



The

An initiative of the Bonnie Doon Community Group Inc

Bridge

Vol. 17 Issue 4 Spring 2023

Keeping **people** connected

The Bridge

Editor: Rebecca Oslund
Proof Readers: L. Eldridge

Cover Photo: Craig Bennie

Publisher:
Bonnie Doon Community Group Inc.
75 Arnot Street
Phone : (03) 5778 7722
Email : bdccentre@bigpond.com

Printing: District Property Group
Distribution Assistance:
Angela and Arnold Ziedens

Subscriptions and Submissions:
Bonnie Doon Community Centre
Ph. (03) 5778 7722
E. the_bridge_editorial_bd@outlook.com

The opinions and views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Bonnie Doon Community Group

TABLE OF CONTENTS

From the Editor	3
Spotlight on Innovation	4
Meet a Local in 5Qs	6
News	8
Message from the CFA	9
Remembering & Farewells	10
Social Pages	12
Upcoming Events Calendar	12
Historic Bonnie Doon: A Flashback	15

Deadline for all additions to Summer Issue
COB February 7th 2024

Email content direct to the editor @
the_bridge_editorial_bd@outlook.com

Or connect via our social media





RICHTER

CARPENTRY &
CONSTRUCTIONS

Shannon Richter
Registered Building Practitioner
DB-U 59656

0488 062 733
shannon@richterconstructions.com.au
www.richterconstructions.com.au

Specialising In:
New Builds
Extensions & Renovations
Bathrooms
Custom Carpentry
Decks & Pergolas
Frame, Lock-up & Fix



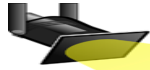
From the Editor

Dear Bridge Readers,
Spring is my favourite season (*even though I love them all*) because when the first wattles start showing off their bright yellows I feel winter is ending then the buds, and flowers and blossoming trees begin to pop on the landscape and their colourful beauty makes me so happy. Daffodils and daisies, yellows and purples and their bright smiling blooms, the lambs romping in the fields as the BD hills show off their vibrant green shades - enjoying their boldness before they will start to turn yellow. Spring to me, is the time of regeneration, growth and the joy of new beginnings. I am excited about this Spring, and all that it has to offer! There is so much to do with the gardening, the growing and as I keep hearing from so many people - the mowing! *So much mowing!*

Football season has ended very well for our Bonnie Doon Football Netball club who won the Grand Final in three out of five grades! I'd like to offer a huge congratulations to all the clubs for their success this season. We take pride in showcasing their success in this edition. (*See page 4*). Also of note Bonnie Doon will be hosting a leg of the High Country Halls this year. Our very own festival of live music - a not to be missed event for locals and visitors alike. *Please check out page 5 for more information* on how to get your tickets.

I hope you all have safe wonderful spring-time in the Doon, as always once I get on a theme the whole Bridge follows so as always happy reading!

Rebecca



Spotlight on Innovation

*This edition our innovation story features proudly the Bonnie Doon Football Netball Club who have had an amazing 2023 season ... Congratulations to the clubs on their successes!
A word from the President Luke Jenkins*



Photo credit Peter Bennett

2023 has been a great year for Bonnie Doon Football Netball Club. Everybody at the club was excited from the start to give it a red hot crack in 2023 to go bigger and better than 2022. We had lots of support from players, sponsors, volunteers and the community to have a good fun season, and that's exactly what we did.

Coming off the back of the 2022 season where 5 teams made the Grand Final which we were extremely happy with and 6/7 teams making finals. With reserves getting knocked out first week and A grade just falling short of a finals spot. We were driven very hard for 2023 to try our hardest to push for another successful year and those grades that fell short last year. The interest and numbers during preseason were the best we have had for many years and all players and coaches were determined to put in a competitive season.

Our success was reflected at a league level as well with Bonnie Doon taking home Club Champion for the Ovens and King League which is a big achievement for us. Also, on individual player performance as well with 5 footballers making the team of the year and 3 netballers winning Best and Fairest in their respective grades along with an array of other awards.



Photo credit Peter Bennett

To not only win the Grand Final in 3/5 grades, but it was the first premiership in the league for our B Grade and Seniors after joining the league 12 years ago. It was a long road to get to where we are now after being on the verge of folding in 2018 with only one senior football team in the competition. Our success comes down to the hard work put in from all our committee members, coaches and volunteers over the last 5 years. And also a big thanks to all our sponsors for getting behind the club for season 2023.



