

Hill 'n' Ridge Community Newsletter



Email: lionsnewsletter1@gmail.com

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A Community Newsletter published by Red Hill District Lions Club Inc

WHAT'S ON

MEN'S SHED Tues / Wed mornings
Ladies Group Tues afternoon

JANUARY

1 RED HILL MARKET

23 MULTICULTURAL ENCOUNTERS FESTIVAL

FEBRUARY

5 RED HILL MARKET

14 RED HILL LIONS MEETING

20 MAIN RIDGE CRICKET 100 YEARS CELEBRATION

27 COMMUNITY PICNIC

MARCH

5 RED HILL MARKET

5 LIONS AWARENESS DAY

12 RED HILL SHOW

15 RED HILL LIONS MEETING

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Deadline for Issue 79 FEBRUARY 1

Please email articles, dates of events, photos and information to lionsnewsletter1@gmail.com

Include events for March, April, May 2022

RED HILL RAILWAY CENTENARY CELEBRATED



On Thursday, December 2, 2021 about 70 people gathered on the site of the former Red Hill Railway Station to commemorate the centenary of the arrival of the first steam train at Red Hill.

The event was organized by the Dromana & District Historical Society and the gathering was welcomed by its President, Jean Rotherham, who explained the importance of recognizing historical events that impacted the development of the district and outlined details of the opening day of the Bittern-Red Hill Railway 100 years ago to the day.

John Holmes, a sixth generation local Red Hill resident and son of avid steam train enthusiast, the late Keith Holmes, then read notes prepared by former Red Hill orchardist, Ken Edwards, now in his late 80's, in which he outlined his recollections of the days when the train played a vital role in transporting fruit and vegetables from Red Hill to market.

Shirley Holmes, now 95, widow of the late Keith Holmes, was then invited to unveil a series of podcasts containing snippets of the history of the Bittern-Red Hill Railway. Information on these podcasts, created by the Dromana & District Historical Society with assistance from Keith White, is introduced by Richard Baker with excerpts from talks by the late Keith Holmes supplying more detail. The podcasts can be accessed at the site with a mobile phone and scanning the QR codes.

"We are planning to produce a few more podcasts to round out the series and are looking to home the podcasts in the station goods shed that is planned to be built here on the station site," Jean said.

At the conclusion of formalities the crowd adjourned to Food on the Hill to enjoy morning tea.



Dromana & District Historical Society President, Jean Rotherham, pictured with train buff Roger Cleverdon, who came suitably attired as a Stationmaster for the centenary celebration.



Podcasts featuring her late husband's commentary on the Red Hill railway were unveiled by 95 year old Shirley Holmes at the centenary celebration.

Bendigo Bank

Community Bank
Rye, Rosebud and Dromana

Happy New
Year to All



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CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

The Red Hill Lions Club and the Red Hill Garden Society along with St Georges, worked together in the latter months of 2021 to organise a Christmas tree festival, thought to be a first for the Red Hill community. A good response from local community organisations and individuals brought 30 creative entries into the Pioneer Pavilion at the Recreation Reserve on Saturday, December 11. It attracted a steady flow of visitors throughout the day with a sausage sizzle and extra fun activities on offer.

Lyn Connor, Lions Service Chairperson, said the aim of the festival, and also the Community Christmas Tree project, see page 11, was to brighten things up in the lead up to Christmas.

"It would have been good to have a few more visitors on the day but the enthusiastic and inventive participation by those who entered trees was very encouraging and enough to make us keen to do it again for Christmas in 2022," Lyn said.

Photography by PATRICK RYCHNER click@mirro.com.au



Tennis Club exhibit was voted the most popular



Craft table was well patronised - thanks to Rose



Sprucing up Leo for his appearance as the Christmas Lion



Hand made soft toys



Elsie meeting the Christmas Lion



Cork wreath



Recycled Coffee Pods



Red Hill Theme -



Santa on the BBQ with helpers



Nicolette and Ian - extraordinary effort



Cakes and Cookies for Sale



Some of the team. . . Lions and volunteers an enthusiastic group.



