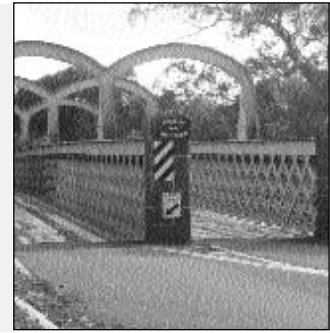


Bridge Connection

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



Edition 55

July 2014

A community owned newspaper

Lonely trees need friends

By Miranda White

Trees are an essential and beautiful part of our Australian landscape.

We appreciate them in summer as they shade us from the hot sun.

We marvel at them as they provide habitat for such a vast range of creatures, from fungi to birds to invertebrates to mammals, including phascogales (tuans) and koalas.

We admire their unique structures as they endure lashing winds, pelting rain, and scorching sun - and still they stand strong.

Or do we take them for granted?

Sixty people gathered at the Baynton Hall on Sunday 22 June, to celebrate our local trees, particularly those isolated and endangered.

The seminar began with local tree expert and Baynton Sidonia Landcare committee member, Peter Stone, speaking about the importance of remnant, isolated mid-paddock trees and how essential it was to preserve them.

Guest speaker, native vegetation guru, Ian Higgins, said some formerly widely spread iconic local trees were drastically reduced in number and existed only as a few isolated

populations or as individual paddock trees.

He said these included:- *Allo-casuarina littoralis* (Black Sheoak); *Eucalyptus pauciflora* (Snow Gum); *Banksia marginata* (Silver Banksia); *Bursaria spinosa* (Sweet Bursaria); *Exocarpus cupressiformis* (Cherry Ballart).

Mr Higgins said these trees, because of their geographical isolation, would receive their best chance of regeneration if live stock were excluded from their surrounds.

“But regeneration is not guaranteed because it is dependent on the vigour and age of the tree, the quality and viability of the seedbank in the soil, as well as climatic conditions.

“Predatory pest species, particularly invertebrates, can also severely impact, if not destroy, new growth and the development of seedlings. Competition from weeds also plays a major role in hindering successful regeneration.”

He said survival locally was dependent on humans lending them a helping hand.

“Seed collection and propagation is valuable, though extremely time consuming,



Seminar presenter Peter Stone with a mature paddock tree benefitting from the exclusion of cattle.

and can produce a good number of baby trees to be nurtured and planted out.”

He said the Baynton Sidonia Landcare Group had done this successfully with Silver Banksia for many years

Seminar participants enjoyed a delicious lunch of hot home made soup and toasted cheese bread before a bus tour of interesting roads around the Baynton, Glenhope, Sidonia, Pastoria region.

Overall, the seminar and bus tour were a great success as they really did inform people about the identification and

value of remnant trees as well as celebrating the work the Baynton Sidonia Landcare Group, and many local landholders are doing with protecting mature, isolated mid-paddock trees.

Properties are being revegetated with local tree species to ensure their survival into the future.

Defibrillator

Redesdale Store

Available 24/7
5425 3154

Walking and cycling are a key to the goodlife

Macedon Ranges Council will focus on access to shared trails, or joint walking and cycling routes, as part of its Walking and Cycling Strategy.

This aims to promote healthy lifestyles.

Priority actions in the strategy include feasibility studies

for a Hanging Rock to Woodend shared trail and a Gisborne to Riddells Creek off road shared trail.

The Campaspe River trail in Kyneton will also be targeted for progressive upgrades to convert it into a shared walking and cycling trail.

Macedon Ranges Mayor

Roger Jukes said the new strategy, was central to promoting and enhancing the shire's liveability.

"Increasing opportunities for walking and cycling make it easier for residents to be more physically and socially

active.

"We know residents value walking and cycling very highly as a recreational activity, and we also know activity promotes greater community wellbeing," he said.

Famous Redesdale fruit cake

Heat oven to 1800.

Prepare cake tin (3 litre loaf tin works well).

1 kilo of mixed dried fruit.

2 cups of orange juice.

2 cups self-raising flour.

Put mixed fruit into a bowl and add the orange juice.

Leave overnight.

Next day - add flour and mix well with a wooden spoon.

Turn into tin and place in oven for about 40 mins.

That's it! No eggs - no butter - no sugar.

Uniting Church Gala Night

Sutton Grange Uniting Church will hold its annual Gala Night in the Sutton Grange Hall from 8pm on Friday 29 August.

Music is by Family Rythm. Sashes donated by the Bendigo Bank and the Uniting Church will be awarded.

Dressing is optional.

This evening promises a friendly atmosphere.

All welcome.

Contact is 5474 8230.

Redesdale Website

www.redesdale.net

info@redesdale.net
0407 116 899.

Defibrillator

Redesdale Store

Available 24/7
5425 3154

if store is closed.

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

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31 REDESDALE ROAD KYNETON

VISA PAY

Two dog attacks costly for owner

A dog owner was fined \$1250 and ordered to pay court costs after a dog bit two children in separate incidents during December 2013.

Macedon Ranges Council officers responded to a report received on Monday 23 December last because a dog bit a four year old boy.

The boy was on a visit to the owner's property the previous day.

The boy received multiple puncture marks and a tear to the right side of his face.

He underwent surgery under a general anaesthetic.

Officers seized and retained custody of the dog.

After investigation they found the animal was involved in a previous attack, on Saturday 16 November, when it bit a seven year old boy on the face.

The boy sustained puncture marks just above his right eye and required overnight admission to hospital where he received three stitches.

The dog owner surrendered

ownership of the dog to Council on 8 January 2014 and it was subsequently euthanised.

