



January 2024

\$2.50

# Milang Community News

A journal of the Milang & District  
Community Association

Supporting the communities of Milang,  
Ashbourne, Clayton Bay, Finnis, Strathalbyn and  
Langhorne Creek



*The Milang Community News is supporting your  
community. Please support us by purchasing a copy.*

*'Enjoying the Christmas rain' by Christine Danton*

## FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the January 2024 edition of the Milang Community News.

I know I have said it before but I just don't know where the last year has gone. No sooner am I welcoming in the New Year and then it's the Christmas Lights Competition!! Yet again the Christmas Lights were just spectacular and I want to say a BIG thank you to all of our entrants. Also a HUGE thank you to all of our very generous sponsors, we couldn't do it without you.

Make sure that you get along to see the 'Yesterday's Power Rally' which will be happening on the weekend of the 21st and 22nd January, please see page 9 for further details.

I would also like to pay tribute to a wonderful man who passed away on 24th November 2023, Mervyn Aworth Hopgood. The obituary from his funeral that was written by his son David Hopgood and read out by all of the Hopgood boys during the funeral on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023, can be found on page 13.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a 'Happy New Year', please have a great month and stay safe.

**Cathy Fish**

Email: [editor@milang.org.au](mailto:editor@milang.org.au)

## Contributions to the Milang Community News

The Editor eagerly looks forward to receiving articles and welcomes suggestions from community members for stories and photographs.

Email: [editor@milang.org.au](mailto:editor@milang.org.au)

Mail: PO Box 416 MILANG SA 5256

Copy should reach the editor by the **21<sup>st</sup> of each month** and must include the contributor's name, address and contact details. **Articles of fewer than 500 words are encouraged.**

Milang Community News reserves the right to refuse advertisements and other submissions. The editor reserves the right to change content for accuracy or where space is limited.

If you would like the Milang Community News photographer to attend an event to photograph subjects of local interest, please contact the Editor, Cathy Fish Phone: 0416 077 584 (leave a message) or Email: [editor@milang.org.au](mailto:editor@milang.org.au)

## ADVERTISING RATES

<b>Eighth page</b>	<b>\$19.00</b>
<b>Quarter page</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>
<b>Half page</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>
<b>Full page</b>	<b>\$105.00</b>
<b>Art work</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>
<b>Ad set up</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>

For all advertising contact

**John Whyte**

Email: [john.whyte.milang@gmail.com](mailto:john.whyte.milang@gmail.com)  
0431 601 850

## Where to buy the Milang Community News available at \$2.50 per copy

- Milang Mini Mart
- Milang Community Centre (MOSHCC)
- Milang Post Office
- Milang Bakery
- Port Milang Café
- Milang Caravan Park
- Strathalbyn Information Centre
- Strathalbyn News Agency
- Corner Bakery—Strathalbyn
- Finnis Café
- Langhorne Creek General Store
- Oasis Garden Function Centre

## DISCLAIMER

The Milang Community News is produced on behalf of the Milang and District Community Association Inc (MADCA).

The committee of the Association accepts no responsibility for damage of any form which may occur as a result of the contents of this publication.

The opinions expressed in the Milang Community News are not necessarily those of MADCA.

Happy New Year



Front Cover - Enjoying the Christmas rain

Photo's courtesy of Christine Danton

**Milang Community News is online**

Download a pdf version at <http://milang.org.au>





## Christmas Lights Competition 2023

Firstly we would like to thank everyone who entered the Milang Community News - Annual Christmas Lights competition.

All of the displays were truly amazing and we could easily see how much work had gone into them.

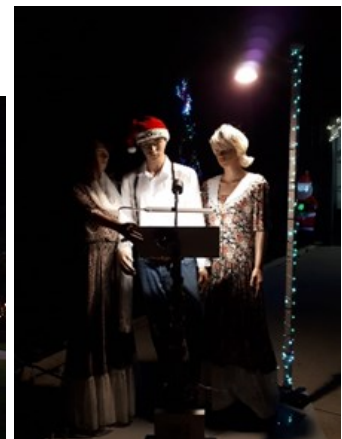
For the 3rd year in a row the winning exhibit was from Clayton Bay by Yvonne & David Rhodes and it was absolutely magical.

David & Yvonne chose the \$50 voucher that was very kindly donated by the Milang Mini Mart as they wanted to 'keep it local'.

The other winners were Mike Galea from Strathalbyn who won the voucher from the Bridge Hotel, Chris & Doris Lambert from Milang who won the voucher from Oasis Gardens, Colin & Joy Frick won the voucher from the Commercial Hotel and Christine and Phil Smith who won the voucher from the Victoria Hotel.

A HUGE thankyou to our wonderful sponsors and to all of the entrants for making this competition such a success.

### Milang Mini Mart



January 2024



3 <sup>rd</sup>	Kelly McLean
8 <sup>th</sup>	Penny-Sue Perry
9 <sup>th</sup>	Lois Eatts
13 <sup>th</sup>	Annie Whyte
18 <sup>th</sup>	Adrian Ross
19 <sup>th</sup>	Robert Neale
	Hayley Evans
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Gloria Jones
27 <sup>th</sup>	Brian Griffin
30 <sup>th</sup>	Kath Berry
	Ann Robertson



*Happy Anniversary!*

13 <sup>th</sup>	Annie & John Whyte
26 <sup>th</sup>	Rosemary & Trevor Evans

## Rainfall for December 2023



Sat 09/12/2023	8.2
Sun 10/12/2023	42.2
Mon 11/12/2023	3.8
Tue 12/12/2023	23.4
Wed 13/12/2023	5
Tue 19/12/2023	1.6
Tue 26/12/2023	1.6
Wed 27/12/2023	0.2
Thu 28/12/2023	0.6
<b>December Total</b>	<b>86.6 mm</b>

# TRIVIA



Answers Page 30

*By Jude Aquilina*

1. Name Adelaide's two giant pandas.
2. *Shearing the Rams* is a painting by which Australian artist?
3. What is the largest planet in the solar system?
4. What is a group of cobras called?
5. Shantung is a type of which fabric?
6. In which US state was Elvis Presley born?
7. What kind of person is a twitcher?
8. How many legs does a grasshopper have?
9. What is the nickname of the Australian woman's basketball team?
10. In which year was the Australian one dollar note replaced with a coin?

**MOSHCC is  
seeking  
Volunteers**



Do you have you some spare time on your hands ?

Would you like to assist in one of our many  
community projects?

In particular we are currently looking for people who  
would like to work in Reception and also we are in  
need of people who would like to drive clients to and  
from appointments (vehicles are provided).

You will find a very friendly bunch of people and make  
new friends very quickly. You will find it very rewarding  
to be involved with such a great group of people.

Call MOSHCC on 8537 0687 and ask for Vivienne



## In appreciation of wireless.

Erica Jolly

His voice, strong, enthusiastic,  
speaks of No Fixed Address -  
that great Aboriginal band -  
offering all who hear  
love through song.

This line in 'We Survive',  
'We, we are still here,'  
smooth, mellifluous  
invites me to stop,  
stay and listen.

Moments like this in my kitchen,  
with this never-ending gift  
in my little \$25 radio  
awaken my senses  
through sound.

Spell-bound, today, in bed  
I hear Chester Wilmot,  
a war correspondent.  
In Tobruk. It's 1941  
He records a song.

Among those famous Rats of ours  
from a munitions-filled cave  
he brings us the power of  
this strong tenor voice  
singing of legionnaires.

Through voices in our Sound Archives  
our ABC is celebrating its centenary.  
We have gone back even before 1923  
to sounds on a scratchy wax cylinder  
then forward to our ABC in 1932.

Another voice is waking my memory  
taking me back to dry bushland and  
the waddle and crump of a friend.  
Music warns of those sharp splits in  
in sun-lit glass. The crackle of fire  
It is the 1970s *Death of a Wombat*.



