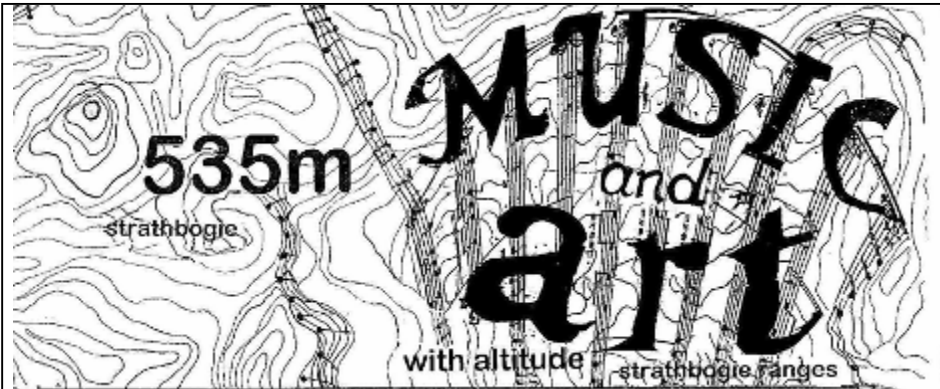




also on-line at www.strathbogie.org

MARCH 2012



March 23, 24 and 25th 2012

A full program and more information is enclosed with this issue of Tableland Talk

On the weekend of **March 23,24,25 Strathbogie will host the 535m music and arts festival**. Last months Tableland Talk gave a full outline of the weekend.

Since then we have had many offers of help. Thank you to all of the wonderful people that came to the workshops, with beautiful curries, crafty fingers and imaginations. We are assembling a colorful bunch of Bollywood decorations including our mascot elephant, reminiscent of the Hindu god Ganesha.

We will be having a volunteers' morning tea at 11am on Sunday the 18th of March at Tom's Garage, for anyone who would like to help out in any way over the festival. Let us know what you would like to help with and we will find a timeslot and activity to suit. All over tea and cake and a little decoration.

Many groups in the community have initiated and further developed the exciting events for the weekend providing an opportunity for us all to share creating together.

The Bridge to Bridge collective will be creating an eagle's nest from natural materials. Robyn Betts and Judith Durstan are formulating a quiz relevant to the bridge to bridge project. The school is working on their waterways project as part of this. The labyrinth project with is detailed further in this TT.

Also over the weekend there will be a forum to explore sustainability in Strathbogie. See the notice in this TT.

The festival program is enclosed and you will find extra copies in many stores in the area.

All enquiries can be made to Lisa on 0488173143 or email 535mlisa@gmail.com

What's on

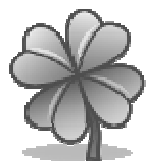
- March 17th**—"When Irish Eyes are Smiling"—Irish dance at the Hall
- March 17th** - Bogie Spinners and Weavers - meeting at the Euroa Farmers Market in the Band Hall from 10am - 3pm. Ph Virginia 57908572 or Robyn 0408529773.
- March 23rd, 24th & 25th**—535m Music and Art with Altitude.
- March 30th** - Celebrating our Environment Community Forum
- April 21st** - Nestbox workshop
- August 11th** - Bush Dance

Every Second and Forth Sunday

- Church service at Strathbogie Church - 11.30am
- Fortnightly** - Guided Meditation— 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, 7pm—ph Julie 57905356
- Fortnightly—Strathbogie Knitting Group** 7pm. Ph Robyn 0408 529773 or Deb 57905398
- Every Wednesday** - Material Girls - 10am - Rec Ground - BYO lunch. Newcomers welcome - Ph Jenny Walker 57905111 or Jill Smith 57905159
- Every Wednesday** - 7.30pm Strathbogie Singing Group - St Andrews Church - Strathbogie (except in the School Holidays) ph Di Mackrell 57905241
- Every Fourth Sunday** 9-11am - Friends of the Bridge to Bridge. New members always welcome.

