



ISSUE NO: 139 June 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


<https://www.facebook.com/groups/897527781461431/>

## Clean Up REDESDALE



### A Big thank you

Top L-R: G. Prendergast, J. Beurle, D. Cheale, C. Newton, Kevin Tillack, Maggie Reeve, J. Sargent-Smith, S. Bell, F. Laurie, M. Laurie  
Front Row: R. Abramowski, K. De Lany, Bella.



L-R: F. Laurie, L. Newton, C. Newton

**A big thank you** to all the residents who have helped clean up Redesdale and surrounding areas over the past few months.

Earlier in March, the Campaspe Valley Landcare group collected two trailer loads of rubbish from Barfold Bridge back towards Langley, and also along the stretch from the Redesdale Mia Mia Bridge and Knight Road. On the last weekend of April, a small group from North Redesdale Rd. collected rubbish along North Redesdale Rd from the Metcalfe Caravan Park to the Co-Op Sarah Trezise organised a clean up around the Redesdale Mia Mia Bridge heading towards Mia Mia. The official clean up on April 30,

focussed on both sides of Heathcote -Kyneton and from McNiffs to Lyall Rd, up Lyall Rd to School Lane, the entire area of Agnes Mudford Reserve, around the roundabout on Lyall Rd, along part of Racecourse Rd, and down past Old Ford Rd. Thanks to John Beurle for donating his caged trailer for the day and for Kym, Fred and Anne for supplying us with refreshments.

The common rubbish item found from most of these sites were takeaway containers from McDonalds, KFC and Hungry Jacks. On a positive note, there appeared to be less cigarette butts than in previous years.

As some of you may be aware, there is still collapsed scaffolding under the Redesdale Mia Mia Bridge from the flooding last year. This has been reported to Vic Roads by several residents and has been classified by Vic Roads as a priority. Their challenge is finding another contractor with suitable equipment to safely remove the scaffolding. The biggest thanks is given to the silent heroes who include picking up rubbish on their daily walks throughout the year.

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Community Bank Heathcote & District



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If you receive any unsolicited calls about the bonus, they will not be from the Victorian Government.

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne.

## Editorial

Dear Readers, Winter has really set in now. A great time to check in with the C.F.A about the safety of your property before ElNino sets in. (see page 9.)

On page 16. you will see a notice about helping to shape the future of Redesdale. What a great opportunity.

We hope you will read (on page 17.)about the new "Life safe Alarms" which can be discounted if enough people apply.

Stay warm Regina



Regina Bennett

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**Ph:** 0437514223

**e:** [bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com)



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.

text or call **0437 514 223** or email  
**[bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeconnection.editor@gmail.com)**  
if you leave anything for us to collect

## 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**



<http://www.facebook.com/groups/897527781461431/>

## BRIDGE CONNECTION COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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Business Card	55mm x 90mm	\$25	\$250
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or by post to **Regina Bennett 3465 Burke & Wills track Mia Mia 3444.**  
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### Bridge Connection Distribution

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Visit: **www.redesdale.net**  
**district, events, businesses and news.**

For more information turn to **page 3**  
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Editor - **Regina Bennett 5425 5402.**

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# Distracted driving. Phone down. Buckle up.

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**4 DEMERITS**

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operating right across Victoria. Penalties will soon apply.  
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## We're hosting a Biggest Morning Tea

Please help us  
support people  
impacted by cancer!



**Redesdale & District Association**  
is proud to support the Cancer Council by  
hosting

**Redesdale's Biggest Morning Tea**

**Redesdale Community Hall**

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**\$10 for a  
pot of tea/coffee with a scone, jam and cream. \***

There will be a large selection of donated locally  
baked and crafted produce for sale \*

Join Tania of *Capture Your Essence* as she provides a  
taster session of "Chair Yoga"  
Listen to our guest speaker

\* 100% of ALL donations and purchases will go to Australia's  
Cancer Council

If you are unable to attend on the 27th the website listed below  
you can make donations to Redesdale's Biggest Morning Tea  
<https://www.biggestmorningtea.com.au/fundraisers/redesdale>

# KEZ'S HIDEAWAY

REDESDALE



Based in Bendigo the Otis Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation gifting individuals and families facing breast cancer invaluable time away at retreat destinations around Australia. Proudly founded 22 years ago, we are a fully donation-based charity. We are a very small organisation with 5 part time staff and 5 Board Directors, all of whom are passionate about supporting as many of the 20,000 Australians diagnosed each year with Breast Cancer each as we can.

