

# THE MENANGLE NEWS

Vol 35 No 3

MARCH 2025

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

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

Editor: Sue Peacock 0425 203 429 [susan.peacock2@gmail.com](mailto:susan.peacock2@gmail.com)

## ST JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH

Enquiries: [office@menangleanglican.com.au](mailto: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](http://www.menangleanglican.com.au)

**Ladies Coffee Morning 10am at the Store**

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday each month.**

## ST PATRICKS CATHOLIC CHURCH

5.00pm on 1st Sunday each month

## MUSIC TIME 2025

The Music Time Team are excited to announce that Music Time will be commencing for 2025 on

**TUESDAY MARCH 18**

**9.30am – 11.30am**

**In the Rectory,  
5 Sulman Place –  
LOWER ROOM**



And will be held each Tuesday during school terms. Music Time is for Preschoolers and their Parents or Carers, and costs \$1 per family.

**All welcome!**

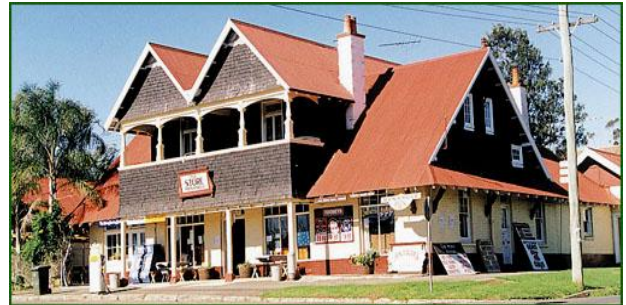
## THOMMO'S CORNER

Late one night a burglar broke into a house and while he was sneaking around, he heard a voice say, "Jesus is watching you." He looked around and saw nothing. He kept on creeping and again heard "Jesus is watching you." In a dark corner he saw a cage with a parrot inside. The burglar asked the parrot "Was it you who said Jesus is watching me?" The parrot replied "Yes." Relieved the burglar asked, "What is your name?" The Parrot said "Clarence." The burglar said "That's a stupid name for a parrot. What idiot named you Clarence?" The parrot answered, "The same idiot who named the rottweiler Jesus."



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

## THE STORE MENANGLE



### OPENING HOURS

MONDAY – FRIDAY: 6.30am – 2.30pm

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 8.00am – 2.00pm

Delicious Full Breakfast and Lunch menus.

### POST OFFICE

open 9 – 5 Monday to Friday Phone: 46338101

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2<sup>nd</sup> James McFarlane, Dorothy Noyes  
2<sup>nd</sup> Emelise Bond  
4<sup>th</sup> Natalie Worthington  
6<sup>th</sup> Brodie James  
7<sup>th</sup> Lisa Redmond  
13<sup>th</sup> Graham Bell  
15<sup>th</sup> Emily Rose  
17<sup>th</sup> Tanida Johnson  
19<sup>th</sup> Jake Kent  
21<sup>st</sup> Judy Lynch, Sean McMullen  
22<sup>nd</sup> Glen Perentin, Glynnis Bell, Mark Campbell, Cathy Bulger



## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

14<sup>th</sup> Steve and Simone Collison  
15<sup>th</sup> Steve and Kerry Charles  
18<sup>th</sup> James and Karen McFarlane  
20<sup>th</sup> Steve and Vicki Blight  
26<sup>th</sup> Jenni and Steve McGrath

Add your special dates to our list by sending an email to: [susan.peacock2@gmail.com](mailto:susan.peacock2@gmail.com)

## Menangle Community Association

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday March 27<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm in the Fire Shed.

Updates on the School of Arts, the Community Garden, The Old Menangle Train Station, Sewage Connections etc!

## EDITORIAL - THE FAITH JOURNEY

Dear Reader,

Those of us who are in the second half of life have had ample opportunity to search for the meaning of life. I am reading a book by Richard Rohr "Falling Upward a spirituality for the two halves of life" and would love to share some of the insights he has included.

Our first half of life forms us into a "loyal soldier" similar to the "elder son" in Jesus' parable of the prodigal son. His very loyalty to strict meritocracy, to his own entitlement, to obedience and loyalty to his father, keeps him from the very "celebration" that same father has prepared, even though he begs the son to come to the feast" (Luke 18:9-14). (1)

The loyal soldier must be killed in order for us to hear and obey the deeper voice of God, *It will sound an awful lot like the voices of risk, of trust, of surrender, of soul, of "common sense" of destiny, of love, of an intimate stranger, of your deepest self.*" (2)

- ❖ *Instead of being ego-driven, you will begin to be soul-drawn.* (3)
- ❖ *Perfection is a mathematical or divine concept, goodness is a beautiful human concept that includes us all".* (4)
- ❖ *Every time God forgives us, God is saying that God's own rules do not matter as much as the relationship that God wants to create with us.* (5)

All through the bible we see that God has been the very best of Fathers – He has set His moral standard by which every human being's behaviour will be measured. And alongside that, He has made various ways for those who admit their shortfall, to receive mercy and find grace.

