



# Corop News

## "The Call of the Brolga"

Issue No.11 – May 2004.

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### Introduction

Welcome to our eleventh edition of Corop News and our first publication this year. With such a small team of us it is sometimes difficult to find the time to put this together, however we are grateful for the ongoing interest in the newsletter and to those who have contributed articles.

In Spring 2003 many of us were hopeful that the drought had broken as much needed rain produced saw crops get off to a good start and Lake Cooper began to look like a lake once more rather than a dust bowl. However, it was short-lived as we headed into another dry summer and the shallow water in the lake dried up again. For many farmers the impact of the drought is still being felt, especially so for the dairying industry that seems to have been the worst hit over the past few years. As we approach winter it is still concerning that we have not had any good rainfall yet this year. However, there are optimists – Bob Bartlett predicts that Lake Cooper will be full by October this year. Any takers on this??

### CCAG Update

The Corop Community Action Group went into recess over the summer break, but is now back in full swing aiming to complete some of its many projects. Anyone interested in joining the CCAG or attending the working bees please contact Bob Bartlett on 5484 8216 or Ian Clark on 5484 8236. Meetings are held second Monday in the month at the Tennis and Community Centre in Corop at 7.30 pm. The project updates are as follows:

### Small Equipment Grant

The CCAG was successful in its request for a small equipment grant under a Department of Human Services funding grant to assist volunteer groups. The group nominated and has since purchased equipment including a digital camera, filing cabinet, tape recorder, spray units, tree planters, shovels, and mats for the Tennis & Community Centre. The digital camera and tape recorder are to assist us in taking photos and doing interviews for both the Corop newsletter and the action group's activities.

### Tennis & Community Centre Revamp!

The Corop Tennis and Community Centre has recently had a much-needed interior makeover performed with a great result! The interior walls and ceiling have been painted and new floor coverings put down. The old meeting table has been given a new lease of life as it has been sanded back to its original colouring and given a clear finish. (If anyone knows who donated this table or where it came from the CCAG would love to know). This was achieved through money set aside from the Shire for capital works on community facilities and money from both the Tennis Club committee and the CCAG. There are plans to improve the exterior by putting in a path from the car park to the

clubrooms, flywire screens, new doors, repairing/replacing spouting and fascia boards.



*CCAG members enjoy the refurbished Community Centre*

### Town Beautification

The CCAG has continued to complete works on the northern side of the highway tree plantation. The area has been further levelled and the group has continued to take responsibility for slashing and spraying weeds. We are waiting for the Shire to take over responsibility of this area to plant grass and keep the area mowed in line with the rest of the town.

Further west of the town on the road reserve out the front of the old Corop School, the area has been further cleared of growth and suckers, ready to be burnt off. This area is also waiting the planting of trees, hopefully in the spring, and will include the area adjacent to the telephone exchange next to the bridge.

The area on the south side of the town where the spiny rush has been cleared is awaiting further earthworks before being ready to plant trees.

## Along the Track

The walking track along the east side of Lake Cooper has been delayed in its development due to a number of factors. There have been ongoing discussions with the Shire about the road that once existed there but has now largely fallen away due to erosion. The Shire is looking at de-gazetting the road. Therefore we have been unable to formalise the start of the walking track, which we propose will be at the northeast end of the lake. This area will have a designated car parking area, picnic benches and information board.

In the process of looking at appropriate signs for the Lake Cooper walking track with VICROADS and Campaspe Shire it was brought to our attention that there were complications with incorporating the adjacent roads leading to the swamp areas with our walking track. With concerns about public liability, there were issues raised about promoting a road as part of a walking trail. The CCAG instead decided that it would identify the walking track along Lake Cooper only, but indicate on a map the roads that link in with this trail. This will give walkers the option of doing either a return walk or having another car waiting at an exit point along the trail, while cyclists can choose to venture onto the adjacent roads.

Due to the ongoing dry conditions, CCAG has delayed planting any further trees around the lake. However, it is proposed that a further mass planting will take place by early spring. The group has also continued to attend to maintenance of the track, especially weed control. It is anticipated that once the trees grow this will be less of a problem, however time and money will still need to be spent on keeping the track in a satisfactory condition.

## Town Shelter

The CCAG has put together a proposal to have a picnic shelter erected along the Midland Highway in Corop. The following is an outline of the proposal:

**Aim:** To construct a stone shelter that replicates the remains of an early settler's cottage. The shelter and rest stop in the township of Corop is designed to be visually appealing and interesting, close to local amenities, and a means for promoting Corop and district to travellers.

