



December 2016

CHRISTMAS ON THE TABLELAND



SATURDAY DECEMBER 10TH
VENUE " STRATHBOGIE REC RESERVE"

START TIME 5.30

THIS IS A FUN NIGHT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY YOUNG
& OLD

INCLUDING A VERY SPECIAL VISIT FROM SANTA CLAUS
AND HIS EVER RELIABLE HELPERS

A FREE BBQ AND FREE DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR
THE KIDS

A SCRUMPTIOUS 2 COURSE MEAL
FEATURING WEBER COOKED
STRATHBOGIE BEEF ,LAMB & PORK,
DELICIOUS SALADS AND
MELT IN YOUR MOUTH SWEETS
WILL BE SERVED

COST OF THE MEAL IS \$15 PER HEAD
DRINKS AVAILABLE AT BAR PRICES
(NO BYO)

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR CATERING PURPOSES
SO PLEASE CONTACT

KIM USHER 57905345
OR EMAIL kim.usher@bigpond.com
TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR

What's on in December

Dec 10th—Rec Ground—Christmas on
the Tableland

Dec 18th—Carols by Candlelight Strath-
bogie Church

Jan 26th—Aust Day community celebra-
tion

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 Tennis and bar at
the Recreation Ground.

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

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

Every Thursday—Summer tennis and
drinks at the Rec Ground

Every Fourth Saturday of the month—
Australian Plant Society Group meeting -
contact Pete 0402 882 959

Third Sunday of the month - 10.30am
Dance at the Hall

Every third Sunday of the Month - 4pm
SCOFF at the Rec Ground—Main St.

Carols by Candlelight in Strathbogie.

A Christmas Celebration

Sunday 18th December 2016
8pm-9.00pm

Supper from 9.00pm onwards
At Di and Rolf Eberhardt's in Main Street Strathbogie
If you can, please bring a plate to share
All are invited to enjoy
Christmas Carol Singing

including special items from

THE STRATHBOGIE SINGERS

at
The

St Andrews Uniting Church
Main Street Strathbogie

Come and see the beautifully decorated church
Enjoy a time of peace and goodwill
as we prepare for Christmas.

Euroa Cinema in December & January



Fri 2nd—"Julietta" (M)
 Sat 3rd to Sun 4h—"The Magnificent Seven" (M) -
 Sat 10th to Sun 11th—"Café Society" (M)
 Sat 17th to Sun 19th—"The Accountant" (MA15+)
 Cinema closed until 18th January
 Wed 18th Jan—2pm—"Storks" (G)
 Sat 21st to Sun 22nd—"Rogue One: A Stars Story" (CTC)

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, school age kids free.

Do you need a Justice of the Peace?

Neil Barter
 20 Magilton Dve
 57905349

Chris Thomson
 'Aberdeen'
 57905340

Ross Walker
 Brookleigh Rd
 57905111



SWANPOOL CINEMA

www.swanpoolcinema.com.au

Fri 2nd to Sun 4th—"Julietta" (M) & "Marguerite" (M)
 Fri 9th to Sun 11th—"Embrace of the Serpent" (M) & "The Wait" (M)
 Fri 18th to Sun 18th—"Son of Saul" (R) & "Maggie's Plan" (M)
 Mon 26th & Tues 27th —7pm—"Jungle Book" (PG) & "The BFG" (PG)
 Tues 27th—1.30pm "The BFG" (PG)
 Fri 30th to Sun 1st—"Sully" (M) & "Sing Street" (M)

Screentimes Fri & Sat 7.00pm, and Sun 6pm.
 Tickets \$13.50/\$11

A reminder that Tableland Talk is a community newsletter run by a volunteer group.

All community adverts are free.

Business adverts are charges at \$5 per issue.

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

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

Mobile Library

Dates for Strathbogie

(every 2nd Saturday,
 9.30 - 12 noon)

3rd and 17th December



Boho South Hall

Available for hire.
 Bookings contact:
 Margaret Mactier
 Ph 57908544

*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.*



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



Strathbogie Recreation Ground

All bookings are to be made with Kim Usher 57905345



Deadline for February edition - 24th January. Email: tablelandtalk@gmail.com, ph 57905203, post PO, Strathbogie, or leave contributions at the Strathbogie Store. The TT team.

STRATHBOGIE TABLELAND ACTION GROUP

Community Emergency Information Session - In preparation for the coming fire season, STAG's Emergency sub-committee held an information morning at which attendees were provided with a personal fire plan document which can be adapted to their individual circumstances. The plan describes how to prepare for the fire season, what action to take in the event of fire, what to do if you are caught on the road and contact details for essential services. If you were unable to attend the session, copies of the Fire Plan are available at the store or on the community website www.strathbogie.org.

