



ISSUE NO. 89 October 2017

FREE

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# BRIDGE CONNECTION COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



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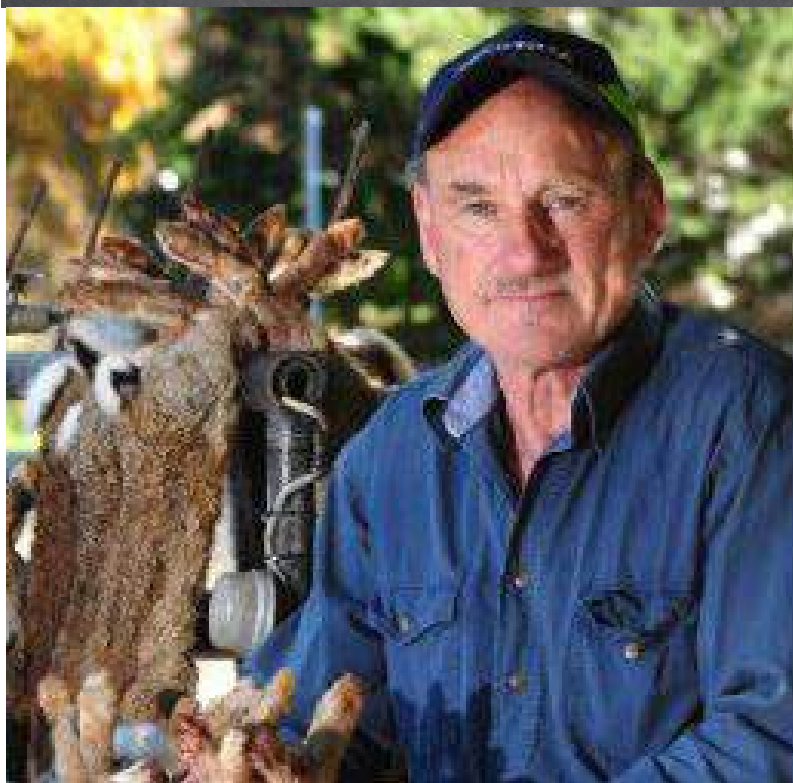
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## Run, Rabbit, Run!

### Redesdale's Renowned Rabbit Hunter

By Tahlia Campbell

"The rabbit chiller in my front yard came from Quinyambie in South Australia and it holds 600 pairs. On Quinyambie there were five shooters...Every 10 days they would load out 7500 pairs for the Sydney Market."

You'd be hard-pressed to find anyone in the area who doesn't know the name Peter Rabbit - and I don't mean the Beatrix Potter character.

Peter Golden is renowned for his rabbit-hunting skills across country Victoria, his reputation earning him the nickname Peter Rabbit. Rabbit hunting is something he has enjoyed for a long time, but it's more than just a hobby.

*continued : page 10.*

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Callum Munro feeding pet sheep Buddy.

**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.

## BIRD QUIZ with NIGEL HARLAND



Last month's bird was the Galah. A very common bird in our district and all over Australia. Despite its regular appearance, it is one of the prettiest of the cockatoo family. It is often found in large groups, particularly in dead trees. They make a raucous noise, but are generally silent in the heat of the day. Congratulations to Vasey Mckindley who was our winner this month. Our bird for This month is much smaller, but is very common. – 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

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This is Nahla. This mare is a rescue mare. She was bought off the meat works at Shepparton. She is a nervous horse, but underneath she is a nice and loving horse! She is about 16 years old and I have had her just for one year. I love her very much.  
Vasey Mckindley



## Editorial

Hello Readers!

There is a lot happening this month in Redesdale. The Redesdale Festival starts on Friday the 27th October. See page 12 and 13 for details. We hope you all support this great festival and make it to a few events that are held over the weekend.

This month we have a new "Little Treasures" section. We hope to see readers send in their stories on their special treasure Page 6 & 11

This month the Redesdale website has been revamped many long hours have been put into the revamp. Thanks Jo Smith - Sargent for all the hard work. It looks fantastic. <https://www.redesdale.net>

As we are heading into the warmer weather now is the time to clean up around the yard before the fire season.

Kathy and Regina.



Regina Bennett



Kathy Hall

### Co-Editors

Kathy Hall

Regina Bennett

Ph: 0407116 899

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**DEADLINE**  
20th of each month

## BRIDGE CONNECTION COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

### Advertising Rates/Sizes

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**Visit the  
New Redesdale Website**

@

**<https://www.redesdale.net>**

# THE MUNRO LETTERS

## Episode 8

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

We slept the first night not far from the summit of Mount Alexander. The rock of this hill is granite. It is thinly wooded and extremely well grassed and offers in its neighbourhood some of the finest scenery I have seen in Australia. There is a great abundance of game in the ranges connected with Mount Alexander. We saw a number of Kangaroos and I had a shot with my rifle at an emu which I was fortunate enough to bring down. I should not however feel disposed to shoot another; it is a graceful harmless bird with a beautiful mild eye and capable of being easily domesticated. We took off the skin and nailed it up on a tree with the intention of picking it up on our return. We came to the same tree in a fortnight but there was no vestige of skin and all that remained of the bird was a few feathers and some of the larger bones well-picked. The native dogs had had a feast. The muscular system of the emu is very striking; it seems to be all legs; there is hardly any pectoral muscle, while all the muscles of the buttocks and thighs are of immense size and put me in mind of the hind legs of a horse. There is a considerable quantity of oil under the skin, which is highly prized by bushmen; they consider it a particularly fine oil for greasing anything and if I am not mistaken use it also as an external application in rheumatism etc.



*Mount Alexander Regional Park- Parks Victoria*

Crossing the Mount Alexander range we descended on the west side into a country of inferior description. We called at 2 stations here; at the first, the only water they had was a very small quantity but as white as milk in a wooden trough sunk in the bottom of a very deep but almost dry water hole., and the people expected to be obliged to leave the station very shortly. At the second station there was a water hole in which the water was strongly impregnated with salt. A ride of about 20 miles through barren forest brought us to Loddon, which we found like the Campaspe skirted by open plains of considerable extent. We slept that night in the house of a Scotch settler, a Mr.A. Having passed a night which was concerned in one long and fruitless attempt, by means of my fingers, to repel the attacks of numberless lively little insects or to remedy the unpleasant sensation occasioned by them when they affect a settlement, I rejoiced when daylight appeared and as

you can imagine lay no longer in bed than I could help it.