## POETS CORNER

### Japanese Maple

Jules Leigh Koch

mostly you live  
an exotic life  
in Japanese gardens  
or planted along boulevards

You have never known  
a lumber yard  
or owned real estate  
in a high-density forest

you're above backyard skirmishes  
with limbs almost welcomed  
overhanging fences

perfectly groomed  
your leaves drop on cue

you are the essence of *Zen*  
a study in meditation  
a haiku moment

your branches do not lean  
but float on terraces of air

in autumn  
while still fully clothed  
your colours become

traffic lights  
continually changing

and when falling  
the slow release  
of each leaf

recolours the earth



**Poets are encouraged to submit their poems for Poets Corner to:**  
**PO Box 251 Milang 5256 or [jude\\_poet@yahoo.com.au](mailto:jude_poet@yahoo.com.au)**



## Card Afternoons

This is an open invitation to anyone who may be interested in coming to our card afternoons every Tuesday at the Community Centre.

Time is from 1pm to 4 pm with a cuppa and cake included at a cost of \$2.50. The games played are Crib, Canasta and Jonola, but could include Euchre and Rummy.

Those wishing to learn will be given free tuition. Come along for a fun couple of hours.

For more information, phone Pauline on 0427 370 050.

**Calling all Knitters/Crocheters,**

**ex & wannabe**

**Knitters /Crocheters!!**

**Or**

Anyone who would like to be part of the 'Just Yarning Group' group, please call Lyn on 0407 370 079.

We meet at 10.30 on Thursday mornings at the

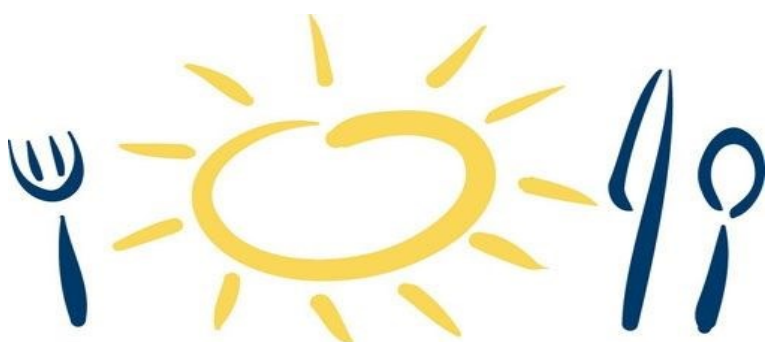
*Milang Mini Mart Café and Providore*

to knit squares to be sewn together to make rugs that will be distributed locally to those in need.

Donations of 8ply wool would be greatly appreciated and can be left at (MOSHCC) Milang Community Centre.

If you are interested or have any queries,

Please contact Lyn - 0407 370 079



**Meals on Wheels**

*We deliver smiles<sup>SM</sup>*

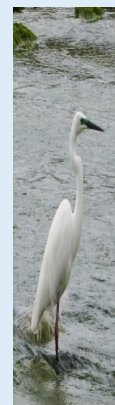
**Please call 1800 854 453—for information on how to order**

## Tai Chi

Tai Chi stops on December 13th until the end of January.

Wishing everyone a joyous, peaceful and relaxing Christmas and holiday season. Look forward to resuming next year.

Stay grounded and be kind to yourself and others. Regards Jen



**Website of the  
Milang & District  
Community  
Association Inc.**

**We produce videos with voice overs to promote your business in our region. Call John today for a demonstration on how we can help you promote your business at an affordable price on 0431 601 850**

**Your local Community Centre working for your business. [www.youfindit.com.au](http://www.youfindit.com.au)**

## 'Stepping On'

**Keep Active ... Stay Strong**

**Strength and Balance**



**Tuesdays from 10—11am at  
The ACE SPACE at the MOSHCC**

A weekly one-hour exercise class using gentle and controlled movements to improve strength, balance, flexibility and coordination in a fun and supportive environment. Small group, suitable for all abilities, (priority given to CHSP clients), EMAA (Easy Moves for Active Ageing) Trained Instructor.

Good balance is needed to keep us moving about confidently and safely.

Please speak to Sue at the Milang Community Centre

**Phone: 8537 0687**

Cost: Gold Coin Donation



## JUST YARNING



A beautiful colourful Australian Lorikeet Christmas card and a bundle of beautiful perfect squares arrived from our beautiful Peg of Hahndorf. These will soon be knitted into what I think we should call *Peg's blankets*.

A huge heartfelt *thank you Peg*, you certainly do an amazing job.



Another huge thank you to all our home supporters who generously donate their time, knitted squares, wool, needles etc.

You can be sure it keeps us busy and all for a worthwhile cause.



Above, snuggly headbands or ear warmers *knitted with love* by Lyn. If you or anyone you know could use a head band or ear warmer let Lyn know on 0407 370 079 .

## Notice of the General Meeting

### Milang & District Community Association Inc.

This is to advise you of the upcoming General Meeting of the members of Milang & District Community Association Inc.

#### Everyone Welcome

followed by tea, coffee & nibbles.

The details of this meeting are as follows:

**Tuesday 30th January 2024 at 6:30pm  
at the Milang Institute Supper Room.**

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

When your yarn is just as happy to see you, as  
you are it.







*BL Recordings Proudly Presents:*

# **BRIAN LETTON**

*Live* **In Concert**

**“The  
Sunset Tour”**

Don't miss the opportunity to see  
Austalia's Premier Country Crooner  
perform live in concert as part of his  
2024 national concert tour.

*Appearing At:*

**MILANG INSTITUTE**

**SATURDAY: 3RD FEBRUARY @ 1PM**

**Bookings /Enquiries:**

**0401 638 464 - 0428 222 942**

**Tickets Available At The Door**

**AD: \$30.00 - PENS: \$25.00**

*With*

**CACTUS  
MARTENS**



**BRIAN LETTON OFFICIAL**

**for more information go to: [www.brianletton.com.au](http://www.brianletton.com.au)**



MILANG VINTAGE MACHINERY CLUB presents ....

# YESTERDAY'S POWER RALLY

at the Milang Oval

**20th and 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024**

Vintage & Classic Tractors, Cars, Trucks,  
Motorcycles, Engines & Machinery

Attractions include:-

Tractor Pull run under NHMA guidelines

1908 8HP Fowler Traction Engine

British Cars & Trucks

New Way Engines

David Brown Tractors

Douglas Motorcycles

Excellent Local Catering



British Trucks



1908 Fowler Traction Engine



New Way Engines



David Brown Tractors



British Cars



Douglas Motorcycles

All Vintage & Classic owners are welcome to register & exhibit

Entry forms available:- email. [secretarymvmc@gmail.com](mailto:secretarymvmc@gmail.com)

or on our website at [www.milanghistoricvintage.com/rally](http://www.milanghistoricvintage.com/rally).

Further information:- ph Margaret 0427 287 411 or Don 0406 337 079

Open times:- 10am - 5pm Saturday, 10am -4pm Sunday

Admission :- \$10 Children under 12 years free

## Celebrating Tradition and Innovation at the Milang Vintage Machine Club

As the Milang Vintage Machine Club gears up for its 27th year, anticipation mounts for the upcoming tractor pull on the 20th and 21st of January 2024. This year's highlight is the inclusion of British cars and trucks, alongside the showcasing of the revered 1908 Fowler Tractor Engine. A treat for enthusiasts, the event promises a nostalgic journey through the annals of mechanical history, boasting a diverse array of vintage cars, tractors, motorcycles, and stationary engines.

With provisions for catering and complimentary entry for children under 12, the event fosters a family-friendly atmosphere. The sight of revving motorcycles and the nostalgic hum of engines evoke a sense of bygone charm, making the Milang Vintage Machine Club's event an unmissable occasion for all connoisseurs of vintage machinery. The Oscar W will also be there for cruises on both Saturday and Sunday.

