

Bridge Connection

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



Edition 47

October 2013

A community owned newspaper

Pay day for honour avenues and war memorials

Communities will have access to increased funds for restoration of war memorials, honour rolls, and for the first time, avenues of honour.

Veterans' Affairs Minister Hugh Delahunty said the money was to help prepare for the Anzac Centenary.

"I encourage RSLs, local councils, exservice organisations and community groups to apply for these grants and to take advantage of the added funding.

"Commemorative sites are important to Victorians as they provide a place for veterans, families and friends, and the wider community, to gather and reflect on the impact of war.

"As we prepare to commemorate the Anzac Centenary, war memorials and avenues of honour are an important way of thanking, remembering and honouring those local men and women who sacrificed their lives defending freedoms we enjoy today.

"Eligible projects could include restoration of facilities, statues, and lettering, as well as replanting trees that formed part

of an original avenue of honour.

"Through this program the Victorian Government will continue to work closely with local government, exservice organisations and community groups to ensure the service and sacrifice of our veterans is never forgotten.

"In the lead up to the Anzac Centenary, these additional funds highlight the

Government's commitment to passing the baton of Victoria's war history to future generations," the Minister said.

Applications for the Restoring Community War Memorials and Avenue of Honour Grants Program can be submitted at any time and details are available from www.veterans.vic.gov.au

or by phone 1300 366 356.

Just the right program for U3A



Mandalay Resources sustainability manager, Andrew Mattiske, presents the computer to Heathcote U3A secretary Stephanie Bastok, and president Glenys Baldwin.

Mandalay Resources provided Heathcote U3A with a high powered laptop. U3A president Glenys Baldwin said the group's old computer was very slow.

"We approached Mandalay Resources requesting a grant for an entry level replacement.

"We received a call saying they could help us out, but offered us a high specification laptop, far superior to what we were hoping to buy.

"We were ecstatic," she said.

Mandalay Resources sustainability manager Andrew Mattiske said the company was thrilled to support the Heathcote U3A.

"I understand it will be an important resource for their program," he said.

Mrs Baldwin said the computer would be used for both administrative and training purposes.

She said it was great to see a company like Mandalay Resources willing to help local organizations.

Guide for new residents

The City of Greater Bendigo plans to produce a booklet for new residents.

The book will contain information about services, facilities and amenities in the municipality and will focus on providing information and contacts for community groups and sporting groups.

It is anticipated the booklet be updated and republished every two years. It will also include information on townships and districts with community plans and community newsletters.

Loddon Murray Community leaders visit Maryborough

Participants in the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program visited Maryborough to experience an-

other side of leadership and explore the theme of health and wellbeing. Bringing out the inner cir-

cus in everyone, Phil Melgaard, educational jollity consultant and fun manager, had the group juggling, plate spinning, dancing, and engaging in general fun to highlight the importance of looking after yourself and having balance in your life.

Participant Ardavan Abedian said Phil brought out the inner child in us all, and stressed you could teach a happy person anything. In keeping with the theme of the day participants went on a walk to visit some of the local services and facilities and heard about community initiatives from Lee Duffin from Maryborough District Health Services. Lee spoke passionately about the value of volunteers in communities and in particular the number of clubs in the area.

"Volunteers are the greatest assets for community," she said.

Participants had some in-

teresting and thought provoking discussions lead by Matt Broad from Go Goldfields and Naomi Crew from Central Goldfields Shire about the neighbourhood renewal project, understanding communities, and how people interacted in society.

Central Goldfields Shire mayor Cr Barry Rinaldi then inspired the group, as he spoke about key aspects of community leadership and particularly his thoughts on the importance of governance and governance structures in community leadership roles. Members of the Leadership Program have their final retreat weekend in Swan Hill at the end of October.

Index

Driver demerit points cheats.	Page 3
Bendigo City citizen of the year.	
Bookkeeping workshop.	
Letters to the editor.	Page 4
Help Redesdale CFA battle fires.	
Memories of yesteryear put everyone in the mood.	Page 5
Axe Creek playgroup.	Page 6
Beef Week grows to nine days.	
Give summer fires a cool greeting.	
Bans on smoking in youth recreation areas.	
Mia Mia flower show.	Page 7
Tim Winton to speak at Bendigo.	
Governance scholarships for women.	
Emotional pain is like a punch but worse.	Page 8
Tanning beds outlawed.	
International symposium on soil.	
U3A.	Page 9
Heathcote events.	Page 10
New Mia Mia fire station.	Page 11
Natural gas for Murray River towns.	Page 12
Subsoil study day.	
Editorial.	Page 13
Diary Dates.	
Rainfall.	
Pleasant Seniors Week party at Heathcote.	Page 14
Breath easy rule for train travellers.	Page 15
Malmsbury Village Fayre.	
Eaglehawk footballer is off field champion.	
Bendigo mayor wants more details on candidates.	Page 16

Wanted to buy

Second hand
wool tables

0408 196 096

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.
1/4 page:-	(12.5 cm by 8.5 cm).	Single placement \$50.00.	Booking for 12 editions \$500.00.
1/8 page:-	(8.5 cm by 6 cm).	Single placement \$31.25.	Booking for 12 editions \$312.50.
1/16 page:-	(7cm by 4.5cm).	Single placement \$22.50.	Booking for 12 editions \$225.00.
Business card size		Single placement \$25.00.	Booking for 12 editions \$250.00.
	(3cm by 3clms)	Single placement \$50.00.	Booking for 12 editions \$500.00.
	(3cm by 4clms)	Single placement \$56.25.	Booking for 12 editions \$562.50.
Front Page strip	(17.5cm by 2cm).	Single placement \$62.50.	Booking for 12 editions \$687.50.
	(8.5cm by 2cm).	Single placement \$35.00.	Booking for 12 editions \$385.00.

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

Camera is on demerit point cheats

Drivers who cheat on the demerit point system will have a loophole closed.

Drivers who do not hold a licence or who hold an overseas licence can accumulate unlimited demerit points in Victoria without penalty.

