



# What a star!



Kyneton Secondary College (and ex RMMPS) student Gabriel Weller (left) is becoming famous for his fundraising efforts. This time he shaved his hair for the “Worlds Greatest Shave” for the Leukaemia Foundation at a function at the Redesdale Hotel. Gabe made \$2268 through his efforts which was \$1708 over his target. With Gabe is friend and supporter (and also recently shorn), David Page. See page 6 for more pictures. Recently Gabe made a record fundraising effort for the MS Society. He is a great example of what determination and generosity of spirit can achieve. We believe the paella was pretty special too!

Save the date for our annual Farmers' lunch!  
Friday 5th April 10am - Barrack Reserve Complex

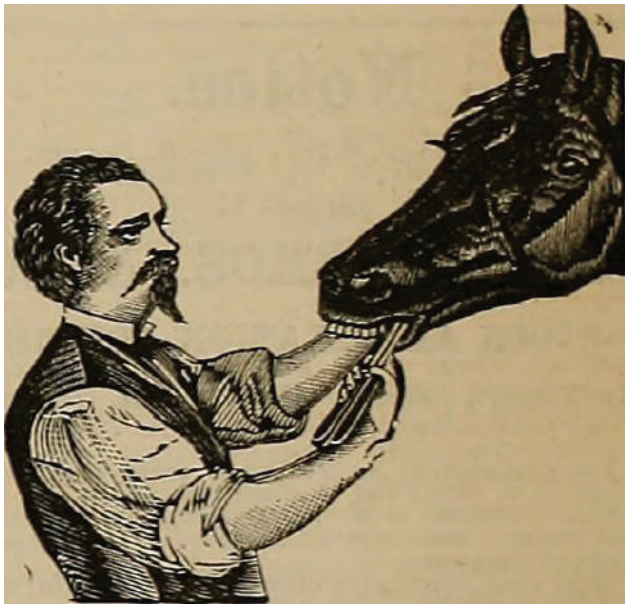
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# Editorial

Hello Dear Readers,

This is my last edition as co-editor of this great little publication, but my sadness is completely defeated by the joy I felt putting this edition together. This edition is full of stories about local people who are enthusiastic and positive about life and the ways that they can contribute to everyone's advantage.

Whether it be a young man shaving his head to raise money for medical research (page 1), giving time and energy to the cricket club (page 21), or winning an amazing achievement award (Page 18) or donating life savings to save wildlife and bushland (page 19).

The generosity of spirit, and the willingness to donate time and energy and funds to this community is overwhelming.

There are great developments in the community on the horizon as you will have read in previous editions. To quote Anne Smith, "Everything takes time, even when time is really hard to take." And to that I would add "Illegitimi non carborundum"!

Farewell, Dear Readers. I know you are in very capable hands with Regina and the committee. Kathy Hall



Regina Bennett



Kathy Hall

## Co-Editors

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Regina Bennett

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## BRIDGE CONNECTION COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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## BRIDGE CONNECTION MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Bridge Connection is to bring people together by:

1. Providing information about local issues, goals and events, and to celebrate local achievements,
2. Encouraging economic growth in the area,
3. Fostering geographic identity, and
4. Providing a platform for public debate,

Bridge Connection is published by local people who volunteer, for local people as a free paper and online at [redesdale.net](http://redesdale.net) and via facebook on [facebook.comRedesdaleMiaMia](https://www.facebook.com/RedesdaleMiaMia)

## Redesdale Hall FOR HIRE



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Please phone

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

### Redesdale Hall Activities:

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Bridge Connection Committee meeting
- 2nd Tuesday monthly, 1pm - Hall Comm. Meetings.
- 2nd Tuesday monthly, 7 pm - Rec. Reserve Meetings.

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## Vision:

The community of Redesdale-Mia Mia Primary School considers itself a family that fosters well-being and embraces diversity. We strive to develop independent leaders who are globally capable.

## School News

Our school term is quickly coming to a close. Our students have worked steadily throughout the term and enjoyed our learning focus of Australian Mammals.

By the time we go to print, we will be close to completing our swimming program which has seen us visiting the Kyneton Aquatic centre for 5 consecutive days.

Our students will be heading off on a well earned break from the Saturday 6/4 until Monday 22/4.

School will resume on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April due to the Easter Monday public holiday.

We hope you all have a great Easter.



## Dates to Remember – 2019

### Term 1

#### March

Thurs 28	12.30pm	Swimming Program
Friday 29		

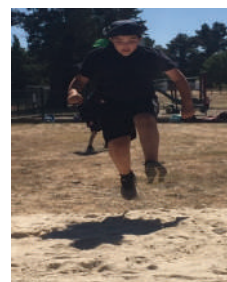
#### April

Mon 1 – Wed 3	12.30pm	Swimming Program
Thurs 4	All Day	Heathcote Community Games
Fri 5	2.30pm	<b>Term 1 ends</b>
Tues 23	9am	<b>Term 2 Begins</b>
Wed 24	9am	Anzac Day Ceremony
Thurs 25		Anzac Day

## Taradale Cluster Athletics

Our school attended an athletics day on Friday 15/3 where we competed against schools from within our cluster including Chewton, Taradale, Elphinstone and Langley Primary Schools.

Parents and friends of RMMPS should be very proud of the way our students conducted themselves. Not only did our students complete in the right way; trying their hardest and helping one another. They also listened attentively and were polite and courteous with staff and parents from all of the other competing schools. Well done!





# Redesdale Bush Market

Redesdale Bush Market have enjoyed another successful day with a record number of visitors and the mildest weather in many years! The Redesdale Hall Committee Members would like to give a BIG Thank You to everyone who contributed in some way, including the following:

Our fabulous Sponsors:

"Macedon Ranges Signs", "Elders Kyneton", "Hardwicks Meats" and "Kyneton Dry Cleaners".

Our wonderful bands "The Floyd Black Band" and "The Bendigo And District Concert Band", who entertained the crowds throughout the day.

We were fortunate to have an added attraction this year with Members of the "Northern Victoria Spyder Ryders" displaying their unique bikes, in addition to a display of several classic cars.

Thank you to all our Stallholders, (many of you regulars) our Visitors and of course our willing band of fantastic Volunteers!

We must also give a special mention to the various media outlets, including radio stations, publications, shopfronts and all who displayed our Flyer and advertising material - we do appreciate your support.

THANK YOU Everyone...we couldn't do it without you!

**Carolyn-Anne Boyd**



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This month, we haven't received any photos of pets from our readers. So the editor has indulged herself by sharing a picture of some contented layers at Coliban Springs. On the left is a Sussex who regularly becomes broody but is a great mother. On the right is a Plymouth Rock who has a friendly nature, beautiful feathers and beedy eyes! On the top sits a Loman Red. She, with her 4 friends, is a great layer.



Here is a picture of the Sussex with her chicks. We love our chickens who are endlessly amusing as they roam our garden. Christopher is a great husband to them all, full of pride and self-importance!



Thanks for all the eggs, girls! And for all the smiles and pleasure you give us!

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## “Worlds Greatest Shave” for the Leukaemia Foundation



Gabe - before...



