



Mia Mia Messenger

Issue 7 Winter 2014

Recognising Community Contribution

At a recent CFA Fire Brigade meeting, service medals were presented to John Howard, Matthew Ryan, Howard Nathan, Paul Patros and John Dempster by CFA's Chris Jacobsen. David's 55-year service to the community is most impressive. Howard commented that the length of John's service was more than the total of those receiving their 10-year and 15-year medals. They all paid attention as Chris Jacobsen congratulated them for their contribution to the community on behalf of the CFA and the wider community.

Dates for Your calendar

May 22nd: Small Town Meeting at Mia Mia Hall 7 PM.

Why you should attend: If you have any issues you wish to discuss directly with your local government representatives and managers this is your opportunity. We usually have one or more Councillors attend these meetings as well as Council managers.

Sometimes the Council folk outnumber the locals and this can give the impression that every ratepayer or tenant in the Mia Mia district is totally satisfied with all the current Council services.

May 26th. Redesdale - Mia Mia School 7 PM Bridge History Meeting

Dr Dannielle Orr is a historian who works for the City of Greater Bendigo as the Heritage Planner. The iron bridge over the Campaspe river between Mia Mia and Redesdale is 150 years old in 2018. This is a cause for celebration and community members have begun planning commemorative events. Dannielle has done extensive research into the history of the bridge.

Why You Should Attend: Danielle is a terrific historian and can add all sorts of bits of interesting information. We will be there - Howard and Ned.

June 21st Mia Mia Hall Noon to 4.30PM

Why You Should Attend

The Sixth Annual Big Sing

An afternoon of fine food, the harmony and splendour of beautifully blended male and female voices in joyous singing, the chance to win some raffle prizes, a makes this a great event.

Given the summer we've just had, and the many hours that Mia Mia CFA members spent controlling and cleaning up after numerous fires during a particularly bad fire season, this is your chance to show how much you appreciate those efforts. The choirs that come from Melbourne have adopted Mia Mia CFA, and they enjoy performing for us as much as we enjoy their wonderful voices. Lunch, concert and afternoon tea \$20.

The Mia Mia Big Sing



A fund raiser for Mia Mia Rural Fire Brigade

Mia Mia Hall

Saturday 21st June 2014, 12pm-4.30pm
Ticket includes BBQ lunch/Afternoon Tea

\$20 General Public/\$10 Performer

Entry by Try Booking

<http://www.trybooking.com/82974>

Inquiries: Paula Curotte 93840371 or

Stephen Cadusch 54255548



New Governor-General and Mia Mia's "Young Jim"

On 7th April 2014 Jim Coombe met the new Governor General, the newly knighted Sir Peter Cosgrove. Jim was one of two Jims doing volunteer work with BlazeAid based at Wandong.

One Jim was very tall, so he became "Big Jim" and our Jim, the oldest of the volunteers at 83, became "Young Jim." Meeting the new Governor General was "a great experience," said Jim, "I was introduced to him as the oldest BlazeAid volunteer, he asked how old I was and then told me I didn't look as old as that." As BlazeAid's oldest volunteer Young Jim has become well known across the state.

Young Jim intended to do two weeks of volunteering work with BlazeAid starting early March, but he ended up doing fencing and educating new fencing enthusiasts in the art over a period of five weeks. In one of the teams he worked with he was the oldest and the youngest was an eighteen-year old woman.

"The best thing about the experience," Jim said, "was seeing the expression of hope and gratitude on the faces of those farmers we were helping out. Many are reluctant to ask for help, there have been sad outcomes for some farming families when things look hopeless. When a BlazeAid team turns up and they realise that there are people who can help them get their fences rebuilt, the mix of gratitude and relief for the assistance they receive is a great reward. One farmer told us that our team of four did in a couple of days what he would have taken three weeks to do by himself.

"I have benefited both physically and mentally from my experience with BlazeAid, I recommend it to anyone who can help - for a day, or a week, whatever you can do.

Information about BlazeAid can be found at blazeaid.com.au, or call 0400 833 262." Jim Coombe



June 7th, 8th & 9th ... At Mia Mia Hall Wine, Art Exhibition, and a Gourmet Dinner

Burke & Wills Winery is taking its cellar door to Mia Mia Hall for the three days of this Queens Birthday Long Weekend, as part of "Heathcote on Show."

10am-5pm, all three days: Wines on tasting and for sale, an art exhibition featuring works from several notable regional artists. No charge for art exhibition or tastings.

Saturday evening 6.30 pm: A sumptuous five course dinner presented by Peter Russell-Clarke and accompanied by ten of our best wines. Dinner bookings \$95 a head.

(03) 5425 5400

wineandmusic@bigpond.com

June 7th, 8th, 9th at Mia Valley Estate

Cellar Door: 10AM to 5PM each day.

Tutored tastings: 3.30 PM each day.

World Food safari: 12 - 3PM each day

(03) 5425 5515 www.miavalleyestate.com.au

2014 Mia Mia Opera - Advance Notice

The Alice Amy McDonald Scholarship Trust is again our main sponsor, with additional sponsorship from Redesdale Estate and Rupert's Ridge wineries for accommodation. This sponsorship, plus the efforts of our volunteer Mia Mia Hall catering team allows Mia Mia Mechanics Institute to offer this high quality, enjoyable and entertaining evening and afternoon.

Last year after two schools attended the matinee performance, one young girl was overheard telling her mother that being at the opera matinee was the best day of her life. It is a wonderful introduction to the joy of opera for young and old alike.

Saturday 11th October for the Twilight Opera.

\$40 for finger food, performance and supper.

Sunday October 12th for the matinee.

\$25 adult, \$50 family ticket, includes afternoon tea. You will be able to book online at trybooking.com from July.

The Mia Mia & District History Project

It is progressing.. If you would like to come along and take a look at some draft chapters, and review some of the photos we propose to include in the book, Kate Hicks will be at Mia Mia Hall from 1PM to 4PM on Sunday and Monday during the Queens Birthday weekend. Burke & Wills Winery - see above - has wine tastings and an Art Show in the Hall that weekend. What you can see there will be working drafts, there will not be copies to take away. It is an opportunity for you to run your eye over the progress to date and make constructive comments, and you can enjoy local art and wine at the same time.. If you'd like any information on the history project, you can email miamiasocial@gmail.com.

If you would like to receive a copy of Mia Mia Messenger please email miamiasocial@gmail.com with your request.