"When Irish Eyes are Smiling"

Come and join us in festive celebrations, Irish style, Saturday 17th March in the Strathbogie Memorial Hall at 6.30pm for 7pm. We will be entertained by "The North-East Irish 10 piece Band", Callum Gleeson, the duo "Irish Bob and his mate Neil", plus a special performance from an all girls group "The Horrs". Cost of the night is \$5 per person. BYO grog and glasses and supper to share. Cans of guinness will be made available at "Old Mickey's bar" at cost price. Bookings essential. To reserve your table ring Kim Usher 57905345



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Brookleigh Rd
57905111

Euroa Cinema

March 2, 3 & 4
"Women on the 6th Floor" (PG)

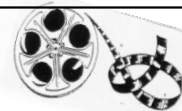
March 10 & 11
"Sherlock Holmes - A Game Of Shadows" (M)

March 17 & 18
"Iron Lady" (M)

March 24 & 25
"The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo"

March 31 & April 1
"Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy"

Tickets: \$9,
children under school age free.



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night, 6pm
Saturdays
8 pm
Sunday's
4 pm*



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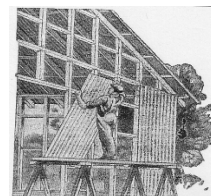
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Ph 5790 5345

Mobile Library dates for Strathbogie
(every 2nd Saturday, 9.30 - 12 noon) - 3rd, 17th & 31st March, 14th April



Strathbogie Recreation Ground

All bookings are to be made with Kim Usher 57905345

Deadline - 23rd March. Email: tablelandtalk@gmail.com), ph 57905203, post PO Box 23 Strathbogie, or leave contributions at the store. The TT team.

A Good Result.

P. McQuinn's letter in last month's Tableland Talk has produced results!

Mr Roy Hetherington (Director Asset Services, Strathbogie Shire) has advised that the rabbit harbour removal and roadside clean-up program for which a DPI grant was obtained in 2010 will at last commence in April this year using the remnants of the grant. This work will start after the fire restrictions are lifted to enable the adjacent landholders to work in unison with the Shire.

The original projected area extended from the township to Mackrells Rd, along Spring Creek Rd and down Brookleigh Rd to the Twin Bridges, and out along Main Rd to the Polly McQuinns Rd T-intersection.

This work will assist in giving safer road access to the Golf Club, the Shire's designated place of last resort in case of emergency.

The Shire is in contact with the GBCMA and the DPI to hopefully expand this project.

535m - Music and Art with Altitude - 23, 24 & 25 March

The **labyrinth** is an ancient pattern, a symbol that has been used through history as a part of many different cultures and spiritual beliefs. Some examples go back several thousand years. The labyrinth follows a single path to the centre and can be used as a walking meditation, a way to find peace and focus. "Simply put, the labyrinth is a metaphor for the journey to the centre of your deepest self and back out into the world with a broadened understanding of who you are". "Walking the labyrinth for twenty minutes or so may trigger tears of grief or joy, help you solve the riddle of a confusing family or work issue, feel better about an illness or gain spiritual insight"



Please join us on the north side of Toms garage at 3pm prior to the exhibition opening on Friday the 23rd of March for the creation of the labyrinth. Feel free to bring flowers, and other interesting natural from your garden. At 5:45pm art therapist and labyrinth enthusiast Julia Peddie will give a brief talk on Labyrinths and at 6pm sharp there will be a welcome to country to officially open the 535m music and arts with altitude festival. Julia will lead a more in depth discussion on labyrinths at 12pm on Saturday. Hope to see you there!

A Sustainable Strathbogie - How do we imagine Strathbogie might look in 2020 (8yrs), 2030 (18yrs), 2050 (38yrs)? There could be a mini retirement village for our older folk, a community bus that runs on biodiesel, a food forest at the primary school. You will have an opportunity at the festival to contribute your ideas for a sustainable Strathbogie, or if you prefer, to write down one thing you will do for the environment in 2012. This activity will take place at the festival hub, Tom's garage, over the course of the weekend. "Sustainability is the capacity to endure".



Letters and contributions to Tableland Talk are published as a forum for public discussion and debate. The opinions expressed are opinions of the writers and obviously not necessarily the TT team's opinion. By publishing contributions this newsletter does not give authority to the truth or validity of the material contained in such correspondence. Readers are reminded that all contributions must be signed and bear the name and address of the writer. The team reserve the right to withhold names when requested.