Council manager of community safety, Anne-Louise Lindner, said it was imperative to report all dog attacks to council.

"Both council and our community take these matters very seriously.

"It is paramount they are reported immediately.

"These children have been impacted significantly when the incidents could have been avoided.

"Adult supervision between dogs and children is paramount.

"Dogs should not be left unsupervised amongst children, and where possible should be kept secure during social gatherings," she said.

Call to sit on council advisory body

Residents are being invited to offer expressions of interest to join a new advisory committee tasked with promoting positive health and wellbeing.

The committee will provide input and advice on a wide range of council programs and services.

Nominees must live or work in the Macedon Ranges Shire, be actively involved in their community and have a good understanding of local and regional issues.

Details will be provided at an information meeting in the Gisborne Administration Centre at 7pm on Wednesday 6 August.

To submit an expression of interest call Stephen Mahon on 5422 0352.

BlazeAid volunteers work at Clarkfield finished

The Clarkefield BlazeAid camp has been wound up after five months and the equivalent of 2200 volunteer days helping landowners clear and replace fire damaged fencing.

More than 110 properties received assistance through the BlazeAid volunteer effort, which saw 100 kilometres of fencing cleared and re-erected.

The fencing was destroyed by fire in January and February this year.

The camp opened on Monday 3 March with support from Macedon Ranges Shire and Hume City councils.

Volunteers travelled from around Australia to contribute to the fire recovery effort, and were supported by volunteer organisations and individuals who provided meals.

Replacement fencing meant landholders could return stock to their properties and continue with other aspects

of recovery following the upheaval of the fires.

Fire affected resident Bert Noorman had significant fencing replaced thanks to the BlazeAid camp and volunteer effort.

"Without their assistance I am sure we would not have achieved the result we did. Cattle have been returned to the farm.

Macedon Mayor Roger Jukes said everyone involved in the BlazeAid camp should be proud of their contributions.

"Council and the whole Macedon Ranges community appreciate the wonderful effort of BlazeAid and the volunteers.

"The project is a wonderful example of communities coming together to support one another when there is a great need," he said.

BlazeAid also sets up camps in flood and cyclone areas and is currently assisting drought affected farmers in Julia Creek, Queensland.

Redesdale Community Fundraiser

ROCK 'N' ROLL
DANCE NIGHT



With
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When: **Saturday 30th August**

Where: **Redesdale Hall**

Starts: **7:30 pm**

Entry: **\$20.00** per person (pre booking essential)

Enquires please call 5425 3154



REDESDALE MIA MIA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Respect Relationships Resilience

Acting Principal - Ms Sally Gill

Phone - 5425 3155; Email - redesdale.mia.mia.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au; Website—redesmiaps.vic.edu.au

Term 2 Awards

Congratulations to Reegan on receiving the Term 2 Award for his positiveness, helpfulness and positive attitude this term.

Congratulations also to Connor on receiving the Award for his excellent attitude towards extra curricular activities. Well done boys.



Show and Shine Night.

During the last week of Term 2, we had a brilliant evening where the students showcased their work for the term and it was excellent to see so many families come along and take part. Parents enjoyed making their own cartouches and it was great to see some families make Aboriginal style hand prints.

S.R.C. Capture the Flag Day

A great day was had on the last day of term. Everyone who came along enjoyed tacos for lunch and then played Capture the Flag.

The S.R.C. raised \$118 which will go towards camps and excursions.

Thank you to everyone who came along to support the students.



End of Term 2 Events

EnviroDay:

Every term, the children spend a day developing their outdoor classroom. During the second last week of term, the children divided into groups during the morning. One group made a new path in the wetlands, another group weeded the vegetable garden and another group cleaned and organised the chook pen ready for the newly hatched chickens. In the afternoon everyone worked inside and tidied up the multipurpose room and the library area.



Term 3

The Term 3 Theme is "Ocean" and both classrooms have been decorated to reflect an under the sea environment. On August 15th, an excursion to the Melbourne Aquarium and Polly Woodside is planned.

Reserve just the place for threatened banksia



The Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee held a working bee at the Agnes

Mudford Reserve to plant 200 trees, mainly 'Banksia Marginata', around the grounds and the hall.

Baynton Sidonia Landcare donated not only the plants, but everything needed to complete the task, including tree guards, weed mats and mulch.

The Banksias were grown from seeds collected in Baynton and the planting will help to ensure they survive in the district.

Bridge Connection

Annual Meeting
Redesdale Hall
4.30pm on
Monday 6 October.
All welcome

Good behaviour rewards for responsible dog owners

Pet owners doing the right thing will be rewarded with free pet goods as part of a responsible pet ownership program by Macedon Ranges Council.

The program will record dog owners who register their pet, keep them under control, and carry litter bags when in public.

The register will be developed through daily patrols conducted by local laws officers in public places such as streets, parks, and reserves.

Those found to be acting responsibly will be invited to have their details added to a register to win one of six hampers of pet goods, to be drawn at random at the end of each calendar year.

Pet owners found to be in breach of the relevant laws will be advised of their

responsibilities, as well as the benefits of registering their pet.

Council Manager Community Safety Anne-Louise Lindner said with nearly 11,000 dogs and 3000 cats registered in the shire, most residents were responsible pet owners.

"Most people understand the importance of registering their pets and keeping them under control in public.

"This program is not punitive in any way; it is about education and positive reinforcement.

"We hope the patrols will promote greater awareness of Council's role of encouraging and promoting responsible pet ownership," she said. Further information is available on 5422 0333 or visit:- mrsc.vic.gov.au/pets

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ABN: 20 031 223 681



Heathcote U3A activities

2014 Program

Email – u3a.heathcote@gmail.com

Understanding Technology. First Thursday. 10 am. Guide Hall. Convener Peter Baldwin 5433 2925.