OTIS is unique in that we are the only national organisation that can provide the gift of time and space, in an environment that lets the guest relax, reconnect, and heal with family, friends and supporters. Sometimes this is to celebrate life and set a positive future course. At other times it is an opportunity to make memories for the loved ones of the 3,000 women and 33 men who will die each year following a battle with Breast Cancer.

One of our most popular properties is Kez's Hideaway, a stunning purpose-built family retreat, set on rural farmland in Racecourse Road, Redesdale.

This special retreat has been built in memory of Kerri Gray (who was known as Kez) in partnership with Kerri's husband and local builder, Paul Gray. Kez's Hideaway is located on 20 acres of farmland, which has been generously donated to the Otis Foundation by The Campbell family, third-generation local farmers.

The beautiful, open-plan home features huge windows perfectly framing the views of the picturesque countryside. The spacious rooms are designed for comfort and luxury; with a parents' wing conveniently located at one end of the house, rooms for relaxation in between and a further wing featuring bedrooms and a play area for the kids or other guests.

The retreat is surrounded by native trees and the house plays host to a variety of bird life and is often visited by families of kangaroos. There is also a herb and vegetable garden for guests to use, a children's playground, firepit and BBQ.

## **The OTIS Foundation**

PO Box 1191, Bendigo Central  
Victoria, 3552

Phone: (03) 5444 1184

email: [info@otisfoundation.org.au](mailto:info@otisfoundation.org.au)

[otisfoundation.org.au](http://otisfoundation.org.au)

*Providing sanctuaries to nurture those facing the challenges of living with breast cancer*

THE **OTIS**  
FOUNDATION  
BREAST CANCER RETREATS





# KEZ'S HIDEAWAY

## REDESDALE

The retreat is surrounded by native trees and the house plays host to a variety of bird life and is often visited by families of kangaroos. There is also a herb and vegetable garden for guests to use, a children's playground, firepit and BBQ.

Kez's Hideaway sleeps up to eight guests and is best suited for families or larger groups. It has four large bedrooms, consisting of two queen rooms and two bedrooms with two single beds each. The retreat also includes two bathrooms and a separate disability toilet.

Available all year round, guests staying at Kez's only need to bring their personal belongings and food, everything else is provided by Otis.

Michelle who stayed at Kez's in mid-2022 had this to say:

*I just wanted to say a huge thank you for the weekend away at Kez's place. It was amazing and my husband and I got time to ourselves and then also a night with 3 of our children and one of our grandsons, such a special time made possible because of you all.*

*This was the first time I have been able to just relax and unwind at celebrate what's important in life – family....It was my first time in 18 months that I was able to just sit and enjoy and to not think about upcoming treatments and doctor's appointments but totally being present in the experience.*

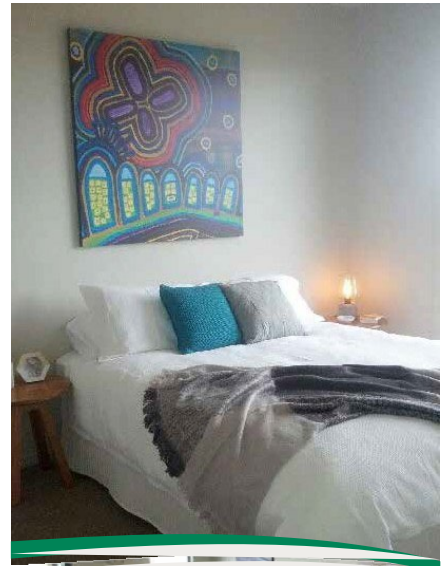
*We all had an amazing time and I really want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart it allowed me to feel like me again to smile, laugh and enjoy my husband and family, a very special time that I will never forget. Especially when I was a COVID cancer and not being able to have anyone with me throughout the entire process, that was so hard for me and my family.*

*Kez's place was stunning and amazing such a beautiful house and location away from it all but close enough to visit out towns to experience what they have to offer also.*

*I cannot thank you enough for your organisation and your caring team.*

*Thank you again a very special time.*

To find out more about us, and how you can help us head to:  
[www.otisfoundation.org.au](http://www.otisfoundation.org.au)



### The OTIS Foundation

PO Box 1191, Bendigo Central  
Victoria, 3552

Phone: (03) 5444 1184

email: [info@otisfoundation.org.au](mailto:info@otisfoundation.org.au)  
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*Providing sanctuaries to nurture those facing the challenges of living with breast cancer*

