



October 2015

STRATHBOGIE TABLELAND ACTION GROUP

Community Action Plan

The revised Action Plan was available for comment by members of the community either in writing or through input at the community meeting on 11th September. There were a number of interesting discussions relating to several of the projects on the Action Plan and, as a result, the Hall Committee has arranged for an energy audit to be undertaken at the hall.

Several projects were discussed in more detail and the committee has noted these suggestions however the Action Plan, as circulated, has now been forwarded to Council.

Sub-committees

STAG has established several sub-committees either to manage a particular project or to oversee a specific area of interest.

Communications Sub-committee – manages the community website and provides support to Tableland Talk.

Roads Sub-committee – monitors issues relating to roads on the Tableland and liaises with Council when required.

Streetscape Sub-committee – has been established to implement the Streetscape project.

Several committee members recently attended the Shire's 'Communicating in Recovery' Workshop which focused on the importance of communication during the recovery following an emergency as well as during the event. STAG has now established an Emergency Sub-committee to look at improving methods of dissemination of information to the community as well as any other emergency related issues.

Combined Action Group Meeting

Committee members will attend a combined Action Group meeting with Council on 13 October.

AUSTRALIA DAY NOMINATIONS 2016

These need to be thought about and done soon.

Pick up a form at the Shire Offices, nominate a worthy citizen, junior citizen, community event or community group, and let us recognise and celebrate this wonderful community that we all live in.

Nominations close November 4th.



Mobile Library dates for Strathbogie

(every 2nd Saturday, 9.30 - 12 noon)
10th & 24th October
7th & 21st November

What's on in October

8th October - 6pm Community get-together, and social tennis - Strathbogie Recreation Ground.

13th October - combined Action group meeting with Council

14th October - 6.30 to 8.30pm - Strathbogie Forest Meeting - Euroa Flour Mill.

5th December - 5.30pm - Christmas on the Tableland, Recreation Reserve

First Monday of the month - 7.30pm STAG meeting at Strathbogie Hall

Every Tuesday - 9.30am Tennis at the Rec Ground, Strathbogie

Every Tuesday - 10.30am Tai Chi at the Boho South Hall.

Every Wednesday - Material Girls - 10am - Rec Ground - BYO lunch. New-comers welcome - Ph Jenny Walker 57905111 or Jill Smith 57905159

Every Wednesday - 7.30pm Strathbogie Singing Group - St Andrews Church - Strathbogie (except in School Holidays) ph. Di Mackrell 57905241

Every Thursday - 6pm - Community get-together, Strathbogie Recreation Ground

Every Thursday - 6.30pm - Tennis - Strathbogie Recreation Ground.

Every Friday morning - 9.15am Yoga - Strathbogie Hall

Every Second and Fourth Sunday - Church service at Strathbogie Church - 11.30am

Every Second Sunday - Soccer at the Rec Ground. Last goal wins.

First Wednesday of the month - 1.30pm Strathbogie Garden Group. Contact Wendy 57908523

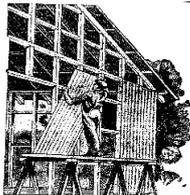
Every second Sunday of the Month - 4pm SCOFF at the Rec Ground



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Euroa Cinema in October



Fri Oct 9th- 1.30pm - "What
We Did On Our Holiday" (PG)
Sat 10th & Sun 11th - "Last Cab
to Darwin" (M)
Wed 14th - 11am - "Me n' MeMates" live
Sat 17th & Sun 18th - "The Gift" (M)
Mon 19th - 1.30pm "An Afternoon with
Andre" (G)
Sat 24th & Sun 25th - "A Walk
in the Woods" (M)

Coming up - "Ricky & the Flash",
"Tangerines" and "The Dressmaker"
If you wish to receive a weekly email update, then
send your details to

euroa.cinema@strathbogie.vic.gov.au Screening
Times—Sat 8pm, Sun 4pm. Tickets \$10

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Strathbogie Recreation Ground

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57905345

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Bookings con-
tact: Margaret
Mactier
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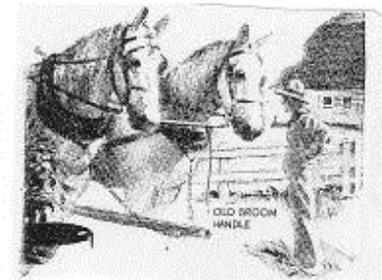


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son is Kim Usher
Ph 5790 5345

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butions. Contributions to this newsletter are
published as a forum for public discussion. The
opinions expressed are the opinions of the contri-
butors and obviously not necessarily the opinions of
the TT team. By publishing contributions this
newsletter does not give its authority to the truth
or validity of the material contained in contribu-
tions. Readers are reminded that all contributions
MUST be submitted with the name and address of
the writer.*



Deadline for October edition - 30th October. Email: tablelandtalk@gmail.com, ph 57905203, post PO,
Strathbogie, or leave contributions at the Strathbogie Store. The TT team.

