



ISSUE NO. 136 MARCH 2023

For the Mia Mia- Redesdale Region including:

- Heathcote • Derrinal • Glenhope • Baynton • Sidonia • Barfold
- Langley V Sutton Grange • Elphinstone • Kyneton • Metcalfe

BRIDGE CONNECTION COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



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Australia Day Council Awards Presented by Cr Bill Chisholm



Award to dedicated Community Member Anthony Ryan

Anthony Ryan has been a dedicated member of our community for a long time.

He joined the Pyalong FB in 1975 and the Mia Mia CFA in 1984 and he was recently awarded a Life Membership of the Mia Mia CFA. He was also awarded a Fire Service Medal after the Black Saturday Fires.

He has worked on several important events including the 100-year Anniversary of the *Dugan Brothers Flight*, as well as the 150-year Anniversary of the *Burke and Wills Expedition*.

He has also been:

- President of Mia Mia Tennis Club for 4 years
- President of Redesdale and District Tennis Association for 4 years

- Committee member of Heathcote Golf Club
- Committee member of Redesdale-Mia Mia
- Primary School 12 years

blue COVER CONCEPT COURTESY/ blue pencil publishing

Fosterville Gold Mine Community Grants – applications now open

The Community Grants Program aims to support initiatives which actively contribute to the growth of our local communities both now and into the future.

**Applications open Friday 24 February 9am
and close Monday 27th March at 5pm**

W: fgmcommunity.com.au

E: fgm.community@agnicoeagle.com



Rochester's young horse and pony lovers are honing their riding skills since the creation of a new soft fall sand arena at the Rochester and District Horse and Pony Club, thanks to being awarded a FGM Community Grant.

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Editorial

Dear Readers,
The Bridge Connection Committee (BCC) would like to pay our respects to a much-loved community member, Graeme Newnham, who passed away on 3rd of Feb 2023. Please see the CFA article on page 9 for more details.

The expanded BCC is excited to be meeting and working at the Redesdale Hall where the storeroom has been converted into an office. Please see below. The newly erected post box at the hall will serve as a drop box for any articles or letters you would like to post for possible inclusion.

bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com

Regina Bennett



Regina Bennett

Editor: Regina Bennett

Ph: 0437514223

e: bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com



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 on line at **redesdale.net** and via **face-book**



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BRIDGE CONNECTION COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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Half Page	130mm x 190mm	\$95	\$950
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17th OF EACH MONTH**

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bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com
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For other editorial enquiries, please phone **0437 514 223**

Bridge Connection Distribution

950 Copies printed and distributed to Redesdale Mia Mia Region, including Barfold, Baynton, Derrinal, Elphinstone, Glenhope, Kyneton, Langley, Metcalf, Sidonia and Sutton Grange

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President : **Gloria Pocock**

Secretary: **Regina Bennett** (03) 5425 5402
bridgeconnection.secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer: **Marisa Leahy** 0415 384 217

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Coliban Valley 2022 Rosé

Coliban Valley is a small family owned and operated vineyard and winery, located in Metcalfe, in the cooler SW corner of the Heathcote wine region. Here the days are warm and the nights are cool extending the ripening season for better flavour development.

The vineyard was planted initially in 1997 to Cabernet sauvignon, Merlot and Shiraz. Riesling was planted later in 2006 but due to prolonged drought it was slow to establish. However the rains of 2010/11 allowed the vines to flourish and they have not looked back.

The wine making philosophy is one of minimal intervention to promote maximum expression of the fruit characters. Our climate allows organically sustainable principles to be followed.

The 25 year old vines are dry grown on ancient granitic soil, producing fine wines showing intensity, elegance and balance. All grapes are hand picked. All our wines are Vegan friendly as no fining agents are used. This also means that they do not contain the potential allergens found in many other wines.



Greg and Helen Miles

Wine of the Month Coliban Valley Wines

Over the 20 years of winemaking, the wines have been awarded many medals and a number of trophies in the local wine shows, most recently, in the 2022 Daylesford Wine Show, the 2021 Shiraz was awarded Top Gold and a Trophy for the Best Shiraz. The 2022 Rosé was awarded a Bronze medal.

Until 2006 our range did not include any chilled summer wines. It was then that our first Rosé was made from Cabernet and Shiraz grapes. It has been made every year since then, in the same dry style, in the French tradition, with abundant fruit flavour and a natural acid balance. The 2022 Rosé is a refreshing summer wine which matches well with many foods from a BBQ to a Salad or Red Thai Duck Curry. Enjoy it with friends in the great Aussie outdoors, at home, or at the Redesdale Hotel.

Cellar door, at the winery at 313 Metcalfe-Redesdale Road is open most weekends. A phone call is recommended- 0417 312 098.

Taste the Rosé and discuss the grape growing, wine making and terroir with Greg and Helen Miles. The dogs, Lily and Clive are also likely to be at the Cellar Door to welcome you when you arrive.



Greg and Helen Miles. with dogs, Lily and Clive



Time Line Of Mia Mia History

Part 1.

THE EARLY CENTURIES

Mia Mia is the borderland between Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurong clans of the Kulin people. It has been impacted by waves of Euro and Asian intrusions from the 16th century to the present, firstly by Indonesian/Makassar sea cucumber gatherers who introduced smallpox which was transmitted down the east coast, becoming endemic here.