THE OTIS  
FOUNDATION  
BREAST CANCER RETREATS



You are warmly invited to

# BARFOLD

## COMMUNITY CHURCH

10.00 am each Sunday

followed by morning tea

1691 Kyneton-Heathcote Rd, Barfold

Contact: Russell 0484 700 909



## UNITING CHURCH

10am Start

Morning Tea is shared before each service at 9.45



**Mia Mia Church Service** Service at  
10am, morning tea at 9.45

**Check the Macedon Ranges Uniting  
Church Website for extra news**

For more information go to

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

### CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Redesdale** 2nd Sunday of each month 11am

## Lisa Chesters MP

FEDERAL MEMBER  
FOR **BENDIGO**

☎ 5443 9055

🌐 [lisachesters.org](http://lisachesters.org)

Authorised by Lisa Chesters, ALP,  
16 Myers St, Bendigo



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# Redesdale & Surrounds Comming events

## JUNE

**Ballan** Local Farmers and Makers Market.  
2nd Saturday of every month. **9.00 - 1.00pm**

**Castlemaine.** Local Farmers Market.  
1st Sunday of every month. **9.00 - 1.00pm**

**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**

**Fri: 9th – 12th** -Woodend Winter Arts Festival.

**Fri: 9th-11th** -Castlemaine Jazz festival

**Mon: 12th** -King's Birthday.

**Thu: 15th-18th** -Craft Alive Bendigo Prince of Wales Showgrounds.

**Tue: 27th** -Biggest Morning Tea Redesdale Hall from 10am

## JULY

**Fri: 14th** - Bendigo ,Australian Sheep and Wool Show Prince of Wales Showground,

## AUGUST

**Sat: 5th** -Bendigo Dinner Ghost Tour shamrock Hotel

**Thurs 31st** -Sunday 10,10,23 Kyneton Daffodil & Arts Festival

**for more information - redesdale.net**

- <https://www.heathcote.org.au- kyneton.org.au>
- <https://www.bendigoregion.com.au>
- <https://www.bendigoregion.com.au/visit-castlemaine-maldon>
- <https://www.bendigoregion.com.au/visit-maryborough-surrounds-victoria>
- <https://www.bendigoregion.com.au/visit-loddon-valley>



# 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 stage and expansive catering kitchen, as well as on-site restrooms.

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

Either of these wonderful facilities are available for community events (1) or public use (2).

- (1) Community - Use of facility targeting community benefit.  
Entrance/participation fees are not charged by organiser.
- (2) Retail - Use of facility for private or business use.  
Entrance/participation fees may be charged by organiser.

**Equipment Rental** Check out the extensive furniture & equipment below to help you hold your event at home

Item:	Available	Item:	Available
Commercial sized steel roaster	1	4 burner BBQ	1
Marquee (Large), 6m x 12m	1	Table cloths, white	10
Marquee (Small), 3m x 3m	1	Chairs, green steel	80
Tables, plastic, 1.8m x 1m	10	Chairs, white plastic	80
Tables, wood, 1.8m x 1m	20	Umbrellas, charcoal	10

For all inspections and enquiries contact Redesdale Recreational Reserve Committee:

E: [3444reserve@gmail.com](mailto:3444reserve@gmail.com)

M: 0408 890 060



## THE REDESDALE HOTEL

Central Victoria's Favorite Country Pub

For bookings please call (03) 4405 0601

Wednesday & Thursday 12pm – 9pm Lunch & Dinner

Friday – Sunday 12pm – Late Lunch & Dinner

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS – Phone for details

Kitchen closes at 8pm everyday

### The Redesdale Hotel

2640 Heathcote - Kyneton Road

Redesdale Vic 3444

[info@theredesdalehotel.com.au](mailto:info@theredesdalehotel.com.au)



The Redesdale Hotel

[redesdalehotel](https://www.redesdalehotel.com.au)



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For rural regions to succeed in business  
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SUPPORTS YOU... THANK YOU!**



To advertise in the ‘Bridge Connection’  
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## April Rain Fall