Photos credit Luke Jenkins

If anybody is interested in coming down to our fun little club feel free to get in touch with current President Luke Jenkins via email ldjenkins12@outlook.com or phone 0417 787 232. Our AGM will be at the end of November so keep a look out for a date and more info in regards to that in the Mansfield Courier over the next couple of weeks.

Another big thanks to the Bonnie Doon Community and all our sponsors and members for the support throughout 2023 and we hope we can back it up with another great year in 2024.

Ryan's Mobile Meat Processing
Harvested & cut to your requirements

0447 771 686
ryancowley88@gmail.com

Ethical on-farm animal processing for Bonnie Doon & surrounds

Find us on facebook

CENVIC
LANDSCAPING

All aspects of Landscape Construction
Bobcat Hire
Kanga & Trencher Hire
All types of Paving
Pool Surrounds
Sleeper and Block Retaining Walls
Automatic Irrigation Systems
Post Hole Boring
General Excavations

Call Michael on - 0407 545 069

Meet a Local in 5Qs

This Bridge we meet an inspiring woman, a lady, a mother, a teacher, a musician, an artist, fitness trainer (with her own gym!), really is there anything she can't do? A local who gives back to our community and who's bright smiling face and cheerful greeting always lights up a room. Meet Jen from Maindample!

Q1. How long have you lived in Bonnie Doon? Jen moved permanently to the area in 2019 on her retirement. Born in Malvern to a musical family Jen trained as a PE teacher, then found she was also musically inclined and started singing and playing guitar at 17. She spent the 60's in a career singing and travelling with her music including on TV, and she recorded her own LP with W & G Record label. Like many of us, she's been a long time local - having owned property in Woodfield where the family would spend long weekends and holidays for over 40 years as she raised a family and, then pursued her first calling as a teacher once again. Jen laughs fondly that the kids used to ski at "Aunt Buller" (*Mt Buller*), noting that she always has loved the area and very much felt a part of the Bonnie Doon Community.



Q2. As a local - What would you like to share about yourself with our Readers? Now retired and living locally full time, Jen loves being able to give back to the community, she has served on the Bonnie Doon Community Group management committee for the past year. One thing she does feel sad about is that the old beautiful Maindample Pub has burnt down before she became a true local, however she notes she has many fond memories from it.

Q3. How do you pass the time? (Jobs, hobbies, other not listed interests) Jen loves creating gardens, oil painting, photography, classical/jazz

music, writing, renovating her home and gardening, good food & wine, keeping as fit as possible and having a laugh or 3 with friends.

Q4. What is your favourite season in the High Country and Why?

“My favourite seasons are autumn and spring” says Jen ...” because of the blossoms, colours and changing landscapes”. However she adds that snuggling up to the fire in winter isn't too bad either!



Q5. What are two favourite things that you recommend people try in this area?

“We love exploring random roads to see what we find - and its always beautiful. We love exploring interesting, outlying towns ... and wineries and restaurants around ‘our’ lake.”... She adds that even closer to home “ ... sitting outside the Bonnie Doon Hotel overlooking the lake is *magic!*”

In closing Jen marvels over the history of the area from the moving of the whole BD township to the making of Lake Eildon through to marvelling that when the lake’s water levels recede and you can see ruins popping out. She says she never ceases to smile when she drives around not only from the natural beauty but because there are NO TRAFFIC LIGHTS! We can’t help smile at the thought because anyone who knows Jen - knows she really never ceases to smile, in spite of anything!

Do you know an interesting local or do you want to answer the 5 Qs?

*Email us:
The_bridge_editorial
_bd@outlook.com*

26CIVIL
EARTHMOVING CONTRACTORS
ALL TYPES OF EXCAVATIONS FROM MINI TO BULK
Drainage
Dams & Driveways
Clean-up Work
Final Trim
Drilling/Augering
Free Quotes
Hourly Hire

DAVE
0406 642 900
D.J.ATHERTON1975@GMAIL.COM

any News

In the Know ...

