

~ Michelago Magpie 34~

1 February 2025

from your Michelago Region Community Association

All issues on www.michelagoregion.org.au

Print copies \$2 at Michelago General Store



Christmas, Cricket, Vandalism & more. Index p.2. What's On p.20



Kids' Creative Christmas Concert



After only two weeks' preparation and rehearsal time in the Michelago Public School's busy year, the students and teacher-producer Susan triumphed with an entertaining interpretation of two traditional tales – The Three Little Pigs and The Gingerbread Man.

The sets and costumes were inspired – simple, clear and effective, the local references (including the Land Inspector) amusing and the 3-person narrative chorus unifying.

The large audience of proud families appreciated it all, especially the doomed Gingerbread Man's dance to the *Stayin' alive* music after each escape from gingerbread-hungry predators.

Non-traditional characters like the straw, brick and stick vendors, bodyguard, police officer and wolf's assistants gave every student a role and enhanced the old tales.



Then there was a feast, with health-conscious Principal Geoff urging students to eat the fruit.



There's always cleaning up after an event. There wasn't much left-over food, but plenty of sweeping and wiping. The Hall Committee really appreciates the care taken.

L: Principal Geoff Smith with Matthew, Harvey, Riley and Sophie. Riley and Sophie are graduates of Michelago Public School. It was a happy reunion.

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Christmas Cricket: Michelago Topples Top A-Grade Team in Sunday Social Cricket

Picturesque Clive Kelly Oval, 19 January. With crushing capability, Michelago Cricket Club conquered the top team in the Sunday Social Cricket Association and dares to hope for the finals.

Their opponents, the Canberra All Stars, played well, especially with some particularly fine batting. The MCC had to chase several boundaries and a few sixes but was superior overall with consistently good batting and bowling. Victory would have come even sooner but for several wind-assisted dropped catches – ‘Catches win matches’ opined Matt.



Above: The team watches its batting. Yousef gets some ball practice. Mo, Mariam, Yasmeen and Yousef.

This first win in A Grade follows initial losses after the MCC was promoted on winning the 2024 B Grade premiership (see *Magpie 20*).

Michelago batted first and was all out for 249. The All Stars were thus chasing 250 but were all bowled out for 110 by 5pm.



L: Fast bowler Big Phil about to deliver.

R: Nathan Vince starts his run-up.



The new Dave Hanns fence (see *Magpie 32 and 33*) proved its worth again as several balls bounced off it back onto the grass. Two visiting batters chose not to risk clearing the fence onto the creek land, belting long, high ones over the northern end of the oval. The sheep in the Waltons’ yard were twice surprised – first by the balls, then by the townie ball retrievers. It was unclear which life form was the more cautious of the other.

L: Two All Stars carefully negotiate a rural hazard, asking ‘Is it safe?’, but the sheep had scarpered.

Some of the batting highlights:

Mo opened with three 6s in a row, then was out LBW for 30.

Josh 'Mac Mac' was out for 49 after smashing 6s way over the boundary, across a neighbour's yard and into the car park – 'The MCG's not big enough for him,' said Captain Matt.

One opposition bowler was delivering 'meat pies', i.e. 'Balls begging to be hit,' explained Glenn.

Right: One of Pete's big hits.



Pete Wren unleashed with a huge 4. 'He wound the clock back with an emphatic 21, including a number of boundaries,' summarised Captain Matt.

The MCC was all out for 249, so the opposition was chasing 250 – unsuccessfully.

Just a few of the bowling highlights:

Big Phil clean bowled one of their best batters with his second ball.

Mo took 3 wickets. In one, he spin-bowled the batsman behind the legs to clip the leg stump.

Aidan took a wicket on his third ball. Josh took 'a screamer of a catch'.

Young star Mushe, fresh from training with the Big Bash in Sydney, bowled well, taking a wicket.

At tea, Michelago was 'all over 'em like calamine lotion', said Matt.

The next home game is Sunday 2 February, starting 12.30. If the weather's good, there's not a more pleasant way to spend a summer afternoon. Bring a chair, a sandwich and drink or two and either be genteel or join in some raucous barracking.



Above: Matt proudly models the team's new T-shirt, sponsored by the local Baba G's Farm. Nathan Booth works the barbecue. Glenn Fowler does a sausage shift and Dave Hanns watches from his photo frame.