We rode this day a long way through a forest in which there were few clear spaces, and in the afternoon found ourselves on the summit of a range of little hills subordinate to a much higher one which rose up opposite to us and which we considered to be Mount Freeth on Major Mitchell's map. The afternoon was beautifully clear and in order to have a view of the country we determined upon ascending it. What its height may be from the sea I know not, but I estimated it from its base at least 1000 feet. The rock of which it consists is a sandstone highly inclined towards the horizon. In some places, particularly near the top of the hill it is fine grains with an approach to a slightly slaty structure. In the subordinate ridge it was so coarse grained as easily to be mistaken at a superficial glance for granite. The fragments of quartz being about the same size that they are in ordinary granite and mixed up with dark coloured mica. The hill is well grassed and has a thin sprinkling of trees of small size upon it. Principally cassuarina.



*Wild geranium*

*Pelargonium 'Mallee Magic' (Geraniaceae)*

Source: <http://australiannatives.blogspot.com.au>

A wild geranium growing in abundance among the herbage was a very pretty plant, and I gathered a flower of it on the very summit of the mountain. We had a very hard climb up dragging our horses after us, but when we stood upon the highest point we were amply rewarded. The afternoon as I have said was excessively beautiful and the air as clear as it is possible to be. The sun was about an hour above the horizon and his light had become mellow and oblique, casting shadows of the richest tints.

The panorama which surrounded us was magnificent and excessively poetical; to any one with the smallest perception of the grandeur and beauty of nature, it was one of those positions in which the heart feels too full for utterance, and swells with shadowy mysterious and thrilling sensations which find no expression in the precision of language, but are connected with the invisible and eternal.

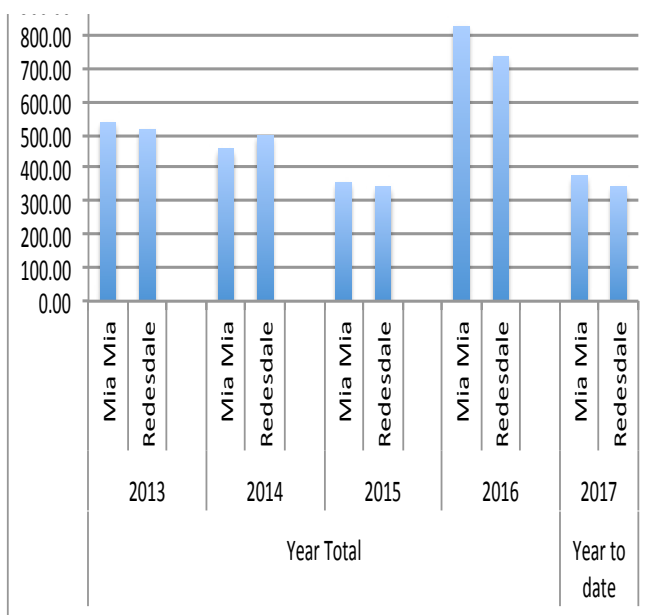
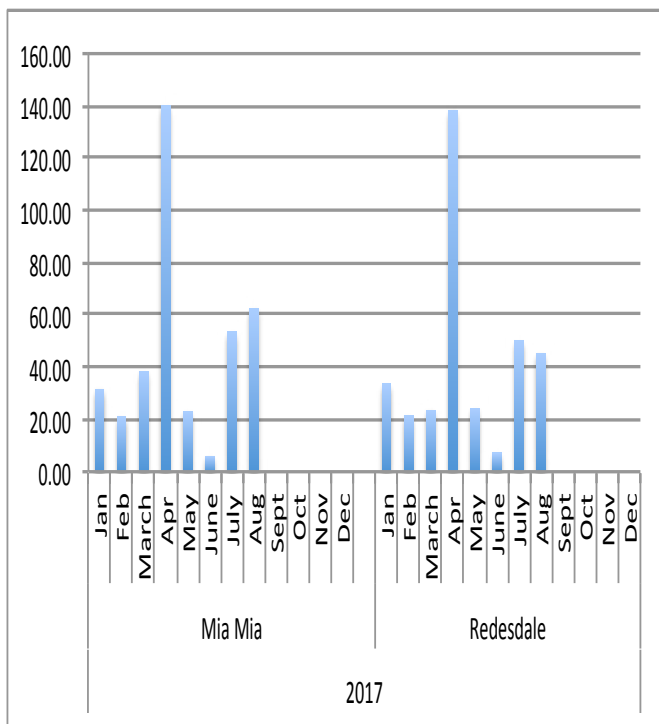
If you cast your eyes over Major Mitchell's map you will understand the greatness of the distance to which our view extended. We fancied we could almost make out the sea, but at all events we could distinguish the hills around Melbourne and the open grassy plains which looked like far distant cornfields in harvest. We had in the southwest, the Grampians looming much higher than anything I had seen before in New South Wales.

Next month: ***Beneath us we had a sea of undulating forest...***



# RAINFALL

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



## 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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## Redesdale Hall FOR HIRE



Ammenities 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.

### Commercial-sized Roaster for hire

from Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee. \$100 for weekend.

Please call 0427 280 814 for further information.

Free hire to Hall Committee, CFA, Redesdale and District Association.

## Little Treasures

This month we thought we might start a new column inviting you, our readers, to send in a picture and a little story about any inanimate object in your life that means a lot to you and that you really treasure.

To start the ball rolling, here is a story about a chair that I treasure. We hope to hear from our readers soon. Please send your contributions to [bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you.

### The Little Wooden Chair

In about 1956, the headmaster of my primary school in Farnborough, Kent, England, decided that the school needed refurbishment. A stack of little wooden chairs was made available for sale to parents and they were replaced by modern versions. My Dad, who fancied himself as a bit of an amateur carpenter, bought four and took them home to be renovated for my cousins and me.



He sanded and glued and polished these little chairs and ceremoniously presented them to the other families. We kept one for us. I thought mine was beautiful and I can remember that at 6 years old it was special to have a piece of my beloved primary school at home. Obviously, I grew out of the little chair but it took on a number of important new roles; a chair-side table for coffee and books and later as a stool for reaching tall cupboards in the kitchen.

