



**September, 2020**



### **STRATHBOGIE TABLELAND ACTION GROUP Spring Creek Picnic Area**

Following a request from Council to work with STAG and the community to address numerous issues relating to this project and bring it to a conclusion, a meeting was held on Friday 31 July with Phil Howard and Adam Rando from the Shire and representatives from STAG. The STAG committee met on 1 August to discuss the issues. The following is an overview of these discussions.

#### Access

It is understood that the recently created culvert crossing was to provide access to the old saleyards property. STAG has been advised that the wide gateway at the yards was used to walk cattle in and out, not provide vehicle access. Vehicle access was from the Euroa/Strathbogie Road in the vicinity of the loading ramp. The proposal to provide access via this crossing will result in vehicles driving on the pedestrian path which was created to provide a safe thoroughfare (particularly for schoolchildren) from Magiltan Drive to the township and school.

It is our understanding that Council is not in the business of paying for crossings to private property at ratepayer's expense. There are two alternatives for the owner to access the property:

- a) via the easement at the end of Spring Court
- b) to construct a proper entrance off the Euroa -Strathbogie Road in front of the property.

It would also be inappropriate for vehicles to park in the area of the pedestrian path and it was suggested that either boulders or bollards be installed.

*Continued page 3 .....*

### **What's On**

No What's On items were submitted for September 2020

Please contact each organiser to check for current arrangements.

**Every Third Monday** - 7.30pm  
 STAG meet at Strathbogie Hall.  
 Helen Peters, Secretary.

**Every Second Tuesday** of the month - Strathbogie Memorial Hall  
 Committee meets 6pm in the Hall.  
 Enq Mary Wynne 0419 592 211

**Every Wednesday** - Material Girls -  
 usual times 10am - Rec Ground -  
 BYO lunch. Newcomers welcome  
 Ph: Jill Smith 5790 5159.

**Every Wednesday** - 7.30pm  
 Strathbogie Singing Group -  
 St Andrews Church - Strathbogie  
 (except in School Holidays)  
 Ph: Di Mackrell 5790 5241

**Every Second Month** - Strathbogie  
 Landcare first Sunday 9-11am  
 Contact Sean 0400 019 607

**Every Second and Fourth Sunday**  
 - Church service at St Andrews  
 Church - Strathbogie 11.00am

**First Wednesday** of the month -  
 1.30pm Strathbogie Garden Group.  
 Contact Wendy 5790 8523

**Every Fourth Saturday** of the month - Australian Plants Society  
 Group meeting Pete 0402 882 959

**Every Third Sunday** of the month  
 - 4pm Strathbogie Community of  
 Food Finders at the Recreation  
 Ground

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For information regarding the Violet Town Village Voice or to get an emailed copy each month contact Abbey Ferguson at [village.voice@yahoo.com](mailto:village.voice@yahoo.com) Read it online at [www.violettown.org.au](http://www.violettown.org.au)

## Support Strathbogie Landcare agricultural & conservation projects

Membership is \$10 per household. This gives you access to Landcare magazine, subsidised rabbit & blackberry control, seedling purchases & community projects. Simply deposit \$10 into the Strathbogie Tableland Landcare account: BSB 803 078 Acc 100081991 with your name as reference or contact Secretary Sean Mathews for a membership form [snmthws@bigpond.com](mailto:snmthws@bigpond.com)

## Mobile Library

**Dates for Strathbogie:**

**CLOSED during Stage 3**

10.30 - 12 noon

(every 2nd Thursday)



## Strathbogie Memorial Hall

Available for hire— \$150 with \$250 refundable deposit in case carpet cleaning is required.

Bookings contact person is Mary Wynne  
Ph 0419 592211

## Strathbogie Recreation Ground

All bookings are to be made with  
Kim Usher  
5790 5345

## Do you need a Justice of the Peace?

Chris Thomson  
'Aberdeen'  
5790 5340

**Boho South Hall**  
Available for hire.  
Bookings contact:  
Margaret Mactier  
Ph 0458 328 873

## Got something to say?

Send us a

**Letter to the Editor**

## Tableland Talk advertising rates

In light of the current impact on businesses of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Tableland Talk Communications sub Committee has decided to return base advertising prices to previous rates and add a new 1/2 page rate.