Within one year of the beginning of Israel's history as a nation a system of sacrifices was set up that provided forgiveness and restored righteousness to them.

At the first coming of Jesus, these ongoing sacrifices were fulfilled by the once for all sacrifice of Jesus, the Son of Man, the Son of God. The Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed in AD 70 which ended the System of Sacrifices.

Simply by believing, by faith and trust in Jesus we now have the way through which we find forgiveness and healing, and a restored relationship with the God and Father of us all.

*Jesus is never upset at sinners (check it out!); he is only upset with people who do not think they are sinners! Jesus was fully at home with this tragic sense of life. He lived and rose inside it. I am now personally convinced that Jesus' ability to find higher order inside constant disorder is the very heart of His message – and why true gospel, as rare as it might be, still heals and renews all it touches.* (6)

Blessings and love, Sue

Bibliography Rohr, R. (2013) *Falling upward*. London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

- (1) The First Half of Life p45
- (2) The First Half of Life p48
- (3) The First Half of Life p50
- (4) Introduction p xxiii
- (5) The Tragic Sense of Life p56-57
- (6) The Tragic Sense of Life p 59

## ALIGNMENT BOOK CLUB

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month

At 10 Station St, Menangle at 2.00 pm

TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> March

We are reading a chapter each month of this wonderful book written by Asher Intrater, a Messianic Jew living in Jerusalem.

Asher brings the Old and New Covenant promises into a wonderfully rich, integrated whole that helps us understand these end-times days we are living in.

Enquiries Sue: 0425 203 429

AGLOW  
INTERNATIONAL  
AUSTRALIA

MACARTHUR  
AGLOW

PASSOVER SEDER FOR Christians

**On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April 5.30pm – 8.00pm  
At the Old Menangle School.**

**RSVP Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April.  
Sue Peacock 0425 203 429  
susan.peacock2@gmail.com**



The Passover Meal that Jesus shared with His disciples is the



setting for

the beautiful sacrament of Holy Communion, the Eucharist.

There are layers of symbolic meaning

in all the elements of the Passover which add richness to our experience of encountering God as we remember Jesus through this precious sacrament.

After we read through the Seder (the "Order") we will share a delicious meal together.

A donation of \$10 per head towards costs would be very much appreciated and will be collected on the night.

## MOBILE LIBRARY

The Wollondilly mobile library visits Menangle every

Tuesday between 9.30 am and 11.30 am.

Outside St Patrick's Church Menangle Rd.

## MENANGLE DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

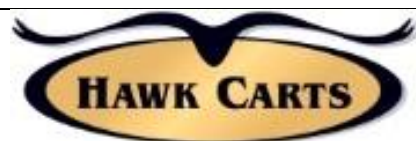
NEXT MEETING on Monday March 17th at 10.00am

Is our AGM.

If interested, please contact:

President David Llewellyn 0407 105 520

Or Secretary Sue Peacock 0425 203 429



Wayne Mulholland - Hawk Carts

Phone: 02 4632 7233 Mobile: 0431 674 890

Website: hawkcarts.com.au

## UPDATE ON THE WAR IN ISRAEL.

The first phase of the ceasefire between Israel and Hamas has ended. We still have approximately 24 hostages who may be alive in Gaza and 34 kidnapped or murdered dead bodies being held there.

It is not actually known how many of the hostages are still alive, although the statistics are becoming more clear with testimonies of recently released hostages. Many families have gone through this past year and a half in agony, not knowing if their loved ones are alive or dead.

It has become certain, however, that time is running out for those left behind, being deprived of food and basic hygiene, and of course medical care. Recently released hostage Eli Sharavi testified that he spent the entire last year in leg chains, deep under the ground, on a diet of less than 200 calories a day. It's astounding that he even survived.

This week the first phase of the ceasefire has ended. If talks cannot salvage the second stage, we will immediately return to active war and the fate of the remaining hostages will be in jeopardy. Israel is not willing to pull out of the Egyptian border of Gaza where arms are smuggled in or promise to end the war altogether.

Hamas, of course, is not willing to disarm and allow an outside coalition to govern Gaza.

There is great anger and division in Israel over these extremely complicated and emotionally charged issues.

**Please pray!**

## MACARTHUR LEARN TO SWIM

2/53 Cawdor Rd Camden Ph. 4655 7735

## LIONS CLUB OF CAMDEN MARKETS

From 7:30am Saturday at Onslow Park  
Phone: 0417 230 418

## MENANGLE MEN'S SHED

1 Stevens Rd, Menangle

Monday and Friday 8.30am till 12.00 noon

New members welcome.

Retired or finished work and in need of something to do? Don't just sit there bored, fed up and stressed.....

### Why not join a Men's Shed.

Make new friends. Make things from timber, join in community projects, learn new skills. Use your skills to help others. If any of the above is not for you, just come along and have a cuppa and chat.