**Building site:** Approximately 60 metres East of the store among the line of trees. The reason for this site is that it is close to amenities, yet reasonable northerly and southerly views are possible. The proposed site is also raised and the designated distance from the highway.

**Construction:** Solid stone walls will be erected on a concrete slab. Construction would be such to give a dilapidated effect. Reason for the 'state of disrepair' are to allow light, views; seating on the north wall; and to give a rustic, historic look that will attract attention. The exposed doorframe, remnant window frame and roof frame would be of recycled hardwoods and the roofing iron would also be recycled to give the authentic appearance. Part of the roof would be "missing" to add to the ambience and feel as well as provide light and ventilation.

**Access:** A car-park would be made off the service station entry and an all-weather path would allow wheelchair access to the shelter.

**Facilities:** A water tap, rubbish bin, and a table and benches from recycled timbers, would provide an area for relaxation and refreshment. The store and public toilet are in close proximity. Information boards will disseminate information about the area: including history, points of interest, other facilities and activities in the area.

**Future development:** A garden of native and indigenous flora and the possible addition of a town feature is proposed as part of the ongoing development of Corop's facilities and streetscape.

**Funding:** Money will be from the grants allocated to the Corop Community Action Group from Regional Solutions funding. Some locally raised funds and sponsorship may be required. The work will be completed by voluntary labour and tradespeople.

**Feedback:** If you have ideas or would like input into the proposal, please see Alan at the store, contact your Action Group members or phone Bill on 54848101.

## Taylor Family History

*The following family history has been provided by Olive Baker (nee Taylor) whose grandfather was one of the original settlers in the Corop district. Olive now resides in Sydney. She recently turned 90 years of age.*

My grandfather, William Taylor, arrived in Australia from Northern Ireland around the late 1860s or early 1870s. He landed in Melbourne and got a job in Bacchus Marsh on a property clearing stones off the land and building stone fences. He stayed there for two years to earn some money. Then land around Corop was thrown open for selection. He bought a horse, dray and supplies and set off through the bush for over 100 miles to Corop. He selected 640 acres beside the salt and fresh lakes – so-called, as the water in both was exactly the same. Around the same time Speers selected land at the southern end of the salt lake and it was named Greens Lake.

Across the Fresh Lake from the Taylor selection a family named Rankin, also from Northern Ireland selected land. Mrs Rankin's single sister came with them – and my Grandfather married her. Rankin's later moved to Bamawm and the younger son rose to the rank of Major General in the First World War and later became a Member of Parliament, and later still a Senator. He was my father's cousin.

My grandfather built himself a log kitchen and bedroom. Later when he married he had built on a weatherboard home with verandahs, three bedrooms, and a living room where a family of seven children were born. Later, my brother was also born in the same home.

My father attended a little bush school on the way to Rochester and later, as Corop grew into a town, a school was built in the town. When the Mallee Waranga Channel was put through the town the school was shifted to its present site.

My father used his horses and scoop to work on the section of the channel that cuts through our farm. My grandfather was one of those instrumental in having built the Presbyterian Church in Corop. Earlier the various churches shared what was originally the creamery and then the Hall for their services.

All that now remains of the Taylor family in Corop is the old farm, which is no longer in the family and a sign at the crossroads on the main road from Corop to Stanhope saying "Taylor's Road".

The family produced one very well known sportsman, Bob Rose, the late Collingwood footballer. He was the grandson of my father's sister, Elizabeth.



*New Memorial Wall at Corop Cemetery*

## Cemetery Trust

The Cemetery Trust is pleased to report that the construction of the Memorial Wall and Seat built from local stone has been completed. The seat will have a plaque in recognition of the contribution made by the late George Wright to the restoration of graves. Anyone wishing to place a plaque on the Memorial Wall can contact the Secretary, Denise Acocks, on: 54884 10070. The funding for these works came from the maintenance grant from the Department of Human Services – Cemeteries and Crematoria and required input from local volunteers. Thanks go to all those who assisted.

Under the guidance of Tim Orr work was completed on the McKenzie family grave to underpin the foundations at the recent Autumn working bee. Once the district has some rain and there is sufficient subsoil moisture we will be calling for assistance to plant understorey trees and shrubs in the rear bushland portion of the cemetery. It is pleasing to see that some natural regeneration is starting to occur in the bushland area since re fencing, in spite of the dry conditions.