Mary Anne Egan, Community Fireguard Facilitator for the North East Region attended for the morning and provided information on Fireguard groups. Mary Anne will conduct a series of sessions for new Fireguard members in the New Year. If you are interested in joining a Fireguard group and attending the sessions you should contact Mary Anne on 0428 937 210 or email jmaegan1@bigpond.com.

At its recent committee meeting STAG was disappointed to note that, although Shepparton, Murrindindi, Mansfield and Benalla Shires participated in the Fire Preparedness Legislative Council Hearing held recently in Euroa, Strathbogie Shire was not represented.

Polly McQuinn's Update—Following the removal of a dangerous tree by Parks Victoria, the Euroa Men's Shed, together with several STAG committee members has poured two concrete slabs to hold new picnic tables to be supplied by the Men's Shed in the coming weeks. The Men's Shed will also refurbish the old noticeboard and STAG, GBCMA and Parks Victoria will replace the missing sign. The Shire has installed a barrier to prevent parking on the rocks on the eastern side of Pollys as a safety measure – any brake failure could result in disaster for those in the rock pools below.

Roadsides—The Roads sub-committee has been in constant communication with Council re the state of some roads following the high rainfall, the clearance of roadsides – particularly in the approach to the township and the reckless and ill-timed spraying of road verges.

Mobile Phone Towers—Discussion took place at STAG's recent meeting re the proposed installation of an NBN tower and the process for obtaining additional mobile phone towers.

Seniors/Social Inclusion Lunches—STAG would like to reintroduce lunches for the elderly/isolated residents and past residents of the Tableland. We will commence with a lunch at Under the Sun on a Thursday or Friday in March. Details will be available in the February issue of Tableland Talk. Offers of assistance will be welcome.

Action Group Future—The committee will meet with representatives from Council on 13th December to further discuss the Shire's proposal to cease funding Action Groups and to no longer provide them with cover as a Section 86 Committee. Since its inception STAG has undertaken a significant number of projects on behalf of the community and it is estimated that the dollar value of volunteer hours involved equates to approximately \$18K per annum – a benefit that will be lost to the community if Action Groups do not continue.

Easter Festival—Consideration is being given to holding an Easter Festival – ideas, suggestions, offers of assistance are welcome.

Landcare News

The Strathbogie Tableland Landcare Group is conducting trials, with grant funding from the GBCMA "Beyond Soil Care" program, at David Hamilton's property to evaluate the benefit of lime application to pasture in conjunction with trials of new acid tolerant pasture species.

There will be an open day in March/April 2017 after the autumn break.

We also have a farm interest group which meets regularly at various properties (large and small) to discuss all facets of property and livestock management. This is also funded by the GBCMA under the same program and is facilitated by Greg Bekker from Agriculture Victoria and is open to all interested residents.

For further information contact Greg on (w) 5761 1631 or 0417 340 236, or David Jamieson on (h) 5790 5236 or 0423 328 321.



This summer, Violet Town will be hosting all three weeks of VicSwim with Robbie Rae again taking all sessions. Please enrol with VicSwim as per the contact information on the flyer—vicswim.com.au



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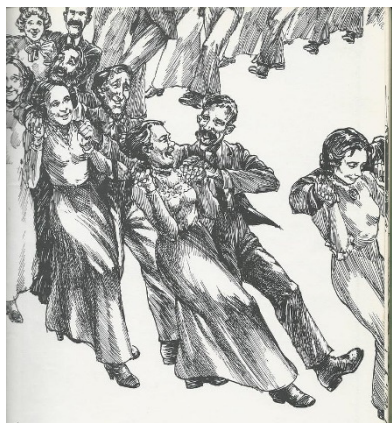
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• EXCAVATION

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• CONCRETE



The Dance

By Ken Dunnachie

When I was in Grade Four we were told that the next day we were going to have a lesson in dancing.

Shock! Horror! What! Dancing Ugh. With a girl. Ugh Ugh!

I was scared stiff. So much that I don't have any recollection what so ever of what happened at the "lesson".

As a youth I started going to the odd dance and it wasn't much better.

All us boys used to stand around the door most of the night. I think it was the thought of getting a knock back that made us so hesitant.

Our orchestra consisted of the piano and drums and occasionally a violin. It was all we needed. We didn't even have a microphone.

