

Bridge Connection

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



Edition 46

September 2013

A community owned newspaper

Redesdale community plan launched

Website links wider community

Bendigo Mayor Lisa Ruffell commended the Redesdale community for its successful launch of a new community plan and website.

Cr Ruffell attended the launch in the Redesdale Hall on Sunday 8 September with Bendigo councillors Helen Leach, and Rod Campbell.

The event took on a festive air as proceedings were introduced by a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem by Tahlia Campbell.

The Hall was decorated with flowers from local gardens, banners and posters proclaiming the new website address and logo and colour coordinated helium filled balloons, much to the delight of excited children.

Apologies were received from Cr Mark Weragoda.

President of the Redesdale and District Association, Jo Smith - Sargent welcomed a large gathering and introduced Glenn Brown who spoke about the important role of the CFA in the community and how the CFA's relationship with residents is two way.

Jo then introduced Andrew Campbell, chairman of the School Council of the Redesdale and Mia Mia Primary School who emphasised the importance of

encouraging young people to participate in and feel part of the community. He referred to areas of the plan which he felt strongly about and said reading it and appreciating the photographs reaffirmed why he liked living in Redesdale.

The website was then projected onto the stage back wall and the audience was taken through particular features of the uncomplicated layout.

It was stressed the website belonged to the residents of Redesdale and would be shaped by contributions from locals.

Committee members hope to see business people take advantage of free advertising on the website.

The website will give those who have access to the web a quick view of upcoming events and an ability to read the Bridge Connection (and soon the Mia Mia Messenger) online.

It will not only benefit locals but will give tourists to the area a quick view of what is available in the region.

The website can be viewed at www.redesdale.net and contributions and ideas for inclusion can be sent via email to info@redesdale.net or by phoning 0407 116 899.



From left: Bendigo mayor Mayor Lisa Ruffell, Jo Smith - Sargent, and Tahlia Campbell.



From left: Bendigo councillors Helen Leach, Rod Campbell, Bendigo Mayor Lisa Ruffell, and Mrs Alison Campbell.

City of Greater Bendigo Mayor, Lisa Ruffell spoke about the significance of the process of developing a plan for the community and the importance that the council placed on issues included in a plan.

She encouraged residents to become active in putting the plan into action.

Cr Ruffell said the plan was complete, but the hard work had just begun.

"You all know where and

what you are aiming for over the next five years and I wish you the very best in achieving your goals and hope as many community members as possible become involved to support the hardworking people on these committees," the mayor said.

Redesdale Hall committee members prepared a sumptuous feast of canapés, crudités and delicious cocktail sandwiches for the gathering.

Safety upgrade for Pyrenees Highway near Elphingston

Nearly \$400,000 will be spent upgrading the Pyrenees Highway between Elphingston and Chewton.

Minister for Roads Terry Mulder said the highway was a busy freight and tourist route

between Melbourne and the Northern Central region.

"Ensuring the safety of all road users is very important.

"This section of the Pyrenees Highway is a windy road in a rolling terrain with trees,

embankments, drop offs, culverts, and power poles on both sides of the road."

Mr Mulder said this section of the highway, a two lane single road providing a connection between Castlemaine and the Calder Freeway in Elphinstone, had a history of crashes. He said 12 casualty crashes occurred in the five year period ending December 2011, one of which resulted in a fatality.

"The works program, which will be managed by VicRoads, will be carried out over various

sections of a five kilometre length of road.

"The safety improvement works include installing new wire rope barriers, new steel guardrails, removing trees, culvert extension and improving line marking.

"These works will improve safety on the highway by treating roadside risks to minimise run off road type accidents.

"We have successive, record low road tolls in Victoria and we will keep working hard to stay a world leader in road safety," he said.

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Please send community news items to

mynardmedia6@bigpond.com

0417 567 741

Discount on Cat desexing

Discount vouchers to save \$40 on cat desexing are available from the City of Greater Bendigo. One hundred and fifty vouchers will be available to owners of registered cats on a first come, first served basis, from the City of Greater Bendigo's Lyttleton Terrace, and Heathcote offices. The voucher must be used by Friday 13 December 2013. The vouchers can be redeemed at participating vets:-

***Bendigo Animal Hospital;
White Hills Animal Hospital;
McIvor Road Veterinary
Centre; Passionate Vetcare,
Eaglehawk Road; Kangaroo
Flat Veterinary Clinic.***

The vouchers are offered as part of an ongoing campaign between the City of Greater Bendigo, RSPCA, and participating vets listed to promote responsible pet ownership. For further information please phone 5434 6000.

Bridge Connection profits are returned to the community

Bridge Connection Advertising Rates Schedule

The page is quarto by four columns.

Black and white (Mono).

Full page:-	(17.5 cm by 26 cm).	Single placement \$150.00.	Booking for 12 editions \$1500.
1/2 page:-	(17.5 cm by 12.5 cm).	Single placement \$93.75.	Booking for 12 editions \$937.50.
1/3 page:-	(12cm by 12cm).	Single placement \$75.00.	Booking for 12 editions \$750.00.
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Line on advertisements 10 cents a word – minimum charge \$3.

Back cover surcharge 20 per cent.

Page Three surcharge 10 per cent

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

Sam Bell Memorial Scholarships open

The City of Greater Bendigo Sam Bell Memorial Scholarship is open to rural residents who participate in the highly regarded Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program (LMCLP).

It is one of two scholarships offered by the city, one for a woman working in the program and the other is open to both male and female, and

honours Sam and her commitment to empowering rural women.

This Scholarship is awarded annually to one woman who resides within a rural area of Greater Bendigo, to support that woman's participation in the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program (LMCLP).

The LMCLP aims to develop

community leaders by building participant knowledge and skills so they can in turn support initiatives in their community.

The second scholarship is of the same value, however, it may be awarded to either a man or a woman who resides within a rural area of Greater Bendigo

People who would like to dis-

cuss either of these scholarship opportunities in greater detail are invited to contact the City of Greater Bendigo's Community Partnerships Team on 5434 6464.

Sam tragically passed away at a young age on 16 May 2008. She was a vibrant, engaging person who loved her family, her community, and the simple things in life.

Sam was a very active and respected member of the Newstead community, where she lived with her husband and three young children.

Her legacies are many, including the construction of a multi - purpose room at Newstead Primary School which now proudly bears her name. Sam's engaging personality and passion for her work were reflected by the strong working relationships she developed.

She played an integral role in many initiatives aimed at supporting rural communities severely impacted by the effects of long term drought, and particularly in supporting the development of women's leadership.

Greater Bendigo Community Safety Strategy available

Bendigo Safe Community Forum has released its draft Greater Bendigo Community Safety Strategy 2013 - 2016.

The Strategy aims to provide a framework for Forum decision making and actions over the next three years, with the ultimate goal being to create a safer Greater Bendigo.

Forum Chair Deb Simpson said because community safety is a shared responsibility, input from community groups and local agencies has influenced the draft Strategy's guiding principles and priority focus areas.

"A series of interviews and workshops with Forum members and other stakeholders such as Bendigo Community Health Services, the Salvation Army, Youth Advocacy and Support Services, St

Lukes, Centre Against Sexual Assault, Loddon Mallee Women's Health, Department of Justice, RoadSafe Central Victoria, Licensees, Victoria Police, and City of Greater Bendigo, have assisted with the development of the draft Strategy.

"Forum members also reviewed similar strategies from other communities as well as data collected through research to see how successful initiatives could perhaps be adapted to suit our local community.

"It is important community members provide feedback to ensure the final strategy reflects the key safety issues facing Greater Bendigo and ways in which these could be addressed," Ms Simpson said. Five priority focus areas have

been identified in the draft Strategy:

(i) Reducing harm related to alcohol misuse and other drugs.

(ii) Improving the safety of young people and children.

(iii) Preventing violence against women and children in the community.

(iv) Supporting community strengthening and capacity building activities.

(v) Creating and maintaining safe physical environments.

A copy of the strategy is available from the City of Greater Bendigo on 5434 6480.

Advertising Sales person required

The Bridge Connection
urgently requires a person
to service advertising clients.

The Bridge Connection is a
community owned newspaper
but relies on advertising support to
survive.

This is a commission based position
with potential to provide a handy sideline
income.

Please phone

0417 567 741

Drink in the beauty of local winery

People on tour so often take in wineries and mostly they are set in attractive environments.

So is the Rupert's Ridge Estate Vineyard and Retreat to where Discover Redesdale Festival visitors are invited on Saturday 2 November.

The winery will be open from 10am to 4pm offering a

choice to visit the vineyard and then the festival or visit the festival and then the vineyard. Either way there is just that temptation to stroll through the vineyard's parkland of vines, olives, almonds and fruit trees and enjoy the scenery of the district.

Just the place for lunch and a glass of fine wine.

