

CONNECTING COBDEN

COMMUNITY



NEWSLETTER

EDITION No 8

May 30th, 2012

~ Characters of Cobden ~

Joan McQuinn

Living treasure Joan McQuinn was 78 on May 20th. She and her great mate, husband Bernie, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on May 18th. In fact, Bernie himself will be 86 on August 8th. Very impressive numbers indeed which lie beneath the great contribution the McQuinns have made to Cobden over many years.

Here, Joan reflects on her own experiences as a Cobden resident . . .

“COBDEN – A CARING COMMUNITY”

This catchphrase was chosen many years ago when the Cobden Technical School held a competition and lots of ideas were put forward. On reflection, what an appropriate choice was made!

While I had heard of Cobden before, I first came here to visit when I was 18. What a pretty place it was with elm trees lining the main street each side to give shade for cars and horses tied up to rails while the farmers dropped in for a pot (or two)!

I only have one sister, Val (Wiggins), and she was born in Camperdown. I was born in Terang and we have never lived more than a couple of kilometres apart. She was better at sport than me but I loved cooking and spent my Saturdays being taught by my Nanna to bake biscuits, scones, cakes etc which I still enjoy doing today, although I have slowed down a lot.

We had no car, no telephone and not much money but were always happy with our life in our Cobden. Having great neighbours was a wonderful help and, as we started to build our own little four-roomed home, we could always

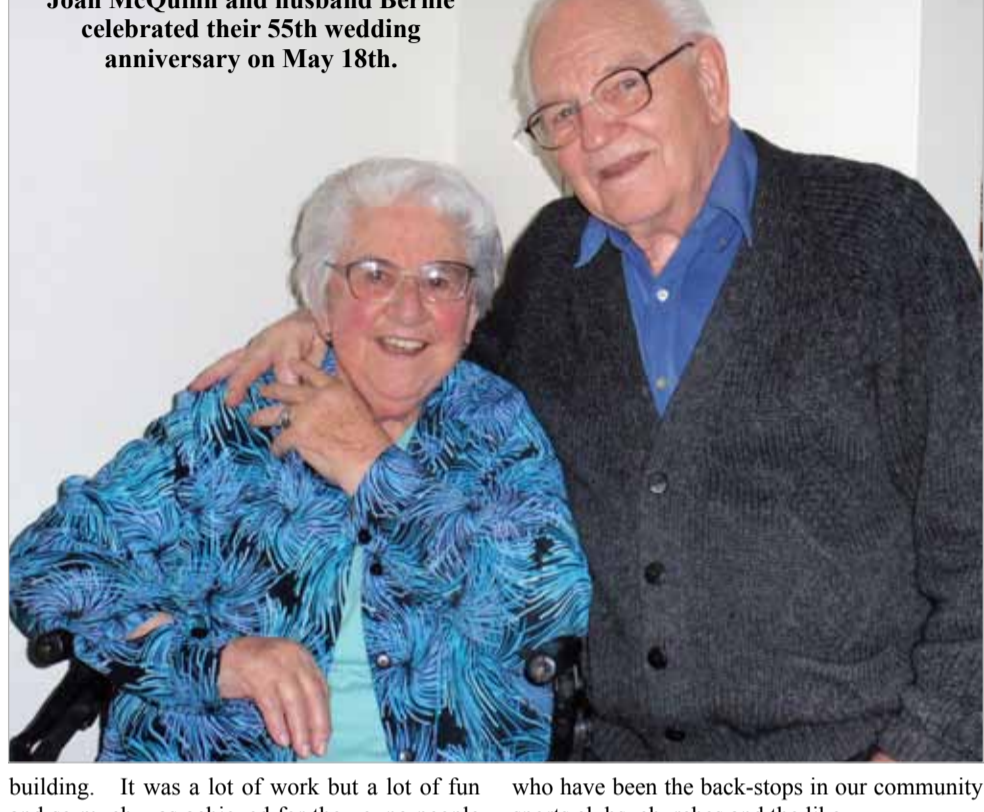
rely on the youngest two boys next door coming to visit after tea on Sunday night just when we wanted to have a little cuddle.

As our family arrived I became very involved in the community. Down to the baby health centre where (Mrs) Joey Bown assured me I had Cobden's most beautiful baby (she told all the new mothers that and, of course, we all believed her). The health centre was in the back of the court house, the site of the present police station. It was so damp there was fungus growing on the walls.

Joey wanted to send away some cheques and asked me to sign them and be her treasurer and that was my first position in the Cobden community. We formed a committee – Frances Crawford was president, Lynette Blake secretary, Esther Stepnell assistant and away we went, raising money for our new health centre.

We raised a lot of money baking for street stalls and selling countless raffle tickets. When we got a few thousand dollars behind us, we approached the Shire which approved the plans as long as we considered incorporating a kindergarten in the

Joan McQuinn and husband Bernie celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on May 18th.



building. It was a lot of work but a lot of fun and so much was achieved for the young people of our town.

The first kinder was in the Presbyterian Church Sunday School Hall on the corner where Nell Pekin now lives. The children were only able to go on alternate days – two or three days a week. There was a piano in the hall and the kids loved doing the hokey pokey.

Cobden has always had many willing volunteers

who have been the back-stops in our community sports clubs, churches and the like.

We always followed Cobden in the football where my hubby played for 17 years, starting at age 15. One day he got a thump in the back and out flew what he thought was his chewy. Finding later it was one of his second front teeth broken off up near the stump.

Down to a sympathetic Dr Alf Barrett (also an

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Dr Jim Reid

“Great man of medicine might struggle with a pencil-sharpener but can take out your appendix!”

NEWSFLASH

While 7 year-old Jim Reid was chopping up a worm in his backyard in Edinburgh Scotland, he told his bemused older brother he was going to be a doctor.

Almost inexplicably, he went ahead and studied law for a year but the call of medicine was strong and he graduated from St Andrews University with his MB ChB (Bachelor of Medicine,

Bachelor of Surgery) and his Diploma of Anaesthetics (London) in 1961.

Over the next few years, Dr Reid also gained more experience and qualifications in fields like forensic medicine. He became an all-rounder with skills and knowledge invaluable wherever he practised.

