



Matts Cooking Tip

It’s not always important to follow a recipe.

Be brave, experiment and adapt a classic dish. If you like a particular ingredient, then add a bit more, of if there is something you don’t like, then leave some out. Always remember you are only limited by your imagination, not your capability.

Try changing a regular dish you cook for your family, don’t tell them you have changed something, wait for their comment, and enjoy and be proud the praise when it comes.

A change can be something as simple adding flair to a dish like Pasta Bolognaise by substituting beef mince with chicken mince, and if you like mushrooms, add them when you are cooking the onion, garlic and herbs.

Bon Appétit - Matt

‘Joy’ In The Garden

At this time of year there are only a few garden chores that can be done.

- Prune roses in late August
- Prune fruit trees before they bud
- Plant any spring bulbs you may have missed.
- Do not remove all the dead foliage of plants like
- bulbs, daylilies and agapanthus as these leaves help protect the new shoots.
- Mulch garden beds
- Add compost and dig into your veggie patches.

If you have any garden questions place them in the box at the store and I will try to answer them in the next issue.

Also if any one is interested in forming a social garden group please call me on 62359212.

Happy gardening from Joy Colaric

Rural Fire Brigades

Michelago Rural Fire Brigade

Brent Wallis (Captain) 6235 9196 or 0418 680 205  
Duncan McNeill (Senior Deputy Captain ) 6235 9359 or 0402 743 894

Colinton Rural Fire Brigade

Graham Povey (Captain) 6454 4150 or 0419 406 908  
Nick Goldie (Senior Deputy Captain) 6235 9190

Anembo Bush Fire Brigade

Tony Da Luca (Captain) 6230 8239 or 0427 308 239  
Tim Hickey (Senior Deputy Captain) 6230 8221

Smiths Road Rural Fire Brigade

Greg Lonergan (Captain) 0447 837 273 or 0418 765 953  
Tony Corrigan (Senior Deputy Captain) 6235 0993 or 0400 210 169

Junior Fire Brigade

Bronwyn Gatts 6235 9981 or 0407 943 245

Always call 000 to report a fire



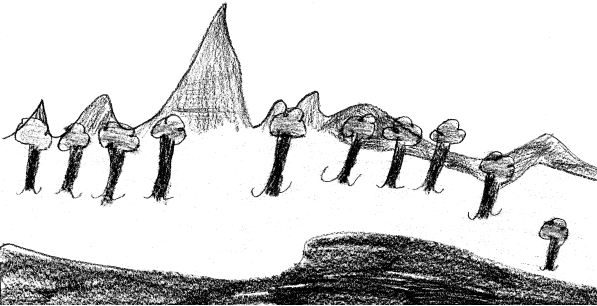
Stories from school

My Home

Long, dry paddocks growing fast,  
Still, haunted white house sitting quietly,  
  
Cute, playful pets playing wildly  
Busy, old General Store waiting patiently  
  
Small, friendly school working hard  
Giant, rolling mountains standing silently  
  
Quiet, friendly villagers chatting constantly.

My home!

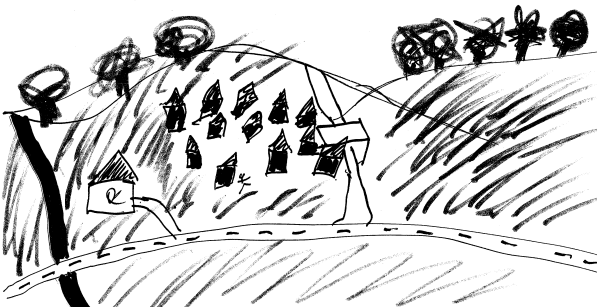
From Emily



My Community

Michelago looks like a small rural community,  
Michelago smells like a cool breeze on a summer’s day,  
Michelago sounds like a quiet piece of the gentle earth,  
Michelago feels like a safe place to be.  
Michelago is the best!!

Zanna Amon



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Winter 2010

Michelago Region Community Association Newsletter

May’s Fair

Our third May Fair held on Sunday 2nd May was a great success!

The Cooma-Monaro Shire Mayor, Dean Lynch opened the festivities, the weather was perfect, and lots of people came to enjoy our wonderful community atmosphere. It was a day of music, a



Vern Drew and Peter Bobroff use the Mayfair to reinvent the rules of the Universe

good mix of stalls, entertainment for the kids, chocolate wheel, food and an auction of donated gifts and people’s “pre-loved” goods.

The new track around the oval became a walkway lined by market stalls. Will Goggin’s dogs did their bit to keep the sheep under control and the Michelago Fire Brigade treated us to a spectacular gas bottle explosion. Russell cracked his whip and the school cooked sausages all day. The youth group kept kids happy with games and races and the littlies played in the kiddies’ corner and visited the pet animals. The pre-school cooked up donuts and the MRCA made coffee and sold cakes.