In the seventies I moved to Australia and my widowed mother came too in 1981. She bought the little wooden chair with her and it stayed in her Australian kitchen where it served as a stepladder for tall cupboards or a depository for newspapers.

*Continued on page 11*

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## BC: AUSTRALIAN GENERAL

1. In rhyming slang, if someone said they were going to have a "bo-peep", what they be doing?
2. Australians hold the world record for which amazing feat? A) Fastest Beer bottle opening B) Largest Christmas Cracker C) Most Sheep Sheared in 24 hours D) Largest Chicken Dance
3. What is Kylie Minogue's lingerie line called?
4. Where is the Big Prawn?
5. Approximately how many rabbits are there in Australia today? A) 3 million B) 30 million C) 300 million D) 3,000 million.
6. What was the name of Olivia Newton-John's chain of clothing stores?
7. What outback town's population swells from 120 to crowds of over 5000 for a racing carnival?
8. Which of the following is not an Australian innovation? A) Chiko Roll B) Lawn Sprinkler C) Plastic bank notes D) Dual flush toilet E) Wine Cask?
9. What creature does Jana Pittman have tattooed on her body?
10. The Idiot Fruit and Darling Peas are poisonous, True or False?

## ANSWERS

- |                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 10. True              | 5. C - 300 million               |
| 9. Bee                | 4. Ballina                       |
| 8. B - Lawn sprinkler | 3. Love Kylie                    |
| 7. Birdsville         | 2. B - Largest Christmas Cracker |
| 6. Koala Blue         | 1. Having a sleep                |

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## Quote of the month:

*Dont Call  
it a dream  
Call it a Plan*



# in the Heathcote Region

### Saturday 7th October 2017

2017 Victorian Rogaining Championships "Ray Whroo Rogaine" (24hr) and Non-championship Bush Rogaine (8hr) at Graytown- given, and can finish early if you don't want to use the full time. Go to website- [www.vra.rogaine.asn.au](http://www.vra.rogaine.asn.au) or [www.vra.rogaine.asn.au/events/eventdetail](http://www.vra.rogaine.asn.au/events/eventdetail)

Rite of Spring Duo Chamber Recital- Time: 6pm. Cost \$10 entry. Bookings essential phone Katie 0406 106 794 or Heather 0438 026 153. Enjoy & celebrate happy spring music played by two talented conservatorium trained musicians. Katie is a Heathcote resident and with her friend Nona would love to introduce you to the world of classical music. Children most welcome and entry is free if under 14yrs. Pickup can be arranged in Heathcote for those who are unable to travel to and from the venue. Venue: St John Anglican Church 165 High St Heathcote

Heathcote Wine & Food Festival- . Book on line now: [heathcotewinegrowers.com.au](http://heathcotewinegrowers.com.au)

Merindoc Vintners Rose Revolution Weekend- Join us for a French & Italian theme weekend for launch of our 2017 Willoughby Bridge Vineyard Rose & inaugural 2016 Willoughby Bridge Vineyard Sangiovese [www.merindoc.com.au](http://www.merindoc.com.au) or phone 5433 5188 for bookings . wood fire pizza's available  
Venue: Merindoc Cellar Door & Cafe 2905 Lancefield- Tooborac Rd Tooborac

### Sunday 8th October 2017

Heathcote Wine & Food Festival- Ancient Soils, Amazing Wines. Discover all that the Heathcote Wine Region has to offer from 10.30am – 4.30pm. Wineries 40plus showcasing their wines / Regional food producers / Music & children's activities / Buses from Melbourne & Bendigo. Venue: Heathcote Showgrounds. Book on line now: [heathcotewinegrowers.com.au](http://heathcotewinegrowers.com.au)

Merindoc Vintners Rose Revolution Weekend- Join us for a French & Italian theme weekend for launch of our 2017 Willoughby Bridge Vineyard Rose & inaugural 2016 Willoughby Bridge Vineyard Sangiovese [www.merindoc.com.au](http://www.merindoc.com.au) or phone 5433 5188 for bookings. Wood fire pizza's available  
Venue: Merindoc Cellar Door & Cafe 2905 Lancefield- Tooborac Rd Tooborac

### Saturday 21st October 2017

Costerfield Hall Centenary 1917-2017- Time: 3pm. Cost \$10 per person (proceeds to aid the hall). Please bring a plate of food to share for afternoon tea. A sausage sizzle dinner will be provided, followed by a dance and supper. For further info contact- Marg Harris ph 5433 2625 or Norm Harris ph 5435 3635  
Venue: Costerfield Hall Costerfield

### Sunday 22nd October 2017

Merindoc Winery- Lamb Shanks & Shiraz Sunday's back by popular demand. [www.merindoc.com.au](http://www.merindoc.com.au) or phone 5433 5188 for bookings  
Venue: Merindoc Cellar Door & Cafe 2905 Lancefield- Tooborac Rd Tooborac

### Friday 27th October 2017

Redesdale Festival Weekend- Time: 6pm. Cost \$10 entry fee. Opening night with an Art Show. Glass of wine & nibbles, food & drinks for sale  
Venue: Agnes Mudford Reserve Kyneton/Redesdale Rd Redesdale

### Saturday 28th October 2017

Prospectors & Miners Assoc of Vic AGM- Time: 1pm-5pm. Approximately 300 members will be attending. New members & visitors welcome. Contact Lynnie Hindle on 0408 314 665, or website-[www.pmv.org.au](http://www.pmv.org.au) Venue: RSL Hall High Heathcote

Redesdale Festival Weekend Camp Oven Cook Off - Redesdale CFA Fun Day. Time: To start cooking from 10:30am. Famous for its camp oven cook off, and plenty of fun for young and old to have fun. Registration through [www.trybooking.com](http://www.trybooking.com) to entry. More information phone 0428 253 104 Venue: Agnes Mudford Reserve Kyneton/Redesdale Rd Redesdale

Redesdale Festival Weekend- Redesdale Market Day. Time: from 10am-2pm. With local produce, wines, and handcrafted goods, & family activities. Email: [lapocock2@gmail.com](mailto:lapocock2@gmail.com) or call 0427 280 814 Venue: Agnes Mudford Reserve Kyneton/Redesdale Rd Redesdale



Federal Member for Bendigo

**LISA CHESTERS MP**

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Cnr Williamson & Myers Sts, Bendigo 3550

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## Australia's Energy Crisis

Lisa Chesters MP has called on the Federal Government to urgently secure Australia's energy future before Bendigo residents are forced into further bill stress.

