



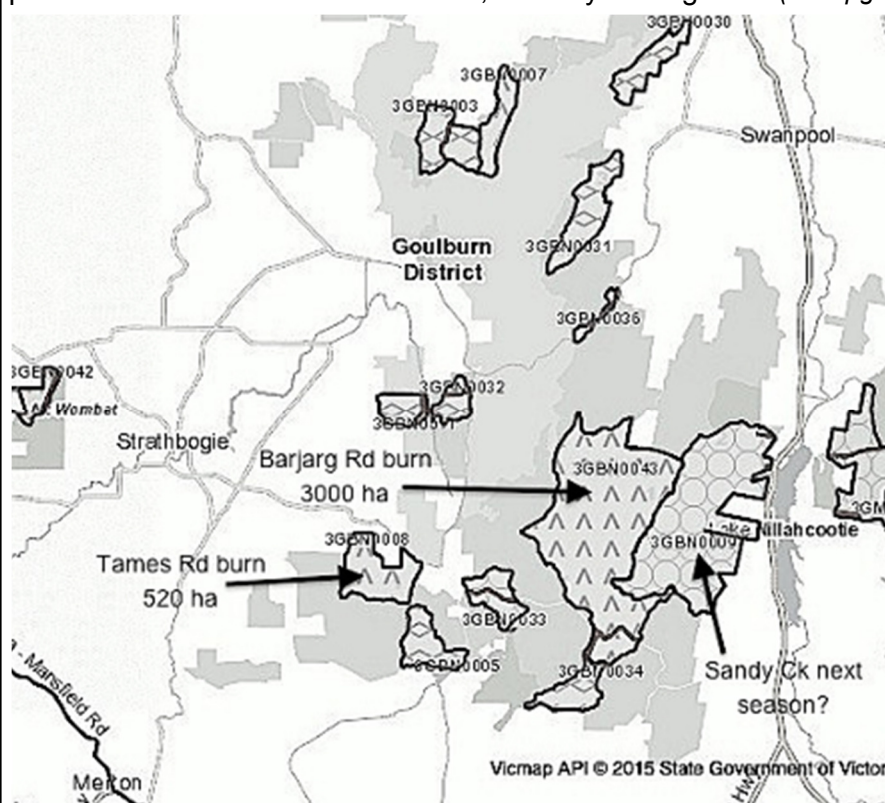
March 2016

Strathbogie Forest **- the burning issue**

This autumn, perhaps even before Easter, the Department of Environment Land Water & Planning (DELWP) intend to burn 3000 ha of the Strathbogie forest. Known as the Barjarg Rd burn, the area includes three compartments: Parlours Ck, Harpers/Mt Strathbogie and Moonee. In recent years, the size of planned burns (aka fuel reduction burns) has been 200-300 ha, so why is this burn so huge – 30 sq km?

For the last six years DELWP has based its planned burns on an area target, as a direct result of the 2009 Bushfire Royal Commission findings. Across the whole State, the target was to burn about 330,000 ha of public land annually. This meant that lots of remote country, easy to burn and sparsely populated, was excessively burnt to get the numbers up. The Government is moving to a risk-based approach next season, but big burns, like the Barjarg Rd burn are still on their books. In other words, 3000 ha of Strathbogie forest is being sacrificed to meet an obsolete target.

There is no strategic reason for burning this 3000 ha of forest. Parts of the burn area have been burnt during the last 20 years, so there exists a burn mosaic, which this burn will erase. Some parts of the burn area are long-unburnt and should remain that way, particularly those areas with good numbers of old-growth trees – some of which are 2+ m in diameter and very susceptible to fire. It may sound counter-intuitive, but much of this long-unburnt forest actually has lower fine-fuel loads in the understorey, than forest recovering from a planned burn which often has dense, scrubby undergrowth. (cont pg 3)



What's on in March

5th March—7.30pm RuffArtz—**Co-Cheol** ('Harmony' in Scots-Gaelic) Ph 0409172595

24th March—6pm—Easter at the Rec Ground

2nd April—11am—Strathbogie Cemetery Trust Presentation of Certificates

3rd April—3am—End daylight saving—put clocks **back** one hour.

16th April—6.30pm—The African Intelligence. 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

At left—Map showing location of last year's Tames Rd burn and this year's proposed 3000 ha Barjarg Rd burn.

