

The
Triangle News
is a project
of the
Marysville
& District
Lions Club Inc.
ABN 32 727 809 965

MARYSVILLE

triangle news



NARBETHONG

BUXTON & TAGGERTY

Friday May 22 2009

President Ken Adams

Vol. 36 No. 18

SUPPORT FOR MARYSVILLE FROM RUSHWORTH

On Sunday 17th May a delegation from the Rushworth Rural Fire Brigade and the criterion hotel, Rushworth made the 160km trip to Marysville to present a donation cheque to the Marysville Fire Brigade.

As a fund raiser the owners of the criterion, Mick and Wendy Towan, added 50c to the price of a pot of beer for 3,000 pots making \$1,500 to which the Rushworth R.F.B. matched \$ for \$ making a total of \$3000. The money will go towards brigade and community projects.

Our thanks to the people of Rushworth and the delegates who delivered the cheque, Captain Graham Wall, 1st Lieut. Mark Jones, 2nd Lieut. Mark McConnell and Mick Towan owner of the Criterion Hotel.



photo: Capt Graham Wall of Rushworth Rural Fire Brigade presenting the cheque for \$3000 to Capt. Glen Fiske, Marysville Rural Fire Brigade

1939 - from the Diary of Sam Ross

"1939, a black year in more ways than one. In January more than two thirds of Victoria was on fire and of course this was the year WW2 was to start.

Dealing with the fire first. I have listened to many accounts, along with reading as many more, some accurate, some glamorised; others absolutely purely fictitious, being young at the time and witnessing all this holocaust, memories are vivid and everlasting. Hoping to never see such instant destruction again. Yet I believe I will, because these disasters follow a pattern of cycle the same as the weather seasons.

Next time there will be more lives lost because of increased population. Possibly acreage destroyed won't be as vast because of more cleared land and better prevention facilities. Although there is still nothing man made that can extinguish these horrendous monsters. Maybe a poor translation but words defy description.

Once a fire crowns, intense heat makes all eucalypt forests explosive fuel, then creating its own gale force winds in the vast vacuum behind the fire. This in turn brings its speed up to unestimated mph enabling it to literally jump from one mountain to another and that is exactly what happened here.

It hit the west side of Mt Gordon, jumped over the town to Robley's Spur, Mt Margaret. Just that quickly! The only residence that was lost in the town was Stan Postlethwaite's.

Rented from Keith Lamb, the last house at the top end of Darwin Street. Stan was away and the place was unattended. Everyone looked after their own as best as possible. I spent all my time diving under our house putting out any sparks that blew under it. There wasn't many gathering at the river. Everyone that could move was protecting their property.

As all this took place at about 6pm, it was almost midnight before people started to move about to see how friends fared. In fact our immediate neighbour Mr Ted Anderson, who had recently completed his new house, was bought in after midnight completely blind from smoke, with the news that No 1 mill was completely razed. Including 1 million super feet of air dried timber but no loss of life.

One employee, Fred (Gunner) Neville was carried into the hotel. Lying on the floor in the back bar, people tried to get his clothes off, with his shirt came almost the complete skin area on his back. The scars were with him the rest of his life. These burns resulted from the employees laying face down on the cricket pitch.

Ted Anderson's son, Ron not long married to Beatrice Halliday, had lost their home and all belongings at No 1 mill. A story unfolds here. As all wireless were battery powered in those days, Ron picked up his Healing Golden Voice mantle set from the ruins, studied it for damage and then hooked it up to batteries and it went!!

Continued Page 3

Please Send Your Contributions to-

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or by Email.

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e-mail to:

delice.guscott@bigpond.com

or **PH : 5963 3353** (BH Mon-Thurs)

or **FAX: 5963 3353**

DISCLAIMER

The Triangle News committee does not take responsibility for opinions expressed by contributors to the Triangle News. The editor reserves the right to reject articles and advertisements and to edit submissions if necessary. **All submissions must carry the author's name, address and phone number.**

The Building Commission are holding a further consumer seminar on how to build in Victoria after the bushfires in your region. The seminar provides information about the new residential building standard, to better protect homes in bushfires.

The next consumer session to be held is scheduled as follows:

Marysville 28 May 2009

Marysville Golf Club, Marysville
Buxton Road 6.30pm – 8.30pm
To book, phone the Bushfire Building Advice Line on 1300 360 320. Or for further information, 03 9285 6307.

Alexandra Visitor Information Centre

If you like meeting new people, promoting our wonderful area and have a few hours a month spare. The Alexandra Visitor Information is seeking volunteers to assist in the Centre. It is vital to our centre to keep the doors open.