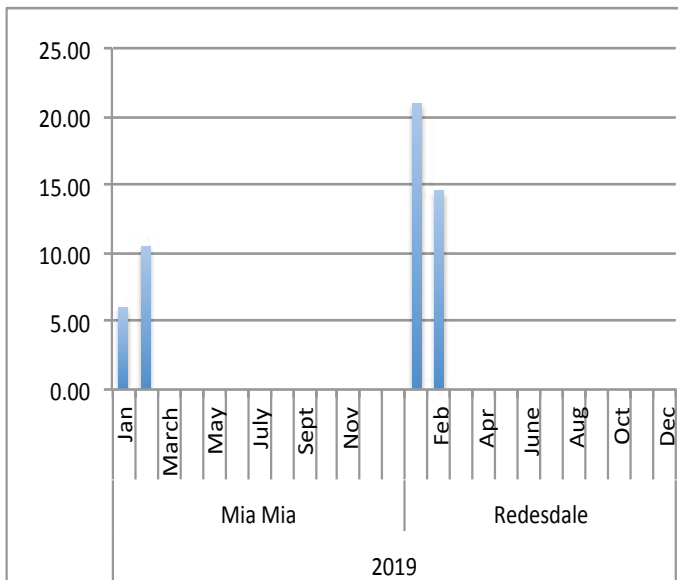
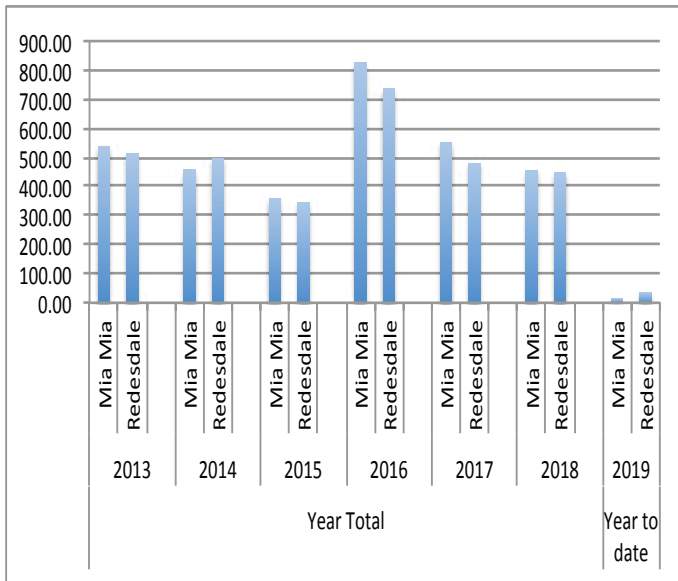
...and after. Well done Gabe, and all those who helped on the day. (See front page)







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



## CHURCH SERVICES

### UNITING CHURCH

Barfold: April 7th - no church  
Mia Mia: April 14th - 10 am  
(Macedon Ranges combined service)  
Metcalf: April 18th - Maundy Thursday 7 pm  
Sutton Grange: April 28th - 10 am



Morning tea is served at each of these Uniting Churches at 9.40 am.

**AN ANZAC DAY SERVICE WILL BE HELD AT SUTTON GRANGE AT 11AM WITH MORNING TEA TO FOLLOW IN THE HALL.**

### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Redesdale: 2nd Sunday of each month 11 am

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The Community owned defibrillator is now accessible to all community members.

It is situated on the outside wall of the CFA building (next to the Rural Café).



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## Backstage with Margot Fonteyn



On Thursday 11 April, ADFAS Central Victoria will be host to one of Australia's most famous ballet dancers, Ms Robin Haigh, as she presents her lecture (6.30-7.30pm) Backstage with Margot Fonteyn at the Kyneton Town Hall.

Dame Margot Fonteyn the world famous ballerina led the Royal Ballet from the age of sixteen until her retirement at the age of sixty. In this lecture we will be delighted by Robin's professional and personal relationship with the Grande Dame of Ballet.

Entry is \$30 cash or cheque payable on the evening and this includes refreshments (7.30-8.30pm).

For more information and registration of interest please call Nicky on 0400 958 449



## EASTER SEASONS

*When it's Easter time in the northern lands,  
It comes with a flurry of baby wings,  
And the buds, scarcely noticed on naked trees,  
Burst forth with the magic that springtime brings.  
As the Easter bells sound a thankful peal,  
Proclaiming Christ's victory over death,  
The wonderful tidings of life re-born  
Are heard on the wind's blossom-laden breath.*

*But our Easter comes with the falling leaf,  
And soft, wistful skies in the waning light;  
There are no new buds on the fading flowers,  
And soon will come winter's long, dreary night.  
But while nature grieves for her seeming loss,  
She points to the triumph beyond the cross.*

**Nancy Begg**



## Camp Out on the Mount 2019

It's that time of year again! Details of the sixth Camp Out on the Mount are now available and registrations are open. Please join Connecting Country, Little Habitat Heroes, and local Landcare groups to celebrate the beautiful Leanganook/Mount Alexander and the work that Landcare and Friends groups do all year round.

**When: Saturday 6 – Sunday 7 April 2019**  
**Where: Leanganook Camping Ground, Joseph Young Drive, Mount Alexander Regional Park, Faraday**

What to bring: Camping gear and supplies, food for Sunday breakfast, gold coin donation or Saturday night BBQ, weather appropriate clothes, sturdy shoes and sun protection.

Please be sure to register, as this helps us to prepare for the right amount of people for each activity and create a fun environment for all (and provide plenty of food!). Updates will also be emailed to all who register closer to the weekend, with further information on activities and what to expect.

This free event is supported by funding from the North Central Catchment Management Authority through the Victorian Landcare Program, as well as Mount Alexander Shire Council, Friends of the Box-Ironbark Forests, and Little Habitat Heroes. We will have guest presenters from Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, Parks Victoria, and Bendigo TAFE, and local authors and artists. Yummy food will also be provided by the Harcourt Lions Club and Murnong Mummas.

If you have any questions please call Asha on (03) 5472 1594 or email [asha@connectingcountry.org.au](mailto:asha@connectingcountry.org.au)

Please note: activities will be cancelled in the case of severe weather.

**See picture of last camp on opposite page**

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## Were losing our smarts and our sight!



According to latest research, younger people today are not as clever as previous generations, if IQ tests are an accurate gauge of intelligence. Scientists in Norway analysed scores achieved by 730,000 young men, born between 1962 and 1991, who did IQ tests as part of their national service. They found that for many years, the IQ levels of entrants rose, by about 0.3 points a year on average. This is consistent with the Flynn Effect, the steady rise of scores, by about 3 points a decade, observed across the developed world in the 20th century, a phenomenon put down to massive improvements in education, diet and healthcare over that period. However, IQ levels peaked among the cohort born in 1975, and then began to fall at a rate equivalent to about 7 points per generation.

The researchers speculate that changes to teaching methods and the shift to screenbased entertainment could be responsible for the change.

Also, latest research shows that there maybe a downside to being highly educated: it can make you short sighted. Scientists have long known that myopia is more common in those who spend longer in education, but they weren't sure whether bookishness was a causal risk factor for shortsightedness - or vice versa.

Now researchers at Bristol and Cardiff universities have used a form of analysis known as Mendelian randomisation to find the answer. Drawing on earlier research, the team identified genetic variants associated with being short sighted and with spending longer in education. They then cross checked them against data held on 68,000 adults in the UK Biobank. Their analysis revealed that while those with a genetic predisposition to spend longer in education were more likely to be myopic, the reverse was not true: there was little evidence that people predidposed to short sight spend longer in education. The researchers thus conclude that education leads to myopia, probably because people who spend a long time in the classroom tend to spend less time outdoors, in natural light. Levels of myopia are rising globally, and have reached epidemic levels in countries like South Korea and China, where up to 90% of school leavers are now short sighted.

