



# Chaffey

FESTIVAL

**Celebrate  
Mildura's History.**

**Wednesday 27th - Sunday 31st May 2026.**

Scan for online tickets.



For more information visit -

Web: [www.thechaffeytrail.com.au](http://www.thechaffeytrail.com.au)

Email: [explore@thechaffeytrail.com.au](mailto:explore@thechaffeytrail.com.au)

Phone: 03 5018 8380

Presented by



# 2026 Chaffey Festival Program

## A conversation with Christopher Ekert.

**Date:** Wednesday 27th May 2026  
**Time:** 10:30am – 12:30pm  
**Address:** Sunraysia Early Settlers Museum  
– Old Coomealla Packers building  
1845 Silver City Highway, Dareton  
**Tickets:** \$15 per person

Join us for a fascinating morning exploring the early development of the Mildura and Wentworth region. Guest speaker Christopher Ekert, great grand son of Hurtle Pegler, will share personal stories and reflections on Pegler's life as a pastoralist and his connection to the pioneering irrigation era led by George Chaffey and William Benjamin (WB) Chaffey.

Guests are invited to browse the Sunraysia Early Settlers Museum, including viewing the original Chaffey Brothers rotary hoe, lovingly restored as part of the region's rich history, and enjoy a free sausage sizzle with fellow attendees.

## Step behind Mildara Winery.

**Date:** Saturday 30th May 2026  
**Time:** 9:30am  
**Duration:** 45 minutes  
**Address:** Australian Vintage Ltd,  
Forbes Drive, Merbein  
**Tickets:** \$10 per person

A tour hosted by Australian Vintage Ltd to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the death of W. B. Chaffey at Merbein's Mildura (later Mildara) Winery.

The tour of the original winery built by W. B. Chaffey in 1913 for its first vintage in 1914 will pass by where W. B. Chaffey died in 1926. Commentary will be provided by Australian Vintage Limited and MDHS member, Richard Wells.

## The Legacy of WB Chaffey.

**Date:** Saturday 30th May 2026  
**Time:** 7pm (duration 90mins)  
**Address:** Merbein RSL Rooms  
Commercial Street, Merbein  
**Tickets:** \$20 per person

Join us for a special commemorative event marking 100 years since the passing of WB Chaffey. The evening will explore WB Chaffey's significant contribution as Director of the Mildura (Mildara) Wines at Merbein, including his vision and leadership in establishing the winery on the Murray River cliffs.

Chaffey Trail Reference Group Merbein member, Bernadette Wells, will present a tribute to W. B.'s role at Merbein's Mildara Winery. The evening will also include 2 films which feature Shirley Abicair (singer, TV personality and exponent of Zither playing) singing on her visit to the Mildara winery and an interview with Herbert Chaffey, W. B.'s son.

Enjoy a light supper and the opportunity to mingle with fellow guests as we reflect on and celebrate this important milestone in our shared history.

## Langtree Hall Matinee Movie.

**Date:** Sunday 31st May 2026  
**Time:** 2pm (duration 90mins)  
**Address:** 79 Walnut Avenue, Mildura  
**Tickets:** \$10 per person  
(afternoon tea provided)

Our much loved Langtree Hall Matinee Movie returns with another special edition of *Frames of History*, production by Ian MacWilliams.

This year's screening will feature a narrated compilation of rare film and still images, bringing to life Queen Elizabeth II's historic 1954 visit, alongside guided walk throughs with Ross Lanyon at the Mildura Club.

A unique opportunity to experience and reflect on these important moments in our region's history, brought together in a captivating visual presentation.

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