



ISSUE NO. 82 MARCH 2017

FREE

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# BRIDGE CONNECTION COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



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## CROWDS START TO GATHER IN THE TWILIGHT FOR THE FIRST SUMMER MOVIE IN REDESDALE

More than 300 people enjoyed watching *Jungle Book* on a magnificent summer's evening at the Agnus Mudford Reserve. Andrew Campbell (right) organised the event for the Reserve Committee in conjunction with the City of Greater Bendigo's Summer Parks Program.

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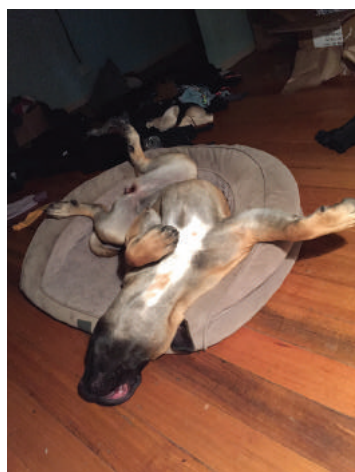
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## BIRD QUIZ

with  
**NIGEL HARLAND**



Hi and welcome to our monthly bird quiz for 2017. Those of you who entered the quiz for 2016 would have probably guessed the picture was a Pacific Black Duck. Probably our most common native duck which can be seen on most lakes, rivers or streams in the district. It is closely related to the introduced Mallard and will interbreed with them fairly often, leading to a Mallard with a curled up tail. This month I will stick to the duck theme. This one is slightly smaller than the Black Duck, but is just as common. It is often found out of the water, grazing on nearby grass. It has two main names, either of which will be allowed as the correct answer. Good luck! Nigel

Contact us on with your guess about which bird this is above and **WIN a \$20 book voucher** from Aesop's Attic bookshop, Kyneton. Send answers to [bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com) or phone or text to : 0407 116 899



Vonnice, the orphaned chick, helps Kathy edit this edition of the Bridge Connection. No wonder it takes so long.

**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. Send them to [bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com)**

# EDITORIAL

Welcome back to this year's Bridge Connection!

As you can see from the picture on the previous page, we have had a little help with editing this edition.

Our area seems to be becoming an operatic centre (see page 13). How lucky we are to have such music practically in our backyards and in such wonderful settings.

This month we are starting the Munro Letters. They come courtesy of Jill James from Coliban Estate and are a fascinating window into how people saw this land in the nineteenth century.

One of our readers has sent in a critique of local swimming spots (page 6), and they all look well worth a visit with family and friends.

There is a lot happening in March, the bush market, open gardens and operas. There always seems to be so much on in our little neck of the woods. We are pleased to bring you photographs and results of the Mia Mia Muster in November, thanks to Callum Jones.

Don't forget to send in pictures of you and your pets and of various people holding the bridge Connection for Bridge Abroad (see page 23). Last year's winners were very pleased with their prize (see page 11).



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

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ph: 0407 116899



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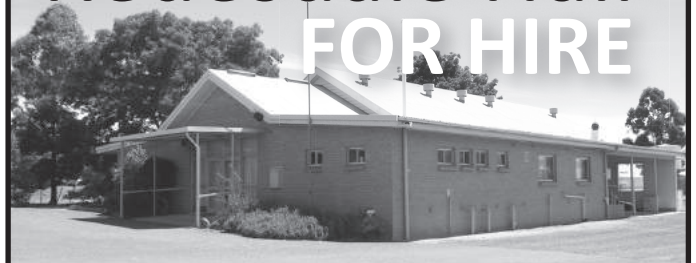
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## Redesdale Hall FOR HIRE



Ammentities are available for catering, meetings, weddings and club or family celebrations.

Please phone

**Carolyn (03) 5425 3194** for more information.

### 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.

### Roaster for Hire

Commercial sized roaster available for hire from the Redesdale and District Association.

\$75 for members and \$100 for non-members.

(Free hire to Hall, Rec. Reserve Committee, and CFA)

**Phone 0418 130 206.**





# THE MUNRO LETTERS



Bridge Connection is pleased to bring to you "The Munro Letters" which will be reproduced in instalments over 2017. This exclusive opportunity comes courtesy of Jill James from Coliban Estate. Jill has been an enthusiastic (and inaugural) committee member of Bridge Connection.

The letter is from David Munro – presumably to his brother Alex in Scotland – after he visited another brother, Henry Munro in Victoria. Henry occupied a pastoral run extending from Mount Alexander to the Campaspe River and beyond to the east during the 1830s and 40s. The brothers were sons of Alexander Munro (1773 -1859), who was Professor of Anatomy at the University of Edinburgh. It is remarkable that both Alexander Munro's father and grandfather had also occupied the Chair of Anatomy before him.

Henry's attitude to and treatment of local aboriginals was seen as "cruel and unnecessary" and was the subject of an enquiry known as "The Munro Affair" in 1840. It was said that "sheep were more valuable than men in 1840, especially if they were black men".

The letter has undergone some minor editing of particularly wordy paragraphs.

SYDNEY, August 17th 1842

My Dear A,

Whilst waiting here for the steamboat by which I am to proceed to Melbourne, I think I can scarcely occupy my time better than in giving you an account of the state of things in this remote part of the world. I know that you have paid some attention to them, and take considerable interest in the Antipodes. I know also that many young men, younger sons of the most respectable families in Scotland, England and Ireland, are looking in this direction with a view to their future prospects in life, and meditate becoming colonists of some part of the "Terra Australis Incognita" of the geographers a hundred years ago. I remember also when my eyes were turned in this direction, the excessive interest with which I collected and listened to all the information which I could obtain on the subject, often most contradictory and perplexing. From these different considerations, I intend to devote a long letter to you which will set forth the true condition and prospects of Australia and new Zealand, at least, that is, as they appear to me after a deliberate and personal survey of part of both countries. That I may be mistaken in my inferences is not impossible, but as I shall never advance any opinion without at the same time giving my reason for having formed it, you will be able to judge for yourself if deduction is logical.

On the very threshold of the subject I may remark upon the exceeding difficulty of any one sitting at their fireside at home, arriving at a correct knowledge of these colonies. They may, with great labour and patient investigation, acquire a tolerably accurate knowledge of their general condition, but there are details of great consequence to be known which I think they can hardly

ever sufficiently learn, and I therefore doubt much if their knowledge acquired at home is ever sufficiently minute or precise to be acted on with confidence, and the many blunders which have been committed, both wholesale and retail, arising from ignorance of the true nature of the resources of this country, are the best possible proof of what I have advanced.

As you know, I sailed for Port Phillip in the beginning of May 1841. Our voyage was one, I believe, of more than ordinary comfort, though of more than ordinary duration – about the middle of September – to my infinite satisfaction, for I was never more painfully tired of anything my whole life. We sighted Cape Otway, and this, the very termination of our voyage, was the worst part of it. The weather which had been boisterous in the morning, became more so towards the afternoon, and in the evening it blew a very strong gale with the wind right on the shore. The next morning we had the satisfaction of seeing Cape Otway astern of us, but could distinguish very little save a rounded lumpish outline of land seen through a dark, cloudy, tempestuous sky. We now had the entrance to Port Phillip under our lee, but as it blew extremely hard, our Captain did not like to approach near the land, and very wisely kept us out to sea, stretching backwards and forwards.

The next day, to our very great mortification, the weather was much the same but towards the evening, the gale showed symptoms of abating, which were soon realised, and about midnight the ship's head was turned towards the entrance to Port Phillip. With the first streak of dawn I was anxious to see the character of the country which for so long had been occupying my thoughts.