For a better image see <https://strathbogiesustainablefor-ests.wordpress.com/>

Euroa Cinema in March and April



Fri 4th March—"Suffragette" (M)
 Sat 5th to Sun 6th—"The Revenant" (MA15+)
 Sat 12th to Sun 13th—"Youth" (R)
 Sat 19th to Sun 20th—"Carol" (M)
 Sat 26th & Sun 27th—"The Danish Girl" (R)
 Sat 2nd to Sun 3rd Apr—"The Big Short" (R)
 Sat 9th to Sun 10th—"Room" (R)
 Coming up—"Looking for Grace" (M)

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

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

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Fri 4th to Sun 6th March - "Suffragette" (M) & "Carol" (M)
 Fri 11th to Sun 13th—"The Big Short" (M) & "Anomalisa" (MA15+)
 Fri 18th to Sun 20th—"Brooklyn" (M) & "The Lost Aviator" (M)
 Fri 25th to Sun 27th—"45 Years" (M) & "Partisan" (MA15+)
 Fri 1st to Sun 3rd April—"Girlhood" (M) & "Tenderness" (NA)
 Fri 8th—1.30pm—"Elsa and Fred" (M)
 Fri 8th to Sun 10th—"Truth" (M) & "The Daughter" (M)

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

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

Mobile Library dates for Strathbogie

(every 2nd Saturday, 9.30 - 12 noon)
 12th March (note no library on 26th March due to Public Holiday)
 9th & 23rd April



*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.*



Boho South Hall

Available for hire.
 Bookings contact:
 Margaret Mactier
 Ph 57908544



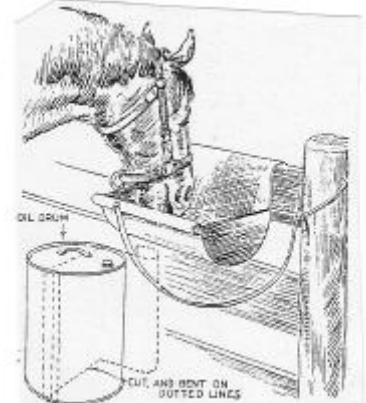
Strathbogie Memorial Hall

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 April edition - 26th March. Email: tablelandtalk@gmail.com, ph 57905203, post PO, Strathbogie, or leave contributions at the Strathbogie Store. The TT team.

Strathbogie Forest - the burning issue (cont'd from page 1)

An expert witness to the Bushfire Royal Commission concluded that the ability of prescribed burning to aid the fire suppression efforts during extreme fire weather conditions is negligible. Thus, the very time when many hope that prescribed burning can aid in fire suppression efforts is actually the period during which it is least likely to be effective.

The Strathbogie Sustainable Forests Group (SSFG) is strongly opposed to this season's burns, given the disastrous outcome of last season's Tames Rd burn, which DELWP regard as 'successful'. That burn killed 20% of all trees (>70 cm in diam.) in the forest that it came in contact with; the figure was 50% killed for all trees greater than 1 m diam.! The Tames Rd burn was 520 ha in size, burnt too hot and killed upwards of 1500 trees greater than 70 cm diam. At 3000 ha in size, how many trees will be killed in the Barjarg Rd burn?

The SSFG understands that planned burning is part of forest management and an important tool in protecting life and assets in forested landscapes, but it must be used strategically; decision-making about 'how much?' 'where?' and 'when?' must be evidence-

Progress! by Donmil

Our streets were once bumpy and slow;
They discouraged fast travelling, so
We got rid of the bumps
And the lumps and the humps,
And now you should see how we go!

What were limits on speed now? Well, none:
On the streets high-speed races were run
Till we brought back the bumps
And installed brand-new humps;



based and thoroughly thought through. Burning 3000 ha of largely remote forest because its 'on the books' is irresponsible and does little to improve the community's confidence in DELWP's planned burning program. We oppose this unjustifiably large burn and encourage DELWP to re-think their use of planned burning in these mountain forests.

For further information visit <https://strathbogiesustainableforests.wordpress.com/>



EASTER ON THE TABLELAND

Easter Thursday 24th March 2016

A FAMILY BBQ at the Rec

Starting time 6pm

Come along and join us for a night of fun and be entertained by the Easter Bunny and his gang

A gourmet meal of locally sourced Scotch Fillet Steak and Veggie Burgers will be served along with delicious Salads and your choice of sauces

And for those that are still hungry there will be Cake and ice-cream for sweets

Free drinks and Free BBQ Sausages for the kids

Cost of the meal is \$15 per person

A wide selection of adult drinks will be available at Bar prices including a fine selection of quality beer from the STRATHBOGIE BREWERY, now on tap

NO BYO

For catering purposes please book with Kim Usher on 57905345 or email kim.usher@bigpond.com

Any special catering needs please advise.





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issue, which is very reasonable.
This funds this newsletter. Please
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SAVE THE DATE!

The memorial hall dance floor will be pumping once again with a massive night of Afrobeat, Drumming and Dancing coming this April to Strathbogie!