From the late sixteenth to eighteenth centuries, first Portuguese, followed by Spanish, Dutch and then British so-called explorers became aware of the continent.

In 1770 Captain Cook's navigation of the entire east coast brought Australia and this land into British cognition. After the American revolution, new prisons for felons were required as the Americans refused to take any more. In 1785 the British began planning new dumping grounds resulting in the First Fleet of 1788.

In 1802 Flinders circumnavigated our continent. He passed through Bass Strait and noted the presence of seals and whales. After the French revolution and since US independence 1776, the British were determined to stop French expansion into the Pacific and South Asia. Hence the scattering of Brit colonies around Australia. In 1804 settlement at Port Phillip was attempted but instead Tasmania was founded. Buckley escaped and thus became the first permanent European to live around Port Phillip. By 1820, American sealers had heard of the Bass Strait supply of product and began marauding the Strait and introducing the first bacillus of the cold and flu and, of course, a good dose of syphilis.

SOME LOCAL HISTORY

In 1826 Hume and Hovell walked from Yass in NSW all the way to Westernport Bay, and then back again. They were probably the first Europeans to enter Taungurong lands. These so-called discoveries excited the land grabbers in both NSW and Tasmania.

By the 1830's all the prime land in Tasmania had been granted or sold, so landgrabbers looked across the strait and the Hentys were the first to settle at Portland in 1834, closely followed by Batman who gazumped the Port Phillip Association (PPA) of Launceston and grabbed land around Melbourne allegedly buying it from the Wurundjerri people. This was the initial and only time the indigenous people were paid for anything. In 1835, Fawkner and Co from the PPA settled, with the intention of doing so permanently, at the present-day CBD of Melbourne.

THE INAPTLY NAMED PASTORALISTS

The colonial government (Gov. Bourke in Sydney) could not control the spread of settlement and breaches of the 19 counties boundaries were increasing. Around 1835 he gave up and introduced Squatters Licences. This bureaucratic step resulted in a European influx into the Mia Mia area. The step quasi-legitimized the settlements at Melbourne and Portland, but much more importantly, capitalized the usurpation of the indigenous people. The step gave some sort of government recognised authority allowing landgrabbers to borrow from banks and others and trade actual licences. The landgrabbers treated the licence as a free simple title.

Burke dispatched his government surveyor, Major Mitchell to scout for new areas for sheep upon the backs of which Australia was to thrive for almost 150 years. It is assumed that he discovered Australia Felix of the Campaspe/Loddon open savannah grasslands, but in fact they had already been discovered by the landgrabbers who had foreseen the results of Mitchell's reports about the suitability of sheep farming in the area.

In 1836, Mitchell passed through the area and had a propensity to name everything after the Greeks of Homer. He did not recognise the local Kulin people who had been devastated by a smallpox outbreak in the late 1820/30s. No reliable figures for population exist but in the entire region at that time it could not have exceeded 5000.

Also in 1836 the first of the Yass landgrabbers arrived around Mia Mia. Five conglomerates of families, convicts, ex-convicts, some freemen (but of course no women), took up Squatters Licences in our area. Some of the names exist in our street directories. Ebdon, Pohlman, Yaldwin.

They came with horses, cattle, drays, portable sheep pens, and each group with thousands of sheep. The money needed to aggregate all this gear and finance the entrepreneurs did not accrue overnight. They had put themselves into the venture of taking over this area, with aforethought, grit, determination and greed, and a very strange version of Christianity. As it happens most of the initial settlers went broke, but the second buyers succeeded. The grabbers arrived in spite of Major Mitchell and not because of him. By mid-1837 all the available Campaspe/Loddon grasslands had been assigned to Europeans and not an acre for the Dja dja Wurrung or Taungurong. By 1839 the stock route now known as the Burke and Wills Track, or Mia Mia/Lancefield Road was becoming well-travelled.

Settlement from the south soon followed. Squatters from Melbourne settled near Woodend and Kyneton and westwards to Carisbrook and Stawell.

Once the indigenous people realised that the grabbers were not just passing through but intended to stay, armed conflicts began. Some isolated shepherds were speared to death and this put fear into all of them. Sheep and some cattle were abducted but never eaten, they were seen as the totem animals of these uninvited Europeans. However, a spear once thrown is no match for a repeating pistol or reloadable shotgun.

By the mid 1840's another onslaught of the local indigenous population occurred. Governor Latrobe setup feeding stations on the northern perimeters of Melbourne. Here tucker was handed out without having to be grubbed or speared, so many indigenous people, having obtained permission from the clans of the intervening groups, gravitated to the city and became totally dependent. There were very few indigenous left to be massacred although very credible evidence does exist of planned murders of remaining indigenous people at Sutton Grange.

Howard Nathan.

Part 2. Next Edition

The Vital Importance of Exploration

Victoria owes much of its historic economic success to the minerals industry, especially gold mining, which was a cornerstone of the economy from the gold rushes of the 1850s through to the early 20th century. Many, if not most, of the towns in central Victoria are gold rush towns that perhaps would not exist if it weren't for gold. Gold is part of our economy and a bedrock for future communities. As stated in the Victorian Government's Mineral Resources Strategy (2018):

"Victoria has a rich mineral endowment, world-class geoscience data and low sovereign risk. It is emerging as a new prospective province for copper and other base metals. It is also a resurgent province for gold, following an increase in mineral exploration activity in Victoria and predictions for resource prospectivity. Responsible minerals exploration and development will bring jobs and economic development, particularly in regional Victoria."