*Source: The Week*

## Camp Out on the Mount 2018



### Woodend Community Farmers' Market

Sat 6th April  
Cnr High & Forest Streets, Woodend  
0487 444 090 Sharon Kittson

### Daylesford Farmer's Market

Sat 6th April  
Daylesford Primary School  
03 5664 0096 Peter Arnold

### Kyneton Farmers' Market

Sat 13th April  
St Pauls Park, Piper Street, Kyneton  
54 221 025 Veronica Manifold

### Riddells Creek Farmers' Market

Sat 20th April  
Riddells Creek Primary School, Riddells Creek  
0408 254 626 Ali Bant

### Lancefield & District Farmers' Market

Sat 27th April  
Centre Plantation, High Street, Lancefield  
0407 860 320 Meggs Hannes

### Maldon Market

Sunday April 14th

[www.vicfarmersmarkets.org.au](http://www.vicfarmersmarkets.org.au)

It is recommended that you check these dates with the market website if possible.

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# Steph Ryan MP

## Member for Euroa

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## Auditor General lifts the lid on mental health crisis

The Victorian Auditor General has slammed a lack of investment in the state's mental health system, finding it is critically underfunded. In a scathing report tabled in Parliament yesterday, the Auditor-General took aim at the Andrews Labor Government for failing to address the imbalance between the demand for and supply of mental health services in Victoria.

Euroa MP and The Nationals deputy leader Steph Ryan says the report confirms urgent action, including significant funding in next month's State Budget, is required to help the 1.2 million Victorians who suffer from mental illness each year.

"We have a mental health crisis in regional Victoria and services are just not being funded to cope," Ms Ryan said.

"I have heard heartbreaking stories from parents, partners and young people in our region who cannot access the help and support they need for either themselves or a loved one.

"The move to establish a royal commission into mental health is a

good one, but it must not be used as an excuse to delay fixing gaps in the system which are already so well known."

Ms Ryan said data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare showed Victoria's spending per person on mental health services was the lowest in Australia. Victoria also has one of the lowest number of mental health beds in the country.

"The difficulties experienced across the state are compounded in regional Victoria, where access to services is made even more difficult because we lack the workforce required to treat people, Ms Ryan said.

"In 2015, the Andrews Government released a 10-year plan which the Auditor General says has no clear targets or measures to monitor progress in improving access and no forward plan for the capital infrastructure needed.

"Perhaps most worryingly, he has found that Labor's workforce strategy does to address the particular issues in rural and regional Victoria. "I have raised these critical workforce shortages with the government many times in the past.

"I am urging the Andrews Government to act immediately to address these shortcomings, instead of waiting two years for the royal commission to hand down its recommendations."

To read the Auditor-General's report, visit <https://www.audit.vic.gov.au/report/access-mental-health-services>.

## New Farmers' Market for Macedon Village

The Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group (MRSg), in partnership with Macedon Primary School are launching a new Macedon Village Farmers' Market, to be held 4 times per year, on the 5th Saturday of the month, at the Macedon Primary School, 67 Smith St, Macedon, VIC 3440.

The 2019 dates are:

- Saturday 30th of March, 9am-1pm
- Saturday 29th of June, 9am-1pm
- Saturday 31st of August, 9am-1pm
- Saturday 30th of November, 9am-1pm

The market will be an extension of the MRSg run Woodend Community Farmers' Market and shoppers can look forward to buying with many of the same stallholders, who will be bringing their high quality produce to the Macedon and surrounding communities. Shoppers can expect the same focus on sustainability, authenticity and community and this is set to be a wonderful regular event for residents of the Macedon Ranges.

Manager of the Macedon Village Farmers' Market, Katherine Bishop, says the new market is great news for local producers and the public alike.

"Being able to continue their regular weekly routine of shopping for meat, produce and specialty products at the Macedon Village Farmers' Market enables Macedon Ranges locals to support their local farmers and enjoy the freshest food available," Bishop says.

The Macedon Primary School are involving the school community in this event and will use any funds raised by the school to support further school development as well as their Landcare programme at Middle Gully Reserve (MGR), which is a 2.1-hectare area across the road from the school. MGR offers students an interactive STEAM learning area set amongst native trees, vegetable gardens, wildlife and quiet areas for learning and reflection.

The new Macedon Village Farmers' Market will be officially opened by Mayor Janet Pearce at 10 AM on Saturday 30th of March 2019

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:  
Katherine Bishop  
0458769258

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## Jobs, farmers at risk as kangaroo scheme set to end

Euroa MP and The Nationals deputy leader Steph Ryan has hit out at the Andrews Labor Government saying its refusal to renew the kangaroo pet food scheme is threatening local jobs and making life harder for farmers already under pressure from drought.

Knackeries in both Seymour and Stanhope have been utilising kangaroo carcasses for pet food since the program was first introduced by The Nationals in 2014. Farmers across the region who are struggling with kangaroo numbers have also been calling on the government to provide certainty. Ms Ryan said the scheme, which formally expires under regulation on March 31st, had already been shut down after the Government stopped issuing tags to licenced shooters several months ago. "This government hasn't been brave enough to come out and tell farmers it won't be renewing the scheme, instead shutting it down by stealth," Ms Ryan said.

"This risks local jobs and placing farmers who are struggling with drought under more pressure as they try to cope with increased kangaroo numbers."

Ms Ryan said tough conditions had made the program even more important.

"Kangaroo numbers have increased as a result of improved pasture but as conditions worsen, there's a real risk that they will begin to starve," Ms Ryan said.

"Farmers cannot afford to carry hundreds of kangaroos when they are struggling to feed their stock.

"Labor's refusal to front up and tell people that they care more about placating inner city greenies than they do helping rural communities who are suffering from drought conditions disgusts me."

The kangaroo pet food scheme was established to manage kangaroo numbers and to utilise the carcasses of culled roos. Without a scheme in place, kangaroos culled under an authority to kill wildlife permit will be left to rot in paddocks.

"Labor MPs need to get out of the city and make an effort to understand the pressure people are under," Ms Ryan said.

"For the sake of our farming communities, I call on the Government to show some guts and reinstate this program before it expires."



## Get your free mulch at Council transfer stations

Council's transfer stations in Kyneton, Romsey and Woodend are offering free mulch while stocks last.

The mulch is produced from garden organics dropped off at Council's transfer stations, and is used on Council gardens and open spaces.

This is a first-come, self-load offer and residents should bring their own shovel, containers or trailer, and protective clothing. The amount of mulch available at transfer stations may vary. For locations and opening hours, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/transfer-stations](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/transfer-stations)



Federal Member for Bendigo  
**LISA CHESTERS** MP

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## PUBLIC SCHOOL BOOST FROM FEDERAL LABOR

A Federal Labor Government will invest an extra \$14 billion for public schools to deliver the biggest school investment in Australian history – almost \$22 million of that will be allocated across Central Victoria. Federal Member for Bendigo, Lisa Chesters has met with schools across the region to discuss the need for additional funding for a variety of issues.

"Australian schools should be the best in the world, and every Australian child deserves the best start in life.

"Labor believes that for parents to have real choice, governments have a responsibility to make sure our public schools are second to none," Ms Chesters said.

A Federal Labor Government will invest an extra \$14 billion for public schools to deliver the biggest school investment in Australian history – almost \$22 million of that will be allocated across Central Victoria.

"A new website – [www.fairgoforschools.com.au](http://www.fairgoforschools.com.au) – will give each school an estimate of the extra funding it can expect in the first three years of Labor's plan.

Every student in every public school in Central Victoria will be better off under Labor's plan, including:

- Heathcote Primary School - \$140,000
- Taradale Primary School - \$90,000
- Eppalock Primary School - \$70,000
- Elphinstone Primary School - \$30,000
- Redesdale Mia Mia Primary School - \$20,000

"Our extra investment will transform public schools across Central Victoria and give all children the opportunity to reach their full potential, no matter where they live, or how much their parents earn," Ms Chesters said.