Chair based exercises. Fridays 10.30am. Guide Hall. Except the last Friday. Convener Glenys Baldwin 5433 2925.

Current affairs discussion group. Second Monday. 1.30pm. Convenor Win Jeavons. 5433 2887.

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

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

Garden Club. Fourth Wednesday 1.30 pm. Guide Hall. Convener Peter Baldwin 54332925

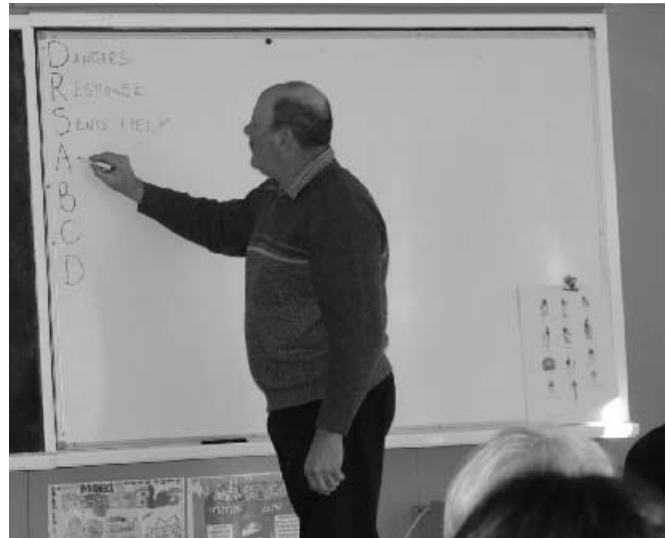
Luncheon Club. Third Friday. Ring Barbara Clement 5433 3278 for the venue and to book a place.

First Friday. Coffee Morning. Guide Hall. Organiser Stephanie Bastock 5443 3649.

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

Further information is available in the U3A newsletter available at the Visitor Information Centre, The Hub, (council offices), the Library, or contact us.

Defibrillator lessons well attended



Instructor Lindsay Booker explains the workings of the life saving defibrillator.

Twenty nine people attended defibrillator training sessions at the Redesdale Mia Mia Primary School on Saturday 12 July.

Instructor Lindsay Booker conducted the sessions.

The Redesdale defibrillator is located at the Redesdale Store and available 24 hours a day.

It was funded by donations from the Heathcote and Community Bank and community groups.

Heathcote Community Bank secretary Hannah Thompson attended the 'get to know

your defibrillator' session and commended the community for the interest shown.

Mr Booker said it was important for people to know what to do in an emergency. He said it was a good idea for people living in rural areas to attend CPR, First Aid courses.

He said St John's Ambulance offered CPR/First aid course.

Contact is:-

info@stjohnvic.com.au

Bridge Connection Inc.

Management Committee.

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bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com
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Distribution

1000 printed copies of Bridge Connection are circulated in the Mia Mia Redesdale Region, taking in Barfold, Baynton, Derrinal, Elphinstone, Glenhope, Heathcote, Kyneton, Langley, Metcalfe, Sidonia, Sutton Grange.

On The Swamp

By Jim Mynard

A semi-fictional novel about the draining of, flooding, and life, on the

Koo Wee Rup Swamp

Download from
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www.glenowordbooks.com

Consumer Affairs Minister Heidi Victoria has asked people to watch out for button batteries around children and to keep them out of the reach of littlies.

Ron Barassi on stage

'Barassi The Stage Show' comes to Kyneton Hall at 8pm on Saturday 9 August. This is great for footy lovers and especially great for Ron Barassi fans.

A uniquely Australian story about Ron Barrassi's life as an iconic Aussie Rules footballer and coach.

Barassi takes audiences on a journey through footy history, crossing generations and suburban Melbourne clans. Tickets are \$25, \$22 for concession or \$20 each for groups of eight or more.

Barassi the Stage Show is part of Macedon Ranges Council support for the arts and cultural activities, involving colourful events, exhibitions, and workshops. A tribute show, 'Kisstroyer',

featuring classic songs like 'God Gave Rock 'n Roll to You', will be presented in the Kyneton Hall on Friday 22 August.

Authentic KISS costumes, more than 15 KISS guitars, a light up KISS logo and stairs will be part of the show.

Book a table, grab your friends, dig out your glam rock outfits and bring along some nibbles to share for a great night of fun and music. Tickets are \$39.90 or \$34.90 for concession and groups of eight or more.

Tickets can be bought online at:-

mrsc.vic.gov.au/arts/buy-tickets, in person at Council service centres, or by contacting the box office on 1300 888 802.

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Oh what a feeling!

Redesdale and District Association builds on strong beginnings

Jo Smith-Sargent was re-elected to lead the highly successful Redesdale and District Association.

Thirty people met for the second annual meeting of the association and heard encouraging reports of community building in the district.

Jo said the original purposes of the organisation were to develop, facilitate and review the Redesdale Community Plan.

“To act as a central point of contact for residents, local government, and other groups wishing to communicate with Redesdale and district residents.

To provide a common communication point for representatives of existing groups and committees, develop and maintain a community website, and to encourage community cohesion through activities and improvement of facilities.”

She said these purposes had been advanced during the past year.

“The Community plan was revised in

consultation with many residents.

“It will be revised annually.

“Working groups were established to coordinate aspects of the community plan, particularly those pertaining to the Redesdale Hall, and the Reserve.

“The new Safety working group, will work towards improving the road outside the school, and to advocate for a footpath between the school and the General Store.

People at the meeting were asked to express interest in joining the group.

