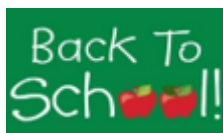


Pleasant Hills Community Newsletter



February 2026

phnewsgroup@gmail.com



PLEASANT HILLS CWA

Welcome to 2026!

We held our December meeting and Christmas party at the home of Carol and Des Grylls, with most of us in attendance. We presented Bev Frohling with flowers in appreciation for her many years of being our Branch Treasurer.

Lyn Jacobsen and Bev Frohling,



Our Kyris Kringle was something you'd made, and these were great.



2025 Christmas Party

We had a very busy meeting, with lots of business to get through.

We were thrilled to be informed that the State President, Mrs Tanya Jolly, will be attending our 90th Birthday Luncheon on 16th April. We have set a price of \$20.00 per head for the two-course luncheon, and anyone who is interested in attending is welcome, however could you please contact our secretary, Nett Maloney on 0421983244 for catering purposes.

It was decided that we would print a recipe book to mark the special occasion, so please, I need your recipes by the beginning of February so they can be collated, and the book printed in time. If anyone else would like to have a recipe included, you are most welcome. If you could please forward recipes to me

- lyn.jacobsen@bigpond.com by the first week in February.

Henty Show is taking place on 14th February, and we will be putting an entry in the CWA exhibits. Members who have an item for our entry, could you please bring it to the February 11th Meeting.

We held the last of our Land Cookery for the year, and the Microwave Strawberry Jam was won by Kay Dean, and the Plum Pudding was one by Lyn J.

Riverina Group's Handicraft & Land Cookery Day will be held at Galore Hall on 14th March, with all the year's 1st & 2nd Land Cookery prize winners eligible to compete. Some members are working on the Branch Challenge for the Handicraft part, the 4 pieces of crafted food (any technique) on a crafted plate, made from soft fabric, and a couple have finished their pieces. We are waiting to see them all! Members don't forget we also need your handicraft items for our Branch entry.

The Riverina Group are doing a small update on the Branch histories for the last ten years to mark our Group's history for our 100year celebrations later in the year, so this is in progress.

In view of the recent tragic bush fires in Victoria as well as the floods in Queensland, we will be holding a street stall in the near future with all funds going directly to the CWA Disaster Relief Fund, where we know 100% of all money raised gets to "the other end". Anyone wishing to add to our effort is most welcome.

The CWA of NSW has just given \$50,000 from the Disaster Relief Fund to families impacted by the Victorian Bushfires.

Sympathy is extended to Nett on the recent passing of her sister, Irene.

Our next meeting will be held on February 11th at Albury CWA Rooms, Kiewa St at 10am. A reminder, Members with articles for Henty Show please bring to the meeting.

Lyn Jacobsen.

Pleasant Hills Community Hotel

Happy New Year from the Pleasant Hills Community Hotel!

What a wonderful way to wrap up 2025 with our Community Christmas Party on 19th December. We were absolutely thrilled with the huge turnout and it was fantastic to see so many familiar faces and new ones celebrating together. Thank you to everyone who helped make the night such a success – it truly showed the heart of our community & continues to be a favourite gathering place for locals.

Our community hotel enjoyed a very successful 2025, and we are heading into 2026 with great excitement and optimism. To finish the year on a high note, we were incredibly fortunate to be awarded two grants to support much-needed improvements at the hotel.

We are proud recipients of a \$10,000 grant from Riverina Water and a \$4,000 grant from Inland Rail. This funding will allow us to purchase a new disabled toilet block, ensuring our hotel is accessible to more members of our community.

Improvements to our community hotel rely heavily on grants such as these and the tireless work of our local volunteers through working bees & without this support, projects like this would not be achievable.

This long-awaited upgrade is a huge step forward for Pleasant Hills Community Hotel, ensuring everyone including those with mobility challenges can comfortably enjoy our facilities and continue to use the hotel as a welcoming rural social hub.

In other exciting news, we've been able to update all of the bed bases and mattresses at the Community Hotel, thanks to the incredibly generous support of an anonymous local community member. We are so grateful for this donation, which has allowed us to install new beds and mattresses in every room of our hotel.

We are extremely grateful for this support and look forward to sharing our progress with you as this exciting project gets underway.

Our hotel continues to be a fantastic & popular venue to host private business functions & events. We would love to remind everyone in our community to consider the Pleasant Hills Community Hotel for your next private event or function. Our upgraded kitchen continues to prove what a great facility it is for our local volunteers to work in. We are also always happy to hear from anyone new to the local community who may be interested in joining our volunteer cooking roster on Saturday nights, plus any local children aged 14–18 interested in joining our paid junior waitstaff team on Friday and Saturday nights, gaining valuable hospitality experience to strengthen their résumés.

If this interests you, please make contact with Annie Scholz our kitchen co-ordinator on 0428 175 993

Thankyou for everyone's support during 2025 & here's to a fantastic 2026 ahead for our community hotel.

Clare Hamson.

As students return to school / preschool in February there will not be any news until the March edition.

School News and Reviews



Pleasant Hills Pre School



Hills Happenings



Birthdays:

Happy 60th Birthday to Matthew Clancy for the 1st February.

