



ISSUE NO.90 November 2017

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## REDESDALE FESTIVAL

Ruth Macrae, Kate Mahoney and Nic  
James producing fine cuisine at the  
CFA's Camp Oven Cookoff.  
More pictures inside.



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## BIRD QUIZ with NIGEL HARLAND



Last month's bird was the Striated Pardalote. It is very small and makes its nest by hollowing out tiny tunnels in banks. We have Pardalotes every year and many years ago we put a nesting box on a tree with a small entry hole. It has never used the box! The Spotted Pardalote is perhaps a prettier bird and they are often found together. To distinguish them by call, the Striated has a two note call, whereas the Spotted has three notes. Both repeat their calls many times. Congratulations to Matt from Elphinstone who was our winner this month. Now what is this little bird?

— 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)  
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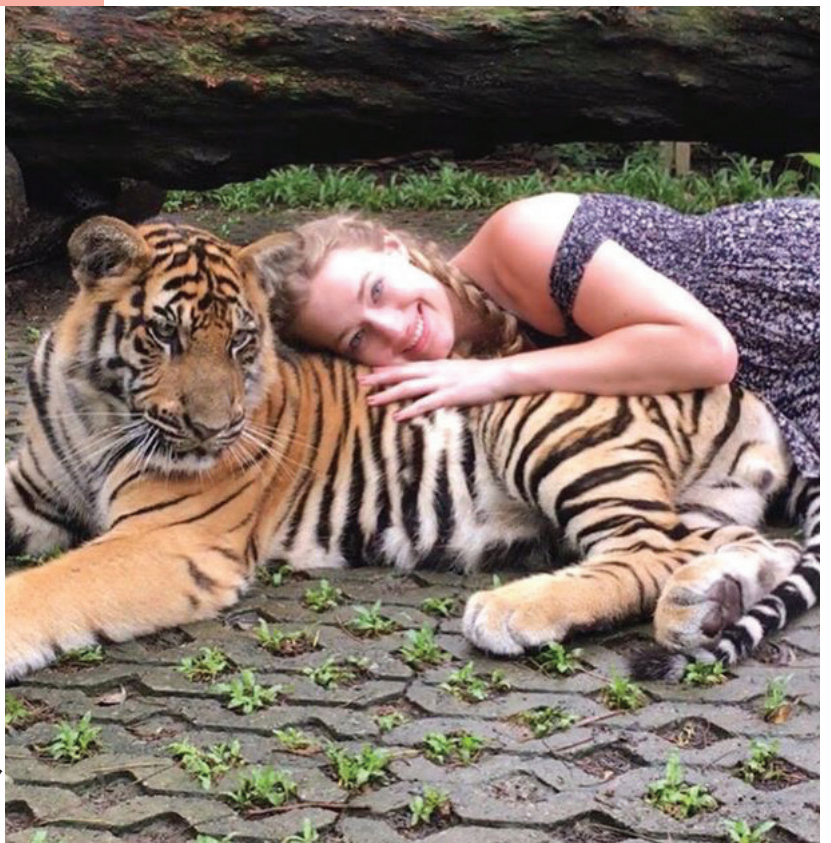
## The BRIDGE PET PALS proudly sponsored by

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Whilst we realise that this is not her own pet, we couldn't resist sharing this amazing picture of local resident Amie Smith-Sargent with a magnificent Tiger in Thailand.

**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). There is a prize at the end of the year for the best entry.





# REDESDALE 2017 FESTIVAL



Picture courtesy of Lyn Ingles

## ART SHOW OPENING NIGHT

Clockwise from top left:  
Rob Abramowski and Ruth Booker at the front desk; Main organisers Gary Prendergast, Kevin Foley, David Watt, Gloria Pocock and les Pocock; Emma Simpson offers nibbles; Gloria Pocock and Kathy Hall present Lyn Ingles with flowers; Les Pocock gives his speech; Sisters in Law Margaret Judson and Gloria Pocock on day three; artists Nic James and Sarah Gabriel with their keen supporters; MP Steph Ryan with her sister Tarsha and Gloria Watt with granddaughter Mabel; David Watt - chief picture hanger.



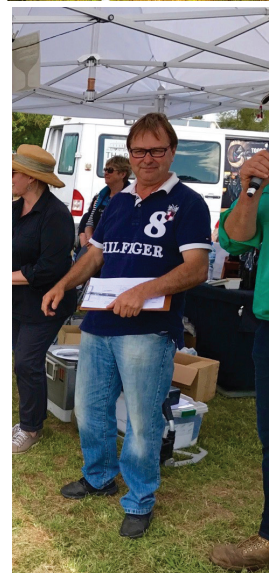


# REDESDALE 2017 FESTIVAL



## CAMP OVEN COOK OFF

Clockwise from top left: James team winners, Nic James, Ruth Macrae, Sarah Finlay, Kate Mahoney Gorgia and Sophie Mahoney; Daniel Hunt from Wild Action Zoo, Macedon; Tahlia Campbell with Wild Action python; Judges Renzo Panozzo (Gallery Cafe Bendigo) and Nicole Mynard (TAFE hospitality lecturer); Renzo Panozzo; Win News interview of the winners; Hamish and Tahlia Campbell; Plating up the Camp Oven delights.





## Editorial

Welcome to our bumper Festival Edition! You will find more colour photos on page 25.

This is also our 90th edition so a little celebration is called for! Well done to everyone for a huge effort with the market, the Camp Oven Cookoff and the terrific 5th Redesdale art show.

This edition is packed with interesting local stories such as the amazing passive house built by the Buerles (page 8), the Spartans success (page 23) and the great concert (page 22). Our cub reporter, Tahlia Campbell is bringing in great stories.

A special **'thank you'** to the Redesdale Hall Committee for their very generous sponsorship of \$1000 to Bridge Connection. Without such generous sponsorships this voluntary enterprise could not continue.



Regina Bennett



Kathy Hall

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**DEADLINE**  
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## BRIDGE CONNECTION COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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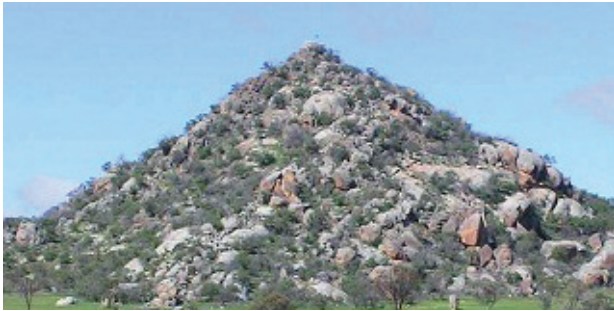


# THE MUNRO LETTERS

## Episode 9

### ***We continue the 1842 letter from David Munro to brother Alex in Scotland.***

Beneath us we had a sea of undulating forest of that particular open appearance which every one who has been in Australia must know so well. A range of hills connected with Mount Freeth stretched away for some distance to the north but beyond it in that direction we could see an immense expanse of level country, through which the course of the Campaspe and Loddon might be traced by the yellow of the open plains on their banks. Only in one point was the horizon here broken by the summits of the Pyramid Hill and Mount Hope of Mitchell, looking like the summits of islands when first seen from the deck of a ship at sea.



The scene was one of perfect solitude and undisturbed nature. There was no trace of civilized man; not a sound to interrupt the stillness of the landscape. We were in all probability the first white men that had ever stood where we were, and the only evidence we saw of any other human beings was the smoke of the fires of the blacks which was rising calmly in pillars to the sky far down in the Loddon. After lingering as long as we could on top of the hill we descended on the opposite side. It was sunset now and we looked about where we were most likely to find water. With this in view we followed down a very deep ravine which commencing near the summit of the hill gradually expanded towards its base and then led us into a beautiful forest glade, quite a Robin Hood scene; it was evident from the marks of the inundations that the whole of this glade was occasionally under water with the water course in its centre but it was completely dry. We ran it down 2 or 3 miles looking with some anxiety at every turn. At length a flock of cockatoos flew screeching from a tree over our heads, and the stockman immediately assured us that we couldn't be far from water. He was perfectly right for at the next turn there was a very deep hole with a small quantity of water at the bottom and we immediately started to encamp. The sun was just going down now and we were preparing our supper when we were unexpectedly supplied with an addition to our cuisine. From all points of the compass came bronze winged pigeons alighting on the trees above the waterhole and looking with astonishment and fear at the unusual visitors. A couple of shots supplied us with a brace of birds for supper which we plucked, gutted, split open and broiled upon the embers, in which way they were exceedingly good.



Still the pigeons came pouring in from all quarters and alighting on the trees about us and a great number of parakeets came very near and looked at us and chattered and made a great noise. It was evident that the poor things would have to go to rest without their accustomed drink if we did not get out of their way. We therefore walked to a little distance for a short time and on returning, when we showed ourselves over the edge of the waterhole, a cloud of birds rose out of it with a noise almost like the report of a gun. Several hours after we had turned in (it was a brilliant moonlight) I heard a loud "te-who" very near our tent, and looking out saw some large bird alight upon a tree just opposite. I took up my gun which was always by my side and brought it down.



It was a very fine large owl and had in its claws part of a flying opossum.

The next day we continued our route to the westward and traversed a poor forest country without water. In the afternoon we came upon some low range of hills of a much better description to the north and in 4 or 5 miles we met Major Mitchell's track from the Hume to the Portland Bay country. Though it is years since he passed over this ground, the track of his drays is almost as distinct. At least it might be easily followed as if it had been made a few days ago. It was in the rainy

season that he travelled and it appears besides to have been rather a wet year which accounts for the deep ruts his drays have made. You remember he often complains of sticking in the mud. The state of things was very different when H and I were there. Instead of mud there was dust and instead of rivulets, dried water courses. We crossed Major Mitchell's track and held on to the northward where we say several other ranges of similar country much superior to what we had been riding over in the fore part of the day, but still far inferior to the pastures about Melbourne. The question however still remained unsettled with regard to water without which, of course, the country is to no avail. The day had been boiling hot and this was a question which we were anxious to solve both in a geographical and gastronomical point of view for we were excessively thirsty.