Contact Jim  
0490 551 789

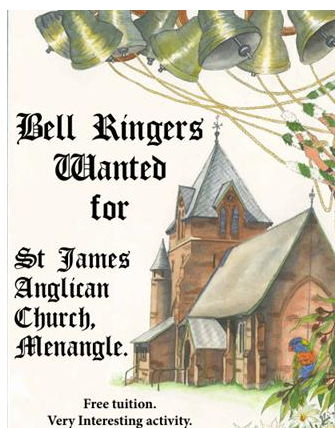


Tel.: 02 4632 8554

**YOUR LOCAL PHARMACY**

- + **Local Vaccination Provider** (We provide all types of vaccination, either regular vaccines or travel vaccines)
- + **FREE Flu Vaccine** for seniors 65 years and over
- + **FREE Flu Vaccine** for selected groups less than 65 years. (**NO** prescription required **and NO** waiting time)
- + **FREE** Local Delivery (Conditions apply)
- + Webster Packing Service
- + A dedicated pharmacist with **20+ years of experience** is here to answer all your medical inquiries and provide health advice.

## NEWS FROM ST JAMES BELLTOWER



On Australia Day the band of eight ringers were successful in ringing the first full peal on the bells of St James Church in Menangle. The peal consisted of 5040 changes without repeating any changes and it took three hours to ring. The method was called Trim Alliance

Major, named after Matthew Flinders cat. During the year of 2024 Matthew Flinders body was reburied in the church he was christened in.

" He put Australia on the map!"

### FAMOUS BELL RINGING VISITORS.

On Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March the bell tower had a visit from members of the Ancient College Society of College Youths, a change ringing group that was formed in 1637 and based in London. The group supply ringers for St Pauls Cathedral London and Westminster Abbey. They were in Australia on what is known as a tower grab, that is ringing at lots of different towers than the towers they usually ring at. They started ringing in Perth, then Adelaide, Melbourne/Hobart, Sydney and finished in Brisbane, they enjoyed ringing in Menangle.

Contact Ronald Shepherd  
[ronaldshepherd@y7mail.com](mailto:ronaldshepherd@y7mail.com)  
Roy Craddock 0467 186 504



# Menangle Brigade



infrastructure was damaged.

## Menangle RFS March 2025 Update

February was a relatively quiet month for Menangle Rural Fire Brigade with only four emergency call-outs. This included motor vehicles accidents, grass fires an oil spill and a bush fire.

A huge thank you to some fast-acting Menangle residents who spotted a grass fire that started in the rail corridor in February and very quickly called 000. This facilitated a very fast response from Menangle RFS and a number of other brigades who quickly extinguished the fire before it spread and before any

### Community Building Partnership Program

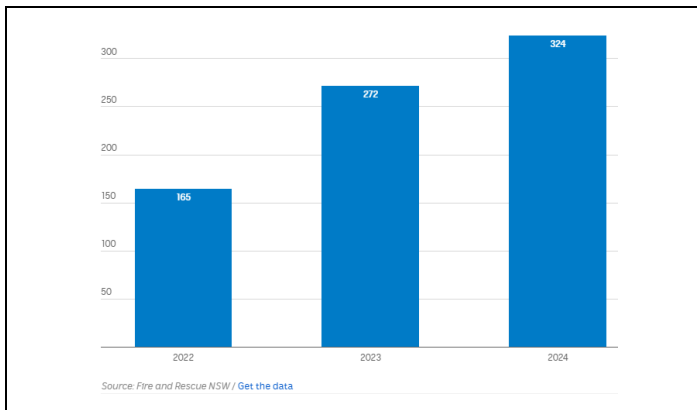
In 2024 it was announced that Menangle Rural Fire Brigade were successful in their application for a NSW Government Community Building Partnership Grant. The brigade was awarded \$72,272 to be used on brigade shed amenities including an upgrade of our training spaces for cadets/ juniors, increased storage and equipment upgrades for improved community support.

In return for grant funding the brigade’s members have committed to contributing to a large number of volunteer hours to complete the renovations and upgrades. You will see several working bees taking place in coming months as the works are undertaken.

We are extremely grateful to be successful recipients of the Community Building Partnership team and look forward to the increased storage and functionality at the shed.

### Lithium-ion Battery Safety

As mentioned in last month’s Menangle News the increasing incidence of fires starting from Lithium-ion batteries is a risk all community members must be aware of. Please see below for some stats about Lithium-ion battery fires and safety tips from Fire and Rescue NSW to help keep you and your family safe.



**Lithium-ion batteries:**  
**Things you need to know**

Charge Safe  
fire.nsw.gov.au/chargesafe

**Charge Safe**

**Before charging**

- 1 Have working smoke alarms in the rooms where you charge or store your devices.
- 2 E-scooters, e-bikes, and power-tools, should only be charged in the garages and sheds with working smoke alarms.
- 3 Charge batteries on hard surfaces like concrete, tiles or uncluttered countertops and tabletops.
- 1 Charge away from living spaces and exits.

**Charge Safe**

**When to charge**

- 1 Do not charge when you are asleep or not at home.
- 2 Once the device has a full battery, disconnect it from the charger.
- 1 Never use your device in bed while it is charging.
- 1 Do not charge on soft surfaces like couches and beds.