## Lakes Home Care—Opening Bake Sale

The Opening Bake Sale has been postponed until February



Calling all you Baker's who would like to bake and then donate their  
Cakes/Cookies/Slices/Scones

We are holding a bake sale from the 2nd through to the 7th January 24

Our New Home—Butter Factory Cottage

9:00 am to 1:00 pm each day

All donations greatly appreciated. Help us to raise funds for the Butter  
Factory Restoration while we show off our New Home.

Lakes Home Care

### Justices of the Peace

Please ring for an appointment

Mr L.F. O'Driscoll 8537 0051

Karyn Bradford 8537 0067



### Over 50's Keep Fit Class

Milang Institute Hall

Thursday 10am-11am

All Welcome

For info call MOSHCC 8537 0687

*We won't let our body succumb to old age.*

*Therefore, we try to prevent that by strength and stretch  
movements (and laughs and giggles)*

*Every Thursday between 10 and 11 o'clock.*

*So do your body a favour and join us.*

### Toe Nail Cutting & Grooming



Are you finding it hard to cut your own toe-nails??

Let us help!!

Our Enrolled Nurse is willing to assist.

All you do is make a booking on 85370687, we will  
have a list of dates and times available.

So just register, the fee will be \$10.00 and you will  
need to bring along a small hand towel.

### Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women  
who share their experience, strength and hope with each  
other that they may solve their common problem and help  
others to recover from alcoholism.

Meetings every Sunday at 5pm  
Reg Sissons Day Care Centre, High St Strathalbyn  
Contact 24 hours (08) 8221 6999





## December ALREADY READ BOOKS

The first open ARRB weekend in December our generous contributors donated \$272.65 to the Butter Factory. The weekend before Christmas was \$177.65 making a grand total of \$450.30 for December. ***Thank you everyone for your support.***

With Christmas on the doorstep, people still had time to visit and donate books. We had a number of people visiting from interstate and a couple visiting from overseas. It was lovely to hear that people had come back specifically to see how the old Butter Factory was progressing and were looking forward to the grand opening.



**Thanks to JB and his crew** who helped bring into ARRB a number of boxes of good quality books donated by Adrian. (pictured with JB) **Adrian from The Book Shed, The Hut Community Centre, Woodside** delivered them all the way from Woodside. The Book Shed is also a project raising funds for the Community. The delivery kept us busy sorting books the whole weekend ***Thank you Adrian.***

ARRB will be open every weekend during January. Make time to pop in on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January to help us celebrate our 1 year of being at the Butter Factory. **We've come a long way with your support. THANK YOU!**



All Ready Read Books, Meals on Wheels and MOSHCC Reception volunteers had our yearly get-together for a lunch at a Finnis location and even managed a couple of Aussie Chrissy songs (*after a couple of wines*). Must admit the only other couple eating had the option to sing or leave before we started. They bid us farewell with a smile!



### ALREADY READ BOOKS

#### Milang Lakeside Butter Factory

#### Open Dates: JANUARY 2024

<b>Saturday 6th</b>	<b>10am—3pm</b>
<b>Sunday 7th</b>	<b>10am—3pm</b>
<b>Saturday 13th</b>	<b>10am—3pm</b>
<b>Sunday 14th (1st Birthday)</b>	<b>10am—3pm</b>
<b>Saturday 20th (Power Rally)</b>	<b>10am—3pm</b>
<b>Sunday 21st (Power Rally)</b>	<b>10am—3pm</b>
<b>Friday 26th (Public Holiday)</b>	<b>10am—3pm</b>
<b>Saturday 27th</b>	<b>10am—3pm</b>
<b>Sunday 28th</b>	<b>10am—3pm</b>



## An Abundance of Local Talent

It is said that the Fleurieu Region has more artists per head than any other region in Australia. I don't know how true this claim is but I would not be surprised of its validity. Make a concerted effort next time you are out and about to look around every time you enter a building and you will notice how many wineries, cafes, hotels and even local businesses display the work of local artists. The talent and styles are vast and varied with something for everyone's tastes.

Even here in tiny Clayton Bay, is the home to a numerous array of artisans - painters, mosaicists, metal work sculptors, concert pianist, weavers and various makers of jewellery, glass, ceramic and wood creations. Our yearly community SALA event, held in the community hall attracted 22 local artisans and their wares in 2023, and gets larger every year.

Strathalbyn have their very own Art Gallery and art trail for you to follow. You can pick up a pamphlet guide from the Stationmaster's Art Gallery (next door to the Strath Info Centre). The Stationmaster's prides itself in supporting local artists and the community as a whole. It hosts around 40 exhibiting members and new exhibition displays are changed over every 2 months, so there is always something new to view.

Next year, Clayton Bay artist, Madeleine Elkin will be running a weekly Thursday Adult Art Class in the Stationmaster's Redhen. Her background experience consists of 6 years general painting classes at a private art school and completion of over 40 workshops to date with local and interstate renowned artists.

Madeleine considers herself to be an impressionistic colourist painter of Australiana and works in both acrylic and oils. Her current work of landscapes and nature is inspired by her environment around the Alexandrina Lake.

Capturing the ever changing light with splashes of colour and high contrasts to impart a sense of mood and feeling of a place rather than a representational drawing. Working thickly with luscious oils and palette knives she carves into the paint, conveying the ambiguous status of nature - its life and movement and eventual decay. Be sure to visit her website ([maearts.com](http://maearts.com))





## OBITUARY

### Mervyn Aworth Hopgood

05 February 1938 – 24 November 2023

*Written by David and read out by all of the Hopgood boys as his Eulogy during the funeral on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at Milang Church of Christ.*

Mervyn Aworth Hopgood was born 5th February 1938 in Strathalbyn Hospital to Whinham and Jean Hopgood, in the same place where he was to pass away 85 years later. He was married to Joyce for 56 years and had 4 sons - Mark, Andrew David, and Gregory.

His ancestors were pioneers in the Milang district even before the township of Milang was gazetted. Mervyn's paternal and maternal great-grandmothers were foundation members of the Milang Church of Christ in 1858. Mervyn is survived by his two brothers Alvyn and Kevyn and has enjoyed strong relationships with his many nieces and nephews.

Mervyn had an interesting early life, but times were often difficult. He attended Milang Primary School from 1943. There were no buses, everyone walked or rode bikes. Students were drummed into school and their hands were inspected for cleanliness. The cane was often used. He was lefthanded but was told he had to write with his right hand. It was frustrating and he eventually was allowed to revert to being left-handed.

His father was a stone mason, carpenter, and builder but times were tough as there was little work due to the war. Most families had to be self-sufficient to survive. *They lived on the corner opposite the Milang Memorial Park where there are currently abundant Olive trees.* They had a house cow to sell milk to the Milang Cheese Factory, an orchard to preserve enough fruit to last the year and a vegetable garden. Most of the surplus fruits going into homemade tomato sauce and chutneys. Mervyn and his brothers often trapped rabbits for pocket money.

At Strathalbyn High in 1951, he had just turned 13 and continued his long-lasting friendship with Trevor Schmook. They had formed a shared love of football and cricket. The high school days were long, his Joyce made a cut lunch because they left home at 7 and returned at 5. The old bus was a community bus and took at least 2 hours each way between Milang and Strathalbyn.

A major turning point in Mervyn's life was when his mother Jean became unwell. He left high school to care for her. He looked after chores, shopping, animals and loved keeping her company at night. She was very religious, and Mervyn continued on with her faith until his last days.

Mervyn's mother passed at a young age, and it left an incredible void. Sport would fill this void.



Cricket was Mervyn's favourite summer sport. At 13 he was good enough to play local A grade, but he was too young. So, he tried Tennis and he excelled at that too. In winter Mervyn played for the Milang Football Club and was in the Premiership teams in 1962, 64 and 65. He played over 200 games for Milang and was runner up best & fairest. During one game Mervyn injured his leg above the ankle, but continued on playing only to find out that his leg was fractured.