"We are in the deep throes of an energy crisis. We've got power prices that have skyrocketed over the last four years under the coalition and we have serious concerns about blackouts going into summer," said Ms Chesters

"As cost of living pressures show no sign of easing and basics such as rent, power, gas and water get more expensive, every dollar in the household budget is needed."

"Central Victorians want the energy price crisis fixed now," said Ms Chesters

"The Government is failing to sort out the policy uncertainty in this sector.

"Energy companies are reluctant to invest in new facilities because they don't know what the energy market rules are, or what they are going to be in the future. That's also the reason we are facing an energy crisis, demand is outstripping supply because consumption is growing but generation capacity is not growing fast enough.

"It's time to end the blame game – the Bendigo electorate expects me and Malcolm to work together on this. There are four things the Government could do immediately to 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.

"The Government's own review was very clear: the main reason for energy prices going up is a lack of clear government policy. Bill Shorten and Labor are ready to fix it.

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.

Graeme Smith – Bendigo, Pensioner

"We have had to pay a lot more this winter than ever before.

"These constant increases in energy prices are particularly harsher on those on lower incomes like ourselves.

"If you change to another gas or electricity company the deals don't change, the prices just keep increasing.

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.

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# Steph Ryan MP

## Member for Euroa

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 Parliament's Electorate Office  
 and Communications budget.



### Labor's goat nothing to say on eID

Victorian producers still don't know if the Andrews Labor Government will subsidise electronic identification tags for sheep and goats in 2018.

In Parliament today, Agriculture Minister Jaala Pulford refused to confirm if the Andrews Government would subsidise tags in 2018.

Ms Pulford's admission confirms the process is severely delayed, months behind the Minister's initial promise to announce a tag price "in the first half" of 2017.

Shadow Minister for Agriculture Peter Walsh urged Victorian sheep and goat producers to hold off buying tags for next year until the Andrews Government was able to confirm a price.

"Farmers have completed their budgets for next year but they've got no idea how much the Andrews Labor Government will charge them to comply with its eID scheme in 2018," Mr Walsh said.

"There's a huge discrepancy in cost – a subsidised rate of 37 cents or the full rate of 74 cents.

"Producers should hold off buying tags until the Andrews Government provides them with certainty."

Under Labor's plan, information should have started being uploaded to the National Livestock Identification Scheme (NLIS) from 1 July 2017.

But in practice, none of the information is being uploaded to the NLIS because the software doesn't exist to do it.

"Industry is on board with the implementation of EID but saleyard operators and agents are concerned that things are moving too slowly, the money is drying up too quickly and deadlines to begin scanning are approaching too quickly," Mr Walsh said.

"It's time the Minister seriously considered the appropriateness of some of her deadlines.

"We know there are issues with software compatibility, scanning at saleyards and possible cost blowouts when Labor's meek \$2.8 million fund for saleyards dries up.

"The Andrews Government thought industry could just apply the systems used for cattle to sheep and goats. It's now apparent that just won't work."

## FARMERS' MARKETS

Woodend Community Farmers' Market  
 Sat Oct 7th  
 Cnr High & Forest Streets, Woodend  
 0487 444 090 Sharon Kittson

Daylesford Farmer's Market  
 Sat Oct 7th  
 Daylesford Primary School  
 03 5664 0096 Peter Arnold

Kyneton Farmers' Market  
 Sat Oct 14th  
 St Pauls Park, Piper Street, Kyneton  
 54 221 025 Veronica Manifold

Riddells Creek Farmers' Market  
 Sat Oct 21st  
 Riddells Creek Primary School, Riddells Creek  
 0408 254 626 Ali Bant

Lancefield & District Farmers' Market  
 Sat Oct 28th  
 Centre Plantation, High Street, Lancefield  
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Email: [chrisjen@bigpond.net.au](mailto:chrisjen@bigpond.net.au)

## Why Resourcefulness Trumps Resources Every Time

It's no secret that I love how resourceful rural towns are. No, they may not have that much in the way of resources but time after time they defy natural disasters and economic downturns to be resourceful and demonstrate true grit. It is how a community deals with adversity that shows the strength of its culture.



I've observed that when government throws huge amounts of dollars at a community after a crisis, it isn't always as effective as we would hope. In my experience, it sometimes even creates more problems.

So, how to best demonstrate my point?

In the process of preparing to speak at the Australian Regional Development Conference I came up with 'The Tale of Two Cities'. Well actually, it was more of a 'Tale of Two Towns' but 'cities' has a better ring to it don't you think?

At the risk of comparing apples with oranges I spoke about Morwell and the closure of Hazelwood Power Station; and the dairy town of Cohuna in northern Victoria that has dealt with drought, floods and, most recently, the milk pricing crisis.

Through the media I've been seeing two very different stories.

With Morwell it came across as shock and anger even though the closure was inevitable. A strong public outcry has resulted in millions of government funding being injected into this community. We can only hope that it will be effective.

On the other hand, when the dairy crisis hit Cohuna, local farmer Di Bowles, helped drive a 'Show Some #DairyLove' social media campaign to increase sales of dairy products and share positive stories to lift the spirits of devastated families.

Other Cohuna locals, such as Shayne Mostyn, were already diversifying into new business opportunities. He now runs night photography workshops attracting Melbourne people to stay in the region over the weekend.

Cohuna has been proactive over the past decade, most notably through the Loddon Murray Community Leadership and Operation Next Gen programs, preparing the community to lead and be open to new and exciting business and career opportunities. There is a strong sense of 'If it has to be, it's up to me.'

No, it doesn't totally take away the pain, but a bit like the flu-vax, it helps to mitigate the impact.

Being resourceful is far more powerful than just being handed resources.

Applications for the [2018 Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program](#) are now open

*continued from front page.*

They might look cute, but wild rabbits carry diseases like calicivirus and myxomatosis, which can be caught by domestic rabbits and other pets and then passed on to humans. Rabbits are an invasion species that destroy crops, young trees and native plants, and their rapid breeding rate means that their numbers are hard to control.