The Secretary of the Trust has had a number of enquiries from people with ancestors buried at Corop, seeking to locate individual unmarked sites in the cemetery. It has been pleasing to hear comments of praise from these visitors in regards to the condition of our cemetery.

*The following memories were ably retold by Frank Brown who is an active and enthusiastic supporter of the Colbinabbin Football Club and who together with his wife Alice began their married life as residents of Corop.*

The Corop Football Club was started some time after the First World War and was a part of the Campaspe Valley Football League. The teams that played in the competition were Corop, Colbinabbin, Elmore, Goornong, Myola and Tooleen.

The Corop team wore the colours pale blue & maroon and played at several different grounds. One was opposite where the store is now, near the old Gun Club. There were also two different grounds near a clump of trees which can still be seen to the north of the town. The grounds didn't require much upkeep as they were naturally fairly level and the grass didn't grow much – maybe due to the seepage from the channel. The boundary line was made by ploughing a narrow furrow and a white square was marked out near the goals.

The Corop Club was run by many enthusiastic members. Two of the early coaches were Harry Atkinson and Bob Griffiths who had played at one time with the VFA

(Victorian Football Association) in Melbourne. Bill Rose - father of Bob Rose (Collingwood F C) also played a part in starting the club. He was a water bailiff in the town. One of the early Presidents was Jim Pineo and his son Doug was the secretary.

The team in the early days comprised many brothers & cousins – not always a good thing as they were inclined to kick to one another and not always play as a team. The families represented were Speers eight members – Bill Speers being the Captain at one time – Lucas 5 brothers, Collins 4 or 5 brothers and Kerlins 2.

One year the team got into the four and had to play Colbinabbin at Corop. Corop had a good forward from Melbourne playing. One of the hotels had paid him to play and gave him accommodation at the hotel. After being seven goals ahead at the start of the last quarter they were beaten owing to Matt Ryan starring for Colbinabbin and Tom Tuohey keeping the champion from Melbourne down to 2 goals.

Training occurred on a regular basis although this was often done in the dark after a long days work. Training was a run up to the top of the hill on the Bendigo road followed by sparring in the William's chaff shed. The boys would put on the boxing gloves and due to the poor lighting would have to be very careful they didn't get hit by a stray punch. There was little training done with the football.

The team used to change in the Lake Cooper Hotel owned by Densworths as at that time there was no one living there. One time when Corop was playing Colbinabbin one of the Colbinabbin players Glen Roberts was kicked in the back. Glen had left his car at the hotel after changing. He was taken to the doctor in Rochester who decided he had damaged his kidney so badly it had to be removed. He called on the doctor from Echuca to help and also the team mates to supply blood. After testing the blood it was found that the player who had cased the injury had matching blood. Meanwhile the Densworth's Hotel had caught fire Glen Robert's car was moved with difficulty from the front of the hotel and the place was burnt to the ground.

The standard of the game was up and down but was kept in line by umpires – the Doyle brothers came from Rochester and others from Shepparton. Many were ex footballers.

Corop had some good footballers including Freddy Freeman, Tom Burley and Vic Speers both moved to Colbinabbin after Corop disbanded. Bobby Chappel, son of Grace and Bob Griffiths, could have played in Melbourne but unfortunately died in a car crash with one of the Collins brothers when driving to Bendigo. Another good player was Roly Watt who was also a water bailiff and lived in Corop in 1927. He was in the Essendon Mosquito Fleet but played and coached Corop, Colbinabbin, Rushworth and Rochester.

Social activities in the form of dances were held in the Corop Hall. The gun club played an important role in fund raising for the Football Club holding hare and rabbit shoots. One time they shot 1,000 rabbits which were then sold for meat and skins.

The footy canteen was very different from what we see today, with water being boiled for afternoon tea in a copper out in the open. The players got tea and sandwiches after the game or a sausage in bread.

The Corop Football Club folded during the Second World War due to lack of players and didn't start again. *We thank Frank for helping us with this report on the Corop Football Club and would welcome further comments from any interested readers.*

## **Week's family history**

*Our thanks to Bev Weeks for compiling the following weeks family history:*

In 1853 John and Agnes (nee Martin) Weeks left Plymouth in England bound for Australia on the ship 'Alfermarle'. John, a carpenter aged 42 years and his wife Agnes aged 33 years brought their children with them: William John (aged 9 years); Edwin Augustus (aged 7 ears); Amelia (aged 3 years) and Walter, an infant.