Letters

Editor,

I would like to say thank you to all my fellow community members who put in the hard work to develop a Community Plan for Redesdale and surrounding area.

The Mayor of Bendigo, Lisa Ruffell joined the community party at the Redesdale Hall to officially launch the Community Plan and Website.

Editor,

What a big weekend for 7 and 8 September.

The first AFL final played in Geelong, voting for a new Government, Kyneton Daffodil and Arts Festival in full swing, Collingwood and Richmond kicked out of the finals, in soccer Brazil versus Australia, and to

To help us authenticate letters to the editor would writers please provide an address and phone number. The address will not be published on request

The party was excellent and well attended, young and old, recent and long time residents sharing a common objective to strengthen our community. Tahlia Campbell's wonderful voice lead the national anthem.

The Hall Committee, as usual, put on a great spread.

The small Township Grant of \$3600 has been put to very good use.

The new website is very impressive, and a great tool for the community. The community will be able to keep in

top it all - the pick of the bunch - Redesdale and District Association launch the Redesdale Community Plan in a huge free function.

Finger food, drinks, and wait for it balloons!!!!

Free function?

Well, not really.

The money comes from the grant obtained to fund the plan, and, as that money comes from the rates and taxes we pay then we're all paying for it.

A good use for the money taken from us to run the State and Municipality?

I think not.

touch with what's going on, promote local trades and businesses and in addition highlight to visitors some of the features of this beautiful area. Now that the Plan is complete, the Community Association is in a position to apply for grants on behalf of all the groups within our area.

I have lived in Redesdale for more than 10 years (still a newcomer) and it is great to have a forum where I can get to meet many of the wonderful people who have been in this community for many

Mind you, if you like the idea of spending other peoples' money, the RADA are looking for new members.

All you have to do is fill in a questionnaire and submit it along with twenty dollars.

If you fit the elitist criteria - you're in, if not, you get your twenty bucks back.

If you're made of the right stuff and are accepted then the fun starts and you can be a part of wasting money on stuff like websites and balloons.

I can't stand all this excitement.

Cheers,

John Barker

more years than I have.

It is also good to see how many new friendships have been forged through the enormous amount of volunteer working hours that have gone into this process.

I am certainly motivated to see what I can contribute to achieving the plan!!!!

Chris Gillies

Rupert's Ridge Estate

Vineyard

Editor,

Following the success of our inaugural 'Twin Rivers' cricket match in March this year, the Redesdale and District Association intends staging a follow up game on Sunday 3 November at the Redesdale 'Agnes Mudford Reserve'. It will form part of the "Discover Redesdale Festival" to be held over that weekend and will be accompanied by an all day barbe-cue.

Most of those who played in the first game want to be in the rematch but we still have vacancies for five or six players plus a second umpire and a scorer. Those locals who might want to participate are invited to contact me on 0418 130 206 or via rodgibson@gmail.com. Spectators only are of course very welcome.

Rod Gibson,

Treasurer, Redesdale and District Association.

Tan walk

in Melbourne set for Sunday 27 October

Cystic Fibrosis Victoria is gearing up for its annual fund raising walk/run. The event will be held on Sunday 27 October on the four kilometre Tan Track at Melbourne's Royal Botanic Gardens, off Alexandra Avenue.

Please consider the Bridge Connection to send out your message

Advertising sales person needed

This is a commission based position to service Bridge Connection clients.
Generous commission.

Please contact 0417 567 741

Bridge Connection Inc.

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Hard copy to 457 Bourke Rd, Katamatite 3649

Distribution 800

Founders Berni and Brett Campbell.

Distribution

800 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.

Heathcote news

From Louise Joy

One of the many advantages of living in Heathcote is the easy run to Bendigo.

On Friday 20 September 2013 in the Bendigo Bank Theatre of the Capital Theatre, Bendigo, the Brandenbendigonians presented a wonderful concert.

Thanks to the City of Greater Bendigo Performance Subsidy the evening came to fruition.

We came from Heathcote, a couple, next to us were from Creswick, and all ages were there to enjoy great classics in the European music tradition. "What a wonderful Concert" were the many exclamations. A full orchestra led the evening with Handel's Water Music followed by a Guitar Trio from Vivaldi.

The orchestra then shrank for the Giazotto/Albinoni Adagio

in G Minor, most powerful melody and solo lines, in the Giazotti adaptation based on a musical fragment of Albinoni, such is the musical knowledge of Bendigo performers. Recorders, as most of the audience had never seen before, performed sixteenth century works and orchestra conductor, Judi Russell-Clarke, sparkled with J.S. Bach's Prelude and Fugue in D Major.

Judi explained her use of the electric organ with stops such as Bach used on the small hand held organs in his home and with neighbours.

Grand finale was the Brandenburg Concerto Number 2 with piccolo trumpet, violin, flute, and oboe interlaced with the orchestra; an astonishing rendition.

How fortunate we are to live

in the Australian Bush and have easy access to the great traditions of European classical music.

I was reminded of Australian friends now enjoying the musical life of Erlangen in Germany and my cousin

singing the Bach B Minor Mass in Basle Cathedral, her mother being Australian married to a Swiss. Such music unites us all and we must thank the practicality of Bendigo Council for making these performances possible.

Heathcote Country Women's Association members celebrate twenty four years

Axedale Tavern staff were in fine voice to sing as they carried in a cream and jam sponge with three candles with a fine rendition of 'Happy Birthday'.

The cake was prepared by Heathcote CWA President, Marj Harris.

This was the 24th birthday lunch for Heathcote CWA celebrated on Wednesday 14 August 2013. Marj Harris and Secretary, Kath Sartori, recalled the Heathcote CWA highlight of those 24 years as the Group Craft Exhibition in

the Heathcote RSL Hall during the first weekend of May 2012.

Many compliments were received from visiting CWA groups including Echuca and Romsey (Hume Goulburn).

Particular compliments were given to the spacious display where all exhibits were easy to see.

Members gave thought to CWA members who were away sick or travelling and could not be at the Axedale Tavern to join us for this most pleasant birthday lunch

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Kyneton highlighted by MasterChef

Kyneton's excellent culinary standards were confirmed when MasterChef Australia chose to feature the town in its regional towns series. Tourism and Major Events Minister Louise Asher said it was easy to understand why Kyneton was selected to

feature in the series. She said Kyneton was one of regional Victoria's most talked about food and wine destinations with its many restaurants and cafes supporting a strong network of local growers and producers, all within a very compact geographical area.

"The Kyneton episode features the top five contestants gathering with the judges at the Royal George Hotel to cook and share great regional country produce.

"They are joined by guest chef Annie Smithers, founder and former owner of Annie Smithers Bistro,

whose name is synonymous with fine food and country cooking in the area. Northern Victoria MP Amanda Millar said Kyneton epitomised the idyllic country experience for visitors, with historic streetscapes, a charming village atmosphere and authentic country cooking, which supported local community growers and producers.

"Showcasing Victoria's culinary credentials and significant attractions on programs like MasterChef provides a great enticement for people to visit Victoria and our outstanding local region," Ms Millar said.

Discover Redesdale Festival Open Day

at

Rupert's Ridge Estate Vineyard and Retreat
Saturday 2 November 10am - 4pm

Come stroll through a parkland of vines, olives, almonds and fruit trees on the hills of Redesdale with views for miles in every direction.

Sit and enjoy the view with a gourmet picnic lunch with a glass of fine wine.

\$20 per person

or a gourmet snack with a glass of fine wine

\$10 per person

Enjoy a wine tasting of Rupert's Ridge Shiraz, Cabernet, Viognier & Vermentino Dog Friendly!!

www.rupertsridge.com

No bookings required however
group bookings appreciated
joanne@mtlofty.com

Lalor Secondary College fiftieth anniversary

Lalor Secondary College wants ex-students and families to return to the school for its fiftieth anniversary celebrations on Saturday 19 October 2013.

The college will hold an 'Open Day' from 10am to 4pm with rooms dedicated to each decade and school events, music and productions, exhibits of student art as well as carnival rides for children. The Lalor Secondary College School Council School said the milestone provided opportunity for the school to give back to the community of Lalor for its support over the last five decades.

It will also give many school friends the opportunity to reunite.

On the evening of Saturday

19 October, the college will hold a celebration reception - dinner dance at the Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre, Ferres Boulevard South Morang.

We hope to have as many of the school's past principals in attendance as possible and look forward to sharing stories of our experiences with each other.

Tickets for the Anniversary Dinner are available from Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre.

Please go to: www.trybooking.com/58599

or

www.facebook.com/lalorsecondarycollege

Further information is available from Glenys Williams on 0408 552216

Invitation

to attend a
Small Township & District
Engagement

Meeting with Council representatives to
share information on activities relevant to
your community. **ALL WELCOME**

**Axedale Hall, 94 High Street on
Tuesday 12 November 2013.**

**Redesdale Public Hall,
2631 Kyneton - Redesdale Road on
Monday 18 November 2013.**

All meetings start at 7.00pm.