His parents died before he was 15 so he grew

up making his decisions relatively independently. He lived with his aunt in very comfortable circumstances – with a cook and other staff – which probably goes a long way to explaining why he still can't prepare food “to save himself”.

Jim smiles as he remembers how he would berate the cook for boiling the vitamin C out of the vegetables. “I must have been a pain at times,” he said.

After working in several hospitals in Scotland and the Isle of Man, he won an essay-writing competition – “The ideal drug for renal conditions.” The prize was a trip to London where Jim stayed in a very expensive hotel and met a doctor from the Department of Health who suggested he consider taking a position in West Cameroon, West Africa.

In 1964, Fredrick James Reid, Baron of Wranghame (a title inherited from a distant relative), and his wife Yvonne and first daughter Ruth subsequently set off for West Cameroon to be the medical officer in charge of Tiko Hospital and area medical officer.

This quiet young Scot who describes himself as being an “abnormal” child because he never climbed a tree, never used a swing, loved reading and played (but never learnt) the piano was on his way around the world.

A two-year stint at West Cameroon where second daughter Kate was born was followed by three years on the Channel Islands as the anaesthetic registrar before the Reids went “down under” to settle firstly at Murrayville in northwest Victoria, Australia.

Jim said they came to Australia to visit – they had no real intention of staying – but they decided it

was a fine place to bring up a family – and that's what they did!

In 1970, after three years as visiting medical officer and anaesthetist in the Murrayville, Pinaroo and Lameroo area and the arrival of third daughter Janet, the family headed for Cobden where they embraced the climate – they could enjoy “a proper winter.” You don't hear that very often!

The other reason for Dr Reid coming to Cobden was his preference for the private health system, and Cobden Bush Nursing Health Hospital fitted the bill perfectly.

Forty-two years later, he looks back with a great deal of pride and satisfaction. “Many of my patients have become friends,” he said. “I have spent so many years sharing the joys and disappointments of the Cobden community, but I am always warmed afresh by their friendship and openness.”

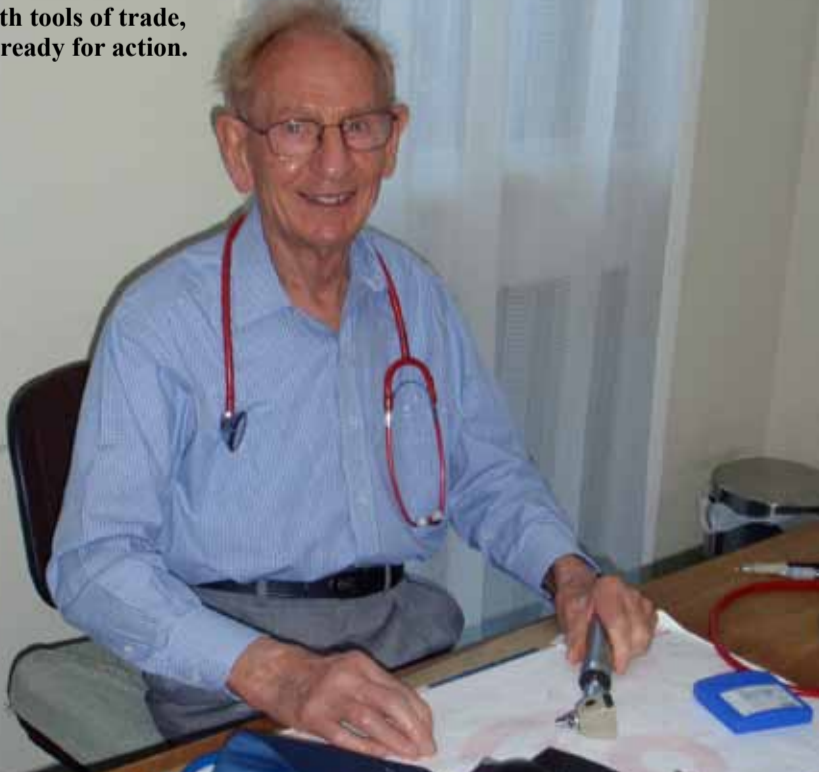
Jim who was a member of the local hospital/health services board for 30 years marvels at the changes in health care. “No doubt, medicine is doing some very clever things with body parts, even brains, these days. Generally, I am seeing many more older people and slightly more children – and the issues are far more complex than previously,” he said.

“I remember when our acute beds at Cobden cost \$25 a day. Did you know I delivered the last baby before the acute section closed . . . and I gave the last general anaesthetic?”

“We used to have one receptionist here at the medical centre for three doctors, now we have two full-time/part-time receptionists, three

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Armed with tools of trade, Dr Reid is ready for action.



~ Characters of Cobden ~

Joan McQuinn

Continued from page 1

ardent football supporter) to pull it out. Anytime I had to visit Dr Alf, he always asked "How's my friend No 10?"

Our family always had a close association with the scout and guide movement, as leaders (one son for 35 years) and I was district commissioner for eight years and made many friends.

It was a happy and fun time driving through the city to a conference - we had to laugh as the cars were all making way for us. With our hats on we must have looked like a carload of lady cops. Lots of happy guide days memories!

I felt it was a real responsibility doing enrolments for many young girls who made their promise so sincerely - was I adequate enough for such a special job? I tried, with great help from a great husband. Our motto - "Good, Better, Best, never let it rest till your Good is Better and your Better is your Best."

One great memory with our neighbours and friends was Guy Fawkes night - November 5th every year as the heap grew higher and the rubbish was stacked up. At last it was dark enough to light up a post or two to put the catherine pin wheels on and, with penny bungers and jumping jacks making everyone hop around, it was great fun!

Another way we raised a lot of money for the Technical School was a series of about eight talent quests. Ten acts performed each Friday night. After each item, tins with slits cut in the lids were passed around. Ten cents a vote with

the winners from each night progressing to the final. It got very competitive with lots of dads saying their boy or girl was best.

The original meaning of talent quest was forgotten to an extent, and too much money was being put in to try to rig the count. We eventually made over \$2000 for the school so, although deemed a success, it was also a little disappointing in another way. Like, today, money spoiling sporting spirit.

What a pretty town Cobden remains - with great input by many of our older residents. The walking track around the lake, now with all the new jetties.

The Cobden mini railway, a popular tourist attraction bringing many outsiders to visit Cobden, also a great venue for birthday parties and end-of-year break-ups.