They also cannot have their licence suspended for exceeding the 12 point threshold, or five points for a learner or probationary driver, until they apply for and receive a Victorian driver licence or permit.

Transport Minister Terry Mulder said a loophole which allowed some drivers to continue driving in Victoria despite racking up enough demerit points to lose their licences would go.

"We don't want unsafe drivers, who have flouted our traffic laws and put others in danger, to be on our roads.

"The changes mean demerit points for overseas and unlicensed drivers will be recorded against their names and applied in a similar way as points are to Victorian drivers. "VicRoads will be able to create a driver record for anyone who drives in Victoria, regardless of whether the person holds a Victorian licence or permit.

"Once overseas or unlicensed drivers reach their demerit point threshold, they will be issued with a notice disqualifying them from driving and from holding a licence for the same period as would apply to a Victorian licence holder.

This will remove the uncertainty existing in relation to some drivers who have both types of licence.

Bookkeeping workshop

Mitchell Shire will conduct a workshop on Basic Bookkeeping from 7pm to 9pm Wednesday 20 November.

Light supper is available from 6.45pm. This workshop will cover topics including different types of accounting systems, Business Activity Statements (BAS) and Goods and Services Tax (GST), philanthropic/business grants, bank accounts for community groups and how to acquire your community grants.

Guest presenters will be Leanne Van Bommel, Business Banking Manager from NAB Kilmore Branch, and Kirk Holt, Business Development Specialist, Tactical Business Solutions.

The council encourages volunteers, small business owners and grant recipients to come along to the workshop to update their skills in basic bookkeeping.

Please RSVP by Friday 15 November to SDWB.Admin@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au or phone Rosalind Vincent on 5734 6349.

Bendigo Citizen of the Year nominations

Greater Bendigo Mayor Lisa Ruffell and 2013 Citizen of the Year Linda Beilharz are calling for nominations for the 2014 City of Greater Bendigo Citizen of the Year Awards.

Cr Ruffell said the city wants to know about residents who go above and beyond to help make Greater Bendigo a better place to live.

"Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year are the highest honours a community can give to individuals and we want to hear from people who know of a local resident who makes them proud," Cr Ruffell said.

"There are many among us who make outstanding and selfless contributions and there is no better way to acknowledge their contribution.

"Our community is fortunate to have many outstanding people who have been successful in a range of areas and it is now up to the members of the community to tell us who makes them proud by nominating people whom they believe deserve recognition through the awards.

Nominations for the 2014 awards close at 5pm Friday 29 November 2013.

Nomination forms are available at City of Greater Bendigo offices and local libraries or can be made online from www.bendigo.vic.gov.au Further information is available on 5434 6000.

Submission of copy to *Bridge Connection*

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

The Editor

mynardmedia6@bigpond.com

or

by mail to

Bridge Connection,
453 Bourke Rd,
Katamatite, 3649
Ph 0417 567 741

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

Letters

Dear Editor,

I refer to Mr Barker's petty, sarcastic and ill-informed criticism of the Redesdale and District Association (RaDA) in the September Bridge Connection.

First, some brief background; RaDA was formed shortly after a community meeting in the Redesdale Hall in September 2012 at which the then mayor, Cr Alec Sandner stated that the Redesdale area was 'missing out' on council grants because the council had no single focal point, representative of the diverse groups/committees in the area, to approach when funds became available.

Furthermore, he was adamant

that the Redesdale Community Plan, which had not been reviewed for years, needed to be updated as council money would not be available for projects which were not listed in the plan.

This 'wake up call' needed to be addressed.

RaDA was formed and subsequently a Small Township Grant of \$3600 was obtained from the City of Greater Bendigo (COGB) in April 2013.

Specific guidelines for expenditure (potentially subject to council audit) were imposed. These included extensive community engagement to reformulate the plan, website development and a subsequent function to launch the new plan.

Your correspondent, Mr. Barker, is clearly scandalized that grant money should be spent on the very items specified by the council and in particular that 45 balloons were present in the hall on the night of the plan launch!

Mr. Barker just doesn't seem

to have grasped the following facts;

(i) Redesdale residents clearly demonstrated in two well attended community meetings that they wanted a more vibrant town with better amenity. Their specific wishes are encapsulated in the new plan.
(ii) He doesn't understand that we live in the year 2013 and an effective website is now mandatory for local business people to effectively promote themselves to other locals and outsiders. A 'waste of money'?

I think not.

(iii) Children are part of our community and several were present at the launch.

In begrudging them the fun they had playing with the balloons after the function he has taken the usual understanding of the expression 'mean spirited' to the next level.

Nevertheless, Mr. Barker can relax.

The infinitesimal fraction of one cent that his taxes might have contributed to the balloon cost has not been 'wast-

ed'.

The balloons were donated by a community minded member of RADA.

She described them as her 'treat'.

Furthermore, Mr. Barker stated as a fact that RADA employs 'elitist criteria' to accept or reject applications for membership.

I look forward to him backing up his accusation by spelling these criteria out in your next edition.

If he can't, readers can draw their own conclusions.

Finally, if he can publicly name one person who has been 'given their 20 bucks back' and had their membership application form rejected I will donate \$1000 to the charity of his choice.

If he cannot, we will have to wait for the next edition of Bridge Connection to see if he has the courage to admit it.

Yours,

RJ Gibson

Treasurer, Redesdale and District Association.

Help Redesdale CFA in the battle against fire

Redesdale CFA Fourth Lieutenant, Don White, has asked residents to look around and have a clean up before the summer fire season starts.

Lieutenant White said six things to watch for were (i) to clear gutters, (ii) cut long grass and trim overhanging trees around house, ideally for a 10 metre radius, (iii) clear bark and litter from around house, (iv) clear under wooden decks (v) ensure good access for tankers by pruning overhanging trees on drives, and (vi) ensure fire pumps, hoses and fittings are in good order.

Please consider the Bridge Connection to send out your message

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

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.

Management Committee.