State Government grants are available for the goals the safety-working group wish to achieve.

The Redesdale and District Association was successful in applying for two grants.

One from the Fosterville Mine, which paid for the red marquee seen at the Redesdale Bush Market, and cricket matches.

The other grant was from the Heathcote and District Community Bank, with

assistance in acquisition of the defibrillator.

The defibrillator resides at the General Store.

Jo said the the Association, the Hall, the School, the Recreation Reserve, and the CFA cooperated on this venture and this was a good example of the third purpose of the Association.

The website is up and running and signage showing the web address will shortly be attached to the community notice board for incoming visitors.

On this sign, the new quick response (QR) code will be displayed so those with scanners on their smart phone can go straight to the website.

This was a joint operation with the Reserve Committee. During the last year, the Association held two cricket matches, a Discover Redesdale Festival weekend, a photographic exhibition, an election, barbecue, and a Bush Market stall. These events helped bring people together and raised money.

Bendigo Bank support appreciated

Chair of Strathfieldsaye and District Community Enterprise (SDCE), Eddie Castle said the more people tagged their Bendigo Bank accounts and mortgages to SDCE the more likely it was to benefit from community grant funding.

He was addressing the Redesdale and District Community Association annual meeting on Thursday 17 July.

He and other speakers highlighted the benefits of cooperation between organisations and how this was working well for the district. CFA representative, Glenn Brown also stressed the need for cooperation. He said the community had come a long way down this path in the past year. Glenn said the CFA responded to a record

48 call outs.

He also reported that a new tanker for Redesdale would be arriving in the next few weeks and said this was a hugely exciting achievement for the fire brigade..

Redesdale Mia Mia Primary School is community oriented

Redesdale-Mia Mia Primary School acting principal Sally Gill said the school’s strategic plan was to encourage wider community participation.

Ms Gill was speaking at the Redesdale and District Community Association annual meeting on Thursday 17 July. She said the strategic plan was to encourage participation of the wider community in school activities

and for the school to participate in community events. Examples of this were hosting the monthly Association committee meetings; recently the bridge naming public meeting, and hosting the ‘get to know your defib’ session. The pupils performed at the ‘biggest morning tea’ held by the Hall Committee in aid of breast cancer research. The event raised \$430 toward cancer research.

Choosing a name for the bridge

Andrew Campbell said official naming of the iconic iron bridge over the Campaspe River was imminent.

He was speaking at the Redesdale and District Community Association second annual meeting. He presented a history of the long running controversy over a name for the bridge. He said considerable work had gone into clarifying a name, which was never officially registered, although it was christened the Redesdale Bridge on its opening day. He said it was also situated firmly within the Redesdale township boundary.

“In coming weeks, the City of Bendigo will send out a questionnaire asking residents to officially approve (or not) naming the bridge the ‘Redesdale Bridge’.

“After this, the process of formal registration can begin.” Andrew thanked the Association for calling a public meeting to resolve the issue, and the school for providing a venue.

Hall and reserve committees join hands

Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee (RRRC) representative on the Redesdale and District Association committee (RaDA), Yvonne McGrath said a recent link between the two bodies was most welcome.

She was addressing the second annual meeting of the RaDA.

"This was a very welcome formalisation of cooperative exchange between the two committees," she said.

This cooperation was enhanced because RaDA vice president Les Pocock had applied to be a member of the Reserve committee.

Yvonne promoted the Rock 'n' Roll night to be held on Saturday 30 August, organised by the RRRC.

"This is to fund raise for completion of the pavilion and improvement to fencing.

She also encouraged people to attend the working bee held at the Reserve on Saturday 19 July to plant trees donated by Landcare.

Janette Johnson updated the meeting on Redesdale Hall activities of which there had been many and said solar panels would be fitted to the hall roof on Thursday 24 July.

A grant was received by the hall from Strathfieldsaye and District Community Enterprise to assist with this project, which is largely being funded by the Hall Committee.

She said this was another example of the community plan coming to fruition.

Bridge Connection needs more advertising support

Redesdale and District Association secretary Kathy Hall Kathy summarised the current status of the Bridge Connection.

She said Callum Morrison of Mia Mia was assisting with advertising administration.

She said that the editor, Jim Mynard was doing a splendid job especially given that he lived so far away

However, savings were being eaten into as advertising needed to be increased.

Kathy said the Redesdale website was being administered by Craig Aitken (of Barfold Estate) at arms length from the Association with whom he communicated prior to committee meetings.

"The overall principle guiding the website is:- The Redesdale community website (www.redesdale.net) has been developed to enhance information sharing within the Redesdale and district community and to facilitate knowledge of Redesdale

events and services for tourists and other people outside the area.

Other principles are:- regular monthly reporting by email to the committee of RaDA; high quality and easily understood content; up to date content; encourage use and postings of local residents; advertise local events, and provide a balanced and fair representation of local businesses.

Craig sent a report to the secretary for the meeting which he was unable to attend.

He felt the website was achieving most of its aims. He has been managing it on a proactive (gleaning information from newspapers etc.) and reactive basis but he felt there were a number of events not reaching the website.

He said this was a lost opportunity given the website could advertise before the Bridge Connection was published and advertising on the web was free.

The sign to be put at the noticeboard and the quick response (QR) code will help to elevate awareness.

He has attached some analytics to the use of QR code access so we can gauge how this is going.

Please send news items about community groups

to The editor

Bridge Connection

453 Bourke Road, Katamatite 3649
bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com

0417 567 741

Redesdale Website

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info@redesdale.net

5425 3272

and

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Strong committee for community association

Success of the now well established and functional Redesdale and District Association generated a feeling of well done after the group's second annual meeting on Thursday 17 July.