Thanks to John Colaric for meticulously grooming the grass and trees to be ready for the match.

The MCC team plays seriously but also has fun. It welcomes new members. If you'd like to join in, call Captain Matt on 0408 005 784.

Quote of the day: 'If it weren't for bad luck, we'd have none' – Matt.



More of Michelago's Creative Christmas – Art, Craft and Song



The village's normally sober entrance/exit was dressed up with festive red bows.

Merry haybale Monaro Highway monoliths had traffic stopping for photos.

Cleverly original, Intricate wooden sculptures in the quiet heart of the village delighted passers-by.



Carols with our Community Choir, 14 December



All the Christmas favourites were there, from the meditative *Silent Night* to the jolly *Rudolph* with its enthusiastic audience participation. The soprano section harmonised beautifully. The singers clearly enjoy their teamwork and



achievements, all under the direction of teacher-conductor Dee McFaul. Gatherings of friends and family picnics were part of this special evening.



Gingerbread Joy for Christmas

Michelago Memorial Hall 8 December. Such creativity – free expression within the boundaries of provided materials produced a lovely range of seasonal community fun. Sam provided streamed music for singing along and dancing. It was a family affair, with adults, in-betweeners and children creating together. If it's on next year, give it a go.

There were fewer artists at the Hall this December, as many gingerbread house orders were taken away for home construction.

Thank you to Belinda Sierzchula for organising the kits and to her and Jenny Wholohan for the Christmas cards and raffia weaving craft.





Michelago School's Christmas Raffle Winners

This was drawn 12 December at the Michelago Public School.

- 1st prize: a Trek bike (donated by Trek Australia via Laura Howarth) – Bryceson family
2nd prize: Kelly Casey artwork (donated by Kelly Casey) – Kikuchi family
3rd prize: Tin Can Ridge Glamping (donated by Anna Lucas) – Dot Higgins
4th prize: \$200 Jo's Boots (donated by the Ovcarr family) – Cory Araya
5th prize: \$150 voucher for Pink Silhouette hair salon (donated by Mel Davies) – Will Brook
6th prize: \$100 Horseland voucher (donated by the Ausserlechner family) – Will Brook



St Patrick's Christmas welcomes Bishop Pat Power

Retired bishop Pat Power, familiarly known as Father Pat, was guest of honour at the St Patrick's Church Christmas barbecue.

He was delighted to receive a copy of Kerry Rooney's recently published book *Our People Our Church*, which includes features of his early times in the community.

Bishop Power was previously a parish priest in Queanbeyan. As auxiliary Bishop of the Canberra-Goulburn archdiocese, he was based in Canberra and regularly came to Michelago to celebrate Mass.

Will Kelly masterminded the barbecue, people brought other delicious food, Lizzie Kelly rang the historical church bell, as did smaller children (with help), young cricketers exploited the wide space in front of the presbytery, Michael Scanlon's care of the house and garden was admired and the ubiquitous Father Christmas briefly appeared to distribute presents.





Vile Vandalism Brutalises the Bank of Bins



Wednesday 22 January

The perpetrator was caught on security cameras and has been arrested.

There were also witnesses to this incident.

***Magpie* does not suggest that previous damage here (and elsewhere in the village) has been caused by the same person.**

Tanya Higgins - SMRC ...
15h · 🌐

UPDATE: Bank of Bins users can tap into the Friday morning Michelago collection by meeting the truck at the park between 10am and 11am. Domestic waste only, no recycling.

BoB users can use the Bredbo Transfer Station and Cooma tip. Fees waived until BoB is repaired.

1 Feb - Saturday morning trucks at the park 8 to 10am until BoB is repaired.

Council will get the BoB operational as soon as possible, but until then it will be locked.

The safety of residents and Council employees is paramount.

Michelago Notice Board
Snowy Monaro Regional ... · 15h · 🌐

MICHELAGO BANK OF BINS CLOSED DUE TO SAFETY CONCERNS... See more

Council immediately closed the facility and organised an alternative rubbish collection – see its advice below. Cr Higgins notified the public via Facebook.

Public Notice from Snowy Monaro Regional Council **Michelago Bank of Bins closed due to safety concerns**



Issued Wednesday 22 January 2025

Residents of the wider Michelago area are advised that the Bank of Bins, located at the corner of Ryrie Street and Burra Road, is closed until further notice due to vandalism and safety concerns for residents and staff.