We accordingly descended on the west side of the range and found a poor scrubby country on the bottom. After crossing for a mile or so we came upon a very deep water course like a dry canal. This we followed for several miles and at last to our great joy came across a large waterhole. We immediately dismounted, unslung our pannikins, dipped them into the water and commenced what was intended to be a long and refreshing draught. But alas! The water was nearly as salt as the sea. Even our horses drank it with great reluctance. This was the vale of Avoca.

We spent a very pleasant night here dreaming of soda water, iced champagne, large cups of tea, springs of cold and pure water, etc etc. and the next day we resolved to turn back, not knowing where we might find fresh water and unwilling to go too great a distance from the Loddon, where we were sure of a supply.

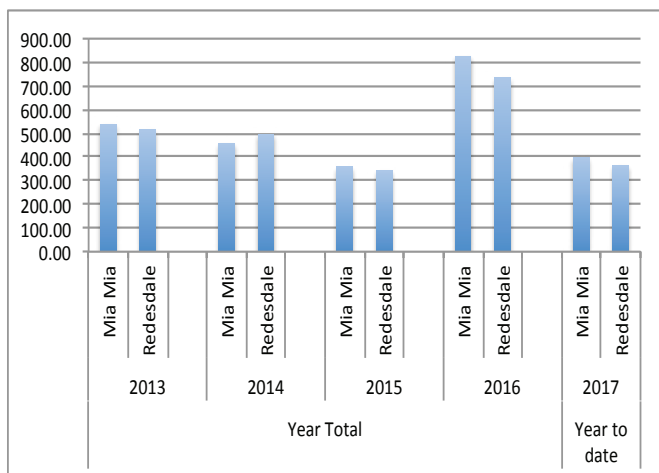
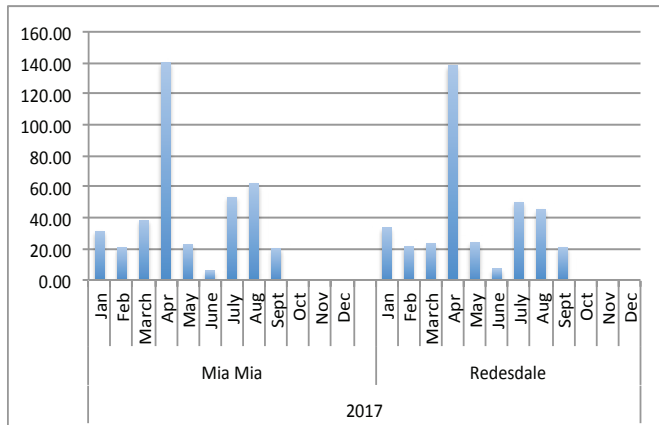
We were at this time, if you recollect, to the north of Major Mitchell's track. We now pursued an easterly course and crossed the range on which we had been the day before and descended into a poor forest country.

***Next Month: After travelling about 20 miles, we came upon Major Mitchell's track again...***



# RAINFALL

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



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BYO DRINKS

## 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 9.45 am and services start at 10 am and finish at 11 am. 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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# 'Noonameena' – Our bush resting place.

Welcome to our “bush resting place” and welcome to Australia’s first straw bale house built to the Passive House Low Energy Building Standard.

Today its 30C outside – last week it was only 4C; but inside it’s a comfy, constant ~20C – no air con, no heating 24/7, the magic of a Passive House. Eighteen months ago, we started this adventure and with so many people showing interest in both the house and its technology, I have been asked to share a little of our story...

Drawn to area for its peaceful country living (and proximity to the city); our dear friend Craig Aitken from Barfold Estate winery rang one day to say he had found our ‘dream spot’. He was right and we bought 20 acres on the Coliban River just ~10ks from Redesdale (and the local pub!).



It took us longer than we thought - and numerous site walks/sits/wines to finally agree on the “right spot” for our new abode. Ultimately, we decided to tuck the house site below the ridge to our east to maximise the beautiful river views and gain some natural protection from the easterly winds that tend to blow quite hard.

To help us with our ‘rock block’ site works (and the locals ALL know about the rocks around here) we engaged Leroy Troy and Ross Knight to dig, cut and level a site for both the house and our meditation walk/labyrinth. We also took the opportunity to create a flat area alongside the river under the shade of some lovely established gumtrees.



We thought long and hard about building materials and kept coming back to our bucket list option; a straw-bale house. Not your traditional straw bale construction but one with a twist! We decided on ‘Huff & Puff Constructions’ (yes it’s a real business near Wagga Wagga) who supplied us 56 simple but effective ‘SITUP’ prefab straw bale panels as the external and structural wall system of the home.

With the concrete slab poured, in came our most creative and skilled builder Stuart Lee from Craftsman Quality Builders. Stuart is a qualified Passive House builder and shared with us the benefits of Passive House living which we embraced and

are not only converts, but so is just about everyone that visits!



What is Passive House and why build this way? Passive House is a German design approach that if adhered to in the construction phase ensures verifiable very low energy consumption for heating and cooling; roughly 10-15% of the typical annual energy load and provides a consistent comfortable temperature all year round (18-22C). Maintaining this temperature range means there really is little need for extra heating or cooling; quite simple and quite remarkable! It’s all about following 5 (pretty simple) Passive House principles:

1. Airtightness (no air leaks);
2. Super insulation (maintains inside temperature);
3. No thermal bridges (stopping temperature transfer via materials e.g. steel);
4. Excellent windows and doors (supporting the 1st 3 principles); and
5. Heat recovery ventilation (HRV) extracting warm and moist air from kitchen, toilets, laundry and showers via a heat exchanger whilst drawing in fresh air from outside, past the heat exchanger supplying clean fresh air to all living areas of the home.

‘Owner builder’ presents its own set of challenges; but with open and honest dialogue (and lots of singing to the radio) with our tradies and the luxury of being on site during construction, we have created our very own Bush Resting Place with minimal stress (most of the time:). With landscaping to go - or should that be ‘rock scaping’ - we are nearly complete and ready to move in

Having recently commissioned the ventilation system, all the (invisible) hard work and detailed finishing has resulted in a wonderfully quiet, fresh air filled, comfortable living space.

We can vouch for the Passive House approach, it works a treat! If you have interest in knowing more about Passive House or our Huff and Puff straw panels, please contact John on 0422 001 924 or [john.beurle@gmail.com](mailto:john.beurle@gmail.com)



Post Script: We have plans to open the house as a ‘Bed and Breakfast’ in the future so keep an eye out for Noonameena – The B&B Resting Place....

Cheers John, Kym, Bella and Jack (the goldies!).



## Little Treasures

This month we bring you our second story about objects that are dear to our readers. We would love to hear from any of our readers about any inanimate object in your life that means a lot to you and that you really treasure. And send us a picture too.

Please send your contributions (about 500 words) to [bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you.

## A Table of Destiny

Furniture, like architecture, dominates our lives. Decisions great and small have been made throughout history and nearly every single one has taken place upon and facilitated by furniture. Even great armistices on the battlefields have required little folding tables so that kings and generals may make their history-making mark. Scientific discoveries take place on benchtops, stockbrokers swivel in leather chairs as they bark their trading commands, great volumes of literature are consumed greedily in a panoply of armchairs throughout the world. As well as this, countless vessels of hot beverages are placed down carefully or otherwise upon coffee tables. A life without furniture is one where you never get anything done because you still have found nowhere to put your glass.



The coffee table pictured has not seen much action but it does have history. 24 years old, it started its life as a long plank of red gum, covered in dust and dirt, hiding away in the nether reaches of that esteemed institution, the Timbertop campus of Geelong Grammar School. It was 1993, I was in my art class and the subject was wood-work.

"Build a table," we were instructed. Oh, there was plenty of timber made available; piles of pine ready for the cutting and the shaping. Nonetheless, I was determined not to do what the other kids did; ideally not what the teacher wanted either (I had recently tried to skip church services and was racking up several other delinquencies, so finding alternative timber hardly placed me in fresh territory). I battled spiders and The Man and found my red gum there under the portables. Crikey it was heavy; took me most of one class just to get it into the workshop.

After agreeing that this was an interesting choice (which flattered me, although I don't think that was teacher's intention) I spent several successive classes using way too much glue and industrial-sized clamps and almost the entire workshop to create the behemoth. I distinctly remember enjoying the power tools, especially the router for the edges. After much effort and about 27 coats of estapol (did I mention using too much glue?) the beast was complete. What a remarkable thing. How proud my parents would be! What a legacy!

A legacy indeed. This table, now in my Sunbury home, has followed me around the country from Melbourne to Perth and back, never having been quite suitable for any of my various lounge rooms and frequently ending up back at my parent's place (which they really liked – it always went so well in their homes, not sure why they gave it back).

Yet, here it is, perfectly fitted to the corner, supporting my stereo and being the first port of call on my return each day for keys and other paraphernalia. It's been part of my life for more than half of my life, nearly a quarter of a century, and I built it myself. Once maligned, I'm coming to love it once again.

Michael Robinson  
Sunbury, October 2017

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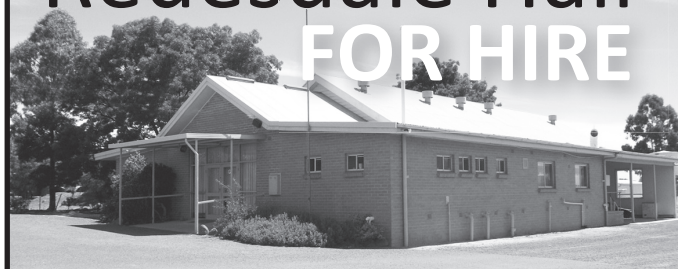
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- 2nd Tuesday monthly, 7 pm - Rec. Reserve Meetings.