The breeze which reached us blew partly over Cape Otway and brought with it the aromatic odour of Australia and that almost made recompense for the months of weariness on the desolate ocean. We were sailing parallel to the line of the coast which extends from Cape Otway to the N.E. towards the entrance of Port Phillip; the land here rises with a considerable slope into the hills of roundish form and regular outline. Towards the sea there are here and there cliffs of a reddish colour. The hills are universally clothed with a forest of a uniform sad greyish green colour. On our right we could make out the high land called Arthur's Seat, and which bears about as much resemblance to the hill so called near Edinburgh as it does to any other hill on the face of the earth.

Right ahead of us, in the direction in which we were steering the land was low and presented itself in a singular manner rising above the horizon of the sea in tufts or groves which were in fact the tops of the highest trees raised probably somewhat by the refraction of the atmosphere. Before the soil in which they were rooted was visible there was a singular appearance of a long line of trees growing out of a glittering plain of water. An extremely rapid tide was running in places with a glassy surface, in others turning around in eddies and whirlpools or from some unseen obstacle rising into high crested waves. It soon swept us between the heads of Port Phillip and another turn brought at once before us the wide calm expanse of this beautiful basin of water with its richly wooded and in some places verdant shores. Everyone on board was delighted with the scene; the day was most lovely; our sail seemed like a pleasure party on an inland lake, and we were never tired of looking at the richly wooded undulating shores which showed in several places the green turf from which the trees spring or the ranges of the higher hills behind which to the north east were at that time whitened with snow. In the direction of Geelong in particular the hills were of picturesque outline.

NEXT MONTH:

"The anchor was dropped in Williamstown..."





**NIGHT MARKETS**  
Markets will run approx. 5pm to 10pm

**Friday 17th February**

**Friday 10th March**


**Friday 21st April**  
BARRACK RESERVE - HEATHCOTE

**Bookings can be made by calling Jean on 0400 675 995**

**Saturday Bush Markets** will still run regularly each month from 8am First Saturday of the Month  
**Commencing Saturday 4th February**

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**SUSTAINABLE LIVING FESTIVAL**  
4th March 2017

**FREE ENTRY!**

In conjunction with the  
Woodend Community Farmers' Market - 9am - 3pm

macedon ranges  
**SUSTAINABILITY** group



**Puppy playdate**

Agnes Mudford Reserve  
Saturday Mornings  
10:30 am

woofing GOOD TIME

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## Local swimming spots

Since arriving in Redesdale, we have 'discovered' a number of fantastic swimming spots that are easy to find, and that are not on private land, and can be easily accessed via public land. In all cases, diving without first having a good look is dangerous in the extreme, so we recommend taking it easily until you are certain that there are no logs or rocks beneath the surface.

### Coliban River, Metcalf

Follow the signs from Metcalf to "The Cascades" just off the Metcalf - Malmsbury road about 1km from Metcalf. There are a few decent holes here for a splash, but if the water is running you need to be very careful. There are picnic tables available in and near the parking area.

### Campaspe River, Redesdale

Park at the Redesdale Bridge (Redesdale Town side) and cross the road right near the bridge. Walk downstream alongside the river towards the cliffs until you come to the water hole - about 100m. Make sure that you don't wander on to the private land by keeping close to the river. There is a large sandy beach and a very deep swimming hole with lovely water right through summer. Please make sure you take any empty bottles, rubbish etc back out with you. Great for families. Note: there are no facilities at all. If you want to explore further, you can follow the river downstream to a couple of smaller swimming spots that unfortunately do dry out occasionally but do remain great spots to throw in a line. They also have terrific beaches.

### Eppalock, near the Kimbolton Kiosk (Sam's place)

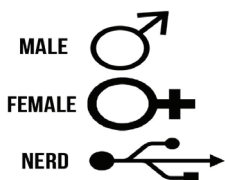
Turn in towards the kiosk, and veer to the left through the gate/grid. After driving through the gate, it's tempting to head straight away in to the right towards the lake, but if you continue on for a couple of 100 metres, you will see a clear track that heads towards the lake on a long narrow 'peninsular' with water on either side. There are a few picnic tables that you can park alongside. Here there is a decent 'beach', and it is a powerboat free zone, so the swimming and paddling is safe. If anyone else has a couple of favourites, please do let us all know.

Simon Hills



## Calling all nerds

Help is needed with designing and upgrading the Redesdale and District website.  
Want to be involved?  
Call: 0407 116 899



## Redesdale Bush Market

Sunday 12/3/2017

Agnes Mudford Reserve

2631 Kyneton - Redesdale Rd, Redesdale, 3444

The Redesdale Hall Committee Inc. are holding their annual Bush Market in 2017 on the Labour Day long weekend at the Agnes Mudford Reserve offering something of interest for all ages.

The Committee are pleased to announce that the **Bendigo and District Concert Band** will once again be entertaining the crowds.

Children's Entertainment includes face painting, an animal farm and a jumping castle.

Several car clubs will be displaying their vehicles on the day.

The Market begins at 9.00 am and finishes at 2.00 pm on Sunday 12th March.

**\*\*\*Please Note - Limited sites are available for the following: Wineries, fresh produce, plants, beef jerky (1), ice cream (1), car and camping accessories, amongst others. Car clubs and individuals with a classic car are invited to call in and display their vehicles...always very popular! Please phone Carolyn on 5425 3194 to ensure that we have enough space for you.\*\*\***

Enjoy a wide selection of stalls, ranging from local produce including olives, honey, jams, chutneys, preserves, herbs, spices, beef jerky, cake stall and plants, through to clothing - new, pre-loved and vintage, fishing tackle, tools, art, photography, craft items, electric warmers, children's plaster crafts, crochet, bags & baskets, glassware, crockery, nail wraps, toys, bric a brac, food stalls, devonshire tea, icecream, great coffee and lots more!

Why not invite your family and friends along to explore this very picturesque area in Central Victoria and make a day of it? Bring along a picnic rug or chair, enjoy the music and take in the local surroundings.

*(Please note that the weather can be quite different from other areas - sometimes drier! If in doubt, it's a good idea to check with the Weather Bureau.*

Outside Stalls Available - \$25.00.

Bookings and Enquiries: Alwyn - 0419 513 976 or Carolyn - 03 5425 3194.

**Like & Share Us on Facebook:  
"Redesdale Bush Market 2017"**

**\*Proudly Sponsored By the "Rural Cafe", "Your Inspiration at Home", "Macedon Ranges Signs", "Kyneton Auto Spares and Repairs", Botons Motorcycles and Power Equipment", "Rebel Sports Bendigo", "Redesdale Roofing and Plumbing", and "Hardwicks meats".**

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**Tables - 183cms rectangle**

**Plastic Tables - \$5 each**

**Chairs - White plastic - \$1**

**Umbrellas - Charcoal \$5**

**Table Cloths - White - \$2 each**

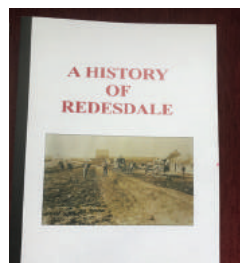
**Many more party items for hire to have your occasion organised & stress free.**

**For more information please call 0418 130 206**



## Redesdale Book

There are still 2 copies of the Redesdale Book available at the Rural Cafe.