The facility is currently being subjected to serious, repeated, and ongoing vandalism by perpetrators on foot and using vehicles, with NSW Police investigating additional reports of alleged threatening and violent behaviour being directed towards members of the public using the facility.

Council will not reopen the facility until it is satisfied that the safety of service users, staff, and the general public can be guaranteed.

In addition to the continuing police investigation, a comprehensive structural assessment of the building needs to be undertaken and necessary repairs completed before service can resume.

Temporary Michelago waste and recycling collection service

Beginning Saturday 1 February 2025, Council will hold a weekly waste and recycling collection service each Saturday from 8am to 10am near the Michelago sportsgrounds. This service will continue until the Bank of Bins has reopened.

As the Michelago Bank of Bins is closed, residents are not to enter the building under any circumstances.

Anyone with information about these incidents is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or by visiting <https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au>.

Reports can be anonymous.

You can also make a report at your local NSW Police station, or by phoning 131 444. In an emergency always call 000.

Media Contact

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Communications Department

Phone: 1300 345 345 | Email: communications@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au



Australia Day BBQ

It was a perfect day for a community barbecue and get-together. There was no mention of the day's significance or lack of – it was just a holiday for relaxing, chatting, eating, listening to Aussie country music and playing tennis and footy. A good day.



Above: Brennan and Kayla Corey, who are looking forward to moving into their new house near Micalago Rd, their two cute boys and another happy lad whose name Magpie didn't get, either. Oops.

There were about 40 people, less than last year, but it was pleasing to see some who are new to the district and would like to get to know the community. They are very welcome.

Thanks to Council for the \$200 grant, which paid (only just, as prices have risen) for all barbecue supplies and some of the drinks to supplement those left over from the Democracy Sausage event, so the MRCA wasn't out-of-pocket this time.

Thanks also to Cr John Rooney and MRCA Committee volunteers Tony, Sally, Kerry and Leanne for organising, cooking and cleaning up. Also to John Colaric for some heavy lifting. A special shout-out to visitor Paul, who demonstrated a more effective way to clean a barbecue.



Above: Cooks Sally, Kerry and Tony with first customer Aldo. Customer Gerard and Cook John. Anna and Jenny brought friends, family and healthy food to supplement the sausages.



*L: Lynne Gittoes, the new teacher at Michelago Public School and who has just moved into the village, here gets to know Michelago Elders Janet and John Kelly and John Colaric.
R: Annette Fitzgerald and helpful friend Paul. She and Kerry have just discovered they're cousins; both their mothers were Poveys.*



*L: Sunscreen for everyone.
R: Both tennis courts were in full use. This lad was a great footy kick.*



Two Australia Day awards in Michelago – Congratulations to Ben Johnson and the Michelago General Store

Ben Johnson, CEO and co-founder of Integra Service Dogs Australia, has been recognised with the Medal of the Order of Australia for service to social welfare through helping veterans and first responders with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

He comes from a family with a long tradition of serving in the armed forces.

In 2016 Mr Johnson co-founded Integra Service Dogs Australia with Ken Lloyd OAM, a long-serving Special Forces veteran.

'I was motivated by the work of a colleague and friend, Ken Lloyd, to set up an organisation to provide high quality, trained assistance dogs to help reduce suicidal ideation in veterans and first responders,' Mr Johnson said.

'It was seeing people struggling with highly complex mental health issues like PTSD and seeing the power of highly trained assistance dogs to give them the skills to get them back to their families and communities and, in some instances, work.'



Integra Service Dogs Australia has been running as a charity for 10 years and is a national organisation.

Mr Johnson is inspired by the transformational work of assistance dogs and their life-changing power to help people regain their lives.

He said he felt humbled by the award and appreciated the recognition, particularly for everyone in the small, committed Integra team of volunteers and professionals.

[Text and photo acknowledgment: <https://aboutregional.com.au/ben-johnson-colin-butt-nellie-mooney-and-robyn-reynolds-named-in-australia-day-honours/469338/>]

Michelago General Store

Belinda Hayes

We were excited to win a special achievement award in business at the Australia Day ceremony in Cooma on Sunday.