In Summer, his Cricket team Milang A grade was an invincible team. He was a left arm bowler and he had 3 ambitions – to get a century, a premiership and get the best batting average. He did all three and had 3 premierships. Mervyn eventually retired from sport at age 29 and thought himself pretty lucky to only have a ruptured disc in his back and a fractured ankle. He continued to volunteer during the 80's and 90's in the Milang and Langhorne Creek region and was a great role model and coach, producing many great local cricketers.

This love of sport flowed onto all 4 of his sons and grandsons. If we weren't playing sport, we all loved sitting around talking to Mervyn about sport and watching the test matches and AFL games every time we could. Phone calls were generally about the sports scores before anything else. He loved going to the local football and cricket to watch his Grandsons Brayden & Dylan and was proud of Greg when he went on to coach of local cricket and football himself.

After leaving school, Mervyn started working for the biggest winery in the region - Bleasdale Winery and he lived with his cousin Elva. His father and Fred Potts taught him how to prune, which led to his interest in grafting. He became an avid horticulturalist, which is evident in the gardens he developed at our home at 9 Coxe St.

Mervyn's adult and work life was framed by some very memorable characters. Uncle Syd Overall was one of them, he was an eccentric character but an extremely hard-working, community minded man who had a huge impact on Mervyn's life. In 1930 Syd bought 160 acres on the Milang Finnis Road and established a small dairy. This farm would eventually become the Hopgood dairy farm where Joyce and Mervyn raised us 4 boys. Mervyn bought 40 acres from Syd and when building the house, he handmade over 30,000 bricks for the internal walls using the sand from the end of McDonald Street. We still have the brick machine, and this house is currently on the corner of Waroona Drive and Watson Street.

In 1967, Joyce and Mervyn were married in this church, after a game of footy of course.... They had known each other all their lives. Joyce's grandfather was the caretaker of the Soldiers' Memorial Park here in Milang and Mervyn often said he sneaked through her grandfather's back yard on his way to school never to know he would end up marrying his granddaughter. They had a short honeymoon in Brownhill Creek and the Yorke Peninsula which they revisited last year to celebrate their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

Twins Andrew and Mark born in 1968, were followed by David and Greg. Can you imagine 4 boys within 3 years? Mervyn said their patience and endurance was tested. As us boys got older, we started to be more involved with helping Mervyn with the farm work. As you can imagine though, there were many mishaps. There were broken bones, numerous stitches, reconstructed joints and even a fishhook in the mouth. I think in Mervyn's book, he refers to our growing up as 'living dangerously' and that we must have had a guardian angel, so those weekends in Sunday school really paid off....



We moved from Milang in the early 80's and bought the farm at Langhorne Creek just up from Bleasdale. During this time Mervyn had recurring back problems, so Mark had to leave school to help on the dairy farm. Mark followed in Mervyn's footsteps in Dairy Farming and eventually continued this calling in NZ. This gave Mervyn and Mark a strong bond and a shared passion for animals and dairy farming. They could talk for hours every week about farming and the cricket and footy scores.

All of us boys worked around the district in different jobs and had the opportunity to work for retired Lt Col Bruce Rogers, father to Jeremy here today. He was a massive influence on us all. In the late 80's, 3 of us boys joined the Army. Joyce & Mervyn came to all 3 passing out parades in Wagga Wagga. It was their first trip out of the state. In recent years, Joyce & Mervyn enjoyed travel to Kangaroo Island, Queensland, the snowfields in Victoria with the grandkids, to New Zealand to visit Mark, The Indian Pacific from Sydney and with David and grandchildren to the Battlefields France, UK, and Europe.

In the late 90's, Joyce & Mervyn moved back to Milang and built their current house. They worked together in the local vineyards pruning for over a decade. The home at Coxe Street has been a home where they have enjoyed their grandchildren and more recently great grandchildren. Mervyn was dearly loved by his three daughters in law – Deb, Cath & Keikey. Mervyn was also “POP” to 2 grandchildren here in Adelaide Hills (Brayden & Dylan) who have inherited their Pop's sporting skills and 2 Grandchildren (Benjamin & Tameeka) in Townsville who have given the joy of 3 great grandchildren (Blake, Noah and Ally).

Mervyn had many interests and was a respected community member, always giving his time volunteering and helping others. He was actively involved in the Milang cubs & scouts, school council, Agricultural Bureau, Milang Football oval and community gardens. He played lawn bowls in a team with his sons and was always an active community member. He was still delivering meals to his elderly long-time friend, neighbour, and mother figure “FLO Coppins” until she passed away in her late 90's.

He was actively involved in the Milang Cemetery Restoration Group, and he would often be found on his gopher, leaving Joyce a note on the table – “I'm up the cemetery”! He was often working away researching local history, restoring headstones, and making sure the gardens were cared for. He knew every single grave marked and unmarked. Even in his last days he was telling us which war graves needed a flag and a cross for Remembrance Day. I am certain Mervyn will be proud of his sons who have vowed to continue his legacy in maintaining the local cemetery.

He also had an interest in reading, particularly non-fiction historical books and biographies. He was still reading even the day before he went to hospital. Mervyn was a member of the Milang Writers Group and enjoyed writing about local history and often shared this through the community newsletters. We are proud that Mervyn has self-published a book titled “A friend in need, is a friend indeed”.

His Christian faith guided him during tough times in his life. There was one such difficult time, but he only really opened up and discussed it in his book. This injustice that occurred during his school years and had a huge impact on Mervyn's life. We admire his strength to speak out and seek justice, not only for himself but for other victims of abuse. This time in his life must have been incredibly difficult following the loss of his mother. But Mervyn's faith, passed on from his mother, guided him always. Even in his last weeks, with the support of Church of Christ members, he was still making peace with these difficult times. We thank them for taking the time to support us all.

Mervyn was very organised in planning his own funeral and was very clear in what he wanted and how he wanted to say it. I had the honour of sitting with him going through the memoir that he wrote, as a guide for this eulogy. He wanted his four sons to read a part each and the main thing he wanted people to know was that any highlight in his life story was a group effort and he didn't want it to sound like it was his individual effort. I think that just goes to show the selfless man that he was.

Over the last 10 years Mervyn had health issues stemming from a poor heart, followed by a stroke. Joyce was instrumental in ensuring Mervyn's life was one of shared moments and making the best of every day. They were always together.

A couple of months ago, Mervyn's health deteriorated due to his failing heart. His heart was operating at only 10-20%. My wife Cath & I came home and moved in to help Joyce care for Mervyn as he didn't want to go to hospital. Mervyn slept in his recliner chair every day and night, but he always wanted Joyce with him. She slept in the chair beside him for 6 weeks. Picking him flowers from his garden for him to see and smell and providing every type of food and drink that he suddenly had an urge to try.

These 6 weeks were a team family effort, which showed just how loved Mervyn was. Andrew came from Adelaide every other day. Mervyn would always entrust Greg with tasks to develop welded contraptions to add to his chair - to make it more comfortable. Mark in NZ was on facetime every chance he could, and they were still talking cows and cricket.

We all have some incredibly funny memories with Mervyn during these weeks. He was such a character with a wonderful sense of humour. He had his own language, funny stories and limericks and a way of making up words and sayings that we will all take away with us - as a unique memory of Mervyn.

Grandkids, family, and friends visited frequently. You could see how loved he was by the coming and going of visitors. When he made the decision to go to hospital in his last week, we all had a night with him in hospital. Mark sadly couldn't get back from New Zealand in time, but Mervyn really enjoyed his facetime chats.

But in the end, it was Joyce who he had always asked for. She could be seen sleeping in the chair next to him, gently holding his hand and putting his heart at rest, letting him know that she will be OK. It was inspiring to see the love they had between them.

Mervyn will be missed by so many; he had a profound impact on everyone he came into contact with. His quiet unassuming gentle nature is one that we could all aspire to follow.