Free community event advertising is at no cost. Business advertisements are charged per issue at \$7 ~ 1/6 page, \$12 ~ 1/4 page, \$15 ~ 1/2 page. Exact size and placement are at the Editor's discretion.

We hope this gesture will be of some assistance to local businesses for continuing to promote their services to our community.

*The TT Team.*

## Competition Winner

The short story competition called for a piece of work that included the themes of religion, sex and mystery.

The winner is a female author who submitted the following:  
"Oh God, I am pregnant. I wonder who the father is?"

## Tableland Talk is a community newsletter run by a volunteer group.

This newsletter is entirely made up of contributions. Contributions to this newsletter are published as a forum for public discussion.

The opinions expressed are the opinions of the contributors and 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 contributions.

Readers are reminded that all contributions **MUST** be submitted with the name and address of the writer.

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*

**The Deadline** for the October edition of Tableland Talk is Saturday, September 26, 2020.

e: [tablelandtalk@gmail.com](mailto:tablelandtalk@gmail.com), m: 0400 019 607, or via Strathbogie PO / Store.

Preferred formats: Word or Publisher files, font Arial 11, convert pdf to jpeg, images <250k. *TT Team.*

Continued from page 1 .....

STAG had originally requested a slip lane be created to provide safe access to the site. The recently constructed crossing seriously impedes the entry/exit of CFA trucks which use the creek to fill.

It is proposed that either a slip lane be provided or the current crossing be extended in both directions (which would effectively create a slip lane) and storm water runoff be piped directly into the creek to stop the current erosion.

#### Pavilion

The pavilion needs to be braced. It was proposed that the rear, and possibly one side, be filled in with display boards with information such as: history, indigenous, geology, map of walking tracks, etc. It was also suggested that the existing table be removed and BBQ facilities be located under the shelter where they could be shared by a number of users. Several tables could be located closer to the creek.

#### Rubbish

Visitors should be encouraged to take their rubbish away with them. To provide rubbish bins would most likely result in household rubbish being dumped in the area.

#### Vegetation

A number of suggestions were discussed to enhance the area and stop erosion. This work will require input from STAG, Landcare and the CFA. A member of the committee had drafted a revegetation plan which received feedback from the committee, including the CFA Captain, at the STAG meeting on 1/8. STAG will continue to work with representatives from Landcare to further develop the plan.

#### Disabled Access

Existing path needs to be widened and stabilised to prevent erosion.

#### Parking

Specific areas need to be designated for parking.

#### Signage

No camping sign needs to include the fact that the area is used for filling by the CFA.

#### Gravel

Cover the black gravel with brown "Dookie" gravel the colour of which is in keeping with the area.

While there are many issues to be addressed, it is important that the unsatisfactory access is addressed prior to any other works being undertaken.

Council has allocated \$25K in its recent budget to complete this project.

#### **Town Signage**

A reminder that designs for the town signage close at 5pm on 25<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **Recreation Reserve**

Council has been developing plans for the refurbishment of the pavilion at the Recreation Reserve. Stage 1 will provide internal toilets and relocate the bar and cool room to the western end. An amount of \$250K has been allocated in the recent budget. Time frame for this is still to be confirmed. The verandah will be enclosed and kitchen refurbished in stage 2.

Council will also install a 200,000 litre tank and back up generator to support the CFA – to be provided through drought funding.

#### **Footpath**

An additional \$25K has been allocated in the budget to provide a footpath from Main Street to the Rec Reserve.  
*Helen Peters, Secretary*

#### **The Battlers**

I see some clouds of darker hue  
That seem to carry rain  
I worry about what we will do  
If it teems and drowns our grain

The barley crop should fill our needs  
All is of malting grade  
The prime hard wheat is free of weeds  
It seems we have it made

We've battled many long bad years  
Been on our knees and prayed  
We've asked for help and shed some tears  
And wondered why we stayed

We bought this farm when we were wed  
Back in nineteen fifty-two  
We had two sons, now both dead  
But we stayed and battled through

With the rising cost of living  
The taxes and the drought  
And this country unforgiving  
We had doubts we'd see it out