Mia Mia cricket supporters - see page 21



# District Association Report



Hello Redesdaliens

A quick glance through the review view mirror... How can we start a March review without talking about this year's Bush Market. Well done to the Hall Committee for organising this and to everyone who participated. A number of visitors shared how much they enjoyed the event (and raiding their glove boxes for extra coins to spend!). Big thank you to everyone who helped source, setup, man and demount the stalls – RaDA managed to top last year's takings and hope the other groups did similarly well.

There are constant new additions to the Community Library (see Community Plan Theme 2.2b). We encourage anyone who hasn't already visited, to pop down (behind main noticeboard at the Reserve), check it out and 'borrow' something to read over Easter. With school holidays coming up we are short of children's books, so if anyone has any books they would like to donate, that would be most appreciated.

Coming up in April:

In response to Theme 4.6 of the Redesdale Community Plan, RaDA has organised a "Weed night". If you want to find out more about what weeds you have and what you can do about them, please make sure you put the date aside: Saturday 13th April at 7pm – at the Hall. Supper will be served. If anyone could be bringing a plate, that would be appreciated. Contact Sarah Trezise for more information 0407 686 629.

We are yet to lock in a date, but we are looking to run another "Clean Up Australia – Redesdale" event after last year's successful trial (Community Plan Theme 2.2i). Watch the noticeboards and website for dates and how you can get involved. "The more, the merrier" and we'll try to tempt you with a morsel to eat afterwards!

Easter and school holidays are fast approaching which means watch out for our 'fries' on the Redesdale intersection as they do their bit to raise funds for the Good Friday Appeal. If you have any spare coins left over from the Bush Market – drop them in and make a frie smile.

And last 'heads up' – RaDA would like to invite you to a Progress Review Meeting: 11am Saturday the 18th of May at the School. We want to create an opportunity to "check in" against the Community Plan with the community and share what we've done in our first 6 months as your new committee. But most importantly, we want to hear from you – what do you want us to be doing in the next 6 months and beyond. We'd love to hear what ideas you have for ways to make Redesdale a better place to live and visit. Please mark it in your diaries and we'll share more details in April.

Autumn is officially upon us – now we'd just like some rain! I look forward to meeting you at one of our upcoming community events.

**Kym De Laney**

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Recently many of you may have noticed there was a house fire on the Vic Emergency App in Redesdale. We turned out only to find that the home owner had acted swiftly and put the fire out in their bathroom/laundry. Well done to the home owner and their friend.

The sight of a scorched clothes dryer reminded us of the fact that cooler weather is ahead and we need to be vigilant with the laundry area of the home.

The basic rules for using an electric clothes dryer are:

1. Clean the lint filter before each load.
2. Never leave an operating dryer unattended and
3. Be aware that extension leads, power boards and piggyback plugs can be an electrical fire hazard. Dryers are renowned for being heavy power consumers.

## The fire danger period.

After a long hot summer, cooler conditions make it tempting to have a bonfire or campfire, particularly with the Easter holiday break upon us. While fire restrictions are in place, the CFA rules state that an outdoor fire can only be used for cooking or warmth if the following rules are followed:

- The fire is in a trench at least 30cm deep
- It does not occupy an area exceeding 1 metre x 1 metre square
- There is at least a 3 metre cleared area around the fire .
- The wind speed is not greater than 10 Kph
- And you have at least 10 litres of water on hand.

If you don't wish to go down this path, most available BBQ'S, Fire pits and Chimineas meet safety standards.

Until we get a decent downpour (once again), stay safe.

**Andrew Campbell**  
**Fire Prevention Officer**  
**Redesdale CFA**  
**Ph 0428 253104**

## Fresh Fish

Many people have already found Gordon. But just in case you haven't (because he is hidden away in the car park behind what used to be The Emporium in Piper Street, Kyneton), Gordon sells fantastic seafood on Wednesday mornings between 7 am and 11 am.





# Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee

## Chairman's Report

### April 2019

Hello to all,  
Well The RRRC AGM has been run and was well attended. I would like to thank councillor Yvonne Wrigglesworth for her attendance and for running the meeting after all members vacated their positions. She also updated us on their grants program, the precinct plan and took questions from the floor.  
Thank you also to Catherine Wilby from Strathfieldsaye District Community Enterprise who updated us on their grants program as well taking questions from the attendees. Thank you to all other visitors including members from the hall committee.

The elections resulted in all executive positions remaining the same, however, there were three changes to the committee.

We would like to farewell Emma Simpson, thank her for her contributions especially in processing grant applications and wish her and her family all the best in their future endeavours.

We now welcome new members Wayne Smith and John Beurle to the committee, who will both bring a diverse range of skills which will further compliment our team.

It was great to see a large number of stalls and visitors to the bush

market on the Reserve on Sunday 10th March. Congratulations to the hall committee and volunteers, including RRRC, CFA and RADA, for a well organised event.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy Easter and hope we get lots of rain.

Mike Abramowski  
Chairman Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee.  
0418319131.



#### New Committee

Secretary Lindsay Booker 0448021544  
Treasurer. Gary Prendergast 0409705250  
Rod Gibson 0418130206  
Ronn Taylor 0429336763  
Les Pocock. 0427280814  
Wayne Smith. 0418409642  
John Beurle. 0422001924.



## in the Heathcote Region

**Saturday 2nd February to Tuesday 30th April 2019** – 'Reflections' an Exhibition by 6 Central Victorian Artists – featuring Judy Hutchins, Frances Lockett, Karen Macartney, Wendy Schneider, Desma Talamo and Eleaine van Dyk. From 10am to 5pm at Heathcote Winery, 183 – 185 High Street, Heathcote.

**Wednesday 3rd April 2019** – Cushion Concert at the RSL Hall – Join 'The Magic Song Box' for a concert especially for pre-schoolers. Bring a cushion (or we'll have some to share), bring a snack, bring a friend for a relaxed 30 minute concert; 11am – 11.30am. Hosted by Creative Communities. Tickets are \$5. High Street, Heathcote.

**Saturday 6th April 2019** – Lions Bush Market – 8am – 1pm. Stall bookings can be made by calling Jean on 0400 675 995. Venue: Barrack Reserve, High Street, Heathcote.

**Saturday 6th April 2019** – Variety Club Children's Fundraiser at Palling Bros. Brewery – The Variety Club will be taking over Palling Bros for one spectacular day, a day of Bands, Beer, Food, Fun, bring your special car along and join our show & shine. It will be sensational, not to be missed, for a special cause. 12 – 7pm. Cost is \$15. Food & drinks are available to purchase. 168 High Street, Heathcote.

**Sunday 7th April 2019** – Sunday Session at the Heathcote Inn – Bill Barber live – This Bendigo blues and rock solo musician is back by popular demand, show casing his amazing talent to keep you entertained all afternoon. Free entry. Bring the whole family down for a great day out – food, wine, ice cold beer, cocktails with the pool and playground to keep the kids entertained for hours. 2pm – 5pm. For more information or to book, visit: [www.heathcoteinn.com.au](http://www.heathcoteinn.com.au) Email: [Bookings@heathcoteinn.com.au](mailto:Bookings@heathcoteinn.com.au) or Phone: 5433 2409. Venue: 9 Hunter Place, Heathcote.

**Sunday 7th April 2019** – Palling Bros presents The Irish Session – Time: 1:30pm. Fancy playing a few jigs & reels or maybe you just want to listen over a cooling beer that's fine too. Future Irish sessions will be held on 1st Sunday of the month. Venue: 168 High St, Heathcote.

**Saturday 13th April 2019** – Mudbrick Motley Theatre presents 'Resting' written by Cenarth Fox – A one woman Australian show about an aging actress who struggles to get work. Starring Heathcote's

Maree Hingston. Enquiries via Maree on 0409 565 432. Time: 7pm. Bookings on: 0417136584. \$10 per person, payable at the door. Venue: Mclvor Store Playhouse (next to Palling Bros. Brewery), High Street, Heathcote.

