



ISSUE NO. 75 JUNE 2016

FREE

For the Mia Mia- Redesdale Region including:

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- Barfold • Langley • Sutton Grange • Elphinstone • Kyneton

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Redesdale - Mia Mia Primary School students are getting bookish and enjoying the new books bought through a grant of \$1,500 from the Redesdale and District Association. The new book purchase brings the schools library up to date and Mr Se-bire, the School Principal, will be able to track reading ability more easily with the special benchmark assessment program that was purchased along with the new books.



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BIRD QUIZ

with
NIGEL HARLAND



The bird shown in the last edition was the Grey Shrike-thrush. Again, a fairly common bird around the district, never in flocks only with a mate and possibly young. It has one of the most pleasant calls. The bird shown in the picture was nesting in a hanging basket just outside our bedroom door. Three young were raised, but unfortunately they were taken by an Australian Raven. Not to be outdone next year the Shrike-thrush chose a location on the other side of the house, well away from the Ravens and raised three more young! Now it's time to guess next month's bird.

Nigel Harland

Send in your answer to the editors (address page 18). The first correct answer wins a \$20 book voucher.

Unfortunately, we had no winner for last month's quiz. Whoever sends in the correct answer to which bird is shown this month, will get a \$20 book voucher from Aesop's Attic bookshop. Eds.



The BRIDGE

PET PALS

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Send us a picture of your very special pet and a few words to describe him or her and why you love your pet so much. You will be in the running for a special prize (to the value of \$100) at the end of this year. Good luck!



As nobody sent in a picture of their pet this month - I thought I would share these pictures that I took on my recent holiday in the Middle East. I could not believe the sight of camels grazing on the beach in Oman! And while we were in Jordan, I spotted this patient, and well-cared for donkey having a rest beside the 'pink city', Petra, in Jordan. Kath Hall, Editor



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EDITORIAL

Hello Everyone!

Well done to everybody who completed the O'Keefe Trail marathon - especially to Jika and his team! Ross Knight has been a very loyal supporter of Bridge Connection. What a lovely group of people! We received no "Pet Pals" this month. Come on people - let's share your devotion to your special pets. And nobody guessed the bird quiz last month. Actually we think this month's will be easier. Is there anybody out there who would like to write us short stories or even a serial? The last one was well received and it would be great to do it again.

You will see from this month's edition that travel is very popular with our readers and we are grateful for the sponsorship of Bendigo Travel and Cruise Centre. We really recommend their website (see page 5). The City of Greater Bendigo's rural strategy draft is ready for comment (see page 9). This stuff really may affect us so it is worth having a look at it and feeding back to the Council

Happy reading!

**Kathy Hall
and
Regina Bennett
Co-editors**

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ph: 0407 116899

**DEADLINE
20th of each month**



TEAM JIKA !

The day looked ominous with looming black clouds and gusty winds, but Team Jika took to the O'Keefe Rail Trail Marathon Relay held Sunday 1 May 2016 at Heathcote highly energised and motivated.

Jika Knight is a young man from Mia Mia with Cerebral Palsy who is unable to run himself so he (with some support) got a team together to motor him along the path. The O'Keefe Rail Trail is a fabulous path for his purpose-built running stroller as it is completely accessible for all, the track stemming from Bendigo to Heathcote.

This fabulous event was held among other events on the day including a 1-mile run, individual marathon as well as a half marathon. The professionalism of Athletics Bendigo was evident in this extremely well organised event. There were volunteers and staff on every corner showing the way with a strong sense of community spirit, every step of the way. All event management including Sandra Slatter and Craig Green and sponsors Mandalay Resources and Connally's Real Estate should be congratulated.

Team Jika consisted of Leah Short, Kate Freston, Alastair Bonsey, Keith Chambers, Karyn Aumont & Jika's Dad Ross Knight. Jika would like to thank his running team as well as his support crew Rosie Dumigan and Melissa Knight.

Jika and his team are looking forward to the 2017 Marathon relay.



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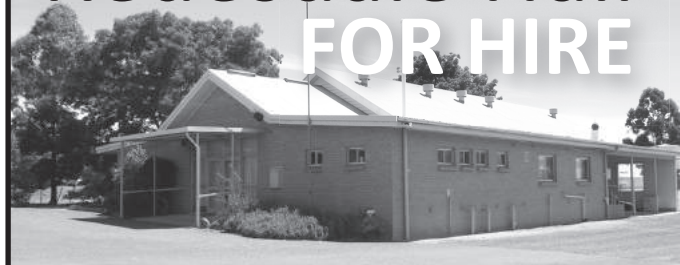
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Redesdale Hall Activities:

- 1st Monday monthly, 10am or 4.15pm, Bridge Connection Committee meeting
- 2nd Tuesday monthly, 1pm - Hall Comm. Meetings.
- 2nd Tuesday monthly, 7 pm - Rec. Reserve Meetings.

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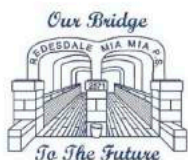
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Science

We have been doing a bit of science at school this term. Here we have our junior class making artificial snow. (It is the same stuff they use as an absorber in nappies!). We have also been exploring the life cycles of plants.



Cluster Sports Day

The cluster schools all travelled to Agnes Mumford reserve for our Athletics day under a brilliant blue sky. We had schools attend from Langley, Taradale, Chewton and Elphinstone



Singing at Redesdale's Biggest Morning Tea

We sang for our morning tea! We sang 3 songs and enjoyed some delicious cakes and slices. We also joined in the teaspoon competition.