What is called "Wiggins dream" is now somewhat of a tie for a lot of the older drivers but we always welcome a few younger chaps starting to show interest. It is such a treasure for our town.

The first working bees of about five men were catered for every time with home-made scones and pikelets, and Val and I did all the scones for the canteen until a couple of years ago. We now get them from the Cobden Bakery and just add the jam and cream and, believe me, they are still well worth sampling!

Thanks for the opportunity to share some memories of a great town that I've always loved and always will!!

Joan McQuinn



Joan and Bernie McQuinn, familiar faces at the miniature railway.

Dr Jim Reid

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Well-regarded and well-awarded . . .

computers, three telephones and piles and piles of paper for just one doctor!

"It's bureaucracy gone mad," he said, "Nursing staff spend much of their time at computers filling out forms . . . watch out farmers, it will get even worse for you too."

Dr Reid's contribution to the area has been well-acknowledged by the community - in 2008, he was awarded life membership of Cobden District Health Services, and by his peers - the Rural Workforce Agency Victoria (RWAV) recognised him at its annual Victorian Rural Doctors' Awards last year.

Although he is not a real football follower, Jim does lean towards St Kilda. "You know, I've only been to one football match in my life - at the MCG when I was invited to a corporate box - but I'm a great believer in sport," he said. "I am donating an annual trophy to a young lawn bowler."

In his early days he was a successful cross-country runner but he confessed the only reason he ran quickly over a long distance in the winter was to warm up his slender body and get back inside the bus.

Jim has been blessed with good health. He does not have headaches and does not suffer from stress. "I have never lost my temper. I guess I

haven't got the voice to yell and scream. That was one of the reasons I decided not to be a lawyer." He admitted he has trouble with people's names but his memory is still very good. "I tell my office staff the MB after my name stands for 'memory bank.'"

Dr Reid speaks with great pride about his family. He met wife Yvonne in Edinburgh when he was at St Andrews University and she worked in insurance. "She is a great embroiderer - her work is on the walls of the medical centre - while I can't even sharpen a pencil."

Daughter Ruth has been a Corangamite Shire mayor and remains a councillor, daughter Kate is a senior lawyer in Melbourne and daughter Janet is a part-time general practitioner at Point Lonsdale. Jim also spoke fondly of his older brother George who died in England last year. Although he left school early to begin a printing career, George was a canny investor and died a very wealthy man.

Fluent in French, an avid reader, a writer of the occasional letter to the editor, an exceptional contributor to the health and well-being of many international, Australian and Cobden and district families over a long period of time . . . take a bow, Dr James Reid. Thanks for the many years of care, and all those ripping stories!

Story and photos - Kelvin White

COBDEN CIVIC HALL - A MAJOR COMMUNITY ASSET

The Cobden Civic Hall complex is managed by a committee responsible to the Corangamite Shire for its operation and maintenance.

The committee is subject to appointment at an annual general meeting; however the present committee has been in place since 2001. It currently comprises Glenice Coad, Kevin Johnston, Frank Martin and Lew Matthews.

The next AGM is due to be held in August this year, and the committee encourages members of the community to nominate for membership to assist in the running and improvement of the hall complex. The key qualification for members is that they are keen to see the hall develop and be as user-friendly as possible.

The Cobden Civic Hall complex comprises:

- The main hall (which seats 300 people) has a fully equipped stage
- The supper room adjacent to the main hall seats around 75 people
- The main fully-equipped commercial kitchen has direct access to the main hall and supper room
- The Heytesbury Room is a meeting room capable of seating 40 at tables or up to 60 auditorium style
- The President's Room offers a more intimate meeting venue for up to 20 people
- A kitchenette services the meeting rooms for tea and coffee and light food

The committee of management offers the hall and associated facilities at reasonable costs to hirers for public and private functions. To do this, it needs to set hire rates based on costs for electricity, gas and water supply as well as cleaning and upkeep.

Since the committee was formed in 2001, some of the key improvements have been:

- Setting up meeting venues in the Heytesbury and President's Rooms with carpet, furniture and repainting
- New blinds and blackout curtains installed in the meeting rooms
- Permanent projector screen in the Heytesbury Room
- New sound system installed in main hall
- Re-sanding and re-sealing of the floors in the main hall and supper room
- Replacement of the chairs for the main hall
- Construction of accessible toilet adjacent to the main foyer
- Main hall interior repainted and acoustic panels installed
- Kitchen renovated with new cabinets, stove and dishwasher
- New blackout blinds in main hall
- Additional lighting bars installed in main hall and on stage

- Complete renovation of stage - repainted, new permanently-installed data projector and screens, and new side and rear curtains

Looking ahead, the committee is looking to carry out the following new works:

- lights on the stage
- roofing for the hall
- walkway between kitchen and Heytesbury Room to avoid traffic through the supper room
- tables for the main hall

The Cobden Civic Hall complex exists for the community to utilise for its activities. It is in regular use by service clubs, Progressing Cobden and other users such as the Orchid Club for its annual show, and it is also used by private users for dance classes and other activities. Major functions are held each year by the football netball club. The annual Cobden Rotary/Community Bank Business Awards are held each November. Bookings are handled conveniently in town.

Frank Martin and Kevin Johnston



~ Dance Struck with Kate Attrill ~

Chelsea Mason (left), Steph Simmonds, Kate Hallyburton, Airlie Cole, Jess Veenstra, Amy Hallyburton, Julia Rosolin and Ella Clarke in the supper room.

{Chicks With Attitude} COBDEN CWA . . . much more than scones and sewing

Cobden's Country Women's Association branch was formed 75 years ago. Our aim is to improve conditions in the country especially as they affect health, welfare and education of women and children.

We have supported community appeals throughout all those 75 years - schools, our hospital, scouts, palliative care, our airstrip and our pool to name a few.

Statewide, we have raised money for floods, fires, street kids, care and pamper packs for both men and women after disasters or for palliative care. The Government gave CWA the task of distributing money raised by the public for disaster relief. We also provide a scholarship fund for disadvantaged children.

CWA began in Victoria in 1928 when Lady Somers called an open conference at Government House. Lady Mitchell moved to form a Country Women's Association and Mrs Ian Black of Terang seconded the motion, so CWA was born.

