

# 14 Michelago Newsletter

Summer  
2011

Michelago Region Community Association Newsletter

## President's Report

It's that time of year when we start thinking about planning for next year's May Fair. It's a great opportunity for locals to get together, newcomers to make new friends, local craftspeople and others to sell their wares and to show what the region has to offer.

Coordinators Cate Spencer and Fiona Tollis are holding a meeting for interested helpers at 10am on Saturday 19th November at the village shop. We need YOU!! Even if you can't make this meeting, just let Cate or Fiona know if you would like to be involved. Cate's number is 04031 259 632 Fiona's mobile is 0478 227 565.

The tennis court is overdue for an upgrade and an opportunity to acquire a free synthetic surface presented itself. Over three days, MRCA members and friends lifted the surface on a couple of tennis courts in Canberra and relocated it to Michelago, together with some 14 tonnes of sand. Thanks to all who helped. We are hoping in the near future to resurface the old tennis courts and replace the dilapidated fence.

Tony Robinson

## Michelago Tennis Courts Rise Again!



Belwest Tennis Club in Canberra has generously allowed us to lift the surface off two of its tennis courts which are being upgraded. The surface is in excellent condition with only a few worn patches. Considering the cost of new artificial grass surface, this is a bargain we couldn't resist! It was a tough job, made more difficult due to the rain which made the sand very heavy. However, with lots of help, including the Green Corp guys, we did it!

We have had some great volunteers from Michelago and Canberra, with great team



## Car boot sale and working bee

Saturday 3 December 10am-2pm.

\$10 to sell whatever you like. Spend an hour or two helping fix up the old tennis shed and enjoy a sausage, cake and cup of tea or coffee.



work, helping us and I am very grateful for all the efforts put in to achieve this. Thank you to Gill and Sally for providing well-earned morning teas and lunches. Thanks too to Pat Kierans for removing a huge load of sand which we can re-use.

The resulting rolls of surface have been brought to Michelago along with the sand and will be stored until we are ready to continue to prepare the surface.

In the New Year we will apply for grants to help with the cost of fences and club houses and any volunteer work will help our cause. Thank you to all helpers for your support and anyone who is able to help us with steps along the way.

I was asked last Thursday why I was doing this, particularly as I already have a tennis court of my own. Two thoughts came to mind; 1) when I first came to Michelago I was met by friendly and welcoming people as neighbours and beyond. I really appreciated the sense of community and belonging which does not come so much from living in a city. A tennis club is a great focal point for a

## Contact

### Newsletter contributions:

tandgrobinson@bigpond.com

### Email MRCA:

mrca@michelagoregion.org.au

### MRCA Committee:

**President:** Tony Robinson

**Vice President:** Wayne Landford

**Treasurer:** Gill Robinson

**Secretary:** Jeremy Mears

**Committee members:** Julie Giucci,

Sandra Lauer, Maureen Morgan,

Fiona Macguire, Cate Spencer,

Carolyn Burton, Peter and Toni

Schroedel, and Bronwyn Gattringer.

*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.*

village community for health and fitness as well as belonging, for all ages. Secondly, I grew up in a country town where each Saturday morning the kids would play tennis against each other, the mums played during the week and others on Saturday afternoons. Again, great for community, health and fitness and a great social outlet for our young.

I hope this project for Michelago reaches many in the community whether they play tennis or not. With all that said, this cannot happen without the help of members in the community, so again I thank you all for any support you can give now and in the future. Please note, this may include fund-raising about the place. Watch this space!

Cate Spencer



photos by Jeremy Mears

## Brian's Place ANU

*The following is a piece from Woroni the ANU newsetter*

On February 10 the new Brian Kenyon Student Space, or Brian's for short, was officially opened by outgoing ANU Vice-Chancellor Ian Chubb. Brian Kenyon is a popular, long time community figure at ANU. He has operated a night-time bus service across campus free of charge for over a decade. The new Student Space on Union Court was named to honour his years of commitment to student safety on campus.

Professor Chubb opened the student space, describing it as a great opportunity for students. He also took the opening as a chance to reflect on his 10 years of service as Vice-Chancellor. ANUSA President Leah Ginnivan gave a speech thanking Brian for his years of community service.

Brian's is a new communal area for students to meet, recline on a couch & read ANUSA provided periodicals. Students may also make use of the kitchenette and storage facilities provided. Brian's will also function as a display area for ANU student Artwork. ANUSA also hopes to hold musical events in the space during lunch times.

Brian's is open between 9-5 on weekdays. During these times, an ANUSA staff member will be present to answer questions, maintain the space and receive feedback on ANUSA. The creation of a student space in Union Court has been a priority of ANUSA for four years.

