



MAY 2009

Animal research on the Tableland

The Department of Zoology from The University of Melbourne has carried out zoological research in the Strathbogie Ranges for more than a decade and numerous Honours and PhD students have written their theses about the ecology of native mammals in this region. Under the supervision of Dr. Kath Handasyde there has been a strong focus on mountain brushtail possums (also known by their indigenous name: bobuck) and agile antechinus, and generally on animals living in fragmented habitats such as the Strathbogie Ranges.



Photo: Achim Eberhart

Currently three projects are underway in the area: Achim Eberhart's PhD project is investigating dispersal of bobucks and antechinus in and through the fragmented landscape of the Strathbogie Ranges. While it is known that pasture and cropland don't provide any habitat for these animals, they might well be able to disperse through these thus interconnecting the populations inhabiting individual forest patches. This would have immense implications for the stability of the animal populations since larger populations are far less vulnerable to extinction even if they consist of several distinct but connected sub-populations. Even though neither of the two study species is endangered, they can serve as models for other species that are much less abundant and therefore very difficult to work with.

Cristina Del Borrello has just started field work for her Honours project in which she is comparing habitat and resource use of bobucks and their very close relative the common brushtail possum. Again a model for many other species to study how they avoid strong competition for resources, facilitate co-existence and which traits allow habitat generalists like the common brushtails to persist in urban environments or exclude their more specialised relatives from those, respectively.



Photo: Euan Ritchie

A guest from Charles Sturt University in Albury, NSW, Karolina Petrovic, has chosen the Strathbogie Ranges as her field site to study the relationship between mistletoes and brushtail possums. She is investigating whether common brushtail possums and mistletoes selectively choose certain tree species depending on their levels of toxic compounds, nutrients and water content. This research will contribute to increased knowledge of nutritional ecology of herbivores and parasitic plants in general, while the practical outcomes may include the selection of tree species resistant to possum and mistletoe attacks.

Flagging Tape



Coloured ribbons are used by researchers to mark study sites, sightings of animals, distances along roads etc. These not only help us to find our animals (we often work at night) but also ensure that we consistently work in the same area if we have to take repeated measures or observations. They also help us to divide the area into small segments for vegetation assessments. We try to keep the use of flagging tape to a minimum and take great care to remove all of it at the end of a project. If you think we have forgotten some of it, please don't take it down but let us know where and we'll look after it. These markers are really important for our research and we would like to ask you please not to remove any of them.

If you have any questions, comments, complaints... please don't hesitate to contact us on possums@zoology.unimelb.edu.au This article was posted on the Strathbogie website www.strathbogie.org by Achim Eberhart and reprinted with permission.

See Page 8 for a summary of "What's on"

Euroa Cinema

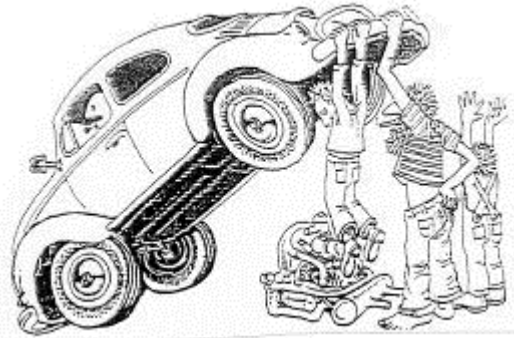
Saturday 2nd - Sunday 3rd May
 "Slumdog Millionaire" (MA15+)
 Saturday 9th - Sunday 10th May
 "Love the Beast" (M)
 Saturday 16th - Sunday 17th
 "Confessions of a Shopaholic"
 (PG)
 Saturday 23rd - Sunday 24th
 "Race to Witch Mountain" (PG)

Session times
Saturdays
 8 pm
Sunday's
 4 pm



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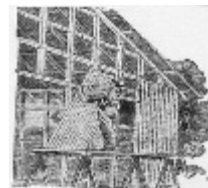


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 2nd May, 16th May, 30th May.



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THE BOHOMIANS' BOOKSHELF - Book Review

TITLE: *I Heard the Owl Call My Name* by Margaret Craven

This novel has been around for a long time, first published in Canada in 1967. In the early 70's, it reached No.1 on the New York Times bestseller list and was made into a well-received television movie.