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

Advertising 0417 567 741

Editorial:- Jim Mynard 0417 567 741 Anytime.
mynardmedia6@bigpond.com
Hard copy to 453 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.

Memories of yesteryear put everyone in the mood

There was quite a contingent from Heathcote for 'In The Mood' presented at the Capitol Theatre Bendigo on Wednesday 2 October.

We had all booked well in advance for this sell out performance.

This grand building and hall, once Masonic, is the perfect setting for period pieces even though the audience does not dress up the way they once did in evening wear.

The stage performers made the magic complete in their tuxedos as the Americans say for that is what they were.

The women were stunning with sparkles on black, ribbons in their hair for the casual pieces and all dressed in uniform for the Forces' songs, smart red jackets and hats and white skirts. For a contrast the

expert dancer was in navy or something just a little different for each Act.

My could they dance!

The jitterbug number was outstanding as the girl did cartwheels over the boy. He lifted her, cradled her, tossed her and always she came up smiling.

One Heathcote connoisseur, who had spent his youth rock'n rolling in the dance halls of Melbourne, was blown away.

He could flick his fingers for the girls to move but never such acrobatics.

This was the Swing Era and the songs just swung along.

The Andrews Sisters and the Mills Brothers with the String of Pearls Orchestra played numbers we all knew: includ-

By Louise Joy

ing 'Give Me Land Lots of Land', 'Don't Fence Me In', and 'I'd Rather Have Nothing at All'.

We were invited to join in 'Hey Babaribop' and 'Abba Dabba Dabba Dabba'. More familiar songs came along: 'Accentuate the Positive', 'I'm Beginning to See the Light', 'I've Got a Girl in Kalamazoo', such wit these songs had, the singers winking at the audience in complicity.

Rhyme and rhythm too.

Familiar names were flung about: Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Hogie Carmichael.

Then there was the marvelous song of 'You've Gone Too Far'. 'Put Down That Crowbar', as he details the

fury of the woman who no longer loves him and he ends up in Bendigo Base Hospital. This was the music that moved a nation during the Second World War. President Roosevelt rated a mention and unemployment of the Great Depression in the 1930s ending with the War.

The Show was conceived and produced by Bud (what an American name!) on piano, also conductor.

Taken to the White House where thousands thronged Washington to hear the music; they have been on tour ever since, across the United States of America, Australia, and New Zealand. What a great night. We played their CD all the way home in the car, through the Australian Bush, to Heathcote.

REGIONAL VIC

FARM SERVICES

ABN: 27 360 129 893

ecoblade®

The cutting Edge in weed control

For all your weed control work ask John Baulch



Eco Blade – cut and paste your woody weeds and mulch the residue at the same time.

Spot spraying – to reach all those hard to get areas

Boom spraying – for your pasture needs

Phone: John (03) 54235151

Axe Creek community playgroup

Axe Creek Community Playgroup meets in the Eppalock Primary School Old School Building from 9am to 11am Wednesdays. Morning tea and activities provided.

Admission by a gold coin. Further information is available on 5439 6366 or eppalock.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au All Welcome.

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

Beef Week grows to nine days

Southeast Australia's Stock and Land Beef Week, which started in 1992 with 50 studs spread over four days, will expand to nine days in 2014, with an expected 280 studs on 220 properties participating. Beef Week 2014 will run from Tuesday 28 January to Wednesday 5 February 2014.

Visits will start in the Riverina and end in Victoria's western district.

The eastern Riverina day, which in 2013 was bulging with more than 40 studs, has been split in two by an east-west line between Holbrook in the south and Wagga Wagga in the north.

Give summer fires a cool greeting

The City of Greater Bendigo wants people to prepare for summer fires. Fire prevention officer Eric Smith said residents needed to ensure their properties were clear of potential fire risks endangering themselves or neighbours. "Everyone must make an effort to ensure they are fire ready and review their individual fire plan.

"Ways to protect against the threat of fire include removing fallen branches and rubbish, cut long grass and

remind your neighbours to do the same, or lend a helping hand if they are not able to do the preventative work themselves.

"Representatives from the City will soon start inspecting properties across the municipality and owners or occupiers of properties considered a potential fire risk will be issued with a Fire Prevention Notice," he said.

Failure to comply with the Fire Prevention Notice carries a penalty of \$1444.

Bans on smoking in youth recreation areas welcome

Bendigo Council has welcomed new smoking bans on recreation areas used by young people.

Smoking is illegal in areas, including outdoor children's playgrounds, outdoor skate parks, outdoor areas, including dining, within the perimeter of public swimming pools, outdoor sporting venues during under age sporting events.

Director of Planning and Development Prue Mansfield said the new laws were something the City and community had long been campaigning for.

"These laws will protect the health of the youngest members of our community and make attending outdoor recreation facilities more enjoyable for people of all ages," Ms Mansfield said.

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

Mia Mia Flower Show

The Mia Mia Flower Show will be held in the Mia Mia Mechanics Institute on Thursday 31 October.

Entries for the show must be received by 11am on the day at the Mia Mia Hall.

Lunch will be at noon.

Admission is \$30 and includes a spit roast with wine,

dessert, tea and coffee.

Bookings are essential with Jenny on 5422 2481 or Wendy on 5425 5590.

Guest speaker will be James Pethybridge from the Blackwood Nursery.

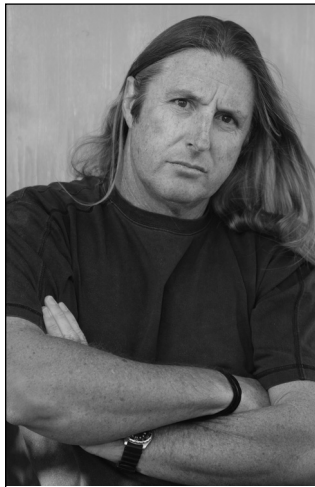
Mr Pethybridge will speak about easy to grow perennials.

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 new novel Eyrie, just released.



Governance scholarships for women on non profit boards

Nominations are open for the 2014 Victorian Women's Governance Scholarship Program. The program provides training by the prestigious Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD).