Lake Eildon Water Levels:
100.6% full
as of 08 Oct 2023

[Lake Eildon - Goulburn Murray Water
\(g-mwater.com.au\)](http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-operations/storages/goulburn/lakeeildon) [www.g-mwater.com.au/
water-operations/storages/goulburn/lakeeildon](http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-operations/storages/goulburn/lakeeildon)
(viewed 08/10/2023)

Average Rainfall To oct 2023	725.3 mm	117.4 days
Total For 2023	741.4 mm	110 days
Total To This Day 2022	765.4 mm	123 days
Wettest Day	108 mm	Oct 4
Lowest Temperature	0 °C	Aug 6
Highest Temperature	38.2°C	Feb 17

[Bonnie Doon Local Weather Forecast |
Elders Weather](http://www.eldersweather.com.au/local-forecast/vic/bonnie-doon)

www.eldersweather.com.au/local-forecast/vic/bonnie-doon
(viewed 08/10/23)

Breaking News: The Bonnie Doon Op Shop has been named after a 2 month long competition for anonymous naming rights. After much deliberation and a vote the Monday Mingle Group has crowned our favourite community share shop “The OpporDoon-ity Shop” ! Thank you to all who participated - and now the question everyone in town is asking ... *who is the witty person to come up with such a punny name?*

Other things of note, if looking for a suitable venue for hire locally the following halls are available for bookings.

The Ancona Hall
Bookings 5778 9555

The Bonnie Doon Recreational Reserve Hall
Bookings 5775 8555

Bonnie Doon Old Library
Bookings 5778 7722

Art Classes

Watercolour Lessons
are held at

“Killara Studio”

Bonnie Doon

Mondays 10 am—12 noon



Life Drawing

A Life Drawing Group
is held at

“Killara Studio”

Bonnie Doon

Thursdays 10am—12 noon



**For Enquires on either of these Art Classes
contact Pam 0419 434 560**

Message from the CFA



As we are residents in a high fire risk area we need to be self-reliant to ensure our safety from bushfire. We all need to plan ahead and prepare. The CFA has information and advice to help everyone prepare for bushfire and grassfire. We all need to know the importance of leaving early and how a well thought out bushfire survival plan can help.

Property preparation is about carrying out work that reduces the impact of radiant heat, embers and flames near your buildings and assets.

The five simple things you can do to prepare for fire are:-

- Prepare buildings - Clean gutters. Clear around buildings of waste and flammable materials. Set up sprinklers.

- Manage vegetation - Reduce vegetation and weeds around the house and other buildings including sheds.

- Create fuel breaks - Mowing and spraying around boundaries and fence lines to create wide areas without fuel for a fire.

- Prepare for emergency management of livestock and pets - Plan for relocation of livestock on high risk days including preparation of containment areas.

- Prepare a reliable fire-fighting water supply. Fire-fighting pumps should be petrol or diesel powered and easy to start and prime. Hoses need to be long enough to reach all sides of buildings.

Fire tankers are large, heavy vehicles that can weigh up to 15 tonne. A turning circle with a minimum 8 metre radius is needed to allow a fire tanker access to buildings and key assets. For tankers to fit through, gates and tracks need to be at least 3.5 metres wide, clear of encroachments for another 0.5 metres either side and clear of overhanging branches lower than 4 metres high. All bridges, culverts and creek crossings need to have at least a 15 tonne load-bearing capacity for a tanker to cross.

Landowners are strongly encouraged to have water supplies available for and accessible to emergency services.

Fire Danger Ratings tell you how dangerous a fire could be if one started. The higher the rating the more dangerous the conditions.

Please ensure you complete your burn offs before fire restrictions come into force. The important contacts everyone needs to know are –

EMERGENCY	Triple 000
VIC-EMERGENCY HOTLINE	1800 226 226
BOOK-A-BURN	1800 668 511
BONNIE DOON CFA FIRE STATION	57787488

David Evans

Captain, david.evans1@members.cfa.vic.gov.au

Remembering & Farewells

Peter Arbuthnot



Dad and his twin sister were born in Mansfield on 13 July 1937 to Mark and Lottie Elizabeth Eva Arbuthnot. He was the youngest of ten brothers and sisters.

The family lived in the valley that is now under the Bonnie Doon Weir – near Kennedy's Point on the way to Maintongoon. It was about four miles to walk to school from the small farm where they ran a few cows and horses and grew veggies.

