NEWS

Milang Red Cross celebrates 100 years of service

The ninth Red Cross branch to open in Australia is now preparing for its centenary celebrations next month. Milang Red Cross branch president Becky Holt said May 21 would be a big day for the town, with a zone meeting, guest speakers and a school involved.

“It’s a really significant milestone to have for this little town to have, 100 years without it being broken,” she said.

Mrs Holt said a number of displays would be on show for public viewing.

“A World War II Jeep will come as part of a travelling exhibition,” she said.

Vice president Tracy Falzon said the exhibition would include artefacts from Red Cross’ centenary of service.

“There will be 100 years’ worth of photos and literatures, and old bedpans, cups, stuff they used to use all the time,” she said.

She said an integral part of the festivities would be the planting of 121 roses.

“We’ll have 21 around the Soldiers’ Garden for the 21 members we had at the time and 100 roses at the World War I section in the cemetery,” she said.

Mrs Falzon said the guest list included author of the Red Cross book, Power of Humanity, Professor Melanie Oppenheimer, local soldier and My Kitchen Rules 2011 competitor David Hopgood, Rebecca Flippance from the Save-A-Mate program, Cathryn Izzat from Tracing and Refugees, Jude Hyndman from the Blood Service and Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick, who would open the day.

Branch member Judy Whalley said the branch was trying to get more local memorabilia together.

“A time capsule will be planted on the day,” she said.

An honour board of the chairholders from the past 100 years that have been recorded will be opened at the Milang Institute on the day.

Details: The centenary will be held at the Milang Institute on May 21, with a gold coin luncheon from 12.45pm and guest speakers from 1.30pm. For more information or to RSVP contact Becky Holt on 0402 244 804 or becholt@optusnet.com.au.
Ready for celebration: Milang Red Cross Branch member Judy Whalley, vice president Tracy Falzon and president Becky Holt are preparing for the branch’s centenary festivities next month.