Fish on the right side.....

I was disappointed on a recent visit to Polly McQuinn's to find a lure with two nasty hooks on it and a hook with bait still attached, right by the water's edge. Both had been cut from their lines. This is careless behaviour, probably by someone after a few drinks (plenty of empty cans around as well).

I have since found out that it is illegal to fish on the swimming side of the bridge so would urge residents to remind anyone they see fishing there that it is illegal and suggest they move to the other side of the bridge. I believe Landcare and DSE are in the process of putting up some signs at Polly's which is a good thing. Heather

I've recently assisted in the compilation of Tableland Talk so I feel the need to respond to an article in the last issue, anonymously written by 'Pretty Polly'. I wish to make it clear that I did not participate in compiling the last edition of TT.

I'm not in favour of anonymous letters/articles being printed in any publication, as it allows for fabrication of the facts without the author taking responsibility for what's been written. I find Polly's column counter-productive to a positive working relationship with Council - there's nothing 'pretty' about it.

This situation does raise the issue of editorial policy. Is there a policy?

In support of developing a more collaborative relationship with our Shire Council,
Carol Crowe

An Ode to P McQuinn by another Strathbogie Ghost

Oh, P McQuinn is your skin so thin that all you can do is complain?
We all know that it's tough when council doesn't step-up
But can you please mention the gains.

The school buildings are great,
Give our kids far more space for
Learning, laughing and playing.

The church's new coat of crisp and fresh paint,
And the walking trail around the town
Gives a boost to our pride that Strathbogie is fine
Its ambiance very sustaining.

Yes, we know that the roadsides should be cleared of debris
And road holes filled and not heard

But its time P McQuinn, we took a conciliatory approach
To keep council true to its word

My thoughts on new column in TT.....

I enjoy reading TT (and sometimes writing for TT) so was keen to read the new column by P.McQinn. I was a little surprised by what I read and my first thought was "how fair is it to name someone publicly in a critical manner and not put your name to it?" This didn't seem right to me. I was at the Neighbourhood Safer Place meeting referred to in the column and heard Mr. Washhausen answer Mr. Jameison's question about the allocation of funds designated for roadside clearing in Strathbogie and Ruffy. He did indeed say that some of this money (I can't remember if he said all, or half) had been absorbed into general revenue and spent elsewhere. There was an almost audible sigh of collective disappointment that rippled through the room when he said this.

My next thought, on reading the column, was to ask if Mr. Washhausen was responsible for the allocation of these funds elsewhere or whether other persons at the Shire made this decision, ie, can we get some clarity around how this decision was made? My third thought was about how we as a community have redress to Council when we feel we have been unfairly treated. Surely our local representative could be making representations on our behalf to Council in matters such as these.

Is this the appropriate course of action to take?

I am keen to hear what other people think.
Heather Cousland

Celebrating our Environment – community forum

**Friday, March 30, 2012.
Violet Town Community Centre**

Come and join us to celebrate the fantastic region we live in and the many different groups and projects that are happening all over the Shire – you'll be amazed!!

One of the day's highlights will be a presentation by Greg Moore (Burnley College/ Univ Melb.) - *The Value of Trees in Farms, Parks and Roadsides as Climate Changes*. Greg is an inspiring speaker who will improve your understanding of the immense benefits that trees provide in the landscape – guaranteed!

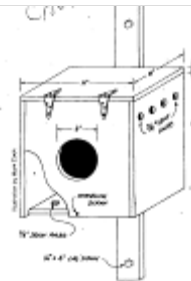
RSVP 26th March, Shire of Strathbogie 5795 0000
For more information, watch the Euroa Gazette, see the Main St Noticeboard, or go to <http://strathbogierangesnatureview.wordpress.com/>. Presented by the Strathbogie Shire/Environmental Sustainability Committee.



Nestbox Workshop

All your questions will be answered. What are they for? Which animals use them? How do I get them? Where should I install them?