Successful applicants will also receive a year's free membership to the AICD.

Women's Affairs Minister Heidi Victoria said the scholarships were part of a broad range of programs initiated by the Government to support economic, social, and civic participation of women in all aspects of Victorian life.

"This includes the Victorian Women's Register, the Victorian Honour Roll of Women, and the Women's Economic Participation Strategy.

"Training involves 110 hours of study, with 30 hours of face to face study and will be avail-

able in a range of formats in Melbourne and regional Victoria over 2014," Ms Victoria said.

Participants must be serving on a not-for-profit board or committee, funded by the Government; provide a letter of support from the not-for-profit organisation, outlining their suitability and how the organisation will benefit; live in Victoria; and commit to the time required to complete the course and provide their own transport and travel costs.

Nominations close on Monday 16 December 2013.

Applications can be made at <http://www.companydirectors.com.au/Director-Resource-Centre/Governance-and-Director-Issues/Board-Diversity/Scholarship-Program>.



Bendigo Aged Care Connection Services Offer:

- * Home Care
- * Personal Care
- * Pet Care
- * Mowing
- * Gardening
- * Shopping and meal preparation Assistance
- * Outing and Appointment Assistance
- * Aged Care Advice
- * Financial Advice with professional Financial Planners
- * Discreet and Personal Incontinence products and delivery Service

www.baccs.org

**Contact Corina on
0412 693 415**



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

Emotional pain is like a punch but worse

Director of Modus Insight, Ann Lansberry, told Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program (LMCLP) members that emotional pain was as real as physical pain and had the potential to recur.

This was just one of the key messages delivered to LMCLP participants over a two day program focusing on Change and Diversity.

Ms Lansberry compared emotional pain to the pain of a

Tanning beds illegal from 2015

Tanning units will be illegal in Victoria from 2015.

Health Minister David Davis said the Government was convinced the solariums were a source of skin cancer and had legislated to outlaw the sun beds.

He said that of all cancers, skin cancer represented one of the most significant cost burdens on our health system, and adversely affected the health of many Victorians.

"The clear weight of medical evidence supports a ban on solarium."

"The decision to ban solarium in Victoria is in line with similar provisions announced in New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania," he said.

physical punch that would soon disappear.

The 2013 LMCLP participants attended a two day program in the Macedon Ranges Shire, hosted at Woodend and Lancefield Neighbourhood Houses.

The emerging community leaders were challenged and inspired by several speakers who delivered consistent messages about 'Change and Diversity'.

Mr Nigel McGuckian from RMCG explained the importance of good governance in organisations to maximise outcomes and to meet the organisations vision.

Mr McGuckian said many community organisations achieved success through the strength of their initial planning.

Planning based around a shared vision and the develop-

International symposium on soil

The Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) will host an international symposium on soil change at The Capital, Bendigo from Monday 24 to Thursday 27 March 2014.

Soil Science Australia and International Union of Soil Sciences, will support the conference.

Discussion will aim for a better understanding of critical change in soil to determine future research, development and policy priorities.

The agenda will involve workshop sessions, keynote speakers, concurrent scientific presentations, a cocktail workshop dinner, and a pre-workshop field trip.

Further information is available at www.soilmatters.org

ment of policies to support the everyday running of the organisation.

A visit to the Woodend Children's Park highlighted the significant accomplishment of the community driven project through a strategic and coordinated approach to planning.

Participant Janet Pearce said there were many similar recurring take home messages from the different speakers. "Being coordinated and organised with defined roles in any volunteer organisation or project from the start, the importance of clear communication and keep telling your story," she said.

Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services General Programs Manager Noemi Cummings gave insights into the many cultural groups that were integrating successfully into central Victoria.

Participant June Hopley said Noemi's workshop gave her a

greater understanding of the many groups in the region and the many ways they were being supported to successfully integrate into communities. Noemi's workshop highlighted the growing population of Karen people in Bendigo, one example of the developing cultural diversity in regional communities.

Connections were also made during the two day program between leadership, neuroscience and mental health.

Leadership often requires decision making and change, causing stress for many people.

Participant John Boyd said by understanding the way our brain processes information we could understand more about the way we needed to lead ourselves and others.

"I have gained an insight into the way my leadership and decisions can impact on individuals and the organisation," he said.

Central Highlands and Loddon leading the way with job increases

The Loddon Mallee and Central Highlands - Wimmera regions have led the way during the last year of increased employment in Regional Victoria.

Employment in regional Victoria increased by 15,500 persons (2.1 per cent) over the past year.

Treasurer Michael O'Brien said Victoria's export industries were booming, with food and fibre exports increasing by five per cent in the year 2012-13.

"Victorian food and fibre exports reached a record high of \$9.4billion in 2012-13 and

this highlights the important role regional Victoria plays in creating jobs and growing the economy," Mr O'Brien said.

"Regional Victoria's unemployment rate averaged five per cent over the three months to September and is the lowest of all states," said Mr O'Brien.

The Treasurer said the Government's Regional Growth Fund provided more than \$340million to support almost 1200 projects across regional and rural Victoria, leveraging almost \$1.5billion in total investment.

Advertising

**sales person
needed.**

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

0417 567 741

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

Kyneton U3A Activities

Kyneton U3A's newsletter
has a new chief editor.

After five years as editor of
the newsletter Jan McIver
decided to change her
focus. and handed the vital
job over to Amanda

Kyneton U3A agenda

Friday 1 November

2pm. Alan Stone Trip to UK
and Europe.

Monday 4 November.

10am. Reformation History.

Tuesday 5 November.

10am. Art for Fun

3.30pm Tai Chi

Wednesday 6 November.

10.30am Coffee Morning.

12.45pm Lifeball.

2.30pm Computing Group.

Thursday 7 November.

2pm Music For Listening.

Friday 8 November.

2pm Fran Di Grandi Home
Medicine Review.



Harland.

Jan said she started the
newsletter because she
saw the secretary handing
out lots of 'bits of paper' at
Friday meetings.