Maybe you could help, training available, only requirement is a smile.

For further information please contact Pat P: 5772 1100
E: alexvic@virtual.net.au

What's on When in May

Thursday 21st - Triangle Community Dance Group (see notice)
Sunday 24th - Marysville Christian Fellowship re-opening 10.30 am
Wednesday 27th - Historical Society Meeting 1.30 pm
Saturday 30th - Triangle Arts Group Meeting
Sunday 31st - NEW BEGINNINGS Fellowship

Marysville & District Historical Society

The May meeting of the Historical Society will be at our new temporary home - the little cottage next to the Crossways, on Wednesday, May 27th at 1.30pm
New members welcome
Please bring a folding chair
Enquiries M Kenealy 0417 596 433

Triangle Arts Group Meeting

Follow –up to the meeting held 28.3.09 at Marysville Golf Club. Remember, we had some fantastic ideas – Memorial mosaics, sculptures, gardens, Children's art, Community art classes etc. We created an extraordinary list of ideas. Now it's time to make some more progress towards some of these ideas becoming realities. If you would like to be a part of this adventure, please attend the next meeting on:

Saturday, 30th May 10.00am – 12.00 noon

At the Buxton Primary School

Contact for more info: **Julia Peddie ph. 59637050** or **Diane Gaylard ph. 59633277**



MARYSVILLE AND TRIANGLE
DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Marysville Buxton Granton Narbethong Taggerty

Notice is hereby given that the
Annual General Meeting of the MATDG Inc. will be
held on Saturday 13th June.

2pm at

Marysville Golf Club.

All positions will be declared vacant.

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Plus 8 committee members

All nominations must be made in writing and delivered to: The Secretary 41 Dyes Lane Buxton Vic 3711 not less than 7 days prior to AGM date.

All nominations must be made in writing and signed by two members of the Association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate.

Marysville Primary School

What a wonderful start to the school term we have had. As always Marysville Primary School is a busy place. Its nice to see familiar faces rejoining our school community – please don't hesitate to drop in and say hello! Donations are still coming into the school and we are most appreciative of all that the wider community is doing for us. We



were lucky enough to have St.Kilda Footballers for an afternoon with our students. Cross Country in Eildon is always fun and this year was no exception. We have had the Regional Director come and chat to parents and students and join in classroom activities. For science week we had an amazing presentation on Stars from the CSIRO. An excursion to the Art



Centre proved to be an incredible experience for young and old, thank you to all parent helpers. Art 2 Go – On Safari was an inspirational music/story telling session that we all enjoyed and we thank everyone involved for this. As always a familiar face that brings with it laughter and smiles to us all popped in for the day. Phil the circus man brought helpers Joseph and Andy with a whole lot of enthusiasm and



eagerness the children mastered unicycling/ stilt walking/ juggling and marimba music. Phil will be back again and we can't wait to see what other tricks he has in store for us. Some of our students went on the Queensland trip that was organized recently and we hope they all had a lot of fun! – All this and we are only into week 4 of the term!



We will be reopening on the 6th June 2009

The team at Cross Country Ski Hire have been working hard to ensure that we are up and running for the commencement of the ski season beginning the Queen's Birthday weekend in June.

The site of the old shop has been cleared by the Grocon contractors and portable units are being erected to house the ski hire business, toilets with baby change and our new on-site coffee shop for the 2009 season.

The shop will look a bit strange from the outside but inside we'll have plenty of brand new, quality stock and are looking forward to your custom during what we're hoping will be a bumper season.

In recognition of the generous support we have received from the Australian public, the hire prices on snow play clothing and toboggans will remain unchanged from 2008. Furthermore, our children's snow-play-package will remain at \$16.

We look forward to making your snow experience a positive and memorable one.

Greg and Lianne McEwen – CROSS COUNTRY SKI HIRE

43 MURCHISON ST. MARYSVILLE (OPPOSITE THE KEPPELS HOTEL)

PH 5963 3322 OR MOB - 0431 142 267



Make your own electricity from the sun & save!

Solar Shop Australia is offering residents of Murrindindi the opportunity to purchase a 1 kW solar PV panel system to produce renewable electricity for your home for a standard installation cost of \$2000 (indicative price only), if eligible for the \$8000 Federal Government rebate. To take advantage of this offer, residents need to have a taxable income of less than \$100,000 p. a.

The offer is only available until the Australian Government's solar panel rebate of \$8000 expires on 30 June 2009.

Interested residents are invited to attend free Community Information Sessions.

Alexandra Shire Hall, Saturday 23 May – 10 a.m.