ANZAC Day Service

We had a moving ANZAC Day service with the help of members of Kyneton RSL. Mike and Jack told stories and answered students questions. Students made Lest We Forget badges with a sprig of rosemary.



New Books!

RADA has very generously donated \$1500 towards the purchase of library books and readers.



New VicRoads rules for temporary community event signage



**Macedon
Ranges**
Shire Council

Community groups are urged to familiarise themselves with new VicRoads regulations which affect placement and display of temporary community event signs on arterial road reserves throughout the shire. There are now 37 new VicRoads-approved sites for temporary community event signage within 10 Macedon Ranges Shire towns.

Each site has two steel posts erected to fix temporary community event signs, which must be produced by a professional signwriter and approved by VicRoads.

VicRoads says it has developed these new rules to ensure the safety of all road users, to minimise any line of sight issues and to reduce sign clutter.

"All community groups need to make themselves aware of these changes by VicRoads and ensure they allow enough time for the application process," said Anne-Louise Lindner, Council's Manager Community Safety.

Information regarding the event post location and conditions for use can be found on Council's website at mrsc.vic.gov.au/signs

Community groups should direct any inquiries to Kelly Sanders at VicRoads on 5434 5003.

The new rules come into effect on 1 July 2016 and penalties may apply under the Road Management Act 2004 if anyone erects a sign on an arterial road without written consent from VicRoads.

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Redesdale Art Show and Fair Oct 28th to Oct 30th

Travels with Roger

Roger the Ram (left) is the mascot for the Redesdale Art Show and Fair to be held on the Melbourne Cup weekend this year. He has been travelling around the world. You may remember a photo in the April edition of the Bridge Connection of him gazing at the leaning tower of Pisa. Roger has recently sent us this photo of the time he spent in Rothenburg Germany, spreading the word about Redesdale. Keep up the good work Roger!

You can find Roger on facebook at ;
<https://www.facebook.com/redesdalefestival>

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“RECEPTION THE MUSICAL” HEATHCOTE

“The RSL Hall is cold tonight”, a last minute email from Maree Hingston, did not deter nearly 50 people from coming to “Reception the Musical” on 18 May 2016. With Barbara and Barry on reception for the \$10 tickets we were in the mood for this extremely clever witty show composed and performed by Bethany Simons and Peter De Jager, both accomplished musicians.

The show is about a receptionist who finds joy in what is often seen as a ‘small’ role. Whenever you meet a friendly tram driver or a cheery cleaner, you realise that it doesn’t matter what you do, it all comes down to attitude. Bethany says: I loved being a receptionist. And that made all the difference. I hope you enjoy our little celebration of administration.

Peter says: “Musically the show is a celebration of our favourite music theatre styles from the past century, with definite hints of Rogers, Sondheim, Jason Robert Brown, Sullivan and most particularly Frederick Loewe, of My Fair lady fame. Other popular music genre, from various periods make brief appearances. Except for the Bell song, I have tried not to resort to pastiche, but rather let shadows of these many styles emerge when appropriate to the mood or narrative. In fact, I hope my own voice, an internalization of all these styles, is what ties the show into a coherent musical whole.”

In Heathcote we are so fortunate to be on the circuit for these first class musicians and actors. Bethany is a Green Room Award nominated writer and performer, graduate of BA (Acting Screen and Stage) from Charles Sturt University, committed to creating work for the Australian stage that is “honest, uplifting and entertaining”. Peter De Jager studied piano at the Australian National Academy of Music before going on to complete a composition degree at Melbourne University. He has performed for a wide variety of cabaret at The Butterfly Club. He has had commissions from the Astra Chamber Music Society, ANAM, and the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra. He also plays Baroque, Romantic, 20th and 21st century music on piano and harpsichord. He was first prize winner in the 2011 Australian International Chopin Competition. Joseph Simons has worked with some of Australia’s leading dance companies as a choreographer and director. Recently he created his own solo show First Things First which premiered in New York.

Louise Joy

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AMBON ANZAC DAY



Every year on Anzac Day a dawn service is held at the Tan Tui War Cemetery, Ambon. This was the actual site of an appalling prisoner of war camp. Here 694 Australian captives from the 2/21st battalion or Gull Force had been held after the fall of Ambon to the Japanese. It is now transformed into a serene cemetery, maintained to an immaculate standard by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, with the many graves laid out between wonderful trees and gardens. The contrast between that beautiful setting with the horrors of the P.O.W. camp is impossible to imagine.

The service was under the direction of the Naval Attaché from the Australian Embassy in Indonesia following the order of such gatherings wherever Australians have served and in the countless towns and cities at home. At Tan Tui we assembled in the dark; the ceremony proceeding with such impeccable timing that the rising of the Australian flag coincided precisely with the sun coming up over the mountains, behind the many graves of those who had lost their lives on this remote and beautiful little island. It was so simple, but so moving.

This was followed by the traditional Gun Fire Breakfast, attended by embassy officials, 2/21st association members and a number of Ambonese who now through family connections continue to hold dear their links with the many Australians who lost their lives on their island.

The story of Australia's presence on Ambon is one of shame and misguided military policy. In February 1941 the Australian Chiefs of Staff

agreed to supply a task force (Gull Force) and an air strike group to garrison this small but strategic island, at the time held by the Dutch. The battalion of 1131 men was to defend the very deep harbor and only air strip. When the battalion arrived in December 1941 its fate was sealed. Intelligence had already informed of Japanese troop numbers of 20,000 accompanied by a large naval fleet. Attempts were made to inform the War Cabinet as to the apparent hopelessness of the situation when withdrawal to regroup either in New Guinea or the Australian mainland would have been an option.