News from your elected advocate for Red Hill Ward - Cr. David Gill.

It will take some time to clear up all the damage from the last **big storm**. If you still see any precariously hanging branches or other hazards please report them to Council. A huge thank you to all of the volunteers including the CFA and SES involved in helping in very dangerous circumstances. Of great concern was the lack of communication when power and mobile towers went out. This must be addressed before we have another major weather event.

Council is going to clear the **Bourke Road extension track** to allow Red Hill Consolidated School pupils safe passage without the need to walk around the block using busy roads. Hopefully, the wet areas will be improved also The School Council and Principal Gus Wettenhall are working with the Shire to try to fix complex **School traffic concerns**. Resolving issues of bus management and general traffic flow will hopefully bring some improvements. One proposal is for a roundabout at the main intersection. This long-term problem must be dealt with and not remain in the too hard basket by Council and the State Government. **Shire Covid hardship relief** has been extended until at least 28th February 2022. Also there will be no interest charged on Rates on any outstanding balances at least until the end of February.

On 2nd December seventy people attended the **Bittern to Red Hill railway line centennial ceremony** at the original station site. Looking over to the nearby BMX track, one older resident told me how naughty they had been in disengaging the turntable and using it as a playground roundabout in the day! The intention was to further extend the track to Dromana Pier, but apparently the bottom dropped out of the apple market in what was once a major orchard region. QR codes are now in place to explain the origins courtesy of the Dromana and District Historical Society.

I am trying to address Red Hill footy club concerns about the ability to train on the **Red Hill Reserve bottom oval**. The ground is looking good enough, but Council officers still have reservations about the ongoing condition without sufficient water likely later in summer. Training would still be limited because of cricket requirements under the ground share agreement. Efforts are continuing to extend the 60km speed limit further down **Purves Road** to include the hospitality venues experiencing traffic concerns.

Had an enjoyable visit to the **Main Ridge Pony Club** meet on Saturday 4th December while out and about looking at drainage and road condition problems in the Barkers, Main Creek and Shands Roads area, also some issues at Arthurs

Seat and a couple of Planning Permit applications. The new ménage is a great asset, the competent young riders were having a ball.

Anyone who hasn't driven down **Musk Creek Road** (where speed is an issue) home of the famous Musk Creek Rag newsletter are missing some magnificent country view lines. There are many others but we shouldn't become blasé about our rural hinterland. It would be great to link our bike and walking trails in these areas.

Council is in discussion with Government Departments to consider a **wildlife management plan** for the Peninsula. Imagine a way for us to live with and care for our wildlife despite the pressures of development. I wish we had a lot more forward planning like that – would love to hear your views.

I have had feedback on the new **bitumen path** near the Red Hill South War Memorial that was laid following a work order mistake. It seems that keeping it with some aesthetic moderation is now the consensus. Some have asked for bitumen to solve the path condition problem leading up to the public toilet.



Preassembled and movable bike jumps on suitable sites may be the short-term answer to help provide informal activities for young bike enthusiasts. I had a chat to a raspberry/strawberry grower the other day. There are concerns about the **farm gate** shop model threatening the viability of these small businesses that rely on farm gate sales from products actually grown on site.

As summer warms up, our native birds, mammals and lizards appreciate **water in our gardens**. Please keep containers safely away from any cats and enjoy watching our wildlife.

Council is currently reviewing:

- Dog laws.
- The Strategic Land program including land acquisitions and the 10-year Asset Plan.

- Mountain bike/BMX tracks/Dirt jump sites.
 - The Music Plan.
 - Councillor Expense accounts.
 - The Communications Strategy.
 - Urban Greening.
 - The Community and Roadside Gardens Policy.
- Federal and State Election advocacy.

Happy New Year to you all.

Regards,
DAVID GILL Councillor – Red Hill Ward
Email: david.gill@mornpen.vic.gov.au

LIONS BUSY WITH PARKING COMMITMENTS

With the resumption of markets and other events, Red Hill Lions Club has been busy with parking commitments.

The Red Hill market has been very busy as patrons have been unable to attend due to Covid. The November market was cancelled due to damage from the severe storm in late October.