The award was received for outstanding contribution and dedication to the community, including:

- supporting community through local business
- organising and holding free community events
- supporting the RFS with meals during fire season, even delivering meals to the fire site
- supporting the school by providing lunch orders for students and teachers as well as supporting fundraising activities and events.



Belinda Hayes
Owner and Manager
(02) 6232 9217 or 0434 588 872
michelago@outlook.com
50 Ryrie Street
Michelago NSW 2620

It was an honour to receive the award and for the team to be recognised for their efforts and hard work.



Liquor licence imminent in Michelago

In response to many requests from the community to open a pub, we have been in the process of securing a new liquor licence. The licence has now been granted! While it won't be a pub, it means that the café will become a fully licensed venue.

R: Not in anticipation of this news, but a 19 December snap of Belinda and Jess unloading Christmas supplies.

We'd love to launch straight away, but there is some planning and work to be done to ensure that it is implemented properly and in

Belinda Hayes



accordance with the licence conditions. It opens opportunities for special dinner events as well as fun social events such as Paint & Sip (currently in planning for the first one!).

We will also be looking to bring Friday nights back, which will make many people happy. This change means that we will need some more staff, specifically 18+ with an RSA for both weekdays and weekend work. We're excited for 2025 and hope to bring some great things to the community. Watch this space!



SMRC Councillor Corner

Crs John Rooney and Tanya Higgins report



Councillors attended an Extraordinary Meeting on Friday to discuss the failure of the Cooma No. 1 Water tank during the January 2020 bushfire emergency. Councillors heard from two members of the public who had been investigating the issue and acting for affected people claiming damages. This matter has been in the hands of Council's insurers and we understand that all but one of the claims have been settled.

On behalf of our community, Crs Higgins and Rooney would like to thank Council staff for all the work they did during the 2019/20 bushfire season. They are remembered for their fine work.

Councillors considered 7 motions put forward by Cr Rose. Two motions were passed. Council noted that funds had already been put aside to replace the water tank but will also seek any grant funding available to support the cost. Council also voted to closely monitor the progress of any final or last-minute claims through monthly confidential reports to Council.

There were accusations that the affected houses may be impacted by disturbed asbestos. However, it is clear that if residents were concerned, an assessment of this could be claimed through Council's insurance, rather than the cost of testing etc be borne by all ratepayers.

John attended the Peak View Memorial Serviced honouring the three US firefighters who lost their lives during the Good Good fires. On 23 January 2020, the crew of Bomber 134 – Lt. Col. Ian McBeth, Lt. Col. Paul Hudson and SMSgt Rick De Morgan – were killed when their water tanker collided with a hilltop during the firestorm.

A crowd of over 100 people, including Senior Officers from the NSW Rural Fire Service, State and Federal politicians, the Mayor and Fries from Michelago, witnessed a sombre ceremony conducted by Captain James Barron of the Peak View RFS Brigade. Jim Darrant, the Fire Superintendent from Cooma, gave a very moving account of that terrible day and the tragic accident. It is hoped that the families of the three US crewmen, who were watching via livestreaming of the event, drew some comfort from the fact that we remember them and honour their service.

Snowy Monaro Council sponsored Australia Day celebrations in communities throughout the region. John attended the Australia Day community BBQ at Clive Kelly Oval, hosted by the Michelago Region Community Association's Kerry, Leanne, Tony and Sally and using the BBQ and picnic tables sponsored by the NSW Government Bushfire Recovery Fund.

Cr Tanya Higgins attended Nimmitabel on Australia Day and gave a speech on behalf of Council. She awarded two locals with Community Service awards in front of a crowd of 70 people.

Tanya attended Smith's Road Community Association meeting on the evening of 28 January, with the interim CEO Stephen Dunshea, Mayor Hanna, John Gargett and Zac Combie-Brown from Council's infrastructure area. The key issue was the re-sealing project for Smith's Road from the NSW border to just past the Fire Shed, due to start in March this year.