The story is set in Kingcome, a Native American village in British Columbia. The descriptions of the scenic beauty of the area, with its tall forests and fast-flowing rivers is perhaps the novel's main strength. Mark Brian, a young Anglican vicar is sent to Kingcome by his bishop. He is suffering a fatal disease of which he is unaware. His bishop believes the challenge of living in harmony with the villagers will allow him to learn many lessons and achieve spiritual fulfillment before he dies. Mark is eventually accepted by the villagers due to his willingness to respect their traditional ways and to work with them in facing the huge challenges in their daily lives and to their culture. The young people in the village are being lured by the bright city lights of Vancouver, and unscrupulous white traders are exploiting them for their valuable traditional artefacts. Mark is forced to confront the 'depth of sadness' of the inevitable demise of the villagers' traditional way. The novel supplies an ironic twist to Mark's eventual death in the village.

This novel is gentle reading. The Bohomians found it an easy story to follow, but felt that the characters remained one-dimensional. The depiction of the harshness of the villagers' lives was found interesting, but in the light of present-day realities of indigenous cultures and the impact on them of settler cultures the novel was thought to be somewhat dated.

OUR RATING: ***

FOR SALE WANTED FOR SALE

FOR SALE - Futon colour black and white. black tubular frame folds out to double bed excellent condition \$50. Ph Peter 57905371
WANTED - LPG gas stove in good condition. Please contact Terry 5790 8635.

FOR SALE - 98 Toyota Camry Sedan, GC, New Battery & Windscreen
Near new tyres, long reg, 200,000kms.
\$6500.00 ono Ph Brendon or Julie 5790 5356



Home Brewing, Advanced Skills and Tasting Night

Experienced home brewer Bruce Cumming, who has been brewing since he made ginger beer as a kid in the 1970's, will share his experience and methods with us.

Bring a sample of your brew to share and compare. If you have never brewed before, come along anyway and learn.

Monday June 1st, 7pm, \$10, Supper Room, Violet Town Community Centre. enquiries to David 5798 1679

supported by the VT EcoLiving Project



Vocal Nosh at Strathbogie

Vocal Nosh will be held in Strathbogie twice in 2009, because of the high interest and good attendance at the sessions in 2006, 2007 and 2008. The first session will be on Sunday, June 21 and the second session will be on Sunday, October 18, running from 6-8:30 pm, so put these dates in your calendar!

For those who have not attended in the past or are not familiar with the concept, Vocal Nosh is a singing movement aimed at anyone who enjoys singing – no prior experience is necessary and singers do not need to be able to read music. However, many experienced singers also find it a most enjoyable experience as wonderful harmonies are created within minutes. Each session combines 2 hours of harmony singing with sharing a hearty meal of soup & crusty bread. It's all about having fun singing together and new members will be warmly welcomed! For further information, please ring Diane Mackrell on 57 905241

Strathbogie Golf Club.



Kim's lasagne and salad night at the Golf Club

30th May at 6.30pm

Bookings essential

Contact

Kim Usher 57905345, Wally Dunn 57905344.
Peter Harvey 57905371.

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BO HO GIE
music
Next on 29th
May
Boho Hall
7.30pm
Ph John
57905271

Wanted - any unused magazines eg Women's Weekly or Women's Day for the children at the Special School for Kids at Seymour. Call or drop off at Ike's 57905317

Another Water Story

There is water in rivers and water in bores we only have water in tanks; we took great care in using it.

The tanks were nice and full before summer and then the water vanished
80 thousand litres just disappeared
not a wet spot, not a blade of green grass
we did not want to believe it,
where did all the water go?

The last drops we could collect were 6 thousand litres in one tank.
It was there for three days and then this water went too.

Take the torch and check out the tank but it just looks perfect
Not a hole, not a wet patch, no blade of green grass, where has all the water gone.

Has anybody ever had an experience like this?
Please tell me
Gertrud Kovacs
Kithbrook



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Thursday 21st May

2pm-4pm



ROSEN METHOD MOVEMENT Now available on the Strathbogie Tableland

Experience the joy of moving freely and easily all your life. Rosen method movement encourages natural free breathing and uses gentle stretching, swinging and exercises to improve body alignment and flexibility. The class often allows people to release physical holding and in the process, to rediscover the joy of movement. For those with limitations the effect is often restorative. The classes provide a spacious, joyful sense of one's body at rest and in daily activity.

If you are interested to find out more, then phone Elizabeth Long 57908622 (early or late (up to 10pm)). Elizabeth wishes to start these sessions up here, and the time and day will depend upon demand.



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SEEDSAVERS NEWS

April's meeting was held at the beautiful & productive community garden at the primary school in Violet Town.

A few people weeded the herb garden and spread mulch over this area, while most were busy inside the M.P. Room dealing with the fantastic quantity of seed which has come in from donations this season. Monika does a wonderful job organizing the collection and we're very grateful to her for the time she & helper Marianne put in on this.

She is also selling seeds at markets in Yea & Violet Town—a total bargain at \$1 a packet!