Jo Smith-Sargent was re-elected president and a strong executive and committee elected to support her leadership.

Vice president is Les Pocock; treasurer, Rod Gibson; assistant treasurer, Lisa Campbell; secretary, Kathy Hall; minutes secretary, Gloria Pocock; membership officer, Jill James.

Committee members:- Country Fire Authority representative, Don White; Redesdale Recreation Reserve, Yvonne McGrath; local business, Suzie Wil-

liams and Hilary Jankelson. Newly elected to the committee, Ronn Taylor, Chris Taylor, and Kylie Munro.

Jill James was appointed membership officer.

Her 'good news' is that members will soon be receiving requests for membership renewal.

For those whose membership is more than six months old, renewal for a year will cost \$10, and for two years, \$15.

Kathy Hall said a barbecue for members would be held on Friday 17 October when it was hoped to have a guest speaker.

Election chairperson Chris Gillies thanked officers and members for their work, not only in beginning to implement parts of the community

plan, but in cementing relationships, applying for grants and organising events.

It was noted that three committee members had resigned; Janette Johnson, Graham Newton, and Joyce Newton. They were thanked for their contribution having been supportive from the beginning of the Association. Jo Smith Sargent said the focus would be on working

groups with tasks implementing the community plan.

"Planning for the next Redesdale Festival in November 2015 will begin soon and more cricket is planned for the summer months, hopefully with matches between Redesdale and neighbouring townships," she said.

Supper and fellowship was enjoyed.

Councils unite in disaster plan

A \$50,000 grant from the Australian Government will be used by a consortium of five councils across central Victoria to develop a regional approach to helping communities recover from natural disasters.

Macedon Ranges, Moorabool, Mitchell, Mount Alexander and Hepburn Shire Councils, will use the funds to develop shared Emergency Relief and Recovery guidelines, and for training staff.

These councils have worked together as the Central Victorian Municipal Emergency Management Enhancement Group for three years to share emergency management resources, experience and skills.

A commitment of funds and in kind support from each council, and \$10,000 from the Victorian Department of Human Services, will bring the total project cost to \$100,000.

The Natural Disaster Resilience grant will see the group develop a regional approach to managing Relief and Recovery Centres, which are places where residents can go for immediate

and long term assistance both during and after an emergency.

Macedon Mayor Roger Jukes welcomed the funding, which he said would develop better outcomes for communities affected by emergencies.

"The more resilient our communities are to disasters, the quicker they can recover and move on with their lives.

"In a significant emergency, councils need to work together if we are to provide the level of support our communities need.

"This project will enhance the emergency management partnership already forged," he said.

The project is due to start in September and will take 12 months to complete.



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There with the best

By Louise Joy

'Better than the Windsor Hotel' was the verdict for the HeathcoteHealth High Tea on Tuesday 24 June 2015.

The Activity Centre at HeathcoteHealth was beautifully spread with tables; three decker cake stands were overflowing with lamingtons, scones, with jam and cream, chocolate puffs, madiera cake, chocolate cake, and there could have been more.

Then along came freshly prepared finger sandwiches with the classic cucumber and other delicious flavours. The table could hardly hold another plate of party pies, sausage rolls and little circles of Tandoori pastry.

Staff were in constant attendance, with cups of tea, coffee,

and chats with guests they had not seen for a long time.

Hostel residents mingled with people from the community, chief executive Dan Douglass, giving a warm greeting to all.

Like the Autumn Twist dance in the RSL Hall a few weeks previously, High Tea was another initiative linking Heathcote township to HeathcoteHealth, with the emphasis on social well being.

Like all Heathcote occasions there were door prizes and raffle prizes which always cause great merriment even to the losers.

Thankyou HeathcoteHealth. We'll be there again next year!

Concern over dog attacks

Dog owners have been asked to ensure their animals are well secured because of a spate of dog attacks on wildlife. Dogs found attacking wildlife may be seized for lengthy periods and owners could face legal proceedings in a Magistrate's Court. Macedon Council Manager of Community Safety, Anne - Louise Lindner said 80 per cent of dog attacks in public places could be prevented if

all dogs were adequately confined.

"By securing your dog, you also keep it safe from traffic injuries or fights with other dogs.

"Apart from the legal consequences, incidents caused by dogs at large can be damaging and distressing for our community.

"Native wildlife are very special to our shire and its ecology," Ms Lindner said.

Watch out for

Redesdale Rural Cafe

reopening soon

Friends with Timor Leste

Macedon Ranges Friends of East Timor and Macedon Ranges Council signed a Friendship Agreement with the Sub-District of Turiscai in East Timor on Wednesday 16 July.

Macedon Deputy Mayor Graham Hackett, said the agreement would generate stronger awareness and understanding of the issues affecting Timor Leste.

"There are many friendship

groups sponsored by shire councils throughout Australia with the sole aim to sponsor better relationships and support for the world's newest independent country.

"If we can help the sub-district of Turiscai become self-sufficient by sharing our expertise and fundraising, the people of Timor Leste will be able to determine their own future," Cr Hackett said.




Federal Member for Bendigo
LISA CHESTERS MP

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Cnr. Williamson & Myers Sts, Bendigo 3550


T: 03 5443 9055 • F: 03 5443 9736
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Feeling secure at home

If you live alone, are concerned about your personal safety or become involved in a personal emergency while you are away, the Macedon Ranges Community Register may be able to help.

The Community Register is a free service provided by Macedon Council and local police, and is available to older people, those with a disability or who are frail.

It is of particular value to those who may have little opportunity to get out in the community as it offers a weekly or fortnightly phone call by a trained volunteer.