Over the years that Peter has been shooting rabbits, their value has increased. Rabbit skins and fur have long been used to make blankets, hats and gloves, and while the meat used to be considered a poor-man's chicken, it has recently become a coveted meal in trendy restaurants. Rabbit meat is high in protein and leaner than beef, pork and chicken. It's a versatile meat that acts as a blank slate for other flavours to be added to.

Now that rabbit has become tasty trend, Peter finds it easy to sell his rabbits to markets and eateries. His contributions to the community has made him somewhat of a legend in Redesdale, putting the town's name on menus around Australia.

Peter works hard to control the wild rabbit population in our area. The meat he sells locally gives the community produce to be proud of, and his easy-going nature makes him a well-known and well-respected member of the Redesdale-Mia Mia district.

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**"The Little Wooden Chair" continued from page 6:**

When my son stayed with her he sat on the little chair to write and draw at her coffee table – and when he grew out of it, back it went into her kitchen.

By the time my mother needed to come and live with us, the dear little chair was battered and paint-spotted from her painting renovations, so it went to live in our garage and gathered dust and cobwebs.

In 2006 we moved to rural Victoria and built a little cubby house for the grandchildren. Because there were a few of them, we bought a modern set of child-sized chairs and a table, and we remembered the little chair and put it in the cubby as well. But it never seemed right in the cubby house. It didn't match. Nobody sat on it. It was clunky and old and forgotten.

Then another grandchild came along rather unexpectedly and my husband fetched it from the cubby house and took it to his shed to renovate it. He sanded and glued it and gave it a shiny gloss coat. I sewed a little rose-printed cushion for it and placed it beside a new modern table with two modern children's chairs. At her first birthday party, our latest grandchild chose the little wooden chair to sit on to eat her birthday cake.

I suspect that the dear little chair is nearly a hundred years old. Every time I look at it I remember my father and his woodworking. He always made me feel important by giving me various tools to hold in readiness. I remember my busy mother standing on it to take things down from the cupboards for cooking or standing on it to paint the walls of her kitchen. I remember my son painting and drawing under the watchful eye of my incredibly creative mother and now his daughter will probably do the same thing. I wonder how many more generations the little chair will serve.

**Kathy Hall**

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Friday 27  
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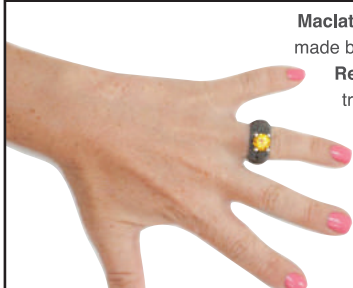
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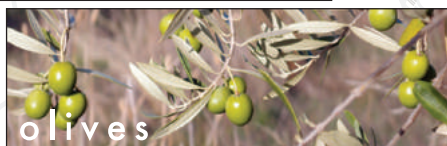
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**FRRR** strengthens rural, regional & remote communities working in partnership with philanthropy, government and business. Everyone on the **FRRR** team has a strong affinity with rural communities, with many either growing up in small towns, or currently living in regional Victoria.

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## Redesdale Ramblings:

### *Happy Team of Hawthorns*

Some people have a rather jaundiced view of hawthorns as those scruffy hedges which become skeletonised by “pear and cherry slug” and produce crops of red berries that the birds later deposit as seed all over the garden. If they are the only ones you know then you’d certainly not entertain the thought of adding them to your landscape (except as a distant hedge). Thankfully there are many other varieties to grace our gardens and fill the niche of small to medium trees.

We like them because they are winter- and summer-hardy and once established don’t have to be watered all summer long. The attributes of each type varies from respectable flowering, colourful fruit, interesting foliage shape and fiery autumn colour.

Previously I’ve mentioned the Mexican Hawthorn, *Crataegus Mexicana*, which becomes a moderate sized tree about 3 m tall by as much wide. It has established itself nicely and produces masses of yellow fruit which are not attractive to the birdlife for some reason so they persist till they drop during the winter carpeting the ground making it difficult to see the yellow crocus we have below! The tree does not lose all its foliage so provides some protection for frost tender plants in its shade. The red-fruited variety *Crataegus ‘Smithiana’* is a hybrid which produces glossy orange-red fruit which is similarly left to ripen, but its foliage seems to fall during the winter as the fruit also drops.

Washington Hawthorn, *Crataegus*

*phaenopyrum*, can be seen as a street tree in the main street of Mt Macedon. It becomes a medium sized deciduous tree festooned with bunches of small red berries – not that we ever see them ripen here because of the parrots! However the foliage can reach a climax of colour in the autumn in red, orange or maroon making it still worth growing in Redesdale. The thorns on it are quite ferocious – another reason why they are used for hedging – it’s best not to plant them too close to a walking path.

We have seedlings which have sprouted under the Mexican Hawthorn which appear to be a cross between it and the Washington Hawthorn. They’ve grown vigorously, even producing fruit this year which were halfway in size between those of their parents (before the birds got them!) in an orange shade. They’ve also inherited the thorniness of their dad and the tendency to losing all their foliage in the winter, some turning reddish-orange and some more yellowish.

Below seedling *crataegus* fruit



Above *Crataegus laevigata* ‘Paul’s Scarlet’ in Ireland

While we were in Ireland this year we saw a hawthorn which had quite striking deep-pink flowers, some single and others double. We found that the double is called *Crataegus laevigata* ‘Paul’s Scarlet’ and it was available in Australia! We got 2 from Tannery Lane Nursery, Mandurang, as “bare-root” (dormant) saplings in August to plant out along a fence-line. Now we are on the outlook for the single.

There are numerous other varieties of hawthorns around and it pays to check out the local nurseries such as “The Garden Tap” and “Rodilesa” (Kyneton) or Stephen Ryan’s “Dicksonia Rare Plants” (Mt Macedon).

Cheers

Fermi

The Redesdale Rock-Gardener







© Pepperfoto

Hello Dear Readers, Lady Bombay yet again with my monthly snippets. Glimpses of Spring are starting to consume the air of delight. The first signs are the blossoms on the

peach and almond trees which are always a pleasure to behold.

