

BENDIGO

Australia



Y Service Club of Bendigo Inc

"To acknowledge the duty that accompanies every right"

Golden City Bulletin October 2020



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Dinner + Programs:
Thursday 6:30 pm
Strathdale Community
Centre
Crook Street, Bendigo

First meeting of the month
is the business meeting

President: Colin Lambie

Editor: Rob Green

Editor Next Month:

Dennis Dole

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Editorial:

People who care about Others.



Our major donation so far this year (\$10,000) has been to BlazeAid. I'm sure we all know that BlazeAid uses volunteers to build fences that farmers have lost in fires or floods but there is much more to know about this wonderful Australian organization.

Out of the ashes of the Black Saturday Fires 2009 came the need to rebuild burnt fences and restore devastated communities.

Kilmore East farmers, Kevin and Rhonda Butler, were among those whose fences were burnt. Needing to quickly secure their 1,500 sheep, they sought assistance from family, friends and local volunteers to help rebuild their fences.

Within a week, the fences were completed – a task that would have taken them months to do on their own. Grateful for the assistance they received, Rhonda and Kevin decided to try to help a few others with their fencing.

Thus, BlazeAid was born.

BlazeAid uses volunteers between the ages of 12 and 85 and they come from all over Australia as well as many other countries. Retired farmers, young backpackers, and the unemployed; anyone willing to work as part of a team is warmly welcomed. Some spend a few days others get involved for many weeks, months or full time.

Communities affected by natural disasters need to organize locally, contact BlazeAid and if there is sufficient work in the area a local Base

Camp Co-ordinator is appointed. Base Camps normally run for between 2 and 8 months and provide cooking facilities, dining/meeting areas, toilets, and hot showers. Volunteers generally provide their own accommodation, caravans, mobile homes, tents, and some are billeted by locals. Catering for morning tea and lunch, fencing materials, and tools are organized by property owners who are expected to work with the volunteers while on their properties.

Teams are formed and go out 7 days a week 8.00/8/30am to 2.00/ 4.30pm.

BlazeAid provides P/L insurance at all times, protective gear like gloves, safety glasses, fluoro vests, ear plugs and helmets when required and some tools and other equipment.

Local communities are expected to provide \$5000 per base camp to cover costs of meals, power, hire of toilet facilities, portable shower blocks etc. if required.

Currently there are 18 base camps in New South Wales, 2 in South Australia –one on Kangaroo Island, and 5 in Victoria

The organization is termed a Public Benefit Institution so donations are fully tax deductible. These funds are used to buy tools, some fencing materials, fuel items of equipment such as chain saws and post hole diggers, fence post drivers and the like.

BlazeAid has been there after 2009 fires, 2011 floods and cyclone Yasi, 2012 floods in NSW and Qld., 2013 Fires Tas., Vic., and NSW., 2014 Fires in Vic., and SA., and the 2019/20 mega fires across the south and east of Australia.

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Between 2009 and 2016 Blaze Aid stats:
 14374 volunteers employed
 101,235 volunteer days worked
 7550 kilometres of damaged fencing cleared
 And 5715 kilometres of new fencing built.



Kevin and Rhonda Butler were made life members at the 10th Anniversary celebration in 2019

Currently BlazeAid is working with Bushfire Recovery Victoria from their Victorian Base Camps to provide perennial grass seed to farmers whose properties were impacted by very hot fires that have destroyed pastures.

And so the achievements of this organization go on. Our donation would have been welcome.

RG

Birthdays

- Bruce Ramage
- Keith Kelly
- Ian Randall
- John Crammond

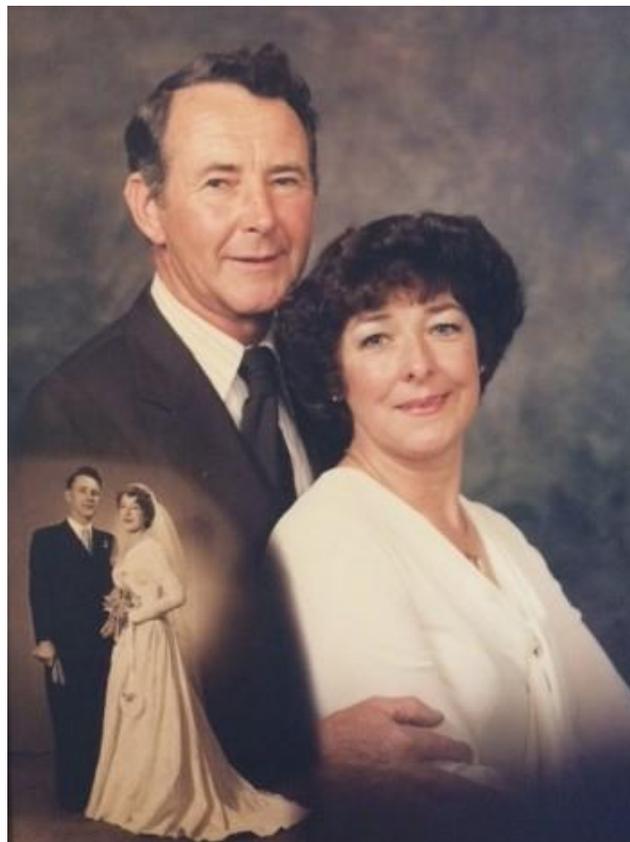


Anniversaries

- Peter Searle 42 years
- Doug Turnbull 26 years
- Ian Randall 62 years

Vale Barbara Lockett.