The voyage took 110 days, arriving at Port Melbourne on 6<sup>th</sup> July 1853. A daughter, Rose Ellen, was born to the couple in 1857 in Kyneton. Both John and Agnes came from the vicinity of Tavistock in Devonshire. The Weeks family settled on a farming property at Baynton, near Kyneton and both were buried at Kyneton.

William John and Edwin Augustus had made application for land at Corop also in the Parish of Carag Carag. Their application was granted but they never proceeded further. In 1868 William John Weeks acquired land at Mt Pleasant via Tooleen. He named his property 'Tavistock'. This land is now owned by Graeme Weeks, a great grandson of William.

William John married a Maria Smith from the Kyneton area and the couple had 11 children. One of his sons was Story Martin, Graeme's grandfather. Who married Emma Elizabeth Johnson. Story was a Councillor in the Shire of Waranga and had three terms as Shire President. Graeme's father was Leslie Murray Weeks. Another one of Story's sons was Norman William. His son Barry is known in this area for his trucks. He also owns land at Mt Pleasant. Jason Weeks is Barry's son.

Another one of William and Maria's sons was William Alfred who married Rebecca Rogers. They farmed around the Runnymede area. Willis Vincent was their eldest son and one of his sons is John Weeks who used to own the farm 'Sunnyside' at Corop. William and Maria's second son was Alfred George who owned land near Elmore. His grandson Peter, still farms this today. Stanley Irvine, their third son, was a Methodist then Uniting Church minister.

Edwin Augustus Weeks, second son of John and Agnes married Mary Ellison. They settled in the Runnymede East area. He took a keen interest in the affairs of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches. On a two acre plot of land on his original holding, a Methodist church was built. Both Edwin and Mary are buried at Runnymede cemetery. One of Edwin's sons, George Ernest Weeks, a farmer married Ellen Wiseman. Her father also owned land near the Weeks' property. Keith Weeks (son of George and Ellen) continued in his grandfather and father's footsteps as a farmer. His sons, David, Bruce and Phillip, now work the original farm of Edwin's and some of the Wiseman farm. Each generation has continued to purchase more land locally and at Rochester. David's son, Justin, is the fifth generation on the farm at Runnymede East.

Walter Wesley Weeks, second son of Edwin and Mary, in accordance with his father's advice went to Tolmie, where his brother William Edwin lived. He considered the Wombat Ranges as excellent farming potential for growing potatoes. Walter carted his produce to the district market towns by heavy bullock teams. The wagon was one of the first to operate in Tolmie district. His two leader bullocks were Toby and Pilate and he owned a dog called Bogie. After ten years working there he returned to the Runnymede East/Corop area, not far from his brother George.

In 1909 Walter bought land from a Mr Carson. This land had originally been part of the Colbinabbin station.

It was in the North West corner of the station at Mt Burramboot and was considered to be too hilly, too rocky and too heavily treed. Walter built a house on this land that is known today as 'Hilltop'. Walter married Matilda Moon whose parents had the Corop West Post Office. His bullock team used in the Tolmie area remained in use and employed in the cartage of timber from the Elmore Railway station for the building of the bridge across the Waranga Channel at Colbinabbin. His bullock team and later his horse team, continued in use for the clearance of trees, ploughing the ground and working the threshing machine. When other people needed things shifted and wheat carted to the Elmore station Walter's team was available.

Walter and Matilda had two sons, Norman and Mervyn. This couple worshipped at the church on Edwin's property and later at the Runnymede Zion church where most of the Weeks families attended. Walter and Matilda are buried at Runnymede. Norman still lives on the farm at 'Hilltop' with his son Reg. Mervyn lived down the road on the farm 'Denby Park'. His son Ron is there today. Norman farmed with his father and he continued farming for a short time with a team of eight horses before he eventually bought a Fordson tractor. It is interesting that a lot of the older generations never owned a tractor but they owned a car. Walter's was a T model Ford.

In the 1850s a well had been sunk on what is now called the Two Chain Road. Norman believes the well would have been built leading up to the drought of 1856. In 1944 Norman attached a four horse power Mackay engine to drive an Alston pump jack. This enabled him to pump 800 gallons of water an hour to fill the tank that stood on the elevated stand.

The Waranga Shire employed him for a short time in the drought of 1944-45, pumping water to various residents who collected their water from this well. Norman's interest has always been in bores, wells, windmills, underground water and trees. In 1933 he sunk a bore on his farm (dams don't hold water along the range as the soil is too porous). His father had to cart water from the channel. Many windmills, all made by him, are in his yard at 'Hilltop'. One is also in the grounds of the nursing home in Rochester. This is where his wife, Isobel, spent time before her death. In 1939 he planted his first plantation and over the years has continued planting trees around his farm. This is something the younger generation has been doing especially along the range and below.