Several other commitments over the next few months are stretching our resources.

We are in need of some volunteers to assist at the busy events. If you have any time to assist, or want to know more about what is involved, please contact redhillviclions@gmail.com or call Rob 0418545125 to discuss what is involved.

Red Hill Lions have supported the community for over 30 years, and now seek your support to be able to continue this work.

Contact Rob Connor 0418 545 125

**MULTICULTURAL
ENCOUNTERS FESTIVAL**
January 23rd 2022
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Red Hill Show 2022 is Back On - Bigger and Better Than Before!

Now is a terrific time to think about planning and coming along to the Show March 12th 2022. After a pavilion only event last year, we are thrilled to be able to run our iconic event once again. Some new changes are in store this March including pre-ticketing (to be released mid-January). A new Horticultural Zone, thanks to sponsorship from 3MP, will be a feature of this year's event with a stage full of presenters, workshops and more. Men, start growing your beards for the inaugural Flower Beard competition sponsored by the Red Hill Gardening Society.

And by the way, there is nothing like taking home a ribbon for something that you have baked or grown or handcrafted. Bragging rights for the coming year! Priceless....

The competitions are wide ranging from the now famous Apple Pie category – (people are still talking about soggy bottoms) – fruit cakes, preserves, cider &

mead producers to honey, handcrafts, photography, growing beautiful vegetables and designing and presenting imaginative floral arrangements. Children's categories apply in some of competitions and there is nothing like a bit of healthy rivalry.

On the MP Paddock Stage, the GOLDEN SAUSAGE AWARD will be judged by renowned foodie Paul Mercurio and sponsored by the butchering guru Peter Bouchier with a \$500 cash prize for the Golden Sausage.

Local support and entries are very welcome to make this Show Day the best ever.

All of our volunteer stewards will be happy to receive your entries as per the specified dates. If you would like to volunteer at the show please send us an email info@redhillshow.com.au

Entries details and dates are now available at redhillshow.com.au.



Chris Haller who took out Best Apple Pie 2020



PROTECT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY FROM FIRE THIS SUMMER

Most importantly, have a fire plan

Do not leave it until a fire threatens to decide what you intend doing.

Two major considerations:

Are you going to stay to try to protect your home and animals?

- On what basis did you come to this conclusion?
- Are you really physically and mentally equipped to deal with a wild fire?
- The noise of a forest fire is terrifying.
- The heat generated as the fire front passes over will cause you to wonder if you have made the wrong decision.

Are you going to leave and go to a safer location?

- Go early while road access and visibility are still good.
- Where are you going, and what is Plan B if you cannot get through?
- What are you going to take with you? When you eventually return, there may be nothing left.
- What are you going to do about the family pets and any livestock?
- Help with these considerations/plans can be obtained by ringing the Main Ridge Community Safety Officer, Jonathan O'Sullivan on 0423 704 185 (for the Main Ridge area only), or by calling into your local Fire Station any Sunday between 9.30 – 11.30 am.
- Ensure everybody in your family is fully aware of your plan and have at least one practice before hand.
- Know what your neighbours are doing, in case you need to assist them, or in

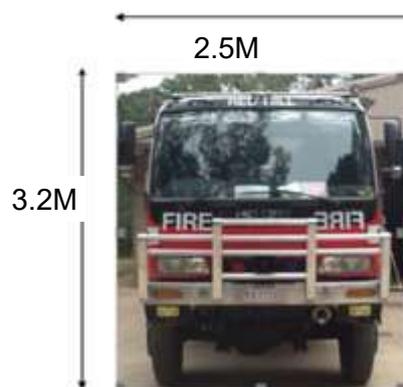
case you need their assistance.

General considerations:

- Know when you are legally allowed to undertake any burn-offs. You will need to check with the Shire and notify CFA on the Burn-off notification number 1800 668 511.
- Contact the local brigade if you would like to have a tanker present for the initial flare up period of a burn-off.
- All the usual things like cleaning out the gutters, removing inflammable material from near the house, keep the grass around the house well manicured, try to ensure that fire cannot get under your house or enter the roof space.

