

11 Michelago Newsletter

Summer
2010

Michelago Region Community Association Newsletter

President's Report

It has been a good year for the MRCA with our fund-raising bringing in nearly \$5,000 which we can use for community projects. Some of our ideas are an upgrade of the tennis courts, barbecues and tables on the oval and a cover for the children's play area. If you have other ideas, let me or other members of the Committee know.

The time has come around again to start thinking about the MRCA AGM. The date for that is Saturday 5 February at 9.00 am in the Michelago Memorial Hall. We are always keen to have new members on the Committee so if you are interested in community activities come along and put in your nomination. Nominations can also be posted to the Secretary, Jeremy Mears, or placed in the MRCA box outside the store.

Another date for diaries is our Australia Day celebration on Wednesday 26 January. We will put on a breakfast barbecue starting at 8.00 am and raise the flag with the Ambassador at 8.30 am. Come dressed as how one of your ancestors may have dressed!

I hope you have all had a happy and relaxing break over the Christmas period and the New Year has started well.

Tony Robinson

Michelago & District Landcare Group

The plantings on the railway land in the village could not have come at a better time. It has rained consistently since and nearly all the trees and forbs are doing well. We have cut back some of the grass growth and sprayed the suckering plums and will be endeavouring to keep the areas tidy over the summer and beyond.

Another project has been invasive willow control on the Murrumbidgee River funded by a Caring for our Country Community Action Grant. The weather has hampered the contractor to some degree but a km or so either side of the river has been done. We will be planting natives along the River in the New Year. Join us for that and enjoy the spectacular beauty of the Murrumbidgee.

For more information about Landcare in Michelago contact Tony Robinson, 6235 9334, 0409 776 705, tandgrobinson@bigpond.com or Elizabeth Price on 6235 9042.



Landcarers Fiona Maguire and Harry Cotter seed-ball rolling at the K2C Fair (Photo by Leanne Pattison)

Contact

Newsletter contributions:

heidi@supportlink.com.au

Email MRCA:

mrca@michelagoregion.org.au

MRCA Committee:

President: Tony Robinson

Vice President: Heidi Campbell

Treasurer: Gill Robinson

Secretary: Jeremy Mears

Public Officer: Jill Dobkin

Committee members: Alysoun

Boyle, Bronwyn Gattringer, Julie

Giucci, Paul Kennedy, Sandra Lauer,

Maureen Morgan, Brent Wallis.

"The MRCA committee meets the first Wednesday of each month except January in the Michelago Memorial Hall at 7pm. All welcome. This is a good opportunity to raise any issues you might have that the MRCA can assist with."

MRCA AGM

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 5 February 2011 at 9am in the village hall.

Drop off your rubbish and come and grab a cuppa and a snack and support your local community association. Tell us your ideas and hopes for the village and surrounding community.

Being on the MRCA is a great way to contribute your time, consider being on the committee or sign up for a role.

Celebrate Australia Day in the village at the Memorial Hall.



Wednesday 26 January 2011 8am – 9.30am

Meet our Australia Day Ambassador

Breakfast will be provided

Come dressed in the style of your ancestors. Prizes for the best dressed child under 10 years, teenager and adult.

Thanks to Cooma Monaro Shire Council and the MRCA for financial assistance.



Constables Column

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by S/C Charles Gannon, Michelago Police

Traffic issues head the column once again. Since the newsletter there have been 3 motor vehicle collisions on the highway north of Michelago near Kelly Road, a vehicle caught in rapidly rising flood waters on the Burra Road north of Michelago. It appears the message does not seem to be getting through to some drivers in our local area when a male driver was earlier this month on the highway speeding. The driver was stopped and breath tested and was subsequently arrested and charged with Low Range drink driving and the speeding offence. The driver will be attending court in the new year.