The family moved to the new town when the valley was flooded. Growing up, Dad slept on the veranda of the family home in summer with his siblings – he also slept there in winter with hessian bags. He often spoke of hunting rabbits with his siblings, which his mother cooked. He soon became a boarder at Rupertswood College, Sunbury, during primary school. He recalled being put on a dray with his brothers and arriving at school. He said he wasn't told he was going and returned home on term break where possible.

Dad married Mum, Margaret, in 1960. He met her at the Merton Ball, describing her as 'plain looking' which meant that she was naturally beautiful. They moved to Woodfield after their marriage.

His first job was as a farm labourer. He earned 5 pounds a week and supplemented his wage rabbiting and foxing. He had a large pack of dogs that became town dogs and he always had three or four on them on his lap on his recliner. He sold the pelts and scalps to a fellow at Euroa, making his way over the Strathbogie Ranges weekly to offload them. Dad often said we three kids would have starved without rabbits. We loved rabbit stew and Dad often made jokes about 'Myxo', he was always a stirrer.

Over his working life, he worked as the farm manager on many of the districts well known holdings. Mum and Dad knew the value of education and spent their lives working multiple jobs, and we are eternally grateful for.

Dad played footy for Doon, he played in the premierships sides, he took on the role of trainer when he retired as a player, and he and Mum spent years working for the club and on the committee. Later, he was awarded life membership.

He was also a member of the Bonnie Doon CFA.

Peter has been a wonderful dad, grandad, great grandad, and a terrific friend who had your back. All of their grandkids and great grandkids were special to Dad. He loved taking them to school and being a part of their lives.

Our life has been so much better and wonderful for having him in it

**Bonnie Doon War Memorial– Soldier of Honor
LEST WE FORGET**

Private William Robert Halligan, *Service Number: 3324 KIA July 24th 1916*
7th Australian Infantry Battalion - Australian Imperial Force
First World War, 1914-1918
Cemetery/Memorial: Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, Picardie, France

**Henry The Third**
The Royal Flusher



1300 762 395

TONY DEMASI
Lic. Plumber & EPA
Mobile 0418 515 596

Pooch Happens!

- Septic Tanks
- Grease Traps
- Oil Interceptors
- Sludge Pits

cleaned by
HENRY THE THIRD
the royal flusher anytime!

BimmeKa

Complete Home Maintenance

Brendan Teitz

bimmeka88@gmail.com

Mobile: 0427 810 727

The Social Pages

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

The Bonnie Doon Toy Exchange

Celebrating Childrens Week:

Saturday October 28th, 10am—Noon

Bonnie Doon Community Centre, 75 Arnot St, Bonnie Doon

Bonnie Doon HIGH COUNTRY HALLS *Music Festival*

Saturday December 9th -

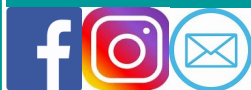
For Info on camping or sponsorship opportunities contact

Chris 0408 565 760 or livefromthedoan@gmail.com

Mansfield Shire Spring Events Guide 2023

You can find it on their website and download it at: [https://](https://www.mansfield.vic.gov.au/Community/Events-Festivals/Upcoming-Events/Spring-Events)

www.mansfield.vic.gov.au/Community/Events-Festivals/Upcoming-Events/Spring-Events



IT'S TREES

- Insured
- Experienced



- Reliable •
- Competitive •

TREE & STUMP REMOVALS

5778 9603 JASON 0413 671 066

Mary-Anne Egan

LIFE & MARRIAGE CELEBRANT

Celebrating Life in all its Diversity



Gatherings & Reflections

Significant Celebrations of
LIFE • LOVE • LOSS



Say Hello!

0428 937 210
ma@mansfieldcelebrant.com.au

Discover more at:

mansfieldcelebrant.com.au

HIGH COUNTRY HALLS
music
FESTIVAL 2023

comes to
BONNIE DOON
 DECEMBER 9TH

@ Bonnie Doon Rec Reserve Hall
 2 Davon St, Bonnie Doon Victoria

featuring
HOME GROWN ARTISTS
 Humbuckin Pickups
 Pete Denahy • John-Luke Shelley
 Shaggy Soundlords • LNC Band
 Bucklesn'Lace Bootscooters Line Dancing