It's estimated by the Geological Survey of Victoria that as much gold remains in the ground as has been mined historically. To unlock the jobs and economic development potential of the remaining gold and other critical mineral deposits in Victoria, it is vital that exploration efforts are made to locate commercially viable resources.

Despite areas of privately-owned property on the land surface, the Crown owns all the minerals (including gold) in the ground. The Victorian Government encourages a commercially viable industry by licensing mineral rights to companies so they can explore for gold in a way that is compatible with economic growth and social and environmental wellbeing.

This means that explorers have rights (through licence from the Crown) to the minerals below ground and the licence to explore for them. However, they must work with landholders, such as farmers, business operators and homeowners, to ensure that exploration efforts do not have an undue impact on the landholders' businesses on the surface. Explorers must obtain the consent of landholders to come onto their properties, and they must comply with strict conditions under the Code of Practice for Mineral Exploration (the "Code") under the Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990 (the "MRSDA").

Landholders are compensated financially for the explorer's activities on their land via compensation agreements. On Crown land (parks and reserves), explorers must comply with the Code and also work with government land managers for each stage of exploration.

Why do exploration?

Exploration is designed to answer the question: "Is there gold (or other minerals) in the ground at a particular location in economically viable quantities?" There is gold in many places in Victoria – hence the gold rush in the

1850s – but not all places have enough gold to warrant mining in the 21st century.

Modern explorers are searching for gold resources of a size suitable for modern underground mining, which would contribute substantially to the Victorian economy for decades to come. Small mining operations, as many of the historic operations were, are simply not economic in the modern mining world.

One of the important clues to potentially minable gold is the existence of historical mining. If a property has old gold workings from 100+ years ago, it is likely to be of high priority to modern explorers.

This does not necessarily mean, however, that there is a future gold mine on that property. Exploration must happen first.

Most of these areas with old gold mines have had little or no modern exploration performed on them. To explore them, explorers need to go back to basics and use low-impact methods such as soil sampling and geological mapping and small-scale low-impact drilling to see if there is anything there of sufficient value to justify taking it further.

It's important to note that exploration is not the same as mining. Exploration does not involve disturbing large sections of land, nor does it necessarily take a long time. Exploration is not mining and many companies in the industry are exclusively exploration companies – that is, they do not do any mining. Mining or dredging cannot be conducted on an exploration licence.

Mining cannot occur unless a company has applied for and obtained a mining licence. This is a highly regulated and rigorous process involving lengthy consultation with all relevant regulators and stakeholders, including landowners, council, and the broader community. Less than one per cent of exploration projects become mines.

So, what does exploration look like on the ground?

Typically for gold and base metals, an explorer will begin with a reconnaissance mapping and sampling program to gain an understanding of the geology and mineralisation of the area. Some of this work may be done remotely, utilising various historical maps and data gathered by previous explorers or the State. The company may also conduct an airborne geophysical survey (using a helicopter or fixed-wing plane with high-tech instruments attached) to interpret the geology below the surface; or they may conduct geochemical sampling on the ground. Geochemical sampling involves collecting shallow rocks and soil samples to send to laboratories for analysis, while drilling involves the use of mobile machinery to drill small holes of around 15cm in diameter to gather rock samples from depth, enabling further understanding of the geology and ascertain the likelihood of finding minerals of worth.

In many cases, the mineralisation found in a particular target zone is not deemed economically viable and therefore exploration in that area ceases in favour of

other targets in other areas.

Caring for the environment and communities

Modern explorers are committed to working with landholders and stakeholders to protect community amenity. Community relationships are a critical part of exploration to ensure that any impacts from exploration such as noise or dust are monitored and controlled, and that processes are continually assessed and improved.

Working with landholders also includes setting agreed times and days of exploration and making sure exploration activities do not interfere with any farming or recreational activities. Any ground disturbance must be rehabilitated, and many exploration activities attract financial compensation for the affected landholder.

An integral part of all exploration processes is ensuring effective rehabilitation so that environments can continue to thrive after work is complete. Rehabilitation agreements are put in place with private landholders and Crown land managers prior to activities taking place, to ensure sites are rehabilitated to mutually-agreed conditions.

Victoria is fortunate to have rich mineral and agricultural resources. Regional Victorians ought to be proud of what they have. These industries can co-exist harmoniously and provide the critical minerals of the future while preserving a thriving agricultural sector and a healthy environment. Working together with the communities that live in these areas, a bright and prosperous future awaits.

-Michael Robinson
Community Relations Advisor
Currawong Resources Pty Ltd



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Meets 10.00 am

2nd – 5th Sundays each month

followed by morning tea

at Barfold Union Church

Heathcote-Kyneton Rd, Barfold

Contact; Leigh 0425812786



UNITING CHURCH

10am Start

Morning Tea is shared before each service at 9.45



Mia Mia Church Service Service at
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Sadly on the 3rd of February the Redesdale brigade lost one of its most durable and important members with the passing of Graeme "Crafty" Newnham.

Graeme was part of the "Newnham Era" when he took over from our longest serving Captain, and his father, Merv in 1983. Graeme went on to Captain for a decade before a serious car accident cut his tenure short. He continued to be an important part of the brigade clocking up more than 55 years as a CFA member and being honoured by the Redesdale brigade with a life membership.