**Redesdale** 69.80mm Year to date 122.20mm

**Mia Mia** 67.25mm Year to date 143.90mm

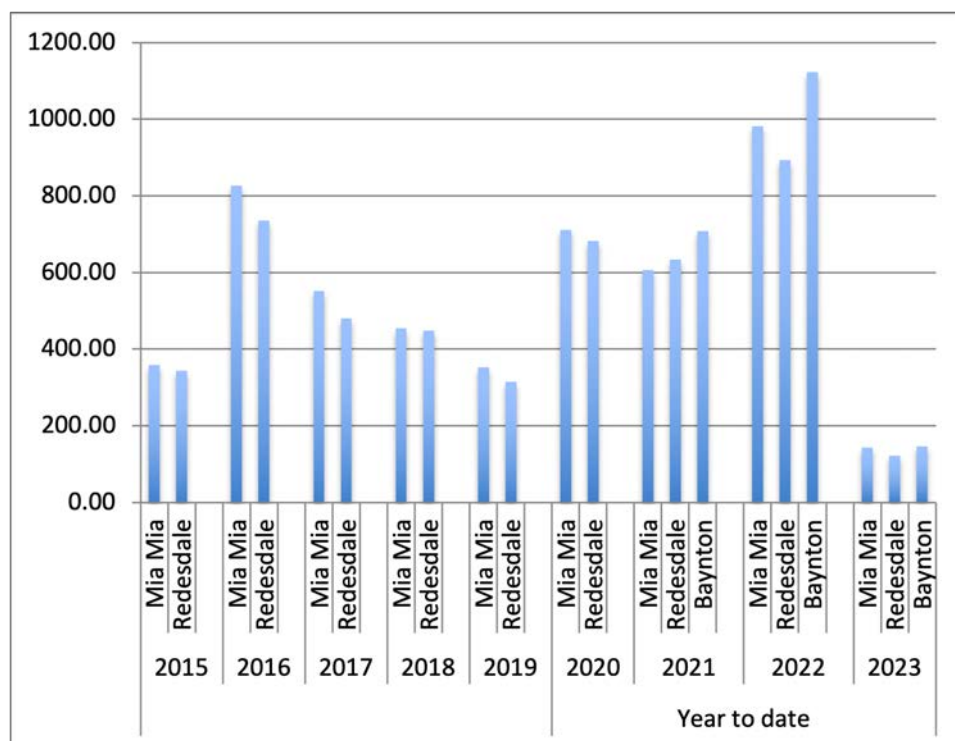
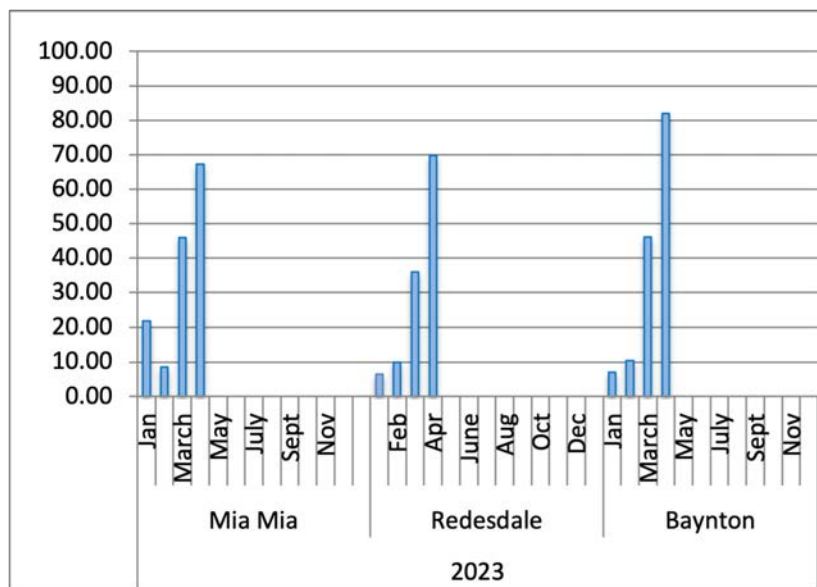
**Baynton** 82.00mm Year to date 145.60mm

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

<b>2017</b>	Mia Mia	551.75
	Redesdale	479.60
<b>2018</b>	Mia Mia	455.00
	Redesdale	448.40
<b>2019</b>	Mia Mia	352.00
	Redesdale	315.00
<b>2020</b>	Mia Mia	711.25
	Redesdale	682.85
<b>2021</b>	Mia Mia	593.50
	Redesdale	634.40
<b>2022</b>	Baynton	707.80
	Mia Mia	981.50





## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Turkish Bride Soup

76

There's lots of stories behind this soup but I like the one that says it is made to sustain the bride on her wedding day. That makes it a great soup to sustain us on a cold winters day.

With some modifications you can easily make it vegetarian or vegan.