But here we are in the latter years  
The banks have been paid in full  
We paid them off in sweat and tears  
And a load or two of wool

If these dark clouds will pass us by  
And not lay our grain crops down  
We'll leave this place and give a try  
To a better life in town

But will it be a better life? but I  
have many doubts for me  
We'll have to wait and see  
It may be better for my wife  
but I have many doubts for me

Perhaps I'll miss the solitude  
The dust, sand and stone  
And I hope the neighbours won't intrude  
When I want to be alone



*Max Burnside*



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## The Bogie Tree

The Bogie Tree is our unofficial Strathbogie Tableland bush telegraph. It is an email list based on Google Groups and covers a fair percentage of the Tableland population and friends (both transient and permanent). Through this, we practice civil sharing of the following types of information:

- Lifts / rides / car shares
- Requests for assistance
- Offers of assistance
- Local job advertisements
- Lost / missing animals or people!
- Announcements of social activities / get-togethers
- Fire sightings / road washouts
- Any other thing you might want to contact other Tablelanders about
- Information on your local business or service

*To learn more or join the Bogie Tree, please send an email to  
Johnno on [strathbogan@bigpond.com](mailto:strathbogan@bigpond.com) or call on 0439 818 366*



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## The Name Game: Trinomials



"Why," I was asked, "do some animals and plants have three-part instead of two-part (such as *Homo sapiens*) scientific names?" Here's a familiar example: *Gymnorhina tibicen*, the much-loved Australian Magpie. Observant bird-watchers are bound to have noticed that Magpies look

a bit different depending on whether you're seeing them in northern or southern Victoria. Northern ones ("Black-backed Magpies") have mostly black backs, with white napes and rumps, whereas the backs of southern birds ("White-backed Magpies") are white (with a pale grey wash in females) from nape to tail. But where the two varieties meet they cross freely, so they aren't separate species. Hence they are recognised as "races" or "varieties" or (preferred) "subspecies" of the species *Gymnorhina tibicen*. And to give formal recognition to the difference, they are given subspecies names. The earlier-named one, the Black-backed Magpie, becomes the "nominate" subspecies *Gymnorhina tibicen tibicen*; the White-backed Magpie was dubbed *Gymnorhina tibicen hypoleuca*.

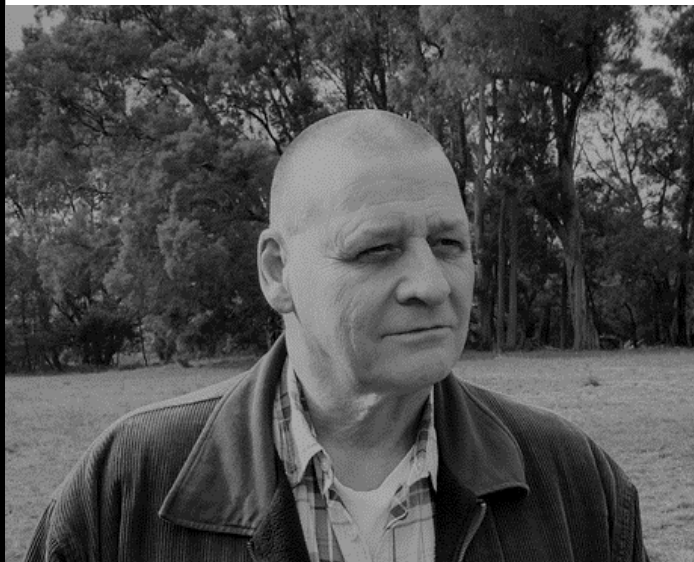
It's a hallmark of subspecies that they don't occupy

the same geographic range; if they did they would of course be classified as separate species. But if their distributions meet along a common boundary (as in this case) they may cross-mate or hybridise in the boundary area (or "hybrid zone").

What of the names themselves? They're actually a bit enigmatic. *Gymnorhina* comes from Greek *gymnos*, naked, and Greek *rhinos*, nose – "with a naked nose"? Well ... yes, but the noses of most (not quite all) birds are naked: the nostrils lie beyond, not within, the feathered base of the bill. So why highlight the feature in this instance? I don't know. The name *hypoleuca* is also a bit odd: Greek *hypo*, under or beneath; Greek *leukos*, white. Why would you describe a bird with a white back and black breast as white beneath? I don't know that, either, though my suspicion is that the describer may have intended to use *hyper*, above.