Of course, there is the endless repetitive nature of us human beings complaining about the cold or the weather in general. Particularly those who have been in warmer climates for a spell from our harsh winter. Unfortunately, our gardens cannot complain to us verbally, but they can display their joy or sadness. My frost hardy plants on my front veranda look like a scene from "Grey gardens" visuals of bare branches with perhaps a leaf or two just hanging on. My advice is to prune plants back to where you hope or possibly can locate a nodule or bud which there may be

a faint glimpse of hope. With the disparity of gloom and as the only thing that thrived being a bangalow palm, I toddled off to the plant nursery at Junortoun and bought two dwarf canary island palms plus two very striking pots for them. Yes, even some of my old terracotta pots have succumbed to the frosts. I am just hoping that dwarf means dwarf as it could get a bit crowded on the veranda.

Have decided that if I am unsure what to plant in any position in the garden, plant Yuccas. Absolutely bomb proof, just the thing for this climate of uncertainty. Now is the time to take cuttings from the base and pop in a bucket of water for a month. Strip the bottom leaves off so to provide a stem then plant when the weather gets a bit warmer. As they normally cost around \$30 per pot to buy, it's worth the effort. My next big project now that Thorn, the gardener, has been let back in to the country from his sojourn abroad, is to top up all the pathways with my latest find of gravel. Considerably cheaper than paving particularly in large areas. Quite a nice recipe of road base, white gravel mixed with a bit of clay and sand with a dash of white pebbles. Quite fetching. Heave ho, here we go although should I say Thorn, the gardener will be doing all the heaving and the hoeing. I have the two-way radios all charged up

for the event in case Thorn misses a spot, I can command his presence at any given time for gravel discussions. He is not aware of this yet for I feel the surprise could overwhelm him. Not to mention that after the gravel drops he will also need the old tennis court roller, which weighs a considerable amount and level the gravel. What excitement!

Now it's time for mother's ruin and an early night as gravel supervision commences at 6:30am

Till next month dear readers,  
Lady Sapphire Bombay

## Garden Lore

"Live everyday like it's your last and someday you'll be right"



## 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,

Due to a new subdivision in our street, I now have new neighbours and although the young couple are nice enough, their two young children are, how can I put this? Feral.

They built a tree house right on my back fence and these little monsters are driving me nuts with their noise and toys being missile over the fence into my back garden which was beautifully manicured. What is your solution to more privacy? Help  
Deidre Desperate

Dear DD,

Firstly plant wattles. They grow relatively quickly and thick foliage. Probably like the neighbours children. Bulk buy on dynamic lifter particularly areas that woofs for them, however not for you dear. Of course the obligatory opera or something quite feisty in the classics of music which I can guarantee is a deterrent for any child.

All the best,  
Lady B

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# GRASS SLASHING



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Release those feel-good endorphins!

Still need just a little bit of tempting?

This link has it all for you to prep! And you still have 30 days to countdown!

<http://www.wikihow.com/Sing-Karaoke-with-Confidence>

So glam it up a little for the spotlight, all you divas! Maybe don't count on being 'discovered', just come for the maximum of fun.

It's the perfect way to connect with friends and strangers and you might even surprise yourself, let go and sing your heart out.

The super-friendly, intimate setting of the Elphinstone Hotel is the venue for this convivial and liberating entertainment (and some great people watching.)

Crowd participation, clapping for everyone and sing-along is encouraged.

Come out of your comfort zone. Support the brave - no matter how corny or cool.

Burn the place down!!

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## Badminton

The summer season of the Kyneton badminton Club begins on Monday 9th October. Games are played at the Kyneton Toyota Sports and Aquatic Centre from 7:00pm. People of all ages and abilities are welcome. For more information contact Kevin Roberts 5422 3057.

Graham Smith

5422 6579





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

Hi Redesdaliens  
Since my last report, the Reserve Precinct Detail Design Working Group consisting of John. Beurle, Gary Prendergast, Sarah Tresize, John Barker, Simon Webb, Gloria Pocock, Kathy Hall, Janette & Tasman Johnson and my-self have had two very enthusiastic meetings with Andrew Plant from CoGB determining the roll "DDWG" will play. At this stage it is a waiting game until the CoGB appoint a Consultant and Project manager to work with the "DDWG" which hopefully will be before year's end, at which stage the community will be informed.  
Spring is upon us and we move closer to Festival time, preparation

is well under-way and excitement is growing All goes well for a bumper Festival, with the reserve looking a picture the "Redesdale Saleyards" will be completed together with the new fence and gates at the entrance to the reserve. The pavilion now has one floor level which makes it a safer and a more workable area. I am very proud to be associated with this Committee who's tireless and enthusiastic energy makes things happen. A big thank-you must go to Steve Atkins for the electrical work he has done to fit lights to the store area. We have lots more planned for the reserve and all will be revealed in future reports.  
Keep smiling until next time.

Les Pocock.  
Redesdale Recreational Reserve Committee Inc.



### A Cultured Night of Film and Wine



The Heathcote Film Festival returned for its 7th year at the Heathcote RSL hall last month on Saturday the 26th of August. The festival celebrated the district's culture and community with delicious, locally-sourced wines and food to accompany the diverse collection of short-films gathered from around the world, as well as from Australia.

The day began with the matinee screening, which was followed by a Q&A where filmmakers generously answered questions. The pre-screening party and the evening screening finished off the event, leaving the guests to vote for their favourite short film.

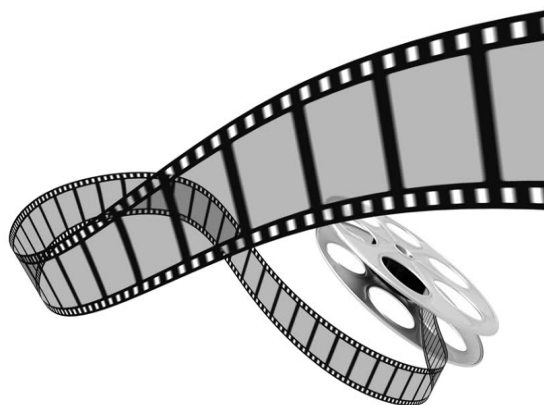
The festival showcased films from a range of different genres, including drama, comedy, satire, and even a short documentary, with several of the films being animated. At the end of each screening session, audience members had the option to vote for the short film they liked the most, contributing to the People's Choice Award.