Well Done:

More Proud Parent moments:



Congratulations to Peter Cheney on being awarded the Henry Killo Award. Awarded to a Billabong High School student for demonstrating exemplary leadership both in the community and school environment.



Congratulations to Paige Lieschke on graduating from her training as a Correctional Services Officer in NSW.



Congratulations to Natasha Beckett for being awarded the Greater Hume Australia Day, School Citizenship Award 2026.

Council Village Visit:

Pleasant Hills Recreation Ground

Thursday 12th February 2026

10am to 10:45am.

For payment of rates previously paid at the Post Office, Council Officers will be in attendance for ratepayers to pay their rates in person by cash, card or cheque.

Pleasant Hills Patchwork Group

December meeting:



What a lovely way to finish 2025 Patchwork at Pleasant Hills with our stitching friends. There was plenty of fun with some sewing, plenty of games, a Secret Santa, Banquet of yummy food and of course Show and Tell.

January meeting:



Well, the Mystery has been solved with many doing the Mystery Quilt project in January's meeting.

Our next day at Pleasant Hills Hall is February 21st so you can bring whatever you would like to work on. BYO your lunch, \$7 hall hire, your sewing machine and all your sewing requisites and enjoy the day.

Craftalive is also on Thursday 19th, Friday 20th and Saturday 21st February from 9.30am to 4pm at the Wodonga Exhibition Centre, Hamilton Smith Drive, Wodonga. Chris from HenTea Patchwork Shop in Henty will be down there with a stall over all three days.

Patchwork Message of the Day

- Measure twice, cut once, curse, repeat.



Word of the month

“Flich”

A “flich” can be a slab of timber cut from a tree, or it can be a side of cured bacon.

In old English, the word “flicce, originally denoted the salted and cured side of any meat.

“Flich” is also the name given to a 3-piece Celtic ensemble from Tasmania who have crafted

beautiful arrangements with a focus on the Irish Tradition as their expression of choice.

Printing costs are met by Henty and District
Community Bank® Branch Bendigo Bank



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Bendigo Bank
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Fire Brigade



Christmas 2025 done and dusted!



Australia Day Celebrations:



The Rock hosted this year's Australia day celebrations for the Lockhart Shire. The day was already very warm at 8am at the showgrounds at the Rock.



There was a good attendance with the Lamington competition a great draw card for the festivities. The ceremony continues to be an eye opener as it makes us aware of the huge contribution that volunteers make in our shire. The awards were awarded with no one from Pleasant Hills nominated this year. Osborne was the closest Australia Day award given. Our very own Mayor of the Lockhart Shire, Mr Peter Sharp, was in full duty mode, decked out in his Mayoral chains.



Congratulations to Natasha Beckett, Pleasant Hills, on being awarded the Greater Hume School Citizenship Award 2026.



Sports person of the year Sam Douglas, Osborne, being presented his award from Australia Day Ambassador Rob Caslick, founder of Two Good Co. and Mayor Peter Sharp.

Ode to the Clingstone Peach.

A poem by Trudy Smith
(title credit to Lauren Coe.)

In the hot dry days of mid-summer
With the coolness of Autumn beyond reach
The excitement builds in anticipation
Of the ripening clingstone peach.

Purveyors of seasonal produce
Lick their lips together with glee
We've been impatiently awaiting this moment
As we know just how good they will be.

We've been spoilt with fresh fruit in
abundance
The cherries have been juicy and firm
And we enjoy both red and white peaches
Until the clingstone's annual return.

We pick one and sit back to admire it
With its beauty and plump flesh to behold
With careful and painstaking precision
A small bite reveals the precious sweet gold.

A mouthful of absolute heaven
Goes down a right royal treat
While others prefer oranges and apples
I know what I'd much rather eat.
So let's enjoy every morsel and tidbit
As the season is especially short
They're really too good to be bottled
Even if they're home grown or shop bought.

And while I'm also a fan of the freestone
It's not just a figure of speech
I will praise the superior flavour
With this ode to the clingstone peach.



Hills History

This month I'd like to share a project with you that I have put together over the Christmas break.

As you may be aware the Pleasant Hills Hotel in 2025 undertook a revamp of the accommodation rooms. They have been painted and recarpeted and new décor purchased to make it feel newer and fresher for the visitors that stay in the village.

The rooms look fantastic. Pop in and have a look someone will show you the work that has been done.

During this process, in amongst some of the previous decor was two patchwork quilts made and donated by Susan Creek.

Susan generously committed much of her time to our local community over her many years living at Pleasant Hills.

When I learned that her quilts need a new home, which is when I came up with an idea to display them at the Hall for all those who wish to remember

Susan's contribution to our community and to admire her skills as a quilter.

I found the perfect size cabinet to display her quilts. The quilts are now installed in the cabinet at the Pleasant Hills Hall along with a printed copy of the story of her life.

Susan was one of the founders of the Pleasant Hills patchwork group that is still being held at the Pleasant Hills Hall once a month.