Nothing wrong with *tibicen*, however: it's Latin for a piper or flutist, referring to the lovely, evocative song of the bird. In earlier times, indeed, it was informally called "Piping Shrike" in South Australia, and that's actually quite apt, since our Magpie is a totally different bird to the European Magpie, which has first claim on the name. But I don't suppose the Collingwood Football Club would rather be called the Piping Shrikes, though, given that the Hawthorn Club were the Mayblossoms before they were the Hawks, you'd have to allow that anything is possible.

Angus Martin



### Andrew "John" SAXON

your candidate for Mt Wombat Ward  
queries, remarks or just a chat:

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## Local government by local community.

As we go forward during these difficult times let us work together as a community.

I pledge to work in the best interests of all Strathbogie Shire residents, to advocate in the interests of Mt Wombat Ward and to act openly, ethically and at all times with decency.

Written and authorised by:  
Andrew "John" SAXON  
P.O Box 396 Euroa, Victoria 3666



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# Ivan Hill remembered for his remarkable work ethic

By Helen Hill



Ivan Ernest Hill  
April 11, 1940 - May 29, 2020

Ivan Hill was born in Euroa, the third child of Ernst and Athol and brother to Mirth, Les, Clinton (all dec), Elwyn and Murray.

He went to the Strathbogie South State Primary School and then on to Wangaratta Technical School where he boarded at the Church of England Boys Hostel. Up until his passing, he still kept in contact with some of the boys that he boarded with there.

On leaving school, he went home to Strathbogie and worked on the family farm, as well as doing casual work in the District.

His first paid job was cutting ferns with a fern hook for 10 bob (\$1) a day and also worked in shearing sheds and carting hay, all at various places.

At 17 he went to work driving a bulldozer in the bush loading log trucks. After two of his bosses were killed and he had a stick come through the canopy of his dozer, piercing his leg, he decided it was time to get out of there and worked for the Forest Commission, also dozer driving making roads.

During this time he started leasing land off his Uncle running sheep and growing potatoes.

In 1958 he met Helen, whom he married in 1963. They moved into his late grandparents home and there welcomed three children Lorraine, Rodney and Wendy.

Soon after they were married the family bought another property and the family went into partnership.

In the early 70s, he was still doing casual work which included driving a truck to Melbourne for Uncle Dick to get fuel. On returning one day, he warned, "Don't go driving over that West Gate Bridge they are building down there - it will fall down."

Within a week or two it did - the bridge collapsed and fell into the Yarra River.

In 1968 a neighbour, Bob Smith, asked Ivan to drive his stock truck. We could hear this truck coming home at all ungodly hours and Ivan said, "Who would own one of those bloody things?"

Sure enough, not long after Ivan and his brother Clinton bought the bloody thing, which turned out to be the best thing.

The first time Ivan went to the Euroa Market, Alan Welch asked him to do a load to the Alexandra Abattoirs that became a regular from one load a fortnight to three and four loads a day. As Alan's business grew, so did Ivan and his brother's.

They didn't only work for him, but they knew when and where he was buying and worked around it.

The buyers would call Helen and tell her how many animals he had bought and the pen numbers, long before CB and UHF radios and well before the mobile phone.

Ivan would have to stop at phone boxes to get messages. Whenever he pulled up at one of them and our kids were using the phone, he would not be impressed, consequently another phone line was installed.

Helen always knew where the trucks were and worked with Ivan meticulously - on one occasion a chap from Yarck rang and asked, "Where is the old boy?" when she replied that he was, "Probably driving past your place." it was the precise time that Ivan did, plainly enough, drive past.

Ivan was not a sportsman, although he did love fishing and would go away for a week every year. He did not contact home for the week as he didn't want to know if the truck had broken down or something had gone wrong.

In 1999 the family partnership was dissolved with each partner going their own way. Ivan stayed on the farm and purchased Clinton's share of the truck business.

Ivan was very much a workaholic, and the long hours took their toll.