It was in the 1944-45 drought years that Norman and his cousins, Keith and Malcolm Weeks (brothers) and Bruce Young drove forty drought horses over to Alexandra. This trip took over three days and the horses stayed there for some time before returning home. It took four days on the return trip. An older horse was deliberately left behind because of its age, but it escaped and three weeks later arrived back home. Norman remembers the mouse plagues and the hare and rabbit drives. These rabbit drives were organised and involved a large number of the community, a social get-together of men, women and children. The rabbits were caught and sold and the money was spent in the community.

This is just a brief history of the Weeks family in the Corop district.

*Bev Weeks*

## **Livestock Always A Target For Thieves**

*(Alan McLean, CEO Crime Stoppers Victoria)*

It has been going on since the jolly swagman shoved the jumbuck in his tuckerbag. A threat to graziers since the squatting days of early Australia, livestock theft now comes in two forms. A medium size trailer behind a utility vehicle may be used to remove a single beast from a paddock, usually under cover of darkness.

In a backyard operation, a beast is slaughtered, the skin disposed of, and the meat lodged in a domestic freezer. The small-scale thief is hard to catch, unless witnessed in the act of theft or skin disposal.

Large-scale thieves take greater risks, sometimes taking several hours to yard and load a mob of sheep or cattle on a crated semi-trailer, using stockyards which could not always be described as isolated. An immediate interstate journey follows to a pre-arranged destination to integrate the stolen animals with local stock, or for slaughter.

Both systems can cause severe losses for graziers, with the scale of economic loss being related to prevailing market prices.

### **Preventive action**

Progressively all cattle are being registered under the National Livestock Identification Scheme, a tagging system which will be compulsory for all graziers. Saleyards already refuse to accept cattle for sale unless registered under NLIS. The scheme, while clearly helpful, will not assist when thefts are followed by immediate livestock slaughter.

While NLIS is projected for sheep also in the years ahead, the industry recognizes that this is not yet effective. Sheep remain easy to hide in other mobs, or to sell at a distant market after local integration.

Padlocked gates serve as a useful deterrence, if not a guaranteed preventive measure. Graziers should also alert neighbours when leaving a property for a significant period to time, with a request that the property might be visited by the neighbours while the owner is away. Graziers active in local Neighbourhood Watch schemes are aware of this step to protect their interests.

Noting registration numbers of "strange" vehicles seen in a district but not owned locally can also be helpful, in case news emerges subsequently of a theft incident.

Also available is video camera technology installed at private stockyards. Filming can be activated from a distant farm-house by remote control, if valuable stock are perceived to be at risk at particular times.

### **Insufficient reporting of losses**

Senior Constable Rod Brown of Bendigo Police says police are not always told of livestock theft, which in turn hampers investigation. "Informally we hear of losses, but graziers are sometimes embarrassed that the date of theft is not known, especially where larger mobs may only be counted on an irregular basis when stock are yarded for particular purposes," Senior Constable Brown said. "That, or uncertainty about whether stock may have strayed, or both, means that police may receive just one formal report, when we suspect that a whole district could be being targeted," he added. "We need to have a full picture to assist investigations, and we make no judgments about graziers who can't specify date of loss."

Stock agents and slaughter yards in the surrounding region should also be notified when theft occurs.

## Reporting of guilty parties

Another feature of some livestock theft is local awareness of those reasonably suspected of being involved. The famous "bush telegraph" of community discussion often nominates guilty parties and suspects. Few ever reach the status of an official report to police. A witness with solid evidence may be reluctant to become involved by making a statement. Giving evidence naturally becomes public, and the fear of retribution has been offered as a reason for non-reporting. Witnesses may continue to live in the same district as the thieves, with understandable anxiety.

## Anonymous reporting via Crime Stoppers Rural

A secure reporting of guilty parties is possible via Crime Stoppers Rural. Without needing to identify himself, a caller can share details about where stolen stock may now be located, about a vehicle seen on a property near the time of a theft, or about stock seen being delivered to a property.

Crime Stoppers does not tape calls, cannot trace calls, and its call-centre telephones do not reveal caller number. It has little or no interest in the caller, and is much more interested in theft details and how the caller has become aware of a particular incident.

A report of the call is then passed to relevant local police for follow-up investigation.