Known for his "gift of the gab" and knowledge of people and places, Graeme could find something in common with almost anyone. He was able to recruit many people to the brigade (whether they wanted to or not) and was a master at the art of selling a raffle ticket book. He raised a lot of money for the brigade and laid the foundation for the healthy position we are in today.

You will be sadly missed. RIP Crafty.

Unfortunately the period since Christmas has been a busy time for us. The odd lightning strike is something you can't do much about but we have also had a possible stray cigarette butt, mowing dry grass and a burn off to contend with. This is at best careless behaviour so moving forward, while there are large amounts of long dry grass, we all need to be vigilant and avoid activities that could cause ignition, especially in that 1 to 5 pm danger period.

Regards **Andrew Campbell**

Fire prevention officer.

NEWNHAM - Graeme Mervyn 'Crafty'

20.01.1945 - 3.02.2023.


Loving husband of Sue. Cherished father and father-in-law to Deidre and Aaron, Jodie and Owen, Linda and David. Adored Poppy to Tahnee, Haley and Grace. Loved son of Mervyn and Bonnie (both dec). Much loved brother and brother-in-law to Neville and Lois, Phillip (dec.) and Joy, Julie and Gary. Peacefully sleeping, loved forever.

THOMAS (nee Taylor) Elizabeth "Libby" Anne

23.10.1952 – 16.02.2023

Much loved wife of Geoff, adored mother of Ben and Sophie, mother-in-law of Michael, sister of Peter, sister-in-law of Robyn and Lyn.

Left us much too soon



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Castlemaine. Local Farmers Market.
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CFM. Weekly Market, Wednesday. **2.30 - 5.30pm**

Clunes. Local Farmers Market
2nd Sunday each month. **8.30 - 1.00pm**

Creswick. Local Farmers Market
3rd Saturday every month. **9.00 - 1.00pm**

Daylesford. Local Market.
Every Sunday. **8.00 - 3.00pm**

Gisborne. Olde Time Market.
1st Sunday every month. **9.00. - 2.00pm**

Kyneton. Local Farmers Market.
2nd Saturday every month. **8.30 - 1.00pm**

Lancefield. Local Farmers Market.
4th Saturday every month. **9.00 - 1.00pm**

Maldon. Local Farmers Market.
2nd Sunday every month.

Malmsbury. Local Farmers Market.
3rd Sunday every month. **9.00 - 1.00pm**

Talbot. Local Farmers Market.
3rd Sunday every month. **9.00 - 1.00pm**

Trentham. Local Farmers Market.
3rd Saturday every month. **9.00 - 1.00pm**

Woodend. Local Farmers Market
1st Saturday every month. **9.00 - 1.00 pm**

MARCH EVENTS

Wed 1st -Farm Tender2023 – the Business of Farming
All Seasons resort Hotel Strathdale

Friday 3rd Sun 5th – Bendigo Fun Run Rosalind Park

Sun 5th - `Wild Deer Hunting & Guiding Expo
Mon6th Bendigo Exhibition Centre

Sat 11th & 12th Lost Trades Fair- Bendigo Racecourse
Sat 11th Heathcote Harvest Festival

Mon 13th Labour Day & Bendigo Cycling Classic

Friday 24th – 9th April Castlemaine State festival

Friday 24th - 2 April Richard Wagners Ring Cycle
Ulumbarra Theatre Bendigo

Mon 24th- Bendigo Females Trade Industry Day
School Bendigo TAFE

Sunday 26th Bendigo Sustainability Festival Garden for
the Future. White Hills

Sat 25th Little Athletics LaTrobe Uni Aths Track Bendigo
Sun 2nd April Daylight Savings ends 3am
for more information - redesdale.net

- - heathcote.org.au
- - kyneton.org.au
- - bendigoregion.com.au
(includes Castlemaine)

POEM OF THE MONTH

**May we raise children
who love the unloved things**

by Nicolette Sowder

**May we raise children
who love the unloved things-
the dandelion, the worms and spiderlings.**

**Children who sense
the rose needs the thorn
and run into rainswept days
the same way they
turn towards sun...**

**And when they're grown and
someone has to speak for those
who have no voice**

**may they draw upon that
wilder bond,
those days of tending tender things
and be the ones.**

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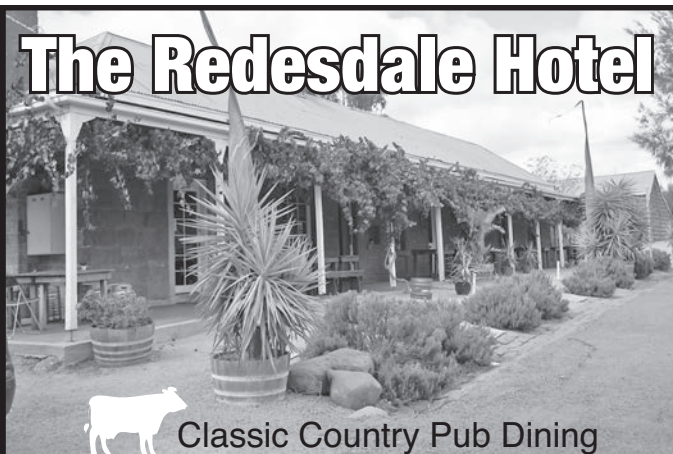
**Every Thursday 1pm - 3pm
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If you are interested in joining please contact:

