

Waltz into the past

Merbein will frock up for centenary bush dance

By Hannah Knight

MERBEIN will be kicking up its heels at next month's centenary bush dance.

People will waltz into the past at Wakefield Transport's depot on Saturday, August 22, for a night of old time dancing.

Frocking up for the special occasion, Norma Baker will be at home in her husband Geoff's arms while they sway to the music of Bushfire and Bev Martin.

Mrs Baker, 75, from Merbein, said she couldn't wait to put on her dancing shoes.

"I've been dancing since I was about 15," she said.

"We're really looking forward to the bush dance.

"It's all about the people you meet and, just having a good time."

Patsy Barracrough, Wakelified Transport Settlers Bush Dance coordinator, said she was expecting a big turnout for the event.

"At the 50th celebrations it was reported that 2000 people attended the dance held in the same building," she said.



GOOD TIME: Norma and Geoff Baker will be at the old-time dance.

"We're all really looking forward to it."

Tickets for the event are \$15, with entry open to people 16 years and over.

"In keeping with the old-style, the ladies are asked to bring a plate to share," Mrs Barracrough said.

"A coffee van will also be in the area and sandwiches will be supplied by the committee.

"There will be no BYO drinks but there will be a bar run by the Merbein Hotel inside the area."

And, with the countdown until the Merbein centenary edging closer,

organisers are looking for volunteers, according to Rebecca Wells.

The centenary committee member said people interested in helping out during the 10 days of celebrations, from August 14 to August 23, should visit www.merbeincentenary.com.au.

"As the events are getting closer, people are getting very excited about it," Ms Wells said.

"It's a great occasion so we're hoping for the whole community to get involved."

Tickets for the dance can be booked by phoning 5025 2845.