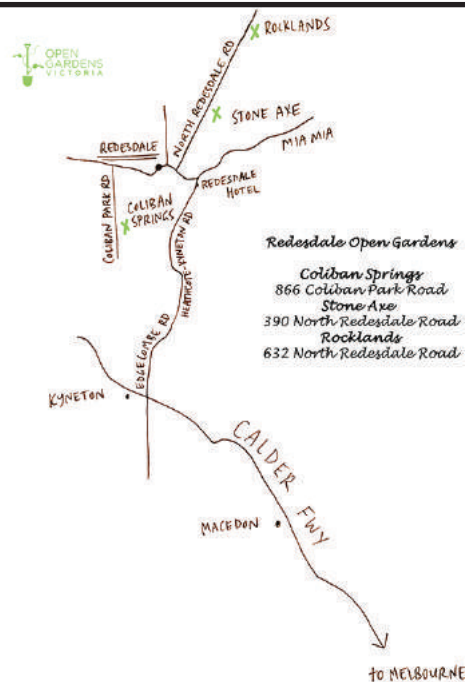
## Redesdale Open Gardens



**Saturday 11 & Sunday 12 March**  
10 - 4.30pm, Entry \$8 each  
[www.opengardensvictoria.org.au](http://www.opengardensvictoria.org.au)



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## What's on in the Heathcote Region

### Friday 10th March 2017

Heathcote Night Market – Market will run approx. 5pm to 9pm. Bookings can be made by calling Jean on 0400 675 995. Venue: Barrack Reserve, High Street, Heathcote.

### Sunday 12th March 2017

Redesdale Bush Market – Children's Entertainment, Car Clubs, Bendigo & District Concert Band. Market starts 9am – 2pm. Outside stalls available \$25 for bookings & enquiries Alwyn 0419 513 976 or Carolyn-Anne 54253194. Venue: Redesdale Hall @ the Agnes Mudford Reserve 2631 Kyneton-Redesdale Road.

### Saturday 18th March 2017

An Evening of Opera from 6pm Venue- Italian Baritone, Mattia Campetti, & Italian-Australian Soprano Michelle Buscemi. Bookings essential, Tickets \$55 if booked by 31 January, \$60 for bookings from 1st February, Includes finger food on arrival and a gourmet supper after the performance. Online Bookings at [trybooking.com/OFXJ](http://trybooking.com/OFXJ) - Enquires: [miamiasocial@gmail.com](mailto:miamiasocial@gmail.com) or 0419 525 101 Venue: Mia Mia Hall Mia Mia.

### Saturday 25 March 2017

Toolleen Hotel Ute Muster (in support for Keadin Robinson)- Ute show has 21 categories, only \$5 entry fee for each category. Program: gates open at 7am for Ute muster, demonstrations and displays, across the road from the pub. Entries start at 7:30am with cut off at noon. Judging: starts at 12:30pm with winners announced from 5pm. For Ute entries, contact Chief Stewart Anthony Catlin on 0409 935 098 or for general enquires, call 0401 852 728. Bistro at Toolleen Hotel will be open for lunch and dinner, also live music by country band Trainwreck at the pub from 9pm (\$10 at the door) Venue: Cornella – Toolleen Road Toolleen (corner Northern Highway)

### Saturday 8 April 2017

Mediterranean Fiesta @ McIvor Estate- 9 wineries join together to present a variety of their Mediterranean wines and much more in a relaxed family environment. Enjoy local foods, wood fired pizza and other regional produce. Ticket price \$33 early bird or \$35 on the day – includes Riedel tasting glass. For further details email [info@mcivorestate.com.au](mailto:info@mcivorestate.com.au) or phone 0419 350 994.

### Friday 14 April 2017- (Good Friday)

Roman Middleton Charity Golf Day - Heathcote Golf Club, 4 Person Ambrose - \$100 per team. 10.30 am Assembly for 11am Shotgun start. Food & Drink available on course. Please submit Team names/Handicap/contact details to Roman Middleton – [roman.middleton@hotmail.com](mailto:roman.middleton@hotmail.com)  
For all enquiries including sponsorship opportunities: David Clouston 0417 524 358

### Sunday 23 April 2017

2017 O'Keefe Rail Trail Marathon- An off-road marathon starting in Bendigo and ending in Heathcote on the historic O'Keefe Rail Trail. Events include Marathon, Half Marathon, Quarter Marathon, Ekiden Relay (teams of 7), The O'Keefe Mile, 5km Fun Run/Walk. Time 8.30am-5pm. For details, please check website [www.theokeefe.com.au](http://www.theokeefe.com.au) ph 0417 350 911.

### Saturday 6 May 2017

Groovin' The Moo Bendigo – Buses running from Heathcote. For booking information please go to the website [www.bendigotourism.com/tours/bendiog/comet-tours-heathcote-return-transport-to-groovin-the-moo](http://www.bendigotourism.com/tours/bendiog/comet-tours-heathcote-return-transport-to-groovin-the-moo)

# Steph Ryan MP

Member for Euroa

2/55 Carrier Street, Benalla VIC 3672  
[www.stephryan.com.au](http://www.stephryan.com.au)  
03 5762 2100

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



## Ryan backs Bill to protect CFA volunteers

On 17th February, the Victorian Nationals and Liberals introduced legislation to protect Victoria's CFA volunteers said Member for Euroa and Deputy Leader of The Nationals Steph Ryan.

Ms Ryan said the Nationals moved an amendment to the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 that aims to protect the rights of volunteers who are currently under siege by the Andrews Labor Government.

The bill will amend the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 to:

- Recognise the CFA as a volunteer-based organisation;
- Recognise the authority's requirement to have regard to the Volunteer Charter and the principles and commitment contained therein;
- Restrict the authority entering any deed, agreement or arrangement that may adversely affect volunteers and or avoid the application of any Commonwealth or Victorian law.

Ms Ryan said while Daniel Andrews continued to wage war with Victoria's volunteer firefighters, it was the Nationals' priority to protect them.

"This Bill aims to strengthen the Volunteer Charter that the Nationals signed when in government in 2011," Ms Ryan said.

"The current Labor Government has since allowed the volunteer charter to be weakened, placing dodgy deals with union mates above our hard-working volunteers.

"These brave women and men give up their time and risk their lives for us and they deserve to be treated with respect by their government."

## Redesdale Hall Committee raises money for the Otis Foundation



Members of Hall Committee presented Otis Foundation staff with the proceeds of a cake stall held at the official Open Day & opening of Kez's Hideaway.

\$670 was raised on the day which is an excellent effort from a small group. Well done!

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### Quote of the month:

**"If you want peace, dont talk to your friends.  
Talk to your enemies."**

**Desmond Tutu**

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**Labor**

## Malcom Turnbull's broken promise on NBN

From Lisa Chesters:

Bendigo and Central Victorians continue to suffer with very poor internet access and it's all Malcolm Turnbull and the Liberal Government's fault.

Constituents across the Bendigo electorate continue to contact me about internet problems. For instance, in Golden Square, constituents have told me there are significant waiting times to connect to an ADSL service, and then once connected, internet speeds are simply not acceptable.

During the 2013 election at a Bendigo Business Council function, Malcolm Turnbull, then Shadow Minister for Communications, said every premise would have the NBN by 2016 and that it would be faster and cheaper. On all three commitments he has failed.

Only about 7% of Bendigo and Central Victorian premises have access to the NBN. The vast majority are still in construction, listed for construction or worse - not on the construction timetable yet.

In 2013, Mr Turnbull promised he would build his second rate copper NBN for \$29.5 billion in total funding - Mr Turnbull's blow outs have seen the cost go to \$49 billion.