Be prepared and stay safe!

WILL THIS TRUCK GAIN ENTRY TO YOUR PROPERTY?



- Is your property clearly numbered?
- Do you have automatic gates?
- Do you have a current Fire Plan?

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VicEmergency Hotline	1800 226 226
Burn-off notification	1800 668 511
CFA Headquarters	(03) 9262 8444

CFA District 8 Headquarters
Address: Building G Level 2 45
Assembly Drive **Dandenong South**,
VIC 3175Postal: Same as above
addressPhone: (03) 9767 1800Fax:
(03) 9767 1880



Principal Gus Wattenhall was host for Carols on the Couch

Christmas Carols at Red Hill Consolidated School

To celebrate the end of the year, Red Hill Consolidated School historically have a celebratory concert on the school oval. With COVID restrictions and ensuring everyone's safety it was mixed up a little this year, with Christmas on the Couch.

It was a lovely night with many families dressing up and joining in to celebrate virtually. Red Hill Consolidated School would like to thank the school community for their effort and participation.



The construction of new classrooms at Red Hill Consolidated school is back on track after covid restrictions for onsite workers were removed. The new building will provide new classrooms with flexible learning spaces and outdoor areas..

The architects and builders were able to preserve a large oak tree, planted when the original school was built. It provides a calming outlook for students and staff alike.



The old oak tree can be seen through the strategically placed windows



An external view of the new buildings

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POFFS RE-PURPOSED TO LUXURY VILLAS

Former Poffs Restaurant and more recently Artisan Gallery, in Arthurs Seat Road almost next to the Showgrounds, has been converted into five luxury accommodation villas. Named 'Cassis' after a French fishing village, where owners Gina and Simon McNamara lived for six months in 2015, the modern rustic villas are now ready to indulge guests for their coastal wine country escape.

Gina and Simon are locals. For 10 years they have lived on their vineyard, also named Cassis, on the corner of White Hill Road and Harrison's Road. They bought the Poffs property in 2020 and embarked on converting the buildings into luxury accommodation that overlooks Lindenderry Estate vineyard and the hills beyond.

"While living in France we stayed in a 17th century farmhouse where rustic imperfections made the house authentic. So, as far as possible we tried to preserve the original bones of the Red Hill building. The roofline has stayed the same and the

slate floors and raked ceilings remain, but bathrooms, kitchenettes and lounges are beautifully modern with top quality fittings," Gina explained.

Local trades and designers were engaged and worked on the project during the Covid lockdown. Matt Ryan of Coastal Build was the builder, interior design was by Daniella Farrell, landscaping of low maintenance native gardens was by Emma Ferguson Garden Design, photography by Emma McEvoy and specially designed curtains and leather craft by Penny Cooke Design.

"In all our endeavours we tried to be environmentally sensitive and the locally based talent worked together wonderfully as a team," Gina said.

Two stain glass doors from Poffs restaurant and the residence, designed by Lorraine Essipoff were surplus to requirements and Lorraine gladly accepted their return to her. Both Sasha and Lorraine Essipoff have graciously given their approval to the creative re-development of what was once their home and popular multi-award winning restaurant for 15 years.



Relaxing view over the vineyards from Cassis luxury villas.

LEADERSHIP CHANGE AT MEN'S SHED

Richard Thwaites, a resident of Flinders, was elected President of the Main Ridge Men's Shed at its AGM on Tuesday, November 30.

He takes over from Rob Connor who has been President since the Shed first opened in July 2015. In his final annual report Rob Connor referred to some of the Shed's achievements over his six year term. With the support of the CFA and the Red Hill Lions Club the old Main Ridge Fire Station, left as a shell after the new fire station was opened in 2014, has been developed into a place where men, and more recently women, have been able to gather on a weekly basis to enjoy fellowship and undertake projects using the modern workshop equipment that has been acquired, mostly through funding grants from the Council and local organisations like the Bendigo Bank, Hillview Quarries, the Lions Clubs, the Op Shop and others.

He said that progress and participation had slowed down due to Covid restrictions over the last two years but arrangements are now well in hand to move quickly to install a dust extraction system and to upgrade to LED lighting in the workshop area – both projects funded by grants, one from the Council and one by the Federal Government.