Kinglake West Hall, Sunday 24 May – 2 p.m.

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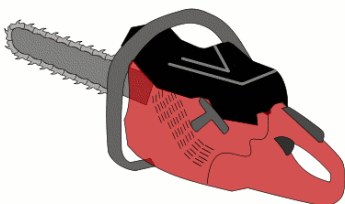
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1939 - from the Diary of Sam Ross continued from Page 1

Later it was on display in Healings Melbourne main shop window. We never found out if it boosted sales or not except Ron & Beat got a new set out of it.

Another illustration of how devastating this fire was. When travelling along the flat straight of Marysville Narbethong Rd before Wilks Creek bridge one could see the remains of No 1 mill. Some mile and a half away in every direction, only the biggest trees remained standing completely naked of all foliage.

It is interesting to note before any regrowth started we had an early fall of snow. For anyone who could visualize natural artistry it was one hell of a study of black and white. Although all flora and fauna was temporally nonexistent the tremendous ferocity and speed of this fire jumped a lot of the steeper gullies between each mountain. Remarkably a lot of wild life sought this refuge and survived. Evidence of this was revealed when my father on one of his horse back tourist track patrols encountered a large number of deer on the slopes of Mt Gordon.

If there is any good comes of these terrible fires it would be the vast regeneration of timber that comes after it. The intense heat seems to help the seed avail itself to the ready and waiting forest floor. Stripped clean and fertilized literally with potash, an exercise gained from this is visible today when travelling up the Black Spur, all the western fall or bottom side of the road for 3 miles or more one can notice a fine stand of Ash all in rows. This was achieved by the MMBW and other bodies transplanting these young trees close together (survival of the fittest) grows the straight young tree. Actually for the first year of planting the bracken ferns were higher than the seedlings. Now 42 yrs later (as of this writing) they are over 80' tall. It is hoped they continue to grow.

42 yrs seems a long time especially when the mountain ash tree is so susceptible to fire. The bark peels off and the tree quickly dies. Yet there are still many of these giant grey sentinels still standing throughout the bush. They are really just tubes of mud and quite dangerous.

To me they are a constant reminder of these grim times when 81 people perished in Victoria.

This holocaust that covered two thirds of Victoria also uncovered one or two local mysteries. One in particular found by a young timber worker from Andersons Mill was the remains of Miss Pitman. One of the sisters that owned the log cabin. She had disappeared many years before. Ironically she was just a few yards off the track to Wolfram Mine. Dad and other tourist track workers must have passed close to her a 100 times but it took the fire to solve the mystery, so ended a tragic family.

All in all this fire will remain as one of the greatest tragedies in the history of Victoria."

Excerpts from the memoirs of Sam Ross, born in Marysville 1924.

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Visitors' reactions to Anzac Day 2009 in Marysville

Anzac Day 2009 in Marysville was a celebration of the Australian spirit and in particular the expression of that spirit in the Triangle area on Black Saturday and in the weeks that followed.

The turnout was exceptional, given our difficult circumstances. A conservative estimate was that we had twice as many spectators as usual, and about four times as many marchers.

I was very touched by the fact that a number of my old comrades made a special effort to come to Marysville to march that day. Many of them are recently retired senior officers, some of whom are generals, men who have seen the world and are not easily impressed.

And yet they were -- often very impressed indeed, sometimes to the point of being 'inspired', as one of them put it.

For example, a former SAS commander spoke to me before the march of how shocked he was after his brief tour of the village -- 'Nick, it's just terrible: all that devastation'.

A man who had been a very senior general sent me an e-mail the next day saying that for him,

'It was a day with real meaning unlike the perfunctory displays of conspicuous commemoration or even misplaced celebration that seems to characterise many Anzac day ceremonies. This is why I normally only attend dawn ceremonies. I am very glad I went to Marysville.'

My former CO from Vietnam wrote to me that

'We are glad we got to Marysville on Anzac Day. A worthwhile and moving day. The slight blemishes made even more human and real.'

And his wife added, on the card,

'As the old codgers say "I would not have missed it for quids". It was a very very moving experience... In that environment even the (usually meaningless) Christian rituals took on a new dimension which is hard to put into words: somehow it was the place which gave the text meaning. The survival stories and recovering trees and plants took on a sense of sacredness making it like an open-air cathedral.'

But I'll leave the last word to one of the diggers who returned to Marysville on Anzac Day after being part of the Army's Joint Task Force 662 that had moved in to provide vital logistics support for local communities.