Exercise for all ages, expert garden care, best internet service

More exercise: there's also Pete's HIIT class, 8 am Saturdays, the Hall. See 'What's on' p.20



MAT PILATES IS BACK

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IMPROVE YOUR FLEXIBILITY, BALANCE AND STRENGTH.
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Michelago Community Hall
Starts 1 February 2025

Term 1 2025 - 9 Weeks
Total upfront payment is \$135

Registration is for the specified dates listed on the registration and waiver notice. Bring a pilates mat and water bottle

**** No refund for non attendance ****

Register using QRCode or bit.ly/3E90sso



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Contact Heidi on
0416 568 653

KIDS DANCE CLASS

Classes are dependent on ages and interest

Starting Monday 10th February



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For more information, contact us :
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Michelago Hall

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Altering hems, resizing, repurposing, adjusting a formal garment
- the right fit makes all the difference!

Also mending/patching clothing and adjusting household items.
Whatever your need, get in touch and I'll see what can be done.

If you would like to learn to sew, or have a sewing machine but not sure
how to get the most out of it, please get in touch to book yourself a lesson.



Michelago Memorial Hall – weddings, parties, anything!



The Memorial Hall's smart facelift has been completed with the new sign, its painted surround and the painted front doors and portico columns. These were organised by Anna Lucas and funded by a Boco Rock grant won by Jenny Wholohan. Anna painted the columns and doors herself.

What a difference!

Hall hire rates

- a) \$17.00 p/h. Refundable Deposit Bond: \$170.00 per Event
- b) Private Party/event: \$290.00 per Event
Refundable Deposit Bond (private event): \$250.00 per Event
- c) Equipment Hire (tables, chairs, urn, etc) for out-of-hall use: \$1 per chair, \$5 per table.
Other equipment by arrangement with the Hall Committee.

Hall bookings memorial.hall@michelagoregion.org.au or 0494 178 469



Massages



Somsri Khaochong is available for appointments on most Wednesdays at the Michelago Railway Station.

Full body / Neck, back & shoulders / Remedial / Thai Oil / Feet / Aromatherapy.

Rates: ½ hour \$35, 1 hour \$65, 1½ hours \$90

Appointments are essential. Call Tony De Luca's phone: 0427 308 239. If that's out of range, call or leave a message on 02 62308 239. Eftpos is available. Cash preferred.



Community Choir

Recommences Thursday 13 February, 7–8 pm, St Thomas Church, Ryrie St.



Michelago's Community Choir is a fun way of connecting with others and experiencing the joy that singing together brings. If you haven't experienced that pleasure before, now could be your time!

No experience is needed, just enthusiasm and a sense of adventure. There are lovely people there and everyone is very welcome.

Even if you feel unsure, it could be worth giving it a go to see if it's good for you.





Mobile library update for Michelago

It's now called [The Village Library Outreach Service](#) 😊 Of course it is. Book your books online and pick up. Here are the dates for drop-off and pick-up January – May 2025 inclusive.

The *Magpie* has printed the dates for Michelago only. If you wish to use a different place for the new drop-off/pick up service, please consult the email links below. The forwarded info is below.

Snowy Monaro Regional Library's transition to a new operating model for the Mobile Library is almost complete, with the service now known as the Library Outreach Service relaunching in early December 2024.

Replacing the truck-based Mobile Library, this new operating model provides a monthly pre-booked pick-up and drop-off library service to residents in the Adaminaby, Berridale, Bredbo, Dalgety, Delegate, Michelago and Nimmitabel areas.

How the Library Outreach Service works:

- Monthly timetable of in-person collection and drop-off points in Adaminaby, Berridale, Bredbo, Dalgety, Delegate, Michelago and Nimmitabel
- Pre-order library items by phone, email, or reserve items online
 - To order by phone, call (02) 6451 1630
 - To order by email, contact books@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au
 - To reserve online, visit www.snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au/Library
- Collect and return orders at one of the collection points across the region.

Michelago's time and place are now always Thurs. 10.30 – 11.30am, Michelago Public School.

Thursdays: 23 January, 20 February, 20 March, 17 April, 22 May.

- Please contact Cheryl Smith, Coordinator Library Services, with any questions, concerns, or feedback about the new Library Outreach Service.
- Phone (02) 6451 1630
- Email books@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au



A mobile library

Reservations at <https://www.snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au/Library>



Thank you for your donations

The three collection boxes at the Michelago General Store are for our Rural Fire Brigade, the MRCA-run Railway Station and for the printed copies of the *Magpie*. All have been and continue to be generously supported by Michelago people and visitors.