#### Ingredients

2 tbs butter  
2 tbs vegetable oil  
1 medium onion, finely chopped  
1 celery stalk, very finely chopped  
1 medium carrot, very finely chopped  
4 garlic cloves, finely chopped  
1 cup / 200g red lentils, rinsed  
1/3 cup/ 70g fine bulgur wheat, rinsed  
3 1/4 cup, 750 ml chicken or vegetable stock  
1.5 litres just boiled water  
1 teaspoon sweet paprika  
3 tablespoons tomato paste  
1/2 teaspoon Aleppo pepper or mild chilli flakes  
1 teaspoon dried oregano  
2 tablespoons dried mint  
3 tablespoons olive oil, and extra Aleppo pepper and yoghurt to serve  
2 tablespoons lemon juice  
Serves 4

#### Instructions

Melt the butter with the vegetable oil in a large saucepan over a low heat. Add the onion and fry for 5 minutes, then add the celery and carrot and cook for another 10 minutes with the lid on, adding the garlic for the last minute or so.

Tip in the lentils, bulgur wheat, stock and hot water, then cover and cook over a low heat for 15 minutes, stirring every so often so the soup doesn't catch.

Lastly, add the lemon juice, dried mint and cook for a final 5 minutes, taste and add salt if needed.

#### Notes

Serve with a drizzle of olive oil, yoghurt and Aleppo pepper to taste. Enjoy and be sustained.

Susan McInnes

## Knitting & Crochet GROUP



Get back to Knitting or Crochet...

- Learn new techniques
- Learn to Knit or Crochet
- Possible Knitting and Crocheting for charity

Every Thursday 1pm - 3pm  
at the Redesdale Reserve Pavilion

If you are interested in joining please contact:

Gloria Pocock: [gapocock@bigpond.com](mailto:gapocock@bigpond.com) or

Regina Bennett: [reginabennett@bigpond.com](mailto:reginabennett@bigpond.com)



## LITTLE FREE LIBRARY



Please 'donate' by simply adding Books, Magazines and DVD's to the cabinet... *Thank you*

Located behind the  
Community Notice Board  
Inside the Redesdale Recreation Reserve  
**Redesdale Recreation Reserve,**  
2631 Kyneton - Redesdale Road  
Redesdale Vic 3444



# Plant of the Month

## Salvias or Sages

One of the little garden jewels that is still flowering at the moment is Salvia. Salvias are fantastic plants for our dry climate. There are heaps of varieties, so I'll just share with you the ones that do well at our place. At the moment, the little, dense, violet to royal blue coloured varieties are flowering.

There are a number of different varieties and I think ours is *salvia nemorosa*. (It's 16 years since I planted it so the name is lost in the mists of time). We have little blue pockets of it all over the garden and it is probably one of the hardiest and drought tolerant plants we have.

We also have a bright red taller salvia which waves around in the wind and is in flower most of the year. (Royal Bumble).

One of my favourite salvias grows tall and willowy and is a good screening plant though it needs to be kept under control. It has pale blue flowers, appropriately named African Skies.

There are over 900 species of salvia so it is not possible to describe them here! However, it is always worth asking a neighbour for a cutting of the varieties that do well in your district. Salvias are also known as sages and rubbing their leaves between your fingers will give that pungent sage smell. Because of this pungency they are rabbit resistant, but they are very popular with butterflies.

They will grow very readily from cuttings and plants can be divided in early spring when the new growth begins. During the summer, cut back the old flower stems and they will flower again for many months. The photo is of a clump of *salvia nemorosa* ( I think!) flowering happily at the end of May and it has been flowering since spring.

**Happy gardening. Kathy Hall Coliban Springs**



***Salvia Nemorosa***

## A trip to Saudi Arabia



Recently, Rod and I had the opportunity to visit Saudi Arabia as tourists. The country opened to tourism in 2019 and then was hit by the pandemic so the country doesn't have a lot of experience in this area! The country is working towards "Vision

2030" and tourism

is one of the key pillars at the heart of the plan to help diversify the economy and reduce reliance on oil, which they believe will run out in the next 50 years.

We arrived by ship at Jeddah which is an amazing port. It is spotlessly clean and organised and there are row upon row of huge cranes constantly unloading containers.

Modern development and tourism in Saudi have lagged behind other Arab nations such as Oman and the United Arab Emirates but is fast catching up with massive building projects planned over the next 7 years.