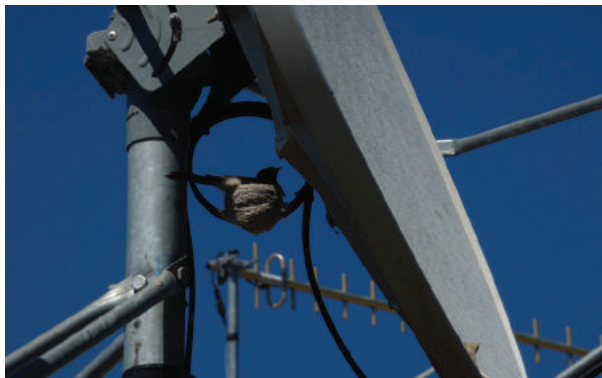
Not all homes connected to FTTN technology are experiencing faster speeds. FTTN relies on copper and this is not fit for use for data. Over distances from the node to the home, the quality of service breaks down.

Instead of keeping his promise it's taken the Liberal Government three years to switch on four NBN Fixed wireless towers in the north of the electorate. The towers debacle demonstrates that the Liberals can't be trusted to roll out the NBN.

Bendigo and Central Victoria is in the midst of a telecommunications crisis. I hear daily from members of the community who want to know why in 2016, we have slow or non-existent internet. It's another broken promise.

Bendigo and Central Victoria needs a first class national broadband network. I call on the Prime Minister to fix his mess. In 2017, Malcolm Turnbull must deliver on NBN for Bendigo and Central Victoria," said Ms Chesters.

Lisa Chesters 0425 755 929



*At least  
this Willy  
Wagtail has  
found a good  
use for an  
NBN satellite  
dish!*

*Eds.*

## FARMERS' MARKETS

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

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

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

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

Lancefield & District Farmers' Market  
Sat March 25th  
Centre Plantation, High Street, Lancefield  
0407 860 320 Meggs Hannes

Maldon Market  
Sunday March 12th

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# HEATHCOTE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY BANK INAUGURAL FARMERS' BREAKFAST

On Thursday 2nd February 2017, we were down at the Heathcote RSL Hall for the Inaugural Heathcote FARMERS' Breakfast on a beautiful morning with a slight breeze. A pride of Lions was there, wrapping freshly cooked bacon and egg in large rolls; most delicious. We joined the queue for the coffee caravan choosing our favourite cappuccino while our new acquaintance from Rural Bank Adelaide chose skinny latte.

We moved inside the RSL Hall where Michael Prowse, Manager, Heathcote & District Community Bank thanked Stephen Trompp, Chairman of the Heathcote & District Community Bank for his initiative in suggesting the FARMERS' Breakfast. Michael introduced Alexandra Gartmann, CEO Rural Bank & Rural Finance, who is based in Bendigo. Elegant and efficient in black and white set off by a metallic necklace, Alex spoke of the partnership with Bendigo Bank in local communities. Over forty minutes, to the accompaniment of spectacular graphs, Alex made clear that the rural sector was flourishing, from sheep and cattle to orchards; apricots, cherries and peaches were doing well. In an interesting diversion into Babylonian times, Alex showed, from recent research, that interest rates are at their lowest since 3500BC, but that like short termism in the financial market, it does not suit the cycle of Australian agriculture. By the end of her talk, Alex made sure that we knew the Rural Sector was climbing.

Sherrie Coote and Tony Juhanson from the Heathcote Film Festival Committee had been setting up the short film "SWEAT", a story of rural

Australia and a farmer facing obsolescence as he shuns increased mechanisation in favour of a closer relationship with the land. With strong encouragement to attend the annual Short Film Festival in Heathcote on August 26, 2017, Sherrie then introduced us to another amusing short film after morning tea.

The second speaker was Peter Strange, Bendigo Community Health Men's Health specialist. Peter has one strong message that men should seek help early. He detailed different illnesses but the main point he wanted to get across was that, unlike women, men are reluctant to seek help which can make all the difference between life and death. Peter gives a 45 minute free consultation at Bendigo Community Health and encouraged men to come to him.

The morning was very well organised with a show bag containing, among the usual array of pens and notepads, a little rubber sheep to press as a stress reliever!

*Louise Joy*



## HALL HAPPENINGS

On Wednesday 3rd January 2017, our hall was once again the R&R station for 150 CFA members when there was a fire at Glenhope. Elizabeth and her crew at the 'Rural Café' were called upon to supply sandwiches for the hungry fire crews, and the Redesdale Hotel kindly donated 12 Pizzas to the cause. Needless to say they were very well received and lasted no time at all.

The hall committee ladies were once again out in force making cups of tea and coffee, supplying soap and water for a quick wash, and being on hand serving food. A couple of the fire crew members (new, I assume !) commented on what a great hall we have in Redesdale.

Our recent committee meetings have involved finalizing plans for the Bush Market on 12th March at the 'Agnes Mudford Reserve'. We will have plenty of stalls, and Devonshire Teas will be available in the hall. We hope to see you all there.

Congratulations Ebony.

One of our lovely young local lasses, Ebony Kriewaldt, did exceptionally well in her HSC, resulting in her attaining 'Dux Proximus' at Kyneton Secondary College. Our Hall Committee members are extremely proud of Ebony and her results; she is a very willing helper at our 'Redesdale Revellers' nights. Congratulations Ebony, we look forward to your assistance again this year.



Revellers.

The Revellers evenings for 2017 are May 6th, 13th, 20th, & 27th, and June 3rd.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Hi Kathy and Regina,

George and I recently took advantage of our Bridges Abroad prize of a two-night stay at Perricoota Vines Retreat, and we'd like to offer our thanks to Bridge Connection, of course Bendigo Travel and Cruise and to Perricoota Vines Retreat. We had a lovely and relaxing time -- how nice to be in a lovely place in the country with ducks to feed and birds singing -- and we also took the opportunity to catch up with friends from Kyabram and Tocumwal.

We must also mention our stop at Redesdale's Rural Cafe on our way to Moama, where we sampled Norma's famous apple pie (it does indeed deserve its claim to fame) along with excellent coffee! We must also mention Ray Ellis and The House Gallery. We had browsed the gallery while waiting for our coffees and pie, then again once we had finished as Ray had arrived by then. We could have chatted with him all day -- what an interesting man and what outstanding landscapes. It's the first time ever I got 'goosebumps' just looking at and discussing anyone's artwork. So, thanks again to everyone! We thoroughly enjoyed our little break.

Kindest regards,  
Sharon and George Marshall

Dear Editors,

Essendon airport must stay open.

While a tragic accident occurred at Essendon airport yesterday, it should not result in a knee-jerk reaction to close a vital transport hub for regional and rural Victorians.

This airport is a critically important base for a number of public services that protect and help country Victorians in times of need.

Air Ambulance, Royal Flying Doctors, Police Air Wing and the Air Crane helicopters that fight bushfires are just some of the vital services that use Essendon to deliver timely assistance to our regional communities.

Essendon is a vital commuting link for people travelling from rural and regional communities, as well as city-based businesses that need fast air access to our regional communities.

The Andrews Government must urgently confirm it will not follow in the footsteps of previous Labor governments that threatened to close this vital transport hub and guarantee that Essendon airport will remain open.

Peter Walsh MP  
Leader of the Nationals

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## If it wriggles, hops or has wings, we're talking about it!



From workshops on worms, rabbits and wildlife, to volunteer opportunities that support conservation, Council is delivering a diverse program of free environment events in March, designed to educate, engage and entertain.

On Saturday 4 March, the spotlight is on rabbits as expert Tim Bloomfield presents a free workshop from 10am to 12pm at the Romsey Community Hub for property owners on how to successfully undertake rabbit control.