To include items of news in Bridge Connection,
please send to Jim Mynard
mynardmedia6@bigpond.com
or by Post to
453 Bourke Rd, Katamatite 3649

New residents meeting for Heathcote

A new residents morning tea will be held in the Heathcote Residents' Resource Hub at 125 High Street Heathcote at 10am on Thursday 10 October.

Moving to a new area can be overwhelming.

If you have relocated to Heathcote in the last year come along, share a cuppa, and have a chat to other people who might also be new to the area.

Residents will attend the morning tea who have considerable knowledge of Heathcote's services and history.

Tennis Club needs volunteers

Heathcote Tennis Club needs volunteers to help with the Heathcote Wine and Food Festival on Saturday and Sunday 5 and 6 October.

People who would like to help

are invited to contact Velvet Kay on 0404 780 0480 or Mary Beedle on 0407 800 480.

Volunteers receive free admission tickets to the event.

Knitting group

The Heathcote Knitting Group meets at 10am Fridays in the Heathcote Residents'

Resource Hub, 125 High Street, Heathcote.

Bring your knitting, patterns, wool to swap, hints and tips to share over a cuppa.

All welcome.

Seniors Card holders get free public transport travel on 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13 October.

Tim Winton to speak at Bendigo

Noted award winning Australian writer, Tim Winton, will speak in the Capital Theatre, Bendigo, at 2.30pm on Sunday 27 October.

Penguin Books Australia in association with the Bendigo Library and Dymocks Bendigo, have sponsored the address.

Mr Winton will speak about his highly anticipated new novel *Eyrie*, due for release on Monday 14 October.

Goldfields Library Corporation chief executive Carolyn Macvean said she was delighted because the Library had secured a visit to Bendigo by the highly respected writer.

"When we realised *Eyrie* was to be released this October we were quick to get in contact with Penguin to express our interest in hosting an event here in Bendigo.

"It was a couple of weeks before we heard anything, but when we finally got the call requesting an event proposal we were ecstatic.

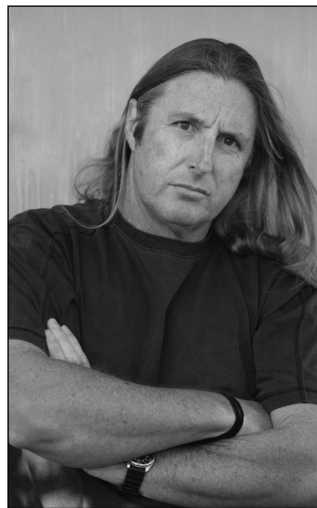
"We knew the Bendigo and surrounding community would appreciate the opportunity to hear Tim Winton speak, especially since he rarely tours," said Ms Macvean.

Tim Winton is one of Australia's most esteemed writers who has penned many works

for both children and adults, including *Dirt Music*, *Cloudstreet*, and the *Lockie Leonard* series.

Eyrie is a heart - stopping, groundbreaking novel for our times; funny, confronting, exhilarating and haunting.

Inhabited by unforgettable characters, *Eyrie* asks how,



Tim Winton, author of upcoming *Eyrie* will be in Bendigo this October.
Photo by Hank Kordas.

in an impossibly compromised world, we can ever hope to do the right thing. Bendigo is the only regional Victorian stop on the tour. Tickets are on sale now for \$5, entitling ticket holders to 25 per cent off *Eyrie* on the day, and can be purchased from The Capital at www.thecapital.com.au or 5434 6100.

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Contact: Marie on 5473 3355 or Mob: 0412 447 600

email: marie.feigl@gmail.com



Discover Redesdale Festival

Friday 1 November - Sunday 3 November

Melbourne Cup Weekend

Attractions include

The Hall Committee's Art Show

Open Gardens. Cricket Match.

Wine Tasting Event. Scarecrow Competition.

Photographic Show. School Art Show.

Artists' Open Studios.

Sheep Shearing Demonstrations. Barbecues

Don't miss the first Redesdale Festival

Further information at www.redesdale.net

and click festival

or ring 0408 307 105

New Blackwood CFA station is a fire refuge first

Bushfire Response Minister Kim Wells marked the start of Victoria's first dual purpose CFA fire station and Community Fire Refuge being built at Blackwood.

Mr Wells said Blackwood, in the Moorabool Shire, was a high risk town in a fire prone area and the upgrade would incorporate designs to increase shelter options for the community in a last resort emergency situation.

Mr Wells said the upgrade would be completed under the Victorian Coalition Government's Community Fire Refuge Pilot Program, which incorporates new policy, building standards, design, operational procedures, vegetation management, all with the safety of community members in mind.

Mr Wells said the work was part of the Coalition Government's commitment to upgrade 250 CFA stations.

"The existing Blackwood Fire Station was opened in 1987, and the upgrade aims to not only provide last resort protection, but improve the operational capability of the Blackwood Fire Brigade to respond to and manage major fire and other emergencies in the area."

Mr Wells said this would be the first time a CFA fire station would be built incorporating the latest designs and specifications to qualify it as a Community Fire Refuge, with funding of \$1.5 million.

"A Community Fire Refuge is designed to be a last resort option for communities and individuals who find they

have no other survival options in a significant bushfire.

"However, work must be finished and procedures tested, before the upgraded station is ever designated for use as a refuge," he said.

Community fire refuges are also under construction at primary school campuses in East Warburton and Ferny Creek.

All three refuges are due for completion later this year, but all will undergo stringent testing before being designated as places of last resort.

"The process to design, test and build Community Fire Refuges to stringent standards has never been undertaken in Australia and has proven to be incredibly complex.

"Ideally, we'd never need to use a Community Fire Refuge because leaving early remains the safest option in a high risk bushfire area."

Mr Wells said the work would establish Victoria as a world-leader in development of Community Fire Refuges, benefitting not only the state, but also other high bushfire risk communities in Australia and around the world.

Fire Recovery Unit last edition

The Fire Recovery Unit Update published its final edition in August. However it presents a list of services for people still needing support. The Unit is available on 1800 055 714 or email: fire.recovery@rdv.vic.gov.au

The website is www.rdv.vic.gov.au/fire-recovery-unit. Psychological services are available for children 1300 773 352; young people 03 9765 0300; adults 1300 773 352.

Free travel for seniors during festival

Victorian Seniors Card holders will be entitled to free travel on the State's public transport network during the Seniors Festival in October.

Transport Minister Terry Mulder said public transport was the most convenient way for seniors to travel to more than 1000 festival events and activities across Melbourne and country Victoria.

"To be eligible for free travel, please remember to carry your Victorian Seniors Card with you and present it to public transport staff on request.

"Seniors travelling with a seniors Myki card can continue to touch on and off and no fares will be deducted.

"Seniors can travel free on Melbourne's trains, trams and buses, and on buses in country towns and cities from Sunday 6 October to Sunday 13 October.

Free economy class travel is available on V/Line trains and coaches for five days on 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13 October.

"As it may be difficult to get a seat during peak periods, I encourage seniors to avoid travelling before 9am or between 4pm and 6pm on weekdays.

"Seniors should plan ahead, with V/Line operating replacement road coaches on the Sunbury, Ballarat and Bendigo lines due to Regional Rail Link works," Mr Mulder said.

Heathcote Car Club farewells members

Heathcote District Car Club has farewelled members John and Anne Rae who have moved to Cobram. The club wished them well and expressed thanks for their support.

Armageddon

Armageddon, holocaust, words used by some, rightly so, for speeding bushfires created hell so fast it took fathers, mothers, daughters, and sons from us as the flames went on without a spell.

But more would die without the heroes plight, when true men, women, responded. Duty bound they came, fought flames all through the night, next day too, then spent, fell upon the ground.

They awoke, did it all again, gutsy, brave, as they fought off the never ending flame, busted their guts, their thoughts to save all they could, how tough, how nobly game.

They're broken and busted, many burnt too, like the poor survivors who lost all they had, but you can't break their spirit, I'm telling you, they'll be back here tomorrow, or in just a tad.

As heroes gather where the church bell chimes, I'll tell you one thing sure, fair dinkum old son, those firebug cowards failed us a hundred times, but those dear burnt souls have failed none.

David O'Dwyer

Heathcote U3A

Monthly activity list

Chair based exercises.

Every Friday of the month except the last. Guide Hall at 10.30am.

Music appreciation group.

First Tuesday of the Month. Guide Hall at 2pm.

Understanding new technologies.

First Thursday of the Month. Guide Hall at 10am.

Antique collectables and curio Group.

First Monday of the Month. Guide Hall at 1pm.