The history of Saudi Arabia as nation state began with the emergence of the Al Saud dynasty in central Arabia in 1727 and the prehistory of Saudi Arabia shows some of the earliest traces of human activity in the world. The Islamic prophet, Muhammad, was born in Makkah (Mecca) in 571 AD, and only Muslims are allowed to visit this city which they do in their millions for the annual pilgrimage (Hajj). Many pilgrims from all over the world arrive through Jeddah (Jedda or Jeddah) which has hosted this kind of tourism for centuries as the faithful make their way to nearby Mecca. Madinah (Medina) is a city in western Saudi where the vast Al-Masjid an-Nabawi (Prophet's Mosque) is a major Islamic pilgrimage site. Its striking Green Dome rises above the tombs of the Prophet Muhammad and early Islamic leaders Abu Bakr and Umar. The Masjid al-Qiblatain (Qiblatain Mosque) is known as the site where the Prophet Muhammad received the command to change the direction of prayer to Mecca.

There is a high-speed train which travels from Mecca to Medina via Jeddah, and we were lucky enough to travel on this amazing service from Jeddah to Medina. The railway station looked like something from a futuristic movie and the gleaming, pristine train travelled at 300 km an hour. Even the train tracks were spotless!

In Medina, the women were provided with an Abaya (long dress to wear over clothes) and a head scarf. At no other time on our visit to Saudi were women required to cover their head although we were advised to dress modestly. We were shown around the grand mosque by excellent guides who were warm and welcoming. At no stage did we or the people we were travelling with feel threatened or unwelcome.

We toured old Jedda which is being extensively restored and visited some of the vast air-conditioned shopping malls which are like cities in themselves. Another highlight was snorkelling in the Red Sea where the reefs were healthy and have been remarkable resilient to warming damage. At some locations we saw how Saudis relaxed out on the water in their large motorboats, playing loud music and with girls swimming in normal western bathers.



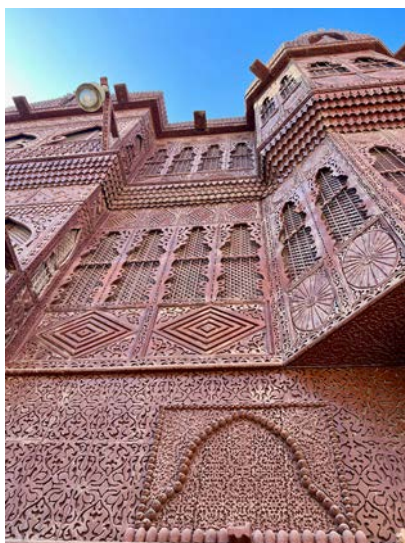
Of course, most of Saudi is inhospitable hot sandy desert where camels roam free, but at the fertile edges, things are definitely changing, and we feel privileged to have witnessed some of the new developments which include women being allowed to uncover their heads and drive cars and hold down professional jobs. I hope you've enjoyed this little peek into a newly opening culture.



*Grand Mosque, Medina.*



*Jeddah fast train station*



*Old Jeddah*



*Saudi camels*

**NO SEATBELT**  
**\$370**  
**3 DEMERITS**

# Offending drivers. Phone down. Buckle up.

Mobile phone and seatbelt detection cameras are now operating right across Victoria.  
Penalties will soon apply. Not wearing a seatbelt or not wearing it correctly?  
Offending drivers can be caught. So, is it worth it?  
Phone down. Buckle up.

**TAC** **VICTORIA**  
State Government



# POEM OF THE MONTH

## Escape at Bedtime

The lights from the parlour and kitchen shone out  
 Through the blinds and the windows and bars;  
 And high overhead and all moving about,  
 There were thousands and millions of stars.  
 There ne'er were such thousands of leaves on a tree,  
 Nor of people in church or the park,  
 As crowds of the stars that looked down on me,  
 And that glittered and winked in the dark.  
 The Dog, and the Plough, and the Hunter, and all,  
 And the star of the sailor, and Mars,  
 These shone in the sky, and the pail by the wall  
 Would be half full of water and stars.  
 They saw me at last, and they chased me with cries,  
 And they soon had me packed into bed;  
 But the glory kept shining and bright in my eyes,  
 And the stars going round in my head.

Robert Louis Stevenson

## Help shape the future of Redesdale

Be part of the team that helps develop the facilities, amenities, and the look of Redesdale's future.

A working group is being formed to help develop activities which will interest all age groups within Redesdale. The activities will be used to both introduce various people to each other, as well as to encourage feedback and ideas of their needs and wants. These can be part of Redesdale's next 5 year plan to be submitted to the City of Greater Bendigo.