Written by : Fiona Beckett



Our Backyard

LOCAL WATTLES

It has been so dry lately, that any attempt to establish natives in the garden has proven very difficult. As a result, I have established some in large pots that can readily moved (with the aid of a trolley) into the shade, when the times are tough. I decided on a variety of Acacias (Wattles) that reputedly are native to the Pleasant Hills district that classified as shrubs. They are easy to grow and easy to prune. Pleasant Hills already has a variety of wattles growing in its surrounds and as they are also easy to propagate, it is hoped that seedlings may emerge in coming years to help regenerate the area. At least I should have some colour around the yard next spring if it continues not to rain.

Here is a list of some of the local wattles that are native to the area. When we get some rain, you will probably get success by planting seedlings in the ground.

Acacia acinacea - Gold-dust Wattle

Acacia deanei – Deane’s Wattle

Acacia decoria – Western Silver Wattle

Acacia difformis – Drooping Wattle

Acacia hakeoides – Western Black Wattle

Acacia montana – Mallee Wattle

Acacia paradoxa – Kangaroo Thorn

Acacia pycnantha – Golden Wattle

Santalum acuminatum – Quandong Tree

If you want to find out about other local native trees, shrubs and ground covers for re-planting creek-sides and windbreaks, etc; Local Land Services should be able to help. The general rule is to plant 50% trees and 50% shrubs for the best results.

PHOTO: This Golden Wattle was planted as a seedling only a couple of months ago. You can see signs of heat stress though (especially the hot winds) brought on by recent hot weather. I may need to reposition it temporarily until the heat subsides. Hopefully it will survive, (even though watering is adequate) and produce delicately scented, bright yellow flowers next winter and spring.

Bob Marshall.



Matt's Cooking Corner:



Grandpas Fully charged potato salad



Ingredients:

- 2 corn cobs, husks removed
- 1 kg heirloom 'Banana' potatoes, cut into 3cm cubes
- 150g green beans, trimmed
- 125g (1/2 cup) mayonnaise of choice
- 80ml (1/3 cup) fresh lemon juice
- 1 avocado, halved and sliced
- 2 radishes, finely sliced
- 1/2 small red onion, thinly sliced
- 12 cornichons (little spiced gherkins), thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup fresh dill sprigs, chopped (or chives)
- 45g (1/4 cup) walnuts or pecans, chopped

Method:

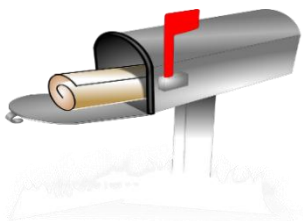
- Preheat a chargrill pan or barbecue grill over high heat. Cook the corn, turning often, for 15 minutes or until tender and lightly charred.
- Meanwhile, place the potato in a large saucepan and cover with water. Bring to the boil over high heat. Cook for 10 minutes or until tender, adding the beans for the last 2 minutes of cooking. Drain. Transfer the beans to a bowl of iced water to stop cooking. Drain well. Set the potatoes aside in the colander to cool.
- Whisk the mayonnaise and 2 tbs lemon juice in a large bowl. Place the avocado on a large plate and drizzle with the remaining 2 tbs lemon juice. Turn gently to coat.
- Slice the corn kernels from the cobs. Arrange the cooled potatoes, beans, avocado, radish, onion, cornichons, corn kernels and dill on a platter. Drizzle with the mayonnaise mixture and sprinkle with the walnuts.

PAPER ROSTER

Please collect papers from the Henty Post Office / Newsagent. It opens at 8am Saturday mornings. Can the papers be at Pleasant Hills by 1000am.

HENTY

February	
7 th February	Rex Lieschke
14 th February	Wayne Scholz
21 st February	Hugh Clancy
28 th February	Oriel Ridge
March	
7 th March	Rick Clancy
14 th March	Trevor Terlich
21 st March	Corey Beckett
28 th March	David Male
April	
4 th April	Rex Lieschke
11 th April	Wayne Scholz
18 th April	Hugh Clancy
25 th April	Oriel Ridge



Newsletter

Many thanks to all our contributors, as without your contributions we would have no newsletter to read. Please continue sending them in by the last week of the month to phnewsgroup@gmail.com

Our newsletters are now free thanks to Henty Bendigo Bank, but cost \$20 per year if you need them posted to you. If so, please give your postage cost to Virginia Clancy. If you now have access to emails, a digital copy can be sent to you. If you would like to join our email subscribers, please send your address to

phnewsgroup@gmail.com

Diary of Events

February

Monday 2nd February

PHPS First day Term 1 students return.

Tuesday 3rd February

Preschool Term 1 starts.

Thursday 5th February

Mobile Library 10:40 – 11:40

Friday 6th February

PHPS GK swimming carnival at Lockhart.

Wednesday 11th February

CWA meeting – Albury CWA Rooms, Kiewa St at 10:00

Thursday 12th February

Council Village Visit 10:00-10:45 Recreation Grounds

Saturday 14th February

Henty Show

Saturday 14th February

St Valentine's Day

Thursday 19th February

Mobile Library 10:40 – 11:40

Saturday 21st February

Patchwork Group meet