**Good Friday 19th April 2019** – Roman Middleton Charity Golf Day- 4 Person Ambrose \$120 per team. 10.30 assembly for 11am start. Food & drink available on course only. To secure your Team please register by April 1st. All Enquiries including sponsorship opportunities: David Clouston 041 752 4358 or email: [roman.middleton@hotmail.com](mailto:roman.middleton@hotmail.com) Venue: Heathcote Golf Club, Patterson St, Heathcote.

**Good Friday 19th April 2019** – Good Friday Family Fun Day at the Heathcote Inn- Time: 12pm-10pm. Cost : Gold Coin Donation. An awesome family fun day to raise money for this year's Good Friday appeal. Live Music all day. Kid's face painting (and adults too if it's on your bucket list). Jumping castle, Little Patty the fire truck, a "hunt" of some kind and many other outdoor activities, if the weather permits the pool will be open with inflatable toys & games. Raffle & Silent Auction, Meal & Drink Specials running all day. More info contact Sam on 0403530297 or email: [events@heathcoteinn.com.au](mailto:events@heathcoteinn.com.au). Venue: 9 Hunter Place, Heathcote.

**Saturday 20th April 2019** – The Old Married Couple present - TWO'S A PARTY- Time: 6:30pm. For more information go to [www.theoldmarriedcouple.com](http://www.theoldmarriedcouple.com) Venue: Palling Bros Brewery, High St, Heathcote.

**Friday 26th to Sunday 29th April 2019** – The O'Keefe Challenge – An annual event, the O'Keefe Challenge is more than just a race – it celebrates fitness, nature and the community spirit of the Heathcote region. Registrations for next year's events are now open. For more information, please refer to the website: [www.theokeefe.com.au](http://www.theokeefe.com.au).

**Saturday 27th April 2019** – 'Authors Up Close' – Plug in at Palling Bros. Brewery – The first of many conversation sessions to be held in Heathcote, with authors, writers, and poets form around the country and beyond. Today you will meet Leah Kaminsky as we delve into her newly released book 'The Hollow Bones'.

## Kyneton Students “Strike 4 Climate Action”

On March 15th traffic slowed on Mollison Street as students and their supporters took part in the international student's strike to increase awareness of the need to act on climate change. After all, it will be the young ones who will be affected. Here they are outside Kyneton Town Hall.



Tens of thousands of young climate change activists in at least 112 countries skipped school on March 15 in what was one of the biggest environmental protests in history.

“We are the voiceless future of humanity,” activists wrote in a letter published March 1 by the Guardian. “Now we will make our voices heard.”

The strikes kicked off last year with one Swedish girl protesting outside Swedish Parliament, and already students in the United Kingdom, Australia, France, Germany, Ireland, Uganda, Thailand, Colombia, and Poland have followed her lead, playing hooky to demand stronger action on climate change from their governments. The movement has now spread to the United States, where March 15 strikes occurred in more than 100 cities, organized under the leadership of three girls: Alexandria Villaseñor, Haven Coleman, and Isra Hirs, daughter of the headline-making first-term Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN).

This wave of youth activism began with 16-year-old Greta Thunberg from Sweden, who last August began camping outside the Swedish parliament and accused lawmakers of failing to uphold their commitments to fight climate change as agreed to under the Paris climate accord.

According to the Guardian, Thunberg “was inspired by students from the Parkland school in Florida, who walked out of classes in protest against the US gun laws that enabled the massacre on their campus.” As word of her strike spread, she became an international celebrity, and was invited to speak to climate negotiators in talks last December in Poland and more recently to the global elite in Davos, Switzerland. “I don’t want your hope,” she said in her Davos speech. “I don’t want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic. I want you to feel the fear I feel every day. And then I want you to act.” She has continued striking every Friday, inspiring the Fridays for Future movement in dozens of other countries too.

Thunberg, who has Asperger syndrome has been nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize by three Norwegian lawmakers, has managed to both channel and elevate the frustration and fear many young people feel about policymakers’ reticence to take climate change really seriously. Scientists warn that the impacts of climate change like extreme weather are already deadly and damaging, and that we have just 12 years to limit devastating worldwide warming. People under age 20, of course, could be around to see 2080, and face the prospect of a planet that has warmed on average by 2 or even 4 degrees Celsius



in their lifetimes.

The strikers around the world have slightly different demands, but the common theme is that they want their governments to aggressively cut their greenhouse gas emissions. Thunberg was able to pressure European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker to commit to spending 1 trillion Euros to mitigate climate change between 2021 and 2027. But she will continue striking until Swedish parliament strengthens its own climate commitments.

Some strikers also want a greater say in the political process with a lower voting age.

But right now, schoolchildren can’t vote and some of the “grownups” are dismissive of their concerns and tactics. UK Prime Minister Theresa May last month said the protests “increases teachers’ workloads and wastes lesson time that teachers have carefully prepared for.”

Thousands of schoolchildren across Australia walked out of class on Friday March 15th to demand action by the federal government on climate change. It brought together children in capital cities and 20 regional centres.

More than a thousand primary and secondary students filled Sydney’s Martin Place and students in Melbourne marched through the streets, bringing traffic to a standstill.

The prime minister, Scott Morrison, had earlier urged students not to take part and told them to be “less activist.”

On Friday, the resources minister Matt Canavan said he would prefer students to learn about mining and science. “These are the type of things that excite young children and we should be great at it as a nation,” he told 2GB radio. “The best thing you’ll learn about going to a protest is how to join the dole queue.”

In Sydney, student Jean Hinchliffe, 14, took to the stage and told her fellow students the protest was just getting started. “This is our first strike,” she said. “Our first action. And it is just the beginning. And we’ll keep doing it until something is done.”

Lucie Atkin-Bolton, 11, the school captain of Forest Lodge public school, said she had been let down by politicians.

“I wish I didn’t have to be here today,” she said. “I’m the school captain at my primary school. We’ve been taught what it means to be a leader. You have to think about other people.”

“When kids make a mess, adults tell us to clean it up and that’s fair. But when our leaders make a mess, they’re leaving it to us to clean up.”

“Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings...”

**Kathy Hall**



# Letter to the Editor

## PLEASE NOTE:

Views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the publisher of The Bridge Connection.

Dear Eds,

It was great to see such a broad range of community members, fire and support services who all helped during the 2009 Black Saturday fires attended the unveiling of the wonderful mural on the Agnes Mudford Reserve water tank last month. With politicians of all persuasions, community members who were affected by those tragic fires (and those who were not) and the youth and enthusiasm of the kids from our primary school in attendance, I was taken by the warmth and genuine coming together of our community.

With RaDA taking the opportunity and gaining a grant from Regional Arts Victoria and the wonderful support from the City of Greater Bendigo we now have a landmark that not only is of interest to the general public (perhaps part of the growing silo art route all be it a short one) but a reminder of how a community that comes together can get through even the toughest of challenges both individually and together. To hear of the diverse set of community members that contributed to the artist impressions says plenty about how when we come together and see the positives from the darkness (and good things that we do together) that only positives can come from our small but passionate community. Great job Redesdale! Oh and the welcome to country and cleansing ceremony was wonderful and Michael Bourke's family connection was equally appropriate. I can still smell the smoke... wonderful!

**John Beurle, Redesdale**

## "Weed night!"



If you want to find out more about what weeds you have and what you can do about them, come to an information session on

**Saturday 13th April at 7pm  
at the Redesdale Hall  
A light supper will be served.**



# Letter to the Editor

## PLEASE NOTE:

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Dear Eds,

When it came to painting the tank I really couldn't have cared either way, except that if it were to be painted I would have preferred a single colour or maybe a simple geometric design which could be easily touched up and maintained. The trouble with a complex design was illustrated by the murals at the general store. They were much applauded when new and vibrant, but as they aged and became faded and tatty, 'touching up' and refreshing the images was too costly and now they're being covered up.