This year's People's Choice Award was won by

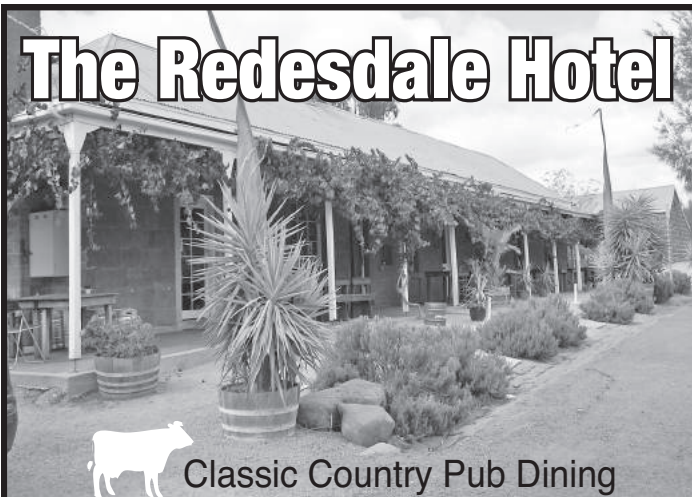
Stutterer, a film from the UK written and directed by Benjamin Cleary. Starring Matthew Needham, Chloe Pirrie and Eric Richard, was a powerful and rich insight on the internal thoughts of a chronic stutterer. It was an emotional portrayal of the anxieties we all struggle with, but it also shed light on experiences we aren't entirely familiar with.

The Jasper Hill Jury Prize was won by Death in Bloom, a dark satire written and directed by Dael Oates, starring Ewen Leslie and Robyn Nevin. The film puts a charmingly comedic twist on it's grim subject matter as it explores the concept of a "death salesman". The macabre imagery paired with the delightful performances of the actors created a brief snapshot of a world that the viewers are itching to learn more about.

By Tahlia Campbell



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## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### 26 PEARS IN RED WINE



1 tablespoon arrowroot  
750ml (26fl oz/ 1 bottle ) red wine  
110g (3 3/4 oz 1/2 cup ) sugar  
1 cinnamon stick  
6 cloves  
zest of 1 small orange  
zest of 1 small lemon  
6 large firm pears  
cream of

Combine the arrowroot with 2 tablespoons of wine in a small bowl and stir to form a smooth paste. Heat the remaining wine in a saucepan with the sugar, cinnamon stick, cloves and citrus zest. Simmer gently for 2-3 minutes, or until the sugar has dissolved.

Peel the pears, leaving stalks intact. Add pears to the saucepan, cover and cook medium heat for 25 minutes, turning pears occasionally. When the pears are tender, lift out with a slotted spoon and put in a deep serving dish.

Strain the spiced wine, discarding solids, then return the wine to the saucepan. Stir the arrowroot and add to the hot wine. Simmer gently, stirring occasionally until thickened. Pour over the pears and allow to cool. Serve with cream or creme fraiche.

Serves 6







Dr Tim Stobie

## YOUR HEALTH

with Dr Tim Stobie Ph: 5422 1397

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### Polycystic ovarian syndrome

There are many conditions in medicine which are relative new-comers to the textbooks. One such condition is Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome. It was first described around 80 years ago - and we are still struggling to label this condition appropriately - let alone understand precisely the pathology which underlies this common condition.

Originally it was described as a condition whereby patients experienced irregular or absent periods, associated with skin change including acne and excessive hair, along with multiple cysts in the ovaries. Now we recognise that cysts are not necessarily diagnostic of this condition and that there are hormonal

changes which help to confirm a diagnosis.

Our understanding of the condition now can be best described as a complex metabolic disorder resulting from a lack of insulin effect, and other changes resulting in increased androgen or male hormone effect.

The long term effects of these hormonal changes can result in obesity, infertility and diabetes, and other flow-on effects including cardiovascular disease and endometrial cancer.

Amazingly, it is estimated between 12 and 18 percent of women suffer from this condition in reproductive years, and up to 70 percent of women remain undiagnosed!

The burden of treatment involves efforts at weight loss, or hormonal control through medication such as the oral contraceptive pill, or a variety of other medications. Of course treatment of infertility becomes an important issue in regard to family planning, which can require IVF treatment where other treatments fail.

Recent research and patient surveys underline the complexity of diagnosis of this condition - it is little wonder that women are often confused by the diagnosis and are left wanting more answers. In time as our knowledge of the hormonal changes in PCOS improves, hopefully these answers will emerge - but it would be nice if the medical profession could agree on an appropriate name at least - I think there is opportunity for almost anyone to make a suggestion for a rename, awaited for years!

Tim

Dr Tim Stobie 5422 1397

**Kyneton Medical Centre**  
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### SUTTON GRANGE HALL

CHILDREN'S (FAMILY) NATURE TREASURE HUNT  
AND MORNING TEA

10.00 AM SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER 2017

Cost \$5/family or \$2/person  
(all proceeds will go to the Hall for its upkeep)

Programme:

TREASURE HUNT 10.00 AM REGISTRATION

10.15 AM START

MORNING TEA 11.30 AM

Please bring a transparent plastic jar for your treasure collection

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED

ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN

Enquiries: Chris Moule 0402 238 870

Please keep Thursday 19th October free to attend the final Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society (ADFAS), Central Victoria lecture in their 2017 series. Presented by Lucia Gahlin the lecture will regale you with 'Images of Ancient Egypt's most intriguing Queen'.

The lecture will be held at the Kyneton Town Hall, 129 Mollison St., Kyneton, 7.00 for 7.30pm start. Non-member entry is \$30 cash payable on the night and this includes supper and a glass of wine. Enquiries: Nicky Peters (03) 0400 958 449.

Submitted by Nicky Peters  
ADFAS CV  
Publicity and Media  
0400 958 449

### Letters to the Editor

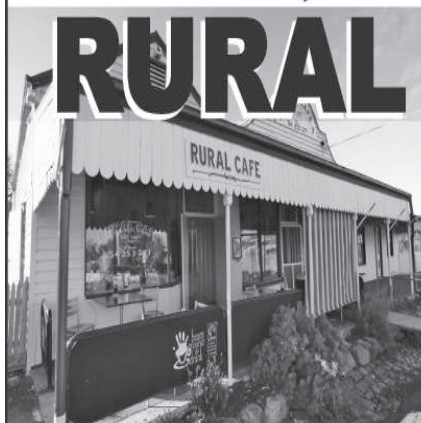
"Hats Off" to Phillip Don!