Men and Women of Australia! Our Greatest Modern Speeches by Michael Fullilove, Penguin Group (Australia), revised edn. 2014.

The art and history of fine oratory dates back to pre-Christian times. The words of sages and philosophers, kings and queens, religious leaders, politicians and activists have been recorded for posterity. Many of these speeches have stirred hearts; some have started wars or life-changing movements towards improvements in society. Michael Fullilove has, in this revised edition of the original 2005 publication, collected speeches made by eminent Australians or visitors to Australia, such as Nelson Mandela, Barack Obama and Aung Sann Suu Kyi. He is well-placed to do so. A former speechwriter and prime ministerial adviser to Paul Keating, as well as the current executive director of the Sydney-based foreign policy think tank, the Lowy Institute, Fullilove has published widely on global issues and Australian foreign policy, and his writing appears in numerous publications and newspapers, both in Australia and overseas.

This is a big book, in more senses than one. Its 500 pages include close on one hundred speeches dating back to Federation, placed in seven categories relating, variously, to themes such as Australian nationhood and identity, life in the political arena, human rights, the republican debate, the military, and eulogies for prominent figures in Australian life. With such a tome, it is inevitable that individual taste will guide what one selects to read. None of the Bohomians managed to read every speech, but there were quite a few stand-out favourites, including: Paul Keating's biting swipe at the Opposition benches in 'Cracker Night'; David Morrison's dire warning to would-be perpetrators of bullying in the Australian Army; Gough Whitlam's famous response to his removal from office by the Governor General in 1975; Julia Gillard's 'Misogyny' speech; Edith Lyons in her 1943 maiden speech as the first woman elected to the House of Representatives in the Australian ("I hold very sound views on brooms and sweeping"); and Peter Rose's moving memorial to his father, Bob Rose. Although many of the speeches carry a weighty message, there is much humour and wit in this collection, and a few surprises from public figures whose somewhat erudite and more reflective sides have been masked by their political decision-making.

“ The Old Party Line” - More reminiscences by Ken Dunnachie

During the early days of Strathbogie, before we had automatic telephones, there were two means of making calls – via the telephone operator, or on the 'party line'. There were several small telephone exchanges scattered around the district, and each had a local person who acted as the 'operator'. The exchanges I remember were at Tames, Creek Junction, Kithbrook, Bogie North, and Boho South. Some of these had the rather infamous 'party lines', on which calls could be made without contacting the operator, but by using a code. Each of our neighbours had their own code.

Out our way, we were Tames '4D'. Our phone was a rather large instrument hanging in the hallway, with a handle on the side. It did not have numbers which you could dial or press; rather, you rang the operator or a particular code by turning the handle, either with a 'long' ring (or number of full turns), or a series of 'short rings' (half or quarter turns). In this way, we spelt out the code of whoever we were ringing. Our ring was a 'long' and two 'shorts', which was the code for 'D'. If we heard a click while we were speaking to someone, we knew someone was listening in. Nothing was secret on the party line. This didn't bother us much, as our news wasn't very ground-breaking and it actually had its advantages, as we all kept in touch with each other without going through the local exchange.

Years ago, there were big fires at Longwood, and Mrs Tame Snr. (Eric Tame's grandmother), who operated our exchange, kept us all informed about the fire when they were calling for volunteers for fire fighting. After 8 o'clock at night, Mrs Tame was entitled to charge an opening fee of 1/6 – that is, a shilling and sixpence, or

in today's money, 18 cents. I don't remember her ever charging the fee, and we respected that by trying not to ring at night unless it was very urgent. I don't know where the exchange at Tames finished up, but I believe there is one in the museum at Euroa.

In the old days, the distress call was S.O.S., which could have meant "save our souls" The Morse code was three shorts, three longs and three shorts (– – –).