This was ignored by the Chiefs of General Staff, even though Australia's armed forces were seriously depleted at the time. In fact as Roger Maynard says in his book Ambon it was "privately accepted that Gull Force had little chance of defending Ambon for more than a few days". The chilling consensus was that "Ambon (was) a tragedy by design rather than accident".

No consolation for the Australians on Ambon. Over 300 men, defending the Laha Air Strip were executed; the scale of this atrocity now regarded as one of the worst massacres in the war. Of the 804 POWs, 267 were later taken to Hainan Island. The conditions in both camps were so bad that 70% of the prisoners at Tan Tui and 31% at Hainan did not survive. Since the war strong links have been developed between the people of Ambon and survivors and families of the 2/21st association The association continues to support many needed projects on the island and with annual visits these will be maintained and the bond continue.



Jill James



What's on in the Heathcote Region

Saturday 11 June – Monday 13 June – Queen's Birthday Weekend

Heathcote on Show – Lock away the weekend now and contact the Heathcote Visitors Centre (03) 54333121 for more information and accommodation option, or check www.heathcote.org.au.

- What's on Show? – Over 40 regional winemakers, growers, chefs, brewers, artisans and musicians will be 'on show' at more than 30 unique cellar door and restaurant locations across the Heathcote Region.
- Getting here from Bendigo – On Sat 11 and Sun 12 Comet Tours are offering a return bus service from Bendigo to Heathcote Visitor Centre. Once in Heathcote you can access the shuttles or walk between various venues in town.
- Food – Choose from over a dozen venues serving lunch as well as a number of food and wine locations offering cheese, olives, antipasto platter, BBQ's, wood fired pizzas and winter favourites. Enjoy live music or just BYO a picnic and enjoy the views and beautiful surroundings the wineries offer.
- Experience Heathcote – Visit over 20 historic buildings on a walking tour of Heathcote, ride or walk the nearby O'Keefe Rail Trail, visit the Pink Cliffs an interesting and colourful phenomenon exposed by early gold mining activities.
- Wine Food Fun – Join the festivities with 'Wine Food Fun' on Saturday Jun 11 from 10am – 3pm right in the heart of High Street. Explore the Farmers Market; discover crafts and handmade delights by local artisans. Check out the vintage cars on display; grab a bite to eat from the food stalls and vans whilst being entertained by local musicians. Kids can enjoy pony rides, face painting and the petting zoo of baby animals.
- The Taste of Cellar Doors – At 'Wine Food Fun' a number of our local winemakers will be on hand to help you plan your winery visits so you can make the most of your visit. A wonderful way to taste what is on offer and then decide your favourites and who you will visit.
- Heathcote Artists Annual Art Show – Held at the RSL this event showcases many local and regional artists.
- Wander & Taste – Heathcote has a wealth of gold-rush era architecture spanning what is reputed to be the longest main street of any regional Victorian town. High street is dotted with a number of cellar doors and cafes where you can sample and buy some of the regions finest.

Coming Events – Save the date

- 23 June- Shared Dinner Conversations Winter Solstice at The Heathcote Community House
- 6 August – Heathcote Wine show tastings and awards dinner.
- 27 August – Heathcote Annual Short Film Festival.
- 11 September- Kammermusik Chamber Music (Concert Two) at Mia Mia
- 8 – 9 October – Heathcote Wine and Food Festival.
- 8 – 9 October – Heathcote Quilters Biennial Quilt Exhibition
- 23 October – Engine Room Presents Clarinet Heaven
- 7 November – Engine Room Presents Gina Hogan – Night and Day – The Doris and Shirley Show.
- 27 November- Kammermusik Chamber Music (Concert Three) at Mia Mia

Steph Ryan MP
Member for Euroa



2/55 Carrier Street, Benalla VIC 3672
www.stephryan.com.au
03 5762 2100

This publication was funded through Parliament's Electorate Office and Communications budget.

Statement from Peter Walsh, Victorian Leader of The Nationals

"Damian Drum has been an outstanding representative for the people of Northern Victoria during his 14 years in the State Parliament.

"During his time in State Parliament, Damian has been a fierce advocate for the people of Northern Victoria.

"So many community projects, initiatives and investments are up and running today because of Damian Drum's determined representation.

"Damian never shies from hard work and his proven track record for delivering saw him promoted with responsibilities including Minister and Leader of The Nationals in the Legislative Council.

"While we will miss him in our Parliamentary team, we are heartened that Drummy's passion for his community continues to burn brightly.

"On behalf of The Victorian Nationals, we wish Drummy all the very best in his bid to be the Federal representative for the electorate of Murray."



Sheep art photographed in Ireland: little rocks with moulded black faces stuck onto card with wire and pen and ink decorations. Come on Redesdale - we can do this!

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Labor must stand up for CFA volunteers

From Steph Ryan, Member for Euroa

It has been revealed that Premier Daniel Andrews is considering a deal that would give the city-based United Firefighters Union unprecedented power to control the CFA.

Member for Euroa and Deputy Leader of The Nationals Steph Ryan said the UFU was demanding the ability to veto CFA management decisions, a move strongly opposed by the CFA's management, board and volunteers.

"It is horrifying that Daniel Andrews is even considering agreeing to this demand," Ms Ryan said.