New president Richard Thwaites with Vice president Rob Barfus.

In a vote of thanks to Rob, inaugural Vice President, Rob Barfus, said that Rob Connor had provided the leadership and put in the time and effort to make the Shed a progressive organisation that provides an informal, friendly and welcoming environment which also operates efficiently

and professionally.

Rob has also encouraged the Shed to reach out and engage with other local organisations by undertaking projects that benefit the community.

Andrew Mackinnon, the Shed's Treasurer since inception, also stood down and handed the books over to John Wright, a resident of Mt Martha. In addition to maintaining a sound financial position for the Shed Andrew has taken an active part in the acquisition of machines and equipment and in securing the required funding.

Peter Quested will continue as Secretary and Rob Barfus as Vice President for the coming year. Committee members are Bruce Powell, Paddy Byrne, Max Thexton, Tommy Doughton, Andrew Mackinnon and Laurie French who has served as the very capable and popular Shed Manager since the beginning.

Annual subscription for membership of the Shed was set at \$36 with a joining fee of \$12 to cover the cost of a name badge. The Shed is open for men on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and for women on Tuesday afternoon.

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INTERESTING PROGRAMS AT RED HILL PRE SCHOOL

Learning about our endangered hooded plovers



The children at Red Hill Memorial Preschool recently learnt about the endangered Hooded Plovers.

Parks Victoria ranger and mum Sue, shared two books she has created that help preschool children learn about this beautiful bird.

In book one, the children learn about the bird. What it looks like and where it likes to make its nest and lay its eggs.

In book two, the children learn about how they can help the hooded plover.

Sue created a wonderful activity where we lay eggs (pretend) in a place in the preschool and we see how many times they get knocked over.



We then used a rope and a sign to place around the eggs and the children saw how much less they get disturbed.

It was such a great activity to raise the children's awareness of the Hooded Plover and what some of the ropes and signs that are on local beaches mean.

We hope the children will become great Hooded Plover ambassadors by sharing their knowledge with their own, and other families on the beach this summer and for years to come.

We thank Sue for this amazing learning experience. It was a fantastic contribution to our nature program.

Learning with Taungurong women

Students recently participated in learning with Taungurong women, Sammi Trist. Sammi is an educational worker from Baluk Arts.

Sammi provided several workshops with the children that included learning around 'caring for country'.

The children acted out the story of "Tiddalick the Frog" which has a strong message about following Bunjil's law of only taking what you need.

Sammi also taught the children Aboriginal names for the local animals and how to draw some Boonwurrung symbols (with permission from Boonwurrung elder Aunty Faye.)

Sammi shared the Bunurong/Boonwurrung custom of accepting a leaf in promise of abiding by local laws and respecting country.

Baluk Arts provided some beautiful timber carved leaves by Taungurong artist Mick Harding.

The children decorated them with some of the symbols they have learnt. Baluk Arts also provided calico bags that the children could use whilst walking on, and caring for, country. The children decorated the bags with images of their favourite local places. The children's drawings included gum trees, Koalas, kangaroos and the beach. (Just to name a few).

The workshops were part of the Pre Schools philosophy of including learning about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of doing and being within the program.



The timber leaves will be displayed in the kinder foyer as a lasting memory of this wonderful experience. They will help contribute to the preschool as being a 'culturally safe place' for Aboriginal and Torres strait islander families.

They will also promote learning around first nations peoples to all our families.

Sharing the custom of accepting the leaves will be incorporated into the kinder program each year

Next year, an Aboriginal artist will be engaged to provide a hand-woven basket to display our leaves.

We hope to also provide a basket workshop with the children.



