

THE MENANGLE NEWS

Vol 33 No 6

JUNE 2023

The Menangle News is a monthly newsletter first published in 1981.

Website for past issues: menangle.com.au (Menangle – the Birthplace of Australian Agriculture)

Editor: Sue Peacock 0425 203 429 susan.peacock2@gmail.com

ST JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH

Enquiries: office@menangleanglican.com.au

Sunday Services: 8.30 am and 10.00 am

10.00 am service is live-streamed at

www.menangleanglican.com.au

ST PATRICKS CATHOLIC CHURCH

6.00pm on 1st Sunday each month

SALVATION ARMY HOME CHURCH

SUNDAYS: 9.30am

@ 10 Station St

Sue Peacock 0425 203 429



NEXT FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE

SUNDAY 23 JULY 12-2pm

Dean McGrath Park (18 Station St)

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2024

To add some fun to next year's Australia Day Breakfast the Menangle News is once again inviting people to nominate neighbours for Awards.

Start taking note of people who contribute to the rich tapestry of our Menangle Community!

P.S. We plan to retain our venue at the Fire Shed as this gives us a very "rural" feel and also accommodates our Car Club visitors.

THOMMO'S CORNER

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter.

"What are you doing?" she asked.

"Hunting flies" he replied.

"Oh, killed any?" she said.

"Yep, three males, two females," came the answer.

Intrigued the wife asked, "How can you tell them apart?"

Husband: "Three were on beer cans, two were on the phone."

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MONDAY – FRIDAY: 7.00am – 2.30pm

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 8.00am – 2.00pm

Delicious Full Breakfast and Lunch menus now available!

POST OFFICE

open 9 – 5 Monday to Friday

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

2nd Robert George

4th James Porteous

4th Stephen Cross

9th Harry Warner

13th Patricia Costello

14th William Lamrock-George

14th Sue Lamrock

17th Reece Collison

18th Jimmy Anderson

22nd Natalie Hughes

22nd Timothy Malone

24th Bridget McGrath

25th Vicky Jeffree

26th Steve Collison

Email to susan.peacock2@gmail.com



Thank you, Mirvac, for sponsoring the printing of this issue of the Menangle News.

Land in Village Glen, Stage 2A is now registered.

A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE

May 2023 has changed the world.

The 21 days of prayer and fasting by 100 million international Christians, focusing on God's end time purposes for Israel, has changed the spiritual atmosphere in Israel. Reports are that many secular Jews and Orthodox Jews are now interested in hearing about Jesus and considering Him as their Jewish Messiah.

Many in the church have realised that God's story is consistent from start to finish. He is the same God of the Old Testament, as He is in the New.

His promises to the Jewish people are established forever, and His word can never be broken. Jesus is the King of the Jews. He will return to Jerusalem and occupy His rightful place on the throne of David.

Many of us once believed that God disqualified the Jewish people from their inheritance of the Land of Israel and as the Children of Israel. We believed that Israel was just absorbed into the International Church when they received our Jesus as their Saviour and Lord.

WE WERE WRONG!

Many Jewish people have recognised Jesus as their Messiah. They like to be known as Messianic Jews. Many live in Israel again since her establishment in 1948. And they have a very important role to play in the outworking of the plan of God for the end of the age when Jesus comes back.

The Day of Pentecost in May 2023 has seen the launch of a DECADE of EVANGELISM. In 2033 it will be exactly 2,000 years since the birth of the church, and Jesus giving the Great Commission "All authority in heaven and earth has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of the nations, immersing them in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you. And remember I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

There are still many people groups in the world who have not yet been awakened to the wonderful news of a God who loves them and wants to be a good Father to them. A God who comes in human form to redeem them, pay the penalty for their sin, and offer them forgiveness and newness of life.

And there are still many Jewish people yet to awake to this beautiful gospel.