Members receive an identification card sized to fit into their wallet or purse and are encouraged to carry this with

them when they leave home. This will help emergency services locate next of kin if the member is involved in a personal emergency.

Being a member of the Community Register does not guarantee evacuation in an emergency - members need to formulate their own emergency plans with family, neighbours, and friends. However, the register can assist by providing resources to members such as the CFA Fire Ready Kit.

The Community Register circulates a newsletter to members.

This provides information about staying safe and comfortable at home.

The CFA also provides replacement smoke detector batteries free of charge to the Community Register for distribution to members on an annual basis.

Further information is available at: mrsc.vic.gov.au/community-register or 5422 0218.

Low fee on adopted pets

Macedon Ranges residents who adopt pets from registered animal shelters in Victoria are now entitled to

a reduced initial registration fee of \$10 for their first year of registration.

The standard registration fee is \$42, resulting in a saving of \$32.

Council Manager of Community Safety, Anne-Louise Lindner said the reduced fee was introduced to encourage and reward residents who adopted shelter animals.

"Adopting a pet not only gives the animal a second chance in life, but also gives the owner a long term companion, which has many health and wellbeing benefits," Ms Lindner said.

New e-waste disposal point

A new drop off area for electronic waste is situated at Woodend transfer station. Macedon Director of Assets and Operations Dale Thornton said e-waste contained valuable materials for re-use.

"The rapid pace of technology and the move to digital television has seen an increase in e-waste," he said.

Even God's right handers to be checked

Ministers of religion will be required to hold working with children checks under reforms introduced into Parliament.

The new requirement will implement an important recommendation of the Betrayal of Trust report arising from the Parliament's bipartisan Family and Community Development Committee inquiry into criminal abuse of children in religious and other non-government organisations.

Under the new law, all work as a minister of religion will be treated as child related work requiring a working with children check unless any contact is only occasional and incidental.

The new law will apply to all religions and faiths, and to all congregations including churches, mosques, synagogues and temples.

Church services

Catholic Church.

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

Uniting Church.

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

All services at 11am.

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

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Diary Dates

Victorian Honour Roll of Women.

Nominations open until Friday 5 September.

Friday 1 August.

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

Wednesday 6 August.

Information meeting about new services advisory committee to the council. 7pm in the Gisborne Administration Centre.

Friday 8 August.

Dying to Talk. Seminar about planning for those last days. 9.30am. Kyneton. Bookings by Monday 4 August on 5422 2258.

Saturday 9 August.

8pm. Barassi the Stage Show. Kyneton Town Hall.

Friday 22 August.

Closing date for Prevention Against Violence conference.

Friday 22 August.

Kisstroyer. A tribute show - classic rock'n' roll. Tickets 1300 888 802

Tuesday 26 August.

Macedon Ranges youth awards announced at Kyneton awards night.

Friday 29 August to Sunday 31 August:-

Heathcote Film Festival.

Friday 29 August.

8pm. Sutton Grange Uniting Church Annual Gala night. 5474 8230.

Saturday 30 August.

Rock'n'Roll dance. 7.30pm Redesdale Hall.

Friday 5 September.

Nominations close for Victorian Honour Roll of Women.

Saturday 6 September.

Growing seasonal produce with Vasili Maresi. Gisborne. Details 9218 5455.

Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 October:-

Wine and Food Festival Weekend Heathcote.

Tuesday 7 and Wednesday 8 October.

Prevention of violence conference. All Seasons Motel, Bendigo.

Saturday 11 October.

Mia Mia Twilight Opera. 6pm. Bookings www.trybooking.com.

Sunday 12 October

Mia Mia Twilight Opera. Matinee 2pm. Bookings www.trybooking.com.

Friday 17 October.

Redesdale and District Association barbecue.

Editorial

Community building is ongoing

Pages 8, 9, and 10 report what must be considered a significant community success story for the Redesdale and District Association.

This organisation has proved itself, and indications are, based on community activities across the last two years and functions yet to come, as a community builder of note.

People and organisations are coming together; support for the group is growing, and this all leaves a good feeling in the community.

People in trouble or needing advice and help about community functions need only contact the group and support is assured.

Support for establishing a defibrillator at the Redesdale Store, cooperation between groups such as the recreation reserve and hall committee, the school, and arrangements to run the Redesdale Festival auger well for the community.

Congratulations to those who have worked for this success and thanks to those who support the cause.

Saturday 8 November.

Garden workshop. Choosing the right plant for the Macedon Ranges. Facilitator - Simon Rickard. Details 9218 5455.

Thursday 27 November.

American Thanksgiving Day. **2015**

Saturday 28 February.

The Rock'n'Roll Eagles at Hanging Rock.

Friday 3 April.

Good Friday.

Monday 6 April.

Easter Monday.

Sunday 25 July

National Tree Week.

November.

Redesdale Festival.

Thursday 26 November.

American Thanksgiving Day.

2016

Thursday 24 November.

American Thanksgiving Day.

