

The Welcome Mat

Bendigo
NEWCOMERS
Everyone has a place

Newsletter of Bendigo Newcomers Inc A0047140V

Issue 32: August 2011 ~ November 2011

PRESIDENT'S REPORT AUGUST 2011

Dear Members,

Bendigo Newcomers has kicked into high gear for the winter and members have been able to enjoy a wide variety of very successful social events. We have had a number of dinners and drinks at local pubs; tours of gallery exhibitions, the Bendigo Bank and the Town Hall; and the ever-popular morning teas at the Puddler.

In the last few weeks, on behalf of Bendigo Newcomers, I have been interviewed by radio station Fresh FM, Vision Australia Radio, and the Bendigo Weekly. It is good to be able to go to the public with the impressive list of events we conduct each month (five events for each of June and July) and the fact that we have a strong and active membership of over 100 members.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind members that the Annual General Meeting is coming up on Tuesday 20th September. Reminders will be sent out to everyone prior to the meeting – these will include details of the venue, the agenda and nomination forms for the committee. I would encourage all members to consider being on the committee so that we can continue to provide such a strong program and service for those new to Bendigo. If you are interested, please give me a call or contact any of the current committee to discuss it.

Milton Long, President

PROFILE OF A NEWCOMER



My Name: Rob Plowman

My place and date of birth: Wangaratta 1955 but don't hold that against me!

My Family: Two sons aged 27 and 29 and I'm biased but very proud of them. One's an Optician in Wallan and the other is finishing his PHD in Melbourne.

I have lived in Bendigo: Gees, must be 2 months now! And loving it. I even know what the "Addy" is now!

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I Came to Bendigo: By myself after more than 30 years of living in Melbourne, the USA and back to Melbourne. I really missed the country way of life and I was reminded of it after visiting Bendigo looking for work. I pulled up in my car to meet with an employment agency and a local guy knocked on my car window and handed me his parking meter ticket with 45 minutes still on it. I love country people!

My most enjoyable moments are spent: Relaxing and communicating with friends I've just met or have known for ages, over a coffee or a glass of wine. I would describe myself as being: Outgoing, caring, friendly and a country sort of guy.

My earliest memory: Is of growing up in Wangaratta and finding two uses for "Jaffers" at the local cinema! And learning to survive with three sisters!

The music I love is: Just about any kind except for head banging stuff or any artist that wants to scream at me! Music is a big part of my life. Absolutely love it.

The defining moment in my life has been: Moving to Bendigo! Reinventing myself. Thanks to the Newcomers group for helping make the transition so much easier. It's a fantastic service the Newcomers Club provides.

I wish I had never: Taken so long to reconnect with my smaller city roots and values.

If I could meet anyone in history: Tough question. Wouldn't be just a single person. I'm inspired by folks that discover what their passion is in life and who try to make a difference! People who try and leave a legacy.

The most memorable book I have read: Is one of my Grandfathers books about his journeys through the Simpson Desert with an Aboriginal tracker. Three books in total. He followed his passion and left a real legacy by working with folks who created what we now know as the Flying Doctor Service.

The best place I have visited: There are so many I find it hard to define just one. I'd say India because I learned the perspective of money and happiness.

My biggest achievement: Being a Dad to my two sons and learning as I went on. Just wish the blighters came with a manual as it'd make parenting so much easier!

If I could wish for anything at all I would wish for: More respect and dignity for others in the world and to be an awesome dancer after those rock and roll, swing and jive dance lessons I've had. I'm really rusty now but I've got a pretty good "freestyle" technique!

Linking people, places & events

For enquiries and event details call

Phone: 5434 4352 or 0418 582 531 • Postal: c/o BCHS PO Box 493 Bendigo Vic 3552

Email: bendigonewcomers@vic.chariot.net.au • Web: www.bendigonewcomers.com • For further contact numbers please refer to our website



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FEEDBACK MAT:

This is your chance as a member to have your say. Do you like the mix of events on offer? Do you have a suggestion as to what else we can do?

Hosting Events: This is your club, so why not take some initiative. You can help by simply being a host to one event per year. Contact a committee member if you would like more information or would be willing to host coming events.

COMING SOON: Tram car Restaurant on 15th October. Bookings essential, plus payment in full.

Bendigo Art Gallery WORLD PREMIERE – The White Wedding Dress

Over 200 years of wedding fashions – A tour could be organized if anyone is interested. Cost is \$20 per ticket non-members.