***The family would like to thank the staff of the Strathalbyn Health Centre, MOSHCC and Lakes Aged Care and Mount Barker Palliative Care Unit. His care cannot be faulted. In addition, thank you to the Milang community as a whole and the extended family and friends that have always supported Joyce, but especially in the last few months.***



## Milang Campus—Regatta

This year was the fifth annual Milk Bottle Regatta held at Milang Campus with competitors from Ashbourne, Milang, Langhorne Creek, Strathalbyn and Callington vying for the coveted Golden Milk Bottle trophy!

It was a perfect day at Lake Alexandrina and the students were excited to get in the water and try their boats. They were some interesting designs and not all made it to the finish line in one piece, however there was a lot of laughter and huge student support from the shore.

Many thanks to Milang Rescue boat for patrolling the waters, our lifeguards, Clayton Bay Caravan Park for the loan of their oars and life jackets and Fleurieu Milk for donating the flavoured milk prizes.

Also to Betty from the caravan park for letting us use her fridges. Also, huge thanks to all the staff who made the day possible helping to build the boats and supervise on the day.





# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to help out with social, recreation and sports activities for young people in Milang and surrounds

Would you, or someone you know, like to:

- Make a difference to young people in your community
- Volunteer in a fun, friendly and well-supported environment
- Gain skills and experience relevant to sport and recreation, community, or youth services
- Flexible roster.

This is an exciting opportunity to support a local youth program co-funded by Milang and District Community Association, Reclink Australia, Alexandrina Council and the Alcohol and Drug Foundation. Young people encouraged to apply.

For more info or to apply, contact MOSHCC on 8537 0687 or visit [moshcc.com.au/2023/01/10/youth-volunteers](https://moshcc.com.au/2023/01/10/youth-volunteers)



Eastern Fleurieu  
R-12 School

## Milang & Langhorne Creek

### R-6 Campuses

Our Playgroups cater to families with children from birth to 5 years. Attendance is FREE.

Milang Playgroup is run every Tuesday morning during the school term from 9-11am.

Langhorne Creek Playgroup is run every Friday morning during the school term from 9-11am.

#### Milang Campus:

Head of Campus—Susannah Cook  
(08) 8537 0223

#### Langhorne Creek Campus:

Head of Campus—Les Cameron  
(08) 8537 3145



## SUMMER EXHIBITION

GALLERY MEMBERS - INCLUDING TANA LAMPARD

2nd DECEMBER 2023 - 24th JANUARY 2024



## STATIONMASTER'S ART GALLERY

NEXT TO THE INFO CENTRE, STRATHALBYN

OPEN 7 DAYS 10-4



## Volunteer today!

Open a world of fun, friendships, adventure and get the satisfaction of helping develop young people to be the best they can be.



There are much more than leadership roles available, you can help your community in a whole range of ways.

Ask us how you can get connected today!

Strathalbyn Group  
Leader

0409 815 757

Find out more on 1800 SCOUTS  
or [sa.scouts.com.au](https://sa.scouts.com.au)



## Milang Campus—Year 6 Graduation

On the 14<sup>th</sup> December we farewelled Seth, our only Year 6 this year and held a Graduation Assembly for him at the Milang Institute. Mrs Cook presented him with a few gifts and memories from his schooling at Milang. Bonnie our Pastoral care Worker also gave Seth a bag of goodies to help him in his High School journey. Seth gave a lovely speech, thanking all his teachers and his parents for choosing to send him to Milang School. Seth has lots of memories here as he has been with us since Reception.

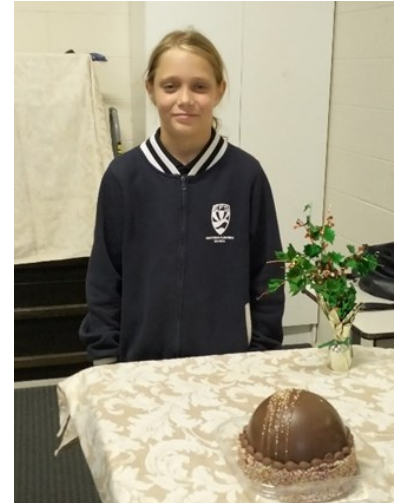


Mr Kent, Principal of Eastern Fleurieu School was also in attendance along with Seth's parents. We also said farewell to our Upper Primary teacher, Mr Nash who has been with us for the last 2 years and thanked him with a farewell gift from the staff and some of his students had done some baking and sold some muffins to raise some money to buy him a present. After the assembly they enjoyed a graduation cake together.



Also, the Premiers Reading Challenge Awards were presented to Latisha, Beau, Cedar, Vanessa and Zander. The VIP Award this term was awarded to Patrick.

While we say farewell to Seth and wish him all the best for his High School journey, we are also welcoming 4 new Receptions to Milang next year, Safi, Connor, Marley and Memphis.



The opening times for The Cheer Up Hut when our Flag is flying: -

**Wednesday and Saturday 9am until Midday**

**These times may change depending on volunteer availability.**

The Trading Hut's last trading day this year will be the 13<sup>th</sup> December, it will then reopen on the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

We have a large array of Men's, Women's and Children's clothes, Bedlinen, Children's Books and Assorted Toys, all are welcome to come and browse.

If anyone in need of clothing at any time, please Contact Bec on 0402244804 or Tracy on 0417299391. Discretion is assured.

The small trading stall by the oval entrance has a selection of Books, DVD's, Plants & Toys etc. A donation Box is available at the stall.

Thanks to everyone for your support for the Red Cross.

We would love to have more volunteers. If interested, please Contact Bec or Tracy on the above No's.

*Doris & Chris Lambert*

*Publicity Officers*



### MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID (MHFA) TRAINING

#### REALLY MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Approximately 20% of Australian adults experience a common mental illness each year. Completing a MHFA Course will help you to develop the skills to support a friend, family member or co-worker.

Having mental health first aid skills means that you can assist someone developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis and make a real difference to your community.

**MHFA courses are based on evidence of what is best practice mental health first aid to support someone who has a mental health problem or is experiencing a mental health crisis.**

#### RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT MHFA TRAINING IS ASSOCIATED WITH:

- ◇ KNOWLEDGE  
Improved knowledge of mental illnesses, their treatments and appropriate first aid strategies.
- ◇ CONFIDENCE  
Confidence in providing first aid to a person experiencing a mental health problem.
- ◇ DE-STIGMATISING  
Decreases in stigmatising attitudes.
- ◇ INCREASED SUPPORT  
Increases in the amount and type of support provided to others.

MOSHCC will be offering MHFA to anyone in the community that would like to do it in the near future. Keep an eye on our newsletter and Facebook pages.

Contact Vivienne at MOSHCC for further details  
PH: (08) 8537 0687  
MOBILE: 0483 897 220  
vivienne@growinglifeconnections.com.au

### Mental Health Support

**Lifeline: 13 11 14**

**Beyondblue: 1300 22 4636**

**Suicide call back: 1300 659 467**

**Living beyond Suicide: 1300 761 193**

**Men's Health Line: 1300 789 978**

**Parent Helpline: 1300 364 100**

**Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800**



# Want to access the library 24/7?

LibrariesSA and Alexandrina Libraries offer thousands of eBook/ eAudiobook items you can access on your phone, tablet or PC by using Libby or BorrowBox.

With popular authors to choose from, lots of Australian content and non-fiction titles. Both apps also include a collection of graphic novels for young readers. Libby also has a large collection of digital magazines, from cooking and cars, to history and travel. All this is available for **FREE** with your library card.

Come in and talk to us at the **Milang library depot**, open **Monday 3-5pm** and **Friday 9:30am-12pm**, or give us a call on **8555 7000**.