Saturday, 21 April, 2012.
More information April Tableland Talk & on Main St Noticeboard, or ring Bert- 5790 8606.



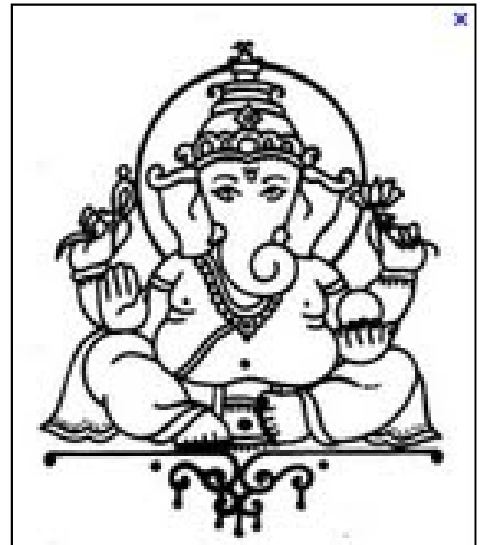
Presented by Strathbogie Ranges CMN

535M Music and Art with Altitude 23, 24 & 25 March - more activities during the weekend

Ganesha, the Hindu god of wisdom and literature, will feature large at the coming 535 Music and Arts Festival, and, according to Hindu belief, his presence there will add good fortune and ensure the success of the festival. Ganesha is thought to have been the writer of the great Hindu epic, the Mahabharata, hence his reputation as a bearer of wisdom.

In India, and other countries where Hinduism is practiced, Ganesha is an extremely popular deity, and his statue often has a central place in a Hindu home to ensure good luck and prosperity for the household and its occupants. He is usually seen with flower garlands adorning his neck, and with offerings of fruit and flowers in front of his very substantial belly.

Ganesha has the head of an elephant, four arms, and only one tusk. At the festival, you can find out the reason for this strange feature. Ganesha's right foot rests on a rat, his mount. This figure was formerly a demon, who was overcome by Ganesha, and turned into the form of a rat. Come and meet Ganesha, and get lucky!



Self-guided Walk along Seven Creeks

Sometime during the festival, spend an hour exploring the Bridge to Bridge Reserve & Walking Track. Pick up a brochure at The Garage and discover one of the best-kept secrets of the Strathbogie Ranges. A variety of signs will be erected to mark points of interest along the track.

Eagle's Nest Sculpture

Seeing a Wedge-tailed Eagle is always an uplifting sight and, thankfully, there are quite a few that call the Strathbogies home. Several keen locals will attempt to build a replica eagle's nest during the Festival and everyone is encouraged to join in. You can either use some of the sticks and branches that will be on-hand, or, preferably, bring your own bundle of sticks. Eagle nests are often huge, up to 5 m deep and wide, so bring as many sticks as you like!! And it doesn't matter if you've never built an eagle nest before - neither have we! But that won't deter us - we'll be guided by photos of different eagle nests and the knowledge that Wedge-tailed Eagle nests are rather messy anyway.



The Strathbogie Shire 2012 Community Training Calendar has officially been released!

This series of relaxed, free workshops starts in March 2012 with the first topic being Sustainable Funding Strategies for Community Groups, which is all about developing a range of income sources so groups don't have to feel so grant-dependent.

The workshop series is designed to support the work of community groups and people wanting to get more involved in community building, and include the following topics; Event Planning & Management, Grant Writing, Legal Liabilities for Committee Members, How to Not Have Boring Meetings, Strategic Planning, Succession Planning, Staying Safe and Managing Risk, Balancing the Books.

The full calendar can be downloaded from the Shire website (through the Community Development Hub button at the bottom of the home page) www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au or you can request a mailed copy be mailed by calling the Community Development Coordinator, Liz Scarfe, on 5795 0161 or via email info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au



BOLLY-OGRAPHY - BOMBAY ROYALE

The Bombay Royale are a Melbourne band dedicated to honoring and reviving the funky, bizarre and mysterious music of vintage Indian cinema. Dusting off near-unheard relics, smashing out Bollywood classics and putting down surfadelic Hindi originals is all in a day's work for The Bombay Royale. This band brings the sound of the Golden Age of Bollywood back to the future, where it belongs.