Now that the tank is painted I have to say that it's a disappointment. Touted as a 'Memorial to the Redesdale fire of 2009', it falls well short of that lofty appellation and, much as I try, I can see nothing in the design which would lead anyone to recognise it as such. Far from being seen as a memorial, it is a mere montage of generic images which could adorn any shed, tank, or silo in any small community in the State. Every small community has a ute full of hay, every small community has someone fixing a fence, every small community is served by and protected by the CFA, and whilst I'm not sure that they all would have giant sheep, most would have a Community Church of some denomination.

And now via your pages we're being exhorted to have 'many visits to the mural and find images that encourage you to share in the story telling of our community'... Really?

A much better way to do this would have been ...

- \* Decide to paint the tank and call for Community ideas on the subject matter.

- \* Decide the theme and appoint an artist to present a design.

- \* After design acceptance have the artist 'Sketch out' the design on the tank.

- \* Have a Community 'Paint the Tank Day' where the entire Community, young and old, is invited to turn up with a brush and each paint a small section of the tank with the artist supervising, guiding and helping the painters to get a good result.

After all that, we retire to a barbecue and a few well-earned drinks whilst we celebrate community ownership of our artwork.

For me there is only one subject to be contemplated – Redesdale! There is enough in the history of this place to adorn many a tank such as ...

- \* A train standing at the station and/or a Loco being turned on the turntable.

- \* Ben Caelli and his traction engine carting timber from the station for the Redesdale Hall.

- \* The early school building.

- \* The Catholic Church,

- \* The mighty Bridge.

- \* Munro's crossing.

- \* A portrait of the lady whose name adorns the recreation reserve – Agnes Mudford.

All of these images would be itemised on an information board which gives a 'potted history' of each of them and provides real interest for residents and visitors alike.

There'd be so much subject matter we might have to build another tank.

**John Barker, Redesdale**

## Redesdale Ramblings:

## Autumnal activities

As the autumn weather sets in it's time to do some garden prep. Perennials which flowered well are now dying down and unless you particularly want to save seeds from them they can be cut to the ground or at least to the lowest healthy buds on the stem. Seed saving can be worthwhile if the plant is rare or hard to propagate from division or cuttings. Some seeds though are tricky to catch because they can appear unripe one day and the next time you look they have been scattered to the four winds. For things like that a simple paper bag tied over the seed head can collect most of the seeds. However using a plastic bag could lead to a buildup of moisture causing them to go mouldy. An ideal thing to use is the gauze bags often used for small gifts and they can be bought easily on-line. One of our friends is a dab hand at sewing and whips them up using net curtaining. These bags not only allow you to see when the seeds are shedding but if there's any rain or other moisture falling on them it quickly drains away leaving the seeds dry.



If you have decided to move or divide plants you can prepare them by watering well and loosening the soil around them with a garden fork. Mulching around them with straw or hay or lawn clippings helps to conserve moisture making it easier to lift them. Day-lilies are particularly suited to this method as they have tuberous roots which can delve deeply if the soil is loose and fertile. Using a garden fork dig down about half a foot (15 cm) from the clump and start to lever it up; then move to the opposite side and repeat the process. If it doesn't feel like the clump will come up, then repeat on either side of your first forays until you no longer feel resistance from the roots holding on to the earth so you can lift it free. If you have the luxury of owning two garden forks the recommended method is to place them back to back in the middle of the clump and lever them apart, dividing it in two. More simply you can slice it into pieces using a sharp spade.

*Daylily - Flycatcher*



Agapanthus are a lot tougher and you might need to employ a mattock or a pick to prise out a decent clump; in fact you might need to tackle it a piece at a time. It's not unheard of to use an axe to divide a seriously congested plant. "Aggies" are somewhat taken for granted in Melbourne and especially down on the coast where they have seeded so vigorously that they have become a nuisance. I've found that usually when they go to seed our conditions are so extreme hardly any seedlings come up. If you are concerned you should "dead-head" them which simply means cutting out the flower stems before the seeds mature. The best way to do that is to use them as cut-flowers indoors.



Once the ground has been softened by the autumn rains you can start planting out the spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils, tulips, snowdrops and iris (the dwarf Iris reticulata types or the larger Dutch hybrids). You might have ordered these from some of the big bulb companies especially those in the Dandenongs, such as "Hancocks". Or perhaps from smaller ventures such as "Collectaflora" in Woodend or "The Garden Tap" in Kyneton or, as we frequently do, get bags of daffodil bulbs from the Kyneton Daffodil and Arts Festival who fund-raise in autumn to finance the spring activities. In any case preparing the ground beforehand will ensure a good performance from your bulbs for years to come. Never add fresh manure or undecomposed organic matter to the planting hole where it could come into contact with the bulbs and cause them to rot. You can incorporate compost into the soil under the bulbs as long as you make sure there is a layer of plain soil directly under the bulbs. I prefer to dig in a little "all purpose" or high-potash fertiliser under the bulbs especially if planting daffodils in "rough ground" between trees in the paddock where we don't amend the soil too much. However in garden beds which are raised a bit higher than the surrounding soil level we incorporate coarse sand and well rotted compost before interring the bulbs and mulching with a coarse gravel. This is typically what we do in the rock garden but where we are mixing bulbs with other types of plants we have used a wood-chip mulch.

There's more to do next month,  
Cheers

**Fermi**  
**The Redesdale Rock Gardener**







Hello Dear Readers,

Lady Bombay here with this month's latest. From last month's edition, I am following up with the new swimming pool we have acquired, or should I say Lord B acquired on eBay. My feelings were that if one must succumb to the pool as it is, then the surroundings should be spectacular. Picture a soft varnished teak deck surround with a perfectly smooth finish only to resemble

glimpses of the QE2. A staircase to walk majestically on to the deck with double braid white rope rails. This is quite the look I have in mind. I hear Lord B calling me to move the Bentley into the garage as there is an eminent delivery arriving. At last, my teak decking is on its way. What joy I have in anticipation of this arrival. The joy was quickly swept to dismay. Twenty-five eight foot by four-foot delivery pallets arrived stacked in the driveway circle. I looked at Lord B with astonishment. Even Thorn, the gardener, looked rather perplexed, although its rather hard to tell with him. Randy, the black Labrador, lifted his leg against them. To me this was like rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic. "Don't worry old girl, it is going to look top drawer by the time Thorn, the gardener, and I have finished." Thorn, the gardener, had a look of surprise and exhaustion. That look I did recognise from many an occasion.

My only word to convey to Lord B was if it did not come up to muster, then it was for the burn pile. Not only am I apparently not going to be lazing by my Hearst-styled, tiles-and-all swimming pool, but it looks as though I will be lazing on the delivery bay at the back of a supermarket. All I could do was walk away and hope that DIY and Google will not let me down.

Subsequently, I was summoned to the pool area which have not seen

my eyes since pallet arrival day one week ago. To my astonishment, the venue of subject has gone from Dudley Flats to Cap Ferrat. A perfectly streamlined decking from out of nowhere with stairs, double braid white rope railing and a ramp for declining years. Everything has been sanded polished and buffed to a rather high degree. Secretly, I was pleasantly surprised by this presentation. My only quandary was where to position the twenty red geraniums in white pots on the decking? Must notify Thorn, the gardener that his work on this area is not quite finished. As for Lord B, a job well done, but let's just keep that to ourselves for now. Give the old boy an inch and there is no telling what else is on eBay, or is there?