For the May meeting we will be travelling to Monika's daughter Tracey & her husband Anthony's property at Buxton. Directions—turn R in Alexandra onto the Maroondah Hwy to Buxton. In B. turn left around the pub onto the Buxton-Marysville Rd. Go 2.5kms, 255 is on left & opposite a 2 story house on the R. Ph 5774 7664.

Tracey is just as keen a gardener as her mother so we will be in for a treat.! Terry 57908635



NEWS FROM ST.ANDREWS.

Many of you will know of my weekly experience teaching religious education to children at our local primary school. I often wonder what they are actually thinking or what they understand particularly when listening to stories from the Bible. This was brought home to me recently when a young boy came to Church and asked what was in the glass case on a table at the front of the Church. I invited him to have a closer look as it contained an old and large copy of the Bible opened at a particular page. He wanted to know why it was there and why was the Bible in a glass case. His question showed me clearly how often we assume children understand many things that seem obvious to us, but to them seem quite strange.

Then just last week a friend sent me a very funny email containing a child's book report on the Bible. I cannot guarantee the source of this but it certainly makes one smile. It also illustrates clearly that a child's version of what they hear can be very different to what we think they hear.

"In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness and some gas. The Bible says 'the Lord thy God is one,' but I think He must be a lot older than that. Anyway God said "Give me a light!" and someone did. Then God made the world. He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden.... Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars.

Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked other people to join him, but said they would take a rain check. After Noah came Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother Esau because Esau sold his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sportscoat. Another important guy in the Bible is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt. God fed the Israel Lights with manicotti. Then he gave them His Top Ten commandments. These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance or cover your neighbour's stuff. Oh yeah, I just thought of one more: Humour your mother and father."

Apart from the humour of this version, there is a more serious side which concerns helping a child understand what they hear, see and read in all areas of life. Time is needed to listen to them and discuss what they hear and see, so that clarification and explanation can occur when necessary. One place where this could happen is the local church where a child's knowledge of God can be furthered by listening to the Minister and talking to him/her and older members after the service.

Church services continue at Strathbogie on 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 11.30am and at Boho South on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 11.15am. Everyone is most welcome to attend and join us

for a coffee and good conversation afterwards at the local store.
Joan Wood.



VOLUNTEERS DAY SMITH'S BRIDGE Sunday 17th May 11.00am onwards barbeque lunch

To mark the end of volunteers week there will be a gathering at Smiths bridge for all interested in the bridge to bridge project.

A Parks, Victoria ranger will be there to launch the formation of the "Friends of the bridge to bridge". If you have any interest in maintaining and developing this area for the benefit of the whole of Strathbogie please feel welcome to come along. Contact: 57905106

Ode to a Volunteer
By Donmil

I've seen you at work, in the sun, on your knees,
Preparing the soil and then planting the trees;
Doing it carefully and doing it right.
But what of the vandals who come in the night?

To you, I am certain, it need not be said
That the Earth's crying out for a gentler tread;
You try to ensure that your footsteps are light – –
But what of the vandals who come in the night?

What the Tableland needs is compassion and care:
Care for the soil, for the water, the air;
How can there be people so blind to its plight? –
But they're out there: the vandals who come in the night.

In the height of the summer, the dust and the drought,
The suspicion recurs: Is our time running out?
But to you I say, please, never give up the fight –
They're the losers, the vandals who come in the night.

Yalca Fruit Trees

new tree catalogue out now

Greetings all,
Yalca Fruit Trees 2009 catalogue is available to download now. You need to go to the website <http://www.yalcafruittrees.com.au>

Once there, you can click again, and download the catalogue, and order form.

We are a small family business based in north east Victoria. We would love you to go to our website and have a look at our new tree list and tell anyone you know who might be interested in fruit trees to do the same.

Campbell and Tanya Holt
Yalca Fruit Trees
602 Tyacks Road
Yalca 3637 VIC



STRATHBOGIE GARDEN GROUP - PROGRAM 2009

The following is our plan for the remainder of the year's activities. It will appear in each issue of Tableland Talk. If there is a late change for any activity it will be noted the week before in the Strathbogie column of the Euroa Gazette. For further information on any activity, phone the respective contact number for that month. This year where it suits, we will meet on the first Wednesday of the month.

May (Wednesday 6th) - meet at 1.30pm at Helen and Ken Dunnachie's 'Forest Hills', 1056 Tames Rd, Strathbogie. Bring a plate for afternoon tea. Contact No: 57905304.

June (Saturday May 30th) - hopefully joining the Wangaratta Australian Plant Society bus travelling to Leopold, past Geelong, to visit Phillip Vaughan's amazing native garden and nursery. Contact no (Terry): 57908635.