Garden Club.

Third Wednesday of the Month. Guide Hall at 1.30pm.

History Group.

Third Thursday of the Month. Guide Hall at 10.30am.

Luncheon Club.

Third Friday of the Month. Guide Hall 11.30am.

Morning Tea Day.

Last Friday of the month. Various venues at 10.30am.

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 on
5433 2925 or 5433 3649
and email: u3a.heathcote@gmail.com

Rural Women's

Morning Tea Group

10.30am

second Thursday of each month
@ Redesdale General Store

A great way to
connect with fellow
community
members over
a cuppa!

Dates

Thursday 10 Oct
Thursday 14 Nov
Thursday 12 Dec

ALL WELCOME

Ice Man

"After 5000 years the blood is still there".

How intriguing to spend a morning with the U3A History group on Thursday 15 August, sharing a video on the 1991 Ice Man discovery in the Italian Alps. A mummy frozen in ice for 5000 years, his blood literally taken out of a stone. His violent death meant his

blood was investigated for DNA. The DNA showed he was involved with more than one violent confrontation. His cloak and knife were intact. For the scientists examining his internal organs with an endoscope it was a "fantastic voyage." **Louise Joy**



Do you have a child aged between 5½ and 14 months?
Are you interested in finding out new ways to promote your child's learning and development?

Smalltalk is a parenting group being offered in Bendigo during school terms and includes a weekly group run by a Smalltalk facilitator that is held over 8 weeks; groups are held at different locations throughout Bendigo.

Come along and meet other parents with children of the same age.

No cost involved in participating!

If you are interested in more information about Smalltalk please call Vanessa Frogley at The City of Greater Bendigo on 5434-6195 or email me at v.frogley@Bendigo.vic.gov.au

For additional information
www.earlyhomelearningstudy.net.au



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History Snippets

'The Boer War and the Castlemaine - Kyneton Districts'. This 463 - page book, the tenth by the co-authors, was researched and written to honour 156 men with a connection to the Castlemaine and Kyneton districts who served in the Boer War. It has been largely done through the use of items from the Castlemaine Leader, Mount Alexander Mail, Kyneton Guardian, Kyneton Observer, Maldon News and the Newstead newspaper,

*From Sutton Grange historian
Noel Davis*

The Echo, in which reference was made to those who served who were born in and/or lived in and/or had family members and/or other connections with the Castlemaine and Kyneton districts from the localities of Barfold, Baringhup East, Barkers Creek, Blackwood, Campbells Creek, Castlemaine, Chewton, Drummond,

Emberton, Edgecombe, Fern Hill, Fryerstown, Glenluce, Glenlyon, Green Hill, Green Valley, Guildford, Harcourt, Kyneton, Lauriston, Maldon, Malmsbury, Metcalfe, Mia Mia, Myrtle Creek, Newstead, Pipers Creek, Redesdale, Redesdale Junction, Spring Hill, Sutton Grange, Taradale, Tarilta, Trentham,

Tylden, Wesley Hill, Vaughan and Yapeen.

Appendix A contains the names of those who served who had a connection in some way with one or more of the above localities while Appendix B contains the names of those who served organised by the Unit(s) they served in. Copies are available at a cost of \$43 (\$30 + \$13 packaging and postage) from Ken James, 18 Lofty Avenue, Camberwell, 3124.

knjames47@gmail.com

A reflection on Dunkirk and French Flanders

There is no need for you to visit Dunquerque, in English, spelt as Dunkirk.

We have already done so, it is one of the dreariest towns in France, and that is really saying something.

This city is in French Flanders, near the Belgian border, a significant minority of its people speak Flemish which itself is a variant of Dutch.

It was formerly a major port but has now been overtaken by Zee-Brugge in Belgium.

The city only resonates in Australian memory as the site from which 300,000 soldiers escaped encirclement by German forces in 1940 during the initial phases of the second episode of the Great War.

It also had a role in the first phase of the Great War between 1914 - 1918.

The German advances in 1914 and again in the spring of 1918 saw it almost falling to their armies.

Certainly the boom of the guns could be heard in the town.

It became one of the ports from which men from Mia Mia embarked for leave in old Blighty. (England).

More than 50 men from our

Men from home were there

area enlisted for service in this part of the war and the majority of them served in France near this city.

To return to 1940.

German armies skirted the French Maginot Line and sped through the flat lands of the Netherlands and Belgium to strike at Paris from its west. Caught up in this wide sweeping movement the British Expeditionary Force together with about 100,000 French soldiers became trapped behind German lines and faced certain imprisonment.

We all know the story of how the small ships and boats from the English towns and estuaries crossed the channel, uplifted the trapped soldiers, and ferried them back across the channel to the United Kingdom.

England's Prime Minister, Winston Churchill had been in office for a few weeks and the German High Command simply expected the British and French would face the certainty of defeat and capitulate.

Of course the French later did so, but Churchill and the Navy fought to escape and did

so. This was one of the seminal events which led to the ultimate victory of the Allies. The French under Petain and Vichy became allies of the Germans, but some resistance did develop around 1943.

French President General Charles De Gaulle led the tiny Free French forces which remained true to the Double Entente across the channel and later claimed renown as a liberator.

This brings me back to the beaches of Dunkirk.

We made a special effort to find the wide, shelterless expanses of those beaches and were amazed that so many soldiers survived and were rescued.

The same cannot be said of their equipment, all of which fell into German and collaborationist hands.

What we did find was the memorial erected by the local government to signify the rescue.

Its paltriness and meanness appalled us. It is just a brick wall of indifferent dimensions about the size of a two tonne truck. Without ornamentation al-though near to the beaches

it is out of the way from the town centre.

The inscription is even more sacrilegious.

God is glorified and then the text goes on to state (my translation)

From these beaches 300,000 soldiers of France and her allies were uplifted across the waters.

Not a mention of the fact that two thirds were Brits or of the British rescuers, both naval and civilian, or of the French indebtedness to Britain and commonwealth for sending its army to help France survive in the first place.

Time and again throughout Flanders, and at many locations we were stunned to read inscriptions on tombstones, and cathedral walls, which referred to Gods glory and French gloire, without any specific references to the Brits, Anzacs, or Americans, without whom there would have been no gloire to which the French might now refer.

I make special reference to the Kiwis whose losses in the first part of the conflict were proportionately more than Australia's, yet the French

To page 11

Bridge Halls in the spotlight

By Jim Lowden

The Home Is Where The Hall Is!

November will bring a focus to The Bridge regional Mechanics' Institutes and Halls.

This month long celebration of community Halls is a Regional Arts Victoria initiative and now in its third year.

This year the month will be launched with special activities at Barfold Mechanics Institute at 2.30pm on Sunday 27 October 2013.

Besides the launch of the month long calendar of Home is Where the Hall Is activities, Barfold will also be the last stopping point of the Pieces of Eight Bus Tour which will take in 12 regional Mech-

anics' Institutes and Halls early in the day.

Institute or hall buildings include Gisborne, Woodend, Kyneton Malmsbury, Tara-dale, Elphinstone, Chewton, Fryerstown, Sutton Grange, Mia Mia, Redesdale, and Barfold.

But there's more.

The Mechanics' Institutes of Victoria will launch their updated Travelling Exhibition, 'Remember the Mechanics?' at Barfold as well.

In addition there will be the launch of Ken James and Noel Davis' 200 page book 'A History of Eight Central Victorian Mechanics' Institutes'.

This will be a great opportuni-

ty for people to celebrate the district's halls and meet the volunteers who run them. If residents wish to participate in the Pieces of Eight Bus Tour with a pickup and drop off at the Gisborne Mechanics' Institute, tickets are \$50, which includes notes, morning and afternoon tea and a light lunch.

This will be a great opportunity to see and hear how other groups run their halls.

For further information call 9873 7202.

Similarly call the same number if you would like to attend the activities at the Barfold Mechanics' Institute and swell the crowd of regional hall supporters.

If you want to reserve yourself a copy of A History of Eight Central Victorian Mechanics' Institutes, the price is \$25 for pick up at Barfold or \$37 posted.

Send your cheque payable to: Ken James, 18 Lofty Avenue, Camberwell, Vic, 3124.

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Government sponsored a terrorist attack against a ship the Rainbow Warrior (A Greenpeace ship) in Auckland Harbour in 1985, after New Zealand had contributed towards French survival.

Not only state supported murder against an ally but total contempt was then exhibited when the French Government released the actual persons many years before their terms were due to expire following a deal which enabled them to serve their time in French rather than Kiwi jails.

To date no state sponsored apology had been forthcoming.

Uncle Howard (Nathan) and Cousin Ned.