Gloria Pocock: gapocock@bigpond.com or

Regina Bennett: reginabennett@bigpond.com

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The Redesdale Hotel

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Redesdale 6.40mm Year to date 6.40mm

Mia Mia 21.90mm Year to date 21.90mm

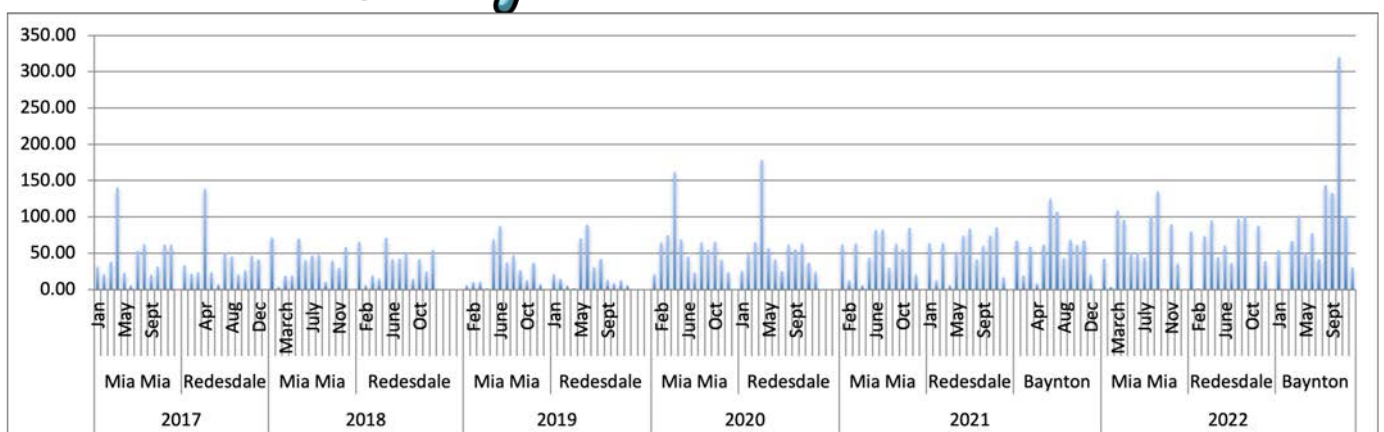
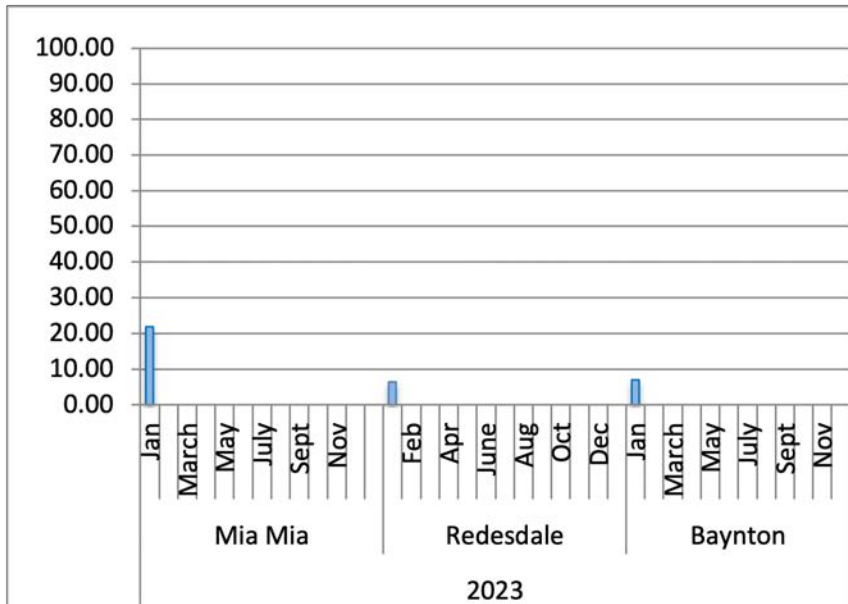
Baynton 7.00mm Year to date 7.00mm

The average yearly rainfall for **Redesdale** is about 601mms.

Thank you to **Helen Bennett** for the
Mia Mia readings & **Belinda Ryan** for
Baynton readings

Year Totals for Previous Years

2017	Mia Mia	551.75
	Redesdale	479.60
2018	Mia Mia	455.00
	Redesdale	448.40
2019	Mia Mia	352.00
	Redesdale	315.00
2020	Mia Mia	711.25
	Redesdale	682.85
2021	Mia Mia	593.50
	Redesdale	634.40
	Baynton	707.80
2022	Mia Mia	758.50
	Redesdale	716.40
	Baynton	1122.30



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Ratatouille

73



This is a great dish to use all the excess vegetables that appear in abundance this time of year in the vegetable patch.

It also freezes very well.