If you've ever wondered what to do when you are swooped by a magpie or when a blue-tongued lizard suddenly appears in your backyard, join our free evening conversation on living with wildlife.

Presented by Wildlife Victoria on Wednesday 8 March from 6.30pm to 8pm at the Norma Richardson Hall in Woodend, this free discussion explores wildlife stories from your backyard.

On Saturday 11 March, the basics of worm farming are exposed in a free workshop as we shed light on what you need to build a successful worm farm. Held at Woodend Neighbourhood House from 10am to 11.30am, the course will equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to get a worm farm up and running.

If you're looking for a volunteer opportunity that supports our natural environment, come along to an information session and hear from existing Landcare members about what's involved in starting a new group, the benefits of Landcare and what support is available.

Sessions are being held from 6.30pm-8pm at the Gisborne Administration Centre on Thursday 9 March and at Kerrie Hall on Thursday 16 March. For details call the Upper Deep Creek Landcare Network on 5782 0184.

# The ALBION

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## GRAHAM HYSLOP 10.10.39 – 20.1.17

The Mia Mia and Redesdale community is mourning the death of Graham Hyslop at the age of 78.

*This is the edited autobiographical article he produced with Bridge Connection (then) editor, Bernie Campbell several years ago. It gives a vivid description of a good man who will be sadly missed.*

"My parents farmed sheep, cattle and crops. I didn't go to the Spring Plains School, because it was shut by then. I went to Mia Mia school, but it's shut now and they all go to Redesdale. I remember my first teacher at Mia Mia, he wasn't a very good teacher, I learnt nothing. When Max Bennett was there, I learnt more in two years than I did any other time.

I went to school with the Bennetts, Dempsters and Dons. I went to sixth grade at Mia Mia and then come home and worked. Childhood was hard, but it didn't worry you. I used to go down to Dempsters stooking hay.

After I left school I cut wood mainly, and sold it in Melbourne. I could do three loads of wood by myself. If I had Donny Bennett with me we could do up to six or seven. I got cattle when I was fifty-odd. I did fencing for years. I went carting logs around here and everywhere, down to Newham. It was just an existence I'd say! Make a lot one week, spend it the next!

I was married once, to a woman down Frankston. It wasn't a success so I don't worry about it. Sandra was about twelve when her mother left. I've got five kids, a wheelbarrow load! They are Geoffery, Darren, Wendy, Sandra and Jenny. Only Sandy lives close to here, in Bendigo.

After the wife left I had the farm and had to look after the sheep. I didn't worry about wood then. I'd had enough anyway! My parents lived down at Bernie Ryan's place after they left the farm. I've got 700 acres. That can be a lot of work, especially when the flies are around! They were really bad a while back! The dog was a masterpiece at catching them



We had Peter Bennett shearing here for 26 years, which is a fair effort. Before Peter, Neil Turner and dad used to do a bit. They'd get their hundred. Teddy Knight was here for a while. We had fine wool merinos. We used to send the wool to Melbourne and put it through the auction system. We had some good years with prices. We also had some bad ones which are not easy to forget. Some years I've got \$65 for the sheep, but five years ago we had to take them down the paddock and shoot them. I can't work it out.

I used to go dozing, digging dams, drains, making roads, all that stuff. I never got a minute's peace. They were ringing up this morning 'Are you gonna cart my gravel?' They see rain and they want the gravel carted! They can't get up the track in a car, but they expect me to get up in the truck! I still cart gravel and do dams, and run the farm ... I'm seventy now and getting a bit too old.

I got asked to raise the flag at Mia Mia's Australia Day breakfast this year. I was wondering if the flag was going to stay up. There is nothing wrong with this area. I reckon it's better area than most places. We get droughts, but we usually get the rain a bit from the south. Up Elmore way, you don't get any of that. But it's hard ground to work around here because the rocks are poking up. But as for growing, I reckon we're on average every year, compared to some places.

I think the future holds quite a lot for wool."

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## CHURCH SERVICES

### UNITING CHURCH

Barfold: 1st Sunday of each month  
Metcalfe: 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

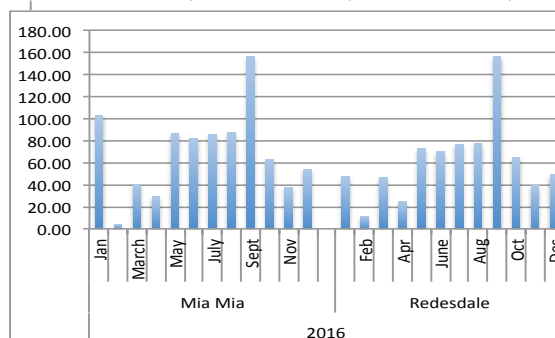
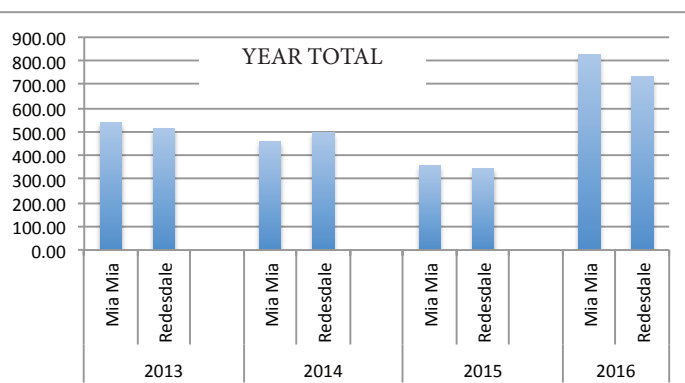
Redesdale: 2nd Sunday of each month 11 am



## RAINFALL

The average yearly rainfall for Redesdale is about 601mms.

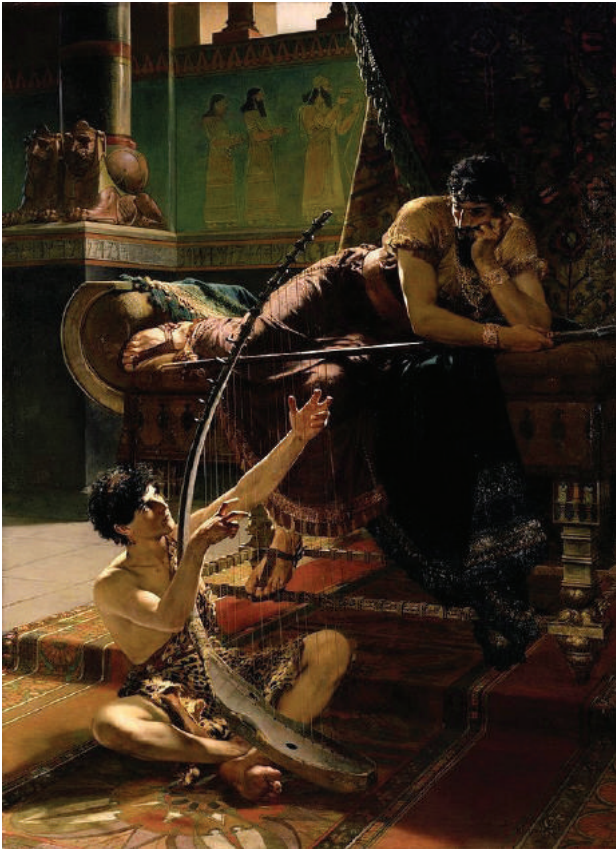
Thank you to Mary Bennett for the Mia Mia readings.