In Cobden we have 21 very active members with

Val Maynard president, Dawn Robertson secretary and our own Judy Morgan is the president of the South Western Group to which we, as a local club, belong.

Enid Smith and Doreen Sullivan have been members for over 60 years beginning with the younger-set days. Our members are a talented group with skills in cooking and handcrafts, and have been successful in both local and state exhibitions

Delegates go to the state conference each year when over 800 women attend and many and varied resolutions are discussed and voted on.

CWA has a seat on many committees, both state and federal, ensuring that a voice on women's issues is heard. This year's conference will be at Swan Hill, as it alternates between Melbourne and country centres.

It is our 75th birthday this year. When we reached 70, we held a big party inviting representatives of all the community service clubs.

Looking Back:

- Concerts at the Coorimungle Prison Camp
- Beginning the Cobden Kindergarten group
- Baby showers: Profit-Three pounds, ten shillings
- Teaching children to knit at school friendship teas

Today:

We cater for senior citizens, make trauma dolls, sew for palliative care, knit for premature babies, make pamper packs and give support for overseas relief. We always have lots of social time, and put on items for social days, have trips and speakers, and study a different overseas country each year.

Membership is open to all, and our meetings are held at the Uniting Church meeting room at 1pm on the first Monday of each month. Please come and join us for fun, fellowship and helping the community. Women working together with wide interests - for large ends!

Val Maynard



Above: Doreen Sullivan (left) and Enid Smith, CWA members for over 60 years and below Judy Morgan (left) South Western Group president, and Cobden CWA president Val Maynard, at the recent Mother's Day high tea.



Thank you

Members of the Cobden Country Women's Association Inc would like to express their thanks to all those who help to make Cobden a caring community.

We appreciate your efforts, volunteering your time, and giving a helping hand.

It all makes Cobden such a good place to live.

ELINGAMITE-GLENFYNE FIRE BRIGADE 50 year service medal awarded

Breaking away from the Cobden Fire Brigade in 1947, the communities of Elingamite and Glenfyne came together and formed the Elingamite-Glenfyne Fire Brigade. With two tanks, pumps and milk cans for water carting, the brigade members were equipped for the first fire when it occurred four years later in 1951.

During its 64 years of operation, the Elingamite-Glenfyne Brigade has attended many fires. In the 1983 fire season, the brigade had several turnouts, travelling 3017.52km. On

Ash Wednesday the truck travelled 1265km. As well as attending fires, the brigade also attends vehicle accidents which are becoming increasingly common as the years pass.

April 2011 saw the celebration of the opening of the brigade's new station, and the presentation of service medals to a number of its long serving members in recognition of their hard work and dedication to the brigade. Individual member service to the brigade spans from "new members" to the longest standing member Geoff Anson who was awarded for his 50 years of

service. Geoff, his wife Joan and their son Peter, have racked up an amazing 110 years between them to the CFA.

The brigade's minutes show that there was some discussion at a meeting during 1978 about women being accepted into the brigade. In its lifetime the brigade has had a handful of women members, the number being boosted by three more female members joining during October 2011. As well as these three women, another three male members joined the brigade, bringing the current member number to 33.

The newest members consist of male and females ranging in age from 17 to 50, their occupations including students, dairyfarmers and a teacher. This diversity showing that there is no limit on age, gender or occupation. To be involved in your local CFA, you need interest, enthusiasm and the willingness to learn and develop new skills along with the commitment to give back to your community.

FIRE BRIGADE OFFICERS

Captain: Greg Free
1st Lieutenant: Nigel McConnell
2nd Lieutenant: Dennis Rosolin
3rd Lieutenant: Peter Anson
Communications Officer: Peter Rosolin
Secretary/Treasurer: Louise Pitman
Equipment Officer: Peter Anson
Training Officer: Dennis Rosolin

Louise Pitman

Louise Pitman (left), Alexandra Green, and Robyn Rosolin



Cobden Uniting Church

Valuation Day

Saturday June 30th, 2012
9 am - 4 pm

Cobden Uniting Church Hall



1 item \$5

3 items \$10
(maximum)

Written Current Market Values
Refreshments available

Opportunity Shop

Open

Monday-Thursday 1pm-4pm

Friday 10am-4pm

Saturday 10am-12pm

Clothing for all ages
Household items
Bric-a-brac
Books

Cobden Uniting Church
Supporting the local community

"WHO AM I?"

When were you born? 1935.

Which schools have you attended? Naroghid State School.

Your favourite subject at school? Maths.

Your AFL team? Anyone but Collingwood!

How do you relax? Going fishing.

How many children do you have? Seven children, 18 grandchildren.

Your favourite television show? Test cricket when it's available.

The best thing about your work? Now that I am retired - I can go fishing whenever I want and not have to worry about work.

Who provided the best piece of advice you have ever received? What was it?

Archie Finlayson. "You never do what I do, you do what I say."

Current clubs or organisations? Cobden Angling Club, Boggy Creek Angling Club.

Best book you've ever read? I'm not really a big reader!

Your worst habit? I have a sweet tooth!

Cobden's best feature? It's a friendly town.

Your proudest achievement so far? Raising our family.

The name of this Cobden identity will be revealed in the June edition of Connecting Cobden.

COBDEN FARMERS' MARKET DAY

Enjoying the recent farmers' market day in Apex Park were . . .



The Noy family: Bridget and David with Sophie and Thomas.



Jenny Parker (left), Colin Parker, Kaye Radford, Glenda Giddings, Noel Giddings and stall-holder Jenny Wheaton.



Market coordinator Kylie Treble and Simon Schulz.



Webead's Hetty Barling (right, Simpson) with Kerry Bowen (left) and Lily Gray (Cororooke).



Louise and Joel Rothman holding their twin daughters Amethyst and Brahminy, and Mercy and Ishmael (front).



Men's Shed members Bruce Woodmason (left) and Frank de Koning.



Romona Taylor with twins Lara and Grace.



Michael Budge (Warrion Produce) with Jack Keighery.



Donut king "Scobie" looks after Coleman Hewish and Kara Beaton.

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU (AND A FRIEND OR TWO)

Progressing Cobden has a dedicated group of community and business members, some of whom are involved in more than one sub-committee, action group or project team. Yes, we probably have taken on more than we can handle - but we believe we are still having a few good wins!