"For a city-based union to be handed the ability to override CFA decisions is insulting and would be disastrous for our firefighting service.

"The UFU's disdain for volunteer firefighters is well-known.

"The fact is, CFA volunteers selflessly put their safety on the line to protect our communities and they deserve to be treated far better than this.

"Daniel Andrews and his Labor Ministers must stand up to this militant union and ensure the important work of the CFA and its thousands of volunteers is not compromised."

Ms Ryan said the demand that seven paid firefighters attend a callout before any volunteers are able to attend shows how little the UFU understands country communities.

"Volunteers are deeply concerned by this outrageous demand which will leave country communities exposed to extended wait times," Ms Ryan said.

"For example in the event of a house fire in Violet Town, seven paid firefighters would need to arrive from Shepparton before local volunteers were allowed to respond."

Steph Ryan 5762 2100 or 0488 441 820

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CITY RELEASES DRAFT RURAL COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

The City of Greater Bendigo has released its draft Rural Communities Strategy for public comment.

The draft Strategy sets out principles and actions for Council to adopt when working with and on behalf of its rural communities.

City Strategy Manager Trevor Budge said about 15 per cent of the City's population live in our rural communities.

"Agedale, Heathcote and Marong are all experiencing population growth, as are Junortoun and Lockwood, while some other areas are experiencing population loss," Mr Budge said.

"This Strategy will give us clear and consistent principles when dealing with all of these rural communities."

Mr Budge said the draft Strategy was developed after extensive community engagement, which identified a number of key issues.

"This process demonstrated that many people in rural communities feel marginalised and overlooked, that communications and mobility are critical in these areas, and our rural communities have diverse characteristics," he said.

"The Strategy is an important tool for Council to better understand and engage with rural communities.

"It provides direction and outlines a number of initiatives and actions for Council going forward."

Some of the actions in the draft Strategy include:

Continuing to work with rural communities to lobby the appropriate authorities to strengthen mobile phone, internet and broadband coverage

Working with V/Line to expand the freight capacity of the regional rail network.

Reviewing Council's Economic Development Strategy in partnership with representatives of farming and rural communities to prepare a specific section on growing local jobs in our rural communities.

The draft Strategy will be out for public comment for eight weeks. A series of community engagement meetings will be held to discuss the draft Strategy.

To access the draft Strategy go to
www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/ruralcommunitiesstrategy

Regional achiever awards now taking nominations

Community members in the Euroa electorate who know a local high achiever are encouraged to submit a nomination as part of the Victorian Regional Achievement and Community Awards.

Member for Euroa and Deputy Leader of The Nationals Steph Ryan said there were many people in the electorate who were making a huge contribution to the community through sporting clubs, environment and leadership programs, creating change in aged care and excelling in small business.

Ms Ryan said nominations were being sought in the following categories:

- Regional Achiever Award
- Community Group of the Year Award
- Senior Achievement Award
- Environmental Sustainability Award
- Business Achievement Award
- Customer Service Award
- Excellence in Aged Care Award
- Leadership and Innovation Award
- Community Service in Aged Care Award

Nominations close on Wednesday 20 July 2016 with judging taking place on 31 August 2016. More information is available at <http://www.awardsaustralia.com/regional-achievement-community-awards/vic>



Federal Member for Bendigo

LISA CHESTERS MP

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CHURCH SERVICES

UNITING CHURCH

Barfold: 1st Sunday of each month
Metcalf: 2nd Sunday of each month
Mia Mia: 3rd Sunday of each month
Sutton Grange: 4th Sunday of each month

Morning tea is served at each of these Uniting Churches at 10.45 am and services start at 11 am and finish at midday. If there is a 5th Sunday in the month, services may be found at Kyneton.

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Redesdale: 2nd Sunday of each month 11 am

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The last in a series of highly successful seminars
presented by the Baynton Sidonia Landcare

Australia Felix: 1835 - 1851

The Baynton Sidonia area before the Goldrush

Presenter: Eliza Tree - Artist and Historian

The seminar will cover the history of European settlement in Victoria and stories from the Goldrush era. A multi-disciplinary narrative through images and words will be woven with references made to source documents, maps, books, paintings and images. A short, local field walk will help to ground the discussion.

Sunday 19th June 1:00pm - 6:30pm

At the Baynton Hall, Darlington Road, Baynton

This is a free event and a BBQ dinner is included

Register by June 17 to Clare on 5423 4152 or clare@knco.net

This event is supported by the North Central CMA's Kyneton Woodlands project and Rural and Regional Renewal through funding from the Australian Government.



FUNGI

Some fifty people attended a Baynton Sidonia Landcare seminar in the Baynton Hall last Saturday 30th April to be entranced by a presentation by Alison Pouliot on The Fungi – An Introduction to a Curious Kingdom. In a brief report such as this it is impossible to do justice to the quality and breadth of information presented during the day but some highlights may provide some insight into this world.



The Fungi Kingdom is a largely unseen and secretive one; mushrooms and toadstools appear and disappear, they may be poisonous, hallucinogenic, edible and mysterious. Historically many cultures have either regarded them suspiciously or having supernatural powers.

The study of fungi is called Mycology. Some famous mycologists include Beatrix Potter (of Peter Rabbit fame) and Hildegard of Bingen; the latter writing her observations in code because fungi were still regarded as "evil".

Fungi are widespread around the world their spread assisted by the fact that their seeds (spores) are microscopic and can be carried by winds for great distances. The diversity of fungi is huge as is the task of identifying them – 15,000 species have been identified in Australia but many remain to be described. Some work is being done by a group called Fungimap (fungimap.org.au/) that attempts to track distribution around Australia.