Grants available to support local history

Minister for the Arts Heidi Victoria has encouraged community groups across Victoria to apply for grants of up to \$15,000 for projects that profile, preserve, and share the historical stories of Victoria. Ms Victoria said \$350,000 was available to not for profit community groups as part of the Government's Local History Grants Program.

"Community history is an important part of Victoria's social identity and Victorians have a strong passion for preserving and sharing their stories," Ms Victoria said.

Run by the Public Records Office Victoria (PROV), which celebrates its fortieth anniversary this year, the Local History Grants Program supports a range of projects that shine a light on the histo-

ry of Victorian communities and give the public access to their collective stories.

These include historical publications, collection preservation and digitisation, exhibitions, oral histories and multimedia projects.

PROV Director and Keeper of Public Records Justine Heazlewood said the program celebrated the importance of the many local collections scattered throughout Victoria, and honoured the hard work of local communities and countless volunteers across these cultural organisations.

"The Local History Grants Program has funded close to 800 projects within the community over the 12 years of the program's history, and the diversity and quality of these projects has seen several commendations and awards for excellence in the Victorian Community History Awards," Ms Heazlewood said.

Applications for the Local History Grants Program are

now open and will close on Monday 11 November 2013.

Visit prov.vic.gov.au for application forms, guidelines and further information, as well as details of previously funded local history projects.

Aim to increase tertiary education participation in Loddon region

La Trobe University's Bendigo campus will lead an enhanced tertiary education participation project for the Loddon Mallee Region.

The project will involve Bendigo TAFE and Bendigo Senior Secondary College.

Higher Education and Skills Minister Peter Hall said the Victorian Government would provide \$1million to support the plan.

He said the initiative would significantly improve tertiary pathways, by ensuring greater support and advice was provided for senior school students at more than 30

schools across the region.

"A key part of this project will be development of a Pathways Education Hub, where Year ten, 11, and 12 students will be able to access targeted advice on education options.

"There will be increased emphasis on agriculture and early childhood studies, because these skills are in high demand in the Loddon Mallee region.

"Students will be able to move from school to TAFE and university in these subject areas in a much more

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Rates Page 3

Bounty hunters out fox Red Ruff

Bendigo's fox scalp collection centre recorded the highest number of fox scalps with 29,652 handed in by local bounty hunters. More than 200,000 foxes

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flexible way, ensuring those interested in gaining further qualifications can access training they are looking for," he said.

Mr Hall said about 25 students were expected to enrol in La Trobe University's revitalised agriculture and early childhood learning programs in Bendigo in the project's initial intakes in 2014, with an expected 65 enrolments by mid 2015.

The project is also expected to boost enrolments in a variety of other subjects by motivating students to consider further study.

have been claimed as a result of the Government bounty scheme.

Agriculture and Food Security Minister Peter Walsh said the 200,000th fox scalp was submitted at the St Arnaud collection centre during August. He said the fox bounty continued to pay dividends with 200,000 fox scalps handed in and more than \$2million paid to fox hunters.

"The government rewards hunters for playing an active role in controlling both foxes and wild dogs, so we can reduce the impact these vicious pests have on our livestock and native fauna.

"The bounty has been popular with hunters since day one, and as a result of this program we know there are

200,000 fewer foxes roaming Victoria," he said.

Mr Walsh said 793 wild dog skins had been handed in as part of the bounty.

"Each acceptable wild dog skin piece now earns hunters \$100.

"We doubled the bounty paid on wild dog skins from January this year to provide added incentive for hunters to target these

destructive and cunning pests which roam North East Victoria and Gippsland.

"Hunters are doing a great job and the Government recognises and appreciates the community's help.

"The only good fox is a dead fox, and the only thing better than a dead fox is a dead wild dog," the Minister said.

Ancient Greek art for Bendigo gallery

Bendigo Art Gallery will feature a major international exhibition, the Body Beautiful in Ancient Greece, from the prestigious British Museum collection.

Victorian Premier Denis Naphthine said The Body Beautiful in Ancient Greece exhibition would bring thousands of visitors to Bendigo and enhance Bendigo Art Gallery's reputation as a venue for major exhibitions. "The Body Beautiful in Ancient Greece will be the third exclusive exhibition in the impressive Bendigo International Collection series to be staged at the Bendigo Art Gallery.

"This exhibition, which will take place in the second half of 2014, will build on Bendigo's reputation as a cultural destination and will give the Bendigo community a fantastic opportunity to experience a world class event locally."

Bendigo Art Gallery Direc-

tor, Karen Quinlan, said the Gallery was thrilled to present the world class exhibition.

"The Body Beautiful in Ancient Greece will give audiences the rare opportunity to see more than 100 historic works including the impressive Discobolus; an iconic marble statue of a discus thrower from the second century AD," Ms Quinlan said.

Director of the British Museum Neil MacGregor said he was delighted his Museum could share with Bendigo and the people of Victoria such star objects from its collection as the famous sculpture of a discus thrower.

Farmers Market

Heathcote Farmers Market will be held on Saturday 19 October from 9am to 1pm at Barrack Reserve Park, High Street, Heathcote.

The market sells a wide variety of fresh seasonal foods grown locally or regionally.

Further information about stalls is available from Sherrie Coote on 0417 598 460 or email: zuheros@bigpond.com.

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Diary Dates

Tues 1 Oct to Thur 3 Oct Elmore Field Days.

www.elmorefielddays.com.au

Fri 4 Oct DyslexiClever (Dyslexia Support Group)

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

Sat 5 Oct Heathcote Bush Market. 8am to 1.30pm.

Ian Owen 0431 733 109

Sat 5 Oct Heathcote Wine and Food Festival.

www.heathcotewinegrowers.com.au/festival

Mon 7 Oct School Fourth Term to 20 December.

Thur 10 Oct Rural Women's Morning Tea.

10.30 Redesdale General Store.

All welcome.

Sat 19 Oct Oral History Night.

6pm Sutton Grange Hall.

Sue 5474 8271/Nat 0419 799 987.

Sat 19 Oct Heathcote Region Farmers Market.

9am to 1pm. Sherrie Coote 0417 598 460.

Wed 23 Oct Porcelain Punch

8pm Heathcote RSL Hall.

Presented by Engine Room.

Maree Hingston 5433 3802.

Sat 19 Oct: Small Businesses Day.

Fri 1 Nov DyslexiClever (Dyslexia Support Group)

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

Sat 2 Nov Heathcote Bush Market. 8am to 1.30pm.

Ian Owen 0431 733 109.

Sat 2 and Sund 3 Nov Discover Redesdale festival.

Wed 6 Nov Women of the 60s. 8pm.

Heathcote RSL Hall.

Presented by Engine Room.

Maree Hingston 5433 3802.

Thur 14 Nov Rural Women's Morning Tea.

10.30 Redesdale General Store.

All welcome.

Sat 16 Nov Heathcote Region Farmers Market.

9am to 1pm. Sherrie Coote 0417 598 460.

Tues 2 Dec Christmas Tea. 6pm Sutton Grange Hall.

Sue 5474 8271/Nat 0419 799 987.

Fri 6 Dec DyslexiClever (Dyslexia Support Group)

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

Sat 7 Dec Heathcote Bush Market. 8am to 1.30pm.

Ian Owen 0431 733 109.

Thur 12 Dec Rural Women's Morning Tea.

10.30 Redesdale General Store. All welcome.

Sat 21 Dec Heathcote Region Farmers Market.

9am to 1pm. Sherrie Coote 0417 598 460

Thur 25 Apr Anzac Day.

Mon 10 June Queen's Birthday.

Tues 5 Nov Melbourne Cup Day.

Tues 5 Nov Islamic New year.

21 December School holidays.

22 December Summer Solstice.

25 Dec Christmas Day.

26 Dec Boxing Day.

31 Dec New Years Eve

2014

1 January New Years Day

30 January Chinese New Year's Eve. (Horse)

14 February Valentine's Day.

8 March International Women's Day.

10 March Labour Day

30 March Easter Saturday.

1 April Easter Monday.

Editorial

Why not Women's Honour Rolls in local communities

The Victorian Government has called for nominations to the prestigious Victorian Women's Honour Roll. (See page One).

Women's Affairs Minister Heidi Victoria said the Honour Roll, established in 2001, celebrated achievements of Victorian women in a wide range of fields including science, social justice, community services, disability, aged care, arts and the media, law and health.

Past inductees include Nobel Prize winner Professor Elizabeth Blackburn; philanthropists Betty Amsden and Jeanne Pratt; High Court Justice Susan Crennan, and community leader Marion Lau.

The best among our women struggle to be selected because of the high standard of those on the roll.

So be it.

But when a community nominates one of those, best among women, be the candidate successful or not, she is honoured by peers in her own community.

One woman said, 'just to be nominated, caused me to feel so very proud'.

So.

Is there a good reason for communities to have their own honour rolls to record the good works of women both in the past and in the future.