If you have a small amount of time and would like to help in some way, please consider joining one of the groups listed below. You don't need any particular expertise, you can be school-age, you can be older, you can be a newcomer to town, you don't have to live in the town . . . all you need is an interest in making Cobden and district an even better place in which to live and work.

WORKING GROUPS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

- Progressing Cobden – meets at 7.30 pm on first Monday evening of every month – Heytesbury Room (Civic Hall).
- CopRice Spring Festival committee – Cobden's big weekend takes place on October 19th – 21st. Sunshine assured this year.
- Lake Cobden project team – our jewel in the crown is attracting more and more visitors.
- Pioneer Dairy Park committee – if you're interested in history, this is for you. Thanks to Fonterra, new signage is on the way.
- Christmas Celebration committee – Santa, BBQ, entertainment for all ages. Retailers' raffle. Sponsored by Community Bank.
- Twenty20 Vision action groups:
 - Town Appearance and Tourism – streetscapes, town entrances, tourism projects eg Cobden Story, our website, brochures.
 - Economic Sustainability, Education and Training – keeping our businesses viable, broadening training opportunities and ensuring our young people have the option of staying or, at least, returning to the area.
 - Infrastructure – roads, footpaths, lighting, parks, industrial estate . . .
 - Facilities and Services – maximising health services, police presence . . .
 - Organisations and Volunteers – Connecting Cobden newsletter, district club support, hosting combined service clubs' dinner on June 15th.

If you are interested, simply contact **Frank Martin** at Cobden Home Timber and Hardware (5595 1103), **Jo Beard** (5595 1951), **Milton Parlour** at Falk & Co Real Estate (5595 2302), **David Buckle** at Hampden Veterinary Clinic (5595 1100), **Janet van Leerdam** (5595 1129) or **Kelvin White** at the South West LLEN office (5595 1700) or turn up to a monthly Progressing Cobden meeting where you can register your interest. You can also use the email address: kelvin@swllen.net.au.

Remember, involvement in just one of these groups will be much appreciated.

Progressing Cobden Inc A0033175Y

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS IS WELCOMED

Would you like to receive news from Progressing Cobden?

If so, please email kelvin@swllen.net.au and you will be added to our extensive email distribution list.

At this point in time, we have 180 on our email list, 49 of whom are paid-up and proud members. We have between 10 and 15 people at our regular meetings. It would be great to build on these figures.

You can help us achieve that!

“WHO AM I?”

When were you born? 1960s.

Which schools have you attended?

Timboon Consolidated and Timboon High School.

Your favourite subject at school? P.E. (Physical Education) and sport.

Your AFL team? Essendon.

How do you relax? “Never” - not a word I can include in my vocabulary.

Favourite holiday destination? Lake Louise, Banff, Canada.

How many siblings do you have? Two brothers and two sisters.

Your favourite television show? “The Amazing Race.”

The best thing about your work? Being able to help others, and to help them achieve their goals.

Who provided the best piece of advice you have ever received? What was it?
My parents. “Go at and try your best, never give up, keep working hard. Challenge yourself, and even if you’re happy with your result, always try to improve to be better.”

Current clubs or organisations? Cobden Football Netball Club Inc.

One think about you that might surprise our readers? That I am a Queen’s Guide!!

Four stimulating and interesting dinner guests? Leroy Loggins, Andrew Gaze, James Hird, Dustin Fletcher.

Best book you’ve ever read? Currently reading “Run Fat Bitch Run” by Ruth Field.

Your worst habit? I have to have the last say!!

Cobden's best feature? Walking track and Cobden Lake/Dam and surrounds.

Your proudest achievement so far? To study later in life, to change one’s career paths.

The name of this Cobden identity will be revealed in the June edition of Connecting Cobden.

HAMPDEN SPECIALIST SCHOOL

‘The Best of Both Worlds in Special Education’

by Principal Pam Coolahan

Hampden Specialist School is a unique school providing special education for primary and secondary school-age students with mild to severe intellectual and other disabilities.

The school’s distinguishing feature that also makes it different to other special schools is its base-room style of education delivery. In keeping with this style of operation, each campus is located alongside same-age regular schools.

The school motto ‘The Best of Both Worlds in Special Education’ is derived from this practice that underpins all aspects of the school. The P - 4 campus with 20 students, is located next to Terang College P - 4 campus and the Middle Years (5 - 8) and Later Years (9 - 12) campus, with a total of 39 students, is located on the grounds of Cobden Technical School. The combined enrolment in 2012 is 59.

The school catchment area is very broad. Four buses service Derrinallum and Mortlake in the north, Garvoc and Nullawarre to the west, Timboon and Port Campbell

to the south and South Purrumbete to the east and all areas in between. Neighbouring specialist schools are located at Warrnambool, Colac and Hamilton.

Through the base-room style of curriculum delivery, the objective is to extend the range of educational and social options available to the students who attend Hampden Specialist School. It is also to enable Hampden Specialist School students and those with disabilities enrolled in host schools to experience success within regular school environments which otherwise would not have been attainable.

These objectives are pursued within a context of respecting and valuing the aims of neighbouring and host schools, and maintaining optimum levels of dignity for students with disabilities in these schools. We are very fortunate to have host schools that recognize and support our goals. The contribution of these schools cannot be overstated. It is what makes our school.

School curriculum is derived from VELS which is the same framework used in mainstream schools. Our philosophy is that our students

need to be connected to mainstream in every way possible and thus need to have the same learning and social experiences whenever they can.

Later Years students engage in work experience at Year 10, VCAL is accessed through Cobden Technical School and TAFE programs are also a feature of some Later Years students learning package. Camps, 18th birthday celebrations and valedictory dinners are much-anticipated aspects of the annual calendar at relevant levels within the school and the end-of-year presentation of awards ceremony is an event that is well-supported by a number of service clubs in Cobden and Terang.

The awards presented by Cobden Rotary, Progressing Cobden and Cobden Quota International provide great incentive to students at all levels within the school to do their best. Terang Rotary makes an equally-valued contribution. In 2008 the school hosted its first presentation ball.