**Alexandrina  
Libraries**

**Libraries  
SA**

# LAKEs HOME CARE

Lakes Home Care can help you with your daily activities to make life easier and give you more time for you. Call us today on 85370687

- Gardening
- Housework
- Shopping
- Transport
- Medical Appointments
- Equipment



**LAKEs  
HOME CARE**  
your community  
your choice



# Sundays at Milang Station 12 to 4



Devonshire Teas \$6  
Hamburgers \$8  
Steak Sandwich \$8  
Cappuchino \$4  
Iced Coffee \$5  
Cheese Dog \$4  
And lots more ...



Plus Craft Shop  
& Free Train Rides

Open on Saturdays  
12 - 4 Displays Only



**Volunteers needed for maintenance, train driving, guides, cafeteria staff, etc.**

**[www.milangrailway.org.au](http://www.milangrailway.org.au) or 0414 232 060**



**MILANG**  
OLD SCHOOL HOUSE  
COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Volunteer Cooks and  
Kitchen Hands Needed  
for Friday Feast!**

We're looking for passionate volunteers to help us cook delicious and healthy meals for our community members. Join us every Friday and help us make a difference! Enquiries, call MOSHCC 08 8537 0687



# All Aboard—December 2023

## Extending the railway

Milang residents will have noticed that the Railway Museum is extending its track westwards from the station. The intention is to give our visitors a longer and more interesting trip on the train.



We are aiming to replace the short, out and back route with a much longer loop around the end of the Museum's property and back around into the station. Alexandrina Council have been very helpful in preparing the track bed for us and have donated a quantity of stone ballast on which the track will be laid. The aerial photo below shows the western end of the loop. The volunteers are now busy laying the track, and top dressing with ballast, at the rate of about twelve metres a week.



So where did the track originally come from? Back in 1940, at the start of the Second World War, the government decided to build a munitions depot at Smithfield, north of Elizabeth, to store munitions manufactured at the Salisbury factory. They very quickly laid forty five kilometres of track serving the many munitions store buildings of which two can still be seen off the Northern Expressway. Wagons were manufactured at the Islington railway works and four battery locomotives were purchased from Liverpool in the UK.

These trains then moved the munitions in and out of storage for the next fifty five years.

When the munitions depot closed in 1999, the trains and the track were sold at auction. The Milang Railway Museum purchased four munitions wagons, a battery locomotive, a battery charger, twenty points and operating levers and a kilometre of rail. It is that rail we are now using to extend the museum's railway.



## Milang Environmental Centre

### Serving our community

The Milang Environmental Centre is a community run organisation and an asset to the residents of Milang.

Ph Don 0423 105 261 or Chris 0411 474 529



#### Services:

- Recycling depot for glass, plastics, metal and garden organics.
- Bottles and cans deposit paid.
- Recycled items for sale.
- Electronics, household and garden wastes incur a fee.

Hours: Wednesday and Saturday 10am - 4pm

**\*\* MEC reopens Wednesday Jan 10th 2024\*\***

Corner of Weeroona Drive and Jupiter Street MILANG

## MEC NEWS - JANUARY 2024

### MILANG ENVIRONMENT CENTRE

corner of Weeroona Drive and Jupiter Street Milang.

P O Box 338 Milang SA 5256 Ph:85370201

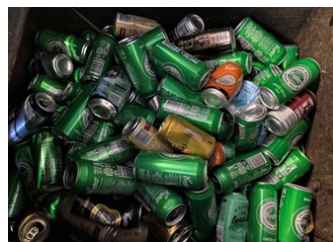
Email: [mecinc@adam.com.au](mailto:mecinc@adam.com.au)

**OPEN: 10 AM – 4 PM WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY**

#### WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR ALUMINUM BEER CANS?

The Milang Environment Centre (MEC) recycles a significant number of aluminium beer cans on behalf of the local community. This entirely volunteer operated service contributes to keeping the regional parks, streets, public areas clean and litter free, as well as reducing the waste going into landfill. MEC accepts empty aluminium beer cans at the Weeroona Street recycling depot from residents who receive cash payment for the approved deposit on each can. The post-Xmas and New Year period is particularly busy for MEC volunteers as residents bring in their empty beer cans and other containers for recycling.

**But have you ever wondered what happens to your empty beer cans after MEC pays you the deposit?**



*Aluminium beer cans in 'The Depressor' crushing machine*

#### BEER CANS CRUSHED IN THE DEPRESSOR

Aluminium beer cans delivered by residents, or collected by MEC from major consumption sites such as the Pier Hotel and Milang Caravan Park are efficiently counted and recorded by volunteers (aka "dinosaurs"). The counted beer cans are placed into the 'The Depressor' which is the affectionate name for the compact MEC hydraulic crushing machine. 'The Depressor' crushes and significantly reduces the volume of the empty beer cans which then drop directly from the machine into a storage bale. The storage bales, each containing 800 crushed aluminium beer cans are stacked inside the MEC operations shed until there are enough bales to fill a truck for delivery to the Marine Stores recycling recovery co-ordinator facility located a long trip north-west of Milang on Port Road in Thebarton.

## Lakeside Men's Shed

### at the oval

**BBQ every Thursday (donation)**

**From 12:00 noon**

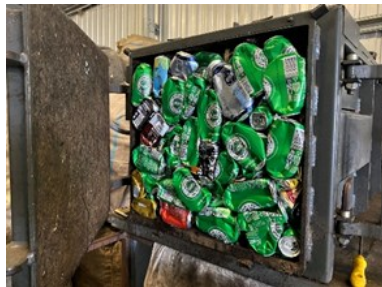
Come and experience our relaxed atmosphere and share yarns with other like-minded people.

Take the opportunity to check out the Men's Shed facilities and current projects.

The Lakeside Men's Shed is working to assist in men's metal health issues and is supported by SA Health and the local community.





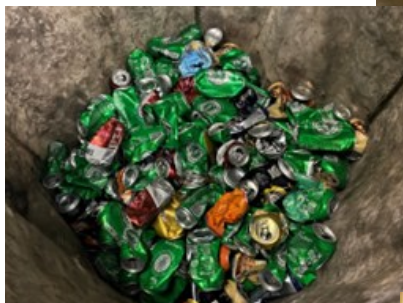


*Aluminium beer cans crushed and ready to be dropped into storage bale*

*Bale for storage of 800 crushed beer cans*



*Crushed beer cans dropped from crusher machine into a storage bale*



*MEC bales for 800 crushed beer cans in storage.*



## **MARINE STORES – ‘SUPER COLLECTOR’**

MEC delivers bales of crushed aluminium beer cans to Marine Stores, a beverage container recovery coordinator, known under the SA Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) as a ‘Super Collector’, an entity that physically receives refundable, approved drink containers from authorised collection depots such as MEC for redistribution, processing, reuse, and recycling.

Marine Stores has for a long time been helping coordinate recycling in South Australia. In 1977 the SA Government introduced the first CDS in Australia guaranteeing consumers a deposit refund on every recyclable drink container sold in SA and approved by the SA Environmental Protection Agency. ‘Super Collectors’ such as Marine Stores work closely with the EPA and importantly, help compile updated statistical records of the amount and type of materials recovered and recycled. Through its 1977 initiative and ongoing CDS, SA has successfully led the way in the systematic collection and recycling of

drink containers, achieving a remarkable recovery rate in 2022-2023 of 76%, and thereby helping reduce litter in this state.

Each year since 2005 the recovery and recycling rate for aluminium cans such as empty beer cans has been over 75%. Annually around 660 million EPA approved drink containers sold in SA are recovered and recycled which means \$66 million has been refunded back to SA consumers.

Now THAT’S RECYCLING! So, this is what happens with your empty aluminium beer cans. Further information may be obtained at: <https://marinestores.net.au>.

## **MEC DONATIONS**

The Milang Environment Centre is a volunteer operated organisation that provides a valuable community service by paying deposit refunds on aluminium, glass, plastic, and cardboard drink containers, accepting green garden waste, and metal waste for modest fees. Funds earned by MEC are used to pay operating expenses, and importantly to sponsor and support local community projects and other service organisations.