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# Steph Ryan MP

## Member for Euroa

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### Youth Congress Delay

Young people encouraged to apply for Labor's Youth Congress are still waiting to hear if their applications were successful, four months after the Congress was due to begin.

Asked about the delay in Parliament on Tuesday, Youth Affairs Minister Jenny Mikakos blamed Australia Post, despite applicants confirming that all correspondence with them to date has been via phone and email.

Ms Mikakos said the letters were signed, but 'must still be making their way through Australia Post's unreliable and slow service'.

Shadow Minister for Young Victorians Steph Ryan said the bizarre claim didn't explain the four-month delay.

"The Andrews Government touted the Youth Congress as a flagship project designed so young people could get a genuine say in the development of policy, yet four months after it was due to begin people don't even know if their applications have been accepted or rejected," Ms Ryan said.

"Jenny Mikakos is so distracted by the crisis in the youth justice system that she has little time for young Victorians who want to make a positive contribution to our state.

"I have spoken with three young people from different parts of Victoria who applied to be on Youth Congress and not one has been advised on the outcome of their application.

"When they were interviewed in June they were told they would be contacted in the next four weeks, advising them of the outcome.

"These applications have been gathering dust on the Minister's desk for months, awaiting her signature.

"Jenny Mikakos has done nothing but pay lip service to the participation of young people in shaping policy."

When they were asked to apply, young people were required to fill out an application form which stated they would be required for a '12 month commitment from late June 2017 to 30 June 2018'.

### Labor in denial on botched eID rollout

#### Media release from Peter Walsh, leader of the Nationals.

Agriculture Minister Jaala Pulford has embarrassingly admitted she has no idea of serious concerns with the implementation of electronic identification (eID) of sheep and goats.

Victorian saleyard operators say they won't be ready to scan eID tags by March 2018 because the software they need to share data with the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) is still being trialled.

Asked about industry concerns, Ms Pulford was in denial, telling State Parliament 'I'm certainly satisfied with how it is progressing'.

Shadow Minister for Agriculture Peter Walsh called on the Andrews Government to commit to a 12 month extension on the rollout of eID at Victorian saleyards.

"The Agriculture Minister is burying her head in the sand and hoping eID will implement itself," Mr Walsh said.

"I recently met with stock agents, vendors and transport operators in Hamilton who echoed serious concerns with the slow progress – a 12 month extension is needed to make sure eID is rolled out properly.

"Saleyard operators have been begging to meet with the Minister and discuss their concerns, but they've struggled to get a look in.

"Until the software to scan and upload data to the NLIS has been properly tested in a sale environment, saleyards can't start to plan for its installation.

"Daniel Andrews must extend the deadline and make sure the rollout is done right the first time, rather than risk it turning into another Labor rush job."

The Andrews Labor Government has also failed to announce a tag price for 2018, despite promising to announce a price 'in the first half' of 2017.

"Industry is committed to the implementation of eID, but Labor is botching the process," Mr Walsh said.

"The Andrews Government thought industry could just apply the systems used for cattle to sheep and goats but, as usual, Labor got it wrong."



Dear Editors

Just a quick note to thank you for publishing the flyer about the Alternative Technology Association's Sustainable House Open day at "Clearwind" in September.

We had a wonderful day with 200 people through the gate, including quite a proportion of locals, which was great. The weather, having been very ordinary for the previous few weeks, was picture perfect, which really helped. We gave tours of the house (Win), the orchard and gardens (me) and our large rammed earth shed (our son, Ben) and our grandsons, Sam and Thomas, gave pop up workshops on using a sun oven and on pasteurising home grown fruit juice. And there were refreshments for visitors to purchase so they could sit in the sun and enjoy the flower gardens and chat about all things sustainable. Incidentally, we raised almost \$1000.00 for the Sanfilippo Children's Foundation. Our helpers that day included locals Georgina Hassell (of Mia Mia), Joseph Rogan (of Langley), Margaux Claughton (of Carlsruhe) and Anna Sievers Grech (formerly of Glenhope) and Win and I are most grateful for their contributions to the success of the day.

Thank you again for helping "spread the word"!

Cheers

Clare Claydon



"Clearwind" Sustainable House Day workers

L to R: Pam Brooks, Sheila Salas, Anna Sievers Grech, Benedict Claydon, Clare Claydon, Win Westerhoff, Margaux Claughton, Georgina Hassell and in front, Thomas and Sam Claydon (gone home already: Joseph Rogan)







Dear Editors,

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to the residents of Redesdale, Mia Mia and Barfold for their support, patience and friendship during my time running the Redesdale General Store. As a team, Lisa and I enjoyed your friendly chats. I couldn't have run the store without her. Thank you also to Mandy for all her valued help with the mail. With this position I now feel part of the community. I would like to wish the new owners all the best. To my husband Ian and son David thank you so much for all your help. I couldn't have run the business without you.

*Karen Page*



  
Federal Member for Bendigo  
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@LMChesters • /LisaChestersBendigo

## Scrapping CET will hurt Central Victorians

Lisa Chesters MP has condemned the Turnbull Liberal Government for their announcement that they will scrap Australia's Clean Energy Target.

"Increasing locally clean energy into the national grid just makes sense. More renewable energy will push down power prices and will bring billions of dollars of new investment, create jobs and reduce pollution. "In contrast, today's announcement will cut energy sector investment and jobs. Hundreds of clean energy industry local small businesses and their workers across Central Victoria are now under threat," said Ms Chesters.

Last month after meeting with local constituents concerned about sky-rocketing power bills, Ms Chesters called on the Government to urgently secure Australia's energy future. "Central Victorians want the energy price crisis fixed now. Today's announcement will not lower power bills. The new Government's energy guarantees high unaffordable

per week by 2030. This is a fail and unacceptable.

"There are actions the Government can take today to immediately put downward pressure on prices:

- 1 – End the ideological war against renewables.
  - 2 – Implement a Clean Energy Target, the solution recommended by the Government's own energy review.
  - 3 – Pull the trigger on gas export controls, because it's ridiculous that Japanese companies pay less for our gas than Australians do.
  - 4 – Develop a strategic energy reserve to protect against blackouts this summer.
- "Dumping the Clean Energy Target is a bad idea. This Government appears hell-bent on destroying renewable energy restricting growth in this sector over the next few decades.

"Labor accepts the overwhelming scientific consensus that human activity, since the industrial revolution, has increased average global temperatures, leading to climate change.

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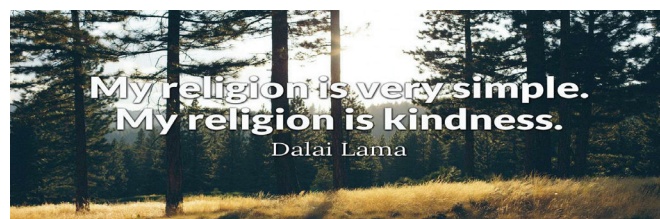


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### Quote of the month:



energy prices for years to come. "Before the 2013 election, the Liberals promised that power bills would go down by \$550 a year. This year alone, the average Victorian household energy bill has gone up by \$357. "The Turnbull Government's own models show that power bills may go down by only \$1.90

"That is why Labor has a clear plan to combat climate change by getting Australia's pollution levels back under control and ensuring that Australian households, business and workers are in the best position possible to benefit from the huge investment and job opportunities that come from a renewable energy and clean technology future," said Ms Chesters.

Quotes from local constituents:

Anne Caldwell - Strathdale self-funded retiree

"We close up the house and live in a smaller room, how else do you keep your bill down? "We've had to go to bed earlier to conserve energy.

"We have had to be more careful, we have been a lot more conservative this winter but the bills are still going up.

"Everybody is noticing that bills are going up, everyone I know is struggling with their power bill.

"It's become important to change your lifestyle to adapt to these rising bills.

Ian Hardie - Golden Square, self-funded retiree, solar panels installed

"We have solar power panels installed and are putting energy back into the grid but we still end up paying more.

"Cost is mainly in gas, costs have tripled over the winter months.

"We have to be extremely careful on how we use our power, make sure we lock all doors, turn off lights and go to bed earlier to avoid running the gas any longer than we have to.

"We have to strip back on our living expenses, resources are finite and you have to think about very carefully about where your money is going.



# Are rural people more entrepreneurial?

BY KERRY ANDERSON



During a recent entrepreneurship workshop I was facilitating in north-central Victoria, I was asked this interesting question. Are rural people more entrepreneurial than in the city?

It was a great question and one that I have pondered many times over the past six years I've been exploring rural entrepreneurship here and overseas. Instead of being compelled to argue with my city counterparts that rural entrepreneurs are also worthy of celebrating, I was being asked to judge whether they are, in fact, more entrepreneurial. Here is what I think and I welcome your thoughts as well.

In a rural town there are fewer employment options hence I think that it is nat-

ural there is a higher interest in small business ownership and creation. It is also no secret that adversity is a great breeding ground for entrepreneurs. On top of all the economic downturns experienced by our city counterparts, rural Australian communities are routinely impacted by fire, flood and drought.

No matter where you live, as businesses close or staff levels are reduced, it is often a trigger for people with creative minds to ponder what opportunities they can create for themselves, often creating employment for others in the process.

Rural communities include some of the most innovative people I know. Problem solving is a common attribute. Hours away from a spare parts depot, rural people are adept at banging up their own solution in the workshop. Some wonderful inventions have come out of rural industries and they continue to innovate all the time to remain competitive in a global market. Through density of population there are clearly more job choices in cities and arguably customers. However; for three reasons, I would argue that small business creation is more popular in the bush.

1. The cost of purchasing real

estate and living in a rural town is far cheaper not to mention the benefit of enjoying a clean, green lifestyle.

2. In what is being referred to as the digital age, there is an increasing mix of opportunities not to mention a global market, for online and remote businesses.