'I can honestly say working at Marysville doing my small bit has been the highlight of my time spent in the Army. To help out fellow Australians under such disastrous circumstances is something I will never forget. I will endeavour to keep contact with the residents of Marysville, as this seems to be a bonding which is hard for me to explain. I am constantly in contact with the Hell's Kitchen crew and I know they all feel the same way.'

Coming soon

Lions Triangle Tool Library

Need a chainsaw, nail gun, concrete mixer, electric saw or drill, gardening tools for a day or so?

These and more will be available soon.

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For more information phone Norman 0429 939 110

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Councillor Comment

Women in Murrindindi Shire

- There are 6,738 women in the shire, representing 49% of our population.
- In the over 85 age group there are 152 women and 65 men.
- Of people in the shire earning more than \$1,000 per week, 24% are women.
- Of people holding a diploma or degree or higher, 59% are women
- Currently the superannuation payout for women is a third that of men - \$37,000 compared with \$110,000.
- Women comprise 71% of the primary carers of elderly, disabled and mentally ill members of the family.
- In 2006, 1% of births were to women aged less than 20 years, compared to 2.9% for Victoria.
- 30% of women in the shire volunteer – 8% of volunteers are 24 or younger.
- 4% of women have a disability.

This information is part of a resource for the ongoing improvement of planning, delivering and evaluating services to women in our shire.

Commercial Radio

Melbourne commercial radio broadcasters will begin test transmissions of digital radio services this month.

The transmissions in Melbourne will broadcast on VHF Band III Channel 9A.

The impact on existing broadcasting services will be minimal, if at all. However if interference is experienced there will be a hot line (1300 136 770) and website www.digitalradiorollout.com.au to enable you to report details and to access further information.

Digital radio technology will deliver an enhanced radio experience including additional audio and data services. However there are no plans to switch off analog radio services.

For more information on all aspects of digital radio got to www.digitalradioplus.com.au

*Bob Flowers
Redgate Ward Councillor.*

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CROSSWAYS COUNTRY INN

Restaurant will be closed until 5th June for repairs/refurb. and recovery. Reopen Fri 5th June -dinner at 6pm.

*** Exception: Friday 22nd May 5-6pm

Real Estate and Property info night.

..discussion on Marysville property values.

followed by Happy Hour and social chat.

Enquiries: ph 5963 3290 Pam and Greg.



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Marysville Community Golf & Bowls Club news

Re-opening day

The Marysville golf course will reopen for business on Saturday, 30 May. The front nine will then be available for members and green fee players, playing on the new greens. And it won't be too long before the back nine is available as well (currently the main impediment is the bridges-rebuilding project, which is still in train).

There will be a ceremony to mark the occasion, and a VIP golfer will drive the opening drive from the first tee. We expect substantial media coverage.

Greg Norman

Greg Norman will be coming to Marysville on Monday 29 June. This will be the day after a big corporate fund raiser at Commonwealth Golf Club in Melbourne, which is being organised by some leading Melbourne businessmen for bushfire benefit.

His primary intention and our primary intention is for him to meet the members, and to play a few holes with us.

Re Tiger Woods: we have no knowledge of the possibility that he might come up here later this year, and we don't know where this came from. But of course it would be great if he did.

Donations and grants

Donations are flowing in, primarily structured around our two main donation mechanisms, 'Adopt a Hole' and 'Friends of the Marysville Community Golf & Bowls Club'.

A grant of \$200,000 has been awarded by the *Bushfire Relief for Community Sports Clubs Recovery Fund*, equally contributed by the Federal and State Governments.

Insurance

Our insurance claim was finalised in mid April and submitted to the underwriters.

Course development

Development of the golf course continues apace. We are working hard to repair the ravages of the bushfires and to build a better course.

Membership

So far, 74 members have renewed their membership, substantially down from the 164 we had in 2008. But we are optimistic that we can get it back to previous levels before too long.

Further details on each of these items can be found at the Marysville Community Golf & Bowls Club website, <http://www.marysvillegolfandbowls.com.au/latestnews.php>.



Anglican Parish of Marysville

Priest in Charge: Father Norman Hart
Locum Priest: The Rev Philip Gale
Phone contact 5963 4441
(if no answer leave a message)

Sunday, 24th May, 2009

9.00 am Holy Communion - Buxton
10.30 am Holy Communion - 14
Gould Terrace (off Falls Road)

Mt Cathedral Baptist Church

Pastor Ivor Jones

Normal services- whilst the Buxton Community Hall is being used as a relief centre, are held in the Taggerty Hall every Sunday @ 10:00 am

**Further enquiries
Ivor Jones 0414430951**

MOPS

Things are slowly moving to re-establish a MOPS precinct; we will be having another committee meeting on the 19th and we hope to be able to report more after that meeting. Meanwhile because of the scattered whereabouts of many of our volunteers, we would appreciate any people who would like to join us when we get up and going in the not too distant future.