Ingredients

- 2 Large eggplant, cut into 1cm cubes
- 4 medium zucchini, cut into 1 cm cubes
- 1 brown onion, finely chopped
- 2 capsicums chopped into 1 cm squares
- 3 cloves garlic chopped finely
- 8 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 kg of assorted tomatoes chopped (or 2 cans chopped tomatoes)
- 6 tablespoons of chopped parsley
- 6 tablespoons of chopped flat leaf parsley
- Salt and pepper to taste
- ½ tea spoon chilli flakes (optional)

Instructions

- Heat 4 tablespoons of oil in a frypan over medium heat.
- Add the eggplant, cook stirring until soft and starting to turn brown. Transfer to a large pot.
- Add another 2 tablespoons of oil to the pan and add the zucchini. Cook till it starts to brown.
- Remove from pan and add to the pot with the eggplant.
- Add 2 more tablespoons of oil to the pan and add the onion and capsicums, cook for 5 minutes stirring frequently, add the garlic and cook for a further 2 minutes.
- Remove from the pan and add to the pot with the other vegies.
- Add the tomatoes to the pan and simmer for 10 minutes.
- Now pour the tomatoes into the pot and simmer all together on low heat for 15 mins.
- Add chopped herbs and chilli and season to taste.
- Serve with crusty bread or as an accompaniment to fish or meat.
- Can be served hot or cold and keeps in the refrigerator for up to 6 days

Marisa Leahy

REDESDALE COMMUNITY HALL & PAVILION AVAILABLE FOR HIRE*

Redesdale gives you a choice of venues for your next party, meeting or event.

Redesdale Hall: 160 sqm floor space with an overlooking stage, and expansive catering kitchen, as well as on-site restrooms.

Redesdale Pavilion: 108 sqm floor space with panoramic windows overlooking Redesdale Reserve.

We also have extensive **furniture & equipment** to help you hold your event at home:

Commercial sized steel spit roaster	Large marquee, 6m x 3m
Collapsible marquee, 3m x 3m	Shade umbrellas, green
Table cloths, white	Tables, 1.8m x 1m
Chairs, white plastic	

Don't forget the **Hall Kitchen** can be rented independently for preparation of your preserves and cooking demonstrations.

* Room Hire is free for local community group meetings.

For all enquiries contact Redesdale Recreational Reserve Committee:

E: 3444reserve@gmail.com

M: 0408 890 060

PARTY EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE

The following party equipment is available for **HIRE** from the **REDESDALE RECREATIONAL RESERVE COMMITTEE (RRRC)**.



Commercial sized steel roaster	\$120 per weekend
Large marquee, 3m x 6m	\$225 per weekend
Collapsible marquee, 3m x 3m	\$80 per weekend
Tables, 1.8m x 1m	\$8 each per weekend
Table cloths, white	\$10 each
Chairs, white plastic	\$2.50 each
Umbrellas, charcoal	\$5 each

A bond will be required on most equipment for hire. All proceeds go to the up keep & development of the **RRRC**.

For more information or to make a booking, please email: **3444reserve@gmail.com**



Plant of the Month

Emu bush *Eremophila nivea*

Few plants attract more compliments in our garden than the *eremophila nivea* shrubs. Sometimes called 'emu bush' it has light silvery grey leaves and beautiful lilac coloured flowers in spring and summer. It loves our dry conditions as do many grey leaved plants.

It comes from Western Australia and is from the Myoporaceae genus.

We were advised to buy the plants which have been grafted onto sturdier myoporum species and we have not lost one we planted despite appalling weather conditions (they do not like dampness) and total neglect.

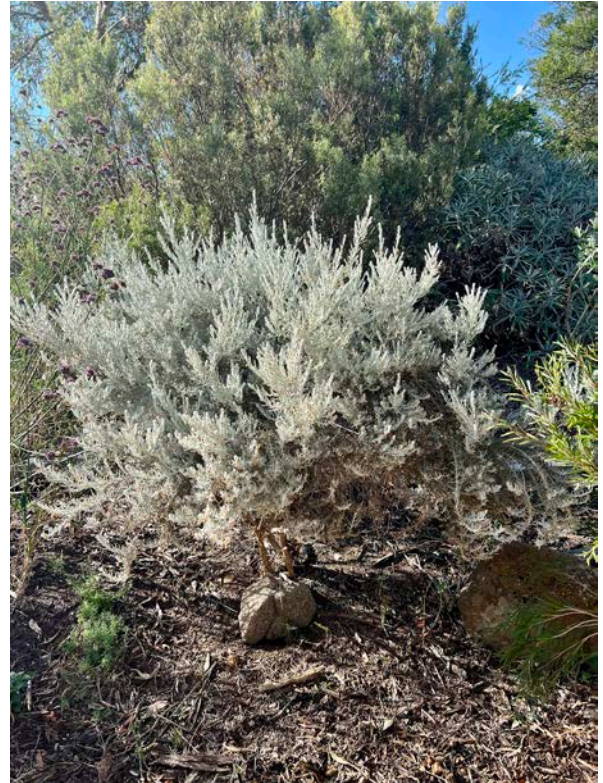
They will grow to about 1.5 meters and provide a great contrast amongst darker native plantings. Honeyeaters, butterflies and bees love them.

The grafted specimens can be a bit pricey but they are a good investment in a hardy and spectacularly beautiful native bush.

Kathy Hall Coliban Springs



Eremophila nivea



Emu bush



March Vegetable Garden Action

Now is the time to plant or sow:

Asian greens, winter spinach, garlic, spring onions, leeks and onions...

into limed & composted soil.

Plant your carrots, parsnips, and beetroot and brussels sprouts in early March...

only as seedlings from now on.

It's time for winter brassicas & silverbeet to be planted into... composted, manured & fertilised soil.