3. Rural communities value small business and are incredibly supportive as customers, mentors and investors. While genuine entrepreneurs are few and far between, and they can be found in any city or rural town; my feeling is that through adversity entrepreneurs are compelled to act on their ideas more in rural areas.



*Former dairy farmer, Travis Howard of Cohuna created his own business and employment for a friend, when he heard about the problem of green waste mounting up at the council depot.*

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## Regional Australia deserves to be connected

Labor's Shadow Assistant Minister for Workplace Relations, Lisa Chesters MP recently attended the Elmore Field Days to talk to local constituents regarding the failures of the NBN rollout and the importance of internet connectivity for regional communities and the future of farming.

The recent report, compiled by the Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee on the National Broadband Network, included 23 hard-hitting recommendations to improve the future course of the NBN and get the project back on track.

Shadow Minister for Regional Communications, Stephen Jones MP said the committee had consulted with business, industry and residents over a 12 month period and identified systemic issues of faults, failed connections, reliability and chronic speed issues occurring across the network.

The committee has highlighted 23 hard-hitting recommendations to help improve customer service, technology improvements, handling of complaints and transparency including:

- The Government direct and enable NBN to complete as much as possible of the remaining fixed line network using Fibre to the Curb at a minimum where feasible, and require NBN to produce a costed plan and timetable under which that would be achieved.
- The urgent need for new consumer and supplier rights which provide protections, wholesale service-levels and remedies for service failures
- The introduction of a new business grade product specifically geared towards small business
- An overhaul of the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman to give it more power and ability to resolve consumer disputes

*Continued on page 15:*



## Redesdale Community Precinct Project Update

What is the Redesdale Community Precinct Project? Following community meetings and discussions with Council the precinct project intends to deliver the Redesdale community an upgraded kitchen and storage facilities for the community hall, 'drop in' or longer term office space tenancies and a minimum of 4 ensuite and related facilities for caravan travellers e.g. waste drop point etc. The council's support for this initiative has been terrific and we trust community interest and support will be ongoing as things develop.

Since the last community meeting which gave its support for early planning processes to go ahead based there has been a number of activities underway. A Detailed Design Working Group (DDWG) has formed and is working with council to prepare input for a detailed design document to be created that will provide the community and council a master plan for the precinct. The detailed design is to be funded by council and once complete we should be in a position to present a plan to the community which will require further discussion and support for the way forward. A project manager has been assigned by council and together with her the DDWG will endeavour to ensure the scope of the detailed design is relevant for the community.

To be clear, the stage we are at is preparation of a detailed design document that will provide a master plan for the complete project including graphic material (plans, rendered 3D images etc), construction drawings, and as built drawings, notes etc. No community or council commitment is in place past this point when the community will need to come together with council and agree the best way forward. It is hoped that the detailed design will be completed early in 2018. More details on timing soon.

If you have any queries regarding this exciting project please contact the DDWG co-ordinator John Beurle on 0422001924 or [john.beurle@gmail.com](mailto:john.beurle@gmail.com). Further updates shall be provided when appropriate so keep your eye out for more news.

## Share your ideas for the future of the former Kyneton Primary School site

Residents of the Macedon Ranges are being invited to share their ideas on possible future uses of the former Kyneton Primary School site in Baynton Street.

Community members are encouraged to share their feedback at one of the following information sessions:

- Saturday 12 November, 10am–12pm at Kyneton Agricultural Show, Kyneton Showgrounds, at Council marquee. Project consultants Ethos Urban will be on-site at each location collecting ideas for future uses of the primary school site. Mayor, Cr Jennifer Anderson said she was looking forward to finding out more about the community's wishes for the site. Residents who are unable to attend the in-person sessions can share their views on possible uses of the site via our survey, available online at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/kps-master-plan](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/kps-master-plan). Copies of the survey are also available at Council service centres. Opportunities to provide feedback close Wednesday 22 November 2017.

Feedback contributed will inform the development of the site's master plan, supported with \$65,000 from the Victorian Government through Regional Development Victoria.

If you would like to receive regular project updates, register your details at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/kps-updates](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/kps-updates)

## Banking on Andrew

Local farmer and resident Andrew Campbell is a busy man, having recently taken up a volunteer role as Director of the board for the Heathcote & District Community Bank.

The Chair of the Community Bank Stephen Trompp said 'We are privileged to have Andrew join the Board as a Director. Andrew is strongly connected to his local community where the Bank has many loyal customers. In addition, he brings a lifelong understanding of farming in the district which will be invaluable in the Community Bank effectively extending its services and community work to support this important group of people in our area. All Directors are already enjoying working with Andrew around the table.'



Left: Andrew learns about new technology at the National Conference

Above: Andrew and fellow director Brad Todd enjoying the National Conference.

Andrew was lucky enough to attend the 2017 Bendigo Bank National Conference in Adelaide with fellow Director Brad Todd, where he had the opportunity to learn more about the Community Banking network across Australia and bring back fresh ideas for our own district. With his local farming knowledge, Andrew is proving the perfect fit as head of the sub-committee working hard to organise the next Heathcote & District Community Bank Farmer's event which will take place early next year.

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## New relay technology is speeding locals up!

Local residents who have been frustrated by lack of access to fast wireless internet technology now have a speedy option. Young, Bendigo-based entrepreneurs began Agcloud earlier this year. It provides an off-grid (solar-powered) NBN station, where signal is available.

*Solar-powered relay station at Coliban Springs, Redesdale.*



It then beams the signal down to the location where it is needed. Co-founder, Grant Sutton (above), says, "This enables people who can't receive a signal at their house or business premises to receive it and get access to better data plans and internet speeds."

"In Sutton Grange, Redesdale, Sedgewick and Elphinstone areas, people experience black spots for the NBN fixed wireless service."

Agcloud founders built their own custom electronics and antenna mounting pole in order to deliver the fixed wireless signal. So far, through word of mouth, about 7 local properties have been connected.

The technology allows farmers to connect out-lying sheds through repeater signals which has important implications for efficiency and security. Local prize merino farmer, Jock Macrae has described the technology as "a real game-changer".

## FARMERS' MARKETS

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

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

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

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

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

Maldon Market  
Sunday Nov 12th

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*Continued from page 12:*

The Government should ensure that digital inclusion is measured and reported

- The introduction of a regional and remote reference group to support the rollout of the NBN in rural and remote Australia

Ms Chester says, "The Government needs to support these recommendations which will deliver improved outcomes for consumers and reflect the evidence received from over 12 months of hearings.

It is imperative rural and regional Australians are given the same technology as their city counterparts.

Farmers and agriculture businesses are in desperate need of technology upgrades if they are to continue to create produce for our local economy."

Lisa Chesters 0425 755 929

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### **Saturday 4th November 2017**

El Disaster 2017 Mallee Run & Drag Racing- Time: 11am start. Cost \$10 entry. All bikes drags, plus Helicopter Joy Flights available. Camping available Saturday Night with Bands, and Open Bar. More info-: Greg 0439 315 867 Shep 0432 476 162 Peter 0418 537 303 Mal 0417 813 871 Venue: Heathcote Park Dragstrip Barnadown Rd Heathcote

### **Sunday 5th November 2017**

Flathead Sunday Bike Show & Hot Rods- Time: 8am start. Cost \$5 entry (children under 18 free). Flatheads- All makes & models. All pre '84 bikes welcome. Indians Harleys, Shovels, Pan, Triumphs BSA, 70s Choppers to V-Rods, American, British, Euro & Japanese. All profits to Keith Sutherland's Mens Health Clinic. BBQ, Bar & Band supplied by Axe Creek Cricket Club. More info-: Greg 0439 315 867, Shep 0432 476 162, Peter 0418 537 303, Mal 0417 813 871 Venue: Longlea Sports Oval- Cnr Mclvor Hwy & Longlea Lane Bendigo

### **Tuesday 7th November 2017**

Heathcote Agricultural Show- Pre Show Office Hours 9am-4:30pm Tues 31st Oct to Frid3rd Nov & Sat 4th Nov at 9am-12noon. More info ring 5433 3987

or Ms M Pengelly on 0438 274 986 . Programs available from Heathcote Visitor Centre . For entry to the Show - Cost \$10 Adults, Ages 5-15 \$4, Under 5 free Venue: (Guide Hall High St Heathcote for entries for the Show) Venue: Showground Chauncey St Heathcote

### **Thursday 9th November 2017**

Oaks Day Luncheon – Presented by Heathcote Community Pool Project. Time: 11.30am 3 Course Meal, Drinks at bar prices, Raffles, Silent Auction, Sweeps, prizes for Best Dressed Couple, Male, Female, & Best Hat. There will be no table allocations – tables of 8 can be booked only if ALL money is paid. Tickets available from the Heathcote Visitor Information Centre. Venue: Barrack Reserve High St Heathcote

### **Sunday 12th November 2017**

Wine Down Sunday-The official Fringe Festival of the Bendigo Blues & Roots Music Festival. Take your pick from a selection of 5 venues hosting lunchtime/afternoon concerts, a different experience of wine, food, fun & music.

All details and ticketing at [www.heathcote.org.au/event-bookings/wine-down-sunday](http://www.heathcote.org.au/event-bookings/wine-down-sunday)

### **Tuesday 14th November 2017**

Play Bowls Month for October 2017- Time: 6:30pm onwards ( every Tuesday) More information contact Peter on 0418 304 259 or peterd23@outlook.com Venue: Heathcote Bowling Club 1 Herriot St Heathcote

### **Wednesday 15th November 2017**

Ross McMullin: Pompey Elliott at war: In his own words - Time: 5.30-6.30pm. Ross McMullin's enthralling new book about Australia's most famous fighting General. Pompey's letters and diaries were extraordinarily frank, forthright, emotional and controversial. Come along and be moved and inspired as Ross brings the remarkable Pompey back to life. Free entry. Bookings required via [www.goldfieldslibraries.com](http://www.goldfieldslibraries.com) Venue: Heathcote Library.