New Bridge Connection email addresses

bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com

bridgeconnection.secretary@gmail.com

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Rainfall

Mia Mia

2013	538.00
Jan 0 0	
Feb 63.5	63.50
Mar 24.5	88.00
April 5.0	93.00
May 63.0	156.00
June 32.0	188.00
July 78.5	266.50
Aug 88.0	354.50
Sept 83.5	438.00
Oct 40.5	478.50
Nov 38.5	517.00
Dec 21.00	538.00
2014	
Jan 8.00	08.00
Feb 1.00	09.00
Mar 51.5	60.50
April 72.5	133.00
May 77.50	210.50
June 59.5	270.00

Redesdale

2013	514.90
Jan	00 00
Feb 54.0	54.00
Mar 28.5	82.50
April 4.7	87.20
May 24.3	111.50
June 65.0	176.50
July 63.0	239.50
Aug 94.0	333.50
Sept 79.0	412.50
Oct 32.9	455.40
Nov 50.5	505.90
Dec 9.00	514.90
2014	
Jan 10.50	10.50
Feb 1.00	11.50
Mar 57.00	68.50
April 85.00	153.50
May 46.50	200.00
June 72.00	272.00

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

'Saucy Pat' written and performed by Cenarth Fox

Those of us reared on Charlotte Bronte's 'Jane Eyre' and Emily Bronte's, 'Wuthering Heights', were entranced with Cenarth Fox's one man performance. His presentation celebrated the life of the famous sisters' father, Patrick Bronte.

'Saucy Pat', was the latest in a series of unusual and most enjoyable evenings in the RSL Hall, Heathcote, with around 30 people spell bound in the darkened corner of the hall.

Pathos and tragedy overflowed in Patrick Bronte's life, a telling injected with the humour of Cenarth Fox's

By Louise Joy

script and presentation.

As a retired clergyman in his black suit and clerical collar, he moved around the small stage, sitting, standing, kneeling and finally declaiming before the lectern redeeming Bronte's reputation with 'The Patrick Bronte Memorial Oration' in a grand denunciation of Mrs Catherine Gaskell's biased biography of his daughter, Charlotte.

The oldest of ten children, Patrick came from a Protestant family.

He was born in 1777 to

Hugh and Alice Brunty in County Down, Ireland.

The young Patrick read and re read the only books in the family home which were 'Pilgrim's Progress' by John Bunyan and the Bible.

He wanted above all - more education.

He was discovered by Reverend Thomas Tye who introduced him to Greek, Latin and history; significantly he gained a scholarship to Cambridge University at the age of 25.

During that time he changed his name from Brunty to Bronte, as recorded in St John's College.

Patrick was ordained as a priest in the Church of England.

He met Maria Bramwell and they married, happily; it was she who called him 'Saucy Pat'.

Their children Maria, Elizabeth, and Bramwell, the only boy, were followed by Charlotte, Emily, and Ann.

Patrick was transferred to Thornton and finally Hawthorth, best known as the Bronte home.

Tragedy struck when Patrick's wife Maria died of cancer of the uterus in great pain as he watched helplessly by. All he could do was to pray. Why did she have to suffer and die?

Why did God allow this to

happen?

After the death of his daughter, Maria aged 11, from consumption, Patrick took Charlotte and Emily out of their questionable boarding school, giving them tutoring at home not allowing them any contact with the village where children died before the age of six of consumption, cholera, and typhus.

Still consumption claimed his second daughter Elizabeth and she too was buried with her Mother and sister in the crypt below the church where he continued to preach.

Patrick's method of teaching was to hold discussions on history and philosophy asking questions and teaching the children to think.

They were home schooled for six years and began to write prolifically inventing a host of characters drawn from their experiences at boarding school and from Bramwell's toy soldiers.

Over his lifetime, Patrick saw all his children die and yet he led a long and productive life. When Patrick died in his 85th year, the church was full to overflowing.

Cenarth Fox, with his writing and performance, enlightened and informed in an entertaining and historically based narrative.

We hope to see more of his work in the future.

Woodend Library

to be more welcoming

Woodend Library will receive a \$68,000 grant under the Living Libraries Infrastructure program.

Local Government Minister Tim Bull announced the grant and said the money would help library staff deliver more opportunities for community participation and lifelong learning.

Goldfields Library Corporation chief executive Chris Kelly said the funding would provide much needed infrastructure and refurbishment for the popular library.

"As part of the refurbishment, split system air-conditioners and reverse cycle fans will be installed and there will be new blinds and windows for efficient air ventilation, providing visitors with a comfortable environment year round.

"The carpet will be replaced and more moveable shelving purchased to provide a more engaging and flexible space

for programs and activities for visitors of all ages.

"The courtyard linking the library to the community centre next door will also be revitalised providing a comfortable outdoor reading area for outdoor activities with free wi-fi access," Ms Kelly said.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council will contribute \$24,000 towards the \$92,000 project.

"This project is a perfect example of the strong partnership that exists between Council and Goldfields Library Corporation," said Karen Stevens, Council's Director of Community Wellbeing.

"Our libraries are important social and educational hubs in our community.

They are familiar comfortable places for people to gather and participate in a range of community activities," she said.

Talking about those last days

Macedon councillor John Connor said a seminar designed to discuss dying would be held in the Kyneton Mechanics Institute, Mollison Street, on Friday 8 August.

"The aim is to encourage

people to talk about dying, make appropriate plans and share their wishes, particularly with family," he said.

Booking is essential, with the council's healthy ageing officer on 5422 2258, before 5pm on Monday 4 August.

On line Auslan training for regional students

Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE's (NMIT) Update on Auslan training is offering three units in Auslan to regional students.

Certificate II in Auslan entirely online from Semester 2, 2014.

This involves the development of social and educational conditions for deaf communities.

Principles of learning Auslan as a second language.

Identifying significant features of deaf communities and culture.

Certificate II has seven units and you will need to complete them all in order to finish your Certificate II in Auslan, including these three.

This opportunity means you will be undertaking the units together with students from Melbourne who will be in a classroom.

Later this semester we hope to announce delivery language learning using a mix of intensive classes (either week or weekend blocks), video via Moodle and localized regional activities to complement learning.

Eventually TAFE hopes to use video conferencing technology to assist with language learning.