January 2017 rainfall: Mia Mia 31.5mmls Redesdale 33.6mmls



# Operas at Mia Mia and at Mica Grange



*David plays his harp for King Saul (Julius Kronberg 1885)*

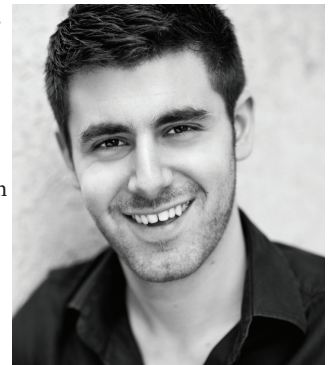


*Magnificent gardens at Mica Grange*

Beautiful Mica Grange will again be venue for a spectacular musical event, the opera Handel's Saul this autumn. The opera tells the story of the first king of Israel, Saul, and his jealousy of a gifted young man David, admired for his courage against Goliath and loved by his people.

The performance features the Melbourne Bach Choir, Victorian Chamber Ensemble, Bass-baritone Nicholas Dinopoulos, soprano Brenda McDougall, conductor Rick Prakhoff.

Opera tickets & hamper boxes are available through [www.trybooking.com/OHKA](http://www.trybooking.com/OHKA). Wine, soft drinks can be purchased at Mica Grange. The opera commences at 2.30pm. Entry is from 12.15 pm.



*Bass-baritone Nicholas Dinopoulos*



## Mattia and Michelle Return to Mia Mia An Evening of Opera

at Mia Mia Hall, Valley Road

**18th March 2017 from 6PM**

with

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Enquiries: Email [miamiasocial@gmail.com](mailto:miamiasocial@gmail.com) or call 0419 525 101

This event is presented by Mia Mia Mechanics' Institute and  
Supported by the Heathcote & District Community Bank.

## Warning on Remote Control Surveillance Drones

Fire fighting aircraft this season will not operate in the same air space as a Drone. If there is a fire avoid the temptation to have a look through a Drone as this could jeopardise the fire fighting effort.



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# GRASS SLASHING





# The Bridge: Redesdale Ramblings:

## GARDEN PATCH

Roll on, Autumn!

We've had an unusual summer with alternating heatwaves and rain! It has led to some areas becoming almost lush – at least where we can supplement the rainfall with water from the bore! Most Australian native plants in Southern Australia have adapted to lower rainfall in summer and have the sense to be practically dormant. That's why the drive to Bendigo in January and February is usually quite boring, horticulturally speaking. Virtually nothing is in flower apart from the weeds; occasionally you may see the remains of "Sticky Everlasting" still a dull gold but with the seeds already dispersed by the wind.

Our home gardens aren't completely devoid of colour at this time because we can grow plants from all around the world as well as the other parts of the country. The Emu Bushes, *Eremophila* species, can produce sporadic flowers throughout the summer though they are better where there is a bit of water. Some of the real desert species are best grown in sand-beds or at least raised banks so that they don't succumb to our wet winters. They can be ground-covers, low to medium shrubs and even small trees; the flower colour range includes white, mauve, purple, yellow, red and green. A particularly interesting one, *Eremophila debilis*, has insignificant flowers followed by pink-shaded creamy-yellow "berries" which look very attractive as the branches trail over the ground. The small shrub 'Summer-time Blues' (below) lives up to its name with mauve-blue blooms along its thin stems.



Another attractive native plant is *Hemiandra pungens* which can have very prickly foliage but bears light purple or white flowers on low trailing branches. However the main colour in the garden comes from the exotics such as agapanthus, salvias, agastaches, gauras and perovskias, though they usually need a bit of extra water to be at their best. Most Victorians are suspicious of agapanthus because they can be serious pests and "garden escapees" especially down on

the coast. In our garden I rarely see a seedling because they usually drop their seed at the hottest time of the year and the germination is poor. If you are really concerned you should "dead-head" them or better still cut the flowers off indoors. Nowadays there are a range of hybrids which are practically sterile so will not increase by seed. We have a very attractive one, 'Storm Cloud' which has a white flower with a blue base giving the flower-head a two-tone effect. The dwarf white or blue varieties are great for edging a flower bed and can survive without extra summer water.

Gauras have become very popular in Australia, I think, since the time the selection "Siskiyou Pink" was introduced a couple of decades ago. These "butterfly bushes" (not to be confused with the much larger Buddlejias) have long, wispy flowering stems and the small white to pink flowers do have the appearance of clouds of butterflies as the wind blows them about. The original wildflower is less inspiring and is often small, white with pink calyces making it look a bit insipid – the newer selections have more substance to them and can be found in pure white, pink and white bi-tones to cerise. The darker pinks often have reddish foliage which can be a bonus.

Agastaches have more recently become popular with scented foliage as well as flamboyant flowers. David Glenn at Lambley Nursery at Ascot released his own hybrid, "Sweet Lilli" named for his grand-daughter and it has become a "must-have" for most gardeners. Its pinky-purple spikes of flowers are produced all summer and the bees love them! A smaller but no less profuse orange version is called "Tango" and more varieties seem to be added each year. Plant them close to the path so you can enjoy the scent of the leaves as well when you brush past.

In the rock garden one of the real joys of summer is the range of ornamental origanum, or Oregano, now available. The *Origanum rotundifolium* hybrid 'Kent Beauty' (below) is the one most seen, but a newer version of it, called 'Bellissimo' became available a couple of years ago.



These little plants produce tiny pink flowers which are surrounded by whorls of wide, green bracts tinted with pink/red giving the flower spikes the appearance of hops. A tinier version called "Dittany of Crete" has woolly foliage as well.

"Russian Sage", *Perovskia* (at the end of this article), is small shrub with lavender coloured flowers and greyish foliage which just makes it look like it should be drought hardy! Its roots are deep delving and I think that's what makes them survive our dry summers – again, they do better when you can give them a bit of water.

Anyway, as we drag the hose around the garden we see that under the Russian Sage in the Rock Garden the tiny *Acis autumnalis*, the autumn snowflake, has some white bells tinkling away and nearby the giant trumpets of *Amaryllis belladonna* are announcing that autumn cannot be far away – so the seasons roll on with different flowers making their appearance.

**Cheers**

**Fermi**

**The Redesdale Rock-Gardener**





# The Bridge: GARDEN PATCH



Hello Dear Readers,  
Lady B again. Hear we are in a new year and it's March already! One does hope that your garden is surviving summer. Mine is looking a little tired but I think everything I planted last Autumn has survived.

The Canna lilies in pots are still flowering - prune dead heads now and save the seeds for next season.

My lovely big urn of red Impatiens

looks very fine as one enters the back door but the white daisies were a complete flop! Don't know what I did wrong there. It's always hit and miss in my garden. At least with the occasional shower the lawn is alive, which is rare at this time of the year. It's normally just dirt by now. No need to mow much as the Kangas have kept it short. The gates to the rose and kitchen gardens have to be shut at night or there would be nothing left. Buddleias are all flowering well. Goodness! They are bomb proof!

However the large hot-house has become a veritable jungle with the heat. Now I do like some wildness in my garden but this is beyond the pail! When the hot house was built, the flower bed was put in quite high - over 4 feet actually. Everything

grows well - all the tropical delicacies that won't grow outside - but I'm afraid getting to the bed with a stepladder is a bit much these days!

I actually remember putting in a pond and fountain years ago (when I was young and flexible) but now I can't remember where I put it. That's how overgrown it has become.

I was speaking to Thorn (the gardener) this morning and the big CHOP will start next week. Tear it all out and start again - saving the birds nest fern and the yellow trumpet creeper. The rest I think I will "pot up" in the courtyard.

