

# The Welcome Mat

Bendigo  
**NEWCOMERS**  
Everyone has a place

Newsletter of Bendigo Newcomers Inc A0047140V

Issue 27: Dec 2009 ~ April 2010

## Seasons Greetings To All Members, Supporters and First Time Readers

Our Annual General Meeting was held on 15th September 2009 at the Bridge Hotel. 25 members attended.

5 committee members did not seek re-election. On behalf of Bendigo Newcomers, I thank these retiring committee members for their valuable contribution to the development and running of our organization.

All committee positions were filled at the AGM.

President – Kevin Bazley, Vice President – Milton Long, Treasurer – John Lane. Secretary – Gail Butt. Committee members – Christine Longmire, Mary Thomas, Colleen McCarthy, Jenny Bazley.

A number of new members have joined since 1st July 2009. Please make them feel welcome when you meet at an event.

This edition of The Welcome Mat has events for January 2010 through until the end of April.

Christine, Colleen and Jenny have scheduled a variety of events to suit our varied membership. Contact them if you have any ideas, wish to hold an event at your home, or are willing to act as a host at one of our future events.

The Rotary Club of Bendigo Strathdale invites members to attend one of their regular meetings held each Tuesday at 6pm. Contact Lynne Cooper on 0438591063 for details.

Best Wishes for the Christmas Season and 2010.

**Kevin Bazley**  
President  
0418582531

## FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT BENDIGO NEWCOMERS

If you have any suggestions or comments please send them to [bendigonewcomers@netconnect.com.au](mailto:bendigonewcomers@netconnect.com.au)

We have a lot more information on our website at [www.bendigonewcomers.com](http://www.bendigonewcomers.com)

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To all our members,  
best wishes for a very  
Merry Christmas and  
a safe and happy  
New Year.



## PROFILE OF A NEWCOMER



**My name:** Don Longmire

**My place and date of birth:** Snowtown in SA 1951

**My Family:** 2 daughters, Julie-Anne 34 and Brenda 32 and our little grandson Ben 3.

**I have lived in Bendigo:** 2½ years.

**I came to Bendigo:** from Redhill SA.

**My most enjoyable moments are spent:** having quality time with family and friends and discovering new places and events in Victoria.

**I would describe myself as being:** hardworking and conscientious and keen to enjoy my retirement.

**My earliest memory:** is walking along the floor bearers with my sisters when I was 3 of the new homestead being built on the farm and thinking I was going to fall into a big abyss under the house.

**The music I love is:** Slim Dusty and other country music.

**The defining moment in my life has been:** when I met my wife Christine.

**I wish I had never:** bought an easy start brush cutter that's really hard to start.

**If I could meet any one in history:** Charles Kingsford-Smith.

**The most memorable book I have read:** "Four Fires" by Bryce Courtney.

**The best place I have visited:** Alice Springs.

**My biggest achievement:** Operating a successful farming business for all my working life.

**If I could wish for anything at all I would wish for:** the people running this country to have some common sense.

*Linking people, places & events*

## For enquiries and event details call

Phone: 5434 4352 or 0418 582 531 - Fax: 5434 4355 • Postal: % BCHS PO Box 1121 Bendigo Vic 3552

Email: [bendigonewcomers@vic.chariot.net.au](mailto:bendigonewcomers@vic.chariot.net.au) • Web: [www.bendigonewcomers.com](http://www.bendigonewcomers.com) • For further contact numbers please refer to our website



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## FEEDBACK MAT

### December 5th-January 31st at the Bendigo Art Gallery "Hello Dolly" the Marie Prideaux Collection

This private doll collection of the late Marie Prideaux is the result of decades of collecting. The exhibition explores the development of doll making processes and features examples of rare and fascinating dolls from around the world. Visit [www.bendigoartgallery.com.au](http://www.bendigoartgallery.com.au)

### March 14th 2010 Olive and Food Fiesta at the Bendigo Pottery

Local olive growers as well as regional wineries will be at this fiesta. There will be Mediterranean music, jazz band, Latin and belly dancers and a great selection of food stalls. Held at the historic Bendigo Pottery, Midland Hwy, Epsom. Visit [www.bendigoolivefiesta.com.au](http://www.bendigoolivefiesta.com.au)

### March 14th until March 28th – Eaglehawk Dahlia and Arts Festival

This year the festival features a Cornish theme. Lots of activities and displays to attend. Visit [www.Dahlia.bendigo.net.au](http://www.Dahlia.bendigo.net.au)

### Bendigo celebrates the 140th Easter Festival in 2010.

For more details visit [www.bendigoeasterfestival.org.au](http://www.bendigoeasterfestival.org.au)

## EVENTS

### December

#### Friday 18th December – Morning Tea at the Puddler from 10.30am

**101 Williamson Street Bendigo.** Join us for our ever popular monthly morning tea. Great opportunity to meet members and find out more about Bendigo Newcomers. Cost \$5.00. Please RSVP to Mary by Wednesday 16th December on 5444 0221.