Each Certificate level includes several units that can be offered online as they are units which involve knowledge of deaf community, culture, history and the linguistics of Auslan.

As you move through the different certificates you will

gain more knowledge and an in depth understanding of our community and culture.

These units are a compulsory part of Certificate II in Auslan and are the certificate's 'theory' units.

Delivering them online allows you to complete them in your own time, without having to commute to Melbourne and it ensures that you have completed almost half of your Certificate.

The units will be offered using an online learning system known as Moodle.

This means you can log in, study, participate in forums, blogs, watch videos, read articles and complete assessment tasks in the comfort of your own home.

We hope this will benefit families of deaf children, teachers in regional areas, people who work with deaf adults, and those who want to become Auslan interpreters or work in the field.

In short, we hope this learning will make it easier for you to learn about our community and culture.

Moodle is an online e-learning platform used by NMIT. It allows you to watch

videos, study, take quizzes, and ask questions of your teachers.

It is very similar to other platforms such as Blackboard, which you might have used in the past.

We understand the real reason you are interested in participating in our courses is so you can learn Auslan.

We also know that completing the theory subjects will not assist you directly in communicating with family members or friends who are deaf, but the units are valuable and will support your subsequent language studies. NMIT says it is working hard to provide students with a solution allowing them to learn Auslan and communicate with deaf people.

Call Lisa on 9269 8308 to register your interest.

NMIT will send a form to complete and return to commence the process of enrolment.

Redesdale Hall community activities

August.
Saturday 30.
Rock N' Roll Dance.
September.
Sunday 14.
Afternoon Tea Dance.

Kyneton Hall community activities

August.
Saturday 9.
8pm. 'Barassi The Stage Show'.
Friday 22.
8pm. 'Kisstroyer'.
A tribute show featuring classic songs like 'God Gave Rock 'n Roll to You'.
Bookings 1300 888 802.

Macedon Ranges markets for August

Saturday 2 August.
Woodend. Corner High and Forest Streets. 0487 744 090

Saturday 9 August.
Kyneton. St Pauls Park, Piper Street. 5422 1025.

Saturday 16 August.
Riddells Creek. Primary School. 0419 523 324.

Saturday 23 August.
Lancefield and District. High Street. 0407 860 320.

It may be Winter, but the selection at our local markets is still fantastic!

Bring your own bags, baskets and trolleys.

Friendly dogs are welcome on a leash.

Free face painting for children.

Buskers welcome.

Bridge Connection
bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com

Sutton Grange Hall community activities

August.
Friday 29.
8pm. Church gala night.
Saturday 30.
6pm. Movie night.

September.
Sunday 14. Historical bus tour of region.

October.
Saturday 25.
6pm. Carpet bowls and table tennis.

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

\$11,000 from churches thanksgiving day

More than \$11,000 will go to CFA fire fighting services in the Kyneton District from the Community Thanksgiving Day sponsored by the combined churches.

The Kyneton Ministers' Fellowship, an ecumenical church leadership group, comprising the clergy and representatives of the Anglican, Baptist, Roman Catholic and Uniting Churches of Kyneton District, hosted a Community Thanksgiving Day at St Paul's Park on Saturday 21 June to thank Country Fire Authority (CFA) volunteers.

The Fellowship said it was important the community was invited to participate to express its gratitude to the

men and women who volunteer their time and service, at personal risk, as fire fighters. "In spite of wet weather, many responded and ventured to St Paul's Park to celebrate the work of fire fighters.

Musical entertainment by Rob and Pam Inglis, the Kyneton Municipal Band, and twin sisters, Yolande and Yasmin Absolom (Flaxxon) was enjoyed.

There were children's activities; books and bric-a-brac church stall, and a Kyneton Playgroup stall.

Pancakes and refreshment were provided.

Members of Carlsruhe, Kyneton, Malmsbury and Pastoria CFAs provided information and demonstrations of equipment.

After the activities and fundraising was concluded, the church leaders provided a Service of Thanksgiving, which included a presentation to Brett Magrath, the Kyneton CFA Captain, of the funds raised, which were for distribution to Brigades within the extended Kyneton district communities.

Captain Brett said: "Even though it was a wet day, the

warmth of the Kyneton Community Thanksgiving Day, in saying thank you to us, was absolutely amazing.

It is always nice to be thanked, but when such a group of people can come together for just us, it is remarkable."

The Kyneton Ministers' Fellowship in thanking all who supported the project in

any way, both prior to the day and on the day, said: "For those who attended on the day, the Fellowship was most grateful for their cheerful enthusiastic participation but without the efforts of all who supported the event, the awareness of the purpose of the Community Thanksgiving Day would not have been so effective."

Good growth for agribusiness

Launch of the first Agribusiness Forum in the region on Thursday 26 June drew a crowd of 90 supporters. Among them were farmers, wool producers, and wine-makers. The official launch was at a dinner in the Kyneton Town Hall.

Victorian Farmers Federation President, Peter Tuohey, commended establishment of the Forum.

He said it was easy to see the value agriculture added to the community.

"In the Macedon Ranges it isn't just a few stockmen, shearers, and fencers making up the workforce.

"Think of mechanics, truck drivers, agronomists, vets,

merchandisers, fuel suppliers, and others.

"The Council's Agribusiness Plan, and in particular, the Agribusiness Forum, will provide a future voice for the agribusiness community," he said.

Leading fine wool producer, and member of the new Forum, Noel Henderson said farmers, in conjunction with Council, needed to demonstrate relevance to the community by developing a broader understanding of what we produced, how we produce it, what happens to our products, and that we are caring for our land. We have a great opportunity with this Forum," he said.

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