School captains in 2012 are Drew Semmens and Jemma Brandrup. Campus captains at Terang are Lewis Stone and Maddison Benson. The school leadership team consists of Pam Coolahan as principal and leading teachers Annette Sedgley (Later Years coordinator and 2IC), Olivia Sheldon (Middle Years coordinator) and Kylie Carter (P - 4 coordinator).

There are nine teaching staff, most with special education qualifications and Jill Savage is office manager. Teacher assistants, physiotherapists, speech pathologists and occupational therapists complete the service.

The school had an \$850,000 upgrade early in 2011 under the Building the Education Revolution Program. This has created new spacious open plan learning areas at the 5-12 campus that are conducive to our preferred team-style of teaching. Because of the high-interest hands-on style of approach, inquiry learning at the 5-12 level and developmental curriculum are also valued features of the school curriculum.

Our phone number is 5595 1995.



School buildings



Grade 5 & 6 Middle Years students:

Back: (l-r): Brady Templeton, Courtney Beaton, Zoe Jolly,
Front: Neoca Parsons, Callum Trotter, Ben Carter.

LET'S SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS BECAUSE THEY SUPPORT US!

Progressing Cobden Inc A0033175Y

About twelve months ago, some local business people approached Progressing Cobden and asked us to encourage the community to support those who provided sponsorship for our clubs and organisations.

It seemed a very reasonable request so a period of consultation and negotiation saw the development of a sponsorship policy. The application form (see example, right) can easily be used when your organisation is making a formal approach to any potential sponsor.

If you would like a copy sent to you electronically or in hard copy, please email: kelvin@swllen.net.au or ring 5595 1700.

COBDEN AND DISTRICT SPONSORSHIP CODE 2011

Aim: To develop a spirit of co-operation and understanding between Cobden’s business people and the district’s organisations and groups in the important area of sponsorship.

• It is generally accepted that sponsorship benefits all parties – some type of sponsorship makes it easier for an organisation to survive and flourish while a sponsor can reasonably expect to receive some custom from that group and its members or, at least, be acknowledged in a manner that will help to promote the sponsor’s business.

• It is also generally accepted that the whole Cobden and district community will enjoy

short term and long term economic benefits if everyone does their best to shop locally. A strong business community will mean more goods and services available within the area. Retailers and tradespeople would like to be given the opportunity to meet your needs.

Therefore, to encourage a win-win situation for all concerned.

All businesses will have a standard application form to be completed by organisations seeking sponsorship. It will be accompanied by a copy of the Cobden and District Sponsorship Code.

Where possible, applications for sponsorship should be submitted personally, by a representative of the organisation so any aspects of the application can be clarified.

The sponsorship application form should be attended to (and responded to) within a month of formally receiving it. Refusal should not offend.

Organisations will be asked to explain as precisely as possible how any sponsorship will be used.

Organisations will be asked to explain how the sponsor is to be supported or acknowledged during the period of sponsorship.

Organisations are encouraged to spread the load as much as possible – to resist the tendency to go back to the same businesses every year. Perhaps consider a bi-annual approach to a wider cross-section of businesses? Consider approaching the farming community and professionals as well as retailers and tradespeople.

Organisations should be prepared to explain what the sponsorship is to be used for, and how the group has helped itself over the past twelve months.



From left: Joy Nowell (Country Gifts); Ian Benallack (Cobden Motors); Lyn Parker (Oasis Cafe); Mark Roberts (Roberts Builders); Sharon Stirling (Stirlo’s Meats).

COBDEN AND DISTRICT SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION FORM

BUSINESS: Cobden Authorised Newsagency

ORGANISATION: Cobden Cricket Club

POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box, Cobden 3266

CONTACT(S): Cameron Beaton (President), Brendan Hickey (Secretary)

PHONE NOS: 5595, 0429

TYPE AND QUANTITY OF SPONSORSHIP REQUESTED:

Consider:

- Financial assistance
- In-kind assistance
- Provision of goods
- Provision of prizes ✓
- Provision of trophies
- Member discounts
- Member incentives
- Sponsorship packages - will include various options for sponsors

Every Friday night during the cricket season (October 1 – March 31), the Cricket Club runs a fund-raising competition at Thompson’s Hotel. We are looking for your support to provide vouchers as prizes for the raffle – weekly, fortnightly or monthly. Any assistance will be appreciated.

HOW WILL THE SPONSOR BE ACKNOWLEDGED OR SUPPORTED?

Consider:

- Newspaper or newsletter acknowledgement ✓
- Letterhead acknowledgement ✓
- Annual report acknowledgement including financial statements ✓
- Club uniform acknowledgement
- Organisation custom ✓
- Expectation or encouragement of member custom ✓
- Sponsor invitation to events and dinners - hospitality ✓
- Sponsor presents trophies
- Ask trophy recipients to personally thank or patronise sponsor - note on trophy
- Thank you letter to sponsor ✓
- Sponsor addresses organisations about products
- Sponsor advertising material distributed - hard copies or via email distribution list
- Honorary membership
- Signage eg venue, fence, office, clubrooms ... ✓
- Naming rights to event, club, clubrooms ...
- Include sponsor in all mail-outs
- Any strategy to promote a strong two-way relationship ✓

The club welcomes any other suggestions as to how we can continue to support your business.

As well as the above acknowledgements, our hotel competition sponsors will appear on our weekly team sheets which are posted on shop windows.

ANY OTHER INFORMATION TO SUPPORT YOUR ORGANISATION’S APPLICATION.

Due to the support of local businesses, our traditional hotel competition has proved a great success. Funds go to pay our Cobden Recreation Reserve rent.

Signed: Brendan Hickey

Date: September 30th, 2011

Please attach any other relevant documents – a detailed presentation, photos, reports, articles, details of your organisation’s package options etc – and submit them with your application.

Cobden Sports Club - THE HOUSE ON STILTS

TRUE OR FALSE?