Hill 'n' Ridge Contact

LANDCARE	
Main Creek	adriennemjs@bigpond.com
Adie Smith	0438877780
Mantons Creek	david_maddocks@bigpond.com
David Maddocks	5989 6212
Red Hill South	gr.white@bigpond.net.au
Geoff White	0400 989 150
Dunn's Creek	info@dunscreek.com.au
Roger Stuart-Andrews	5989 2011
Sheepwash Creek	mdelacoeur@gmail.com
Michelle de la Coeur	0419 579 277
PROBUS	
Arthurs Seat	0408 360 944 Meets 10am
Kerri Flockart	2nd Friday Main Ridge
Main Ridge	Meets 9am
Mervyll Reid	1 st Friday Main Ridge
Red Hill	val.lardy@gmail.com
Val Lardy	Meets Main Ridge 4th Tues 0418 143 856
SPORTING CLUBS	
Bowls & Petanque Main Ridge	robert.hudson45@gmail.com
Robert Hudson	0423 704 185
Cricket Main Ridge	ohn.mcencroe@bigpond.com
John McEncroe	0418335761
Cricket Red Hill	ken@excelpacific.com.au
Club Room	5989 2500
Football Red Hill	redhillfc.vcfl.com.au
Club Rooms Kim Sherry	5989 2500 0417 125 143
Junior Football Red Hill	www.redhilljfc.net
Darren Morgan	0425 791 870
Tennis Main Ridge	
Marie Louise Hekel	tennismainridge@gmail.com
Night Tennis:	
Anne Thomas	5989 6128 / 0408 382 453
Tennis Red Hill	redhilltennisclub@gmail.com
Adrian Clarkson	Club House 5989 2642 / 0414598923
RECREATIONAL / LIFESTYLE CLUBS	
Gardening Society Red Hill	rhgs@rhgs.com.au www.rhgs.com.au
Ann Hull	
MP Alpaca Breeders	5989 2866
David Daddo	
Peninsula Music Society	pmsmusic.asn.au
David Fickling	9789 8392
Seawinds Nursery Volunteers	5987 3093 (Mon am) Meets Mondays 9:00am
Kathy Wyatt	
COMMUNITY / SERVICE CLUBS	
Red Hill Community Assoc.	redhillcommunityassociation@gmail.com 0415 514 440
Kerry Watson	
Dromana & District Historical Society	dromanahs@gmail.com
Jean Rotherham	5981 9119
Lions Club Red Hill	Meets 2nd Monday Scott House 0408314800
Bambi Blizzard	
Opportunity Shop Red Hill	redhillopshop@gmail.com
Robyn Allan	5988 0486.
Red Hill Show	info@redhillshow.com.au 5989 2357
St Georges Anglican Church	stgeorgesredhill@gmail.com 5981 2580 9.30 am Sunday 9am EveryWednesday
Rev'd Fiona Goy	
Scouts Red Hill	1stredhillscouts@gmail.com
Yvette Richardson	



100 YEARS AGO THE TRAIN ARRIVAL AT RED HILL WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY WELCOMED

“This ribbon is all that separates the local fruit growers from the markets of the world”.

This statement by Richard Mcllroy, President of the Fruit Growers Association, captured the prevailing sentiment of the day on December 2, 1921, when the first steam train arrived in Red Hill travelling on the railway line extension from Bittern via Merricks to Red Hill.

The ribbon, held at one end by the oldest lady in the district, 92 year old Mrs Haig, and at the other end by five year old Mary Forrest, the youngest student at the school, was cut by the Minister of Railways, Mr. Barnes. The ceremony included 25 speeches followed by a sumptuous banquet and ball in the grading room of the Cool Store.

The joy of having a railway was greeted by loud applause by 700 people gathered to welcome the first train as it puffed into the Red Hill station with a Station Road complex that included a turntable, the Station Master's residence, a Goods Shed, sheep loading pens and ramps. The Red Hill Cool Store, which began operating from the 1920 apple season, was also there to greet the first train.

The need for a railway extension to Red Hill was recognized as early as 1873. From 1862 thousands of apple trees had been provided by the Government resulting in about 200 orchards being developed between Red Hill and Frankston over the years. Red Hill had become a major fruit growing area. In the spring season the area was described as 'a carpet of pale, pink blossom on the red earth'

Before the train came all produce had to be carted by roads that were often impassable. Four horses were needed for the lorry to transport produce. It involved high labour costs and often damage to fruit quality in the day long trip to market.