July (Wednesday 1st) - meet at 1.30 pm at Jean Brock's, Magilton Dve, Strathbogie. Bring a plate for afternoon tea. Contact no: 57905327.

August (Wednesday 5th) - car-pool to Lyonville, near Daylesford, to Mel Ogden's garden 'Reverie'. She is 12 years into her unique 30 year project which includes elements of the 'Land Art' movement and is an expression of the garden as an evolutionary art form. Contact no (Wendy) 57908523.

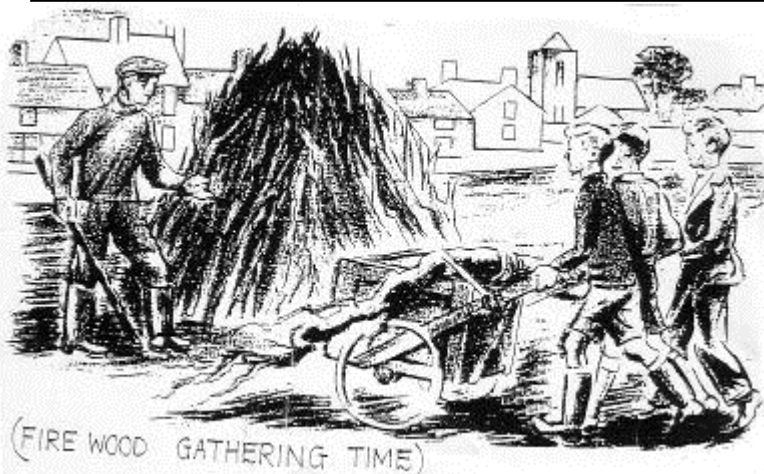
September (Wednesday 2nd) - meet at 1.30 pm at Sandra and Michael Richardson's, 112 Fernhills Rd, Sheans Creek. Bring a plate for afternoon tea. Contact 57951109.

October (Wednesday 7th) - A visit to the lovely young native garden of Helen and John Van Riet at the foot of the Warby Range. We will follow that with a return visit to Park Lane Nursery in Wangaratta. Contact no (Olwyn) 57908636.

November (Wednesday 4th) - Car-pool to the McClelland Sculpture Garden at Langwarrin. Contact (Marie-Christine) 57908603.

December (Wednesday 2nd) - meet at 1.30pm at Wendy and Mark Plowman's, 208 McGearys Lane, Boho South. Bring a plate for afternoon tea. Contact no: 57908523.

Chris Ellis will host this years "Australia's Biggest Morning Tea" for the Strathbogie Tableland. The date is: Thursday May 28th.
 Venue: Chris & Warren Ellis' house - 597 Bonnie Doon Rd. Boho South.
 Time: 10:30am onwards.
 Bring your favourite mug or cup. There will be a raffle on the day. Not sure if there is a cost, or a donation. There will be further details in the Bogie news section of the Euroa Gazette.
 Phone: 57 908 522.
 This is a fundraiser for the Australian Cancer Council



VIOLET TOWN COMMUNITY OP-SHOP

The volunteers who formerly operated the Community Op-shop held a meeting recently as a premises has become available in town. It was voted to investigate options to set up our community op-shop again. As soon as our plans are in place we will advise you the community as, of course, we will be needing more volunteers and donations of goods to set up again and your support.

WATCH THIS SPACE

Kind regards, The op-shop-crew

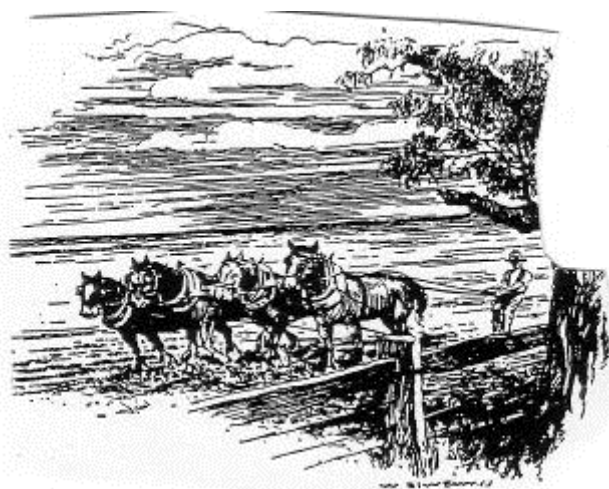
PLASTERER

From ornamental to modern and everything in between.
 Ph Brent Green
 Ph 57905196 or 0417133077



Women's Art Gathering: At the Strathbogie Hall at 12.30pm each Tuesday. All Strathbogie women are welcome to get together to share some skills and social time together.