Marysville & District

Lions Club

Community BBQ

on again this

Sunday 4-6pm at the

Golf Club rooms

All welcome

See you there!

"NEW BEGINNINGS" fellowship

Victorian Bushfire Prayer & Remembrance Thanksgiving & Celebration Service

Date:- Sunday May 31st, 2009
Time:- 11am Start

Venue:- Marysville Golf Club
(Marysville)

Guests from Emerald, Dandenong, Box Hill, Glen Waverley and Local Organisations will be present and all are welcome to SHARE Lunch to follow, meet & make new friends.

For further information please phone:- Pastor Conrad & Ruth Halyburton 5963 3398
Conrad:- 0404 869 582;
Ruth:- 0402 345 265

MARYSVILLE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

RE-OPENING

**SUNDAY, 24th May, 2009
at 10.30 am**

961 Buxton Road, Marysville
(opposite the Golf Club)

Come for a time of thanksgiving and warm fellowship as we celebrate gathering together once more.

Please stay for lunch and bring a plate to share.

In Jenni and David Littlejohn's absence on holiday, please ring Vera and Peter Gill for further information:

5963 3464 or M: 0414 564 309

POSTCARD FROM GREAT BRITAIN

Wednesday - Paris to Derby, England

We had opted to get from Paris to Derby the old fashioned way - train to Calais, ferry to Dover, train into London, then train up to Derby. See a bit of the countryside, rather than just simply get from A to B in a rush. Sounded very romantic when we decided upon that approach from Australia - far more preferable to just flying, or to training it through the tunnel. NOT!!!

This is how it was in reality: Had planned to get up at 6 am to ensure plenty of time to allow for stuff ups along the way to catch the 9.58 am train out of Gare du Nord to Calais. Overslept for starters - finally up by 6.30 am. Managed to check out at 8.30 am (back on schedule) and thankfully the lovely man at reception arranged a cab for us (in our experience the French people don't deserve their reputation as rude or unhelpful). Stressing all the way to Gare du Nord about did we have enough Euros left to pay the cab! Phew...we did - just! Next challenge - retrieve our pre-booked tickets from the self-service machine. All going well...until I put the Visa card in. You have to use the credit card you nominated when booking, and it was telling me mine was not an approved type of card (which Visa was supposed to be). This was about when panic set in! I tried another machine - same result. So I figured get in the queue for buying tickets, and try to sort it out there. Couldn't find anyone who spoke English (and my French was shutting down at this point). Managed to get my message across though to a very sympathetic looking woman on the ticket counter (I think I told her I had "sold" two tickets to Calais on line', though) and she printed me off the required voucher. Disaster averted J TGV (very fast train) to Calais went smoothly.

Arrived in Calais with nearly an hour until the ferry left, but by the time we realised the connecting bus wasn't coming in time, and set about finding ourselves a cab, we got to the ferry terminal too late for the shuttle bus for the 12.35 pm ferry. Bigger! Managed to book ourselves on the 1.30 pm ferry with another company, so all was not lost. Crossed La Manche (the English Channel) and watched the white cliffs of Dover approaching. Connecting bus to Dover station awaited us where (we had been told previously) we could book our ticket all the way through to Derby...things are finally starting to run smoothly now. Connecting train is even waiting for us on the platform. Oops...spoke too soon. Here we discovered that having not pre-booked (didn't know we had to) our tickets, and given the fact that we would be going through London during the peak, it was going to cost us 110 pounds (nearly \$260) each to get from Dover to Derby!!! By waiting at St Pancaras station for two and a half hours we managed to get a slightly cheaper off-peak ticket which still cost us 80 pounds each. Never mind - let's just get to Derby and collapse! Finally got into Derby station at 9.15 pm (about three hours later than originally estimated). Grabbed a cab to the hotel to find a lovely little room (like the Taj Mahal compared to the cupboard at Montmartre) awaiting us.

14 hours, four trains, three cabs, two buses, and a ferry later, I decided I have discovered a couple of things about myself today. Firstly, I would have been lousy at back-packing. After dragging my bags around all day today, I have had more than enough of that - my back aches, my arms ache, my neck aches and I am over it! Secondly, as exotic as travel to faraway places can be, there is nothing quite like getting back to somewhere that speaks your language and drives on the same side of the road as you do. I must say I thought I was more intrepid than that, and call me a philistine if you like, but there it is.

Great Britain...look out - the Aussies are now on tour!

Cheers

Megan and Marty

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