Construction of a railway had been a long time coming. On June 14, 1899, a well-attended meeting in the Red Hill schoolhouse resolved to send a deputation of five to the Minister for Railways including W. Mcllroy, W. H. Blakeley and T. Cleine. There were plans, reviewed plans and finally approved plans. Although a Bill to construct the extension was passed in Parliament in 1915 the first sod was not turned until July 1920,

First the Boer War and then World War 1 had caused long delays in the building of the 9 ¾ mile, 5 foot 3 inch gauge line with four bridges and 22,359 sleepers.

In its heyday the train carried outward goods including fruit - thousands of cases of apples and pears were exported - potatoes, strawberries, timber and livestock. Incoming goods included fertilizers, pipes, bran, pollard and cement. Books for the Mechanics Institute on loan from the State Library were greeted with enthusiasm by locals. The demographic centre moved toward Red Hill South and a subdivision of 75 blocks was offered for sale. The town of Red Hill South was Gazetted in 1924.

By 1947 Peninsula passengers were experiencing a painfully slow train timetable - the 51 miles from Melbourne taking from 8.10am to 12 noon - and it was usually an hour late! Don Edwards remembers the sound of the train struggling up the Merricks hill.

Multiple problems arose with loading the fruit, shortage of trucks and time delays. Fruit rotted in transit and the Peninsula became more motor vehicle minded. The Country Roads Board was improving roads and Mr. Blomfield's local truck fleet was growing.

After 32 years the railway was closed on July 1, 1953, the end of a rather short era.

Local identity, historian and member of the Mornington Railway Preservation Society, the late Keith Holmes, put it rather succinctly. **“The need for rail transport to Red Hill had almost been superseded by the time the authorities got round to the construction,”** he said.



SITE OF RED HILL RAILWAY STATION
BITTERN-REDHILL RAILWAY 9.91 MILES
Plaque was erected by the
Dromana & District Historical Society Inc
in 1996

Few locals know the location of the plaque honoring the Station and era of the steam train. It can be found in the vicinity of the Epicurean and Blue Moon. More people know the legacy of the railway through the walking and riding trail from Red Hill to Merricks which has become a very popular.



From the Lions' Den . . .

Lions Ride for Sight will offer Two Formats in 2022

Ride for Sight is a Lions fundraising event in support of the Centre for Eye Research. It is usually held annually, however The last time the ride was conducted in its usual format was in 2019

THE 2019 ride included three cyclists aged in their 80s, a rider from Singapore, CERA Senior Research Fellow/ophthalmologist Dr Elaine Chong, CERA HR Advisor Tanya Pejnovic and her husband Sini.

In 2020 the ride was cancelled due to covid pandemic.

In 2022 Committee will offer two options for lunch in Warragul.
the Ride

- ◆ Our **four day ride** is back -
Wednesday 6 April - Sunday 10 April

Starting at **Loch Sport**, overnight stops at **Yarram, Yinnar and Trafalgar** and concluding at **Warragul**.

- ◆ A four week **"Ride with a Distance"**
Riders choosing this option can ride as it suits, recording their rides & kilometres from 13th March to Sunday 10th April when they have the option to join fellow riders for

Planning will be modified and updated to ensure this will be a COVID safe event, conducted in line with the restrictions and best practices existing at the time.

A Keen rider? Why not raise funds doing what you enjoy.

For information email
lionsrideforsight@gmail.com

Or contact Ian DeBruyne 0428 637 766

Want to know more about it ?



Music on the Hill Live Shows are Back!

Live music returned to Red Hill on Friday Dec 3. Due to pandemic capacity restrictions, the music industry has been one of the hardest hit professions and musicians were first to stop and last to resume working.

"It was great to be back to experience the Rich Davies trio playing to an almost-full Red Hill Pavilion of double vaxxed music lovers. And there was lots of love in the room – it felt like a reunion of old friends and family after so long away," said founder and curator Robin Griffiths.

Fingers are crossed so that MOTH can continue to host shows into 2022 as artists are already booked to play as far ahead as June.