Connection is important

Community building is important and this is what the Redesdale community has been up to during recent months.

Redesdale and District Association members worked hard to put a community plan in place and from that the community can expect ongoing benefits.

The plan launch was highly successful, leaving little doubt the process was worthwhile. Congratulations to those involved in this work

5 May Japanese Children's Day.

21 June Winter Solstice.

4 July American independence Day.

Rainfall

Baynton

Jan	Year
0	0
Feb 90.6	90.6
Mar 27.4	118.00
April 8.6	126.6
May 42.2	168.8
June 86.0	254.8
July 87.6	342.4
Aug 106.4	*424.8

Eppalock

Jan	Year
Jan 0	0
Feb 50.4	50.4
Mar 22.4	72.8
April 5.5	78.3
May 18.5	96.8
June 48.8	145.6
July 64.6	210.20
Aug	

Mia Mia

Jan	Year
28.5	28.5
Feb 84.5	113.0
Mar 106.0	219.0
April 11.5	230.5
May 29.0	259.5
June 63.0	322.5
July 63.5	386.0
Aug 88.0	474.0

Redesdale

Jan	Year
Jan 0	0
Feb 54.0	54.0
Mar 28.5	82.5
April 4.7	87.2
May 26.5	113.7
June 59.0	172.7
July 82.5	255.2
Aug 94.0	349.2

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Welcome to Ian and Gayle Davey

Wanting to move from Melbourne for their retirement, and for Ian's gardening, so says Gayle, Ian and Gayle Davey bought land in Armstrong Street Heathcote during Easter 2011.

They rented in Axedale from July 2012 while building their Heathcote home to which they moved during Easter 2013.

They had been worshipping in the Heathcote and District Uniting Church since moving to Axedale.

From January 2013 Ian was Pastoral Care Coordinator of the Heathcote Church, opening the doors from 10am to 1pm Mondays and Wednesdays, and making himself known around the town.

Their home has been open to family and friends.

Morning tea for the Church Friendship Circle was a gala affair with Gayle's scones and meringues, her banana cake and savouries, all beautifully served on family china; country cooking at its best.

Gayle was born into a Presbyterian Manse family in Burney Tasmania.

As is the way of Minister's families, they moved to Smeaton near Ballarat, Murray Bridge in South Australia and Rochester Victoria, where Gayle had the bulk of her schooling.

During the 1963 Induction Service in Gisborne of her father, Reverend FS Belcher LTh, Gayle, at sweet 16, met Ian, both agreeing it was 'love at first sight'.

Then they went their separate ways, Gayle to a nursing course at the Royal Children's Hospital and Ian to Teachers' College.

Gayle went on to Illawarra Bible College New South Wales for two years.

The Bible College students were encouraged to write to

Ian and Gayle Davey have been warmly welcomed to Heathcote and Heathcote correspondent Louise Joy explains why.

friends who might be interested to study there, so Gayle wrote to Ian.

Letters grew into their earlier love and Ian came to the College for Gayle's graduation in 1969.

Their secret, kept by the Lady Supervisor, surprised everyone when they announced their engagement at the Graduation Ceremony.

Fourteen months later they were married at the Warburton Presbyterian Church in January 1971.

Ian having resigned from teaching at the end of 1970, had a short period at the Illawarra Bible College in 1971.

The family then moved to Mooroolbark where they lived for nine years and their four children were born.

"And how did you find married life?" I asked.

"Wonderful", replied Gayle, and they both agreed.

They did not know then that they would retire to Heathcote where Gayle's father had said the Benediction for the opening of the new St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in November 1955.

This remarkable couple, Ian and Gayle Davey, have three adult sons and one adult daughter with six and two thirds of a grandchild on the way.

Tim works for the Leprosy Mission whose film, "The Hidden People", Tim recently showed in Bendigo to a full house, including a contingent from Heathcote. Tim is working on his Master of Theology at Ridley College Melbourne. Stuart was for seven years in the Solus Ministry of the Anglican Church.

He is now in part time

Ministry with the Uniting Church in Sydney where he is working on his Law studies full time.

Stuart has a particular concern for refugees shared by Gayle who has been writing to Members of Parliament.

Peter is a Corporate Insurance Broker and Rebecca is involved with accreditation for Hepatitis C in clinics and in prisons.

Four children and many dogs later, Ian was nuzzled by Diesel, their Boxer Collie cross, a shining black bundle of affection.

Taking up Ian's story, he was the oldest of three children, attending Gisborne Primary School and Kyneton High. "The latter involved a day trip in an ancient bus leaving at 7.30am and arriving home at 5.30pm.

"The trip was made longer as we detoured through Macedon each day.

"It was not unusual for the bus to break down and what joy when we would arrive at school about lunch time," he said.

It is moving to read from Ian, "One of the major influences in my life was my sister's disability.

Between the ages of seven and ten, she gradually lost her sight.

There were times when I was very bitter, thinking my parents had no time for me as they, according to my childish thinking, were spending all their time rushing to Melbourne to visit her in hospital. Her hospitalisation was on and off but in total was about two years. In later years I have become aware of the problems of siblings of disabled children in adjusting to

a normal life. To be honest I never really adjusted very well at all and for many years found life difficult," he said.

So now we begin to glimpse the origins of Ian's ability to understand people.

"Disability to me became a major feature of my working life.

"When I completed my basic training as a primary teacher in Bendigo in 1966, I completed a third year to become a qualified teacher of the deaf. "Upon graduation I worked for three years at Glendonald School for the Deaf in Melbourne.

"As happens with teachers I moved around quite a bit moving in and out of special education settings and regular primary schools.

"In 1980 we moved to Benalla where I was Regional Supervisor for Disabled Students in regular schools.

"This involved travel through Regional Victoria in an area bounded by Cooryong in the east, Swan Hill in the west, and Gisborne in the south.

"I continued in this position for three years until I gained promotion to Benalla East Primary School.

"Another three year period of service there and we were on the move again," he said.

"I was promoted to McDonald House, the former School for the Deaf in Bendigo.

"I was so pleased to be in Bendigo.

"I loved the city.

"It was my land.

"My predecessors had come to the Eaglehawk diggings in the 1850s and were instrumental in the development of the Wesleyan Methodist Churches in Eaglehawk and California Hill.

"One of my Father's uncles had been born in a tent on the diggings in 1875.

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From page 14

"He lived until 1982 and told us the most wonderful stories of early Bendigo.

"I guess that's why I love the city.

"I feel I have a direct link with its early history," he said. Ian's remarkable adaptability in learning from unfavourable experiences became evident.

"After two years at McDonald House I moved to Maiden Gully Primary School.

"During my time there our daughter had an operation that affected her mobility for some time and we had to move to Melbourne for her to complete her schooling.

"How I hated leaving Bendigo.

"Melbourne held no hope of excitement for me.

"This began a 14 year period of teaching at a northern suburban school, Greenbrook Primary.

"This was not my scene, but what a sense of humour God has.

"It was while I was there that I gained an almost inexhaustible supply of sermon stories and illustrations," he said.

During this period in their lives, Ian and Gayle lived with their family in Mill Park for seven years before moving to Rosanna, staying for 14 years, the longest time in the same house during their married life.

"In 1997 a major and dramatic turn of events took place in my life.

"Like many other people we tended to drift around churches.

"We found the Wesleyan Methodist Church, a very small suburban church with no more than 15 in the congregation but how they loved and supported each other

"There I saw faith not in words but in actions.

"One Sunday I was approached by the pastor asking me if I would help her in her Min-

istry to the homeless in Melbourne for two weeks while her assistant was away.

"With great trepidation I agreed."

Then Ian discovered his vocation.

"I had heard all about these so called street ministries, 'witnessing' to people, trying to convert them and get them into churches and so forth.

"That was not my scene at all. 'I went along wondering how I could cope, but it was nothing like that.

"We took coffee, sandwiches, sausages, cakes and fruit; we walked around places like the Fitzroy Gardens, Exhibition Gardens, and Yarra Bank, looking for people who had slept out over night and gave them breakfast.

"If they wanted to talk we talked with them; if not we moved on to another group.

"It was wonderful.

"I found fulfilment.

"I discovered that I could connect with people that no one else wanted – the homeless, the substance abusers, those who had been in jail, those who were just down on their luck and those who were suffering from crippling mental and physical problems that no one seemed to want," he said. Ian's natural friendships with people in Heathcote were evident in his relationships with street people.

"I made so many friends, met so many wonderful and talented people.

"I listened to their stories and shared in their lives in a most wonderful way.

"I came to know the lady who was known as The Piano Lady – she appeared in David Jones and played the Grand Piano, then disappeared back into the streets.

"I was given a published book of poems by another man.

"I learned about the problems of drug addiction not from books but from the people themselves.

"I learned about mental illness from the sufferers.