But, as Morse code lost its relevance and radio became more widely used, the distress call changed to "Mayday". (*Editors note:* The Oxford dictionary notes that 'S.O.S' were letters chosen as being easily transmitted and recognized in Morse code; 'Mayday' represents a pronunciation of the French *m'aider*, from *venez m'aider*, which means 'come and help me').

Our telephone line here was, rather remarkably, four miles – about 6½ kms – of Number 8 fencing wire strung between trees and running through insulators wired to branches! The wire was kept loose because, if a tree or branch came down, as often happened, the line may have grounded, but at least it didn't break.

Every time we went along the road, we were always checking the line. Graham Dash told me recently that, one day, while cleaning up a log that had come down across the road, his chainsaw struck a solid object that turned out to be an old insulator that had been screwed into the trunk of the tree. Over time, the tree had grown out and hidden it from view. Naturally, it didn't do the chainsaw much good!



A reminder that Tableland Talk is a community newsletter run by a volunteer group.
As such, we would appreciate it if all invoices for advertising are paid in full, and promptly - we have to pay for the photocopying.
The TT team



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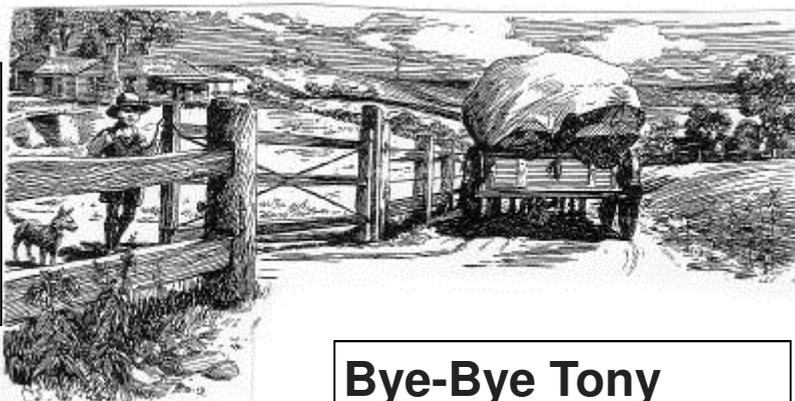
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Position Wanted. Position Wanted

The Strathbogrie Cemetery Trust are currently seeking a Secretary and Treasurer. Anyone interested in this position please contact Ray Flynn on 57905385, or Andrew Barnes on 0427 905 305.



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Bye-Bye Tony

by Donmil

For the writers of rhymes
They've been wonderful times,
And he's been such a boon
To the world of cartoon;
But from most points of view
It's a change overdue,
So Donmil says, Malcolm –
Commendations and welcome.

Violin and Viola Lessons

Kate Delahunty is offering lessons teaching children in violin & viola.
Please phone 0412790589



Strathbogie Forest Campaign Update

Forest Walks

One of the campaign's major goals is to get more locals and visitors to spend time in the forest, to enjoy the many walks and views and appreciate what a special place we have – right on our doorstep. This year we've run a variety of forest activities including - Wild Dog Rocks (Sept 27), Golden Mountain (Aug 9), Lightning Ridge Tk (Jun 26), Rocky Ned Falls (May 23), Tels Mountain (Mar 22) and Strathbogie Forest Moth Survey (Mar 9). More information at <https://strathbogiesustainableforests.wordpress.com/>

Logging

Earlier in the year members of the campaign met with VicForests to discuss our concerns with their logging plans. At our most recent meeting, VicForests indicated that they are considering shifting from Seed-tree harvesting (aka clear-felling), to Shelterbelt harvesting (aka selective harvesting). While this is a promising development, we are yet to see exactly what this entails. VicForests have told us that they have no immediate plans to log any of the coups on the current Timber Release Plan.

Barjarg Rd Coup

The 'failed coup' on Barjarg Rd is undergoing another rehabilitation attempt (it's 3rd?), this time with hand planting of several local tree species and serious guarding of each seedling, across 8 ha of the ca/ 24 ha coup. Next season another 8 ha will be planted and same again in 2017. Vic Forests are certainly keen to succeed in rehabilitating this coup, though the coup's 'management' has achieved what we've been fearing all along – a healthy forest being turned into a timber plantation.

Planned Burning

Since last Summer, our campaign has become a vocal critic of the Dept. of Environment, Land, Water & Planning's planned burn schedule for the Strathbogie Forest (see website for details). We've now had a number of meetings with DELWP fire planners, but we're not much closer to understanding where they decide to burn, how much and what level of risk is being achieved. In forests like these lower fuel loads last for several years, but after that the fuel load is higher than before and for longer than the low fuel-load period. Does fuel reduction create a false sense of security?