"It seemed sensible to con-
solidate the information in-
to a regular publication.

"It was well received and
has since grown and devel-
oped.

"I believe that it is a very im-
portant forum for publishing
information about U3A
Kyneton to our members
and the wider community.

"I have enjoyed the experi-
ence and what I have
learned from it.

"However, I will now enjoy
not having to keep to a
deadline every month.

"As retiring editor I would
like to say thank you to peo-
ple who have participated
by writing material and
assisting with proof reading.
Thank you to Amanda
Harland for taking on the
position of editor," she said.

ACUPUNCTURE & CHINESE MEDICINE

FOR
Injuries
Back pain
Stress
Anxiety
Depression
Colds & Flu

Infections
Periods
Menopause
Prostrates
Pregnancy
Childbirth
Children & Infants

and much more

Elizabeth Hannah

govt. registered acupuncturist.

0403 753 221

bethan.acup@westnet.com.au



Kyneton Acupuncture & Allied Health
5/50 Mollison St., Kyneton

Heathcote Social calendar

November

Friday 1 November.

Discover Redesdale Festival.

Come and enjoy the festival there is lots to see - Art Show, Sculpture exhibition, Open Studios, Open Gardens, Vineyards wine tasting's, Scarecrow competition, Cricket Match, Photograph exhibition, Sheep shearing demonstration, School art exhibition. More information go to www.redesdale.net

Saturday 2 November

Bush Market. 8am to 1:30pm. Contact Ian Owen on 0431 733 109 for stall bookings at the market.

Venue: Barrack Reserve, High St Heathcote.

Quilt-In. 10am to 4pm. Admission \$7. Door prizes, games, raffles, two guest speakers. Bring your own lunch and mug, morning and afternoon tea provided. Bring along your show and tell. Three trading tables. Enquires to Joan 5433 3024. RSVP by Saturday 26 October. Limited to the first 65 places. tolmac@hotmail.com
Venue: Heathcote Country Lodge 9 Hunter Place Heathcote

Saturday 2

to Sunday 10 November.

Roses and Rosé Spring Racing Carnival.

As part of the Spring Racing Carnival, come and sit amongst the vines (and roses), enjoy a glass of our new release 2013 Grenache Rosé matched to some wonderful Salmon dishes. Bookings essential 5433 5188. Venue: Whistler Café Lancefield - Tooborac Rd, Tooborac.

Discover Redesdale Festival.

See 1 November.

Special Performances,

The National Academy of Music will perform three short recitals at 12.30, 1.15, and 1.45pm. Enjoy wonderful

music while having lunch.

Bookings essential 5433 5188. Venue: Whistler Café Lancefield - Tooborac Rd, Tooborac.

Sunday 3 November.

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.

Tuesday 5 November.

Heathcote Show.

Wednesday 6 November.

Women of the 60's. 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, including Cats, Mamma Mia!, and 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 9 and

Sunday 10 November.

Pyalong Primary School open gardens weekend.

One of our main fundraisers and a fabulous way to spend a day strolling through some gorgeous private gardens scattered throughout our community, as well as the beautiful gardens at the primary

school, including our Stephanie Alexander kitchen garden, which has been created through the wonderful Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program.

Barbecue, Devonshire Teas, cold refreshments available.

Baked goodies available to purchase and enjoy.

Official Opening of our new school building will also be part of the weekend at 2pm on the Sunday.

There will be Craft stalls, wine tasting with local winery IDAVUE WINERY, Heathcote.

Live Music by "MANTEL". The gardens are open from 10am to 5pm daily.

Entry to all gardens is \$12 (Seniors \$10).

Children under 16 free.

Tickets are available pre-sale from the school or on the weekend from any of the featured gardens (including the school).

Inquiries to 5785 1291.

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, Heath-

cote

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

Join Girl Guides

The Victorian Government is asking young girls to try Girl Guides.

This is part of a \$5million investment to upgrade Scout and Guide facilities and to increase participation in the youth group.

Youth Affairs Minister Ryan Smith said by supporting programs and facilities used by Girl Guides, the Government was giving young people healthy, active and fulfilling lives.

He said young women were set to benefit from the improvement of facilities and halls across the state.

New Mia Mia fire station and tanker



More than 120 people gave their blessing to the new fire fighting facility at Mia Mia.

Below: The Greater Bendigo Brass Band.

Mia Mia has become a more important link in Central Victoria against fire with the opening of a new fire station building and acquisition of a new fire fighting tanker.

The small community supports this with a team of 38 volunteer fire fighters.

Police and Emergency Services Minister, Kim Wells, officially opened the new fire station on Sunday 13 October. More than 120 Mia Mia community members, friends, and CFA dignitaries inspected the

station and the new tanker.

The official opening provided a feel good atmosphere for the district as guests were entertained by the City of Greater Bendigo Brass Band and two Melbourne based choirs.

The choirs have been long time friends of the Mia Mia Fire Brigade and helped raise the money needed to qualify for the new tanker.

Entertainment included songs of welcome and the joy of living. Emcee Howard Nathan provided a light touch as he

guided the proceedings.

Mia Mia Rural Fire Brigade was formed in 1927, officially became part of the CFA in 1944, and has 78 members, of which 38 are operational.

The brigade is responsible for protection of more than 30,000 hectares east of Bendigo, one of the largest fire areas in Victoria.

Farmer, Anthony Ryan, is one of only eight captains of the Mia Mia Fire Brigade over more than 80 years of operational history.

Captain Ryan recognised the contribution of CFA District Two Headquarters.

Also, assistance given by Sharon Maloney, for help in setting up the new facility.

He noted contributions of brigade officers, Ian Ross, Grant Hulls, John Howard, Gwen Jones-Ellis, and Stephen Cadusch.

Howard Nathan thanked Lorraine Ryan for coordinating volunteers who provided a generous supply of country food for everyone.



Natural gas for Murray River towns

The State and Federal Governments will join forces to deliver natural gas to Murray River communities and priority towns across regional Victoria.