Have just noticed the cheque book. Four cheques missing with only dollar amounts in the Stubbs. Was the project a two man show, or do I suspect a team effort. I must admit Thorn, the gardener, does not look quite as exhausted as we normally make him look. One wonders?

Finally, any plants that have survived this rather dust ridden dry oasis of a summer at Mia Mia Manor are my favourite plants.

Time for Mothers ruin. Perhaps tonight a dubonnet for a change. If it's good enough for HRH, throw caution to the wind is what I say.

**Lady Sapphire Bombay,  
or should I say Dowager Dubonnet!**



## Hazard to cyclists & pedestrians – Caltrop weed

Caltrop (*Tribulus terrestris*) is a regionally controlled weed in the North Central Catchment. It is also known as bindii, cat's head, goat's head or yellow vine. It is a flat, summer-growing, annual herb with divided, hairy leaves and small yellow flowers.

The fruit of caltrop is a woody burr with sharp spines. This burr can puncture bike tyres, making it particularly annoying for cyclists. It can also puncture human skin, and injure the feet, mouth and digestive system of animals. Animals with burrs in their pads can be permanently or temporarily made lame. Burrs are easily picked up and spread by vehicle tyres, shoes, and animals' feet and in other objects. Caltrop can be readily seen in the gravel paths around Redesdale and often germinates and establishes best after summer rains. It does not do well in dense pasture, but seems to relish footpaths and driveways. How to prevent Caltrop becoming well established in Redesdale and surrounds:

- Avoid infested areas as walking, riding or driving through them spreads seeds to other areas.
- Pull out (with care, as the burrs are quite nasty) or cut out plants before they drop their prickly burrs.
- Report new infestations to the local government responsible.
- Check shoes and tyres for prickles before leaving an infested area.
- Destroy seeds or put in a secure bag in the bin.

This information from the Campaspe Valley Landcare group, based on an original warning from Connecting Country (based in Castlemaine).

**David Cheal**



## Hall Happenings

*with Norma Barker*

I'm baaaaack !!! Feeling well and ready to go.

The Hall Committee's bush market on Sunday March 10 was, once again, a resounding success. I hope everyone found their bargains, had something nice to eat, and enjoyed the bands.

Our Committee must make a special thank you to our army of helpers who come out on occasions like this. We want you to know we could not do it so successfully without your energy.

A special thank you must also go to Carolyn Anne and Jim Boyd who spend endless hours, days, finding stall-holders, handling advertising, flyers, signs and setting up the stall-holder sites at the Agnes Mudford Reserve.

We have a lovely new stove for the kitchen, which is now ready to go, so we will be planning more cookery classes after the Revellers.

Our Revellers shows are in May and first week of June, so get your friends together for a great night of fun.

Sunday April 28th 2019 we will be holding an Afternoon Tea Dance at the Redesdale Hall from 1pm to 5pm. There'll be the usual lovely afternoon tea and Rod McKenzie music, so brush off your dancing shoes and have a fun afternoon.

That's it for this month.



## Heathcote student honoured with Weary Dunlop award at Parliament House

Member for Euroa and Deputy Leader of The Nationals Steph Ryan today hosted students from across the Euroa electorate in Parliament House for the 2018 'Weary' Dunlop Award.

Heathcote student Ava Harris was among the 10 winners of the award, honoured in Parliament House in Melbourne.



Ms Ryan offers the award each year to each school across the Euroa electorate in honour of Weary Dunlop. Students were invited to Parliament House for a formal awards presentation after a fun morning experiencing the city.

The award is presented to students who have demonstrated persistence and resilience in order to achieve academically, socially, culturally, in the sporting arena or in another field of endeavour. "Hosting these wonderful young people and their families in Parliament is one of the highlights on my year," Ms Ryan said.

"Each of them has a unique story of how they persisted and showed resilience to overcome adversity."

Ava is currently in Grade 6 at Holy Rosary Heathcote. Her teachers described her as a caring and compassionate member of the school community, well respected among her peers and a natural leader. "Ava is a great examples of the spirit exemplified by Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop' and it was an honour to have her in Parliament today," Ms Ryan said.

## Successful women's chainsaw program returns to Macedon Ranges

Local women looking to build their independence, confidence and chainsaw skills are encouraged to express their interest in participating in The Women's Chainsaw Program.

The program includes:

- An accredited trim and crosscut chainsaw safety, handling and maintenance course on 3, 4 and 5 May or 10, 11, 12 May 2019.
- An emergency preparedness and skill-based course on 11–12 May or 18–19 May 2019.
- A chainsaw carving course on 18–19 May or 25–26 May 2019.

The 20 course participants will be supplied with chainsaws and safety equipment, with lunch provided. Free childcare is also available if required.

Expressions of interest for the program close on Sunday 14 April 2019. To find out more information or to express your interest in taking part, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/chainsaw](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/chainsaw) or call Emilie on 5422 0206.



## RECIPE OF THE MONTH 40

### Lady Bombay's Posh Nosh



#### Crusty potatoes with spinach a la crème

Those of you who want a change from the standard roast potato and boiled greens, here is a quick and easy alternative provided by my dear old friend Sandi B-M

#### Spinach a la crème

Dice 1 onion  
Sauté onion in a frying pan with butter until translucent  
Add 400ml of full cream (light if necessary)  
Heat through  
Add 2 bags of spinach  
Salt and pepper to season  
Cover fry pan for 10 minutes on a low heat or until leaves have wilted  
Serve

#### Crusty Potatoes

-6 Potatoes Peeled and Diced (Not too small)  
-4 Tablespoons of seeded mustard  
Boil diced potatoes until al dente (about 5-8 minutes)  
Drain and cool  
Combine potatoes and mustard together  
Place on greased oven tray  
Place in the oven 200 degrees for 30 minutes

## Local couple donate \$1 million for vital habitat links

In a major act of biodiversity kindness and long-term vision, local residents Caroline and Terry Bellair have donated savings of \$1 million to Bush Heritage Australia to convert private property into nature reserves and help create habitat links for plants and animals to adapt to a changing climate. Terry and Caroline are members of Friends of Campbells Creek Landcare and cherish their local environment and the achievements of their active Landcare group.

Some of the inspiration for the couple came after hearing Jeroen van Veen from Bush Heritage talk at an event organised by Connecting Country in Campbells Creek in 2018, called 'Planting for the Future' – part of our 'Future-Proof your Restoration' series.

*Continued on page 20*

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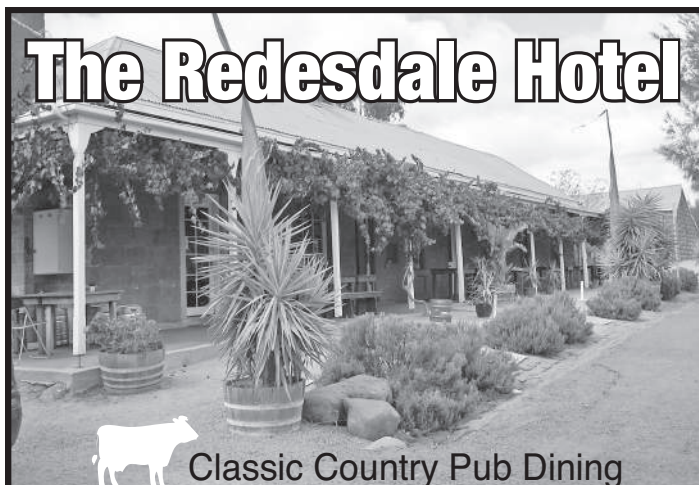
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## Medical cannabis

Your Health!  
with  
Dr Tim

Medical science has known for a long time that the psychoactive effects of cannabis or marijuana, grass, and weed are mediated through cannabinoid receptors in the brain and many other parts of the body. What has also been known is that some of the psychoactive effects are actually quite useful in managing some chronic and intractable symptoms that cannot currently be controlled by other medicines. What has unfortunately been lacking until recently is the will from regulatory authorities to bypass the illegal street trade in marijuana, to set up a framework for the legal supply and prescription of cannabis with consistent quality such that a therapeutic effect can be obtained.