In 2006 Ivan was diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis although he had it quite a while before being diagnosed.

He kept on working trying to beat it, but between that and other health problems, it got the better of him.

He had a good eye for stock, along with love for his farm, cattle and the trucks, but he knew it was time to move on.

In 2013 he sold the truck business to his son Rodney and Katie.

In 2019 he eventually decided it was time to leave the farm and retire, moving to Wodonga Gardens Retirement Estate - spending exactly a year there.

*Continued page 9 .....*



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## Ivan Hill remembered

*Continued from page 7*

One of Ivan's sayings was that, "His use-by date was up." So, on May 29 2020, his use - by date was up - or maybe the diesel in his veins had run out.

Helen and family appreciate the calls, cards and attendance in the guard of honour as Ivan took his last ride from the family farm through the town and to his final resting place at Strathbogrie Cemetery led by his old faithful tray truck.

Ivan is survived by his wife Helen, three children, Lorraine, Rodney and Wendy, their partners Ian, Katie and Sheb, six grandchildren, five great grandchildren and four grand dogs.

Reprinted with permission

*Lorraine Millar*

## Go Joe

**by Donmil**

So the Democrats' choice is Joe Biden,  
If the poll gap continues to widen  
I'd venture to state  
With Kamala as mate  
He'll be able to give Trump a hidden.



## 2021 Australia Day Award Nominations



Do you know someone who has shown considerable dedication to the community and is worthy of an Australia Day Award? Or is there a local organisation that stands out? If so, then we would like you to put pen to paper and fill in an Australia Day Award nomination form.



Nomination forms can be obtained in the following ways:

- Online via the website <https://www.strathbogrie.vic.gov.au/tourism/about-events/australia-day-celebrations>
- By calling our Customer Service Team on 03 5795 000 or 1800 065 993 and requesting a form to be mailed to you.

### The Award Categories are:

- Community Organisation of the Year
- Junior Citizen of the Year (under 15 years at 26/01/2021)
- Young Citizen of the Year (between 15 - 25 years at 26/01/2021)
- Citizen of the Year (over 25 years at 26/01/2021)

Cancelled - Community Event of the Year - this category has been removed from the 2021 awards due to events not being able to be held as a result of COVID-19.

On Tuesday 26 January 2021, there will be Australia Day celebrations in Avenel, Euroa, Longwood, Nagambie, Strathbogrie and Violet Town, pending COVID-19 restrictions and relevant advice from DHHS. Nomination forms can be lodged by the following methods:

- Online: <https://www.strathbogrie.vic.gov.au/tourism/about-events/australia-day-celebrations>
- Email: [info@strathbogrie.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@strathbogrie.vic.gov.au)
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## Mary's Beautiful Strathbogie Ranges Tree Pick for September 2020



We encountered this lovely old Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*) on a walk along the Honeysuckle Creek Track, down near the bridge. It was worth doing this pleasant walk just to see this tree. This one has a trunk that sweeps up and away in an elegant curve. Standing at the base of such old trees makes

you realise how small and transient we are. See below.

If you would like to contribute a photo of your favourite native tree in the Strathbogies, to *Tableland Talk*, please send the photo and a short paragraph to indicate its locality etc. Each month we will put in one photo.



Please email to: [kathstuart60@gmail.com](mailto:kathstuart60@gmail.com) before the last Friday of each month.

Cheers,

*Kath Handasyde*

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### Your pre-loved treasures

The *OneWorld* shop, at Sheila Gallery, 52-54 Binney St, is a non-profit venture supporting refugees and asylum seekers via the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre in Melbourne (ASRC).

We accept interesting, quirky, quality goods for sale – on 30% commission, or as your generous donation to support this cause.

Contact Ruth Fluhr on 0427 979 231.



## Quiz Question

What was Victoria originally known as?

Answer page 12





## Recipe of the Month

Something sweet you can share with all your friends when the lockdown ends.

### Gluten Free Carrot and Orange Cake

from Julie O'Shannessy

Ref: Delish : Our Family Favourites Peranbin Primary College 2012.