"What a huge privilege being permitted to be part of these people's lives.

"The two weeks turned into 14 years, not of ministry, but of sharing learning and being there for people," he said.

True to his sense of proportion, Ian writes: "To skite a little, the local council awarded me a Council Australia Day Award for Community Service and nominated me for Senior Australian of the Year.

Awards although nice to receive pale into insignificance compared to the wealth of love I received from the street people.

"Perhaps the greatest award I received was when I said to one of them one day, 'It can be dangerous walking around some parts of Melbourne alone can't it?'

"Not for you, Ian", I was told, 'hundreds of us know what you have done and if anyone threatened you, some of us would be there in a moment to support you. You need never be afraid; we will always be there for you.'

What a remarkable tribute to Ian.

"Then came the hard grind," he said.

"During this time I began studying at the Wesleyan Methodist Theological College.

"Returning to study after a 30 year break was very difficult. Just a subject or two I thought.

"Well, over nine years I completed my Degree.

"I was appointed as Interim Pastor to Box Forest Church: 'Just for a year or so, Ian', I was told, until we can find you a better church, but God knew there was no better church.

"I was minister there for ten years.

"While I was there I was

ordained.

"God knew what He was doing during my time at Greenbrook Primary and my work with the homeless.

"I was being taught far more ministry skills than any theological professor could have shared.

"I was able to put all my skills into the community around the church.

"As a church we grew and we learned to love, like the story of Angela and her mother I have told in Heathcote. Just some of the "unwanted by society" people that we drew and helped.

"We worked with people caught in substance abuse; we shared with those whose intellectual capacity was limited; we reached out to lonely and frightened people.

"We assisted people in court and I found real joy in being with people who had nothing to give me except friendship..

"After ten years I moved to Axedale and Heathcote."

What a remarkable story Ian has told, shared every step of the way with Gayle who knew every inch of her husband.

"I was the kid who never quite made it socially, who couldn't relate to people well at all, who was painfully shy and trudged through 38 years of teaching, doing the expected thing, never expecting anything from anyone.

"Life really began for me when I came across the Wesleyan Methodist Church and found my place not with the educated, the clean and the well dressed, not even with the healthy and the socially acceptable, but with those society rejects.

They are my people. I love them and I care about them deeply.

"Thank you for allowing me to share with you things I have never shared with anyone else."

Around Heathcote

Wednesday 23 October.

Porcelain Punch - at 8pm, presented by the Engine Room.

Step right up ladies and gentlemen.

Porcelain Punch Travelling Medicine Show draws influence from the infamous 'Medicine Show' that once travelled the countryside offering programs of comedy, music, circus and other novelties along with a 'hard sell' of assorted tonics, salves, elixirs and the ever unattain-

able 'miracle medicinal cure', This unique vaudevilian show, with frontman, Sir Lenard Grad accompanied by illuminating songstress Miss Ellie May Rose consists of a variety of delightful and intriguing characters that in the old parlance are great value for money guaranteed or your money back!

Note: results may vary.

Cost Adults \$10, Concession \$8, Family \$25.

Tickets from the Heathcote Visitor Info Centre or at the door on the night, phone Maree Hingston 5433 3802
Venue: RSL Hall High St Heathcote

Saturday 26 October 2013.

The second Tooborac Oktoberfest will be held from 11am to 7pm.

A little bit of Bavaria in Tooborac.

There will be music and dance with a chance of romance.

We will have a raft of music and slap dancing to boot.

The event will feature the main attraction, a specially brewed German Dark lager that has been brewed for five months.

The day is about fun and family.

The venue is the Tooborac Hotel and Brewery on the Northern Highway, Tooborac.

Saturday 2 November 2013

Bush Market: 8am to - 1:30pm.

Contact Ian Owen on 0431 733 109 for stall bookings.

Venue: Barrack Reserve High St Heathcote.

Sunday 3 November 2013.

Reds and Blues at Idavue Estate - Red wine and Blues music.

Cold Snap 0429 617 287, or sales@idavueestate.com

Venue: Idavue Estate, 470 Northern Highway Heathcote.

Wednesday 6 November.

Women of the 60's - at 8pm. Presented by the Engine Room.

Step back in time to the fabulous music of the 60's, featuring songs by artists such as Dusty Springfield, Dionne Warwick, Shirley Bassey, The Supremes, Petula Clarke, Lulu and more.

The show features the amazingly versatile talents of Gina Hogan who has a string of music theatre credits to her name such as Cats, Mamma Mia!, Beauty and the Beast. A regular artist on GMA, Gina has written, produced and performed her one woman cabaret shows around the country for 10 years.

Admission is \$10, Concession \$8, Family \$25.

Tickets from Heathcote Visitor Info Centre or at the door on the night, phone Maree Hingston 5433 3802.

Venue: RSL Hall, High St Heathcote

Saturday 16 November.

Heathcote Region Farmers Market - 9am to 1pm.

Accredited with VFMA.

Selling a wide variety of fresh seasonal foods which is all grown locally or regionally.

Further information is available from Sherrie Coote on 0417 598 460 or email:

zuheros@bigpond.com
Venue: Barrack Reserve Park High Street, Heathcote
Heathcote Cellar Door

Experience - On the third weekend of each month, meet the winemakers, take a tour, taste our new wines, access museum wines and discover special offers.

For details visit website: www.heathcote.org.au

Saturday 7 December 2013.

Bush Market: 8am to 1:30pm.

Contact Ian Owen on 0431 733 109 for bookings for stall at the market in Barrack Reserve High Street, Heathcote

Reds and blues at Idavue Estate - Red wine and blues music.

Smokin Sam and Cargo Blues

Mobile 0429 617 287, or sales@idavueestate.com

This is a great time for Christmas parties.

Idavue Estate, 470 Northern Hwy, Heathcote.

Saturday 21 December.

Heathcote Region Farmers Market - 9am to 1pm.

Selling a wide variety of fresh seasonal foods grown locally or regionally.

More information is available from Sherrie Coote on 0417 598 460 or email:

zuheros@bigpond.com
Barrack Reserve Park High Street, Heathcote.

Dates to put in the diary for 2014:

Friday 28 February to Sunday 2 March the Sanguine Estate Music Festival.

Friday 14 to Sunday 16 March the Spanish Festival Weekend.

Saturday 7 to Monday 9 June the Queen's Birthday Weekend.

Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 October the Wine and Food Festival Weekend

Seniors Card holders get free public transport on 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13 October.

Sutton Grange Hall Calendar of events 2013

Saturday 19 October 6pm

Oral history night. Bring along your old stories about Sutton Grange.

Monday 2 December 6pm

Sutton Grange annual Christmas Tea.

Please bring a plate of food to share on these nights.

Enquiries

Sue on 5474 8271

Nat on 0419 799 987

Barfold Beading

10.30am Thursday 12th September

\$10 per session—Barfold Hall

Please bring along a plate to share!

Marie 54234153

mnoonan@activ8.net.au



War on Texas Needle Grass

Texas Needle Grass is a weed which has been present in the Shires of Macedon Ranges, Mount Alexander, and Mitchell for some time.

It is a highly invasive introduced species that already has caused considerable damage to farmland.

The sharp, pointed seeds are a hazard to animals and can contaminate produce.

They also pose a significant risk to native grasslands.

It is present on roadsides and private property and many landowners in the area have been trying to control or eradicate it.

In an effort to recognize the

threat of this weed and hopefully to make shires and landowners more aware, Campaspe Valley and Metcalfe Landcare Groups are organizing a Texas Needle Grass Day at 10am on Thursday 19 October, at Barfold Hall, Kyneton - Redesdale Road.

This will incorporate an identification session by John Walter from Malmsbury Landcare Group, followed with a barbecue lunch and a visit to a property where the grass exists and is being treated.

Malmsbury Landcare held a very successful day on similar lines last year, followed by a mapping project, in which volunteers identified and mapped the grass in the Malmsbury and Taradale areas.

It is proposed that volunteers will also conduct a similar mapping project in the Barfold, Langley, Redesdale, and

Metcalfe areas during November to assess the impact of the weed and possibly gain funding to assist with eradication.

All are welcome to attend and new members are especially welcome. Further information is available from president of the Campaspe Valley Landcare Group, Phillip Don, on 54 234 182.



These youngsters took a keen interest in the job when out with grown ups in a recent Banksia restoration project. The project was part of promoting growth of the plants in areas where they were sparse. The plants were grown from seed by the Baynton Sidonia Landcare Group.

Landcare is for all ages.

These little ones will grow with the trees they plant and hopefully into a protected environment.

Above: Mia and Billie preparing a Banksia.

Above right: Mia and Billie make an executive decision.

Right: Mia, Jack, and Billie planting the Banksia.

What is acupuncture?

Does it always work?