During the early hours of the 2nd October an 18 year old female was allegedly abducted in Canberra by her ex-partner and driven to the Monaro Highway north of Michelago. She was then sexually assaulted at knife point before being stabbed in the neck and left at the scene while the offender drove back into Canberra. Even though the female was suffering from serious injuries she managed to flag down a passing motorist who contacted police. Police and ambulance officers attended and provided first aid to the female who was conveyed to the Canberra Hospital and underwent emergency surgery. The offender was arrested later in the day and was refused bail at Queanbeyan Court. He is due back in court early in the new year. The female has been released from hospital and is recovering well. If there are any witnesses that have not yet spoken to police please make contact utilising the phone numbers at the end of the column.

Cooma-Monaro, Palerang, Queanbeyan councils and ACT Roads have advised me of a number of roads closed or access restricted as a result of the recent heavy rain/floods. The roads affected include the Burra Road, Tinderry Road, Smiths Road, Angle Crossing Road and Jerangle Road. Please abide by the relevant signs and speak to the applicable councils for more information.

An issue of concern recently has been instances of domestic dogs attacking sheep and other animals. A Burra resident witnessed three sheep getting attacked by a neighbour's dog. The dog was shot and killed by the sheep owner. The sheep also died from their injuries. Subsequent action was taken against the dog owner which resulted in a hefty compensation bill. Closer to Michelago a Tinderry road resident had a number of sheep mauled by a dog. The sheep suffered severe trauma from the injuries with many having to be euthanised by the owner. If anyone sights dogs in public areas ie. walking along roads without an owner present contact the council rangers and they will attend and seize the dog and issue the owner hefty

finer or court action. Remember the owner of any animal is responsible for any damage/injuries it causes if not supervised.

I want to again re-inforce being vigilant about property security after a Tinderry Road resident recently had items stolen from a car parked in the driveway during the night. With the holiday season here make sure you secure your property and let your neighbours and/or a friend know so they can watch out and check on the property whilst it is vacant. I have received a small number of rural crime assessment packs as mentioned in the last newsletter. I will leave these packs at the shop and hopefully can obtain more in the new year.

As I have mentioned in previous reports a state-wide audit of firearms and firearm storage safes continues and will do so throughout next year. Please ensure all details are correct and if changes need to be made or for general firearms enquiries please contact the Firearms Registry on 1300 362 562.

Remember the contact details for police are emergency 000, non emergency 02 62359131 or to report crime that does not require a police response 131444 (calling from within NSW) or Crime Stoppers to report suspicious activity anonymously on 1800333000. I am happy to speak with anyone about any issues, comments and feedback. I can also be contacted by email on gann1cha@police.nsw.gov.au I check this email on a regular basis even when on leave and will call you back promptly.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy new year. Please drive safely on the roads over the festive season.

A View from Council

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I hope you all had a very happy and enjoyable Christmas and New Year break.

I appreciate that I am beginning to sound like a parrot but, believe it or not, Council is making progress with the Local Environment Plan (LEP). For all of you who have been waiting patiently (or impatiently as the case may be) Council hopes to be able to provide some good news in the next few months.

Council has also been conducting workshops on the proposed new Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework. This will replace the current Management Plan and Social Plan (but not until June 2012) and will engage the community in an ongoing consultation and reporting process.

The heavy rains that occurred before Christmas wreaked havoc on many roads, particularly in the north of the shire. Council's resources were stretched, and responses were managed within Council's capabilities. Most of those roads that were closed to through traffic have now been re-opened, although there are still substantial outstanding works to be addressed. Council appreciates residents' patience and understanding through this difficult period whilst repairs are carried out.

Please support your Australia Day celebrations on 26 January. This year we have two ambassadors for the Shire: Allannah Zitserman, writer/producer, AFI award winner. <http://www.australiaday.com.au/ambassadors/ambassadors.aspx?AmbassadorID=295> and Dr Cindy Pan <http://www.cindypan.com.au/about-dr-cindy/biography/>. Allannah, accompanied by her partner, Stavros Kazantsidis, will be visiting the Numeralla and Nimmitabel celebrations in the morning before meeting up with Dr Cindy Pan at midday in Centennial Park for the Cooma celebrations. Dr Cindy Pan and her two