The son of legendary blues artist Chris Wilson returns to MOTH in January. Fenn played drums with Chris for their memorable Red Hill gig in April 2017 and they sang a remarkable duet of the blues standard 'You Gotta Move' which is available to view on the Music on the Hill (MOTH) YouTube channel. "And what a voice! He has certainly inherited his father's pipes" said Robin.

Fenn Wilson and Band will be ably supported by local troubadour Tim Stout who kept us all entertained throughout lockdown by playing 6 songs at 6 o'clock on every lockdown evening. That's over 300 live-streamed performances, so come along and see Tim live at MOTH on January 7.

K based and internationally renowned singer-songwriter Emily Barker will perform at MOTH on Friday 4 February as part of a national Australian tour before

World-class singer songwriter Shane Nicholson returns to MOTH on Friday 18 February supported by emerging alt. country artists Katie Bates and award-winning singer songwriter Michael Waugh plays MOTH for the first time on Friday 18 March.

Triple JJJ favourite and newbie Peninsula resident Ali Barter will be joined by a host of female artists at the MOTH International Women's Day Show on in early March. Recent Music Victoria award winner Maple Glider will also take the stage along with Melbourne's Folk Bitch Trio, local outfit Jalgany and MOTH's fave a cappella group Ling Marra. It all takes place at The Southern Peninsula Arts Centre (Rosebud Secondary College's wonderful theatre) on Friday 4 march. Doors open at 6.15pm for this 5 outfit extravaganza.

Tickets for all shows are available from musiconthehill.com.au.

MOTH Membership can be also be purchased for \$30 which entitles all members to a \$5 discount on every MOTH ticket per membership. Members also receive exclusive line up announcements, sold-out show waiting list ticket priority – and that warm fuzzy feeling that you are supporting a worthwhile community initiative.

As so many shows were postponed during 2020 and 2021, rearranged shows means there will be two shows per month for several months so membership is great value.

MOTH would like to thank the Red Hill Football Netball Club and Red Hill Cricket Club for their support.



Rich Davies in action.

Fri 7 January. Fenn Wilson & Band, Tim Stout

Fri 4 February. Emily Barker (UK)

Fri 18 February. Shane Nicholson, Katie Bates

Fri 4 March. MOTH International Women's Day Show

Ali Barter (solo), Maple Glider, Folk Bitch Trio, Jalgany, Ling Marra.

Fri 18 March. Michael Waugh

Fri 1 April. The MAEs, Simon Trist

Fri 6 May. Surprise show

Robin Griffiths



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- Follow us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/MainRidgeCC>

Community Christmas Tree Erected in Red Hill South

In December Red Hill Lions installed a community Christmas tree on the old Fire Station slab in Red Hill South. A team of Lions and Community volunteers worked together to construct and decorate the tree and mount it on the base which was made with the assistance of the Main Ridge Men's Shed.

It was a great example of our community working together to complete a project, which started in 2020 but was unable to be completed due to covid restrictions and council requirements.

"We hope it has brought joy to our community and helped them focus positively on the festive season.

A box at the tree and another at Red Hill General Store, for donations for those needing a little help was well patronised," said project coordinator Lion Lyn Connor.

A big thank you to Nicolette Kyberd for promoting this project, and to Charlie Kyberd for making the donation box placed at the tree.

Photography by Peter Wakeman



Loading the box at the Men's Shed - it just fits!



Dave and Terry cleaning the slab



Placing the very heavy box on the slab



Joining the sections together to build the tree.



Attaching guy ropes to secure the tree (especially after recent storms!)



Decorating the tree



A great team of volunteers - A task well done, team - John , Terry, Rob, Ian Ross, Nicolette, Lyn & Jenny. Absent from photo: Dave Mumby, Ian Troutbeck

Please support your local businesses who help make this newsletter possible.

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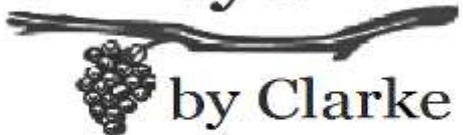
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Sunny Ridge would like to thank you for your continuous support during this difficult time. Please check our website and socials for opening hour and café specials