Continued on page 11

Abbreviated, but funny: Wagner in Mia Mia



Wagner's Ring Cycle normally takes 22 hours to perform with 130 musicians and a host of singers. But people attending a concert in the Mia Mia Hall on Sunday 17th April were treated to the gist of the story, with all its extraordinary twists and turns, and some of its musical highlights in just 25 minutes. Apart from the benefit of the brevity of the performance, the Mia Mia version also showcased the very fine quality of the musicianship and it was funny, which conventional performances certainly are not!

The concert was the first of three in the Mia Mia Hall for 2016 given by a Melbourne-based group of string players, Kammermusik.

Kammermusik was formed in 1999, and is a flexible chamber music ensemble performing a wide range of music but specializing in baroque, classical, romantic and contemporary chamber music: from Bach to Britten. Players are members of Orchestra Victoria or free lancers who have played with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and other top orchestras in Australia and overseas.

At Mia Mia we were treated to an ensemble of two each of violins, violas, cellos and one double bass which was made in Europe a decade before Beethoven was born.

The concert started with a joyous and delicately-expressed performance of Rossini's String Sonata no 1 in G. This was followed by the abridged version of Wagner's Ring Cycle: "A Peter and the Wolf version of the Ring" as the arranger and narrator, Stuart Riley, put it.

The concert ended with a moving performance of Strauss' "Metamorphosen" which the composer wrote at the end of the second World War. It is largely an intensely tragic work, but is shot through with gleams of optimism. It was extraordinary to sit in the Mia Mia Hall on a sunlit afternoon of rural peace and quietness hearing the piece and watching the musicians playing in front of the memorial plaque to those who went from Mia Mia to fight in wars from the Boer war to Vietnam.

Luckily for you if you missed this concert, Kammermusik are treating our community to two more concerts this year. The dates are Sunday 11th September and Sunday 27th November, both concerts starting at 2 pm, in the Mia Mia Hall.

Tickets and more information is available from

<http://www.kammermusik.com.au>

Clare Claydon

Redesdale Precinct Update

Redesdale residents will remember that a feasibility study for the improvement of the Redesdale Hall and Reserve was completed last year as a direct consequence of the Community Plan (Review 2013). The study asked a number of questions such as: Is it possible to establish a multipurpose precinct in Redesdale? Would such a precinct have the capacity to: strengthen existing businesses and community groups, host stage and art shows, facilitate access to health services, broaden community educational opportunities, offer hospitality to travellers and tourists, and develop new micro business opportunities?

Questions like these continue to be the focus of a collaborative process between the Redesdale community and the City of Greater Bendigo (COGB), in response to Community Plan goals for developing the hall and recreation reserve.

Progress is steady and the recently concluded feasibility study, which outlined both strengths and challenges in regards to developing a community precinct, has provided enough information and stimulus for the next stage.

In June the City of Greater Bendigo will be seeking expressions of interest from a number of consultants, to develop a project business case, which will be used to substantiate future funding applications to all levels of government. Without an independent professionally developed business case, we cannot apply for a state government grant. The cost of the business case consultancy will be born by the Council.

The recommendations of the feasibility study can be viewed on

the redesdale.net website. The main recommendation was to seek funding from State, local Council and other sources for a number of improvements which would cost in the vicinity of \$550,000.

Detailed information on what has happened thus far, and what is planned for the future is available from the Redesdale Key Communicators, a group of local people elected at the initial community meetings. The Key Communicators fulfil a dual role of facilitating the giving and receiving of information to the local community, to council and to consultants involved in this project. The Key Communicators are; Gloria Pocock (community), Kath Hall (Redesdale and District Association), Carolyn-Anne Boyd (Hall Committee), Ronn Taylor (Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee), Don White (Fire Brigade).

Kath Hall

FUNGI continued:

While a very small proportion of fungi are toxic, collection of wild fungi for eating is not recommended unless you are sufficiently expert to distinguish between similar looking edible and poisonous species. Only collect the amount you are going to eat as fungi form an important part of the diet of many native animals.

Thanks to the presenter Alison Pouliot and to support from North Central CMA's Kyneton Woodland Project and Rural and Regional Renewal through funding from the Australian Government.

The next and last seminar in the Baynton Sidonia Landcare series will be on Sunday 19th June 1pm to 6.30pm at the Baynton Hall. The speaker will be Eliza Tree, Castlemaine based artist and historian – the topic will be "Australia Felix 1835 – 1851: the Baynton Sidonia area before the Goldrush". Further details and registration to Clare on 54234152 or clare@knco.net

Bob Gray (Secretary Baynton Sidonia Landcare Group)



REDESDALE BUSH DANCE 16th July 2016

On the 16th of July acclaimed alt-country songstress **Sal Kimber** will be calling a bush dance at the Redesdale Rec Reserve. Her 3 piece band is sure to get you up on your feet for a great night of family fun.

The Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee will have hot food for sale starting at **5:30pm** (Bring your marshmallows for toasting on the open fire) and the music will kick off at **6:30pm**.

Entry by gold coin donation.