Brian Kenyon will continue to operate his bus service across campus in 2011. Students can learn more about the Safety Bus service at <http://facilities.anu.edu.au/unisafe/>

e: [woroni@anu.edu.au](mailto:woroni@anu.edu.au)

## Climate Action Monaro Up and Running



The inaugural meeting of Climate Action Monaro (CAM) was held in Bredbo on 27 August and is 'rarin' to go'. Even before its inception, the interim committee of CAM organised a public meeting in Cooma on 20 July featuring climate commissioner Professor Will Steffen. This was in line with its prime objective of informing the community on the latest in climate science. The other objective is to take action that will lead to both mitigation (reducing greenhouse emissions) and adaptation (adjusting to higher temperatures, more evaporation, less run-off, more frequent and severe bushfires and more extreme weather events.)

Newly elected president of CAM, Jenny Goldie of Michelago, says climate change is likely to affect the Monaro region adversely unless people are prepared to adapt and change. "Farming will become more marginal and we may well see the end of the skiing industry," she said. "Farmers may be able to off-set the higher costs associated with the carbon price if they participate in the Carbon Farming Initiative <http://www.climatechange.gov.au/cfi>. Informing people, not only about the likely effects of climate change, but also about how they might benefit, is part of our role."

## Constables Column



by S/C Charles Gannon,  
Michelago Police

While the Michelago area was fatality free for the snow season, there were unfortunately two fatal collisions in the nearby areas of Bredbo and Googong. In the Michelago area though drivers continued to break the law on our roads. Some of these include a suspended

28 year old male driver was stopped travelling at 140km/h on the Monaro Highway by police. He was subsequently charged with the speeding offence and driving while suspended, and will appear in Queanbeyan Court at a later date. Not to be outdone, a 20 year old female Provisional driver was stopped by police travelling at 156km/h on the Monaro Highway. Her licence was suspended on the spot and she was issued with a large fine. Workman working on the Monaro Highway near the Pony Club entrance safety were put at risk when a 30 year old male driver travelled through the site at almost 100km/h. Police stopped the driver and, as with the female above, suspended his licence on the spot and issued him with a fine. Finally, a male driver was performing burnouts and doughnuts on the Burra Road when he lost control of his utility and left the roadway before colliding with a tree, resulting in the vehicle having to be towed. Police also attended and the driver was issued with an infringement notice for Negligent Driving.

There was no reported stealing in the area over the last few months which is pleasing. However, now we are approaching the warmer months we need to remain vigilant and ensure all buildings, property and vehicles are secured. If any suspicious activity is observed please don't hesitate to contact police.

The statewide firearms audit is coming to an end in the next few months. Those that have not had an audit over the last 18 months will be contacted soon. 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 6235 9131 or to report crime that does not require a police response 131 444 (calling from within NSW) or Crime Stoppers to report suspicious activity anonymously on 1800 333 000. I am happy to speak with anyone about any issues, comments and feedback.

## Michelago Cricket Club

Michelago Cricket Club is a locally based team playing B grade in the ACT 40/40 summer comp, which runs from October to March every second Sunday afternoon. Around half of our games are held at Michelago Oval, (better known as the 'real' M.C.G) and the rest at various ovals in Canberra.

What better way of spending a Sunday afternoon than playing cricket with the local guys! Of course the highlight of the day is always the BBQ and beer afterwards, where we can relax and have a chat.

For more information, please call Dave Hanns on 6235 9015



## Michelago & District Landcare Group

Have you noticed how tidy the railway land near the big railway shed in the village is looking? Landcare has worked with the Australian Rail Track Corporation to plant and tidy up the area which had become overgrown and a haven for rabbits.

Invasive crack willow control is continuing along the Murrumbidgee River. Under a Caring for our Country grant the Group has employed a contractor who has destroyed these invasive willows along a 6 km stretch of river from the Baroona Rd area to Michelago Creek.

We have regular working bees in the village and on different properties in the area. All our working bees end up around the barbecue and it is amazing what you find out! The next outing is a plant identification day on Sunday 27 November 10 am Ann Harrison's place, Clear View Rd.

If you would like to join us, or find out more contact Tony Robinson 0409 776 705, tandgrubinson@bigpond.com or Elizabeth Price on 6235 9042.

## Driver Reviver



Each holiday season up to 220 Driver Reviver Sites open right across Australia. Driver Reviver is a community program operated by volunteers from a wide range of Service organisations and community groups, whose members give up their own time to help reduce the road toll.

The Michelago Region Community Association, in conjunction with Colinton Fire Brigade, recently finished a very successful operation over the snow season. Over 1500 grateful travellers stopped to receive a cuppa, have a break and good chat with our excellent volunteers. We had some great stories from people all over the world and locals travelling to the coast and the snow. Even Queenslanders travelling through for skiing.

We would like to give our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who gave their valuable time to make this great service possible. As usual we are always looking for new volunteers so make yourself known to any of our committee members.

We run our operation during the peak times of Easter, other public holidays and on weekends during the snow season.

## Hidden Treasure, Gill Robinson

The NSW DPI 2011 Hidden Treasures Honour Roll, celebrating women volunteers who give so much to their rural communities, has just been released. [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/rwn](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/rwn)

Gill Robinson (Michelago) has been nominated/recognised for her service to the Michelago rural community. Her story is listed in the Honour Roll on the website.

The DPI have requested that the local media be involved in recognising their efforts and supporting their organisations.