The working group will consist of 8 people, and will be supported/guided by City of Greater Bendigo. Time commitments will NOT be huge, with possibly one brief meeting a month to develop and implement ideas.

Please contact Lin Newton ([info@redesdale.net](mailto:info@redesdale.net) or 0418 583 304) for further details or to register your interest.

Remember the difference between two communities is the people.....

Support your **community newspaper** the  
**'Bridge Connection'**  
 who is supporting **your community.**

Visit: **www.redesdale.net**  
**district, events, businesses and news.**

For more information turn to **page 3**  
 for advertising rates or call and chat to

Editor - **Regina Bennett 5425 5402.**

**'Bridge Connection' Community Newspaper**



**As they say in the WorkSafe Farm Safety ads:  
"It's never you, until it is!"**

Worried about you or your partner working alone out on the property?

Concerned that if you experienced an emergency, you may not be able to reach your phone and call for help?

Worried about slips and falls away from others?

Peace of mind for these, and many other concerns, can be secured with an emergency pendant. Some pendants require on-going monitoring fees, or can only be used indoors. The award winning LiveLife pendant is a one-time purchase with waterproof, indoor/outdoor operation.

Check out their website ([www.livelifealarms.com.au](http://www.livelifealarms.com.au)) for full details, however some of the key benefits of the alarm pendant are:

- Calls up to 6 friends or family (can call 000) until someone answers.
- Has 2-way "hands-free" voice communication with high quality, easy to hear audio.
- Inbuilt fall detection. Sends "fall alert" text with location & calls up to 6 contacts.
- Uses Bluetooth, GPS, wifi & Google maps to send your location to your contacts.
- Family & friends can call the pendant. Pendant can call out to nominated contacts.
- Price includes SIM card, setup and delivery. Completely ready to go out of the box.
- Best possible indoor & outdoor mobile signal strength using 4GX with 3G rollback.

We have negotiated with LiveLife Alarms to give a discount on the retail price of their pendant alarms, if community members from Redesdale and the district wish to purchase **more than 10 units**. For transparency, you will still purchase directly from LiveLife, but to get the offered discount we need to collate enough expressions of interest. Great value for great technical equipment.

**RETAIL PRICE:**

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after first year.



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**DISCOUNT PRICE:**

**\$517**

Once only payment.  
+ \$45/yr Telstra connection after  
first year.

Please send details of your interest to [3444reserve@gmail.com](mailto:3444reserve@gmail.com) before 30 June 2023, and we will keep you updated if we have reached the numbers to trigger the discount.

Hoping you (or partner/parent/friend) never will, but to paraphrase WorkSafe:  
**You won't need it until you do!**

**RESERVE Local Name Mia Mia Flat**

**Notice is given of a**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**to be held at MIA MIA Fire Station on 16/6/23**

**commencing at 7:30pm**

The purpose of the meeting is to nominate no less than three (3) or more than nine (9)

persons as the Committee of Management for the (Reserve Local Name Mia Mia Flat for a term of three years.

The current committee's term will expire on 16/6/23

All positions will be declared open and nominations will be accepted prior to or on the night.

Nominations from women, Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, young people and people from culturally diverse backgrounds are encouraged.

Further information, nomination forms and nominee declaration forms may be obtained by contacting your local Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning office or at the meeting. For further enquiries please contact the Secretary. **Anthony Ryan on 0437 356 051**



# Vale James Alfred Coombe

18th Jan 1931 - 21st May 2023

Dad by the other drivers. During this period, he also became an active member of St John Ambulance and completed 1000 hours of volunteer community work. He had been with McKenzie's for 14 years when he retired from driving buses at age 71 years.

While many people associate dad with farming, my memories of him are listening to him telling stories about his adventures, comrader and friendships he experienced while driving buses for McKenzie's. He would recall winning over difficult passengers, going the 'extra mile' to make a pleasant day for tourists, and giving an account of some skilled driving that averted many an incident or accident.

One of my favorited last memories of dad in hospital was him looking through a memory folder: he had become confused and he was looking at older images of his parents and sisters; and more recent ones of his 5 daughters, 9 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren, and Charlie his dog but it was when he came to the last image of the McKenzie Bus Depot in Healesville his face lit up with a beautiful smile and he said "I know this one - that's McKenzie's"

While McKenzie's had been a particularly happy time of his life, dad was drawn back to Mia Mia and district.