Next Meeting – October 14, 2015, 6.30pm to 8.30 pm, Old Flour Mill, Euroa. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/Our-Strathbogie-Forest-625175537556293/>

Our goals for managing Strathbogie Forests:

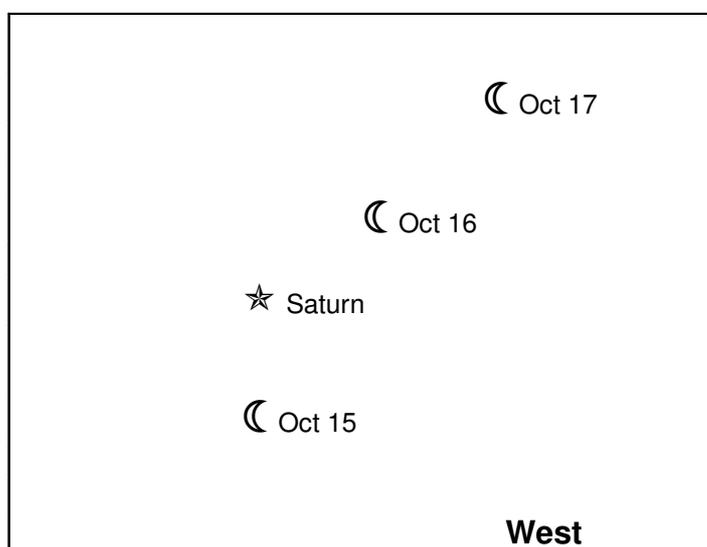
Only 'selective logging' for sawlogs - no industrial logging for pulp and firewood.

Any/all future timber harvesting in the Strathbogie Ranges should comply with Forest Stewardship Council guidelines.

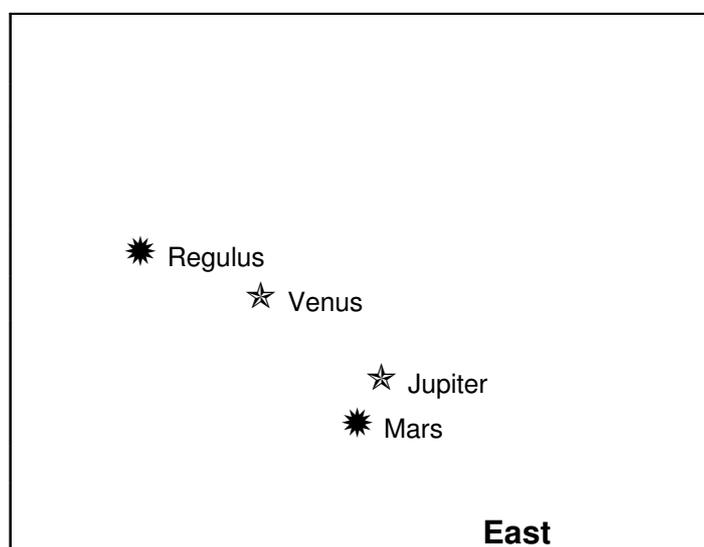
A moratorium on all logging in the Strathbogie Ranges pending a systematic investigation by the Victorian Environment Assessment Council of the diverse values that these forests contain. This investigation should review current land-use practices and make recommendations that will maintain and improve these forest values for generations to come.

Bert, on behalf of the Strathbogie Sustainable Forests Committee.

Stargazing in Strathbogie



Look West after sunset mid October



Looking East at dawn 18th October

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SWANPOOL CINEMA

Fri 2nd Oct - Sun 4th - "A Royal Night Out" (PG) & "The Railwayman" (M)
Fri 9th to Sun 11th - "Mr Holmes" (M) & "Madame Bovary" (M)
Sun 11th 1.30pm - "A Royal Night Out" (PG)
Fri 16th to Sun 18th - "Wild Tales" (M) & "Whiplash" (MA15+)
Fri 23rd to Sun 25th - "Tangerines" (MA15+) & "Noble" (M)
Fri 30th - 1.30pm - "Far From The Maddening Crowd" (M)
Fri 30th to Sun 1st Nov - "Far From The Maddening Crowd" (M) & "Gone Girl" (MA15+)

Screen times Fri & Sat 7.30pm, and Sun 6pm.
Tickets \$13.50/\$11

If you would like to read the Violet Town Village voice contact Terry Frewin at frewintp@gmail.com to get an emailed copy each month, or it can be read on-line at www.violettown.org.au