## Michelago Region Web Site



The Michelago Region web site (<http://www.michelagoregion.org.au>) has been revamped and is now being regularly updated with local news, events and all things that relate to our area. The web site is funded by the MRCA and run by a team of dedicated volunteers.

We would appreciate contributions and suggestions as to what you would like to have on the web site, so please take a minute to have a look and send us some feedback.

## The Community needs you!

Early next year we will have our AGM which is when the new committee is elected. Several members are stepping down as we have served up to 4 years and feel its time to hand-over.

It's a great way to get to know your community and have fun whilst doing your bit to help Michelago and its residents.

It's not that hard! Please consider putting your hand up for a position on the committee.

## St Patricks Church

After 22 years as a parish priest, Father Cork has retired aged 80.

St Patricks will now be served by the Queanbeyan Parish. Mass at St Patricks Saturdays at 5.30pm. Call Jan McLean 62359170 or Colleen Cotter 62359122.

## MRCA Meetings

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except January) in the village hall at 7pm.

All welcome to meet with the committee and have your say.

## Council needs Gravel

Cooma-Monaro Shire Council is looking for quantities of road gravel so that they can fix more roads in the Shire.

Please contact Works Manager Arthur Wilkinson on 64551801

## New Equipment for community use

The MRCA has purchased items that can be used for community events at no cost.

These items can also be hired for private functions at the following daily rates:

	MRCA Members	Non-members
Marquees 4.5m x 3m	\$25	\$50
Folding tables 1.8m x 0.8m	\$5	\$10
Footymaster BBQ	\$15*	\$30*

\*A \$30 cleaning fee will be charged for the barbecue which will be fully refundable if the barbecue is returned in clean and undamaged condition.

Contact Tony or Gill Robinson on 6235 9334.

## Membership of your Local Community Association

The MRCA represents the community. To continue our work, we need your support, so if you are not already a member please send your \$10 (individual) or \$15 (family) to the treasurer (229 Mt Livingstone Road) or you can leave it in the box outside the store or pay direct into the MRCA bank account Bendigo Bank: BSB 633000 Michelago Region Community Association Inc. account number 126401058.

## Several Good Reasons to Go South In November

Sunday 13th - Sunday 27th **'A Students World' Exhibition** - Raglan Gallery, Cooma. (Contact 6452 3377)

Friday 18th & Saturday 19th **Cooma Little Theatre presents 'Silly Cow'** - Cooma Little Theatre, 8pm, tickets from Cooma Visitors Centre (Contact 6455 1745)

Friday 18th- Sunday 20th **Bredbo's Annual Sheep Dog Trials** - Bredbo recreational grounds, 3 Days of events and competitions, spectators welcome (Contact 6454 4108)

Saturday 19th **'Brumbies' Book Launch** - Raglan Gallery, Cooma, 5.30pm for 6pm, written by Paula Boer and illustrated by local resident Rowena Evans (Contact 0412 344 503)

Sunday 20th **Monaro Equestrian Dressage Event** - Cooma Showground, 9am - 5pm (Contact 6452 4239)

Sunday 20th **Cooma Rotary High Country Markets** - Centennial Park, Cooma - Hosted by Cooma Rotary Club (Contact 6452 1186)...ALSO... **Card Afternoon** - Cooma Ex-Services Club, Vale Street, Cooma - 1pm to 4pm ...ALSO... **Cooma Little Theatre presents 'Silly Cow'** - Cooma Little Theatre, 2pm matinee, tickets from Cooma Visitors Centre (Contact 6455 1745)

Thursday 24th **Open Mic Night at Dodds Hotel** - Commissioner St Cooma, 8pm, play an instrument, sing, tell a joke

## You are invited to join our Dru yoga classes!

Dru Yoga will help you:

- find more peace by taking time to slow down
- provide techniques and tools to assist you in assisting your life to flow
- Increase your bodies' strength and flexibility
- Improve your concentration
- Improve relationships

DRU YOGA the ultimate balance of mind body spirit a combination of exercise, relaxation and meditation. Suitable for all ages

### Bliss Yoga Studio

*Bombala St*

### Meditation and Yoga

**Tuesday** ..... 5.45 to 7pm

### Yoga

**Thursday** ..... 9.45 to 11am

### Ingelara Retreat

4931 Monaro Hwy, Michelago

**Wednesday** ..... 7.15 to 8.30

**Friday** ..... 8 to 9.15

\$15 a lesson where possible pay for at least 4week payment up front.

One on One sessions available for yoga, meditation and Reiki Counselling

## Equine Facilitated Learning sessions.

A unique therapy involving interaction with horse and human to assist in developing confidence and self empowerment. A session will provide you with valuable life skills to practice in your daily life.

EFL teaches children and adults the importance of body language, gestures, breathing and voice it shows them how to build relationships based on trust and respect - all taught through practical lessons working with a horse.

Your facilitator is Virginia Eagle, *Dru Yoga ,Reiki Master, BA Social Work.*

ph: 0431675561 email:spiritgenes@hotmail.com

web: <http://www.ingelararetreat.com>