Regional and Rural Development Minister Peter Ryan said, in Heathcote last month, the scheme

involved an \$85 million investment.

He said reticulated natural gas was one third the cost of bottled gas.

He said the tender was designed to maximise the number of regional Victorian communities to receive natural gas.

"The \$85million tender includes two components:-

(i) \$30million for provision of natural gas to Murray River communities, comprising \$15million from the Federal Government's \$100million Murray-Darling Basin Regional Economic Diversification Program and \$15million from Victoria's \$1billion Regional Growth Fund.

(ii) And \$55million from Victoria's \$1billion Regional Growth Fund to supply the remaining priority towns as part of the third stage of the Energy for the Regions program.

Farmers' markets

Saturday 2 November.

Woodend Community Farmers' Market, Cnr High and Forest Streets.

Saturday 9 November.

Kyneton Farmers' Market, St Pauls Park, Piper Street.

Saturday 16 November.

Riddells Creek Farmers' Market, Riddells Creek Primary School.

Saturday 23 November.

Lancefield and District Farmers' Market, High Street, Plantation, Lancefield.

Does Rural Women's Network meet your needs?

Loddon Bendigo Rural Women's Network will discuss how it can best serve member needs during a dinner on Wednesday 6 November.

The dinner will be at 6pm in the Foundry Hotel, 366 High Street, Bendigo. Bookings to Jenny Pendlebury 5434 6479 or Christine Coombes on 5494 1251.

Advertising

sales person needed.
This is a commission based position to service Bridge Connection clients.
0417 567 741

FOR SALE

OWNERS
0429 957 184

'Campbell's'

1395 acres / 564.54 hectares

As a whole or in separate allotments

Allot 1: 248 acres
Allot 2: 371 acres

Allot 3: 438 acres
Allot 4: 119 acres

Allot 5: 28 acres
Allot 6: 160 acres

Allot 7: 31 acres



SUPERB INVESTMENT / FARMING OPPORTUNITY

14 titles
Improved pastures

Excellent water storage
Stunning views

MAP



OWNERS
Berni and Brett Campbell

0429 957 184

Subsoil study day

A subsoil manuring field day is being planned for Wednesday 20 November in Victoria's north east.

The day is being organised by Norm Tozer, Best Wool Best Lamb (BWBL), coordinator with the North East Ecological Farmers BWBL group.

The groups will look at application rates and methods of manuring as well as presenting research results from the Western District. Further Information is available from Norm on 0409 130 813.

DyslexiClever

Macedon Ranges

- Empowering out-of-the-box thinkers

Dyslexia Support Group

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

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



0409 550 238

dyslexiclever@gmail.com

Diary Dates

Friday 1 November.

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

Saturday 2 November.

Heathcote Bush Market.
8am to 1.30pm. Ian Owen 0431 733 109.

Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 November.

Discover Redesdale festival.

Tuesday 5 November.

Melbourne Cup Day.

Tuesday 5 November.

Islamic New year.

Wednesday 6 November.

Women of the 60s. 8pm.

Heathcote RSL Hall.

Presented by Engine Room.

Maree Hingston 5433 3802.

Thursday 14 November.

Rural Women's Morning Tea.

10.30 Redesdale General Store.

All welcome.

Saturday 16 November.

Heathcote Region Farmers Market.

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

Tuesday 2 December.

Christmas Tea. 6pm Sutton Grange Hall.

Sue 5474 8271/Nat 0419 799 987.

Friday 6 December.

DyslexiClever (Dyslexia Support Group)

9am at Ethic Cafe, Woodend.

Marg 0409 550 238.

Saturday 7 December.

Heathcote Bush Market. 8am to 1.30pm.

Ian Owen 0431 733 109.

Thursday 12 December.

Rural Women's Morning Tea.

10.30 Redesdale General Store.

Saturday 21 December.

Heathcote Region Farmers Market.

9am to 1pm. Sherrie Coote 0417 598 460

School holidays begin.

Sunday 22 December.

Summer Solstice.

Wednesday 25 December.

Christmas Day.

Thursday 26 December.

Boxing Day.

Tuesday 31 December.

New Years Eve

2014

Wednesday 1 January.

New Years Day

Thursday 30 January.

Chinese New Year's Eve. (Horse).

Friday 7 February.

DyslexiClever (Dyslexia Support Group)

9am at Ethic Cafe, Woodend.

Marg 0409 550 238.

Friday 14 February.

Valentine's Day.

Friday 7 March.

DyslexiClever (Dyslexia Support Group)

9am at Ethic Cafe, Woodend.

Marg 0409 550 238.

Saturday 8 March.

International Women's Day.

Monday 10 March.

Labour Day

Friday 4 April.

DyslexiClever (Dyslexia Support Group)

9am at Ethic Cafe, Woodend.

Marg 0409 550 238.

Friday 18 April.

Good Friday.

Editorial

Demerit point cheats

The Government has finally caught up with one form of cheating on road safety demerit points, mostly involving people who operate interstate and internationally and are able to juggle more than one licence and use laws applying to other bailiwicks. (See page Three).

But there is a more concerning aspect of demerit point cheating, much closer to home, and in need of more investigation. This is the practice of paying people, particularly students, to say they were driving a vehicle when a serial speedster has reached his/her limit of 12 points, which would qualify the driver for licence suspension.

Far too many instances are evident from anecdotal comment during chit chat about this way out of coping points for speeding.

Students in some instances may not own a car, but have a licence, so taking a few demerit points is a small load to carry for the money on offer. Or so they think.

Unknowingly, and unfortunately, this easy money comes with the added price of a mature person corrupting a younger person. The practice places the young person in a position of being a catalyst to serious injury or death. The person to whom he or she has sold their soul for a few pieces of silver has no regard for road rules and is a potential killer.

Trading exchange

Macedon Ranges Community Exchange held its first trading day on Sunday 13 October.

Twenty five members met at the Lancefield High Street plantation to trade with each other, meet new members, and enjoy fellowship over a cuppa during a short snappy session from 10 to 11am.