The cinema of 1960's and 1970's India was a riot of saturated color and dramatic excess. Far from the polish and shine of modern Bollywood, an ingenious industry was forging a new nation's identity, cannibalizing every aspect of world cinema and remaking it. An all singing, all dancing, all funky subcontinental style never before imagined. The soundtracks followed suit. Every possible influence from surf rock to disco was absorbed and recombined with a uniquely Indian sensibility. The heroes of this music rank among the great musicians of the 20th century. R.D Burman, Asha Bhosle and Mohammed Rafi are still household names in India, but largely unknown in the outside world. The Bombay Royale is here to rectify the situation.

Starring vocalists Parvyn "La Femme Mysterieuse" Singh and Shourov "The Tiger" Bhattacharya and led by musical director Andy "The Skipper" Williamson, The Bombay Royale are an uncanny crew of masked marauders. Session pirates hauled from various crews unite to assault the senses with pulsing tablas, hot brass, shimmering spaghetti guitar and sitar, screaming organs and driving bass and drums. Not to mention analog synthesizers, spring reverb, tape echo and occasionally elephants, monkeys and tigers.

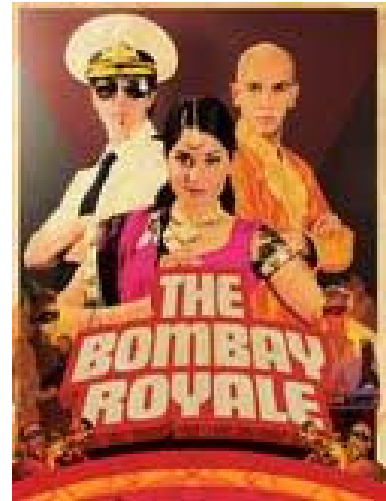
The band has met with considerable acclaim since their first gig in April 2010 with performances at St Kilda Festival, Port Fairy Folk Festival, Bellingen Global Carnival and a featured performance at the Australasian World Music (appearing alongside Nigerian funk legend Femi Kuti). As a result of this last gig they secured a gig at the Safiko Music Festival in the Reunion Islands (Africa) in June 2011 where they played to packed houses full of very excited French types. In 2012 the band is confirmed for appearances at Falls Festival, Womadelaide and Womad NZ. The band also appeared on ABC television's "Spicks and Specks" in July 2011 and has received significant airplay on ABC Radio National, 3JJJ and local Melbourne stations such as 3PBS and 3RRR.

This band is playing as a part of the 535m Music and Art with Altitude Festival on March 24th.

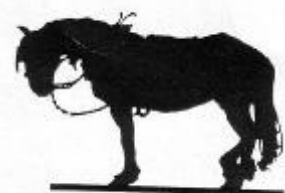
Come and see the Strathbogie Hall transformed into India and the fantastic world of Bollywood!

A sumptuous Indian Feast at 6.30 pm, followed at 8pm by dancing and fun at Bollywood!

Ph Suzie for more information 0400598609



WANTED TO LEASE - We seek offers of property for lease and suitable for grazing cows and calves in the Strathbogie area. Currently we are leasing a total of 1,000 acres and seek to double that. We have produced some fine calves selling at top prices in the markets. We can therefore provide good references as to our capacity to respect and maintain the properties we lease. If you are interested in talking to us please contact: Paul Buckley, Strathbogie. Mobile: 0408 624 501



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SWANPOOL CINEMA

March 2-4 - "Burning Man" (MA) &
"The Skin I Live In" (MA)

March 9-11 - "War Horse" (M) & "The Muppets" (PG)

March 16-18 - "The Descendants" (M) & "Win Win" (M)

March 23-25 - "Melancholia" (M) & "The Future" (M)

March 30-April 1 - "Money Ball" (M) & "Restless" (M)

April 6-8 - "The Iron Lady" (M) & "Project Nim" (M)

Start Times - Friday and Saturday 7.30pm and Sunday
6.00pm - Double feature: \$12.50/\$10

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Music Scholarship for Students

The Euroa Citizens Band invites Students of Euroa & District to apply for two Music Scholarship Awards 2012

Each of the successful applicants will receive \$150 and a one year membership of the Euroa Citizens Band.