In the 60's and 70's we ran quite a few dances and at Strathbogie, two balls a year. The hall was humming. We had the Scottish Highland Ball with the Kilties and the C.W.A. Ball with the Best Dressed Couple and the Belle of the Ball.

The popular dance was the Progressive Barn Dance where the music kept going till everyone had danced with everyone else. We could speak quite easily with our partners without raising our voices and we sang along with all the old tunes. We didn't have huge amplifiers blasting into our ears but don't get me started on that.

Even the small children joined in dancing and they soon learned the basics of waltzing. When these girls made their debut in Bogie they were fairly easily trained because they already knew how to waltz. Their photos are up in the gallery in the hall. We had two Deb sets and the hall was always full for these occasions.

The Benefits of a Regular Yoga Practice.....Kerry Butler

Yoga is an ancient system of practices that positively affect the function of the body and the mind. Many people will have had some experience of yoga, either by going to a class, or hearing about it from friends or family. Yoga can be practiced at any age – it is not limited to slender people in lycra!

Classes for less mobile folk include chair yoga, where the movements can be beneficial even though they are conducted from a seated position.

Probably the most well-known and documented area of yoga practice is the beneficial effect on the body. Many people have experienced yoga classes where the focus on physical postures increases muscle tone, flexibility in the joints and in the body generally, and leaves you with a feeling of having done something really positive for your body.

Yoga practices can also have a profound effect on our thoughts and emotions, helping us to relax more completely and effectively, as well as balancing the glandular secretions of chemicals that affect our mood and sense of well being. Many people have found that a regular yoga practice stabilises their mood, decreases depression, and helps to manage stress. Learning some yoga practices gives us the tools to develop a yoga routine that can help to develop strength and flexibility in body and mind.

If you would like to try a yoga class and learn some of the techniques you can use at home, please feel welcome to contact me on:

kerry_a_b@yahoo.com or 0401 177 812.

Classes are currently operating in **Strathbogie** – Tuesdays @ 2pm in the supper room at the hall, and **Violet Town** – Mondays @ 10am at the community centre. I will be starting a **chair yoga** class in the new year, please get in touch if you are interested.



The Canberra illusion

by Donmil

Our facade of democracy: oh, what a phony!

Malcolm, it's clear, is the plaything of Tony;

And just watch the strings, see them loosen and tauten

As the unions operate their puppet, Bill Shorten.

STRATHBOGIE TABLELAND EARTHWORKS

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The Butchers Shop—submitted by Shirley Dash.

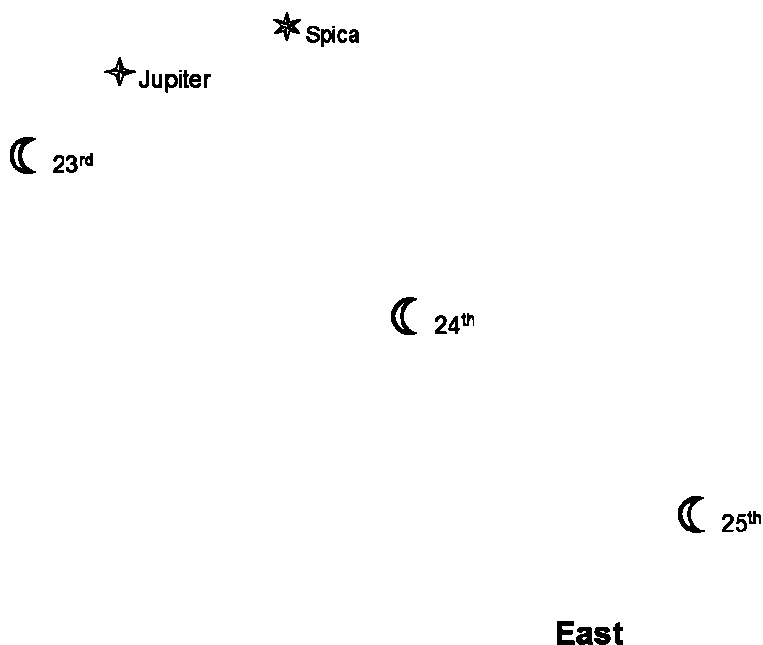
Below is a photo of the butcher's shop, originally located in the main street of Strathbogie.