#### Serves 8 - 10

2 medium carrots peeled and grated  
 Finely grated rind of 1 orange  
 1/2 cup dried apricots or sultanas  
 1 cup raw caster sugar  
 1 cup almond meal  
 1 cup gluten free plain flour  
 1 tspn baking powder  
 1 tspn mixed spice  
 1 tspn ground cinnamon  
 3 extra large eggs  
 1/2 cup oil (rice bran, grapeseed or sunflower)

#### Icing

125g cream cheese softened  
 50g unsalted butter softened  
 3/4 cup pure icing sugar sifted  
 1 tspn orange juice

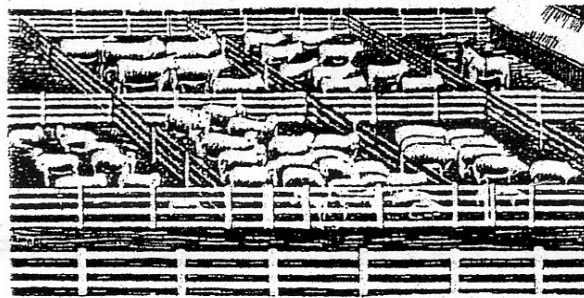
#### Method

Preheat oven to 170 degrees (150 fan forced).  
 Grease and line the base of a 28 X 18cm slice pan.  
 Combine carrot, orange rind, apricots, raw caster sugar and almond meal in a medium size bowl. Sift over the flour, baking powder and spices. Combine eggs and oil and whisk with a fork until mixed. Add to flour mixture and use a wooden spoon to mix until combined. Pour mixture into pan. Bake for 30 - 35 minutes or until skewer comes out clean. Stand in pan for 10 minutes to cool, then invert onto cooling rack.

For the icing:

Beat the cream cheese and butter until smooth and creamy. Beat in the icing sugar and orange juice until well combined and fluffy. Spread over the cooled cake.

Note: cake will keep in an air tight container for up to three days in the refrigerator



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PIC: 3SBTL046

## SPINNER

<sup>1</sup> B	A	T	S	M	A	N
<sup>2</sup> G	E	N	E	R	A	L
<sup>3</sup> C	H	A	R	M	E	R
<sup>4</sup> C	R	O	U	T	O	N
<sup>5</sup> F	A	I	N	T	E	D
<sup>6</sup> S	C	E	N	T	E	D
<sup>7</sup> M	E	N	T	O	R	S

Use the same letters, but give them a spin and try to make seven new seven-letter words that read across the grid so that the centre column reading down also spells out a word.

1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						

Quiz Answer: The Port Phillip District



**A 5.5km walk to look forward to** (intermediate to hard depending on where & how deep you go). **Wallaby Gully, Upton Rd., Upton Hill 3664. See more here** <https://walkingmaps.com.au/walk/4538>  
No formed track exists. However, the borders of this Reserve are bounded by farmland and defined by fences, so walking widely is an option. The recommended route mapped here is only that, but it will serve to take you to the various distinctly different spaces.

To start, follow the upper fence line to the left moving downhill. You will find yourself in granite and tree fall littered open grassy woodland. Expect to see eastern grey kangaroos, echidnas, thornbills and bronze cuckoos. Explore as you go. Red stringy bark and blackwood dominate this relatively dry high ground. From here, you will begin a 90m descent into the lush gully proper. Be aware, the way back involves a 110m ascent to a hard granite peak.

As you approach the long border of the reserve, you will encounter grassy dells topping a generally dry, descending gully. Follow this down, observing the changes in terrain, moisture content, and vegetation as you go. The rocks become more prominent, the trees stand straighter and taller. There are certain to be black wallabies warily watching your progress.

This gully intersects with a broad, wetter gully as you drop. Things have been looking entrancing up to this point, they only get better. Expect to hear frogs, possibly see snakes. This lush ferny space has a clear water creek flowing across soft mud, but it doesn't stay that way. Follow the creek along its path across beds of pink granite, into small narrow ravines and finally over small cascades and falls as it makes its tributary way downward to Ponkeen Creek. You won't be going that far!! Expect to see robins, tree creepers, fan tails and possibly wombats.

When you come to a fence across the creek it is time to ascend again. The climb is steep. As you cross the first ridge you come to another gully which can be viewed from overhanging rocky outcrops. Sitting on rocks suspended in space is a great place for re-energising. Take some time to recover your breath.

Follow this gully up past tree ferns and tangential defiles as you make for the peaks. While climbing to higher ground notice the change in landscape to your right. Forest floored with shattered rock becomes dominant. Make a beeline to the top. Emerge on to sheets of granite pavement and spectacular views to Mt Wombat and the Victorian Alps. Expect to see raptors, skinks and geckoes.

From the peak, continue walking across the pavement back into the open grassy woodland and your start point.

#### **Amenities**

None

Wear closed shoes

Carry food and water

Be equipped for self reliant hiking

#### **Cautions**

Cliff faces

Open water

Steep climbs

Embankments

Uneven ground

Slippery surfaces

No potable water

Snakes may be active

Rocks & limbs may fall

Tracks are not clear

Mobile reception may be unreliable

Be mindful to keep within the Reserve

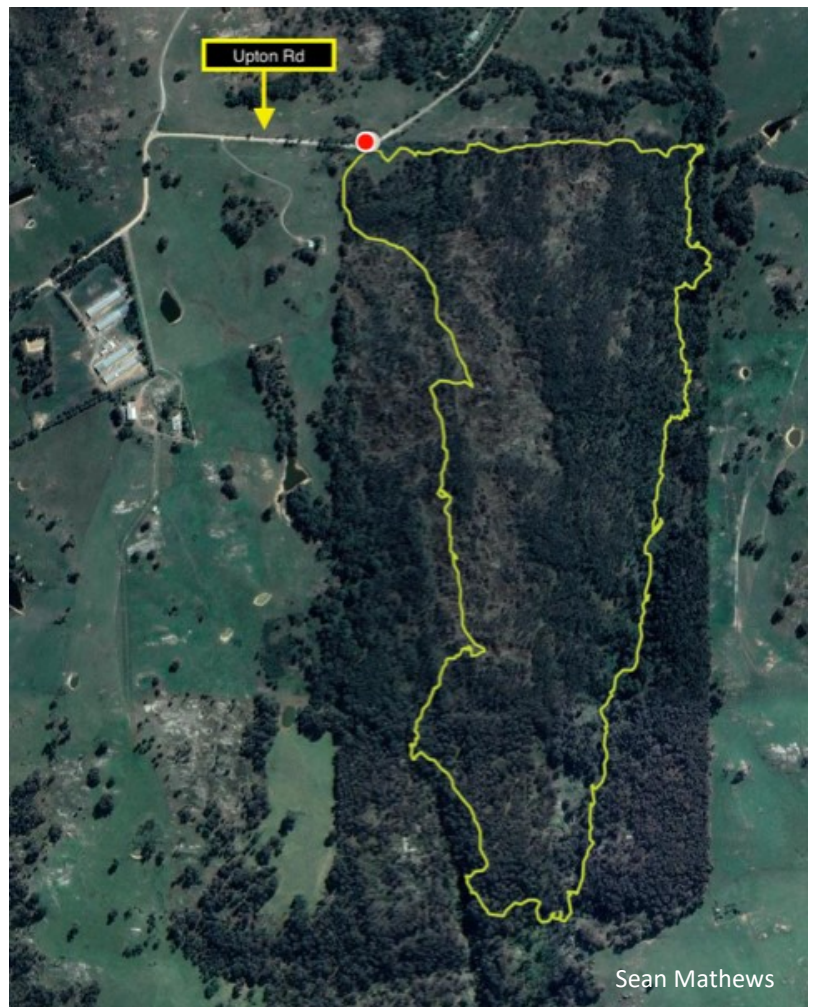
#### **Restrictions**

Take your rubbish with you

No firearms

No camping

No dogs



## Whipping The Cream 'Round 'Bogie - Part 5

*(continued from previous editions)*

Left at the cross roads to Jack Smith. Jack always brought his cream out to the front gate. Jack was a returned soldier and was in fact a rat of Tobruk. One extremely cold, frosty morning the Bogie baker, Ron Fletcher was wearing his old army coat with Tobruk colour patches. Jack spied these and really got going, asking Ron all sorts of questions about his Army days. I virtually had to be rude to get on the road again. I reckon they'd still be talking. Charlie Leerson just passed us, he's heading towards Violet Town with a load of sawn timber on their G.M.C. truck. They have quite a good little mill at Toorour, probably taking timber to Viberts or S.T.Y. in Shepparton. They deliver to Deniliquin also, but a bit late in the day to be going there. On now to Chapmans Lane, Ken Chapman will have cream.

Across the road from Ken is Dougal McCombe. He has a fair bit of cream also. On the roadside near Dougal's place grow many hundreds of little orchids called "Nodding Green Hoods". Other orchids and heath are fairly common down toward Marraweeny also. Heading towards Toorour now, next pick up is at Walkers. I always admire the huge steam engine just inside their gateway. Just along a bit is Roy Ramage. No house here, just sheep yards and woolshed and dairy. Roy has quite a lot of cream. He's a very busy bloke, lives in a cottage down at Creek Junction, just opposite Sam Hodges driveway. Roy seems to do a lot of work for Percy and Ernie Walter. They own an International AL160, fitted with a 32 foot semitrailer which Roy drives a fair bit. We leave Roy now and head to Toorour, pick up a small lot of cream from Frank Bowtell, the Leersons, then down to Norm Watkins. Norm and Mary have a lovely little farm and send quite a bit of cream. They have a nice dairy. Norm works away a lot, I think for the Forestry Dept. A good worker, a lot of Norm's boys worked for the Forestry in latter years. We leave Norm and head to Creek Junction, cross a little stream which is the beginning of the "Sevens Creek", can look back to the left to Mount Piper, it is roughly there where the creek starts. Now, gently up Mallets Hill, very steep and full of bad water courses, some up to twelve inches or more deep, and the whole length of the hill. Near to the top of the hill was very boggy, sometimes I would have as many as five or six attempts to get over this hill. If it was impossible I would have to "back track" to Ankers Rd and come up through Creek Junction to Bill Garsides farm just above Mallets Hill. A shocking waste of time, but these occasions were rare. Bill had pretty girls about my age, so it was eyes front and mind on the job there.

Once out of Bills it was down to next left, McCombes Rd, just down a bit to Marsden Gardiners. Marsden was not a permanent supplier, only when he had a surplus of cream. He would leave a message somewhere for me to call in. When I came out of Marsden's place I could see Jack Ankers just to my left but separated by a very steep water-logged ti-tree swamp. In later years a sealed road was put in here thus making the whole area much easier to service and easier for through traffic also. Down to Sam Hodges, very bad corduroy road just before Sam's driveway. Virtually one was driving through a large spring with rushes growing right up to the poles. Here the corduroy was only about two chains long, but only ten feet wide. One had to be very careful here. Now up to the Creek Junction Post Office, the beautiful little farm of Percy and Glad Anker. Glad is a very pretty looking lady and tends to the post office and their two daughters while Percy is away carting logs. Percy always kept good vehicles in his "stable", would have the current model trucks, always Internationals, and of latter years were the 180 series. Percy also had good motor cars, always Fords. A lovely couple, I liked them a lot. So gentle.

On leaving Percy's, I then went up to the school and turned left to Jack Ankers, a brother to Percy, another lovely family. Jack was a very early pioneer of spreading superphosphate with a motor vehicle. The evidence is sitting just there behind the dairy, an old ute, wooden wheels, a Dodge I think. Its little tray would hold about ten to twelve bags of super and had a small cone shaped spreader on the rear corner, spinner was driven by the typical square link chain connected to a cog fastened to the rear wheel of the ute. How I would like to own that today.

Out of Jacks, left at the school, and down to Bogie North Hall. Here I would pick up cream from Ernie Walter. Ernie and Percy Walter lived opposite the Hall. They ran an Ampol petrol agency from the farm, and did a fair amount of stock dealing.

From the North Hall, its left into Fosters Lane and up to its end where Herb Forster had a nice bit of ground. Herb and Lindsay grew very fine spuds here and milked quite a number of cows. Herb's partner Annie was a very happy soul. I used to like going there. Bought a bag of spuds from Herb. Maureen will love that. Off now to Sid Armstrong's.

*Max Burnside*



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