### **Saturday 18th November 2017**

Heathcote Quilters Inc presents Victorian Quilters Inc Spring Gathering- Time: 10am-4pm. Cost \$5.

RSVP by 31st October to [heathcotequilters@hotmail.com](mailto:heathcotequilters@hotmail.com) or enquires to Lola (VQI) on 5358 2905 or Christine Smith (HQI) on 03) 54332 321 or 0428617152. BYO lunch, hand sewing & show & tell Tea, coffee, light refreshments provided. Guest speakers Barbara Dellar & Gladys Jackson from the Strathdale Quilters. Door & raffle prizes. Venue: RSL Hall High St Heathcote

### **Sund 3rd December 2017**

Women in Balance – A morning of yoga and meditation. Yoga with Kate Robinson - Mediation with Shelly Horkings \$50.00 includes two yoga sessions and one meditation session. Time: 9.30am to 12.30pm. Venue: Mimosa Glen Woolshed. Please note bookings close two weeks prior to event date. For all inquiries, please phone Sue on 0438 568 570

### **Events for 2018 – Save the date**

Saturday 3rd March 2018 Spanish Festival in Heathcote- More details later

Sunday 4th March 2018 Spanish Festival in Heathcote- More details later

Friday 20th April 2018 Bendigo – Sanguine Estate Music Festival- More details later Saturday 21st April 2018 Bendigo – Sanguine Estate Music Festival- More details later Thursday 26th April 2018 Heathcote – Sanguine Estate Music Festival- More details later

Friday 27th April 2018- Heathcote – Sanguine Estate Music Festival- More details later.





## Redesdale Ramblings:

### Crabapples

Crabapples are trees which do double duty in the garden. In spring they can be stunning with pure white to deep purple-pink blossoms and in autumn there are fruit glowing red or shining gold (until the bird-life discover them!) amongst the "fall" foliage. Apples originated in Central Asia and some authorities localise that to Kazakhstan but crabapples apparently come from a much wider distribution, from the Mediterranean to Asia and even North America. They can also cross with domestic apples with at least one such hybrid, 'Pioneer Rose', available in the trade. It's a locally raised hybrid with purple foliage and large red fruit with red flesh.

The selection available from local nurseries is fairly good but not every variety is carried each year so it pays to order ahead from nurseries such as "Springhill Nursery", "The Garden Tap" and "Rodilesa" (Kyneton) or Stephen Ryan's "Dicksonia Rare Plants" (Mt Macedon). They can then check with their suppliers whether or not what you want will be produced for sale that winter. The best way to buy them is "bare-rooted" when they are dormant and packed in damp wood-shavings or similar. Take them home and plant them into prepared ground – in a sunny spot where you've dug it over to remove perennial weeds and grass, incorporating a bit of compost to enrich and aerate the soil. If your ground is heavy clay it might be beneficial to mound the soil up to create a raised growing zone for the roots. Make sure that it is not an area that gets water-logged when it rains heavily (whenever that might happen again!) and that you don't compact the freshly dug ground by trampling when it is wet. Keep watered for the first year or two and then the tree should have developed a good root system which will see it through the summer. If you mulch to keep the soil moist in between waterings just make sure not to pile organic material up against the trunk as it could cause rot. It would be preferable to use an inorganic mulch of small rocks or pebbles to keep the area under the tree free of weeds. We have planted quite

a few crabapples into grassed areas but try to keep the trunk clear of any growth. However underplanting with a ring of small bulbs such as grape-hyacinths, dwarf daffodils or spring-star flowers can be attractive and their roots won't be robbing the trees of any water or nutrient as they have usually died down during summer.

There were already some short rows of crabapples here planted by the previous owner. These included 'Golden Hornet' and one of the purple leafed types, possibly *Malus floribunda* which comes from Japan.



'Golden Hornet' produces bright pink buds which open to white flowers followed by small yellow fruit. *Malus floribunda* has soft pink flowers and purple-red fruit. 'Gorgeous' lives up to its name with lovely flowers and glossy red shaded yellow to orange cherry-sized fruit. Some people like the frothy pink and white confections carried by the Bechtel Crab, *Malus ioensis* 'Plena' – a large specimen covered in bloom can be quite a sight – though I'm not quite carried away by it. It reminds me of the tissue paper flowers used to decorate the walls at school socials. The single pink *Malus ioensis* 'Rubra' is similar to *Malus floribunda* in flower but the fruits appear to be larger and red-yellow (ours only fruited for the first time this past summer so it's hard to tell if it will be consistent). One of the brightest white flowerers is *Malus mandshurica*



(above) which we've only managed to get once – we'd love to get another but none of the wholesalers seem to have propagated it in the last few years.



*Crabapple - dark purple*

Another of our favourites is *Malus trilobata* which comes from Lebanon and has leaves reminiscent of a maple leaf but much reduced. It grows very upright in a column rather than spreading out like most of the others, a trait it shares with *Malus yunnanensis*. Neither of these two could be considered to have outstanding fruit but here we hardly ever see ripe fruit because of the parrots!



*Pioneer Rose*

Strangely enough one year when there was a huge amount of rain due to summer thunderstorms the parrots did not seem to be interested in the fruit and we harvested a few bucketsful to make crabapple jelly. Once in 17 years is hardly a reason to grow them for that! However their spring-blossom and autumn colour are worth it and if you use netting or are blessed with wildlife that don't attack your fruit you have an added reason to grow some crabs!

Cheers

Fermi

The Redesdale Rock-Gardener







Hello Dear Readers,

Lady Bombay here.

I feel just like the beginning of the Sound of Music with Julie Andrews turning around and

around on a hilltop on a glorious sunny day. It's Spring! Hooray! Although I don't think I would make a good novice; far too many bad habits.

The new white gravel mix looks a treat around the house, particularly the rose gardens. It should show off my beauties in all their colourful glory. However, what I thought may have been possums nibbling at their ripe buds turns out to be rosellas. Pretty little creatures as they are, restraints must be placed on them. I use homemade scarecrows, which I dress up to the nines with lots of bling particularly those past Christmas and birthday presents which

friends have given me which clearly do not suit me. Lord B says they all look like my mother. Well it seems to do the job and even Randy, our black Labrador, does not know what to make of them. My theme for this year is Barbara Cartland models one, two and three.

This time of the year calls for us to promote the growth of our beloved plants and demote the noxious weeds. Please make a note of which bottle is which with the fertilisers and weed killers and do not by any means rely on poor failing eyesight. Have your reading glasses with you always. Not that I speak from experience, of course. If Thorn, the gardener, was doing what he was supposed to, I wouldn't need my reading glasses.

Spring brings the delights of my wisterias with their magnificent cascading blooms of white and purple. The purple is the easier to grow as it doesn't require a lot of watering during the warmer months. I must say the garden looks like a Japanese painting. Maybe I should change the scarecrows to Kimonos. I'm sure I have a few moth-eaten ones in the attic.

Now is the time for the Yuccas that have been in buckets of water for the last month to be planted. Remember to use my old favourite propagating additive of vegemite.

Works an absolute treat.

Now it is coming up to open garden season in the area, particularly at Mount Macedon. Looking forward to them with the array of plant to ponder over. As Thorn, the gardener, tends to accompany me on these sojourns of horticultural delights, I must make sure he has no secateurs or large bags with him on the days. Readers may remember some of his past endeavours. I don't want to find the Bentley stuffed full of cuttings nor my handbag. I always ask for samples first. Now where did I put my reading glasses. I know, they are next Mother's ruin.

Too a loo for this month,

Lady Sapphire Bombay



## Garden Lore

Chinese Proverb:

"A thorn defends the rose, harming only those who would steal the blossom."



## 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,

A friend of mine is now my new neighbour. Since she moved in she has put in a huge cottage garden with lots of border and high maintenance plants. As she travels a lot for her work and, by the way, not short of a bob, I have offered to look after her garden whilst she is away. The only problem is that before she goes away, she leaves me a list of things that need to be tended to.

Am I the unofficial unpaid gardener?

Felicity Flabbergasted

Dear Fliss,

Dear oh dear, some friends do take liberties.

Now there are a couple of options.

1/Suggest that she take on hired help. I'm sure you could undertake the interviews on her behalf as she can afford it.

2/Let the garden go to rack and ruin.

3/Take a holiday or put a sign on your house with forthcoming Auction.

All the best with your options. Would love to know your outcome.

Lady B

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# Wanted! Bee Swarms

This is the time of year when honeybees increase the number of their colonies by swarming. You may see them actually emerge like a tornado of flying insects out of a tree or a crack in the house walls. Or you may see them in flight like a dark kite across the sky. Or you may find the main swarm resting while their scouts rush about looking for a new home.



Sometimes swarms settle on a rock or a fencepost or hang in a mass from a branch. Don't worry: bees are at their least dangerous now! In order to have some stores with them to tide them over in the early days in their new home, bees gorge on honey before they leave the old hive and their tummies are so full, their stinging mechanism is deflected and they actually can't sting for the first several days out of the mother hive.

However, though harmless at first, not everyone wants a hive of bees living in close proximity to them. And we should be mindful of the fact that swarming bees often move into hollows in trees where they displace native birds and mammals that are already under threat with a shortage of hollows.

But there is one person who would LOVE to know about "your" swarm and who would be happy to remove it, if it is accessible. That is, Win Westerhoff (pictured left and below), Glenhope beekeeper.

Win is happy to come and remove an accessible swarm (not a settled hive in tree or house, though\*\*) and the capture is much more likely to be successful if you call him immediately you see the swarm. The longer you leave it, the more likely it is to decamp or not stay put when he boxes it.