**Friday 18th December – Drinks @ the Wine Bank 6pm – 8pm View Street, Bendigo.** Meet upstairs under the verandah as we reflect on the year gone by. This will be our last event for 2009. Please RSVP to Michelle by Wednesday 16th December on 5444 1711.

### January 2010

#### Sunday 17th January – Historical Walk 9am

**Meet at the Tourist Information Centre** in Bendigo for a 9am start as our guide will take us for a walking tour of Bendigo's historical buildings and sites in the CBD. Coffee/Brunch afterwards at a venue nearby. RSVP to Jenny by Friday 15th January on 5443 2899.

#### Friday 29th January – Morning Tea at the Puddler from 10.30am

**101 Williamson Street Bendigo.** Join us for our ever popular monthly morning tea. Great opportunity to meet members and find out more about Bendigo Newcomers. Cost \$5.00. Please RSVP to Mary by Wednesday 27th January on 5444 0221.

#### Sunday 31st January – Jazz at the Bridge Hotel.

**49 Bridge Street Bendigo.** Enjoy a drink and/or a light lunch as you listen to a local Jazz Band. RSVP to Gail by January 29th on 0419 574 523.

### February

**Friday 12th February – Dinner at La Terrazza Vineyard 6.30pm 17 Gungurri Road, Huntly.** Set among the vineyards this delightful restaurant specializes in authentic Italian food and locally produced wine. RSVP to Christine by Wednesday February 10th on 5435 2044.

#### Thursday February 18th – Dinner at the National Hotel 6.30pm

**182 High Street Bendigo.** Enjoy dinner with other members at this local Hotel. RSVP to Kevin on 5443 2899 by Tuesday February 16th.

#### Friday 26th February – Morning Tea at the Puddler from 10.30am

**101 Williamson Street Bendigo.** Join us for our ever popular monthly morning tea. Great opportunity to meet members and find out more about Bendigo Newcomers. Cost \$5.00. Please RSVP to Mary by Wednesday 24th February on 5444 0221.

### March

#### Sunday March 7th – Chateau Leamon Rock, Rhythm and Blues in the Vineyard - 12 noon BYO Chairs

**Calder Highway Big Hill.** \$15 entry which includes glass and tastings. Purchase wine by the bottle or glass and also purchase sensational bbq food. RSVP to John or Lynnette by Wednesday 3rd March on 5439 3452.

#### Friday March 12th – Home BBQ At Brenda & Charles at 7pm

**Members only event – BYO Everything.** Contact Brenda to co-ordinate salads and desserts etc. RSVP to Brenda or Charles by Tuesday 9th March on 5443-4886.

#### Sunday March 21st – Shamrock Hotel Tour 11am

**Corner of Pall Mall and Williamson Street,** this historic hotel situated in Bendigo's CBD has been associated with Bendigo's history since 1854. Enjoy a tour around this historic building including the underground tunnels. Cost \$10 per head which includes tour and tea/coffee and scones. Meet at the Hotel Reception just before 11am. RSVP to Mary by Thursday 18th March on 5444 0221. Members may like to go on to lunch at a nearby café.

#### Friday 26th March – Morning Tea at the Puddler from 10.30am

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### April

#### Sunday April 11th - Walk around the White Hills Botanical Gardens

**Meet at the front gate 11am.** Explore this lovely setting and learn more about the improvements to be made in this beautiful garden. Then we will go across the road and enjoy Sunday lunch at the Botanical Hotel – 555 Napier Street, White Hills. RSVP to Colleen by Friday 9th April on 0429 147 299.

#### Sunday April 18th – Come and try Lawn Bowls 11am sharp

**Bendigo Lawn Bowls Club – 100 Barnard Street** will conduct a clinic for Bendigo Newcomers. At a cost of \$13 per head you will have the chance to try bowls and enjoy a two course BBQ lunch. Drinks at bar prices. Only requirement is to wear flat rubber soled shoes or bare feet. RSVP Kevin by Wednesday 14th April on 5443 2899.

#### Saturday April 24th – Games Night commencing 7.30pm

**Members only event - Jenny and Kevin** will host a games night at their home. Can you role a dice? You don't need any experience or special skills for this game. Expect lots of fun and laughter. BYO drinks and Newcomers will supply nibbles. RSVP to Kevin or Jenny on 5443 2899 by Thursday April 22nd and address details will be given then.

#### Friday 30th April – Morning Tea at the Puddler from 10.30am

**101 Williamson Street Bendigo.** Join us for our ever popular monthly morning tea. Great opportunity to meet members and find out more about Bendigo Newcomers. Cost \$5.00. Please RSVP to Mary by Wednesday 28th April on 5444 0221.