

Australian DrillDance championships.
Bendigo Sports Centre.

Sunday 19 April.

Australian DrillDance championships.
Bendigo Sports Centre.

Sunday 25 July

National Tree Week.

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.

Sunday 11 October.

Victorian Netball State Titles. Bendigo.

November.

Redesdale Festival.

Bridge Connection email addresses

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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

Redesdale Hall
Carolyn
5425 3194

New Redesdale CFA tanker



From left: Redesdale Firebrigade captain, Glen Brown, Northern Victoria MP Amanda Millar, Regional Commissioner Loddon Murray Region Mark Gilmore, and group officer Eppalock Group David Cleator.

Redesdale CFA is well set to handle fire outbreaks this summer with a new medium tanker.

Northern Victoria MP Amanda Millar handed the keys to the brigade and said the vehicle's capacity would

enhance emergency response capabilities for Redesdale and surrounding areas.

"The \$345,000 tanker was partially funded through the Volunteer Emergency Services Equipment Program (VESEP)," she said.

Ms Millar said the Redesdale Firebrigade raised \$48,000 toward the new truck.

"This was a significant effort and a demonstration of community support for the brigade and its 26 members.

"This new tanker will significantly increase the brigade's capability to keep the community safe from the threat of fires and other emergencies."

"The four-wheel-drive crew cab medium tanker incorporates the latest CFA safety features, including radiant heat protection, curtains fitted to all cabin windows as well as a vehicle and crew spray protection system.

"The new tanker will support the Redesdale Brigade which has fought major fires in every decade since it was created in 1945," Ms Millar said.

New bins to save landfill

Bendigo council is installing 45 permanent, recycling bins in public places throughout Greater Bendigo in an effort to reduce the amount of recyclables dumped in landfill.

Bendigo Mayor Peter Cox said the bins would be located in high pedestrian traffic areas and high profile parks, gardens and public places in Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Marong, Heathcote, and Elmore. "They will take bottles, cans, paper coffee cups, and even pizza boxes," he 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

Success with needle grass reduction

Seventeen needle grass warriors met at Barfold on Saturday 15 November to walk through field trial plots with Chilean Needle Grass and Texas Needle Grass expert Dr Charles Grech.

Most were members of Campaspe Valley Landcare and Langley Landcare.

Dr Grech established the plots on a property owned by Ray Shea, and fronts the Campaspe River.

Texas Needle Grass previously covered the paddock.

After grazing and spraying, the area was sown to rye and clover, with forage brassica, in different amounts.

No fertilizer was added. Elders supported the project by supplying herbicide and seed. Texas Needle Grass was hardly to be seen in the paddock.

Dr Grech avoided spraying the paddock with

flupropanate, an accepted chemical for needle grasses, due to longevity in the soil and other factors.

The forage brassica has grown successfully and cattle are now allowed in to graze.

Further experimentation will take place on the area.

The trials and field day were funded by Campaspe Valley Landcare in a bid to raise awareness of the weed and to experiment with eradication in a riverfront situation.

Trials have been held elsewhere, such as Holbrook, but soils and conditions may differ from those in our area.

Landowners along the Campaspe River have reported a huge increase in Texas Needle Grass, especially after flooding in 2010 and 2011. The weed is now a serious problem, both here and in Malmsbury and



Checking results of needle grass eradication near the Campaspe River.

Taradale, as well as other places in Victoria. Campaspe Valley Landcare has just received notification of a successful grant application to assist with field days, more trials, workshops, spray units and booklets to assist landowners with identification and eradication. The group hopes to halt the

spread of this and other exotic stipoid grasses such as Chilean Needle Grass.

Redesdale Hall community activities

Sunday 8 March.
Redesdale Bush Market.

Sutton Grange Hall community activities

Sunday 7 December.
6pm. Christmas tea. Details about BYO meals from Natalie 0419 799 987 or Jenny 0427 931 391.

Love your local twilight markets

Love Your Local Twilight Markets are held during Daylight Savings and offer local small businesses a platform to showcase their products.

With live music, food, local beer, wine, and kids' activities, it is more than a market; it is a night out. This year's

twilight markets will be held in the weeks leading up to Christmas. Locals and visitors to the region will be spoilt for choice with up to 90 stalls at each market. A perfect opportunity to begin your Christmas shopping. Support small businesses, enjoy a summer evening out,

and celebrate the Macedon Ranges. at High Street, Woodend on Saturday 13 December. 4pm to 8pm, Aitken Street, Gisborne on Saturday 20 December. 4pm to 8pm. Further details at: www.loveyourlocaltwilight-markets.com

Macedon Ranges Farmers' Markets

Dates for Macedon Ranges December Farmers' Markets have been changed.

Riddells Creek Twilight Farmers' Market, Friday 12 December. 0419 523 324.

Kyneton Farmers' Market, Saturday 13 December. 5422 1025.

Lancefield and District Farmers' Market. Saturday 20 December. 0407 860 320.

Free face-painting for children. Please bring your own bags baskets and trolleys.

Friendly dogs welcome on a leash. Shop local and support our farmers.

LOUISE SMITH FINE ART

**Houghton Park
43 Odgers Road
Castlemaine, Victoria 3450**

0418 519 747

email: louiseart@bigpond.com

www.louisesmithfineart.com

ABN: 34841025877

Macedon Ranges pools to open

Outdoor swimming pools in Lancefield and Woodend will open for the summer from Saturday 6 December 2014 until Monday 9 March 2015.

Opening times will vary according to Bureau of Meteorology temperature forecasts for Melbourne.

If the forecast is between 24 and 26 degrees, opening hours will be 3.30pm to 6pm on weekdays and 1.30pm to 6pm on weekends or during school holidays. If the forecast is more than 27 degrees, opening hours will be 11am to 6pm on both weekdays and weekends.

Summer entertainment in Bendigo parks

Bendigo will stage its biggest annual Summer in the Parks Program so far with more than 40 free community events during December, January, and February.

Bendigo Council Major Events Manager Terry Karaloudis said parks and reserves across Greater

Bendigo would come alive with outdoor cinema nights, walking, garden and nature tours, live music, Christmas celebrations, and art events. Further information is at: www.bendigosummerintheparks.com or pick up a program from the Bendigo Visitor Centre, 51 to 67 Pall Mall.

Redesdale General Store



- * Espresso coffee
- * Takeaway food.
- * Bottle shop and local wines
- * Fuel and Oil
- * LP Gas
- * Newspapers
- * Post Office
- * Groceries
- * Commonwealth Bank agent

Open 7 Days

Main Road Redesdale

5425 3154



Elphinstone
Post Office & General Store

Newspapers/Magazines, Origin Gas Bottles,
Bread, Milk & Groceries, Postage Services

Gill & Dave 5473 3200

9 Doveton Street Elphinstone

Are you interested?

People in the Sutton Grange, Elphinstone, Metcalfe,
Green Hill, Barfold, and Langley areas.

To start a
historical society

in the
Old Metcalfe Shire Hall
to preserve our local history for future generations.

If you are interested please contact Rob Mactier
Home 5473 3214 Mobile 0412 471 023
Email:- robmactier@bigpond.com