The success of the day was thanks to so many people, both locals and from some further afield. The generosity of Cooma-Monaro Shire Council and Country Energy in giving us major donations is much appreciated. Also a huge thanks to the countless businesses and individuals who gave gifts which we had on the chocolate wheel, auctioned or had as lucky gate prizes.

The committee worked really hard to make this fair something for all to enjoy

and to raise money for the benefit of the community. We were supported by MRCA members, the fire brigades and many special people.

Each year we get bigger and better, so planning will start soon for next year’s event which will be on Sunday 1st May. We need more people to get involved so look out for a notice when planning starts for next year.

President’s Report

The big event of the year for the MRCA is the May Fair and I am happy to say that the event this year was better than ever. We were able raise \$3,000 for the community. Adding this amount to existing funds gives us a good base with which to apply for government grants which usually only fund projects where matching dollars are available. Congratulations to the organising Committee of Julie Giucci, Maureen Morgan, Gill Robinson and Fiona Tollis who made it happen and thanks to all who contributed to the event.

There are two other activities coming up for the community for which we will be asking for volunteers. One is the

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.

restoration of the tennis courts and the other is the clean up of the railway land at the south end of Ryrie St. The tennis courts have been overgrown for a number of years and the surrounding fencing is dilapidated. We will be restoring the surface of the court and upgrading the fencing so that the court is useable again. Regarding the railway land, we have been in touch with State Rail and they have agreed to the removal of overgrown wild plum trees ( a harbour for pest rabbits) and the levelling of the land. They are keen to plant native shrubs and trees in the area but retain many of the productive fruit trees. Keep an eye out for notices of working bees on these projects.

Each year we meet with the Cooma Monaro-Shire Council to discuss their draft Management Plan which spells out how the limited resources at their disposal are to be spent. This year one of the projects in our area to be funded is the upgrading of the junction of Micalago Rd with the Monaro Highway which has been long overdue. There will also be some work done on Tinderry Rd. At our meeting with the Council the Mayor, Councillors and Staff reiterated their willingness to work with the community and encourage anyone to contact them with issues and or suggestions as to how the Council can help improve the services and environment in and around Michelago.

Tony Robinson







A View from Council

The most recent activity that concerns the majority of ratepayers in the Shire is the Draft Management Plan for the year July 2010 to June 2011. On 15 February, community organisations and individuals from all around the shire presented their submissions to Council. The draft Management Plan was on public exhibition in May and submissions closed on 08 June, community organisations and individuals having been given the opportunity to comment on the Plan. The MRCA organised a community meeting with Council in the Michelago village hall on Wednesday 26 May to discuss the draft Plan and provide any clarification of concerns raised. I also attended meetings convened by Nimmitabel and Bredbo community associations. Communities have submitted ‘wish lists’ of works and improvements for Council’s consideration. Unfortunately, Council does not have the resources to satisfy the majority of requests and many remain unfunded in the Plan. Nonetheless, Council continues to encourage individuals and communities to submit their issues so that, in the event that funds do become available, priorities can be addressed at short notice. The NSW Government has pegged rates increases at 2.6%. This limitation restricts Council’s income so that many projects that deserve consideration remain unfunded. Council will adopt the final plan for 2010-11 in June. The Michelago meeting was not well attended even though it was advertised in the last edition of this newsletter, by email (to those who have provided their email addresses) and by notice at the Village Store, Inn and Service Station. I would encourage residents of the region to either join the Michelago Region Community Association (\$5 per annum) or just read the newsletter and keep your eyes open for notices. Ratepayers are encouraged to participate in this process to assist in the future development of facilities, amenities and services to the village and the region.

And (here we go again) for those interested in the progress of the draft LEP, this still has high priority with Council. Your frustration at the delay is shared by Council. Much of the process is out of Council’s control but progress is being made, albeit not as rapidly as would be desired.

I live on Lawler Road and enjoy a beautiful block of land that has great views up (south) the Murrumbidgee River valley. One of the features of the river frontage is a remarkable rock cliff around which the river must flow creating a sweeping bend. When the river is in flood (as recently) it breaks through the bend into a backwater before rejoining further downstream. The channel into the backwater catches just about everything and anything that comes down the river. The recent flood has deposited an assortment of riverside paraphernalia some of which I have untangled and retrieved from amongst the flotsam that was carried downstream. If anyone is missing any such items, please contact me (see below) and we can determine if I have recovered any of your losses.

I have continued to attend local associations’ committee meetings and events to listen to their concerns and assist where possible in furthering their interests. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the MRCA for organising and running a very successful Mayfair on Sunday 2 May and for providing the community and visitors a great day of entertainment and



MRCA-MRFS BBQ - Bunnings Tuggeranong - 14th June

activities along with such an interesting and vibrant selection of stalls and food outlets. The success was due to great community spirit with many local groups and individuals participating in providing services, activities, entertainment and merchandise. The new oval exercise track proved to be a great asset in the layout of the fair. There is also a plan to resurrect the tennis courts down at the oval and put up a basketball hoop.