Leave your preconceptions behind and let's briefly explore the science of cannabinoids.

There are many cannabinoids in medical cannabis - up to 100 - all chemically similar molecules but also varied slightly in chemical properties. Medical research is onto the task of working out how all of them work exactly. Some are more active than others, some work longer or shorter in the body, some have unwanted effects and teasing out exactly which of the cannabinoids has the most therapeutic effect will enable even more predictable and improved therapy in time.

The main active ingredients currently are considered to be cannabidiol (cbd) and tetrahydrocannabinol (thc). There are at least two types of cannabinoid receptors, and probably at least a few more types yet to be discovered. The different receptors are distributed differently around the various organs of the body. There is still much to learn about how this receptor system works physiologically.

So far there are a limited number of conditions which medical cannabis can be used to treat, including some forms of epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, some forms of chronic pain, and a variety of symptoms associated either with cancer, cancer treatment or palliative care. This will be an area of ongoing intense research over the coming

years undoubtedly to determine how this new therapy can most advantageously be used.

The development of an Australian medical cannabis industry will allow producers to closely monitor and maintain standards of their product so that hopefully a consistent therapeutic effect can be achieved.

The current prescribing rules around medical cannabis mandate that there needs to be agreed evidence of a possible clinical benefit for the patient in discussion with their doctor. An approval process is then used to obtain an authority to prescribe medical cannabis to the patient. Once that authority is granted, the doctor can prescribe cannabis, which can then be dispensed through pharmacies similar to any other medication.

It is notable that the cost of medical cannabis is not subsidised, except in very limited circumstances, so that the price paid through a pharmacy may be quite different to what we would normally expect to pay for scripts.

Cannabis is no wonder drug, or silver bullet for cancer pain. It will undoubtedly be very useful in managing many many patients, but there is also definitely potential for harm. Like many psychoactive substances the commonest adverse effect is sedation. This is an effect that is sometimes difficult for patients to monitor themselves objectively. It is important that a doctor is involved in monitoring such therapy. It is still illegal to drive under the influence, not only of cannabis, but of course any other medication which can impair driving ability. It is still illegal to obtain and use marijuana which has not been prescribed.

The flower power days of doing joints around the pool table or in the back of the van may have passed, but its usefulness is still yet to be fully realised. Cannabis research has a long way to go before it is understood as well as the other medications we use as everyday therapy.

**Dr Tim Stobie 5422 1397**

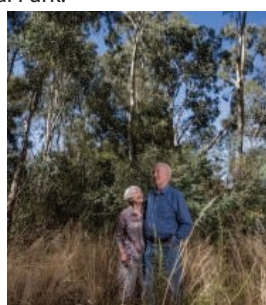


**Continued from previous page:**

Bush Heritage is working to link up isolated bits of habitat around St Arnaud and Wedderburn in northwest Victoria. Habitat fragmentation is a huge conservation challenge, with many areas of forest cleared for farming and mining, resulting in small, disconnected habitat havens and climate refuges.

The day after the Connecting Country event, the family began the process of donating a million dollars to Bush Heritage. The original plan was a bequest in their will, but that was soon changed to an immediate donation, allowing them to see the impacts of the Bush Heritage purchase. Over 15 years, Bush Heritage has bought more than 1,500 hectares to connect habitat in the Kara Kara-Wedderburn Landscape.

Bush Heritage also hopes to buy another nearby block with the Bellair donation, on top of the 203 hectare block near Emu, which will help form a chain between Wedderburn and the Kara Kara National Park.



### Quote of the month:

*The definition of a friend is "someone who says nice things about you when you're not around."*

**Charles Schultz**



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# Mia Mia Cricket Club



What a wonderful season of Mia Mia cricket has just concluded. After finishing a resilience testing 3rd bottom last season the journey to success began way back in early September culminating in a Grand Final appearance at picturesque Pearce reserve, Mandurang. Played over two successive days in front of a crowd estimated at around 200 the grand final was a tense affair throughout with the experience of seasoned finals campaigners Emu Creek eventually overcoming our youthful enthusiasm and determination to give them their 2nd

## Mia Mia Cricket Grand Finalists in 2019

Congratulations to the Mia Mia cricket club for making the grand final against Emu Gully at Mandurang South Reserve on the weekend 23/24th March. A strong season meant a ticket to the 'big dance' and with a wonderful crowd of supporters on hand our boys were up for the challenge.

After a great start by our bowlers we were on top however with a strong middle order reply Emu Gully achieved a solid but achievable score of 167 from 49 overs. After a warm day in the field, Mia Mia experienced an early order collapse and despite a strong late rally on Sunday from Josh Smiley and Wil Ryan, sadly we were unable to claw back for the win and were dismissed for 92 runs after 36 overs.

Making the finals for Mia Mia was a great result with many strong wins during the summer. They say you need to lose a final before you can win one so next year is going to be even better with talk of running two teams at the post match get together at the The Redesdale Hotel. Thanks to Beth and Garth for the refreshments, your support during the year has been much appreciated.

The strong season saw the team clean up at the awards night recently with Brett Thomsons, 'Lawry' Conforti and Nathan Simms winning multiple awards for their contributions during the season. Great job guys!

So 2020 is going to be a big year for the club with strong results the team is growing and with support from the broader community will hopefully go one step further and win the flag. If you are interested in playing or supporting the club, check us out on Facebook or contact me and get on board.

**John Beurle**  
[john.beurle@gmail.com](mailto:john.beurle@gmail.com)  
0422 001 924

premiership in succession. Congratulations to Emu Creek on their success, our Mia Mia cricketers will benefit greatly from the experience of participating in a Grand Final with Emu Creek.

Over this season there have been many highlights, individual honours to Andrew Conforti Nathan Sims and Brett Thomson were received at the Emu Valley Cricket Association presentation night, congratulations to these three. Honours also must go to all the supporters and administrators, our ground staff led brilliantly by Matt Ryan who kept the Flat in pristine playing condition throughout a very dry summer, the elder statesmen of our club returning to support and impart their knowledge and wisdom, wonderful to see and listen to club legend Phil Anderson at our matches amongst many others. Also wonderful to see and listen to our younger members, for one, Gilly McKenna, at only 9 months with sister Matari and Mum Marita cheering on our team.

Which leads us to a very special mention which must go the supporters and especially to the Wives, Girlfriends, Mums, Sisters and all family and friends who participate across so many areas of our Club, who add so much to the experience of not only the game itself but also to the very essence of "The Spirit of Cricket."

**Brian Lauder.**



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## Did you know?



- The heart of a shrimp is located in its head. ...
- A snail can sleep for three years.
- The fingerprints of a koala are so indistinguishable from humans that they have on occasion been confused at a crime scene.
- Slugs have four noses.
- Elephants are the only animal that can't jump.
- A rhinoceros' horn is made of hair.
- It is possible to hypnotize a frog by placing it on its back and gently stroking its stomach.
- It takes a sloth two weeks to digest its food.
- Nearly three percent of the ice in Antarctic glaciers is penguin urine.
- A cow gives nearly 200,000 glasses of milk in a life-time.
- Bats always turn left when leaving a cave.
- Giraffes have no vocal chords.
- Kangaroos can't fart.
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- Around 50 percent of orangutans have fractured bones, due to falling out of trees on a regular basis.
- Frogs cannot vomit. If one absolutely has to, then it will vomit its entire stomach.

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