

village voice

September 2011

Carol's Communiqué



Hi welcome to my first issue of the Village Voice.

A big thank you to Bruce and Denise for giving us an insight into their lives.

Lifestyler Profile

Bruce Ruxton

Born Bendigo 27 April 1937

I grew up with three brothers and one sister. With the exception of one brother they were considerably older than me.

My first memories were the goldmines of Bendigo, especially the whistles for the shift change, also the

reveille from the POW camp.



Figure 1 - Bruce in his RAAF days

When dad came home from the war, we shifted to a new home with paddocks around – what a thrill; walks into the bush picking wild flower for my mother.

I left school to become a lad labourer in the Victorian railways, waiting to become a trainee engine man. I was transferred to North Melbourne when I turned 18 to become an engine cleaner.

On leaving the railways, I learned to fly at the McKenzie Flying School at Moorabin. Next came a stint as a salesman with Myer during which I was drafted into National Service. I went on to become a sergeant in the CMF. I left Myer to follow my passion for the railways. I completed a number of training

courses which enabled me to enjoy a wide variety of experiences and roles within the railways.

At the age of 25 and during a time when entertainment centred on dances rather than Playstations, I met the girl I knew I would marry; Denise. We were married on Grand Final Day, 1962. By 1965, we had a daughter, Amanda and a son, Leigh.

In spite of my love for the railways, conditions became untenable and so I reluctantly resigned, having progressed to the position of Special Class Fireman.

Between 1965 and 1968 I tried a number of jobs, eventually settling on that of Clerk Supply(T) with the RAAF. One of my fondest memories of this time was helping to rebuild a Mustang Fighter Plane which was later to become a flying exhibit. A variety of postings included stints in Edinburgh SA, Richmond, Fairbairn, Wagga Wagga NSW and Melbourne Vic. I retired in 1992 from the role of Investigations Officer.

Prior to retirement we holidayed in Tassie and decided then that we would retire here. We bought a house in Richmond where we lived until moving to Clarence Lifestyle Village.

Along the way, Denise and I have been blessed with six wonderful grandchildren, whom we love dearly.

Finally, I would like to thank my wonderful wife Denise for her love and support over the years.

Watch for Denise's profile in our next voice...

Events and Activities

Our new bus will be here next week so start thinking about our next and future trips.



Villagers' Notes

Denis and Sheila invite you to a Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ presentation:

At St Michael's Collegiate School(Davey street entrance) on Wednesday the 7th Sept. at 8p.m.

Door sales available at \$12 or \$10 concessions.

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Villagers' Notes Cont'd

From Wendy



Hi Village Gardener's, for all those interested Lindisfarne has a club which meets every 4th Tuesday at CWA Hall 29A Lincoln Street at 7.45p.m.

Lots of Interesting guest speakers on varied subject at different times and some fun competitions to enter at each meeting.

Those interested please come along and if transport is needed contact Wendy in number 9 or on her mobile 0407525021.

Village Trip

What a great first trip out on the bus, the days was beautiful and everyone was in good form.



Figure 2- Ready to attack the road home

Although some of our ports of call were not open, we still managed to see some interesting things and the Ladies got some nice daffodils to bring home.

Denis and Shiela also acquired some lovely pansy's for their front patio from the fork in the road.

I am pleased to say after the initial warning that anyone misbehaving on the bus would be put off there were no problems and all held hands very nicely when crossing the road. Well Done.



Figure 3 - Bringing back memories