For more information please contact
Andrew Campbell (0428 253 104)



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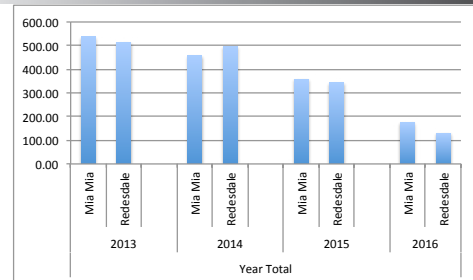


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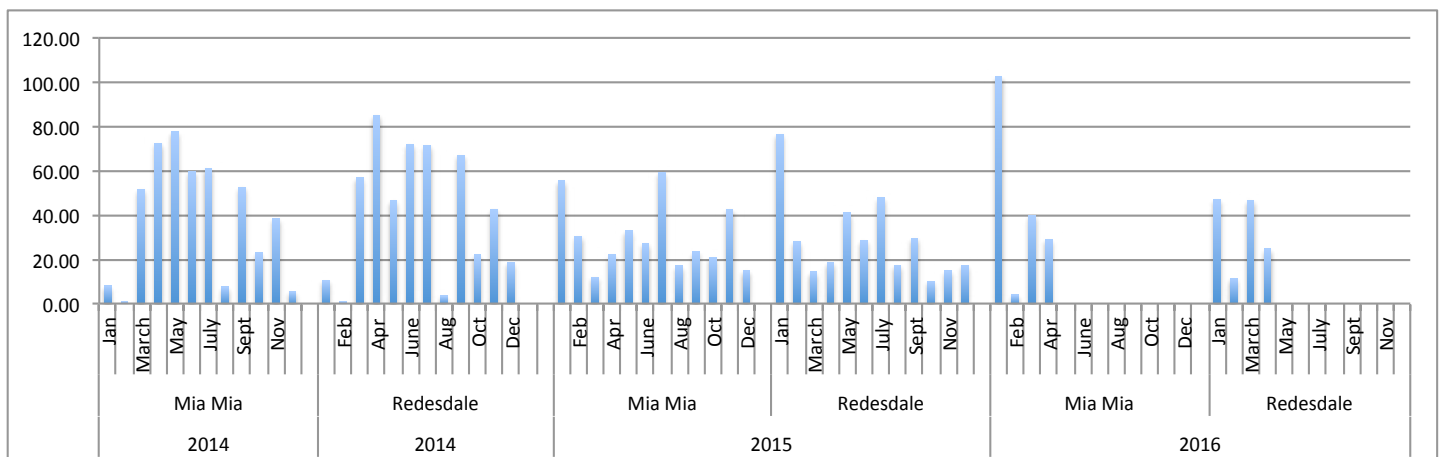
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RAINFALL



The average yearly rainfall for Redesdale is about 601mms.
Thank you to Mary Bennett for the Mia Mia readings.





Your Health!

with

Dr Tim

Surely there is barely a family that is not affected by dementia, such is the prevalence of this condition.

The statistics are quite demoralising. Dementia is said to be the second leading cause of death in Australia, and it is the single greatest cause of disability in the elderly. Three in ten people over the age of 80 are affected. The financial burden associated with caring for those with Dementia is huge, but the social impact is undoubtedly what most of us truly dread.

When we hear of dementia most of us think of memory loss, but in fact there are several different types of dementia and they can present quite differently. Alzheimer's dementia is the most common form and along with memory issues can result in inability to follow instructions, emotional outbursts and poor social skills.

Other forms of dementia include Vascular dementia which is closely related to cardiovascular risk factors, frontotemporal dementia, Alcohol related dementia and a variety of other rarer forms.

As there is still no effective treatment for dementia often questions arise as to how one can reduce the risk of "getting it" - like so many other aspects of health it is often a matter of use it or lose it! Doing mental activity regularly has been shown to result in reduced shrink-

age of memory areas of the brain, a healthy diet high in antioxidants such as a Mediterranean diet is important too. Physical exercise and social interaction have also been shown to have important protective effects. There are many good ways to exercise your brain online these days - just make sure you get out for a walk with friends afterwards!

If you are concerned about a possible diagnosis in yourself or an acquaintance it is a good idea to discuss this with a doctor - often what people see as early signs can be misinterpreted when in fact other conditions are responsible. It is sometimes a difficult condition to diagnose and the assessment of a specialist can be of benefit.

Unfortunately as mentioned earlier those unfortunate enough to have this diagnosis will rarely get benefit from specific treatment and so the best care happens when patients carers and doctors work together to arrange care that supports the affected person to be as independent as possible while safeguarding them from the errors of memory and misjudgement that can cause so much turmoil.

The hope is of course that treatment will be available sometime into the future. There are some promising research leads, and indeed home-grown research in Melbourne is some of the best in the world.

A range of strategies including immune therapy, gene therapy and new types of medication have all shown interesting results.

Perhaps then the most important message is to think about how you can support this important area of research by donating to Alzheimer's Australia - surely if we can learn more about this condition then effective treatment will also follow.

Dr Tim Stobie 5422 1397



Fire Fighting Equipment Demonstration Field Day



It can be safely assumed that the threat from grass and scrub fire has subsided considerably after the recent autumn rains. No doubt many of you are taking pumps and tanks off trailers and trucks and stowing firefighting equipment away for the coming winter.

Whilst the next fire season is hopefully at least another six months away. I'd like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to a proposed fire equipment and demonstration morning to be held in October of this year.

The Redesdale Fire brigade will be hosting the morning on the Recreation Reserve at Redesdale on **Sunday the 23rd of October**. The aim of the day is to encourage those in the community that own private firefighting equipment to assemble on the Reserve and demonstrate its capabilities to others that may be looking to purchase such equipment. This will also serve as a reason for owners of such equipment to pull it out of the shed prior to the fire season and ensure everything is in working order.