## Bendigo Police plea

"We understand why witnesses can't contact police directly in some cases," Senior Constable Brown said. "We encourage anyone who can be helpful with information on livestock theft activity to share their knowledge with Crime Stoppers Rural," he added. "A couple of arrests, charges and convictions could prevent a great deal of stress for graziers in central Victoria. It is tough enough trying to recover from drought without having the added burden of valuable livestock being stolen. A family's livelihood could well be at stake."

**Crime Stoppers Rural may be contacted on freecall 1800 333 000.**

## On the Grapevine - News from the Local Vineyards.



## Mount Burrumboot Estate

Great wine truly is made in the vineyard. At Mount Burrumboot Estate, carefully tended grapes are handcrafted into award winning wines, using traditional techniques, so that the wines truly express Heathcote terroir. Our vines are handpruned and tended, with minimal chemical input - the focus is on sustainability, and following organic principles as far as possible, allows the fruit to reflect the vineyard terroir. In the winery, every process is carried out by hand, using small batch ferments and traditional basket pressing, with the wines being aged in predominantly French oak barriques. The wines are handled gently, with the results being wines that are soft, without harshness. The 2002 Shiraz and Merlot show massive inky depth and black, brambly fruit characters, with refined, integrated tannins, giving elegance and complexity, while our new 2004 whites show a magnificently floral nose, with a fruity, mouth filling palate. From the winery above Lake Cooper, visitors can also sample Petit Verdot, Sangiovese, Marsanne, Verdelho and a delicate rose.

We look forward to welcoming you to our cellar door for tastings and sales. Meals are also available, using the finest of local produce (Bookings only). Or you could buy a picnic hamper to enjoy with a glass of wine, overlooking the Colbinabbin Plains, and Lake Cooper. Until then... cheers!

Cathy Branson

*Open public holidays, weekends 11-5pm, weekdays by appointment. Mount Burrumboot Estate, 3332 Heathcote-Rochester Rd, Colbinabbin. Phone/fax 03 5432 9238 Mob 0438 329 238*

## Ormonhill Shiraz.

The Ormonhill Shiraz is for sale at the Corop Shop, The Emue Inn at Heathcote and at the Shamrock Hotel in Rochester. The price ranges from \$25 to \$30 dollars. We are still selling the 2001 and the 2002 will be released in August.

## Henning's View Vineyard.

Henning Rathjen established a vineyard and winery in the 1860's on the rich Cambrian soil of the Colbinabbin range. Finlay and Darryl Rathjen have re-established the vineyard planted by their forebears and the advantages of the original site are evident in the quality of the Shiraz it now produces. The original cellar where Henning made his wine is a feature of the vineyard. The 2002 vintage will be released in June 2004. It is a very special vintage that will inspire a devoted following.

*Enquiries to Darryl Rathjen on 54329266 M.0407861031. Heathcote-Rochester Rd, Colbinabbin 3559. email [ferssicht@bigpond.com.au](mailto:ferssicht@bigpond.com.au)*

## Shelmerdine Wines.

### The Willoughby Bridge Vineyard.

*From "The Whistler" booklet produced by Shelmerdine Wines.*

The Willoughby Bridge Vineyard, in the warmer northern district, is situated on the famous red Cambrian soil giving more "masculine", deeper, concentrated fruit. Wines (made from grapes grown at the Tooborac and Colbinabbin Vineyards) are blended enabling us to arrive at the final complete wine we want. Our wines are thus truly unique expressions of Heathcote - wines of both refinement and deceptive power, structure and complexity, without unduly high alcohol, extract or fruit/oak imbalance.

The wines are available from a large range of stockists throughout Melbourne. Also at The Emeu Inn Heathcote and the **Cellar door.**

*Lancefield Rd Tooborac.*

*Open seven days a week.*

*Mon - Thurs 11AM - 3.30PM*

*Fri - Sun 11AM - 5PM*

## Lake Cooper Estate

Shiraz 2002 Dry Lake

Cabernet Sauvignon 2002 Dry Lake

These wines are available at the Corop Store and Colbinabbin Hotel at \$30 per bottle. Hopefully cellar door sales will begin in November 2004.

**This newsletter was compiled by Carmel Pearson, Pat Kennedy, Katrina Hall, Bill Barkla; graphics by Katherine Weeks. Thanks to everyone who contributed articles and to the Rochester Secondary College for their support in reproducing this newsletter. Comments or further information on any article are welcome and can be left at the store or emailed to [kenagri@mcmmedia.com.au](mailto:kenagri@mcmmedia.com.au)**