(Answers below)

1. Cobden Sports Club was officially opened on August 12th in 1982 or 1983?
2. Its first president was Colin Gaut or Bazil Hammond?
3. The building was largely financed by community members forming a co-operative society and the club taking out a bank loan?
4. All members of the senior and junior football netball clubs, the cricket club, the tennis association and the fire brigade are automatically members of the Cobden Sports Club?
5. If any of the above organisations run a function at the Sports Club, they receive a dividend from the bar for that event?
6. Current treasurer Mrs Joyce Roberts has held that role for 22 years?
7. If the football netball club runs an event in summer, the dividend from the bar goes to the cricket club and tennis association?
8. You have to use the bar if you hire the Sports Club?
9. If you're a member of the Sports Club, you can hire the room for a party for \$120?
10. You cannot hire the room if you are not a member?
11. Cobden Sports Club has a restricted liquor licence?
12. Arthur Matheson, Bert Peperkamp, Greg Chessum, Wendy Gleeson, Jackie Matheson, Robyn Hose, Jim Dalziel, Darren Mounsey, Diane Ovens and Bill Malady have all served as bar managers at one time or other?
13. The Sports Club is intending to purchase industrial stoves and a combi-oven for the kitchen in 2014?
14. Harry Uwland is president of the Cobden Sports Club?
15. The only Sports Club life-members are Joyce Roberts and Gerard Gleeson?
16. You can't book the Sports Club during the football netball season?
17. Cam Beaton represents the football netball club on the committee?
18. Adults can buy a three-course tea on Thursday nights for \$10, courtesy of the football netball ladies. Kids even cheaper. All welcome?
19. The Sports Club is not air-conditioned, summer or winter? No blinds either.
20. The Sports Club contact numbers are 5595 1286 and 0429 921 876.



The Sports Club Committee of Management:
Back (l-r): Wayne Gibson (CFNC), Brayden Crow (CCC), Paul Hickey (CJFNC);
Front: Craig Dwyer (CTA), Joyce Roberts (CRR), Garry Finlayson (CTA).
Absent: Harry Uwland, Kelvin White, Cam Beaton (pictured below).



Harry Uwland (CRR) Kelvin White (secretary) Cam Beaton (CCC)



Bronte McCann (left); Bernadette Hickey and Denis Horan; and Cath Uwland, entertain at the Cobden Sports Club.

ANSWERS

1. 1983. Most of the work was done by volunteers with contributions from local tradespeople.
2. Neither, it was Kevin Johnston who was president until the end of 1991.
3. True, the building and all fittings cost about \$180,000. The first meeting to start organising the financial arrangements was held on August 8th, 1981.
4. Yes. The clubs collect small fees from their members to pass on to the Sports Club.
5. True.
6. No, Joyce was elected in 1987 so it's 25 years! Joyce, the only foundation member still on the committee, took over from Col Gaut.
7. No, the dividend goes directly to the club that organises the event, regardless of the season.
8. No, you don't. Meetings, seminars and conferences often don't use the bar.
9. True. Non-members pay \$150. Meetings and the like are cheaper for all - \$40.
10. Anyone can apply to hire the Sports Club.
11. It has an on-premises licence which means no additional permits are required.
12. All those named except former committeeman Jim Dalziel.
13. No, they are already installed . . . and cooking up a storm.
14. Harry retired last year after four years in the chair.
15. No, Kevin Johnston is also a life member.
16. Yes, you can. There are many weekends when the rooms are free.
17. No, Cam represents the Cobden Cricket Club.
18. True. Real value.
19. It is totally air-conditioned and will have see-through blinds within the next month.
20. Yes. The phone numbers are accurate.



Thursday night kitchen whizzes with the new ovens: Annette Gardner (left), Jo McInnes, Lisa Dickinson, Jocelyn Bevin, Judy Mounsey.

"WHO AM I?"

- When were you born?** 1991.
- Which schools have you attended?** Simpson Primary School, Cobden Technical School.
- Your favourite subject at school?** Food classes.
- Your AFL team?** Geelong.
- Favourite holiday destination?** Anywhere hotter than Cobden!!
- Your favourite television show?** "Two and a Half Men," but I don't have much time for TV.
- The best thing about your work?** Helping customers to live healthy lives.
- How do you relax?** Sleep.
- The best piece of advice you have ever received?** "You live, you learn."
- Current clubs or organisations?** Cobden Football Netball Club.
- Stimulating and interesting dinner guests?** Jimmy Bartel, Michael Clarke.
- Best book you've ever read?** I don't read.
- Your worst habit?** Eating too much.
- Cobden's best feature?** The people.
- Your proudest achievement so far?** I don't really have one.
- The name of this Cobden identity will be revealed in the June edition of Connecting Cobden.*

COBDEN TOUR GROUP AUGUST 2013

You are invited to participate in a most comprehensive 28 day tour of England, Scotland and Ireland departing August 2013 with the major highlight being a night at the "Edinburgh Military Tattoo."

The group will have its own luxury coach, and stay in first class hotels.

We will complete our tour with three days in Hong Kong, including a tour of the city.

If you would like to receive a full itinerary of the tour, please fill out the form on the right.

More information next issue

Cobden & Community Tour 2013

Please forward to me the tour itinerary

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Return to Cobden Tour Group
 PO Box 109
 COBDEN VIC 3266

BABY BOMBERS TAKE OFF

Cobden Junior Football Netball Club, the junior partner of the Cobden Football Netball Club, caters for the 12 and under and 14 and under netballers and the under 12, 14 and 16 footballers.

Our major activities are coaching and playing football and netball with training on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and game day, usually, on Sundays. Our home ground is the home of the Bombers, Cobden Recreation Reserve.

NETBALL (by Tanya Davis)

In 2009, Hampden Football Netball League's Junior Committee believed there was a need for junior netball to be introduced on a Sunday while the football was being played.

This gave a wonderful opportunity for many more girls to play netball who were not currently involved in Saturday competition. Two age-groups were introduced – 14 and under competition and an unofficial 12 and under game.

The overall aim was firstly to encourage and promote netball at an early age. By developing and improving their ability, the future of netball is more promising.

The main focus of 12 and under games is on having fun while working on skill development, ensuring all players gain experience on all areas of the court by rotating players throughout the season. Both the 14 and under and the 12 and under grades attempt to promote good sportsmanship, positive relationship with teammates and giving all players, including subs, a fair and reasonable time on the court.

In 2010, Cobden 14 and under netballers proudly won the premiership. Great excitement in the club as our younger 12 and under players were curtain-raisers to this game.

Each Sunday it is wonderful to be involved in such a positive and supportive environment as a large crowd gathers around the netball court. This year we currently have nine 14 and under players, jointly coached by Tracy Hickey and Veronica Hickey. We have an amazing eighteen girls in the 12 and under game, coached by Janelle Smith, assisted by Bernadette Hickey.