We came back to mia mia on July 18th 2001 after dad retired from bus driving. Dad helped me start up and run sheep, farming fat lambs and wool. We came back and lived in the old family farm in coombe lane. Dad set about repairing or replacing anything that was falling down. He repaired sheds, fences, replaced tanks at the house among other things. He enjoyed tinkering with engines which led to him restoring a number of tractors for graham hyslop and help a number of farmers get their tractors going again. Dad rejoined the CFA shortly after arriving and became comms officer, he helped set up the local radio sched which is still in use today. Anytime there was a major fire dad and I would work out a roster system so that there was a change over of crew every 6 hours and food out to the men every 4 hours. Everyone knew of the little yellow ute and what it stood for. Dad stayed as comms officer for 7 years before retiring just before he turned 80.

At 80years and after a hip replacement dad decided to do something different, he went out grape picking at least helping heather and Andrew with their vintage for a block of chocolate in return. He picked until he turned 90.

I do have to thank some people for their friendship, I call them the mia mia fox shooters association' you know who you are. Dad always enjoyed going out with you guys and girls and of course shooting foxes often a fun day out. You guys looked after dad even as he got older and slower and could not always walk long distances he did enjoy your company so thank you.

When dad was 83yrs old a fire roared thru Kilmore and dad listening to the ABC radio heard a call go out for people to

James Alfred Coombe (always referred to as Jim) Was born 18th Jan 1931. He lived in Mia Mia and attended the local school riding his bike the 4 miles each way every day. He then attended Kyneton High School until he was 14 years old and got a job at a Garage in Kyneton.

He stayed at a boarding house during the week and at weekends he would ride his bike home on the Saturday afternoon and return Sunday afternoon. However, after 6 months he returned to helping on the farm in Mia Mia in exchange for board and keep and turned his hand to catching rabbits and helping farmers with shearing and harvesting for pocket money.

At 18 his dad bought him a truck which he used to transported livestock until a couple of bad accidents forced him to give that up. He then had several jobs before taking one with McKenzie's Tourist Services and was sent to Marysville. He drove the school bus every day and had a Marysville to Melbourne service once a week.

He took a break from driving to caretake the farm while his parents travelled in Australia but after their homecoming, was invited to resume driving for McKenzie's in Melbourne for the

1956 Olympics - mainly day tours for overseas visitors to the then newly built Eildon Weir, and around Way (Narbethong to Warburton), where he held a record for the most trips - 22 days straight. It was on one of those trips he met Mum and they were married on

7th July 1957

Jim and Beth bought and ran the Redesdale Service Station for 7 years. After that they moved around Victoria mostly, dad finding work cutting wood, baling hay, and managing properties, finally coming back to Mia Mia where they leased homes while Jim built the home at Mountain View around 1970. After about 7 years they sold up and eventually leased a crop farm in Shepparton.

In 1987 Jim and Beth parted ways and Jim moved to Healesville with Annette and again drove for McKenzie's Bus services. He became the oldest driver in the company and was referred to as



come and help blaze aid rebuild fences for different people there. So dad decided to join blaze aid, he took my van ( with my blessing ) with a mattress and sleeping bag in the back and spent 5 weeks at Kilmore, he made many friends and he was able to put his skill at fence making to good use. He got the nickname of 'young Jim' as he was the oldest person to join blaze aid at that time. Dad even got to meet the Governor General Sir Peter Cosgrove while there.

Dad became involved with a couple of community projects. The 1st being the Mia Mia book. Dad had a lot of knowledge of the farmers and events that took place in the 1930s, 40s, 50s, and 60s at mia mia and was able to write a lot of the stories down. The 2nd project was the Stintson Memorial, again he had known the people who witnessed the accident and wanted to help with the project.

Dad also enjoyed doing family history.

With dad getting older and weaker a decision was made to give up sheep farming. I could not farm sheep on my own and dad was at risk of being injured by them. During covid 19 pandemic of 2020 dad handed in his drivers licence and was happy for me to drive him about.

On the 1st of may dad was admitted to the Kyneton hospital where he died on 21st May at 6.25am.

Dad loved his kids and their families in his own way, he may not have shown a lot of affection, but his eyes always lit up when they came to visit.

he was also very proud of what they had achieved in their lives

REST IN PEACE DAD

Kerryn Coombe, Annette Coombe, Sabina Riordan, Vanessa Williams and their families.



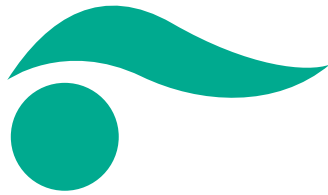
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