**His numbers are 03 54234152 or 0427389681. And Win will donate \$10.00 to Bridge Connection for every swarm successfully captured as a way of saying "thank you".**



\*\* The reason Win is not offering to remove a settled colony in a tree or house is that when you try to lift out the honeycomb, it almost always leaks honey resulting in drowned bees and, in the end, a very disturbed and aggressive hive. It is very difficult to catch the Queen (she scurries out of the light) and without the Queen, the hive dies. Altogether a messy business and very unlikely to be successful. If you have a settled bee colony and really can't bear it to stay where it is, the only option is to call a professional pest exterminator.

## Obituary

### Dr. Gwynne Duigan



Mia Mia district residents will be sad to hear of the death of Dr. Gwynne Duigan, who died on October 5th aged 98. She had suffered a slight stroke earlier in the year and was admitted to a nursing home in Geelong. Gwynne fought strongly against this incarceration and eventually was allowed home. It was commented that she was one of the few escapees from such an institution. For some time she did manage to live by herself, with some visiting outside assistance, until she suffered another stroke and later died in the Geelong Hospital.

Gwynne was the widow of Terry Duigan, a son of Reg Duigan. Reg and his brother John successfully built and flew the first Australian constructed powered aeroplane. This

historic event occurred on July 10th, 1910 on their father's property, Spring Plains Mia Mia.

One hundred years later to the day a celebration of this historic feat was celebrated by the Mia Mia community, with people coming from all over Australia to acknowledge the Duigan brothers' significant achievement. During the years leading up to the centenary a replica of the original plane had been built in Geelong by a group of enthusiasts who with great care transported it to Mia Mia for the celebrations. It was hoped that the replica might actually take off on the day but largely because of the appalling weather, it was deemed appropriate for the plane to remain on the ground.



Photograph - Duigan Flight Memorial Dedication, 1960  
Source: Museums Victoria

However the engine did fire up satisfactorily which added to the excitement of the day. Gwynne was one of the driving forces behind the building of this replica and believed that it was "more authentic" than the other replica now displayed in the Melbourne Museum. The original is stowed away in the Museum archives. The replica, which was displayed at Mia Mia, is now in the Aviation Museum at Wagga.

Her husband, Terry Duigan was an architect with Buchan Laird and Buchan, the firm responsible for the soldier settler houses throughout Victoria, some still to be seen in this area. It was therefore appropriate that he should design the very pleasing Duigan Memorial on the Burke and Wills Track, some kilometres from where the plane actually made its maiden flight. Terry was, as were his three siblings, an experienced pilot, flying with the RAAF during the war when he was Mentioned in Dispatches and also awarded a DFC.

For many years Gwynne practiced as a radiation oncologist but on her retirement was able to devote her time to archival work, taking over from her husband who prior to his death had been the Duigan family archivist.

She leaves behind her son Michael and his children, Damien and Miranda and the now widely scattered Duigan family.

*Jill James*



# Redesdale and District Association Annual General Meeting

On 21st September the fifth AGM of the Redesdale and District (the Association) was held at 7 pm at the Redesdale Hall.

Apologies were received from Yvonne McGrath, Hilary and Mark Jankelson, Joe Sebire, Chris Sargent, and Regina Bennett. Those present were Kathy Hall, Rod Gibson, Sarah Trezise, Les Pocock, Gloria Pocock, Jill James, Ruth Booker, and Chris Gillies.

Jo Smith-Sargent welcomed members and visitors. She said, "Over the past five years of the Association we have maintained a loyal 70 members. This year has seen a change in our Membership. There will no longer be a charge so if you are not a member and would like to know more information about becoming a member, please speak to Jill after the meeting at the Members Desk.

The Association is now into its 5th year. Let's start by reminding ourselves why it was formed initially. One of the main reasons was to develop the Community Plan in cooperation with the Community. This was completed in 2013 and has led onto many things throughout the years.

In that Community Plan, 4 years ago, it was confirmed that the community had a desire to update the kitchen and toilets at the Redesdale hall and to improve the reserve.

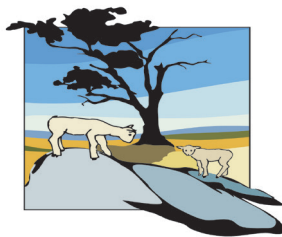
From these initial group discussions about what the community would like we, as a community, have made progress towards detailed design planning.

The City of Greater Bendigo has worked tirelessly and has invested considerable funds to fulfil these community desires. First there was a Feasibility study, then there was the Business Case and now we have a Detailed Design Working Group. So far, this working group has met twice and its work will be a natural progression from the original development of the Community Plan.

It is with great anticipation that we look forward to seeing this project evolve. Our website has been updated, with new drone pictures taken with a donation from Jellis Craig. We hope that the website will be one of the main assets for the community to keep in touch and to also be a tool for visitors. For those of you who are interested, Kathy will demonstrate the new website at the end of this meeting.

Over the past few years the Association bought chairs, tables, umbrellas, a roaster and other catering equipment. These have all recently been handed over to The Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee, for them to store and manage for the community.

As mentioned earlier, membership fees for the Association are no longer applied.



Redesdale

Membership fees were very necessary in the first four years of the Association for the purposes of setting it up, maintenance of the website and to cover costs of the needed insurance policies. This has now changed and there will be no cost to join. We are hoping that all community members will take this opportunity to register their name and address so that we can keep you in the loop with what is going on in your backyard.

The Defibrillator is an ongoing project. Paid for by all community groups, it is still active and can be used by anyone.

The Association has the responsibility of maintaining the machine regularly and all community groups contribute to the cost of the upkeep. It is in the process of being moved to the outside of the CFA building and this will happen within the next week or so.

The District Association heartily supports the annual Redesdale Festival which is being managed this year by the Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee. This year, this is taking place on the weekend BEFORE the Melbourne Cup Weekend. It will happen on October 27th, 28th and 29th. The 5th Redesdale Art Show will be on, as will Open Studios, and a Craft Market. There are leaflets at the back of the hall. The CFA are hosting a Camp Oven Cook Off on the Saturday. Fingers crossed for fabulous weather. You can check these all out on the new Redesdale website."

This completed the Chairperson's summary of town and Association activities for the Annual General Meeting.

Minutes from the previous meeting in September 2016 and then again prior to this meeting. The minutes were accepted as correct. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

The Annual Financial Statement was presented by treasurer, Ruth Booker.

The annual cash balance as at July 1st 2016 was \$10,902.16. The total revenue for the year was \$1,868. Total Expenditure was \$7,926.5 leaving a balance at 30th June 2017 of \$4,843.66.

It was pointed out that RaDA would no longer be funding the school's swimming program as this is now Federal government funded. RaDA had been funding this for the past 3 years. This was an important and worthwhile endeavour. It was noted that the funds are quickly diminishing and that fund-raising activity will need to occur

next year as there are costs such as insurance and the defib and other occasional projects to fund.

At this point, the Chair announced that all committee positions were vacant. She handed over to Chris Gillies to run the election process. Jo stated that Chris is a valued member of the community who works full time in Melbourne and manages to run a successful winery and bed and breakfast here in Redesdale.

On taking the chair, Chris thanked all the exiting committee members of the Redesdale and District Association. She acknowledged the landmarks achieved in working towards the goals of the Community Plan. She declared all positions vacant and the voting procedure commenced. It was noted that Don White and Ruth Booker had resigned from the committee from this meeting. It was stated that Andrew Campbell had agreed by phone to take up the position of the CFA representative in Don's place but that Andrew was unable to attend tonight's meeting. The results were as follows:

**President and web manager:** Jo Smith Sargent

**Secretary:** Kathy Hall

**Vice President:** Gloria Pocock

**Treasurer:** Sarah Trezise

**Assistant Treasurer and Bridge Connection rep.:** Regina Bennett

**Membership Officer:** Jill James

**School Rep.:** Joe Sebire

**CFA Rep.:** Andrew Campbell

**RRRC Rep.:** Rod Gibson

**Hall Committee Rep.:** Yvonne McGrath

There have been two resignations:

Ruth Booker has been treasurer for two years and has done an outstanding job. She was thanked by the committee. Don White has been on the committee as CFA rep since the inception of the Association and has been a loyal and active member. He too will be sorely missed.

The committee welcomed new office holders and thanked them for their participation.

Chris then handed back to Jo Smith-Sargent to conclude the meeting.

There was no general business.

The Chairman spoke of the exciting year ahead where the Association will continue to act as a central point of contact, maintain the website and organise events to bring interest, participation and funds into the community. She looked forward to hearing from members of the Detailed Design Working Group who will be working with the CoGB appointed consultant to plan the Redesdale Precinct. Next year will also be the time to develop a review of the community plan which is now 5 years old.

The meeting closed at 7.30 pm



# REDESDALE 2017 FESTIVAL



Lee Mason and Jo Smith-Sargent with ingredients for the cook-off.



Team Atkins




Martine Atkins, Andrew King and Jim Boyd at the CFA tent.

## RESULTS OF THE CFA RAFFLE

**1ST PRIZE:** Don Horne - Fire fighting trailer and accessories

**2ND PRIZE:** Lydia Taylor - \$400 Bunnings Voucher

**3RD PRIZE:** David Cheal - \$300 Local produce



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## IF YOU ONLY DO ONE THING THIS FIRE SEASON

**Speak to the CFA**  
**Thursday 16th November in**  
**Redesdale**

**WHAT:** Free Fire Ready Safety Information Session

**WHERE:** FIRE STATION Redesdale

**WHEN:** 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm Thursday 16th November 2017

**FIND OUT:** Must have fire information for this season

**FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact**  
**CFA Office 1800 735 202**



## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### 27

#### Jill's Coconut Orange Cake with Starfruit Glaze



Juice and zest of 3 oranges  
250g butter  
Half cup of sugar  
4 eggs  
1.5 cups SR flour  
Half t.spoon baking powder  
2 t.spoons mixed spice  
1.5 cups coconut  
1 packed cup of ground almonds  
Half cup almonds, slivered and toasted  
70ml mirin  
2/3 cup of orange juice  
1 cup of sugar  
1 or 2 starfruit, finely sliced  
1 tablespoon of orange marmalade

Preheat oven to 180 degrees and butter a 22cm tin lined with baking paper.