ON-SITE POP-UP BAR
STREET FOOD FOR PURCHASE

tickets
 Adults \$35pp
 Kids Under 12yrs FREE
 No BYO Alcohol

Apply for
 Onsite Stays for
 Caravans &
 Motorhomes
 Limited Spaces

Mansfield Shire **BOOK ONLINE** highcountryhallsfestival.com.au Bendigo Bank

Espresso

0415556162
 michaelpitt1963@gmail.com
 26 Anderson Court Bonnie Doon vic 3720

Some Mindful Health a bit of *Poetry*

Well, I'm a travelling Bum
By Dennis Hammond

With a pack on my back, guitar in my hand
Wandering the country road of far away land
Have no idea where I'll sleep tonight
Hostel, cheap hotel or under the star light
I've got a rough idea of where I will head today
But if the wind is against me
I might go the other way, hitching a ride
Wondering who will pick me up
Replying on drivers, to help out this travelling bum

Well, I am a travelling bum, relying on my thumb
That's the way I get around, to see a foreign land
I'm a travelling bum, I'm a good man not bad
Trying to see the world on the smell of an oily rag
Well, I am travelling bum, long hair and a beard too
Despite my rugged looks, no harm will ever come to you
Well I'm a travelling bum, replying on my thumb
To get myself around new country new town

ENGAGE! Bonnie Doon Youth Group

Calling *local youth* to join the fun!

Cooking

Weekly program—Wednesdays 4-6pm

Ages 12-17 all welcomed

Baking

Fishing

Kayaking

Come join your mates, *meet new faces,*

create great things & **eat yummy food**

movies

& lots more

Email bonniedoonyg@gmail.com for more info to join or
if you are a business and would like to offer support or
co-facilitate a program for our local youth



Historic Bonnie Doon: *A Flashback*

Excerpt taken from 'Historical Aspects of Bonnie Doon' page 70

FOOTBALL In August, 1885 the first signs of a football club in Bonnie Doon became evident around the township. A correspondent of the time noted that the young men involved were training keenly and should make a 'grand show in time', although most of them had never seen a ball before, much less kicked one!

Shortly after, Doon played its first match against Mansfield. Owing to a misunderstanding among the Mansfield players, play did not commence until 4:00 p. m. The Doon team turned out in "proper football costume" and the following names appeared on the team sheet: Wallace (Capt.), Dolling, Brown, Mathison, Keirnan, Jeffrey, Woolf, Mackerell, Martin, Donaldson, Woodbridge, Almond, Maxwell and Arbutnot. The game was fairly well-contested throughout, and in the most "friendly spirit", although the interpretation of the rules by the central umpire was "occasionally questioned in a charitable manner". The game finished in Mansfield's favour and a re-match was scheduled for 5th September at Doon. Again Mansfield ran out victors but unfortunately there is no existing report on the match itself.

In 1906 of Bonnie Doon joined the Mansfield Football League and defeated Mansfield in the Grand Final of that year.

In 1928 the team went through the entire season undefeated to capture another premiership.

- Taken from page 70
(For further reading on the historical and recent success of the club available)



Photo taken from photo at BD Recreation Reserve Hall

ALPINE GLASS AND GLAZING ALUMINIUM WINDOW AND DOOR MANUFACTURES

**FOR ALL ARCHITECTURAL GLASS AND GLAZING
ALUMINIUM FABRICATIONS COMMERCIAL AND DOMESTIC
ALL GLASS REPLACEMENTS**

ALUMINIUM SLIDING AND AWNING WINDOWS

SHOP FRONTS
SECURITY DOORS
SHOWER SCREENS
PICTURE FRAMING

DOUBLE GLAZING
SPLASH BACKS
FLY SCREENS
MACHINERY SCREENS

Phone ALLAN JEFFERY

Mob 0418580171 - Fax 0357791007



Hi I'm Jenny!

Our mission at DPG is 'Work hard!
Have fun! Make a difference!'

We are dedicated to making a positive difference not just to our customers but to our community and we are delighted to support the publication of 'The Bridge'.

DPG sell significantly more properties in the Mansfield district, which includes Bonnie Doon, than other agency. What these results means for our customers is a bigger pool of buyers and greater exposure for their property. More competition means higher prices and less days on the market.

**THINKING OF SELLING?
NOW IS A GREAT TIME!**



DISTRICT PROPERTY GROUP

#1 FOR PROPERTY SALES

1300 222 262 | 7 DAYS A WEEK