children, Jeremy 5 yrs and Anton 7 yrs, will be attending the Michelago celebrations from 8 – 9am before going to Bredbo for morning tea. If time permits, she will drop in on the Driver Reviver being run by the MRCA and local RFS fire brigades at Ingelara Rest Area. The Local Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Sportsperson and Young Sportsperson, Best Event and Best Group awards' presentation will commence at 12 midday in Centennial Park, Cooma, followed by entertainment, exhibitions and activities to celebrate this year's theme of "Celebrate What's Great – Cooma-Monaro, Past, Present and Future". There will be plenty of interest and activities for all ages and I encourage you to join in the festivities.

I continue to attend local associations' committee meetings and events to listen to their concerns and assist where possible in furthering their interests.

If you want information on Council's activities, check out the website at www.cooma.nsw.gov.au and/or buy copies of the Monaro Post (www.monaropost.com.au) and/or the Cooma-Monaro Express (<http://cooma.yourguide.com.au>). I can be contacted on 0405 209 685.

I also disseminate information to my mail-out list in the region. I hope that those of you who have registered your email addresses with me are happy with the flow of news, views, calendars of events and other matter that I send out, including the Council Communiqué page that is also published in the Express. If you wish to be included, please let me know at mshughes@activ8.net.au and I will add you to my address book for future circulars.

Martin Hughes, Councillor

Driver Reviver

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Volunteers Needed – an easy way to get involved

Sandra Lauer is Site Manager (as part of the MRCA), of the Michelago Driver Reviver at the Colinton rest area. Sandra is looking for more volunteers to assist in running the Driver Reviver throughout the year (mainly during the ski season).

We only need 2-3 hours of your time, once or twice a year. No experience required - just your enthusiasm. All gold coin proceeds go to our local community organisations such as the fire brigades & the MRCA.

Our first day of operation will be on Australia Day (Wed 26th January), from 10am to 4pm

Any local organisations who wish to run a shift are also welcome to contact me. On Phone: 0418 626 077 or Email: sandra.lauer@bewebbed.com.au



*'The Blessing of the Animals' - Michelago Railway Station, 5th December
(Photo by Leanne Pattison)*

Loft Bunk Bed for sale

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White tubular loft bunk bed (with desk below) in excellent condition. Includes mattress and matching chair.

\$300 ono.

Ph Cathy 62359022 or 0408488395



2011 Census Recruitment

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The next national Census of Population and Housing will be conducted on the night of Tuesday 9 August 2011.

The Census aims to accurately measure the number of people in Australia on Census night, their key characteristics, and the dwellings in which they live.

In order to assist in the preparation and operation of the Census, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is recruiting around 43,000 community-minded field staff all over Australia, 10,000 of which will be in NSW and the ACT, to help us count the nation.

Census workers are vital to the success of the Census, and to their communities. We need to count every household correctly to ensure Census data is as accurate and reliable as possible. This data is used by communities, private institutions and all levels of government for planning services and facilities.

Register your interest

If you would like to help support your community, enjoy working with people, and have time you can give, working on the Census is a great community-based activity that makes a real difference to Australia.

If you are interested in an upcoming position, either as an Area Supervisor or Collector, you can register your interest online at <https://secure.abs.gov.au/cascor/recruitment.nsf/6BB5A2F0EAB819EDCA256F2B00200080/9ADFB11FABAC9A10CA2577AE0009B527?OpenDocument>.

If you have any general enquiries you can contact Barbara Hill on 6252 8901 or 0402 028 795

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The poster is framed in a thick blue border. At the top left is the Australian Bureau of Statistics logo, featuring a crest and the text 'Australian Bureau of Statistics'. To its right is the 'Census 9 August 2011' logo, which includes a stylized blue house icon. The main text is centered within a white rectangular area, enclosed by a thin blue border. It reads '2011 CENSUS' in a medium-sized sans-serif font, followed by 'JOBS' in a very large, bold, black sans-serif font. Below this, the text 'Register your interest now.' is written in a smaller, black sans-serif font, with 'now.' on a separate line.