We also hope to organise a couple of local rural supply retailers to come and display their merchandise. Tanks, pumps, hoses, fittings, lawn mowers, wiper snippers etc.

We would also be interested in anyone who has some "homemade" firefighting equipment that they have developed themselves and finds effective with fire control. I'm sure this would be of interest to others. It's hoped that the field day will provide an opportunity for information exchange among the community with regards to fire control and prevention.

Further information about the day will follow in latter editions of the Bridge Connection. In the meantime put the date in your diary (23rd of October 2016) and give some thought to your requirements for 2016/17 fire season.

Any further enquiries can be directed to either Andrew Campbell or me.

Andrew Campbell,
Fourth Lieutenant
Fire Prevention Officer,
Redesdale Fire Brigade,
windomal@bigpond.com
0428253104.

Regards,

Tom James,
President of the Redesdale Fire Brigade,
tom@colibanestate.com
0419588383.



The Bridge: GARDEN PATCH

Redesdale Ramblings: Oxalis: Fear and Loathing in the garden!

All oxalis have apparently been tarred with the brush of the pernicious “sour-sob”, *Oxalis pes-caprae*. Just the mention of the name *Oxalis* will cause the hackles to rise on any gardener because of the invasiveness of this bright yellow springtime weed. It is resistant to most weed-killers because of its waxy foliage and pulling it up leaves behind if not the mother bulb then at least a dozen tiny baby bulblets which will survive to re-infest the area in following seasons.

But this is a genus which holds some absolute gems that are as difficult to grow as any high-alpine but also others which make excellent rock garden plants or pot specimens. There are a number of good autumn flowering species from South Africa such as *Oxalis hirta*, *flava*, *polyphylla*, *massoniana* and *meisneri* which are well behaved and available from specialist providers such as Garry Reid (Obscure Bulbs, Allan’s Flat), Stephen Ryan (Dicksonia Rare Plants, Mt Macedon) and Greg Boldiston (Longinotus, Romsey). We’ve found them easy to grow here in pots as well as in the garden, though we’ve discovered that one excellent pot specimen, *Oxalis palmifrons* (see below), with its beautiful foliage, spreads way too quickly in the open ground. It has a reputation as a notoriously poor flowerer but we’ve found it has produced blooms each autumn and this year it seems to have outdone itself.



The foliage usually starts after the flowers forming a a rosette of furry, fan-shaped leaves and can be grown for these alone – but keep it in a pot!

Some commercial sources have balked at the use of the word “oxalis” and have resorted to called them “flowering shamrocks” because of their clover-like leaflets!

Oxalis hirta is most often seen in a mauve-pink form which can be very floriferous but is also available in a deep rose and a salmon-pink as well. It can grow quite tall with its short 3-lobed leaflets held close to the stem.

Oxalis flava produces yellow or mauve flowers on short stems amongst the tight folds of greeny-purple leaves which have 5 long lobes rather than the “typical” clover leaf we associate with oxalis.

Oxalis polyphylla (see below) has similar foliage with pale pink flowers which can have darker stripes on the exterior opening to glistening white.



Oxalis massoniana (see below) is different in having a soft orange flower on a plant which is compact when grown in full sun but can become lanky and almost a trailer if kept in more shade.



Oxalis meisneri forms a small upright plants with tiny leaves giving the appearance of a miniature conifer but then produces bright yellow flowers on long thin pedicels holding them above the foliage.

There are some delicious species from South America which we read about in books which are rarer than hens’ teeth to find here and even more difficult to keep. But we have one South American, *Oxalis lobata* (syn *perdicaria*) which is perfectly happy in Central Victoria as it was in Melbourne and in the Dandenongs before that. Ours came from a friend many years ago who has since died so we treasure it for the memory as much as its presence in the garden. It produces its golden blooms in autumn usually before it puts forth its tri-lobed, soft-green foliage. In severe winters the leaves are killed but will then re-sprout in spring, supposedly along with a second crop of flowers.

All the above types grow over the autumn and winter dying away as the summer approaches so require no water while dormant – perfectly adapted to life in our “Mediterranean” climate.

Cheers

Fermi de Sousa



The Bridge: GARDEN PATCH



Lady Bombay is touring the Greek Islands with her companion Countess Von Carp. Her gardener, Thorn, has kindly provided us with these notes for this edition:

Hi All!

Whilst Lady B is away, I am here with the running of the garden. Have noticed that the booze has been locked away, no doubt for security purposes. I suspect she thinks that the manicured could verge in the slightly unmanicured. She has given me a list of chores to carry out while she is away. Teah right! Like that's going to happen.

Now what can I do to the garden while she is not here? I suppose I could prune all those '\$#@&*\$!' hedges for a start and plant the rest of the bulbs now we have had some rain. She says I should redo the fences to keep the roos at bay. Like that's goong to work. Perseverence is the key with them, especially when they start eating the garden selectively.

Thought I would surprise lady B with some dry landscaping in the form of a rockery. Perfect time of the year to perform thhis excer4cise, and plant it out. That will keep me going for the moent and keep the old girl happy.

I see the clock is already at 5. Time for Dad's ruin... It's a beer for me!

Cheers,
Thorn



Quote of the month:

"You must come again when you have less time"

Walter Sickert when showing a guest the door

Make your special celebration a party to remember!