August 2011

Sunday 7th August – Brunch at Wild Mint, 10.30am

NOTE NEW NAME – The Exchange

Bendigo Bank Centro, High Street, Bendigo. Late breakfast, early lunch – you choose. RSVP by Thursday 4th August to Christine on 5435 2044 or email - longmire@westnet.com.au

Sunday 14th August - BBQ hosted by Yvonne Collier 12.30pm to 3.30pm

BYO lunch, BBQ and undercover facility provided. No need to bring plates or cutlery, expect a bit of fun and afternoon entertainment. RSVP by Tuesday 9th August to Yvonne on 5442 4038 or 0488 269 135. Members only event – address supplied upon booking.

Friday 19th August - Drinks at La Piazza, 6.00pm to 8.00pm

La Piazza Wine Bar and Restaurant, Howard Place, Bendigo. Wind down at the end of the week with friends for a couple of hours. Anyone wishing to stay on for a bite to eat can organize on the night. RSVP to Mary by Wednesday 16th August on 5444 0221.

Friday 26th August – 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 23rd August on 5444 0221.

September 2011

Sunday 4th September – Home Event at Helen & Alan Gobbe

Casserole Luncheon – Call Helen to nominate your contribution, ie main or dessert. RSVP by Wednesday 31st August to Helen or Alan on 5444 3645 or email hgobbe@bigpond.com Member only event – address supplied upon booking.

Sunday 11th September – Marong Hotel – music in the afternoon in the beer garden.

Marong Road, Marong. Lunches served from 12 noon to 2.30pm or meet later just for the music. RSVP by Thursday 8th September to Christine on 5435 2044 or email longmire@westnet.com.au

Tuesday 13th September – Capitol Theatre 11am – “Gone with the Wind.”

View Street, Bendigo. We have 10 tickets on hold for Newcomers to attend this production performed by a group of Melbourne actors who have recreated the era of Lux Radio Theatre. Meet for complimentary tea/coffee before the show and for those who wish we will go on to lunch nearby. To ensure your ticket RSVP by 24th August to Christine Longmire. Ph 5435 2044 or email longmire@westnet.com.au

Friday 16th September - Drinks at La Piazza, 6.00pm to 8.00pm

La Piazza Wine Bar and Restaurant, Howard Place, Bendigo. Wind down at the end of the week with friends for a couple of hours. Anyone wishing to stay on for a bite to eat can organize on the night. RSVP by Wednesday 14th September to Gail on 0419 574 523.

Tuesday 20th September – Reminder, AGM

Friday 30th September – 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 September on 5444 0221.

October 2011

Wednesday 5th October – Lunch at Manchester Arms Hotel – 12 noon.

136 Eaglehawk Road, Long Gully. RSVP by Monday 3rd October to Mary on 5444 0221.

Tuesday 11th October – Capitol Theatre – “Women of the Sixties” -11.00am.

View Street, Bendigo. This high class show will take you back to the music of the 60's. Meet for complimentary tea/coffee at the theatre and for those who wish we can go on to lunch. Limited

number of tickets available. RSVP by 23rd September to Christine on 5435 2044 or email longmire@westnet.com.au

Saturday 15th October – Tram Car Restaurant, 7.00pm.

Limited numbers & must be paid in full to secure your place. Meet at The Wine Bank for pre-dinner drink before boarding the tram for a 4 course meal. All wine and food inclusive in the price - \$98 per head. RSVP to Kevin & Jenny by Friday 9th September on 0418 582 531 or 5443 2899 and pay in full at the Wine Bank. Just let them know you are part of newcomer group.

Friday 21st October - Drinks at La Piazza, 6.00pm to 8.00pm

La Piazza Wine Bar and Restaurant, Howard Place, Bendigo. Wind down at the end of the week with friends for a couple of hours. Anyone wishing to stay on for a bite to eat can organize on the night. RSVP to Milton by Wednesday 19th October on 0417 126 859.

Friday 28th October – 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 26th October on 5444 0221.

Sunday 30th October – Picnic and bike or walk at No 7 Reservoir 10.45 for the bike ride/walk, 12 noon for the lunch.

Granter Street, Kangaroo Flat. Meet at picnic area No 7 Reservoir, turn right at Harvey Norman and then take a hard left into Granter street and follow the signs. BYO picnic and chairs and enjoy a relaxing day with friends by the lake after the cold winter months. RSVP to Helen by Friday 7th October on 0418 727 885.

November 2011

Saturday 12th November – Home Event at The Bazleys – 6.00pm onwards.

Come along to our ‘Formal, but not quite Normal’ get together. BYO BBQ dinner. Salad or dessert to be nominated when booking. Prizes for the best or maybe the worst outfits. Members only event – RSVP to Jenny by Wednesday 9th November on 0418 576 242 or 5443 2899.

FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT BENDIGO NEWCOMERS

If you have any suggestions or comments please send them to bendigone newcomers@vic.chariot.net.au We have a lot more information on our website at www.bendigone newcomers.com