Barbara died peacefully around 4am at the Freemasons Home in Flora Hill with husband Kevin and daughters Jenny and Vicki by her side. Barbara Lorraine Watson and Kevin met at the ANA Hall Dance and were married on 27th October 1956 so ended nearly 64 years of very happy marriage and loving family life together.



Life in recent years had been difficult as the years took their toll on her mentally but Kevin's devotion throughout her declining years has been exemplary.

Barbara lived in Speedy Street, California Gully and attended the local primary school followed by three years at Bendigo High School after which she took a secretarial course at Cox's Business College. Barbara's first job was with the Post Office followed by a variety of positions till 1957.

In 1969 she gained a position at Flora Hill Secondary College where she continued for the next twenty years.

Kevin joined the Bendigo Y'sMen's Club in 1965 and Barbara soon became a very involved member of the Y'sMenettes. She held many positions President, Secretary, Treasurer, Minute Secretary, Bulletin Editor and Public Officer during her 55 years with the club.

Her vibrant personality and love of all to do with the theatre soon saw her taking an active role in many activities run by the club including the annual "Back to Bandiwallop" social nights shared with the men's club.

At her funeral her three daughters Debbie, Jenny and Vicki spoke lovingly of a Mum who brought love, kindness, creativity and fun into their family life. Barbara gave generously of herself in all that she touched and as Doug Turnbull said at her funeral service "What she gave to us in life now travels with us."

Barbara gave with all her heart to Kevin, to her daughters, to the many creative activities with which she was involved and to our Women's Club for over fifty years.

We will remember her with great fondness.

On the lighter side!

Grandmother had always been a terrible driver so it was not surprising that she was pulled over when in town recently.

"You were speeding," said the policeman, "85 in a 60 zone".

"I know," she said. "Do you have your driver's licence?" "No I don't" she said. "What do you mean you don't have your licence!"

"I don't have one," she replied, "because I'm legally blind".

"This your car?" "No, not my car, I stole it!"

"Who did you steal it from?" asked the officer. "I didn't ask his name before I killed him". "You killed the owner!"

"Yes, then chopped him up and put the body in the boot".

Clearly struggling the officer called his senior over and explained what he had been told.

The other officer walked over to the car.

"Open the boot" he demanded. He looked in the boot and everything was neat and tidy – just a spare wheel and a couple of shopping bags.

"Do you have a driver's licence?" he asked. "Yes, I have a driver's licence" she answered. That was checked and was fine.

"This your car?" he asked. The registration papers were checked and everything was fine.

"Well I'm so relieved", said the senior, "my partner told me, you were driving without a licence, you are legally blind, you stole the car,

murdered the owner, and then chopped up the body and put it in the boot."

Now grandmother made her move –

"He probably told you I was speeding too!"

Better 2020 than 1920

A recent look back at an article on the Spanish Flu revealed amazing similarities with our Covid experiences this year.

The first case in Melbourne was Jan 9 1919 then a huge cluster due to returned soldiers escaping quarantine just 10 days later.

A second wave in July, WA and Qld. imposed strict boundaries, debate about usefulness of masks, to close or not to close schools, different approaches in Vic and NSW.

And they had to cope without all the technical advantages that we have had in 2020. Facetime calls with our mobile phones, Skype.

Messaging with the ability to attach photos, email, zoom meetings, television news, reports and entertainment, Netflix, cable TV, ability to record programs to watch at our convenience and many more modern innovations that improve the quality of our lives.

The sense of isolation would have been far greater back in 1919/20 so I think we have had it easy in comparison to the situation back then.

And in contrast to Covid (which of course still has a way to run) deaths were around 50 million of a population of just 1500 million. Particularly vulnerable were men aged 25 to 40yrs.

And dealing with Covid 19 lockdowns!



Programs next month

Our program team for the month of November are Keith Kelly, Alan Campbell and Rob Green.

There will be a business meeting on the 5th so we need three more programs for the month - the 12th, 19th and 25th of November



Y Service Club Programs for October 2020

Strathdale Community Centre

Crook Street Bendigo

Fellowship from 5:45 pm for 6:30 pm dinner

Come along and enjoy our fellowship & activities! \$15.00

October 2020 Programs

Thursday October 1st Business Meeting
Squire: Bryan Baker **Table Talk:** Doug Turnbull **Reflections:** Peter Searle

Duty Team #1: Doug Turnbull (Captain), Bryan Baker, Kevin Lockett, Stan Thomas

Thursday October 8th "Resource Smart Schools" Ellen White

Duty Team #2: Ken Morrison (Captain), Bryan Curnow, Jon Lebek, Ken Ludeman

Thursday October 15th Getting to know you – Part two Doug Turnbull

Duty Team #3: Keith Kelly (Captain), Alan Campbell, Bruce Ramage, Peter Searle, Ian Randall

Thursday October 22nd The real AFL Grand Final Quiz – Dennis Dole

Duty Team #1: Doug Turnbull (Captain), Bryan Baker, Kevin Lockett, Stan Thomas

Thursday October 29th "ABC Friends" Sally Moseby

Squire: Bruce Ramage **Table Talk:** Keith Kelly **Reflections:** Doug Turnbull

Duty Team #2: Ken Morrison (Captain), Bryan Curnow, Jon Lebek, Ken Ludeman

Thursday November 5th Business Meeting

And for a laugh.



And from Mark Twain

“Age is an issue of mind over matter,
 If you don't mind it doesn't matter”