I would like to congratulate Barfold identity Phillip Don on the great job he has been doing in slashing the local roadsides over many months, both in his own time and at his own expense. His diligent work has not gone un-noticed, particularly in Redesdale and will certainly help to reduce the fire risk this coming season, which no doubt will be upon us sooner than we think.

Well done Phillip!

Carolyn - Anne Boyd.

Come and try our coffee at the  
**RURAL CAFÉ**



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famous apple pie!

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A great place to stop for all day breakfast, lunch, excellent coffee  
and fresh cakes.

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# Redesdale Mia Mia Primary School

Respect ♦ Responsibility ♦ Resilience



## Term 3

What a fantastic term! We have had our celebration of 100 days of school, book week celebration with a visit from Mulga Bill himself and national tree day.

In the classroom we have written poems, introduced the VCOP and Big Write literacy program. We now have Kung Fu punctuation ninja's!

We have had a drum kit donated by Ronn and a guitar and amplifier donated too.

That's our staff on the left. Christine, Bernadette, Joe and Steph.

**Enrolments always welcome.**

Phone - 5425 3155; **Principal - Joe Sebire**  
Email - [redesdale.mia.mia.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:redesdale.mia.mia.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)



## ITS ON AGAIN !



**Sat October 28 , from 11 am  
at the  
Agnes Mudford Reserve  
Teams of up to 5  
Contact: 0428253104  
Entry : \$100 per team  
Proceeds going to  
Redesdale CFA.**

## Please support our Fire Brigade's major raffle

It will be drawn in October. If you can't locate a CFA member with raffle books, call 0428 253 104



It's almost here!

The Camp Oven Cook Off is now not far away. Competitors in teams of up to five people are able to compete for a first prize of \$500 which has been kindly donated by Taste Of Gold, the group that ran the " Winter Wine And Dine " event over the Queens birthday weekend. For an entry fee of \$100 , teams are provided with a leg of lamb, three vegetables and a bottle of red wine ( for cooking or consuming ?) Competitors can use their own ingredients or source produce from the local stall holders .

For those non competitors, entry is free and they can enjoy music provided by the Bendigo Blues And Roots Festival. There will be food and wine vendors and the kids will be kept busy with the free Jumping Castle and Fairy Floss ( Farmer Daryl is unable to attend but other entertainment will be there on the day)

Cooking starts from 10.30am and while the competition is on , surrounding events include the Art Show at the Redesdale Hall and open studios by local artists. Don't forget the Art Show Opening on Friday night and the handcrafted goods market on Sunday.

To enter the Cook Off go to TryBooking.com and enter Redesdale CFA

For more information phone Andrew Campbell on 0428253104.

## Hall happenings



We have had enquiries from our younger helpers at the Revellers nights about learning how to make our apple pies. Our committee has discussed this and we would love to offer cookery lessons in the hall kitchen for anyone who would like to participate. As well as apple pies we may teach the "secret" recipes of our committee members' slices, sponges, chutneys and preserves.

Any interested persons are encouraged to contact me – Norma Barker – on 54253174. We hope these will be fun events.

We are also planning an 'Indoor Market' at the Redesdale Hall on Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup> 2017, 9am to 4pm, which is the Sunday of the Melbourne Cup weekend. The market will include home made goods, cakes, chutneys, Bric a Brac, and more.

Devonshire teas will be on sale during the day, call into the hall and sample our hospitality.

Date: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November

Where: Agnes Mudford Reserve,

Kyneton/Redesdale Rd.

Redesdale. (Opposite the Pub)

Time: 9am to 4pm

Hope to see you there !!!!

Norma Barker.

## Preparing your property for the fire season

Spring is a great time to start preparing your property for the summer bushfire season.

You can reduce the risk to your home and property by cleaning up and clearing potential fire hazards before the fire danger period arrives, including:

- removing tree branches that overhang your home and shrubs over one metre high next to or below windows
- clearing gutters and keeping grass short
- removing items away from the outside of your home that can trap leaf and other litter
- ensuring any rainwater tanks are easy to access and pumps are tested regularly
- ensuring you have a bushfire survival plan in place and practise it regularly
- attending local CFA community meetings about fire preparedness.

### Property inspections and notices

Council's Fire Management Officer will soon begin inspecting properties for fire risk within the shire and will issue fire prevention notices to those properties that pose a fire risk.

If you receive a notice, don't ignore it as heavy penalties can apply to owners who fail to comply. Properties are expected to be maintained to the required standard throughout the fire danger period. If you are grazing stock, you must demonstrate that the number is sufficient to reduce the risk and if not, you may be required to do additional fuel reduction work.

For more information about preparing your property, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/fire-ready](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/fire-ready) or call Council on 5422 0333. You can also like us on [facebook.com/MacedonRangesEmergencyAlerts](https://facebook.com/MacedonRangesEmergencyAlerts)

## The Bridge Abroad

proudly sponsored by Bendigo Travel  
and Cruise 5441 8811

### 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 next year.



This is Richard from Lithuania who is working in the hotel industry in Valetta, Malta. He was supposed to be working but could not take his eyes off Bridge Connection.

## BOOTCAMP

**\$10**  
a session  
First session  
is **FREE!**

**TUESDAYS**  
6.30pm - 7.15pm

**THURSDAYS**  
6.30pm - 7.15pm  
at Redesdale Hall

**SATURDAYS**  
7am-7.45am  
at Redesdale  
/Mia Mia  
Primary School

Get Motivated, Healthy & Strong! Increase Energy and Endurance  
Gain Confidence, Lose Fat, Inches, Weight **BE SOCIAL and HAVE FUN!**

All Fitness levels welcome! Come along, bring a drink bottle, a towel and prepare to have fun and be puffed! **ARE YOU READY TO MAKE A CHANGE?**

**JESSICA CARR 0402 018 783**

## SUBSCRIPTION

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Please contact the treasurer on:  
(03) 5425 3262 or email:  
[bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com)





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#### INCLUDES:

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