So, we continue to pray that both the fulness of the International Church (the full number, the full maturity of the character of Jesus, the full power of the Holy Spirit and the full wisdom of God) will come in

AND also that ALL ISRAEL WILL BE SAVED! (See Romans 11:25)

Blessings and Love, Sue

CAMDEN AGLOW MEETING

At 10 Station St, Menangle at 2.00 pm

13th JUNE, 11th JULY

Enquiries Sue: 0425 203 429

Aglow is an international, interdenominational Christian movement in over 170 nations.

We have friendly, lively bible discussions, pray for

and encourage each other, remember Jesus by celebrating communion together, and always have a delicious afternoon tea.



MEN'S SHED

Open on Mondays and Thursdays 8.30am to 12noon in the old Whiteman's shed, Stevens Rd, Menangle. (Public holidays excepted.)

Contact Allan Webb: 46339886; 0409 246 117

MOBILE LIBRARY

The Wollondilly mobile library visits Menangle every Tuesday between 9.30 am and 11.30 am.

Dean McGrath Park Station St.

Also check out **Wollondilly Library website**

MENANGLE DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

Menangle District Probus Club especially caters for retirees in our community, and is designed for friendship, fellowship and fun. Meetings are held in the Durham Green Club Room 10.00 am till 12.00pm
NEXT MEETING Monday June 19th

Guest Speaker: Deborah Wallace, a retired Detective Superintendent who you may recognise from crime shows on TV. Deborah has hosted a lot of television crime shows and is currently finishing a series "Million Dollar Murders."

If interested, please contact:

President David Llewellyn 46263460

Or Secretary Sue Peacock 0425 203 429

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DIDJANO DPRB

How much does a 30cm length of railway line weigh?

Despite not using a certified and lawfully accurate weighing device, but using a set of dodgy bathroom scales, the answer is approximately 13 kg.

Back in the March 2023 edition of the Menangle News it is recorded that a resident jumped from the Railway Bridge into the Nepean, River after a prolonged period of very heavy rain. It got the author thinking about any other incidents that have happened and are linked to our famous old bridge.

Readers may wish to view some photographs taken back in 1975 which relate the derailment in December of that year.

Access Google and then on the Menangle Bridge Crashes will assist.

One of the striking features of the 1975 photographs is the lack of foliage particularly in the vicinity of the sandstone piers.

Despite the guarantee by authorities that all components of the entire structure would be repaired, this did not happen.

Considerable chunks of sandstone broken away from the piers were not replaced and today much of the damage is hidden behind foliage which was not there in 1975.

In early 2003, some 20 years ago, the bridge was closed for approximately one month during which repairs were effected.

Upon re-opening the speed limit was set at 20kph. In due course the speed limits were increased and at the time of writing normal travel speeds are in place.

Regular road users who travel north and go under the bridge should be aware that there is a vehicular height limit of 4.4m.

Travelling south, it is indicated at 4.3m on a sign near Glen Alpine. "Over-height" incidents are infrequent, but from time to time they do occur. One that comes to mind happened sometime in the early to mid-2000s and the author had a direct involvement. I hope the following story does not bore our readers.

At 5.07am whilst driving to Mittagong to start work at 6.00am the author was directed by senior police at Campbelltown to stop all northbound traffic upon the F5 at Picton Rd, Wilton. A major crash had occurred a short time earlier and the main road between Sydney and Melbourne had to be closed in both directions between Picton Rd Wilton and Narellan Rd Kenny Hill. As directed, northbound traffic did not proceed north of Picton Rd. All northbound traffic exited from the freeway via the Picton off ramp. Some of the northbound traffic, especially heavy vehicles, had travelled from Victoria or South Australia. Upon their arrival at Picton Rd some went right towards Wollongong, and others went left towards Picton. Then the fun and games started to emerge. Some of those drivers who elected to travel towards Picton became lost. Upon reaching the intersection with Menangle Rd some drivers elected to continue to Picton. Others elected to turn right into Menangle Rd. Thereafter the drivers didn't really have to make another decision until they reached the Menangle Road/Finns Rd intersection. Some elected to take the Finns Rd option. However, and unfortunately, other drivers elected to continue upon Menangle Rd and travel towards Campbelltown via our normally peaceful village. All went well until finally an over height articulated lorry (big truck) became firmly wedged between the bitumen and the base of our famous and historic Rail Bridge. The author received assistance and was then relieved at Wilton to be directed to attend the issue of the heavy vehicle wedged under the rail bridge. In the end it wasn't a huge effort to "unstuck" the heavy vehicle. The tyres