In the late 1960's this building was shifted to the present site on what is now Graeme and Shirley Dash's property in Tames Rd beside the land on which the Strathbogie South-East School was once located. In Strathbogie township, this building was located next door to the present CFA fire shed. Levy's store, then George Simpson's mechanical repair shop were one side of it and Alec Crosbie's house (where Jan and Leo Coysh lived, and Dianne now lives) was on the other side. In



front of the butchers shop there was a step to the front entrance door where we understand there was also a flywire screen door. Two smaller openings can be seen on the left hand side wall put there for the delivery of the carcasses brought by the delivery van, possibly from Charlie Brien's Euroa Butcher's shop. During the 1934-36 period the delivery man was the Euroa Butcher Ross Smith, who came every Tuesday afternoon.

Stargazing in Strathbogie



The view looking East from Strathbogie late in the evening showing the position of Jupiter, Spica and the Moon.

Information from Australian Sky & Telescope (David Joyce)

The Bookshelf – notes from the Bohomians Bookclub

Burial Rites by Hannah Kent, Picador, 2013.

Set in the early 1800s, *Burial Rites* is an historical novel based on the true story of the last woman to be executed in Iceland. The story of Agnes Magnúsdóttir, who was convicted of murdering two men, is told in flashback in the last few months of her life as she awaits her sentence.

As there are no prisons in Iceland, Agnes is sent to stay with a local official and his family, who are initially openly hostile towards her. Dismissing the priest who has been appointed to help her prepare for her execution, Agnes requests a more sympathetic spiritual counsellor in the form of Toti, a relatively inexperienced young priest. In the process of telling her story to Toti, a role reversal occurs and Agnes becomes the narrator of her own story rather than the subject of stories told about her by the church and the state. Each chapter of *Burial Rights* is told from the perspective of different characters. The story is at its most compelling when Agnes speaks for herself, addressing the reader in the first person. I found myself skimming through the other characters' perspectives on Agnes, and wondered if maybe this was a deliberate strategy to leave the reader wanting to hear more from Agnes?

This is a bleak story that plays with the idea of how self-definition is a real struggle for marginalised and disempowered members of society. As Agnes says when speaking about her trial: "They did not let me say what happened in my own way, but took my memories...and wrought them into something sinister; they wrested my statement of that night and made me seem malevolent. Everything I said was taken from me and altered until the story wasn't my own".

Kent pieces together the story using historical documents, including church records and official letters. In doing so, she exposes the gaps in the official story of the last woman executed in Iceland – a story that casts her as a scheming malevolent witch. In the process, Kent fills the gaps in the official historical version with carefully crafted fiction that casts Agnes in a more sympathetic light.

I struggled with this novel. The bleakness of the story, and at times the heavy-handed use of images of death, made reading *Burial Rites* hard work; however, as a revision of history it is a worthwhile read.



Hannah Kent was born in Adelaide in 1985. Her debut novel, the international bestseller, *Burial Rites*, has been translated into 28 languages. It won the ABIA Literary Fiction Book of the Year, the Indie Awards Debut Fiction Book of the Year and the Victorian Premier's People's Choice Award, amongst others. *Burial Rites* was also shortlisted for the Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction (formerly the Orange Prize), the Guardian First Book Award, the Stella Prize and the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. It is currently being adapted to film.

Hannah co-founded the Australian literary journal *Kill Your Darlings*, where she is currently publishing director. She has been published in *The Guardian*, *The Age* and *Harpers BAZAAR*, amongst others. Hannah's second novel, *The Good People*, was published in October 2016.

Abroad and at home

by Donmil

Brushtail possums – the scourge of New Zealand,
Reviled and despised everywhere!
Then again, we perhaps should remember
That it's our fault, not theirs, that they're there.

And of course to Australian gardeners
The possum is likewise accursed,
And we never reflect for a moment
That they, and not we, were here first.

Donmil recently returned from a garden tour of New Zealand; of course he's not for one moment denying that introduction of the species has been a major ecological disaster for NZ, nor that it can be a gardener's nightmare in Australia.

Community Development Grant: Two Strathbogrie committees were successful in a community development grant program from SP Ausnet Services. In conjunction with Strathbogrie Shire Council, the grants were awarded to eligible applicants from throughout the Shire.

The Strathbogrie Memorial Hall committee will purchase ceiling fans for the supper room which will make the yoga classes much more comfortable, and the Strathbogrie Golf Club is purchasing a sliding door..

Both committees were awarded approx. \$1500, and \$25000 was awarded overall.



Above: Strathbogrie Memorial Hall Chair Andrew Townsend with Strathbogrie Shire Mayor Amanda McLaren at the SP Ausnet presentation.

COLLECT YOUR LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING GUIDE FROM THE STRATHBOGRIE STORE