One of the big problems with said creeper is that it grew up into the roof - which is a good 12 feet up. Thorn hates heights as you may well recall, but every time I get up the ladder he seems to disappear and leaves me hanging on for dear life.

Honestly, he can be a marvellous help but when he leaves me stranded he has the personal allure of an AIRLINE SALAD!

One mustn't grumble, Dears. It's not winter yet. Well the clock says 4.30, so an early tippie of Mother's Ruin might be in order.

Toodle-oo for now.

Lady Bombay Sapphire

Gardener's Quote:

**"All gardening is landscape painting."**

- William Kent



## Bombay and a Bex

Send in your questions for Lady Bombay Sapphire to [bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com)

Dear Lady B,

My wife has gone potty over solar garden lights. They are everywhere - any available pergola, tree or fence. The place looks like Disneyland.

Enough is enough. I have resorted to wearing sunglasses at night. What shall I do?



**Fed up Roger**


Dear Roger,

I too like a few little spotlights in the garden but I agree one can go too far. Whilst she is out shopping, get out the hedgetrimmers. Just blame the cockatoos - so destructive! Or hide the solar panels and blame the dog.

Cheers,  
Lady B.



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Macedon Ranges Shire Council		5422 0333
Mitchell Shire Council		5734 6200
Mount Alexander Shire Council		5471 1700
Powercor		132 412
<b>Local Organisations</b>		
Bridge Connection : Editors	Kathy Hall	0408 116 899
	Regina Bennett	0437 514 223
Bridge Connection President	Mary Bennett	5425 5551
Bridge Connection Treasurer	Terry Mackenzie	5425 3272
Mia Mia Messenger		5425 5565
Mia Mia Hall Committee	Wendy Hulls	54255590
Mia Mia Fire Brigade Sec.	Steve Cadasch	54255548
Mia Mia Fire Brigade Captain	Calvin Millard	409979037
	AH	97446745
Mia Mia Mechanics Inst. Secretary	Wendy Hulls	54255590
Mia Mia Mechanics Inst. President	Anthony Ryan	54255578
Mia Mia Reserve Comm. Sec	Anthony Ryan	54255578
Mia Mia Reserve Comm. Chair	Grant Hulls	54255590
Otis Foundation		5444 1184
Redesdale and District Assoc. Inc	Kathy Hall (Sec.)	0407 116 899
Redesdale Hall Committee	Carolyn-Anne Boyd (Sec)	5425 3194
Redesdale Hall Hire	Carolyn-Anne Boyd (Sec)	5425 3194
Redesdale Recreation Reserve Cttee	Lindsay Booker (Sec)	0448 021 544
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Tennis Club	Linda Newnham	0400 554 716
<b>Township Businesses</b>		
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Redesdale General Store	Dino Tomisic	5425 3154
Rural Cafe	Elizabeth and Shane	5425 3271
The House Gallery	Ray and Joyce	0408 154 315

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	Marg O'Rourke (Mayor)	0429 061 096
	Yvonne Wigglesworth	0429 117 600
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Redesdale General Store		5425 3154

This is not a full list and is a work in progress. We need input from our readers regarding names and contacts that you would like to see published. Please also notify us if there are any errors. Please contact the editors on 0407 116 899 or by email on; [bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com)



Australia Day ceremony at the Mia Mia Hall



## Redesdale Recreational Reserve Committee Inc. Chairman's Monthly Report March-2017

Hi Redesdalian's,

Hope everybody had a merry xmas and we now find ourselves into learly March. The Reserve is looking great thanks to the unseasonal weather we have been having.

CoGB free Open Air movie night organized by the committee was a resounding success with over 300 patrons in attendance, with a sausage sizzle, popcorn, slurpies and soft drinks catered for by the committee it turned out to be a great night. I believe we can look forward to more of the same next year.

The reserve committee is about to embark on a big year of improvements. Firstly, we were fortunate to receive a donation of decking material for the pavilion from a very generous donor who is a friend of a committee member with a value of approx \$11,000-00.

It has been stored until we are ready to use it.

We have also received a maintenance grant to replace the fence and gate behind the rotunda; this will be carried out in the next month. Work will also commence on enclosing the storeroom at the back of the pavilion and should be completed in time for the Bush Market. Work is also continuing on the rock walls with the entrance opposite the hotel completed thanks to

committee member Ronn Taylor. WELL DONE RONN!

Plans are underway for this year's Arts Festival with lots planned to happen on the reserve over the 2 days ie: Camp-oven cook-off, CFA field day, Vintage Car Show, Handcrafted artist's market and live music. It is planned to run it the weekend prior to the Cup Weekend to accommodate

the market stall holders.

With what has been achieved in the past twelve months and what's about to be achieved over the next twelve months, Redesdalian's can only be proud of their jewel in the crown "Reserve Precinct". These achievements can only happen when the whole community is working on the same page.

Until next month be proud of what a great little town we live in.

Les Pocock

Redesdale Recreational Reserve Committee Inc.



## MOBILE BLACKSPOT SUCCESS FOR REDESDALE

In December, the Redesdale and District Association received the good news from federal MP Lisa Chesters that Redesdale had been announced as a successful site under Round 2 of the Mobile Blackspot Program.

In early 2016, Ms Chesters cohosted a community meeting with the District Association to discuss telecommunications problems. She raised the matter with the Minister for Communications and finally Redesdale will receive improved coverage although the timelines are as yet unclear.

The Government will be partnering with Optus to construct a tower. Any queries may be directed to Ms Chesters office on 5443 9055.



The new concrete slab at the pavilion

## LANGLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Langley Primary School is growing! Our small rural school, just north of Kyneton has an enrolment now of 39 students, with 3 fully operational classrooms – a Prep/One, a Two/Three and a Four/Five/Six. Our community welcomes our new staff member and Prep/One teacher, Ms. Stacey Michell and her new Prep students, Oliver, Mirijam, Hayden, Oliver, Tavin, Archer, Jessica and Gwen. Have a fantastic year everyone!!



## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

19

### Mango Mousse



(serves 6)

This is a delightful dessert for summer; cool and refreshing. It is very easy to make and you can make it a couple of days in advance and cover it with film and pop it in the fridge. The picture doesn't show it but it is terrific when sprinkled with shredded coconut.

2 large mangos - flesh chopped  
1 tbs lime juice  
55g pure icing sugar  
2 tsp gelatine powder  
300 ml thickened cream, softly whipped  
extra mango and lightly toasted shredded coconut to serve

Blend the chopped mango, lime juice and icing sugar in a processor or blender until smooth. Transfer to a bowl.

Combine the gelatine with 1 tbs of cold water in a small cup. Stir in 1 tbs of boiling water; stir until the gelatine is dissolved. Whisk the gelatine mixture into the mango mixture.

Fold the whipped cream into the mixture and spoon into 6 glasses. Cover with plastic wrap; refrigerate for 4 hours or overnight.

Serve topped with extra mango and coconut.

**If you have a great recipe you want to share - please send it to the editors and tell us if you want us to use your name.**

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## POWER OUTAGES

As the summer heat continues, the Victorian Government's summer campaign, "**Your Guide to Power Outages**", is seeking to help Victorians keep safe during a power outage in bushfires and extreme weather conditions.

While Victoria has very reliable electricity supply, power outages can happen – particularly during heatwaves, bushfires and grassfires.

A guide has been produced Your Guide to Power Outages with a call to action: It only takes a few simple things to prepare.