Organisers were happy with the attendance. The membership is open to having a regular place to trade and the variety of offerings was welcomed by traders.

www.mrce.net.au

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
Sept	

Eppalock

Jan	Year
Jan 0	0
Feb 50.4	50.4
Mar 22.4	72.8
April 5.5	78.3
May 34.4	96.8
June 35.1	145.6
July 77.4	210.20
Aug 59.8	285.0
Sept 76.8	361.80

Mia Mia

	Year
Jan 0	0
Feb 63.5	63.5
Mar 24.5	88.0
April 5.0	93.0
May 63.0	156.0
June 32.0	188.0
July 78.5	266.5
Aug 88.0	354.5
Sept 83.5	438.0

Redesdale

	Year
Jan 0	0
Feb 54.0	54.0
Mar 28.5	82.5
April 4.7	87.2
May 24.3	111.5
June 65.0	176.5
July 63.0	239.5
Aug 94.0	333.5
Sept 79.0	412.5

Pleasant Seniors Week party at Heathcote

Heathcote cele-

By Louise Joy

the children and

brated Seniors' Week with a delightful lunch in the Uniting Church Hall on Friday 11 October organised by Heathcote Health.

Hire fees were waived for the day by our community minded Minister, the Reverend Ian Davey, who also helped with collecting plates and glasses. From earlier jobs in catering, Ian has developed a fine art in presentation.

He decorated the tables with a long strip of yellow crepe paper, swathed in yellow blossoms on a curving branch peppered with three tiny candles.

Heathcote Pre School was there in force joining in the 'gentle exercise' classes for the elderly, spreading arms back and forth to the tune of Waltzing Matilda.

The class was facilitated by Helen Grant.

Two little best friends were holding hands and smiling sweetly as they gave the seated guests cards with 'Happy Spring' on the bright orange covers, and inside 'It's nice to meet you'.

The little children brought plates of sandwiches and glasses of water for the Seniors.

So polite and attentive were

the children and

the Seniors were delighted. Then we settled down to the guitar playing teacher, Bernie O'Keefe, from Holy Rosary with his year fives and sixes singing Gospel and Australiana.

Apron clad boys and girls from the Heathcote Primary School brought the delectable lunch of chicken and salads, with the entertainment continuing.

Popular singer, Sally Pitts, had technical problems so did not have her back up, but her voice was strong and clear. Youthful waiters and waitresses from Heathcote Primary School, coordinated by principal, Cindi Bruechert, came around with cakes and Boston Buns, which the Seniors enjoyed whilst reminiscing of their school days. We thought that was the end, but very politely again they asked if the Seniors would they like tea and coffee.

One cup and saucer at a time, the children propelled their burden across the floor, without a break or a drop spilt.

Lovely people in the middle years of life were organising the occasion out in the kitchen, making announcements, and giving the thank yous.

Family links to Anzacs renewed as part of Gallipoli centenary

Monash University has prepared a resource document with details from the embarkation roll and service records of those who left our shores on His Majesty's Australian Transport (HMAT), the troopship Orvieto, bound for Egypt and eventually Gallipoli.

The Orvieto was the lead ship in the first convoy to leave Victoria.

Veteran Affairs Minister Hugh Delahunty said the resource marked the moment local servicemen and women were deployed to the First World War 99 years ago.

He said the Orvieto was one of Victoria's largest troopships and left Port Melbourne carrying almost 1500 Victorians as part of the Australian convoy deployed at the start of World War One (WWI).

"The embarkation list of 1457 service men and women is published online to encourage Victorians to recognise in advance our centenary commemorations, Victoria's significant contribution to the First World War, and marks the start of the Victorian Government's Anzac Centenary Program," he said.

He said the Victorian Anzac Centenary Committee would be led by former Premier Ted Baillieu.

"Sharing the Orvieto list was a meaningful way of assisting families to reconnect with veterans, past and present, in advance of the commemorations.

"The centenary of WWI will be a worldwide event, but this list represents a uniquely Victorian perspective.

It is our people and our history and creates an important link from the past to the people of Victoria today.

"Men and women who board-

ed the Orvieto that day were ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances.

"Victorians enlisted from small and large towns, from all walks of life, professionals, tradesmen, labourers, farmers, married and single - they answered the call of duty," he said.

Mr Baillieu said the Government launched an Anzac Centenary website which would act as a one stop shop for learning about WWI and sharing Victoria's stories.

"We encourage all Victorians to visit the website and learn how they, too, can take part in the commemorations.

"The Orvieto Centenary anniversary next year will be one of many important events over the next five years and forms part of the Victorian Government's Anzac Centenary Program.

"The program will include special events to celebrate the Anzac Day Centenary in 2015 and the Remembrance Day Centenary in 2018, with many significant dates acknowledged in between," he said.

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.

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



Breath easy rule for train travellers

Smoking bans have been extended from covered areas on railway and tram platforms to open air raised platforms. The new rules will apply from early 2014.

Health Minister David Davis said the extended bans would aid the health and wellbeing of other public transport users, particularly school children.

"These new bans in public transport areas are extending the no go zones for smokers in the community," Mr Davis said.

He said they were designed to reduce the impact of tobacco and second hand smoke on the health of the community.

"Around 4000 lives are lost each year in Victoria as a result of smoking and it costs \$2.4billion in direct health costs and lost productivity every year.

Transport Minister Terry Mulder said it was important the community was able to use public transport with a minimum of inconvenience.

"Our initiatives will help eliminate what for many people is an unpleasant experience in being exposed to second hand smoke while they are waiting for or alighting from trams and trains.

"The number of infringements issued for smoking offences on the public transport has steadily increased during the past few years.

"During 2012/13, 2002 infringements were issued, with 1988 issued in 2011/12, and 1161 in 2010/11.

"The fine for smoking within the covered areas of station platforms, tram stops, and bus shelters is \$212 for adults and \$72 for children.

"This same fine will apply to

smoking anywhere on railway station platforms and raised platforms at tram stops.