were deflated, not completely; the lorry was driven forward to clear the bridge. Campbelltown Council provided a compressor, and the tyres were inflated. The lorry continued towards Campbelltown.

However, there was some fallout from the mishap. All rail traffic on the main southern line was stopped from using the rail bridge until it had been inspected and then deemed safe to re-open.

On a slightly lighter note the author did hear a comment from one of the Structural Engineers and it went along the lines of "Who was the *#!*# who sent the heavy vehicles this way?"

In due course the bridge was re-opened, and normal rain movements recommenced. One of the recommendations from the investigation, was to have detour warning signs erected to warn the drivers of heavy vehicles not to drive upon Menangle Rd, generally north from the intersection with Finns Rd. There is one nearby and the location will be revealed in the next issue. So that's how the author contributed to the complete closure of the Main Southern Rail Line.

In closing, we probably take for granted the importance of the rail bridge and the various types of trains that have travelled upon it, and those types that continue to do so. Freight trains rumble upon it day and night. The Sydney to Melbourne XPT is another, as is the three carriage passenger train to Canberra. There is also the four carriage passenger train to Goulburn and the two carriage passenger train to the Southern Highlands. However the occasional Steam Trains that appear for special events and the like are favourites. The late John Evans has a special "bent" for the 38 class steam locomotive. For the author it is the Flying Scotsman" a Pacific 4-6-2 which visited Australia in 1988-89 for a series of events associated with Bi-centennial celebrations.



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SATURDAY 9.00 am - 1.00 pm

SUNDAY & PUBLIC HOLIDAY CLOSED



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Menangle Rural Fire Brigade June 2023 Update



Menangle



The month of May and the beginning of June saw a significant increase in the amount of fire calls the brigade has been receiving. During this period the brigade has attended a number of grass fires, pile burns and an escaped pile burn.

The month of May also saw us work alongside a number of brigades from the Southern Highlands and Macarthur districts to conduct a large Hazard Reduction activity on the Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute. This was a fantastic day that not only significantly reduced the bushfire risk on the EMAI, but also provided a great opportunity for training ahead of the upcoming bushfire season.

2023 Annual General Meeting

The 2023 AGM was a special evening for Menangle Rural Fire Brigade, with a number of members being recognised for their Long Service. The following members were all awarded ten-year Long Service Medals.

- Rod Harris
- Tiffany Hayman
- Gary Luke
- Steve Rochaix

Rod, Tiffany, Gary and Steve all played a major role in our Brigade's response to the Black Summer bush fires and a number of other major bushfires. But the contribution of these members extends well beyond the fire ground. They all put a huge amount of time into the brigade through administration, equipment management, training and community engagement.

Congratulations to you all, and thank you for all that you contribute to our brigade and community.



Winter Fire Safety: Prevent fires from heaters and open fires.

Cooler months see a 10% increase in the number of home fires, with more fires in bedrooms and loungerooms due to heaters and electric blankets.

- Keep everything one metre away from your heater.
- Install and use as per manufacturer's instructions.
- If you suspect a fault, have the heater serviced or replaced.
- Always supervise young children in rooms with open fires or working heaters.
- Ensure flues and chimneys are regularly cleaned.
- Strong fire screens should be set up in front of open fires.
- Never use wheat bags in bed.

Finally, make sure you have a working fire alarm. If you don't have a working smoke alarm installed in your home, and a fire occurs: You are 57% more likely to suffer property loss and damage. Remember to change the batteries in your smoke alarms every six months and test them to ensure that they're working.