Beat the orange zest, butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add eggs one at a time and beat after each addition.

In a separate bowl mix together flour, baking powder, mixed spice, coconut, ground and slivered almonds.

Mix half the flour mixture into the butter mixture, stirring gently with a wooden spoon.

Stir in the wine and juice of the oranges, then add the remaining flour mixture.

Pour cake batter into the prepared tin and bake at 180 degrees for 45 minutes.

Meanwhile make the syrup by simmering together orange juice and sugar until the sugar has dissolved, then boil for 5 mins.

When the cake has finished baking, pour the syrup carefully over the hot cake and allow the cake to cool in the tin.

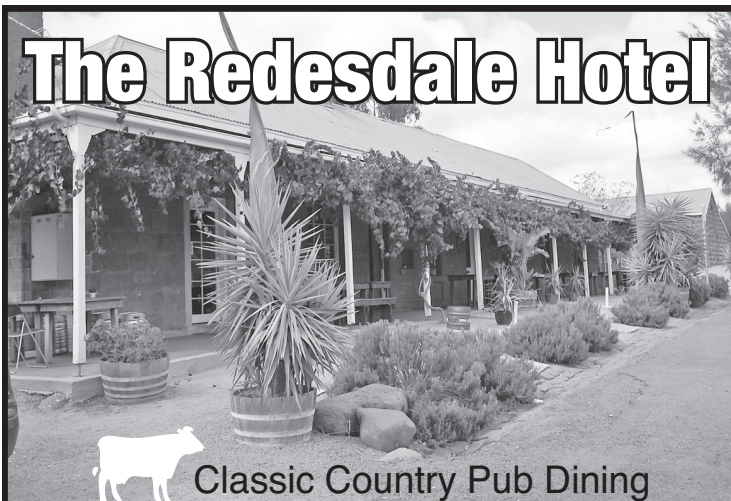
Remove from tin and decorate with sliced starfruit (optional).

Heat marmalade and gently brush over cake.

*Thanks to Jill James for this delicious recipe!*



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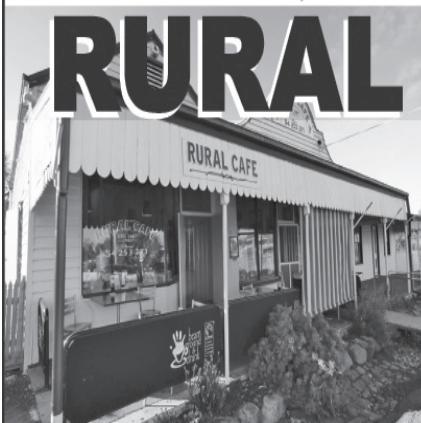
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## Your Health!

# UTIs

with

Dr Tim

Urinary tract infection are there three words that strike more fear into the heart of Australian women?

There are few other conditions which are as prevalent, uncomfortable and embarrassing. The frequent need to rush to the toilet and the discomfort or pain of actually “going” are symptoms that once experienced are rarely forgotten.

We tend to associate urinary tract infection and women for good reason - around one in two women will have at least one Urinary Tract Infection, or UTI, in a lifetime. UTI occurs in men and children quite frequently as well - it is a condition for many ages and stages.

Leaving aside considerations of gender and age for a little while though, UTI occurs basically because bacteria gain easy access to the bladder one way or another. As long as there is urine sitting in the bladder feeding the nasties, the infection will continue. In some cases, the infection will travel further, through the ureters which join the bladder with the kidneys. Infection in the kidneys then presents the potential for a whole lot more problems. This is really time to be looked after by a doctor who knows their stuff!

Women get so many more UTIs because the distance bugs need to travel from the outside skin into the bladder - the length of the urethra, is so much shorter than in males - simple anatomy unfortunately. But there are a range of other medical conditions which

predispose to UTI - neurological conditions where the bladder does not empty properly, conditions such as diabetes which affect immunity, and a few conditions which block the bladder's drain pipe such as prostate enlargement in men and common old constipation particularly in children.

What to do when the sting of a UTI strikes? Well it's the last thing you'll want to do - running to the toilet as you are already - but it's best to drink plenty of water - try adding some Ural™ into your water as well as this can get rid of some of the discomfort. This will get you through a day or the weekend until you can see your regular GP, and get checked out properly for appropriate treatment. Only if there is a fever does it become more urgent to seek medical attention, as this could indicate infection of the kidneys.

Young children with UTIs present a particular diagnostic dilemma - because they can't tell us of their symptoms, they don't cooperate to produce urine specimens on demand and what signs they do present are often subtle and attributable to many other conditions. Even experienced doctors have been known to miss a UTI in a child.

Harking back to the conditions that predispose to UTI, it is important once the infection is treated to have a discussion with your GP about prevention as well. There are a range of strategies that may be important to use.

Anyway, the bottom line is clear - if you suspect a UTI get checked out as soon as practicable by your GP. Indeed, according to data from the National Health Performance Authority - there are many thousands of hospital admissions for UTI across Australia per year that could be prevented by more timely treatment by a GP.

Dr Tim Stobie 5422 1397

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## Rockin' Around the Redesdale Hall

By Tahlia Campbell

'50s floral and rock 'n' roll music flooded the Redesdale Hall on October 14th when Jefferson Smith and Route 66 played their concert. The event, hosted by the Rural Cafe, was full of tasty nibbles, fun dancing and a good time for everyone involved.



Starting from 8pm, the band's rollicking rhythms backed Jefferson's stellar vocals throughout the night. The hall was

packed to the brim, with many people dressing up in 50's fashion to really complete the mood of the night.

Jefferson performed at the Rural Cafe earlier this year, and enjoyed the experience enough to want to play in Redesdale again. Having grown up in country Victoria, small towns like Redesdale are close to his heart.

A love for old records from the golden age of Hollywood has led him to become immersed in the fashion, lingo and aesthetic of the '50s, making his performances not only an engaging experience, but a lifestyle.

Jefferson fell in love with music by listening to records from Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin, and has since spent years adding to his songbook. Some of the numbers he pulled out for the night included Blue Suede Shoes, Johnny Be Good, Rock Around The Clock and Hey Good Lookin'. The high-energy performance brought the crowd out onto the floor, some people showing off their impressive dance skills, while others moved to the beat of their own drum.

Jefferson Smith and Route 66 livened up the town for one night, bringing the community together and letting them mingle with old and new friends in what is, hopefully, the first of many future performances in Redesdale. We look forward to seeing where Jefferson and his bandmates go from here.



## INDOOR MARKET & DEVONSHIRE TEA

REDESDALE  
HALL

SUNDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> November.  
9.00am - 4.00pm

Agnes Mudford  
Reserve



### Redesdale CFA update

It's that time of year when we are all preparing for the summer months ahead, in particular fire prevention, preparedness and formulating a fire plan.

To assist, the Redesdale Fire Brigade will be holding a community information night with expert advice from a CFA spokesperson. Also brigade members will be on hand to pass on their experiences.

The venue will be the Redesdale Fire Station  
On Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> of November

At 7 pm

Hope to see you there.

For more info 0428 253 104.



### Redesdale Tennis Club News

In the A Grade Premiership 2016/17 season, in a combined Redesdale Sedgwick team, local Linda Newnham won **Most Consistent Player** in the A Grade competition.

The 2017 has now commenced & new players/teams are still welcome to join the mixed grade competition -all levels are welcome.  
If anyone is interested in playing, please contact Linda Newnham on 0400 554 716.

At a local level we would like to start mid-week social tennis either weekday mornings or/and twilight during the summer - expressions of interest to Sue Newnham 54 253 124 or Yvonne McGrath 0425 260 840

**For anyone wishing to use the courts, a key is available at the Rural Cafe.**

## Hall happenings



Hall Happenings.

Our afternoon tea dance on 24<sup>th</sup> September was a great success.

The weather was lovely and we had 95 dancers attending. All had a wonderful time.

A big thankyou from Dorothea to all the Hall Committee members and helpers for their hard work.

A reminder about our Indoor Market on the Sunday before Melbourne Cup day, 5<sup>th</sup> November, in the hall from 9am to 4pm.

Devonshire teas will be available all day. Hope to see you there.

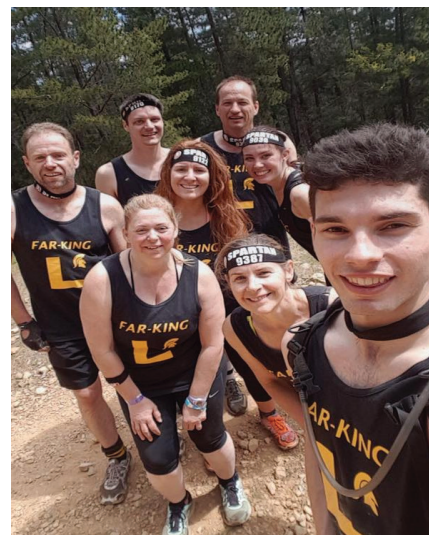
Norma Barker.

## Victory at Spartan for Redesdale's Runners

By Tahlia Campbell

On October 7<sup>th</sup>, a team from Redesdale's own bootcamp headed up to Bright to take part in the Spartan Race. The team, pictured below, consisting of Jess Carr, Jamie Coombes, Emma Atkins, Brandon Dimech, Andrew and Michelle King, and Lisa and Andrew Campbell, trekked over 14km through gritty terrain and completed 30 obstacles before reaching the finish line.

The Spartan's Kid's Race was completed by 11 year old William King. The Kid's Race consists of miniature versions of the adult's obstacles and a focus on fun. Every Spartan competitor received a medal, a headband and a t-shirt, along with the occasional bruise.