In order to facilitate even court time, most weeks this age-group play extra quarters or play two x 12 and under games at the same time. Training is every Thursday night at 3.45pm to 5pm. On game day the 12 and under netballers play at 11am, with 14 and under competition played at 12 noon.

All Cobden junior netballers must pay an annual fee to Netball Victoria (VNA) for insurance purposes and also a small membership fee to Cobden Junior Football Netball Club.

Junior football and netball relies heavily on parents and volunteers help. The Cobden club is very fortunate to have very eager, willing and capable helpers who take on the many roles including goal umpiring, timekeeping, gate keeping, working in the canteen, netball-scoring and, of course, being a supportive member in the crowd.

A huge thank you to the coaches, umpires and officials who do a fantastic effort each week.

Any enquiries please contact Tanya Davis, Cobden Junior Netball Co-ordinator, on 0439 952 074.



14 and under: Back (l-r): Emily van Donk, Brittany Harris, Katie Hickey, Jess Marshall, Millie Parker Lora Schulz.
Front: Jasmine McVilly, Ailie Bateman, Hannah McGlade, Alana Schulz.



12 and under: Back: Sondi Guthrie, Nina Parker, Grace Howard, Lily Everett, Sarah Smith, Jordana Bateman, Sarae Hickey, Kayla Hallyburton.
Front: Ebony Davis, Grace Dawson, Ella Gleeson, Connie Blake, Brooke Hallyburton, Sophie Hickey.

FOOTBALL (by Sue Stevens)

The club was established in 1958 as part of the Camperdown and District League. Teams involved then were Purrumbete, Bookaar, Camperdown, Noorat and Cobden. Terang and Colac came on board the next year. The foundation members for the club were president Ted "Porky" Howard, Jim Hammond and Harold Lamb (all deceased)

Cobden's first coach was Brian Brown. The club won a premiership in 1969 under coach Frank Walsh and again in 1972 under "Wiggy" Smith. A premiership in 1985 was followed by another in 1988 when we were coached by Robbie Howarth and Greg "Herbie" Merrett.

At some stage the leagues changed around and Cobden played in the Mt Noorat League but no-one is quite sure when this happened. It is about five years ago that the Hampden juniors started.

Currently, we have about 60 young footballers. Competition is open to any player between the ages of 10 and 16. Girls are most welcome until the age of 14 and, now, a girls' competition is starting so the girls can continue. Netball ages range from 10 to 14 years and they can play under 13s and 15s on Saturdays.

Significant players who have come through the junior system include David Rhodes who played with Fitzroy, Sydney Swan Gary Rohan and Essendon Bomber Jackson Merrett. The under 14s have played in the last two grand finals but lost.

This year was wonderful for club representation at a higher level. We had eight boys playing for Hampden in the under 15 V-Line Cup schoolboys' competition - Paul Pekin, Louis Robertson, Jack Hutt, Jake Reed, Nick Kemp, Nathan Stevens, Dominic Dare and Nathan Gronbeck.

They played in April in Melbourne and now Paul and Dominic are in the squad for Vic Country selection. Four boys formerly from the juniors are in the Falcons squad - Mick Salmon, Brendan Richardson, Daniel Watson and Sam Cunnington.

Our 2012 football coaches are Grant Smith and Marty Darcy (under 12s), Tim McGlade (under 14s) and Anthony Reed and Tim Horan (under 16s).

Current office-bearers include president Paul Hickey, secretary Sue Stevens and treasurer Cherine Benallack. Paul was a premiership player in the 1988 under 16 team.

SWAN GARY ROHAN PRESENTS GUERNSEYS to ...



Under 16s: Luke Pekin, Sam Thow (at back), Brady Green, Billy McGlade, Leigh Finlayson.



Under 14s: Jake Howard (59), Andy Howard (at back), Josh Hickey (32), Sam Clarke (at back), Jack Guthrie (31), Charlie Darcy (39), Jack Atkins (36), Ryan Robbins (34).



Under 12s: Matthew Clarke (left), Oliver Darcy, Jack McGlade, Zale Easton-Bylykbashi (partly obscured), Zac Molan (at front), Brayden Poole (at back), Caleb McLean, Elijah Unwin (at front), David Casey (at back), Harry Darcy (partly obscured), Ben Atkins, Luke Hickey, Tadgh Dwyer.

Spot the Differences

Can you spot the 20 differences between the two photos below?

by Barbara Cowley



Spot the Differences

Welcome to Cobden sign longer; Population sign missing hyphen and number changed; Probus sign enlarged; CWA sign missing extension on "C"; Rotary sign missing spoke on wheel and word; Scout sign missing star and phone numbers; Quota sign colour change; Connecting Cobden logo colours transposed; Safety House sign logo enlarged and letters missing; Playgroup sign enlarged; Uniting Church logo added colour; Red Cross words transposed; SES sign has one block recoloured; Miniature Railway sign missing train smoke; house on right colour deepened; power line missing on right.

Answer to April's

Connecting Cobden logic problem

Tandarook Park grows daffodils, dahlias and a hakea.
Apex Park grows freesias, petunias and a bottlebrush.
CWA Park grows jonquils, pansies and a gum tree.
JH Vagg Memorial Park grows nerines, roses and a wattle.

COBDEN CALENDAR

- Sunday June 3rd:** Lake Cobden working bee.
- Monday June 4th:** Progressing Cobden meeting, 7.30pm, Heytesbury Room, Cobden Civic Centre.
- Friday June 15th:** Combined Service Clubs' Dinner, Cobden Sports Club. Meal served 7pm. RSVP June 11th.
- Monday June 18th:** Spring Festival meeting, 7.30pm, Heytesbury Room, Cobden Civic Centre.
- Saturday June 23rd:** St Mary's Anglican Church Guild is holding a stall at 9am till sold out, all donations very welcome. Kaye Hanks 5595 1210.
- Saturday June 30th:** Valuation Day, Cobden Uniting Church Hall. 9am-4pm. \$5 - 1 item, \$10 - 3 items (maximum). Written current market values. Refreshments available.
- Sunday August 5th:** Lake Cobden working bee.