Some simple tips include having access to:

- A torch or battery-operated light
- A phone that doesn't rely on electricity (such as a fully-charged mobile phone)
- A battery powered radio for news and updates
- Fresh water (if you rely on an electric pump for water)
- The faults and emergencies contact number from your latest bill.

There's a lot of useful advice online on how to be energy safe with resources to download, such as:

- Guide
- Poster
- Video

Visit [delwp.vic.gov.au/poweroutages](http://delwp.vic.gov.au/poweroutages) for more information on how to get prepared, or call the Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

**Georgina Waters | Senior Communications & Engagement Adviser |**  
**Powerline Bushfire Safety Program**



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## Farewell to David McDonald



The Mia Mia community is saddened by the death of David McDonald on Tuesday February 14th. His legacy in Mia Mia is that he provided many in the community with their first exposure to opera, a gift that will last them a lifetime. Our thoughts are with Lynne and her extended families.

When David and his wife Lynne (above) attended a 2011 Australia Day breakfast at Mia Mia Hall, they immediately saw its potential for an opera performance. Their opera scholarship recipient that year was tenor Gaetano Bonfante, he had a friend Michelle Buscemi who was a soprano, she had a friend Mattia Campetti who was a baritone. David and Lynne organised for these three friends and their accompanist friend, Dario Tondello, to perform at Mia Mia Hall in March 2012. The story of that first performance follows:  
Opera triumph at Mia Mia

When Saturday's Twilight Opera at Mia Mia was being planned, there was no history to indicate the extent of the local interest in such an event. Organisers thought that an audience of 80 people would be achievable. 130 tickets were sold and there was a wait list of 38 people.

Almost all the ticketed people arrived to enjoy a splendid range of finger food prior to the performance. The missing ticketholders people were on fire trucks from a number of local CFA's, including Mia Mia. Two slightly sooty firefighters arrived a little late for the performance to a welcome relief from the stress of firefighting.

The performers arrived in Redesdale on Friday and were hosted at Redesdale Estate. Not long after

they arrived, 25 mm of rain in ten minutes created local flooding at Redesdale Estate. Mattia, one of the opera singers whose family owns a farm and vineyard in Tuscany, donned some gumboots, grabbed a broom and helped stop the water flooding the house, singing as he swished away the water.

The following afternoon the fire that held up some of the audience, suspected to have been caused by a lightning strike from Friday's wild weather, started just below Redesdale Estate on the river.

Only in the area for 2 days, they experienced flood and fire. Mattia's colleague, Gaetano, commented that "the people here must be very resilient." The performers made it to the Mia Mia Hall without any further natural disasters impeding them.

The audience experienced a magnificent event of superb singing and piano playing by an accomplished group of performers. The wood panelling on the walls, floor and ceiling of the Mia Mia Hall provided excellent acoustics. There were no microphones, no amplification, just beautiful sounds that had the audience, clapping and cheering with several standing ovations.

Bunches of olive and eucalypt branches, along with Australian and Italian flags, decorated the small stage. The performance included songs of passion, humour, pathos, as well as the attempted seduction of at least 2 audience members, a fake dispute between the accompanist and Mattia, and an offer, fortunately rejected, to the MC for him to sing while Mattia did the introductions.

The MC for the performance, Howard Nathan, provided a brief overview of each opera, and introduced each of the selected songs as well as adding to the bonhomie and humour present throughout the evening. T

he final song, "Time to Say Goodbye," was dedicated to Ted Bennett who passed away the week prior to the performance.



David, Michelle, Mattia, Lynne and Gaetano before the first Mia Mia opera recital.

At the end of the performance The Mia Mia Mechanics' Institute President and Mia Mia CFA Captain, Anthony Ryan, thanked: the performers for a wonderful evening; Lynne and David McDonald for sponsoring the performers through the Alice Amy McDonald Scholarship Trust; Howard Nathan for hosting the performance; Redesdale Estate for providing accommodation for the performers; Alan and Christina Weiss whose concert quality piano was on loan for the event; and the volunteer catering team under the stewardship of Grant and Wendy Hulls.

The audience then stacked the chairs against the walls, the piano was wheeled out to return to its owners, the auditorium was rapidly converted into a supper room with two pastas, four sauces, salads and cheese platters. "What a beautiful evening" was the most common remark from the audience, several of whom commented that their expectations had been well and truly exceeded.

Kate Hicks



David (left) with the performers at the first opera recital in 2012.

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# MIA MIA MUSTER NOVEMBER 2016

## RESULTS

### Open Judge - Luke Twigg

Placing	Handler	Dog	1st Round	Final	Total
1st	Anthony Attard	Buck	83	77	160
2nd	Laurie Jardine	Karana rex	72	79	151
3rd	Darryn Hannah	Karake Joan	90	58	148
4th	Virginia Chilcott	Quamby Sam	71	70	141
5th	Jenny Sant	Foster	80	50	130
6th	Jenny Sant	Jess	69	41	110

### Novice Judge - Anthony Attard

Placing	Handler	Dog	1st Round	Final	Total
1st	Jenny Sant	Foster	84	80	164
2nd	Luke Twigg	Hilton Park Apple	80	80	160
3rd	Virginia Chilcott	Karana Roy	81	72	153
4th	Peter Bromle	Gypsy	75	60	135
5th	Michael Storan	Ed	76	36	112

### Encourage Judge - Gary Tregenza

Placing	Handler	Dog	Score	Time
1st	Harriet Waters	Shadow	83	6.32
2nd	Mary Sotheron	Beloka Bin La Din	81	6.52
3rd	Melissa Harper	Starten Belle	80	5.48
4th	Mary Sotheron	Meander Maggie	78	5.19

### Improver Judge - Ged Bibby

Placing	Handler	Dog	Score	Time
1st	Darryn Hannah	Karaka Scout	178	
2nd	Jenny Sant	Foster	162	
3rd	Anthony Attard	Jan	159	
4th	Virginia Chilcott	Karana Roy	158	





# MIA MIA MUSTER NOVEMBER 2016



From left: Darryn Hannah (President of Victorian Yard Utility Farm Dog Assoc., from Gorae Vic. Won Improver). Luke Twig (second in the Novice section, judged the Open, from Bears Lagoon Vic.), Laurie Jardine (2nd in the Open, from Bealba Vic.), Jenny Sant (Won novice, from Young NSW.), Anthony Attard (Judged the Novice, Won the Open, from Young NSW), and Shane Beaglehall, (won the high jump, from Wantirna Vic.).



Jodi Brophy and Paul Patros supervise the high jump. Bonnie Tregenza's little dog Scruffy was a hit with the crowd!

*Thanks to Callum Jones for these great pictures.*



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## SESQUICENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

There have been two meetings of interested people about the celebrations for the 150th anniversary of the Redesdale Bridge. The Celebrations will occur on Saturday 26th Jan 2018 at lunch time. Anyone else interested in being part of this, should please contact; bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com. The more involved, the merrier!



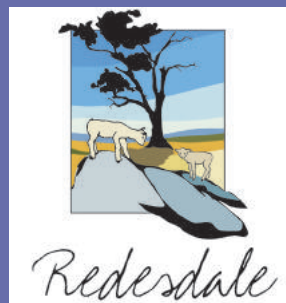
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## A prize at the end of this year!

Bendigo Travel and Cruise have sponsored this regular section. 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



## Bridge Connection reaches the people of Petra in Jordan.

Don't forget to take your BC on holiday and take a pic. It doesn't have to be an exotic locale. It could be in Victoria. The winners of the 2016 competition had a wonderful time enjoying their prize weekend away. (See page 11 for the letter written by last year's winners Sharon and George Marshall.)



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