On Saturday April 18th, about 50 people gathered at the Strathbogie Cemetery at 5am and walked to the top of Mt Wombat for sunrise. This was a walk of hope, in memoriam for Joseph Flynn, but it was also a walk "from dark into light", for all people to remember loved ones and also to remember to look after themselves and one another in life.



Old Bras Needed for Women in Third World Countries

I recently came across a need that I didn't know existed: bras for women in third world countries. On behalf of our local Rotary Club, businesswoman Noel McIlwraith has been coordinating the response from Alexandra women and their networks. In the first 3 months, those women donated 4,500 bras to women in Papua New Guinea. You can help by posting old bras to: Noel McIlwraith, Alexandra Garden Centre, 103 Grant St Alexandra 3714, or if you're on the Strathbogie Tableland, you can drop them in to the school for me to collect when I next visit. The key to collecting lots of bras is networking, so let all your women friends know. Thanks girls.
 Madeleine Graley



Very sadly we have had news of David Jukes' passing on 3rd May 2009, after illness in Melbourne. His funeral will be held on Monday 11th May, at 11am at the Strathbogie Hall. David was a much admired member of our community and will be sadly missed.



The rabbit-trapping season began in January (approx. 1903). One night's catch for one trapper resulted in 48 pairs from 48 traps. Three rabbit carts radiating from North Strathbogie were taking 1200 pairs daily.



Forum follow-up results in urgent call for action

A public meeting held in Euroa on 13 March has been followed up by representations to various government authorities urging immediate action to help conserve water in the Strathbogie Ranges region.

The meeting, held in Euroa, heard about 130 people discuss some of the problems being experienced at present and suggested six courses of action that should take priority. These were:

- an immediate moratorium on existing and further commercial ground-water extraction and commercial-scale dams (not stock and domestic);
- a consistent and conservative approach to allocating a yearly proportion of water licenses for water pumping for commercial purposes that maintains a minimum environmental flow, similar to surface water allocation.
- instigation of research into hydrological and hydrogeological conditions that exist in the Strathbogie Ranges, to establish a sustainable water usage level from all land use type and sources.
- completion or finalisation of all environmental flow rates taking into account science and the current climate conditions, before licenses and sales start.
- separation of the roles of monitoring environmental flows from the authority granting water licenses and promoting water sales; and
- high security status established for stock and domestic (including town) water prior to further/future commercial sales (including usage caps and meters).

The group convening the meeting was given a mandate to prepare a submission to the Northern Region Sustainable Water Strategy with a copy to be sent to the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE). Letters were also to be sent to the State Minister for Water Tim Holding, the Federal Minister for Water Senator Penny Wong and the CEOs of Goulburn Murray Water (GMW) and Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (GBCMA).

The letters were drafted and sent on 16 March. As yet there has been no reply from the State and Federal Ministers for Water or the DSE Sustainable Water Strategies branch. The GBCMA has given verbal support, and GMW requested a meeting between its own representatives and those of the Strathbogie Ranges Water User Group Steering Committee.

The last-mentioned meeting was held on 8 April (Wednesday last week). Committee members met with two representatives of GMW and their discussion focussed on the following:

- investigation of the amount of ground-water and recharge in the Tablelands - a three-stage program will commence this year and will take at least eighteen months to produce data on sustainable yields. This will include the effect of climate change;
- the Strathbogie Ranges area is given very low priority by GMW; and
- GMW staff numbers are insufficient to monitor ground-water pumping.

Although the meeting was conducted in good spirit and proved a useful exercise, it ultimately only reinforced the Committee's view that any significant change will have to come from the DSE Sustainable

Water Strategies branch and the responsible Ministers for Water, particularly Mr Holding. *Reprinted from The Euroa Gazette.*

For more info contact Bill Wells 57908563



What's on

6th May - 1.30 pm Garden Group

11th May - 7.30pm STAG meeting at the Strathbogie Hall. All welcome. (STAG meetings are held on the second Monday of every month.)

17th May - 11am Volunteers Day - Smiths Bridge.

21st May - (2-4pm) Blood pressure checks at the Strathbogie Store.

28th May - 10.30am Biggest Morning Tea at Chris Ellis' house, Boho

29th May - Bohogie at the Boho Hall

30th May - 6.30pm, Kim's lasagne and salad night at the Golf Club

1st June - 7pm Home Brewing course at Violet Town \$10 ph 57981679

28th June - Cemetery Trust AGM

September - Dance at the Strathbogie Hall with the Victorian Police Band - more news to come.