This is an opportunity for young musicians of any standard to gain an enjoyable experience practicing and playing with the band, and taking part in performances such as civic and festive occasions.

Participation with the band is a prerequisite for receiving the award.

Interested people should apply by the **20th March 1012** to

The Secretary, P.O. Box 98, EUROA, 3666

Email; collierm@exemail.com.au

Application should include, Personal and contact details, details of musical experience, Instrumentation, etc.

Or contact any band member for further information.

Another fabulous Family Bush Dance is being held in the hall on August 11, 7.30pm. These are a lot of fun for all ages. A great band and dances will be called. Bookings essential: ph 57905106
Proceeds donated to the Hall



The art of the limerick 8: fun and games by Donmil

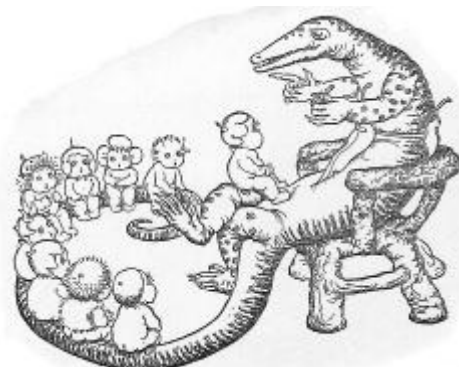
Advanced limerickers often play word-tricks that require readers to do some work to get the sense. The classic example is:

There once was a vicar in Salisbury
Whose manners were halisbury-scalisbury;
He walked around Hampshire
Without any pampshire,
Till the bishop compelled him to walisbury.
– ANON

This seems like gibberish if you don't know that the alternative (original) name of Salisbury is Sarum, and that the standard abbreviation for Hampshire is Hants.

Or you can employ the abbreviation game in reverse, as in:

Said a handsome young man to me "Mr,
The thing I most want in life r
Make your daughter my Mrs,
Having found that her krs
Are heaven, the first time I kr."
– DONMIL'S DAD



'Red Cross Calling' in March

This month there will be members of our local Red Cross who will be out and about in the Strathbogie area collecting for this worthy cause. There will be an opportunity for locals to donate via a number of means:

1. Envelopes will be sent home with the Strathbogie school newsletter, which can then be sent back to the school to be picked up at the end of the month (receipts will be issued with all money donated – as was done in 2011)
2. A Red Cross member will also be available for donations at the Strathbogie Store and also at the Strathbogie Golf Club and the Rec Ground
3. If you do not get an opportunity to make a donation please contact Heather Bamford on 5795 1426.

Funds raised through Red Cross Calling help to support vulnerable individuals and communities across Australia and Asia Pacific. This includes services such as making daily phone calls to elderly people living alone, providing children who would otherwise go hungry with a healthy breakfast and preparing and responding to emergencies and disasters.

As most Tableland residents would know, Max Allen passed away on the 16 February. This article was printed in Tableland Talk in August 2008, and has been reprinted. RIP Max.

Max Allen – reflections of living and farming in Strathbogie

Max and his wife Mary and their two sons, Trevor & Steven moved to Strathbogie on 5th September 1973 from the small rural community of Pastoria (east of Kyneton.) Their connection with Strathbogie was through a friend Mary had studied with at Teacher's College. Max and Mary visited the area and it grew on them. The property belonging to Violet and Lindsay Williams came up for sale. This property, "Granite Hills" was 315 acres running fine wool sheep. Max and Mary purchased this property and "Granite Hills" became their home for over thirty years.

Max was a farmer and Mary did relief teaching work. Trevor and Steven were both primary school age and attended the local primary school in Strathbogie and then Euroa Secondary College. At this time there were two Primary School buses running. Around the time that the Allen family moved to Strathbogie another three new families also arrived. This coincided with the beginning of a rise in land values. Sub-division of farms (60 acre blocks) occurred and the township began to change and grow.