The MRCA asks \$2 (which also supports the Railway Station) for the printed *Magpie*.

Recently, the Railway Station box yielded \$92.30 and the *Magpie* one \$196.05. Thank you!



Seed Savers

The next gathering of gardeners will be at the tennis courts clubhouse on Sunday 16 February, 2–4pm.

Seeds and seedlings swapped around at the Spring meeting have flourished in many gardens, so there are many things to share – stories of beautiful and culinary successes, tips about dealing with failures and pests (of the garden variety) and the seeds gardeners are gathering as plants start anticipating Autumn.



Media Release from SMRC issued 23.12.2024



Road resealing program for 2025 starts mid-January



[Only sections relevant to Michelago are here printed from the media release –Ed.]

Road resealing and heavy patching works get underway in January 2025 until early February 2025, weather permitting, for roads in the Bombala area, Cooma, Jindabyne area, and Michelago.

Residents and businesses on affected streets will be notified directly in early January about the specific dates and times for the work coming to their street. The schedule is subject to change due to bad weather or other delays.

These works are part of Council's significant investment into the region's road network, making road journeys safer, quicker and better for residents, visitors, and local businesses across the Snowy Monaro.

Road resealing and heavy patching works get underway in January 2025 until early February 2025, weather permitting, for roads in the Bombala area, Cooma, Jindabyne area and Michelago.

Burra Road, Michelago – Section from Ryrie Street to Tinderry Road

Ryrie Street, Michelago – Section from Monaro Highway to Burra Road.

Contact us with any queries. Email council@smrc.nsw.gov.au or phone 1300 345 345.



2024 – 25 Volunteer Grants: Expressions of Interest

This grants program is a Federal Government initiative and is highly competitive. After expressions of interest (EOI) are received, a shortlist is compiled and those fortunate to be on it are notified and may then actually apply for the money they need.

MRCA President Kerry Rooney has sent an EOI, more in hope than expectation. Still, if you don't ask ...

All the MRCA is asking for is \$1,000 to pay the annual public liability insurance premium.

Here is part of the EOI:

Q. What does your organisation do to support the local community?

We lease the Michelago Railway Station for community use, we maintain the railway station buildings, we apply for grants to provide local community infrastructure, eg BBQ, tables and shelters at the local oval, we lobby local council and other levels of government on issues affecting Michelago and the surrounding region.

Q. How will the grant activity enable your organisation's volunteers to address the needs of the local community and demonstrate value for money?

We will be juggling financially this year as we have to complete repairs at the Michelago Railway Station. While we do have a grant for the majority of work, we also have to meet payments for the lease, electricity and for our public liability insurance. Any help we could get with these costs would benefit us in achieving our objectives to support the Michelago community.

[Please, sir ...]



Road Name Bank *[Now it's too late to put in your dog's name for a road and now that the Australian Open is over ...]*

In a Council media release of 18. 12.2024, 'Community feedback is being sought on the first collection of names proposed for inclusion in Council's new Road Name Bank. These names will be used for future streets and roads across the region ... The proposed names were collected late last year through community submissions ... Visit <https://qrco.de/roadnames>

"Getting a list of pre-approved road names ... makes sense ... means our new streets will have names that really mean something to our region and tell our story," said ... Mayor Chris Hanna ... "[so] jump on and have a look ... your feedback is the most important of this whole process."

Residents can review the first batch of proposed names and provide feedback until 11.59pm on Sunday 2 February 2025 through the online submission form at <https://qrco.de/roadnames> or email to council@snowymoonaro.nsw.gov.au '



Magpie information

Get the Magpie free by email: send name and email address to newsletter@michelagoregion.org.au Print copies are \$2 at the Michelago shop. This goes to the Railway Station maintenance. Previous issues are available on www.michelagoregion.org.au

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Advertisements: businesses can purchase advertisement space for \$30.00 for three issues (advertisement size depends on the space available). Non-business ads are free.

Contributions: photos (jpg preferred, please) and news items are welcome. Please send them to newsletter@michelagoregion.org.au Please give your name and put *Magpie* in the subject line. Published items will be attributed.

If you have events or activities planned and would like them listed in the *Magpie* calendar, please email them to newsletter@michelagoregion.org.au

The MRCA committee reserves the right to edit contributions for length and clarity.