Anyone interested in being a MEC volunteer, actively learning about recycling, operating machinery, driving tractors, trucks, or forklifts, enjoying delicious cakes during long tea breaks, meeting residents from across the region, please contact MEC by phone or email or call in personally 10 am – 4 pm Wednesday or Saturday.

*MEC volunteer Dave Barry loading bales of beer cans for delivery to Marine Stores*



*Interesting locally brewed beer can in support of Ukraine*



# MILANG REGATTA CLUB

## Proposed Sailing Program 23/24



Jan - Sun 21st (3rd Sunday)

Feb - Sun 18th (3rd Sunday)

Mar - Goolwa to Milang to Goolwa - 9th & 10th

Mar - Sun 17th (3rd Sunday)

Apr - Sun 21st (3rd Sunday) - could do 28th after Anzac day?

### Church Services—Milang and surrounding areas

**Church Of Christ**, corner of Watson & Coxe Streets , Milang

Enquiries—Peter Wilson 0407 607 638

Sunday Service 9:30am

Friendship & Craft at the Church Hall—Wednesday 10:00am—12:00 Noon

**Uniting Church**, corner McDonald & Orana Streets, Milang

Enquiries—Nola Deer 8536 4429

Sunday Service 10.00am

**Anglican Church—St Marys**, corner Luard & Maroo Streets , Milang

Enquiries—Rev. Alex Stone 0405 084 794

Sunday Service—8.15am (1st and 3rd Sundays of the month)

#### Lutheran Church

Cnr Commercial Road & North Parade, Strathalbyn

Pastor Matthew Edgecomb 8536 3322

**Catholic Church—Good Shepherd**, East Terrace, Strathalbyn

Father Richard Morris 8391 1053





# Historic Graves of Milang Cemetery

## No. 1 – Arthur and Ada Stoner

by Alvyn Hopgood

*Vale Mervyn Hopgood*

ARTHUR STONER was born on September 6<sup>th</sup> 1879, and ADA STONER (nee Noles) on February 2<sup>nd</sup> 1884 at Goolwa. At the age of six, Ada moved to Langhorne Creek, then, at 14, she moved to Milang. Arthur Stoner was living and working at Point Sturt when he met Ada Noles. His employer was Jack Pearce of *Kindarua*. Then Arthur went to Dr Formby's farm at Strathalbyn.

Arthur and Ada were married in Milang Church on July 15<sup>th</sup> 1911, and their daughter Gladys was born in 1912. Around 1924, they bought a block of land in Milang and moved into the poultry business, with white leghorn fowls. This poultry farm included four 40 by 20 feet sheds, with a smaller shed for feed and egg packing.

My father, Winham Hopgood, built the sheds for Mr Stoner in the 1940s, but egg production influenced the necessary types of building material. Most of the eggs were sent to Angles & Co by train to Adelaide.

After retiring, Arthur and his friend Fred Stewart put on enormous amount of time into keeping the Milang Memorial Park in good order. I never thought they received their due recognition for this labour of love, with only a few hand-tools and a hostile terrain. A small tank supplied by a windmill was used to provide bore water.

Arthur and Ada's pleasure later in life was playing bowls for the Milang Club. They even had a practice rink on the south side of their home. Ada loved gardening and sewing and making fine jams and preserves.

Both Arthur and Ada were devout Church of Christ followers and worked hard all their lives for the church's cause. Their daughter Gladys also contributed in the church as organist for many years. Gladys's daughter June still lives in Milang. And James's daughter Jodie lives a few miles away and visits Milang often with her family.

Arthur died on May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1963, and Ada died on May 24<sup>th</sup> 1970. Arthur and Ada are both interned in the Milang Cemetery, after years of loyal service to Milang and the district.



## Come Fly With Us!



### Operating from Strathalbyn Airfield

What better way to experience the thrill of flight than to have a Trial Flight with one of our qualified instructors in a Gyroplane?

Experience first hand the freedom of flight as you take the controls under the guidance of your instructor.

### Gift Vouchers Available

For bookings or further information contact Larry:  
0408 815 094



[www.airports.com.au](http://www.airports.com.au)



Welcome to 2024 everyone! Here's hoping everyone had a good Christmas.

The Club had a good year in 2023. Our Division 6 team made it through to the finals and took out the premiership in March. Also, in March The Ladies Pairs, Jane Sorrell and Lee Robinson won their event. Congratulations Ladies. Our Men's Four's just missed out. The 22/23 season finished well.

The winter break saw the Club very active with Friday Dinners and Bingo Nights. Both very popular.

Club player Lee Robinson competed in the Ladies Triples firstly in the Gold Coast then in the finals. Her team was successful in winning the National Championship. A fantastic effort.

Our 23/24 season got underway in September. This year the Club has 2 pennant teams, Divisions 3 and 6 and a Ladies team. Division 3 is currently sitting in first place and Division 6 is playing well with several good wins and the Ladies are having an up and down season.

THERE WILL BE NO FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS IN JANUARY. NEXT FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER is FEBRUARY 2nd, followed by February 16th. Please remember that bookings are necessary. Please contact Pam on 0418 844 775. Notices will be on our Facebook page and Milang Community Pride Page.

Our last Friday Dinner for 2023 was a huge success. Great food, great people. The big Christmas raffle was drawn and won by Kirsten. Congratulations Kirsten.



# HAPPY NEW YEAR



## #UnbeatableAlexandrina

Santos Tour Down Under | Friday 19 January





Social Bowls begins again on January 9th. Open to all, all ages and all abilities. Bowls are available to borrow. Please bring a plate of food to share for dinner following the night. 5.30 pm, \$5. Come give it a go.

Our biggest day of our season is our Aussie Day Open. Teams from clubs all over the state come to Milang to enjoy a great day of bowling. We work very hard to maintain our excellent reputation.

Once again Happy New Year everyone.

Hopefully we will see you on the greens.

Bev Spicer.





# Milang Community Garden

## Newsletter - January 2024

Firstly, **HAPPY NEW YEAR** to you all from the gardeners!

Sadly, December has not brought us warming sunshine to ripen and bless our fruits and veg with sweetness and perfection! I guess every other gardener is saying the same thing! At least we have had a helping hand with watering in the 80+ mm that fell from the sky. (*There's always a silver lining to be found somewhere in a grim situation!*)

Unfortunately, the apricots which were on the cusp of ripening suffered the most. The fruit has split and fallen to the ground rotting very quickly. The other fruit trees with less ripe fruit hopefully will not be too affected so that we can look forward to a good crop of stone fruits and apples. Our lovely berries are so wet that they also are going mouldy quickly on ripening and are not as sweet this year. Still our onions are huge and the tomatoes are coming along nicely. Other vegies like carrots, potatoes, rhubarb, and beans are good. We also have a different kind of round zucchini this year!

The Tuesday after the thunderstorms and rain, it was *all hands on deck* sweeping the water out of the sheds which were inundated with water running off the River St. footpath, and with overflowing gutters at the same time! At least we were all there and able to build up blocks into the trench that was flooding the sheds. Fortunately, nothing was damaged and life in the garden returned to normal reasonably quickly! I guess many Milang residents have similar stories of rain drenched houses and gardens!

### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The members enjoyed a nice Christmas wind up lunch at the Victoria Hotel in Strathalbyn after the clean up at the garden!