And if you have time: kale, Chinese cabbage, celery, radish, peas, lettuce, chives, coriander, mustards, parsley, rocket, fennel, swede & turnip!

Don't forget to plant your spring bulbs.

Country Women's Association of Vic Inc

If you say CWA most people think of scones and given the enormous number of scones made for the Royal Melbourne Show each year that is hardly surprising. But there is much that is surprising about the CWA. Did you know the CWA is a lobby group and thanks to them big trucks have lights all down both sides so they are easily seen at night?

We are also a competitive bunch- hosting creative arts exhibitions where prizes are awarded and branches compete against one another, but so do individuals. Importantly we are also a fundraising body which raises funds to be spent in our own communities to help causes and people who need us.

There are day and night branches in this area and we are always happy to welcome new members for fun and friendship.

The CWA is the largest women's organisation for rural and metropolitan women in Australia.

It is a self-funded, volunteer, philanthropic organisation with a focus on friendship, personal development and advocacy.

Some more fun facts:

- The CWA is a non-party political and non- sectarian organisation for country and city women everywhere.
 - Operating in Victoria since 1928, the association continues to influence change to the lives of women and children through community service, most especially in rural and remote Australia.
 - We have a head office in Toorak with an Edna Walling designed garden and there is a B & B where members can stay at very reasonable rates!
- Want to know more- check our website cwaofvic.org.au/about

Peg Higginbottom

CWA Kyneton Twilighters

Have a **story, news** or **community notice** you would like to share?

please send to:

bridgeconnection.secretary@gmail.com

and let your community know...

For more information turn to **page 3** for advertising rates or for more information phone

Editor - Regina Bennett 5425 5402

'Bridge Connection' Community Newspaper



Woodchop events facing the axe

A centuries-old sport is at risk as the Andrews Labor Government continues to fail Victoria's native timber industry.

Reports in recent weeks that the Victorian Axemen's Council has no timber for upcoming woodchopping events mean Victorians will be unable to compete at agricultural shows around the state.

A court order limiting harvesting in areas managed by VicForests means the council won't have enough logs for Victoria's more than 100 woodchopping events.

Shadow Minister for Agriculture, Emma Kealy, said a VicForests court appeal set for late March will be too late for some events.

"Already we have seen woodchopping cut from the 2023 Berwick Show, and it's looking more likely that woodchopping won't be a part of this year's Royal Melbourne Show," Ms Kealy said.

"The Andrews Labor Government's inaction to find a workable solution to allow VicForests access to the timber it has been allocated is obvious.

"This decision to make VicForests jump through yet another hoop, delaying timber harvesting further, is to the detriment of regional Victorians.

"This is a decision that affects the lives of regional Victorians all so Labor can garner favour with the inner-city voters they represent."

Woodchopping events draw crowds from across the nation predominantly to rural and regional areas.

"Woodchopping is a major drawcard of agricultural shows around the state and a sport that attracts international attention," Ms Kealy said.

"The Nationals have raised this issue in Parliament and we want to see a solution to what has become a bizarre situation."

Media contact: Lachlan Durling **0448 518 065**

lachlan.durling@opposition.vic.gov.au

HISTORY of PENARTH

2351,Kyneton/Redesdale Rd Redesdale 3444

The house and outbuildings at Penarth were built on part of the land that was granted, by the crown, to John Took on the 15th January 1863.

Took's original allotment covered an area of 20 acres. Later that year he acquired adjacent Crown land, allotment 57 in Redesdale. This expanded his holding to over 100 acres. By the time of this purchase, Took is recorded (as per Titles Office) as residing in Green Hills. This was almost certainly the name he gave to his Redesdale property.

By 1872 his holdings were some 172 acres and which grew to 458, with a further acquisition 286 acres.

John Took is listed in rates books of 1874, as the owner of a house on 418 acres at Redesdale, suggesting that the stone residence on the property was constructed prior to this time. Pastoral Estates tended to expand overtime with new buildings being constructed as needed.

John Took, as well as a respected farmer, was also an investor in Real Estate and was involved in a number of properties throughout the district. He owned one of the Redesdale hotels that had been built by John McNiff in 1862. This was initially leased to the Police Dept. for the monthly sum of 8 pounds 10 shillings per month.

Towards the end of 1889 he sold some land to the Victorian Railway Commissioners for the construction of the new Red Line for Kyneton and Redesdale. Construction commenced in February 1888 and the completed Redesdale Station opened in 1891.

John Took died on July 20, 1900. John Barrow and Joseph Palmer then owned all of his property.

Took's widow continued to live in the house following the death of her husband. She likely rented it from the new owners.

John Barrow ran a store in Kyneton and Joseph Palmer was a solicitor there. Palmer was a partner in the legal practice, Palmer, Stevens and Rennick, which gleaned much of its clientele from the local community of Redesdale.

Palmer and barrow sold the property on March 1st 1912 to George Took. The relationship between both John and George is unknown, but presumed to be father and son or grandson. The Took family was prominent in the district with a land holding covering in excess of 415 acres. They donated a block of land for the people of Redesdale to build a new hall.

On April 16, 1943, the property was sold to Nancy Rose; recorded in Titles Records as a married woman, residing in Redesdale. The property was subsequently sold on May 25th 1943. The new owners were David and Margaret Spurling, William David Spurling and Marg Monica Ellis. Each owned a quarter of a share of the property.