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Strathbogie Campus

OCTOBER 2015

Campus News

Last week, all Senior Primary students enjoyed an amazing Outdoor Education experience at Narmbool Camp, in Elaine, just south of Ballarat. Whilst there were some familiar sights (rolling fields, dams and wildlife aplenty, including cavorting lambs), the activities stretched the children's minds and muscles with high quality educational experiences. A tour of the homestead held important messages about caring for the environment. Learning about the history of the land and its previous owners revealed their huge generosity and intent to contribute to sustainable education. Through their actions, we understand and are inspired to make a difference. A Ballarat Observatory volunteer presented a talk about the wonders of the universe. It was just a shame that the clouds came to listen, too! Students managed to navigate their way through several kilometres of bushland using a map and compass, arriving at Mannus Station to marvel at a Wedge-Tailed Eagle's nest, learning that those birds are definitely a farmer's friend, picking off numerous rabbits and cleaning up carcasses. There was lots of laughter as we played a variety of indigenous games. Martin Scuffins, birds of prey specialist, spoke to the children about the importance of these beautiful creatures to the biodiversity and sustainability of the Narmbool environment. A definite highlight of this talk for Jasmine must have been when a kestrel landed on the ipad she was holding to take pictures.

There was sloshy fun as samples of water, complete with invertebrates, were collected from the local dam. Creatures were identified and fun facts about them were identified from books. Fantasy creatures were created out of plasticine – an art activity that was informed by our new understanding of how the structure of animals contribute to its survival – adaptations. Fun with friends, extremely comfortable accommodation, great food, stories and sing-alongs all combined with environmental lessons to make Narmbool Camp an AWESOME and AWE-inspiring experience. A selection of students across all campuses left camp early on the last day to compete at the District Athletics at Nagambie. Congratulations to Mason on representing Strathbogie at this event, putting in a pleasing performance after a gruelling day hiking the day before. Thank you to Gemma and Colby's dad for helping with the transportation of these children.

Meanwhile, back at base... Junior Primary students found themselves being the 'big kids' on campus, enjoying the extra space and taking on additional responsibilities. Prep, One and Two's have been counting money, using coins, to show amounts and beginning to give change from amounts to \$1. Reinforcement of this at home would help consolidate this skill. In our Schoolyard Safari unit, we have enjoyed observing and learning about snails and ants. Thank you parents for talking with your children about BIG WRITE on Fridays.

Japanese Speech Contest

The 13th annual speech contest organised by North East Japanese Language Teachers' Network was held in Wangaratta on Sunday September 13th. 138 students entered this year and the hall was packed with the competitors and the audience. Our dedicated student, Natalie Middleton from Strathbogie campus competed in this tough contest and came 1st place in Grade 5 individual section. Congratulations Natalie! I was really impressed with her effort and the time that she put on her practice. Natalie also kept her positive attitude and believed herself that she could do it! We are very proud of you. Well done, Natalie!



**Natalie
with her
certificate**



Choose WATER ONLY!

Congratulations go to the campus winners of the Goulburn Valley Water competition to design and produce a reusable water bottle label. The purpose of the activity was to inform and encourage people to make a 'water only' choice when

choosing a drink.

Prep/1/2— Alina Lester

Grade 3/4— Jessica Chapman

Grade 5/6- Matthew Chapman

There will be overall winners in each category to be announced soon. We hope our finalists do well. Their entries were just wonderful.

Another winner... Jack McDonald placed 3rd overall in the Primary School Golf Competition on Monday 14th September.

Many thanks to Alan Moore once again for his delicious donation of mandarins to our school - they're great mandarins— thanks Alan!

Strathbogie Campus is looking GOOD!

With the initiative, financial support and good will of parents at Strathbogie, school grounds are getting a make-over. The parent body has employed the efforts of Rolf, a man who knows how to fix ANYTHING, it seems. Already, he is addressing the cause of rot in cladding, has noticed and fixed a leak in the pump, and repaired a damaged concrete sheet panel on the office building wall. Plans are in place to repair the paving around the koala tree, with the kind offer of help from Brendan Rowe to help with levelling the soil under the pavers. Stay tuned for notice of the next working bee, where we will be appealing for assistance with this project. There are a lot of pavers to move!

Thanks also to the Dash and Copeland families for sending in their Woolies stickers to help us gain more points towards resources for our school, apologies if there was anyone I missed.