Every Thursday 7.30 pm Badminton at the Strathbogie Hall

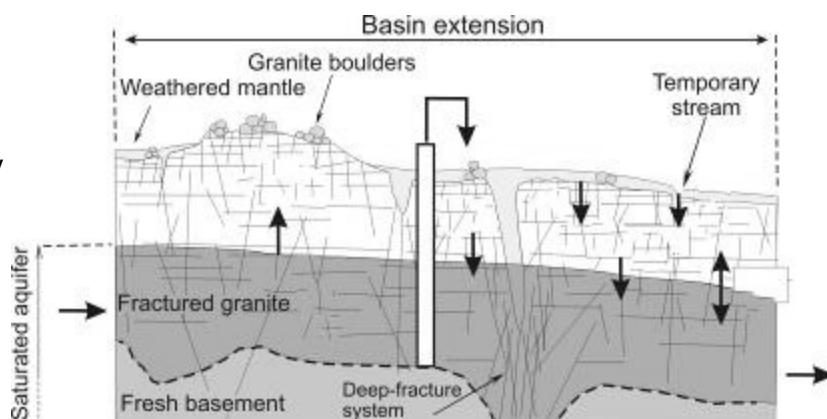
Every Tuesday 12.30pm Women's Art Gathering at the Strathbogie Hall

Every second Saturday morning - mobile library.

Every Sunday 4pm - soccer/volleyball at the Recreation Ground.

What's Up Down There?

Many people are concerned about groundwater, so it's high time we started to understand our's better. Neither Goulburn Murray Water, nor any other Agency, monitors the depth of the water-table/s on the Tableland, yet the depth of a water-table largely determines who gets water and who doesn't. A simple way to do this is to measure (under certain conditions) the depth of the water-table in your bore, with a weight on a string.



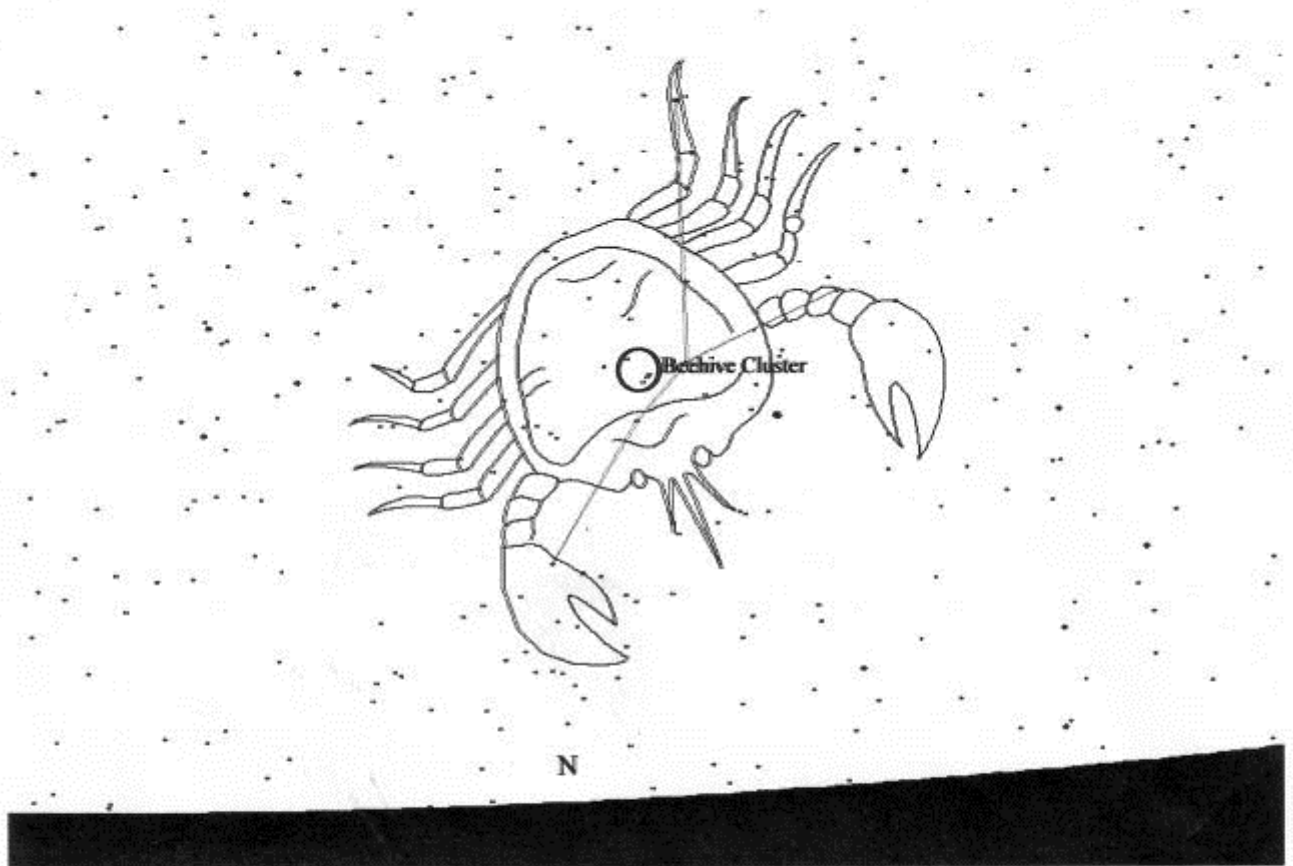
Taking such measurements at sites across the Tableland could provide valuable information about the 'health' of this precious resource. And as wise people say 'if you really want something done, you'd better do it yourself'. We'll be starting to monitor our own bores in the next month or so, to get a handle on what's up down there and **we need your help**. It would be good to have monthly readings from 20 or so bores across the Tableland. Anyone that has a bore, or a well and would like to take part could ring either Charles O'Con-