Photos and articles, unless otherwise accredited, are by Leanne Pattison, *Magpie* Editor. Other images are taken from free Creative Commons.



MRCA information

To join the MRCA, first download the membership form at www.michelagoregion.org.au

It's only \$10 p/a single and \$15 p/a family.

Joining or renewing, you can pay by EFT: BSB 633000 Account number 126401058

Account name: Michelago Region Community Association Inc.

Please remember to include your name.

There are **four good reasons** for joining the Michelago Region Community Association:

1. The more representative we are, the more we can achieve for our village and region.
2. You get updates from Council.
3. All funds go to running costs, including upkeep, rental and insurance for Michelago's heritage-listed Railway Station. The Committee applies for government grants and occasionally organises other fund-raisers, depending on available personnel.
4. It's sociable – you know what's happening, who's doing what, and you participate only if you want to.

The MRCA Committee <http://www.michelagoregion.org.au/mrca/>

Meetings are open: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6 pm, Railway Station. Next: 11 Feb. All Michelagans are welcome. The minutes are on the website: www.michelagoregion.org.au



What's on?



Please send quick updates of what's coming up, what's on and any corrections to newsletter@michelagoregion.org.au If the *Magpie* knows about it, it will be here.

Previous issues of the *Magpie* are on www.michelagoregion.org.au

Regular (Venues, contacts and times can change; information is here as received.)

- **Choir** Thursdays, 7–8pm, St Thomas Church, Ryrie St. Resumes 13 Feb after a summer break.
- **Colinton Fire Brigade** Training 2nd Saturday of the month, from 1pm. 4574 Monaro Hwy, Colinton. Contact: secretarycolintonrfs@gmail.com
- **Dance class for kids**. Term 1, from Mon. 10 Feb. Mondays 5–6pm. Michelago Hall. Details p.13.
- **Michelago Fire Brigade** training usually second Sunday of the month, 9am–1pm. Contact details: MRCA notice board at the Michelago General Store. Captain Abby 0417 548 118
- **Hall Committee** general meeting. Hall. Currently every 2nd month, 3rd Wed 6pm.
- **Hall bookings** memorial.hall@michelagoregion.org.au 0494 178 469. Current hire rates: p.14.
- **HIIT** (high intensity interval training) exercise class with Peter (0417 427 494). Hall. Sat 8am. \$10. 'Works for all ages.'
- **Library** Mobile library. Thurs. 20 Feb Outside the school 10.30 –11.30. **See p.16 for major changes.**
- **Massage**: two services available. See p.15.
- **MRCA** general meeting (open). Railway station. Usually monthly 2nd Tues 6pm. Next: 11 Feb.
- **Pilates** Saturdays, 9.30-10.15 am, Hall. From 1 Feb. See p.13 and flyer on shop noticeboard.
- **Pony Club** Pony Club Monthly 2nd Sunday. Enquiries: Secretary: Romney (0428 297 514) or President: Rhys (0401 778 004) or email michelagoponyclub.secretary@gmail.com Also see <https://ponyclubaustralia.com.au> (Note changes to previous posts.)
- **Seed Savers** Enquiries: SMS or contact Belinda: 0411 043 027 or hello@michelagoyoga.com.au or Jenny 0400 484 485 or jenny258@bigpond.com See p.17. Next meeting: Sunday 16 Feb, 2-4pm, tennis clubhouse.
- **Senior Lunch Group** 1st Monday of the month, 1pm. Location varies. Call Janet 0414 785 865.
- **St Patrick's** Catholic Church. Updates on Michelago's Facebook Noticeboard.
- **St Thomas's** Anglican Church. Holy Communion. Monthly, 3rd Sunday 11am.
- **Trail Riders** Usually monthly, 1st Sat. Check details on Tinderry tab of Australian Trail Horse Riders Association (ATHRA). President Don Munns 0407 235 407. Membership – Secretary Heidi Dreyer 0434 197 122.

One-offs (that we know about) (Venues and times can change. Information is here as received.)

February

- **Michelago Cricket Club** Next home game 2 Feb. 12.30– approx. 4.30 pm. Michelago's Clive Kelly Oval. See p.3 & 4 re previous home game.

March

- **Visit by the National Trust (ACT)** to Michelago Cemetery and Railway Station. Wed, 26 Mar. Details to be confirmed.