When they first came to Strathbogie the Tableland was mainly fine wool sheep grazing and there were very few cattle. Subsequently the wool floor price was scrapped leaving a huge stockpile of wool nation wide. The premium prices which Strathbogie wool had fetched plummeted. Many local farmers made the move to cattle and cross-bred sheep. Grapevines have also created local employment.

What is now the Estate off Magilton Drive was originally a farm belonging to Rob Hart. Fifty two blocks were sub-divided and, where the golf course currently is, 500 acres were sub-divided into smaller blocks. This led to the weekend population of Strathbogie effectively doubling. Max and Mary bought an additional piece of land in the township in 1984.

When the Allen family moved to Strathbogie the Blacksmith Shop was still operating, regular sheep sales were held at the sale yards and there were two Churches being attended. The sheep sales ceased around 1975.

Sporting and recreational activities included the golf club, two cricket teams plus an under 16 team, several tennis teams, a football team, regular Saturday night dances at the Hall run by the tennis or football clubs, indoor bowls (commenced around 1969), card nights as well as National Party nights. Trevor and Steven participated in cricket and football.

Max recalls the bushfires which destroyed all of the pasture and much of the fencing on their property in 1990. At this time Max was fire-fighting at Creighton's Creek with the CFA. He arrived home just as the fire engulfed their property. They did not lose any buildings, thanks to the assistance of the Kelvin View Fire Brigade. As well Max had a fire-break ploughed all around the farm buildings. A few days after the fires Strathbogie received 75mm rain within ½ hour which was disastrous for the landscape. Trees were washed into the creek which banked up against the bridge leading into their property. The Allen's were unable to leave their property for 48 hours. Max & Mary's neighbours, the Moores, had all of their property burnt bar around 100 acres.

Max reflects on what a great childhood their boys had growing up on their property. They spent untold hours ferreting together and with friends such as Brian Broughton and John Moore. They sold the rabbits and skins. When they were older they also hunted for foxes.

Max has recently sold the farm to a young family from Melbourne whose three sons are also thoroughly enjoying the country lifestyle on their weekends. Max moved to Euroa and until recently was an active member of the Strathbogie community, remaining on the Hall Committee, attending the monthly Seventies plus luncheon and playing indoor bowls.