This 'Good Wife's Guide' has been printed in Tableland Talk previously, and was again brought to my attention by Anne Simpson after being published in The Jamieson Historical Society Newsletter. Thank goodness times have changed!!

The good wife's guide - reprinted from 'Housekeeping Monthly', 13 May 1955.

- Have dinner ready. Plan ahead, even the night before, to have a delicious meal ready, on time for his return. This is a way of letting him know that you have been thinking about him and are concerned about his needs. Most men are hungry when they come home and the prospect of a good meal (especially his favourite dish) is a part of the welcome needed.
- Prepare yourself. Take 15 minutes to rest so that you'll be refreshed when he arrives. Touch up your make-up, put a ribbon in your hair and be fresh looking. He has just been with a lot of work-weary people.
- Be a little gay and a little more interesting for him. His boring day may need a lift and one of your duties is to provide it.
- Clear away the clutter. Make one last trip through the main part of the house just before your husband arrives.
- Gather up schoolbooks, toys, papers etc and then run a dustcloth over the tables.
- Over the cooler months of the year you should prepare and light a fire for him to unwind by. Your husband will feel he has reached a haven of rest and order, and it will give you a lift too. After all, catering for his comfort will provide you with immense personal satisfaction.
- Prepare the children. Take a few minutes to wash the children's hand and faces (if they are small) , comb their hair and, if necessary, change their clothes. They are little treasures and he would like to see them playing the part. Minimise the noise. At the time of his arrival, eliminate all noise of the washer, dryer or vacuum. Try to encourage the children to be quiet.
- Be happy to see him.
- Greet him with a warm smile and show sincerity in your desire to please him .
- Listen to him. You may have a dozen important things to tell him, but the moment of his arrival is not the time. Let him talk first - remember, his topics of conversation are more important than yours.
- Make the evening his. Never complain if he comes home late or goes out to dinner, or other places of entertainment without you. Instead, try to understand his world of strain and pressure and his very real need to be at home and relax.
- Your goal: Try to make your home a place of peace, order and tranquillity where your husband can renew himself in body and spirit.
- Don't greet him with complaints and problems.
- Don't complain if he's late home for dinner or even if he stays out all night. Count this as minor compared to what he might have gone through during that day.
- Make him comfortable. Have him lean back in a comfortable chair or have him lie down in the bedroom. Have a cool or warm drink ready for him.
- Arrange his pillow and offer to take off his shoes. Speak in a low, soothing and pleasant voice.
- Don't ask him questions about his actions or question his judgement or integrity. Remember, he is the master of the house and as such will always exercise his will with fairness and truthfulness. You have no right to question him.
- A good wife always knows her place.

Stargazing in Strathbogie



Cancer is the least conspicuous of the 12 zodiacal constellations, not one of its stars is brighter than fourth magnitude. It covers a modest corner of the sky between the dominant figure of Gemini to the west and Leo to the east, and can be seen low in the north sky after sunset .

Cancers most interesting visual feature is the Beehive Cluster, known in classical times as Praesepe, meaning the manger. The Beehive Cluster is made up of a group of some 50 stars of sixth magnitude and fainter, about 520 light years away. They are visible to the naked eye as a cloudy patch three times the diameter of the moon.

Information from Starlore handbook, Redshift (David Joyce)



STRATHBOGIE CEMETRY TRUST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 28th June 2009

**Oak Tree Restaurant, Bonie Doon Rd, Boho Sth
Time: 1.30pm**

The trust believe that the Strathbogie Cemetery is a valuable asset to Strathbogie. We are needing new members to help us continue the high standard for the district.

Afternoon tea will be provided. All welcome.