David Spurling died on 26/07/1955. His portion of the property was granted to The National Trustees, Executors and Agency Company and Kevin Spurling. The remainder of the property continued to be held by the surviving members of the foursome.

Dr Gibney owned the property for sometime, date unknown.

Donald Charles Steeper and his wife Valerie Rose Steeper bought the property on the 17/07/1986. Later sold to Stephanie and Shane Bell on the 05/10/1993. Stephanie Bell became the sole owner in November 1998.

PENARTH – A HERITAGE LISTED PROPERTY

The farm complex is one of a series of farms in the Redesdale district that are constructed from bluestone.

The farm consists of a hipped roofed bluestone house facing into a courtyard. What appears to be a later bluestone farmhouse with an M roof now connected to a weatherboard house, which also faces into the courtyard. Behind the weatherboard section is a smaller hipped roof stone building, which may have been a detached kitchen or a dairy. Below, in similar dimensions, is a cellar. Adjacent to this is a circular well, also lined in bluestone, with a depth of approx. 24.5 metres.

Across the courtyard from the house is a gabled roofed bluestone farm shed. This appears to have been extended on both ends with corrugated iron.

The Cottage: circa 1853

The hipped roof bluestone house that faces the courtyard has a return veranda on two sides with the roof as an extension to the main roof, which is supported by timber posts. There is no decoration on the veranda. The stonework is of coursed square rubble. The front façade has a central door with two flanking, symmetrically placed timber, double hung, windows. A timber skillion has been added to the rear.

Main Bluestone Building

The later house, in a mid-Victorian style, is at right angles to the earlier building and has a similar façade but with taller windows and a straight pitched hipped roof veranda. Again there is no veranda decoration. The building has stone chimneys with carved cornices. This also has a skillion section to the rear now forming the connection to the later timber building.

Milled Weatherboard in the Victorian Tradition

The timber section of the house complex appears to date from the 1890's and may have been moved to the site. This was a common practice. The building is of weatherboard with a hipped roof intersected by a gable roof. The veranda has a hipped roof with wrought iron decoration. With the mature row of elm trees leading to the broad

courtyard that divided the houses from the farm sheds, the use of local stone and the successive development of the farm buildings, makes this an evocative farm complex which adds to the agricultural character of the Redesdale area.

Information for this article came from the Heritage Citation report 25/05/2009 City of Greater Bendigo.

Regards
Stephanie Bell

Right "The main building (1864)".

Below side view of the weatherboard house which adjoins the bluestone home.



Below "The original cottage (1853)".



RETURN OF BRIDGE ABROAD

Some of you will remember the regular article with which Bridge Connection challenged our readership.

We asked you to take a copy of Bridge Connection on your trips and holidays and take a photograph of yourself or someone else holding the Bridge Connection in front of an interesting backdrop.

We had beach scenes, desert scenes and one where an elephant appeared to be looking over someone's shoulder to read the paper! (It was a winner).

Well we are doing it again. Take a hard copy of the paper with you on your next trip and send us a photo of you or a friend reading the paper.

At the end of the year the pictures will be judged and the best entrant will win 6 bottles of local wine.

Send your pictures to bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com

2023 EDGY VEG AWARDS

Mark in your diaries that April is the month to eat out. From **1 st – 30 th April** The Edgy Veg Awards return to the Macedon Ranges, and there is a long list of cafes, pubs and restaurants who will be participating. The awards aim to showcase the best veg dishes from across the Macedon Ranges.

Café patrons get to vote on all the dishes they try to help nominate the region's best plant-based dish for 2023. It's a great opportunity to try a plant-based dish if you never have; and if your default is to always order a parma, why not head to The Victoria Hotel in Woodend and try their vegan parma? Gisborne's Three Little Pigs café are featuring a buddha bowl: Mixed greens, edamame, carrot straws, red cabbage, cherry tomato, avocado & quinoa with a tamari, chili & lime dressing. The Corner Boutique Coffee Café in Gisborne is putting on Magmour. What is Magmour? Why not head down to try something new and sensational: it's eggplant with onions, tomatoes, chillies and chickpeas baked and served hot or cold with pita bread. Voting is easy, each participating café will display the competition QR code that you can scan to rate your dish online. You can find out more about the Edgy Veg Awards from the competition website - veg.mrsg.org.au/edgy-veg-awards funded by the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group, as part of their Sustainable Living Festival series.



George and Sharon Marshall



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- Secretary Geoff Thomas 0429 143 490



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- Captain Calvin Millard 0409 979 037 A/H: 9744 6745
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Bridge Connection President - Gloria Pocock

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Redesdale Hall Committee - C. Boyd (Sec) 5425 3194

Redesdale Hall Hire - C. Newton 0408 890 060

Redesdale Redesdale Rec. Res. Cttee - Craig Newton 0408 890 060

email: 3444reserve@gmail.com

Suicide Bereavement Service - 'Standby' 0439 173 310

Tennis Club - Linda Newnham 0400 554 716

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Matthew Evans 0437 867 028

Marg O'Rourke 0429 061 096

Greg Penna 0429 721 958

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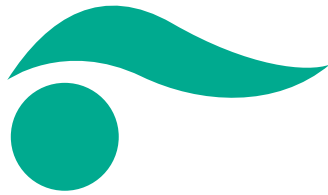
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Marley Robinson with her friend "Happy"

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