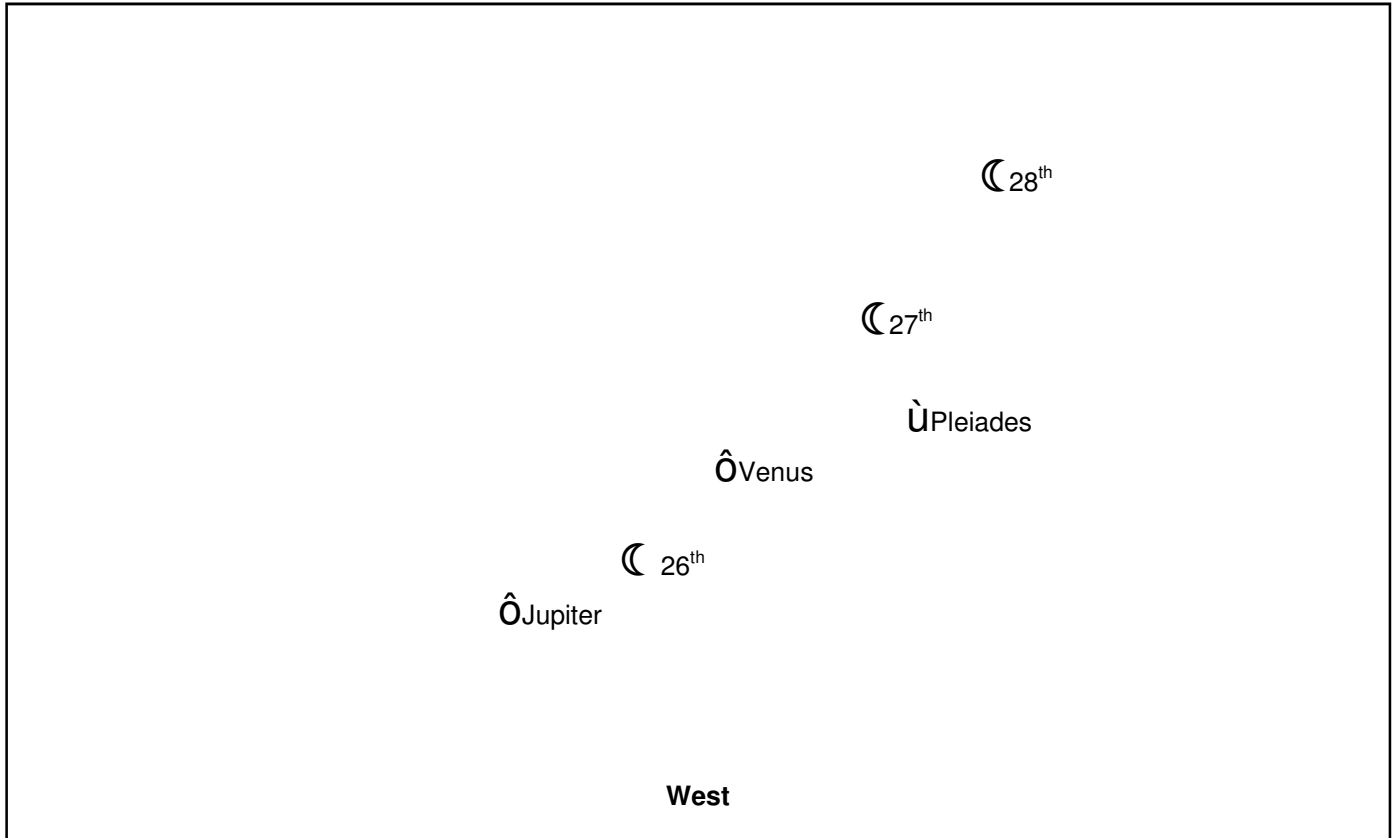
Thankyou for sharing your reflections with us.



Buy Aussie Made

I picked up a 'Fight Back' newsheet recently on my way out of the Euroa IGA. It makes interesting reading and lists all of the grocery items that are made in Australia. It is surprising how many groceries can be purchased that are made in this country and I wonder how many of us are aware of this. For instance, peanut butter, muesli, tea, sweet biscuits (to name a few) can all be purchased under an Australian brand. I am going to make the effort to buy Australian made wherever it is available and will need a copy of 'Fight Back' with me as I walk (stalk?) the supermarket aisles. It would be great if we all could encourage organisations that we belong to to do the same. Heather

Stargazing in Strathbogie



The view looking West from Strathbogie just after sunset showing Venus and Jupiter with the Moon in the last week of March.

Information from Australian Sky & Telescope (David Joyce)

Strathbogie Tableland Action Group Communications Subcommittee Report 6th February, 2012

Website

Update to new website is in progress using a different format. There's still quite a bit of work to do.

Tableland Talk

Tableland Talk is on the agenda at each meeting to support Fiona and assist with tasks as needed.

Community Directory

A form for community members to update their details for the Community Directory was devised at our October meeting. This was circulated throughout the community and at the December meeting we collated those returned. The forms will continue to be available in the store. At our February meeting we will contact all in the old green directory who still haven't submitted a form. We will finalise formatting for the new Directory and organise publication.

Audio Visual Equipment

There is no arrival date for the A/V equipment but it is on order and should be here next week.

By Heather Cousland

(Summary of Report prepared by Ellen Conroy)

Fish Surveys in the Seven Creeks

During the last week of March the community is invited to join fish scientists from the Arthur Rylah Institute/DSE, Heidelberg, as they survey fish populations in the Seven Creeks, Strathbogie (& maybe Polly McQuinn's too).



They'll be electro-fishing (keep your toes out of the water!), which harmlessly stuns the fish, so we should actually get to see some animals. With a bit of luck they might find Macquarie Perch, or even trout Cod! Fingers crossed. More info on the Noticeboard and on <http://strathbogierangesnatureview.wordpress.com/> closer to the date.

Supported by Strathbogie Tableland Landcare Group.

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wooden desk, leave message 5790 5135.