Anyone needing more information phone 57908509

Strathbogrie Campus

School is back for Term 2 and our first week turned out a very busy one.

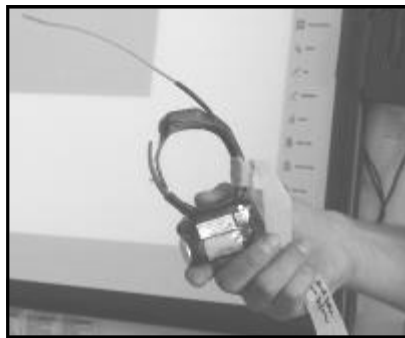
Possum Man Visits School

Firstly we enjoyed a visit and talk from Achim the 'possum man', one of the many university students whose coloured tags we see around the roads as they study our local fauna. Achim is studying the Brushed Tailed Possums and the Antechinus. The animals are fitted with transmitters and their movements are monitored .

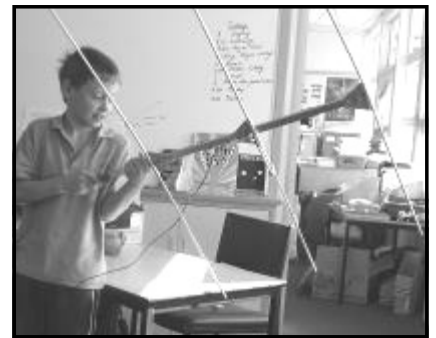
School captains thank Achim



Transmitter used to track possums



Jayson searches for the transmitter

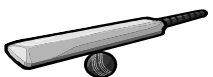


ANZAC Day

Thursday saw our Anzac Day service held. As part of the service, four students – Ari Long, Tom McIntosh, Grace Arnold and Brioude Synnot gave short talks on 'What is war?' from a student's perspective. The address was given by Mr Frank Meighan, and the Ode was delivered by Mr Fred Wawrzik, both Vietnam Veterans. Councillor Peter Woodhouse laid a wreath on behalf of Strathbogrie Shire. The children sang "The Last Anzac" and laid posies of flowers in front of the Honour Roll. These were later taken to the Memorial. The service concluded with the National Anthem. Special thanks to Brenda Law, Jane Broughton and Sandra Barns who organised afternoon tea and to everyone who sent the children to school so well prepared with food and flowers.



Barbecue



That same evening families enjoyed a social night and barbecue at school. The evening commenced with an informal game of cricket and as the light faded the barbie was fired up. After eating most present played "hidey in the dark". Kate Long was definitely the winner but too be honest she found it a bit cold and lonely. Despite the small gathering the evening was deemed a great success with special thanks to David McDonald for bringing the barbecue. The grounds discussion was deferred until a later date so keep working on those plans!

Winter Sports Program

Second term sees our Winter sports program under way. Under this program all 4 campuses get together once every two weeks at each of the campuses for a day of skills training and sport. This year the students in years 3-6 will play football, netball, hockey and bocce. The juniors have tabloid sports sessions in the mornings and then have an opportunity to share their Inquiry Learning tasks which this term will involve aspects of "sustainability" - reduce, recycle re-use.



Strathbogie Campus cont.

Solar Energy Project

An enthusiastic group are currently working on a submission to install solar panels at both the Strathbogie and Violet Town campuses. It is hoped that we can supply power to the grid whilst learning to reduce our power consumption. It's a very exciting project and we'll keep you posted.



Cross Country

On Friday 24th April the Peranbin Cross Country was scheduled to be held at the Golf Course but this was postponed due to the wonderful rain. It was held a week later. All the Peranbin students visited for the day and ran 2km and 3km courses at the golf course. Strathbogie students have been training for this for some with their daily running program. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm they have for this program.

Active After School Program (AASC)

We are continuing with this federally funded program this term with two great activities for the children. Mondays at the Rec. Reserve there is soccer with Chris Chittick & Sim Ayres and on Wednesdays the children enjoy Karate with Bernie Alston from the Oriental Martial Arts Academy & Helen Gibbs.



Koala Update

Our koala tree has had a tough summer but we have been delighted to note that there have been up to three koalas in the tree recently and our most permanent resident seems very happy.

Relationships Australia
VICTORIA

Puppetry Workshop

Through the Drought Support Program of Relationships Australia the children have been fortunate to enjoy two sessions of puppet making with Helena and Michael. This culminated in the children presenting their puppet plays to all school families at the hall. The presentations were followed by a light supper catered for by the Violet Town Kindergarten with everything generously sponsored by Relationships Australia.



Cubbies

The children have had a great time building cubbies up under the cypress trees. Their creativity is really quite remarkable and they have played together happily for hours.