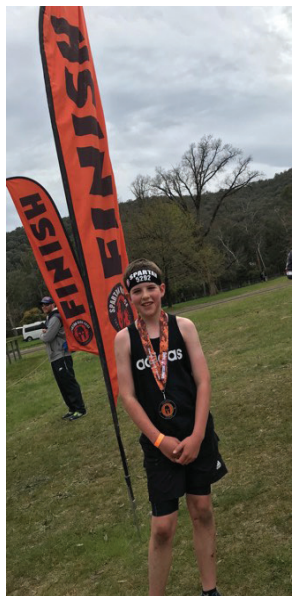


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Spartan Race began in 2005, and in 2012 won Outside Magazine's award for Best Obstacle Race. Contestants ran up the steep incline through rocks, water and mud, all while climbing ropes, going under barbed wire, over walls, and across monkey bars. A particularly difficult obstacle involved navigating over a cargo net stretched out between shipping containers stacked on top of each other. Towards the top of the hill, the air was thin and snow was still melting, making



the journey across the stream paralyzingly cold. Redesdale's team has been training for the event through Jess's bootcamp, building up the strength and endurance needed to complete an obstacle race of this magnitude. Each training session not only improved their physical fitness, but also gave them team-building skills and the determination to finish what they start. Teamwork was a major component in the race. Team members assisted each other with obstacles and cheered each other on. A supportive and encouraging energy was consistent with everyone involved in Spartan, including crew members and volunteers. Strangers and teammates alike stood together to make sure everyone gave every obstacle their best shot.

Well done William King (above)!

# BOOTCAMP

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*Lest We Forget - The RSL*

*A meeting place of mateship  
Where memories are shared  
And within it's private confines  
The souls of men are bared.*

*They relive the burning moments  
Of horror all wars bring,  
As they risked their lives in service  
For their country and their King.*

*These memories are traumatic  
Of lives so sadly lost.  
The R.S.L gives refuge  
For those who seek to find  
Peace once more in meeting  
With others of their kind.*

*The comradeship will help them  
To know life is worth while  
And to put the past behind them  
Going forward with a smile.*

*By Nancy Begg*

## Weeding time

### Weeding tips from the Sutton Grange Landcare Group

- Start in the most native areas and with outlying satellite infestations.
- Begin with single plants and new infestations before they get out of control.
- Make sure follow up is undertaken before moving onto new areas.
- Use an integrated approach possibly using two or more different techniques.
- Biological control is generally not an effective control technique on its own.
- Replacing weeds with indigenous vegetation after weed control can increase the effectiveness.
- If starting a control program, make sure that you can continue yearly, so that you are depleting the seed bank.
- Make sure if you are triggering germination of plants, follow up is undertaken (i.e. burning Broom patches to break seed dormancy will create a mass germination event. If not followed up, this may create a worse problem than was there originally).



# REDESDALE 2017 FESTIVAL



Clockwise from top left:  
Enjoying the warm opening night of the art show;  
the sheep in the saleyard;  
fabulous stalls at the market on Sunday and  
wonderful music.





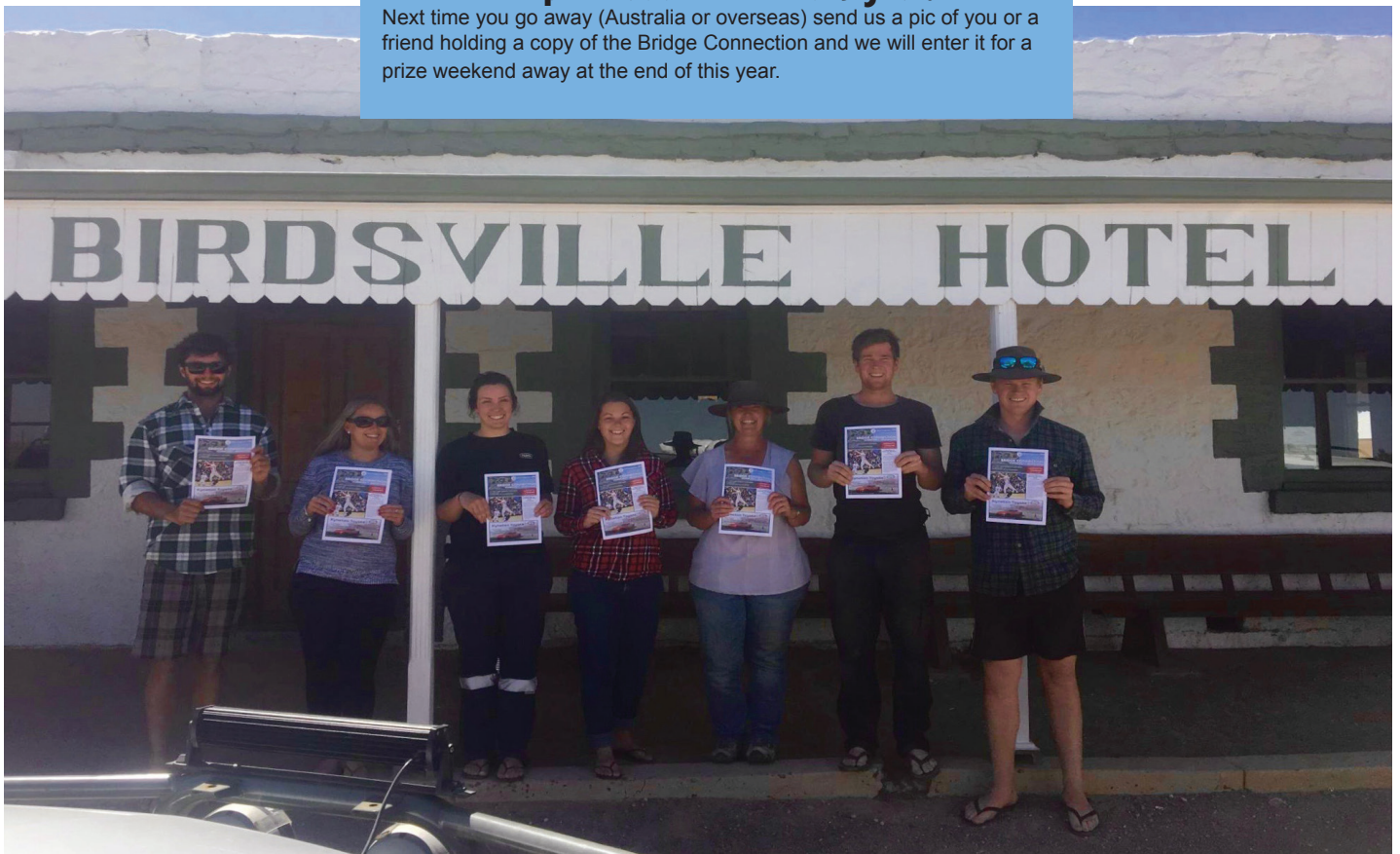


# bridge abroad



## A prize at the end of this year!

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.



How about this huge effort from the Atkins family who recently attended the Birdsville Races (with several copies of our beloved magazine!) and had an absolute ball. From left: Owen Bell, Emma Moore, Emma Atkins, Mandy Mitchell, Martine Atkins, Steve Atkins and Chris Atkins. Pretty sure Paul must have been taking the picture.

## Mica Grange 2017 Spring Open Garden Sculpture Exhibition

### Merging the Wonders of Art with the Beauty of Garden

The 2017 Spring Mica Grange Open Garden Sculpture Exhibition brings together the creative works of 18 sculptors exhibiting more than 60 small and large creations across a wide range of mediums.

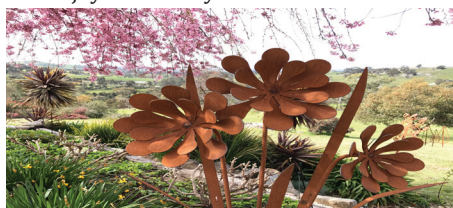
The Open Garden & Sculpture Exhibition is open each weekend from 21 October to 26 November including the Monday/Tuesday of Melbourne Cup. Group tours can be booked during the week. Garden Entry is \$6 per adult, children free. Open times are 10am to 4pm.

Set on the foothills of Mount Alexander with panoramic views across the Sutton Grange valley you can sit down and enjoy lunch, morning and afternoon tea on the deck after perusing the eclectic collection of artworks during your garden wander.

In addition to the sculpture exhibition there



is a large variety of garden art and plants giving visitors a vast array of creative ideas. There is something for everyone with prices ranging from \$7 to \$7000. Traditional gardens abundant with roses, Australian flora, Protea, rockeries, fairy garden, a large vegetable garden and orchard all set amid expansive lawns make Mica Grange an enticing and relaxing place to meander and enjoy the beauty of nature.



Children, for whom entry is free (under 18 years ) are most welcome. A special feature of the garden is the expanded Fairy Garden village which sits under the old yellow box gum complete with fairies, fairy houses, fairy tables, trees, toadstools, plants and fantasy.



The exhibition provides sculptors the opportunity to show their works in an idyllic garden setting.

What: Mica Grange Open Garden Sculpture Exhibition. Entry \$6. Children Free.

When: Each weekend 21 October to 26 November plus Monday/Tuesday of Melbourne Cup. Group bookings available during the week.

Where: Mica Grange, 373 Faraday Sutton Grange Rd. Sutton Grange. M/A Tea, Lunch available 10am to 4pm

Contact: Ph. 54748262 or visit [WWW.mica-grange.com.au](http://WWW.mica-grange.com.au) for further information



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## MICA GRANGE OPEN GARDEN

*Sculpture* EXHIBITION

**OPEN EACH WEEKEND**  
from Oct. 21 to Nov. 26, 2017  
10am - 4pm plus  
MON., TUE. of MELB. CUP WEEK

Entry **\$6**  
Children Free

Morning tea - Lunch  
- Afternoon tea.  
Garden art - Plants -  
Preserves available.



KN227440/M

**373 Faraday Sutton Grange Rd. Sutton Grange**  
[www.micagrangecup.com.au](http://www.micagrangecup.com.au) (03) 54748262

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