### GARDENING GOSS: TIPS N BITS N PIECES

***Aloe Vera*** – that really spiky succulent that grows easily in pots or in the ground. It is a weed really and should be controlled in a pot or in the garden. It can be a convenient and healthy source of relief for bites, stings and skin complaints by your back door! Just cut a leaf open and apply the gel to the skin! (*REF: ABC Organic Gardener Issue 112 2019*)



## TRIVIA ANSWERS

From Page 4

*By Jude Aquilina*



1. Fu Ni and Wang Wang are Adelaide's giant pandas
2. Tom Roberts painted *Shearing the Rams*
3. Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system
4. A quiver of cobras
5. Shantung silk
6. Elvis Presley was born in Mississippi
7. A twitcher is a bird-watcher
8. Grasshoppers have six legs
9. The Opals (Australian women's basketball)
10. 1984 – the dollar coin was introduced

**ARE YOU  
BUSHFIRE  
READY?**



# CREAM AND MILK SUPPLIERS TO MILANG BUTTER FACTORY

*by Alvyn Hopgood*

## PAT AULD

Pat Auld had a small dairy about halfway along the road on the right-hand side between the Point Sturt Road and the Clayton Finnis Road, travelling west. Pat would have supplied the Milang Butter Factory until it closed in 1951.

His land was eventually bought by the Nicolle family and is now owned by the Landseers. He named his property *Malabar*.



*Auld's property: Malabar*

Pat Auld was a tall, well-built man with short curly fair hair – a splendid forward in the Milang Football team.

He teamed with Jack Mickleson in the ruck at times. At cricket, Pat was an outstanding all-rounder, big-hitting batsman and quite a fast opening bowler for the Milang Cricket Club for several years after WWII.

After leaving Milang, Pat Auld became well established in the grape and wine industry.

## CLAUDE MOAR

Claude Moar was born in 1915 to Bert and Ivy Moar who were very early settlers in the Milang/Angus Plains district. Claude had an 80-acre block of land on Leslie Road, Angus Plains, five miles east of Milang. I understand he occupied the original Moar dwelling.

Claude was a tall man, who always seemed to be in a hurry – most likely to get something done between milking times. The River Angus flooded down his way in wet years, and his children had quite a difficult journey to school.

Claude had mainly Jersey cows with a few shorthorns and supplied the Milang Butter Factory with cream and then milk.



*Josie Moar*

Claude's eldest daughter of three, Josie Moar, who is now 79 years old, told me recently that she used to get up at 3:30am most mornings to help her father milk and feed the dairy cows, so he could go and do casual work around the district, then she would go to school at the Milang Primary School. She had a hard time in her early years, continuously helping on the farm and assisting her two younger siblings. Josie married and had three sons and a daughter – two sons now live interstate.

The Moar families were always held in high esteem in the Milang district and helped out at many town affairs.



# Strathalbyn RECYCLING

15 Dry Plains Road, Strathalbyn. Ph 85363999

- **Pays cash for all 10c deposit items**
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The **Finniss Electorate Office** is located at 71 Victoria Street, Victor Harbor & open Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.

P: (08) 8552 2152

E: [finniss@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:finniss@parliament.sa.gov.au)



For updates go to: [www.davidbasham.com.au](http://www.davidbasham.com.au) or    



**Rebekha Sharkie MP**  
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T: 08 8536 2266

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Open Mon-Fri (Exc. Thur) 9am—2pm



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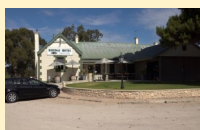


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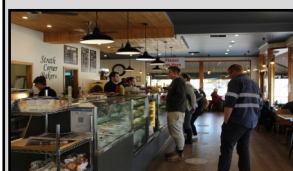
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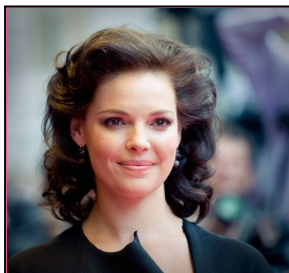
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# What's on in our region for January 2024



<b>All Month</b>		<p>The Stationmasters Gallery's latest "Summer Exhibition" featuring Tania Lampard and gallery members will run until 24 January</p> <p>"Drawing Thoughts 2023-2024" is the theme for the Michael Chorney Art Exhibition at Bremer-ton Wines cellar door throughout January – enjoy Michael's quest to portray birds in an expres-sive form as he endeavours to capture the energy of flight.</p>
Monday	1st	<b>New Years Day</b>
Saturday	6th	Already Read Books will be open at the Milang Butter Factory from 10am to 3pm
Sunday	7th	Already Read Books will be open at the Milang Butter Factory from 10am to 3pm
Tuesday	9th	Social bowls begin for the year at the Milang Bowling Club.
Saturday	13th	<p>Already Read Books will be open at the Milang Butter Factory from 10am to 3pm</p> <p>Kimbolton Wines Cellar Door will celebrate its 5th Birthday from 5-9pm. Get ready for a flavour-packed Fiesta with "Paella Bar" on site for the evening. Scrumptious menu, including vegetarian/vegan options, plus sweet temptations from the Adelaide Hills Icecream Company. Groove the beat of retro DJ Tommy Tequila throughout the night. Tickets \$45 (12 and under \$20) rom <a href="http://www.kimboltonwines.rezdy.com/606328/kimbolton-s-5th-birthday-paella-palooza">www.kimboltonwines.rezdy.com/606328/kimbolton-s-5th-birthday-paella-palooza</a></p>
Sunday	14th	Already Read Books will be open at the Milang Butter Factory from 10am to 3pm
Tuesday	16th	Nathan "Whippy" Griggs is coming to The Riding Patch at 8pm. Nathan is Australia's No. 1 whip cracking entertainer and five times whip-cracking Guinness World Record holder. All welcome, join the fun and check out his tricks, Aussie banter and demonstrations – free event with "pass the hat" so bring some cash. Bar, food and merchandise available.
Friday	19th	Stage 4 of the Tour Down Under will pass through Langhorne Creek, Strathalbyn and Ashbourne on the way from Murray Bridge start to Port Elliott finish.
Saturday	20th	<p>The Milang Vintage Machinery Club are holding their Yesterdays Power Rally 2024 (Saturday &amp; Sunday) - a rare opportunity to see antique machinery up close and learn about their history. As well as a variety of vintage machinery, motorcycles, and car displays, don't miss the exciting Trac-tor Pull – a sight to behold! Enjoy a cruise on Lake Alexandrina aboard the Oscar W paddle steamer. Whether you are an enthusiast or just looking for a day out, this is the perfect event.</p> <p>Already Read Books will be open at the Milang Butter Factory from 10am to 3pm</p>
Sunday	21st	<p>Yesterday's Power Rally at the Milang Oval - see Saturday 20th</p> <p>Already Read Books will be open at the Milang Butter Factory from 10am to 3pm</p> <p>The Strathalbyn High Street Market next to Gilberts Motor Museum. Fabulous stalls, music, and great Sausage Sizzle cooked up by the volunteers next door at Gilberts</p>
Friday	26th	<p>Australia Day</p> <p>Already Read Books will be open at the Milang Butter Factory from 10am to 3pm</p>
Saturday	27th	Already Read Books will be open at the Milang Butter Factory from 10am to 3pm
Sunday	28th	<p>Already Read Books will be open at the Milang Butter Factory from 10am to 3pm</p> <p>Strathalbyn Races are holding the 101st running of the "Strathalbyn Cup" from 11.30am. – a day of fashion, racing, local wines and gins, kids' entertainment, live music and food vans. Visit <a href="https://www.moshtix.com.au/v2/event/north-east-auto-wholesale-strathalbyn-cup/159703">https://www.moshtix.com.au/v2/event/north-east-auto-wholesale-strathalbyn-cup/159703</a> for tickets and details of various packages available from Langhorne Creek wineries.</p>
Monday	29th	The Chamber Philharmonia Cologne Concert comes to Strathalbyn again at 8pm on Monday 29 January at St Andrews Church. Hear Vivaldi, Mozart and Paganini presented by world-class solo-ists Sergey Didorenko (violin) and Dimitrij Gornowskij (cello). Tickets \$45 from <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1153126">https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1153126</a>

*If you have an event that you would like to see listed here, please send the details to [editor@milang.org.au](mailto:editor@milang.org.au)*