Most people get very good results from acupuncture.

If it hasn't worked for you, there could be several reasons why including treatment not continued for long enough, treatment not frequent enough, or wrong practitioner. It could also be that acupuncture wasn't the best way of treating your problem at that time.

Another form of Chinese medicine may have been more appropriate, for example, herbal medicine or massage treatment from another field of natural medicine or conventional medicine may have been needed.

No one form of medicine has all the answers, and sometimes a combination of treatments works best.

The person may also need to make some changes to their lifestyle and the way they treat their body in order to recover.

Many people start really listening to their body for the first time when they start treatment with natural methods.

Often a person has had a condition for a number of years before trying something 'alternative', and so the cure won't usually happen overnight.

All the same, I'm quite often surprised at how quickly the treatment does work, given the length of time the person was suffering.

How did the Chinese work all this out?

It seems we have the martial arts tradition to thank in a large part for the knowledge of qi and its movement through the body.

Monks who were highly trained in martial arts and who spent hours in meditation each

day were able to feel their qi moving through their bodies, and then to control its movement. They could concentrate it and project it outwards, or build it up internally to improve health and live longer. Chinese medical practitioners have used this knowledge, and expanded on it while testing and refining

their methods.

Ancient medicine for modern times

For all its ancient roots, acupuncture is as relevant to the modern western world today as it ever was in China. Its uses are wide ranging, from bulged discs to post surgical recovery to childbirth. It is very good for inflamma-

tory conditions such as RSI, tennis elbow and arthritis.

It also strengthens the immune system and speeds recovery from infectious diseases, including colds and flu. It increases energy and relieves stress.

It regulates periods, assists with conception, and prevents menopause symptoms.

And it does all of this basically by getting the body into a state of internal balance where it can do its own healing.

Everything Must Go was a good sell

By Louise Joy

Rachel Leary, writer and performer, had her Heathcote audience with her all the way as she worked through a garage sale, 'Everything Must Go'.

She arrived on stage for her Engine Room's performance with a lace trimmed kangaroo skin bonnet trailing a flapping foot, socks and Blundstones, apron, blouse and skirt, caricature of a simpleton old maid about to lose her home on the family property for generations.

Tragic story really, but without an ounce of self pity, she showed off the family heirlooms; brother Keith's television, which did not work, but was good for holding a vase, \$50, she said without blinking an eye; Dad's radio \$48.75. "You can have it for \$48.50. Nothing seemed to be going for less than \$40 except for the five Phillips and one Phillipa, stick figures inside the Phillips box.

"Proper sale in't?" She smiled.

Showing off her bonnet for \$47 made at the 'Stitch and Bitch' class, she thrust one at

a front row occupant, U3A Lunch Club organiser, Barbara Clement, who tried it on but offered 47 cents instead. Without missing a beat, we were moved on to the tricks. Holding up her arms, she smiled guilelessly, "Guess what I am", and no one could. "A Spanner".

Hands moving

"A shifting spanner."

Hands straight behind her back, "A Hammer".

Holding up a horse in each hand. "Hold your horses.

You always hear people saying that but never see it."

Holding up a pig and a sheep. "Hold your pig and sheep.

Not the same is it?"

Flashing red lights as her eyes popped, first one way and then the other.

"That was the advanced course, too hard for you."

Then we had the guessing game of "Guess how many goat's pooh in the jar.

Free jar for the closest guess."

It's hard to convey how funny and clever these skits were tumbling out one after another. There were family stories of little Billy drowned as he tried to rescue the kittens his

father drowned in the pond and his father was never the same again, and then their mother died, all told straight.

"But it was not all sad as Keith won a football prize.", the audience laughter obscuring the punch line.

The brothers would not let her join in the grown up activities of throwing furniture at the birds.

"They said it wasn't for girls but I tried and I could throw furniture at the birds.

It's not a gender specific activity."

This sudden sociological jargon brought more belly laughs.

The phone kept ringing and finally she answered; clearly it was Keith telling her there was no room as their son needed the space for his drums.

"Oh well. Life is all about change. I never thought I'd go to Melbourne.

Down there they walk in parks with their dogs and plastic bags. I didn't have a dog so I walked with a plastic bag."

"They're not real Greenies cos their father works."

Wine event to open Kyneton Agricultural Show

Local wines will be showcased at the Kyneton Agricultural Society's ninth annual Wine Show to be held in the Campaspe Room at NMIT Kyneton Park, Campaspe Place, Kyneton, on Saturday 26 October.

This is the opening event of the 2013 Kyneton Show and all entry wines will be available for diners to taste at a dinner the same night, featuring a gourmet meal carefully chosen to enhance the produce of our region.

The show aims to feature the best Victorian wines and encourage and reward quality winemaking.

Based on previous years it is

expected the panel of three judges will taste well over 100 wines, and medals, with sashes awarded to the first, second, and third place getters in each class.

If superior quality is evident, this year Gold Medal qualifiers have the chance to win additional trophies.

This year therefore, vignerons and winemakers can also hope to win the Best Red or White Table Wine in Show as well as the Gordon Knight Perpetual Trophy for the Best Wine in Show.

Winemakers from all Victorian wine regions have been invited to enter and the wines are categorized into

nine different classes, each displaying a different variety of grape or wine.

Barfold Estate chief steward Sandra Aitken said this wine show was different to most as it provided the wineries and winemakers with the judges' feedback and comments.

Following the judging, a Wine Dinner will provide opportunity for guests to taste all the wines entered and decide whether they think judges have made the correct decisions for the awards. Guests will be encouraged to decide the People's Choice Award.

Wines entered in the show represent the best and brightest wines from the Macedon, Heathcote, Ballarat, and Bendigo wine regions as well as many other wines from all over the state.

All wine show winners will be announced during the evening. Organiser Jen Lawrie - Smith said if the

winning winemaker is present at the dinner he or she will be invited to tell us more about their winery and winemaking techniques.

"It should be an informative and fun evening for everyone."

The wines will be complimented by a fabulous feast of excellent regional produce prepared by local caterers, Piper Street Food Co.

If you love good food and wine, this is a night not to be missed. Details regarding the wine show and the dinner are on the Kyneton Agricultural Society's website, www.kynetonshow.org.au/wineshow.html and we warmly encourage you to support your local agricultural society by attending the dinner!

November
is show time at
Kyneton

Community leadership program

Loddon Murray residents interested in building their skills and confidence, learning about regional issues and innovative ideas for action, meeting leaders from all walks of life, and expanding their current networks, are being encouraged to apply for the 2014 Loddon Murray

Community Leadership Program (LMCLP).

Twenty five participants will be accepted for the 2014 program and will learn about social, cultural, environmental, economic, and technological aspects of the region.

Further information from Melinda Mann 5483 7551.

Mary Bennett is Bridge Connection president

Mary Bennett was elected president of the Bridge Connection at the newspaper's annual general election in the Redesdale Hall on Wednesday 13 August.

Vice president is Ned Upton, secretary Regina Bennett, treasurer Terry McKenzie, and editor Jim Mynard.

Committee members are Kathy Hall, Rod Gipson, Sue Stewart, Keith Gale, Dianne Dailey, Berni Campbell, Brett Campbell, and Jill James.

The returning officer for the election was Carolyn Boyd.

Good jobs available

The Bridge Connection has a handy little job available servicing our advertising clients.

We are not after a super sales person; just someone who likes communicating with people.

Please phone 0417 567 741.

Connolly Glass would like to hear from a young person interested in taking up a glazing apprenticeship. This is a great opportunity for school leavers. Phone Chris Connolly on 0428 535 101 for a chat.

CONNOLLY GLASS

0428 535 101

177 LYELL ROAD REDESDALE VICTORIA 3444

Email. chrisjen@bigpond.net.au

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Applications in writing to

**The Manager,
Connolly Glass
177 Lyell Rd,
Redesdale 3444**

or chrisjen@bigpond.net.au
Please include resume and school reports.

Old jail Heathcote

Heathcote's historic 'Old Gaol' and Police Residence Museum is open on Wednesdays from 10am to 3pm. The museum is at 19 Herriot Street, Heathcote. The gaol was built in the 1850s and is part of a fine collection of the town's historic buildings.

Heathcote Car Club trivia night

The Heathcote District Car Club will hold a trivia night and supper in the clubrooms at 5 McMahon Street, Heathcote, on Saturday 13 October. Contact with the club is to events coordinator Frank Fagan on 5433 2264.



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Rural Women's

Morning Tea Group

10.30am
2nd Thursday of the month
@ REDESDALE GENERAL STORE

A great way
to connect with
fellow community
members
over a cuppa!
ALL WELCOME!

Dates:
Thurs 12th Sept
Thurs 10th Oct
Thurs 14th Nov
Thurs 12th Dec

Macedon Ranges
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- 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