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

In the meantime, I continue to disseminate information to my mail-out list in the region. I hope that, for those of you who have registered their email addresses with me, that you are happy with the flow of news, views, calendars of events and other matter that I send out, including the Council Catch-Up page that is published in the Monaro Post each Wednesday. Those of you who would like to be included, please let me know at [mshughes@activ8.net.au](mailto:mshughes@activ8.net.au) and I will add you to my address book for future circulars. These include an electronic copy of the newsletter as well as other interesting documents that arrive on my desk.

Martin Hughes

Constables Column

by S/C Charles Gannon  
Michelago Police

While the weather may have cooled since the last report a number of activities have occurred and are occurring for police in our local area. The main issue now is that of the increase of traffic on the Highway now that the snow season has commenced. Queanbeyan Highway Patrol has begun conducting an increased presence in the local area and has achieved good results so far. An example was a few weeks ago when a teenager was detected travelling at 151 km/h at Michelago on the Monaro Highway and subsequently stopped. The driver had his licence suspended on the spot and issued a fine in excess of \$1500. If the excessive speeding was not bad enough the vehicle had bald tyres and was deemed unroadworthy. I have requested Highway Patrol conduct speed



enforcement duties and mobile breath testing in and around the village while they are working the highway.

I again remind people not to become complacent with home security especially on rural properties. The reminder comes after a rural property in Michelago was broken into last week with two laptops stolen. Please keep an eye out for your neighbours and report any suspicious persons or vehicles to police. While this break and enter appears to be an isolated incident there are those out there that will take advantage of our complacency.

I have recently received information regarding drug use and supply in our local area by an isolated minority. As a result I am currently following up on a number of good leads from the information already obtained however if anyone has any further information which could assist me please contact me by email or contact the numbers below. I can assure that the information will be held in the strictest confidence and can be supplied anonymously through crime stoppers.

There have been a number of reports made to me of illegal dumping of rubbish, green waste, abandoned cars on a number of roads around the local area. All matters of illegal dumping are investigated by Cooma-Monaro Council rangers and if offenders can be identified large fines can be issued by rangers. Please assist all in the community by reporting illegal dumping to Cooma-Monaro Council Rangers or myself.

As mentioned in my last report a state-wide audit of firearms and firearm storage safes is well underway. It will be conducted over the next couple of years. I am continuing with the conducting of a number of local audits. As the last audit was conducted in 2003 now is the time to check with the firearms registry to ensure up to date including contact details. The firearms registry can be contacted on 1300 362 562.

Finally if anyone has any questions, comments or feedback please send me an email. Community information assists me greatly in performing my duties.

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](mailto:gann1cha@police.nsw.gov.au) I check this email on a regular basis even when on leave and will call you back promptly.

Michelago Youth Place

Michelago Youth Place runs every fortnight at the Michelago Hall Saturday 7pm-9pm, sometimes with other activities planned. It is fully supervised and a light super is offered. A typical night includes general chit chat, games, and short bible study. Any young person is welcome to come, we would love to have you visit the group and decide for yourself if you’d like to continue coming. Contact Fiona Tollis on 62359306 ([fionatollis@internode.on.net](mailto:fionatollis@internode.on.net)).

Hear what some of the regulars have to say:

*It’s sweet, come along and join the fun of Michelago’s ‘My Place’. we do tonnes of cool stuff like going on camps, playing*



Michelago Youth Group at the Community Hall

*fun games, chilling, Rock Band, sport and learning about God. i really enjoy it!*

*Youths gr8! join the chaotic awesomeness of ‘My Place’. Its a sweet place to hang out and get to know each other. We just chill and have fun but also learn a heap while we’re at it. Luv 2 c u there!!*

Michelago and District Landcare Group

African Lovegrass

“Living with Lovegrass” was the title of a recent workshop run by the Southern ACT Catchment Group (SACTCG). African Lovegrass is now a big problem in the ACT as it is in many areas of the Monaro. The basic message that came out of the workshop is that once you have 80% of your grassland occupied by African Lovegrass it is virtually out of control and you have to learn to live with it and manage it. If parts of the property are heavily infested and others not, then fencing off the worst areas and controlling it mechanically or chemically in the other areas is recommended. The seed does not spread by wind so, unlike serrated tussock, it is potentially easier to control. A proceedings of the workshop will be available soon on the SACTCG website <http://www.sactcg.org.au> . For expert advice on African Lovegrass, contact the Shire Council Weed inspectors.

The next working bee for the Michelago Landcare Goup will be a tree planting at Jenny and Nick Goldies, Saffron Hill, Baroona Rd, 15 August, 11 am. BYO lunch.

For more information about Landcare matters contact Tony Robinson, 0409 776 705 or Elizabeth Price, 6235 9042.

Classified Ads

CAR FOR SALE 1994 white Toyota Hilux Ute, 4 door, with canopy, manual, in good condition, converted to gas \$5000. Contact Tony Campbell 0414 626 706