Party equipment for hire

Tables - (183cms) rectangle, plastic (\$10 each)

Chairs - white plastic (\$2 each)

Umbrellas - charcoal (\$20 day)

Table cloths - white (\$5 each)

Other various party items for hire



For additional information contact

0418 130 206

**Sutton Grange Community
will be holding their
Redesdale Revellers Night**

@

The Redesdale Hall

on

Saturday 18th June 2016

for Tickets or info

Steve 5474 8253

Noel 5474 8236

Mavis 5474 8230

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GALA NIGHT

Friday 15th July

Sutton Grange Hall

@8pm

Dress Evening Gown or after 5

Great night with novelty dancers

Home made supper provided

Music by Family Rhythm

Everyone welcome

PH 54748230 for more info.

Redesdale Recreational Reserve Committee Inc

Chairman's Monthly Report

May-2016

Hi Redesdalians!

Well finally the rains came and the landscape changed from brown to green virtually overnight with the small amount of rain we had, but something is better than nothing. Everybody will have noticed how good the reserve looks after the rain and it came just after the Lyall Rd corner had been planted so it should give the plants a good kick along.

Thanks have to go to Gary Prendergast and Andrew Campbell; Gary for the donation of the plants and Andrew for the sheep manure. To see the end result, take the time to have a look at the photo-shopped pictures below and on the notice board. It is what is envisaged for the reserve as it develops.

The next very little cost project will be the rock walls at the entrance to "Reserve lane", off Lyall Rd, and in-fills at the entry gates as shown in the pictures below. This will require the gathering of rocks around the reserve and working-bee's to complete these projects. Any community members interested in volunteering some time please contact members of the Reserve Committee. As you know "many hands make light work".

It has been just on a month and a half since the bore has been locked and only one person has required access. It appears many who used it have heeded the advice of GM water and have installed tanks to collect water. "WELL DONE". Please remember access is available by registering & paying at the general store between 9am-4pm every day.

Pavilion progress is slow unfortunately, but the works programme is coming along and some activity should be noticed in the near future. Finance is the major problem but the committee is working tirelessly on ways to raise the funds.

Since my last report, the achievements that have been made, I believe is making Redesdale an exciting place to live and be proud of, and showing CoGB council what an enthusiastic and committed community we are going forward.

Les Pocock.

Chairman, Redesdale Recreational Reserve Committee Inc



AGNES MUDFORD RESERVE

PROPOSED LANDSCAPE WORKS



New Corner Alignment

Tidied up with two new rock edged garden beds flanking new path to connect to gate and existing pathway.

Plants to be selected on basis they will be drought tolerant and low growing to maintain clear vision of traffic movement

Two Rockwalls to be built along fence line between posts and gate.

Rocks to be collected from onsite.



Entrance Opposite Redesdale Hotel

Two Small Rock Walls to be constructed inside restraining wires.

Rocks to be collected from onsite.



Fire Truck Entrance

Two sweeping and deminishing rockwalls to be built allowing ample vision for all cars and trucks entering back onto road.

Rocks to be collected from onsite.

FARMERS' MARKETS

Woodend Community Farmers' Market
Sat June 4th
Cnr High & Forest Streets, Woodend
0487 444 090 Sharon Kittson

Daylesford Farmer's Market
Sat June 4th
Daylesford Primary School
03 5664 0096 Peter Arnold

Kyneton Farmers' Market
Sat June 11th
St Pauls Park, Piper Street, Kyneton
54 221 025 Veronica Manifold

Riddells Creek Farmers' Market
Sat June 18th
Riddells Creek Primary School, Riddells Creek
0408 254 626 Ali Bant

Heathcote Region Farmers' Market
Sat June 18th
Barrack Reserve, High Street, Heathcote
Sherrie Coote 0417 598 460

Lancefield & District Farmers' Market
Sat June 18th
Centre Plantation, High Street, Lancefield
0407 860 320 Meggs Hannes

Maldon Market
Sun June 12th
www.maldonnc.org.au/iifv



Winter

WINE & DINE Redesdale

A celebration of winter featuring regional producers, fabulous food, local wines, open fires & live music.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

12

Alwyn's Steak with Mango Sauce

- 4 small pieces of boneless blade steak
- 1 tablespoon wholegrain mustard
- 425 can of mango slices in juice

Pre heat oven to 180 deg C. Spray a large non-stick frying pan with oil and heat over a moderate heat. Sear steaks and place in a shallow pyrex dish. Spread with mustard and then pour over the mango slices and juice. Cover and bake for one hour or until meat is tender.



Tasting & Sales

Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th June 2016
From 10.30am to 4pm. Free Entry

A great opportunity to try local products and meet the producers.

- New season extra virgin olive oils
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The Bridge Abroad

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New sponsored travel page! A prize at the end of next year!

Bendigo Travel and Cruise have sponsored this regular section of your Bridge Connection! Next time you go away (Australia or overseas) send us a pic of you or a friend holding a copy of the Bridge Connection and we will enter it for a prize weekend away at the end of this year.

(Right) Redesdale resident, David Cheal, has sent in this great photograph of a staff member of the "Tree Tops Jungle Lodge" in Sri Lanka avidly reading the Bridge Connection while visitors examine fresh elephant dung! David recently stayed at this eco-lodge and was thrilled to see wild elephants passing by every day.



Bendigo
Travel & Cruise Centre

336 Hargreaves Street
Bendigo 3550
03 5441 8811



Above right: great luggage tags by Mia Mia's Annette Coombe.
(54255514)

(Below) Tour guides from the Sultanate of Oman avidly examining the Bridge Connection while taking a well earned rest from their duties.



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deserves the
best farewell

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