

THE VILLAGE VOICE.



KEEPING YOU CONNECTED' FEBRUARY 2022.

AUSTRALIA DAY 2022.

On Australia Day many of the residents gathered to celebrate the occasion with a barbeque lunch. There was a selection of meats, salads and fruit. It was an enjoyable day with much eating and talking. **Grateful thanks to the hard-working members of the Social Committee.**

Iris Hargreaves.

THANK YOU , THANK YOU, THANKYOU.

I am extremely thankful to those who responded to my plea for help in last month's Voice. It has made producing this month's issue so much easier. With your support I will continue to edit an issue each month. I aim to have it printed about the 21st of the month and hope it can be at least two pages. Please don't be reluctant to contribute; we all need something to brighten up our day and your piece could do that.

Yours in friendship. Dorothy.

RUDENESS.

Rudeness is behaviour that is inappropriate and offensive to others. It is hurtful and stressful to subject the staff to rudeness when they are only doing their job. **Please treat others as you would like them to treat you.**



Valma has her own pool after the heavy rain last week.

INFORMATION.

This is a suggestion for residents considering relinquishing their driving licences.

Attend Vicroads and request an I.D. card whilst your licence is still current. This should be simple and quick. If you try to do it later and have no passport or licence it can be slow, especially as much of it must be done on line. Vel Newnham.

CONCESSIONS FOR PENSION HOLDERS.

You can receive a concession off your water rates if you are on a pension. Phone 1300 363 200. Coliban Water.

You are entitled to a reduction on your City of Bendigo rates.

Phone 5434600. www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/Rates.

These two concessions could save you about \$600 per year. Yvonne Collier.

You can get a discount on Tuesdays from the I.G.A Strathfieldsaye.

Bill Lidgett is now a member of the Social Committee. Gill Burns.

The Retreat Rd. fish and chip shop is closed. There are brochures for the Hammer St. fish and chip shop available. Dorothy.

Name Tags for new residents are available from the Office.

Keep the Office up-to-date with your Vaccination status, please. Dorothy.

STAGES OF LIFE.

In my pre teen years, I was my father's 2IC in our café business in Rutherglen.

I was 10 and the moment school was finished for the day I would jump on my trusty bicycle and ride home to take over the shop while Dad attended to business outside the shop. 'The good old days ' when everything was done in person – no computers, no mobile phones and in many cases no car. Walk to the bank, to the post office and conduct the day-to-day tasks.

In their wisdom, many Rutherglen Vignerons had decided that Aussies would not be wine drinkers so they pulled out their vines and turned the paddocks over to sheep. It was to be many years before they saw the error of their ways and wine growing and bottling became synonymous with Rutherglen.

But step back a little before the desecration of the vineyards took place and focus on the Migrants who came to enrich our district as grape pickers.

I well remember the grape stained hands of the migrants many of whom were doctors, lawyers or school teachers back in their home country but their qualifications were not recognized, as they handed cash over to me to pay for their purchases.

Our café was also a delicatessen, fruit and vegie shop, and mini grocery. We also made sandwiches and sold hot pies and pasties. For a really special treat on Saturdays for half time at the football, we would offer hot dogs!

Yes, I learned mental arithmetic as I added up their purchases in my head (my fingers working like mad under the counter). We made our own ice blocks and sold broken biscuits!
(Carmel Fitzgerald)

REFLECTIONS.

I have a little to say about BRV. To me living here seems a mixture of continuity and change. There has been a lot of growth in the gardens, the units all look

Having returned to live here for the 3rd time, first in 2016, then 2018, now for a few months much seems the same, and I still see and hear a lot of birds.

While Covid 19 has obviously had a big effect, the Village seems much quieter and there are far fewer people around. Village management seems less active and harder to contact though services for residents are ongoing. Tom and Gwenda are doing a good job in the office, and I hope they quickly recover from Covid.

Being close to the CBD is an advantage, as is the quiet surrounding bush.

Overall I feel BRV is still

a good place to live and I hope it stays so.

Peter Eisen. Unit 15.

WE WEREN'T ALWAYS OLD AND WRINKLY.

I sometimes look in the mirror and wonder who I am looking at. Here is a photo of a resident taken some years ago. Can you guess who it is?



A NEW CHAPTER.

Moving house in the middle of Covid 19 is not the ideal thing to do, also arriving at BRV with all facilities necessarily closed did not make our transition easy either.

We would like to say a big thank you to our neighbours, who made us welcome and gave us some idea of life at the village pre Covid. We really did appreciate a copy of 'The Village Voice' in our mailbox – thank you to the Editor and those who contribute, it is much appreciated.

*Cynthia & Frank Kelly
Unit 66.*

The battle of the wills.

On Wednesday February 2nd we opened the time capsule buried 20 years ago, honouring Clarence and Dorothy Jaensch. More than 50 people witnessed the digging, including a number who were there when the capsule was buried. Lifting the capsule was a battle of determination versus tenacity. As Peter and Matt dug under the plaque it was clear that the now big spruce didn't want to give up its history, but in the end Peter's determination won out. The plastic containers were well sealed with tape and silicon. Iris Wilson was invited to open the capsule but she needed considerable help – keys to the rescue! The documents inside were in pristine condition, including photographs, an "Advertiser", plans of the village from that time and other memorabilia. All present were amazed at the wonderful condition of the ancient documents. The afternoon concluded with an excellent meal, prepared by "Latte Lads". The capsule will be re-laid in the near future. Please let the office know of any suggestions, (may be a letter to your grandchildren, or ...) of what could be included. Bill Lidgett.



CLANCY REVISITED

I had written him a text
Which I'd sent, hoping the next
Time he came in mobile coverage
He'd have time to say hello.
But I'd heard he'd lost his iPhone,
So I emailed him from my phone,
Just addressed, on spec, as follows:

clancy@theoverflow

And the answer redirected Wasn't quite what I'd expected
And it wasn't from the shearing mate
Who'd answered once before.
His ISP provider wrote it
And verbatim I will quote it:
'This account has been suspended:
You won't hear from him no more.'

In my wild erratic fancy
Visions come to me of Clancy:
Out of reach of mobile coverage
Where the Western rivers flow.
Instead of tapping on the small screen,
He'd be camping by the tall green
River gums a pleasure
That the town folk never know.

Well, the bush has friends to meet him
But the rest of us can't greet him:
Out there, even Telstra's network
Doesn't give you any bars.
He can't blog the vision splendid
Of the sunlit plains extended
Or tweet the wondrous glory
Of the everlasting stars.

Saying "Sorry had to go"
While he faced an inbox jamming
Up with deadlines and with spamming
As he signed off every message

I am sitting at the keyboard
And I'm too stressed out to be bored
As I answer all the emails
By the deadlines they contain
While my screen fills with promotions
For 'V1aggra' and strange potions
And announcements of the million-dollar
Prizes I can claim.

Clancy@theoverflow.

But the looming deadlines haunt me
And their harrying senders taunt me
That they need response this evening
For tomorrow is too late!
But their texts, too quickly ended,
Often can't be comprehended
For their writers have no time to think
They have no time to wait.

FAY FLETCHER.

And I sometimes rather fancy
That I'd like to trade with Clancy: