



December 2015

The Tableland Talk team of happy volunteers including Fiona, Ruth and Andrew, our deliverers Ben and Olwyn, and Di and Lorraine, the STAG communication sub-committee Helen, John, Ellen, Kate, Dayle would like to wish all our readers a very happy, safe and fire-free festive season, and all the very best for 2016. We would also like to thank all our contributors, our regulars David, Donmil, Ken and the school as well as all our other contributors, our advertisers and supporters. Remember, Tableland Talk is a community newsletter that has now been a part of our community for many years, and what a wonderful community we have. We are thinking of starting a new column - 'why I live where I live' and eagerly look forward to your contributions.

The annual "Carols by Candlelight" Service at St. Andrews Church Strathbogie will be held on Sunday 20th December 2015 at 8pm.

The Strathbogie Singers are practising hard as they prepare to sing some well known carols and some perhaps not so well known, and most importantly you can enjoy a night of singing your favourite carols. The service will be led by Mark Blackwell. Please bring a plate of food to share the delicious supper which will be enjoyed by all at Di and Rolf Eberhardt's (Main Street Strathbogie) after the service.



What's on in December

20th December - 8pm - Carols by Candlelight - St Andrews Church Strathbogie
8th January - 7.30pm - Art Show Opening

8th - 10th January - Strathbogie Art Show

10th January - 10am-4pm - Car Boot Sale

26th January - 9.30am Australia Day celebration - Strathbogie Hall

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.

Most Friday mornings - 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

Third Sunday - 10.30am Dance at the Hall

Every first and third Sunday of the Month - 4pm SCOFF at the Rec Ground

AUSTRALIA DAY - Celebrate our great community with our own local Australia Day celebration. 9.30am at the Strathbogie Hall

Mr Andrew Townsend MC, Mr Chris Norman, CEO of GBCMA will be guest speaker, our Strathbogie Singers and our local Australia Day awards will be awarded.

This will be followed by lamingtons and a cuppa at the Hall, and then a **free** community BBQ lunch at the Rec Ground.

All welcome

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Euroa Cinema in **December**



Sat 13th to Sun 14th - "Bridge of Spies" (M)
Fri 18th - 6.30pm "Up" (PG)
Sat 19th to Sun 20th - "The Martian" (M)
Fri 8th Jan - "The Hunger Games - Mockingjay Part 2"
Sat 9th to Sun 10th - "Spectre"
Sat 16th to Sun 17th - "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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All bookings are to be made with Kim Usher
57905345

Boho **South** **Hall**

Available for hire.
Bookings contact: Margaret Mactier
Ph 57908544

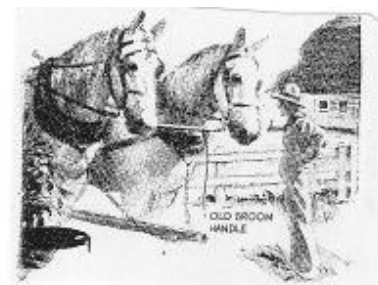


Bottled beer and tastings available at the Euroa Farmers Market

Strathbogie **Memorial Hall**

Available for hire— \$70 with \$250 refundable deposit in case carpet cleaning is required. Bookings contact person is Kim Usher
Ph 5790 5345

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



Deadline for December edition - 29th January. Email: tablelandtalk@gmail.com, ph 57905203, post PO, Strathbogie, or leave contributions at the Strathbogie Store. The TT team.

STRATHBOGIE COMMUNITY CAR BOOT SALE



SUNDAY 10TH JANUARY 2016

STRATHBOGIE MEMORIAL HALL GROUNDS

10AM – 4PM

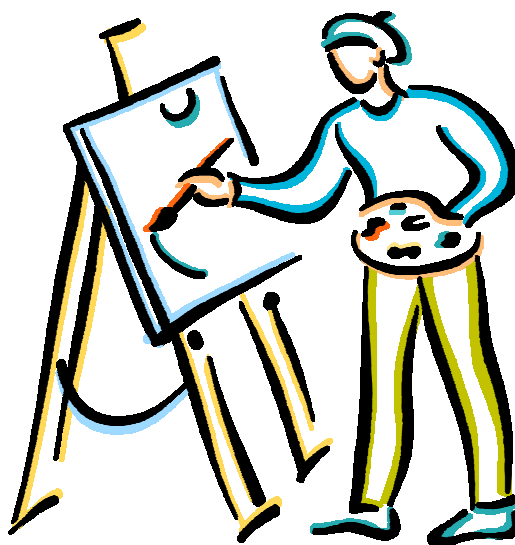
\$10 .00 PER SITE

BOOKINGS TONI DOWN

57908543

STRATHBOGIE MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE

ART EXHIBITION 2016



Strathbogie Memorial
Main Street, Strath-

Hall
bogie

Official Opening 7.30pm
ary 2016

Friday 8th Janu-

Open Saturday January 9th & Sunday January 10th 2016
10am - 4pm
Gold Coin Donation

People's Choice Awards
Presentation 3pm Sunday 11th January

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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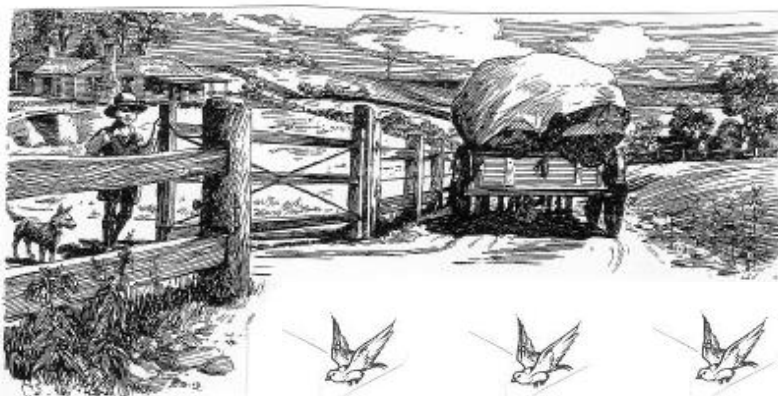
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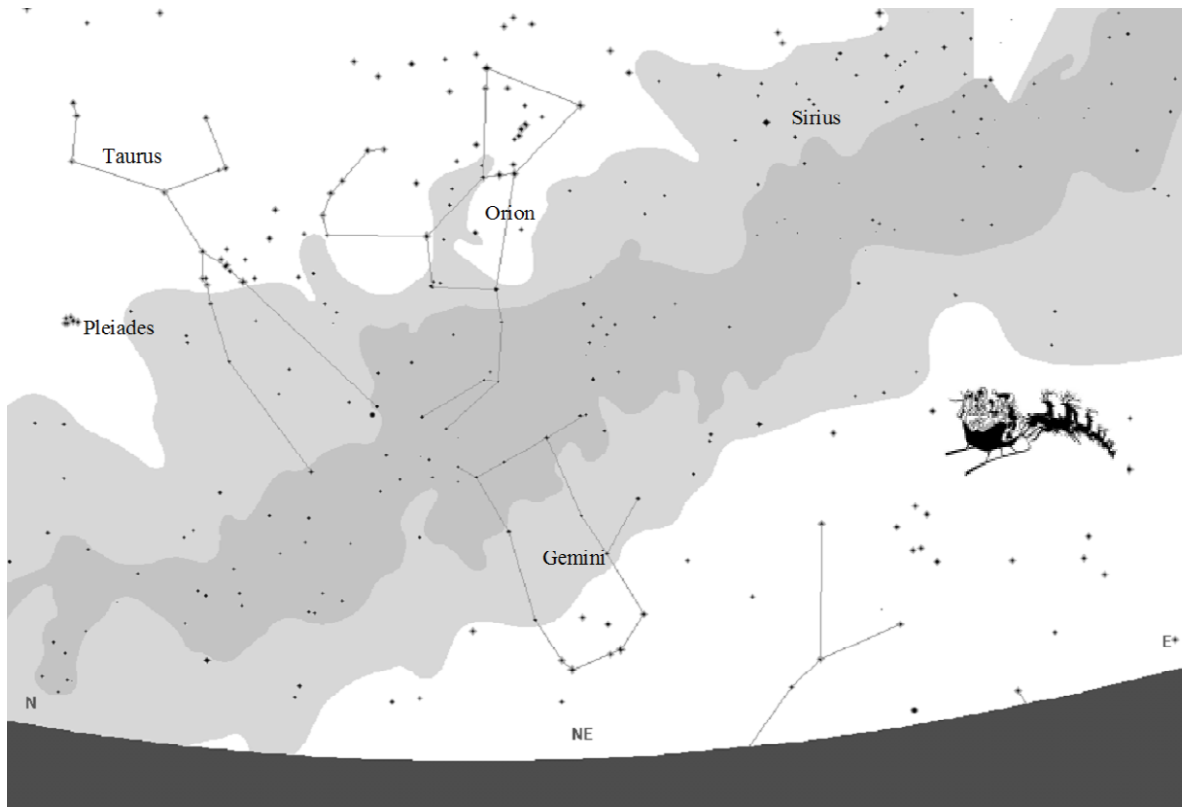
Violin and Viola Lessons

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

Please phone 0412790589



Stargazing in Strathbogie



The night sky during the Festive Season in Strathbogie, presents a great opportunity to have a look, you never know what you might see.

Merry Christmas

Information from Redshift (David Joyce)

The lost art of letter writing - I was listening to the radio the other day and was alarmed to hear that the usage of normal letter postage in Australia has dropped significantly. Mind you I have contributed to this as I used to write a lot of letters and I now write very, very few. But I do love receiving letters and therefore feel that the art of writing letters needs to be resumed. Because you must write letters in order to receive them! Unfortunately stamps are increasing to \$1 as of 4th January 2016. This may be due to the excessive salary package of the Australia Post CEO which is in excess of \$4.8m per annum.

However despite this, I propose a challenge to each and every one of us to write and post at last one letter or card to a friend, a family member or a relative each week for the month of January. That will be \$4 spent, and people will be overjoyed receiving your letters. They might even write back. So the second part of the challenge will be to continue to write a letter or card each week for 2016. They do not have to be grand masterpieces, just a little something to say hello, I am thinking of you, I value you.
Name withheld by request.

A reminder to all users of the Hall of their responsibilities in cleaning up after use of the Hall and facilities.

99.9% of the groups or individual that use the hall are not for profit and with that in mind we keep hire charges to a minimum, if we have to add on a cleaning fee to Hall charges the result would not be very productive for the Hall or its users.

Thankyou, Kim Usher
On behalf of the Strathbogie Memorial Hall Committee.



STRATHBOGIE TABLELAND ACTION GROUP

At its final meeting for 2015, STAG reviewed a number of projects and issues that had been under discussion during the year.

Bushfire/Emergency Planning

STAG has been communicating with the CFA re the presentation of bushfire planning workshops (particularly focussing on how to get your fire plan on to paper) and Fireguard group training for the Tableland. To enable them to plan these activities they have asked for an indication of the number of likely attendees. After Black Saturday a number of active, registered Fireguard Groups were operating on the Tableland and had undergone the Fireguard group training. More recently it is understood that new members have joined a number of the groups but have not had the benefit of the training.

If you wish to attend a bushfire planning workshop or Fireguard training, please either register your interest by emailing stag@strathbogie.org or add your name to the list in the store.

Seniors Lunches

Nexus Health has advised that the Seniors Lunches are on their agenda and they are in discussion with the Shire.

Communications

The Communications sub-committee manages the community website and supports Tableland Talk however, in view of some of the issues that have been raised recently, the co-ordinators of bogie-tree were invited to a recent meeting. After lengthy discussion it was agreed that no changes would be made however participants should be reminded of the guidelines for use of this very useful and important communication tool for our small community.

The message board should be used to provide information of relevance to the wider local community – it is not a forum for political debate. Unless it is vitally important that your reply goes to the whole group you should use Reply (not Reply All). Special interest groups that wish to have ongoing discussion may consider establishing their own email group.

Roads

The Roads sub-committee has again written to the Shire re a number of ourstanding concerns. These include:
further work to be undertaken in Armstrong Avenue, the access road to the Neighbourhood Safer Place
the need to clean up the entrance road to the town
poor quality of workmanship with road edge rehabilitation
premature spraying of road verge for weeds – an exercise in futility unless it is followed by a second spraying in December/January
the dead tree at the intersection of Creek Junction Road and Euroa/Strathbogie Road which Council has conceded is a danger and this intersection has been identified as a black spot

Additional issues include:

the completion of the walking track to Magilton Drive – STAG representatives met with the Shire some months ago and were advised that funding for this project was available
problem of drainage outside the school

Streetscape Project

The Hall Committee has received funding from the Shire and has completed a further grant application to meet the cost of painting the hall.

Fairley Leadership Program

The committee congratulated Andrew Townsend on completing the Fairley Leadership Program.

STAG would like to wish all Tablelanders a happy and safe Christmas.

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Fri 18th to Sun 20th - "Women He's Undressed" (PG) & "Hip Hop-eration" (PG)
Sat 26th to Sun 27th - "Odd Ball" (G) & "Pan" (PG)
Sun 27th - 1.30pm - "Odd Ball" (G)
Thurs 31st - 7.30pm - "The King and I" (G)
Fri Jan 1st to Sun 3rd - "The Dressmaker" (M) & "The Water Diviner" (M)
Sun 3rd - 1.30pm - "The Dressmaker" (M)
Fri 8th - 11am - "The Dressmaker" (M)
Fri 8th to Sun 10th - "Learning to Drive" (M) & "Phoenix" (M)
Fri 15th to Sun 17th - "He Named Me Malala" (PG) & "Bridge of Spies" (M)
Fri 22nd to Sun 24th - "Cut Snake" (MA15+) & "Miss You Already" (M)
Fri 29th to Sun 31st - "The Lobster" (MA) & "Coming Home" (PG)
Fri Feb 5th to Sun 7th - "The Crow's Egg" (PG) & "Macbeth" (MA)
Screentimes Fri & Sat 7.00pm, 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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IVY GOOD - SAW MILLER Local History Snippets - 5/2000

(TT note: This is an article first printed in the Swanpool Snippets a long while back, by Ian Herbert. Ian contacted us after reading the start of Ron Jones' story in November's Tableland Talk and asked if we would like to reproduce his article. We accepted with delight. Thankyou Ian.)

Ivy Good of Saxon Street Euroa owned a property in the hills above the Lima East valley back in the '50s. She made her income by cutting timber. The information for this article was obtained first from a booklet lent to me by Bev Renkin, then by visiting the homestead site with Gordon Renkin and finally by talking to Ivy on the telephone.

Tales from the Tall Timber

Zel Collier of Euroa is a member of The Euroa Reminiscence Writing Group and included the following interview information in a compilation by the group entitled 'A Tale to Tell - 1999' 'Tales from the Tall Timber' is the title of her article which includes the following extract:

I remember hauling these ten foot logs to the mill out of the bush with Darkey the Brumby from Queensland. It only needed the one horse for this job. After taking him down to the mill with a log a couple of times Darkey knew what he had to do, so I used to hook a log on and send him down to the mill via the same track. One of the boys would unhook the log and then send him back for more - not bad for a brumby!

I helped with the tree felling with axe and cross cut saw, also hauling and loading logs onto trucks with horses, a tandem team of five, 2 x 2 x 1. It was tough work but healthy in the bush. One day I had to go to Euroa in the ute to bring Bill Harding, your father Zel and Bingy Constable out to shoe our horses. I remember when taking them home we had to make a detour to the Strathbogie Pub. I guess that was Charlie Leerson's idea., to give the boys a drink for a job well done. Sometimes Mr Price from Strathbogie would come out and shoe the horses. I remember the first time I went to Toorour. I was telling Mr Harry Rolfe, an old identity of Strathbogie, that I was going out there. He said in a very concerned way, "You be very careful out there as there are places that you could fall over a cliff and not be seen again". I guess he meant out at Rocky Ned, as it is fairly rugged out there.

I had the misfortune to have my right arm broken while tree felling. I had just finished barking the tree that had just been felled and topped when a hanger, a branch, came down on my arm. It sent the axe out of my hands and landed some distance away. I hadn't looked for any hanging branches as we usually did. It was the last tree for the day and it was getting dark and raining. Allan was away with the car so I had to wait until the next day to get down to Euroa to Dr Dunn. He couldn't put my arm in plaster until the next day as it was too swollen, so that was my worst experience in Toorour.

The following did tree felling on my property: Norm Watkins, Bill Ballard, Frank Adams, Roy Kiel, Allan and Doug Leerson, Ron and Jim Jones, Mick Brown, Dave Glossop, Bill O'Connell, Bob Wally and Roy Leerson. Henry, Clarrie and Jack Leerson brothers owned the property known as 'Garsides' joining west of mine. We had to have a road put through for the trucks to get the logs. Farrell's did this - my share of the payment was one £120.

A Visit to the Homestead Site

Gordon Renkin and I took a trip up to the site in his 4wd ute one sunny April afternoon. To get to the site you travel up Police Track, past our place and into the forest. It is only a few kilometres up there. After you hit the pines on your right you enter the eucalypts on your left and the site is not far from the road. It is so overgrown though that you need a good guide (eg Gordon) or a good map to find it.

The site is on a dry rise above a permanent creek, the fern-filled headwaters of Boggy Creek which flows down through our property. Behind the site is an arc of tea tree swamp, frequented these days by wild pigs and deer. An old messmate on the north side has the bark scarred by deer antlers.

It is a very unique site for a house - a patch of dry ground surrounded by good permanent water on three sides with the ground dropping away into gullies to the north.

(continued next page)

Ivy Good (continued from previous page)

The first indication of a home site we came across was the horse yard. This is about six metres square and constructed of stringy bark logs, notched in the corners for a firm fit. It still stands but a roof over one end has been removed. It covered a feed trough which ran the length of one side. This feed trough was constructed of three large slabs, three half round faces of a log, which had been wired back together to form a substantial feed bin. The horses must have loved going home to that shelter and a good feed after a hard days work hauling.

Not far away is the house site and all that now remains is the brick chimney and a corrugated iron wood bin. Only some post holes and a single post near the wood box give a hint to the original structure. Some fuel drums have been left on the site and an old wash bath is rusting under the wattle saplings.

The mill was across the creek from the house site and nothing now remains. Gordon and I drove back past the west side of Rocky Ned and went down to Sugarloaf Creek on the newly gravelled E6 road; a very pleasant spot to boil a billy. We then reluctantly headed for home.



Above :

The old fire-
fireplace with

its woodbox were all that remained of the small two bedroom house where Ivy Good lived in the Strathbogies at the head of Boggy Creek in 2000.

Talking to Ivy

Reading Zel Collier's article and then taking the trip up to the site left me with many questions unanswered. I rang Ivy that evening, as good fortune would have it, the day before she was travelling to Queensland. She plans to move up there permanently in May. Here are her answers to some of my questions:

When did you come to the Toorour area and start milling?

I was in the Land Army up until 1945, helping out on farms in many places in Victoria, from Corryong to Swan Hill. I came to the Strathbogie region in 1945 as my sister, and her husband Charlie Leerson, were there. They had a saw mill and so I helped with that and learnt the trade.

In about 1950, when I was about 32 years old, I bought 320 acres of timbered land off John Renkin and built the mill and house there. I used to walk down and around Mt Albert to the Renkin property at the top of the Lima valley with my payments for the block.

(continued over)

Ivy Good (continued from previous page)

You weren't far from the aircrash site.

Yes, the aircrash site which is now on the other side of Police Track from the house site, was just a couple of chains from one corner of the property. It was an odd shaped block. Another corner was quite close to Rocky Ned.

How was the house built?

It was built of milled timber and roofed with corrugated iron. Roy Leerson, Charlie's nephew, did the building. It consisted of one large room with the fireplace and two small bedrooms off it. A verandah sheltered the front door which was opposite the fire place. I sold the property in 1959 to a relative, moved to Euroa and worked in the Seven Creeks Hotel. They dismantled most of the house, saving the timber and roofing iron.

.....and the mill?

It was a 'case mill', cutting timber for packing cases from the softer wood and peppermint. There was much sizeable timber - messmate, bluegum, stringybark and peppermint - and, as the article says, the logs were hauled with five horses. The mill was powered by a petrol motor. Large logs to be sold to mills in Euroa were loaded onto trucks from loading ramps using just one horse.

How did you come to meet Bev and Gordon?

I was out for a drive in the Strathbogies one Saturday with my niece, Yvonne Casey (nee Leerson), and we decided to go home via Lima. We were parked enjoying a picnic lunch when a young man kindly stopped to let us know that a tree had fallen across the road further along. We got to talking and the name 'Renkin' came up in regard to the old property. He then informed me that he was a Renkin - Robert - Bev and Gordon's son - and that I should come and meet his parents who would be very keen to meet me. We did and afterwards Robert kindly took me back to the old home site in his 4wd truck. We had not been able to visit it as the track was too rough for our car. I now stay in touch with Beverley and she posts me a copy of Snippets each month.

Ian said at the end of the article - "All the best Ivy for your move to Queensland and if you are ever back in the district I would gladly take you on one more trip back to the site of this story."

TT - Wow, what a story. Thanks to Ian Herbert for sending the story to Tableland Talk with the following comment: "You do have a thriving community up there - and we remarked on that down at Jim Renkin's shearing shed a month or so ago, when somebody produced a hard copy of the newsletter (Tableland Talk) at the lunch break. No excuse for not being involved!"

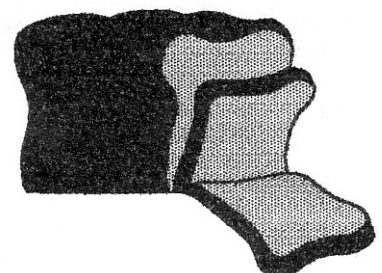


Save the Date

Disability Services Commissioner
Information Session for Community Members
Monday February 15th 2016 at 10.00am
Strathbogie Shire Offices
Council Chambers, Bury St Euroa
For further information contact:
Michael Proby-Aughey
Rural Access and Inclusion Officer
P: 0407 839 323, E: michael.proby-aughey@shepparton.vic.gov.au

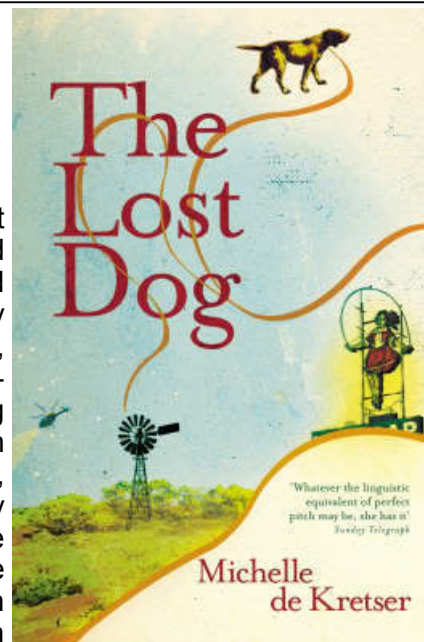


Handy hint - Earwigs have been a problem due to the dryness, 1 cup of cheap cooking oil together with 1 dessertspoon of linseed or sesame oil mixed and placed in a jar or margarine container, positioned near eaten plants, will attract and kill them overnight. Keep placing out bait until they diminish.



The Lost Dog by Michelle de Kretser, Allen & Unwin, 2007

This title is not so easy to review, as it is a novel that defies categories. It is, at one and the same time, a mystery, a treatise on hope, longing and unrealized love, and a frank, sometimes brutal dissection of ageing and fractured familial relations. The setting for this wide-ranging, very literary exploration is also multi-layered: India across a span of two generations, inner-city Melbourne, and a remote shack in the Victorian bush. Tom Loxley, an Anglo-Indian Melbourne-based academic is trying to finish writing his book on Henry James. His dog disappears from the vicinity of the bush shack lent to him for this purpose by an artist acquaintance, Nelly Zhang, with whom he is clearly falling in love. Tom's character doesn't fit easily with the edgy crowd surrounding Nelly in her Richmond artist's warehouse studio, and the interaction between them is a shifting, uncertain mix. The mystery that underscores the character of Nelly and her association with her adolescent son and her rather unpleasant mentor deepens when Tom probes the stories surrounding the disappearance of Nelly's corporate banker ex-partner. The search for the absent dog, which enters and leaves the storyline like a sad whisper, and whose name we never learn, is a vehicle for the convolutions of the plot and the development of the very disparate characters.



The novel received mixed reviews, in spite of having been long-listed for the prestigious Man Booker Prize. The writing style is very fine, mostly seemingly effortless, but suffers at times from forays into overwritten, exquisite prose; where it does excel is in the descriptions of the Australian bush and in biting incisive cameos of the protagonist's aging mother. However, the complications of plot and the slow pace make, in the humble opinion of this reviewer, for a heaviness that requires a lighter touch.

Michelle de Kretser was born in Sri Lanka in 1957 and moved to Australia in 1972. She has received numerous awards for her four novels – *The Rose Grower* (1999), *The Hamilton Case* (2003), *The Lost Dog* (2007), and *Questions of Travel* (2012), which won five major literary awards in 2013, including the Miles Franklin Award.

Next month: *Labyrinth* by Kate Mosse, Orion, 2005

I was recently told that there was a sighting of what looked to be a thylacine in Boho recently. Has anyone seen either the thylacine or the panther either recently or some time ago? It would be great to get some of the stories again. The TT team

The Local Strathbogie Library Van

I was in the library van a few weeks ago, and Andrew, one of the librarians who drive the truck up the hill, was telling me that the Libaray van use has dropped quite sharply over the past 12 months. We as a community lobbied extensively to have this service extended to Strathbogie in the first place, and the service has been running quite smoothly for the past 5 years or more. It would be a shame to see the service reviewed or even removed because people were not using the library van. So we as a community must use the library van. The dates are always listed in the inside front cover of TT.

One thing community members may like to do is place a hold on books online through the GV Library website. It is a great idea - go to the GV library website (it is easiest to Google this) and register as a user, and then log in. You can search for books or DVDs within the GV library group, or extend your search to all libraries (I was very impressed when I ordered a book online, and it came from Rockhampton Library!). And the best part is that you get notified when they have arrived in the library and they will be delivered to Strathbogie via the library van. I find it is a little like getting a present, especially when I place a hold on a popular book as it can take some time for each person in front of you to read it. But then a notification is sent that the book is there for you to collect, and it is always with a sense of excitement that I go in to collect my holds.

The good people in the Euroa Library or in the library van are always willing to help show you how to manage this process, as well as helping with creating memberships and updating membership cards. And it is all free. So please use our library van service. The dates for December is the 19th, and then it will be here on the 2nd, 16th and 30th of January. Pop in and say hello to Andrew or Dixie or the other drivers that frequent our route.

By Fiona Townsend, on behalf of the TT team.

GV Library NEWS

Ready for adventure?

The 2015/16 Summer Reading Club starts 1st December!

Last year 41,589 children registered and an estimated 267, 919 books were read by kids and families across Australia during the Summer school holidays!

This year discover Lost Worlds between the covers of our books or within the pages of our eBooks. What will you uncover? You may discover underwater worlds, alternate universes, epic adventures, mythical creatures and so much more!

Join online and download your themed activity booklet for your age level or drop into your local library to register and collect your reading kit.

Join in our online activities including book raves, writing competitions, colouring competitions, games, and recommended reading lists. Drawn a great image? Why not enter it? Scan your picture, (ask for help), and upload it to the e-gallery. To enter the online writing competitions don't forget to type your responses. Did you know you can also add a comment and have your say?

There are lots of prizes to be won so get started! Don't forget to collect your reading rewards along the way.

For more information call 1300 374 765 or visit www.summerreadingclub.org.au

Space for hire @ Euroa Library

The Alby Richardson Meeting Room at Euroa Library can be hired for both Community and Business purposes.

16+ Seating around tables or

45+ Cinema style

Bookings are essential!

For Bookings call 1300 374 765 or email euroa@gvrlc.vic.gov.au



More GV Library news - Scammers could be targeting you

Scammers don't discriminate. Anyone can fall for a scam, especially as scams become increasingly sophisticated.

Consumer Affairs Victoria is working with Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand to launch its *Scammers don't discriminate* campaign. No one expects to be scammed, but anyone can fall for one, especially as scams become more sophisticated.

The campaign highlights the support services available if people are feeling anxious or depressed as a result of being scammed.

If you've been scammed, you're not alone. According to the ACCC, over 19,000 Victorians reported a scam last year, although the actual number of people who have been scammed is likely to be higher as many scams go unreported.

Visit the Consumer Affairs Victoria website for:

- tips on how to be scam savvy
- a handy quiz to test whether you can spot a scam
- videos of real stories from Victorians who have been scammed
- an opportunity to share your story to help others.

There are also educational videos about romance, lottery, online selling, investment, rebates, rental and business scams.

If you've been scammed, it can help to talk about how you're feeling with someone you trust. If you need professional support, help is available. The campaign is being supported by beyondblue, SANE Australia, Headspace and the Victorian Men's Shed Association.

Visit bit.ly/ScamSavvy for more information, or to share your story.

Or see your local library

By the time this edition of the T/Talk hits mailboxes we will be close to breaking up for 2015! End of term for government schools is Friday 18th December. Family and community members were welcomed and joined us for our campus break-up and BBQ which was held at the school on Monday 14th December at 5pm. Steph Thomson's music students performed; Ayako's students demonstrated their ability in Japanese for us; all students performed musical items; school captains addressed the assembly and everyone was then invited to join in a sing-a-long as we welcomed Santa to our school.

Campus News

Recently, a very **special SRE session** took place, with Mrs Wood and the children presenting a short play explaining the meaning of Christmas. It was a particularly poignant affair for Joan, being her final lesson of the year, and the final classroom-based lesson in a series spanning many years of Christian Education at Strathbogie. We were joined by parents and several well-wishers from the local community, who shared a delicious luncheon with Joan and the children. Many thanks to all for coming.



Thanks to Jarrod for fixing our flickering lights in the JP classroom, and mending the damaged wires in the lights outside the toilets. There is ALWAYS something needing to be done, and the school is so grateful for the willing offers of help. Thanks also to Ruth who donated some beautiful plants to the school—they have already made their home in our garden bed, lovingly watered by Charlie

Congratulations to the 'bloomin' wonderful ladies who raised \$390.10 by selling seedlings in front of the school a few weeks ago. Heartfelt thanks to John O'Brien and Dana Last for their generous donation of plants.

Our first, and hopefully last, **snake** was spotted in the property adjacent to the school grounds. A huge congratulations to Jack and other SP students who calmly and clearly managed the situation in its initial phase—asking children to move away and sending others to report the sighting to a teacher. We have had a chat about taking care near bushy areas, and being aware of our surroundings a bit more during this warm season. All children behaved in a responsible and safe manner. Go Bogie kids!

Congratulations to Jack McDonald for his excellent performance at the Victorian Primary Schools Golf Tournament. Competing against 30 other primary school students at the Regional level, Jack managed a very admirable fourth place. On returning to school to share his news, Jack once again showed us what a great sportsman he is. He gives of his best, wins with humbleness and loses gracefully. What a wonderful representative of our school he is.

FAREWELL!!

Sadly we are saying goodbye to Miss Schulz at the end of term as she is moving back to NSW to take up a position teaching a Special Needs class. This is an area of education she has always had a keen interest in and is looking forward to these new challenges.

We thank her for all her efforts here at Strathbogie and we'll all miss you Jess!!!!

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Once again Strathbogie Campus is catering at the New Year's Day Merton Races—this is a terrific fundraiser for us & is ably organised by Katie Hill and Strathbogie parents. If anyone would like to offer help on the day or donate any of the staples required I'm sure they would love to hear from you.

FIRE PREPARATION

Being at the highest risk level on the BARR, we maintain an up to date Emergency Management Plan and have been carrying out regular fire drills to make sure we have every action down pat.

If anyone has a few hessian bags spare to donate us we'd be most grateful. These are to transport our chooks in if they look to be threatened.

A very big thank you to David Hamilton who inspected the school for fire readiness, and made some excellent suggestions which we will act on immediately.

One thing that needs doing NOW (for fire and snake safety) is the removal of some stumps, poles and planks at the rear of Area 3 and toilets.

Is there any kind soul with a trailer willing to help with this? Please contact Helen or Terry



On Wednesday 16th December all Peranbin students spent an enjoyable day at the Violet Town pool.

We held a mini 'Relay for Life' and the barbecue lunch will raise funds for the Cancer Council of Australia.



Seasons Greetings to all Tableland Talk readers from all at Strathbogie Campus

"I think, what has this day brought me, and what have I given it"~

Henry Moore

To the local resident who made a generous donation to the school, thank you. To the kind soul who is donating his time and effort to maintain our school grounds, thank you. We are so fortunate to have these people among us. You are the 'heart of the community'.