"Fines for smoking, in these areas, can be issued by Protective Services Officers and police," he said..

Mr Davis also said Victoria would be the first jurisdiction to introduce a smoking ban specifically for underage sporting events and skate parks.

"This Government is leading the way to create smoke free environments where children and teens can enjoy healthy recreational activities," he said.

Eaglehawk footballer Jordan Ilsey is 2013 Wingman Off Field Champion

Eaglehawk Football Netball Club, player, Jordan Ilsey, is the 2013 Wingman Off Field Champion of the Year.

Eighteen year old Jordan, was selected by the AFL Coaches Association for his outstanding off field leadership and teamwork during the 2013 amateur football season.

The Victorian Government's Wingman campaign delivers a message to young people of the importance in taking responsibility for themselves and their friends when out having a good time.

This is to help them avoid violent, alcohol fuelled situations. Crime Prevention Acting Minister Robert Clark congratulated Jordan on his award, saying Jordan embodied the spirit of a true Wingman.

"Across this year's footy season, Jordan has shown all the qualities of a great Wingman by demonstrating commitment to looking out for his teammates and leading by example.

"His off field leadership has been an inspiration to other players; he helped younger players during training and went above and beyond to help the club and community groups.

More than 160 Victorian Amateur Football Association players took to the Westpac Centre oval alongside star Collingwood midfielder Dane Swan as part of the program.

"The campaign's Inner Sanctum Experience program has been highly successful as it links on field values with positive off field behaviour.

"With more than 90 per cent of participants saying the session made them rethink the importance of looking out for their mates both on and off the field, it is clear the Wingman program is a valuable part of the Government's efforts to reduce the harmful effects of violence in the community," Mr Clark said.

Malmsbury Village Fayre

Malmsbury Village Fayre will be held on Sunday 17 November.

The Fayre provides a wonderful chance to taste the wines, produce, and foods of the region or take in a tour of the beautiful and historic Malmsbury Botanic Gardens.

Sample the delicacies available from the food stalls or buy some tasty local produce and enjoy a picnic lunch in the gardens in spring.

Visitors can walk along the Coliban River and marvel at the amazing and ancient viaduct, view local birdlife, bring your boules and have a go on the bowling green, sample some gourmet preserves, wines and local honey, or just relax in the country sunshine.

Live entertainment by Andy Rigby and his Marimbas is expected to delight his followers. People will be invited to join in and make their own music.

The noted Banana Brothers will be roving and there will be dancing to Over the Moon Dance studio music.

Dancers will also have the chance to learn a few new steps.

Eastern European gypsy tunes from the Klezmer-Gypsy-Balkan musicians and the Orkester Glasso Bahalde, with the Footscray Gypsies, the Pollyphonics, and Yiddish choir, will treat Fayre goers to some great performances throughout the day.

The Fayre is a wonderful place to do your Christmas shopping because more than 40 local producers promise to have that perfect gift for those special people on your Christmas list.

In addition to the Fayre, Malmsbury will also host the Zingaro Festival over the weekend with music, choirs, a cabaret and dancing.

Several galleries will be open all weekend featuring local artists and the Historical Society will be on hand to explain the fascinating history of this little town.

There is plenty of entertainment for the children, ample parking, and gold coin entry.

For more information please call Nea on 5423 2088 or visit www.malmsburyvillagefayre.org.au

Please send news items
about community groups
to

The editor

Bridge Connection

453 Bourke Road, Katamatite 3649

email:

mynardmedia6@bigpond.com

0417 567 741

Bendigo mayor wants more details on council candidates

Bendigo Mayor Lisa Ruffell wants more information about candidates, placed in the public forum, during the lead up to council elections.

Cr Ruffell, who made a presentation to the Independent Panel looking at the local government electoral system, said information about candidates on ballot papers was inadequate.

"It is important to know some further basic information, including educational background, professional experience, commu-

nity involvement, affiliations with political parties, groups, and organisation. "Voters need this type of



Bendigo Mayor Cr Lisa Ruffell

information to make informed choices when voting."

She wants the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) to do more to raise community awareness about council elections.

"Advertising undertaken by the VEC and the limited Statewide television advertising seems to be inadequate in raising community awareness of elections," Cr Ruffell said.

"More also needs to be done to educate candidates about the role of councillors.

"Many councillors, when speaking about their role, advise that it takes 30 to 40 hours a week, which may

discourage people in full time work or in business to stand for council," the Mayor said.

"If councillors had a focus on the strategic role of setting strategy, establishing policy, monitoring performance and accountability, it would be feasible for people in business and full-time employment to stand for council.

"Once elected, councillors feel obligated to respond to resident requests and involve themselves in details which could be readily addressed by staff.

"So it is important for the role of councillor to be clearly communicated."

Cr Ruffell said there was a strong argument to return to single member wards in Greater Bendigo, rather than multi member wards.

"We recently moved to multi member wards and it appears voters were less engaged with the process and that the election result can establish voting blocks amongst based on wards.

"The community can be more engaged if voting for a councillor in their own single member ward," Cr Ruffell said.

In Safe Hands Tool Kit available

Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA) released Edition Three of 'In Safe Hands', a safety management system for community groups working in conservation.

The free In Safe Hands Toolkit enables community groups to address safety matters in a user friendly manner.

There are also free In Safe Hands Toolkit Workshops available across Australia.

To receive your free copy of the In Safe Hands Toolkit and to Register in an In Safe Hands Toolkit Workshop go to www.insafehands.org.au

Advertising

sales person needed.

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

**Generous
commission.**

Please contact
0417 567 741

Make the battle
easier for our
fire crews
this summer.
Clear fire
hazards early

Sutton Grange Hall Calender of events 2013

**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

Redesdale General Store



- Espresso coffee
- Fuel and Oil
- LP Gas
- Newspapers
- Post Office
- Groceries
- Commonwealth Bank agent

Open 7 Days

Main Road Redesdale

54253154



Elphinstone Post Office & General Store



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

Gill & Dave 5473 3200

9 Doveton Street Elphinstone