Saturday April 16th
@The Strathbogie Memorial Hall
Doors open at 6:30pm

More details to come... ;)

ABOUT THE AFRICAN INTELLIGENCE

Cultural Intelligence using the power of music and dance to share our message!

Percussive blend of jazz, funk and soul. Influenced by the infectious afro-beat music of West Africa, Lamine Sonko & The African Intelligence delivers powerful contemporary African Sound and Vibration to the Australian music scene.

African Intelligence is a 10 piece ensemble led by Senegalese singer/dancer Lamine Sonko, sharing with you a musical report from the roots of afrobeat, reggae and salsa. From funky baselines and swift guitar riffs to the smooth groove of a message with meaning, here is a band that has it all!

With an energetic and colorful line up of Australia's finest world musicians, this band charms and engages its audiences from start to finish with their own fusion of contemporary and traditional african rhythms. It's exhilarating, it's infectious, it dares you dance!

Lamine Sonko was born in Senegal, West Africa into a family of griots known as culture keepers. Griots are the custodians of ancient lineages, functioning as the eyes and ears of the community. the griot's responsibility is to practice and teach the stories of their culture through the embodied oral traditions of song, music and dance. An oral culture is one alive only in practice, and so it is the griot that must animate the spirit of the past into the present and towards future through remembering, sharing, performing and teaching of song, drum and dance.

Lamine learnt his craft while growing up in an artistic family. Most notably, his parents maintain the strongest influence on his talent. His father, Bouly Sonko, is presently the Director for the Senegalese national drum and dance company Waaro Siita. His mother, Oumy Sene, was the first solo dancer for Le Ballet National Du Senegal and is also currently a member of Waato Siita. Lamine's family are well known musically and highly respected internationally.

Now living in Melbourne, Australia - and a part of the West African Diaspora, the position of traditional griot expands to embrace a new cultural position, whereby music becomes a platform for bringing diverse cultures and practices together into space for the communion of multiple knowledges - traditional and contemporary. Lamine's practice is motivated by a desire to experiment in this space between the traditional and the contemporary in ways that develop new forms of musical collaboration and exchange. this is underpinned by a larger aim to develop communities of musicians from the African, Australian, American and European continents, working to build a space in which a spirit of togetherness for a better future can be experienced through the unyielding force of music and dance.



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The Weekend Local

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This contribution below first appeared as an email on the Bogietree group and created quite a conversation about drivers we meet up here on the tableland. Please take care on our roads—of ourselves and each other, and our wildlife too.

Gday Funsters ,
Leaving early tomorrow morning , around 7 ish , can have you at airport by nine
Cheaper and more reliable than vic rail , no ones trying to sabotage me

One of the most interesting psychological aspects to the art of living in Post GFC 1 Strathbogie concerns the art and science of driving on a single lane country road . Formerly populated by battered utes driven by weatherbeaten salt of the earth rustics sporting wide brimmed hats , these once lonely conduits are increasingly traversed by large armoured Panzers being driven by heavily superannuated Wandervogelists (among other fauna), conditioned by decades of consumer propaganda to try and capture as much asphalt market share as humanly possible, as is ones entitlement.

Whereas once one would observe the tried and true ritual of trusting that the other operator was keen to share the right of way, increasingly common is the sudden shortness of breath and sudden anxiety as the Germanic Sixth Armoured division (kangaroo) first appears at high velocity in the shimmering distance . As the six hundred knot closing speed rapidly evaporates the distance between the combatants, ones mind races through the many possibilities suddenly manifesting in the time space continuum.

"do i know this person"
"will they slow down"
"will they give me some room"
"what is wrong with this chimp?"
"Will I take out the mailbox/ clip the tree / rip out the sump?"
"am i going to die"
"should I take them with me?"
"should I ram them?"
"who the hell was that?"
"how does Bubby find them and beat them brain less?"

As the moment of truth approaches , the sinking realisation dawns that one is regardless compelled to plant the nearside in the dirt and hold on for dear life , as gleaming upmarket behemoth cleaves steadfastly to the middle of the road . This is no mean feat when

combined with the actions of winding down ones window , extending arm and middle figure as far as possible and simultaneously leaning forward on the horn! . This sequence is performed from memory , and often leaves one lurching in the dirt, choking dust and laughing maniacally, but at least secure in the knowledge that the Panzer Commander will at least be assimilating some basic universal sign language when he at last arrives at his French Themed Chateau and cracks open the first Dom.

"Dorothea who do you suppose that strange fellow off the side of the road in his little car giving me the finger?"

(Quaff- "what a fantastic vintage")

"I don't know darling, some greenie peasant or local I suppose"

" Yes, I couldn't quite hear what he was shouting, the ninth symphony was in absolute crescendo, hmmm , bloody strange people"

More common, fortunately, is the experience of both parties slowing down, pulling gently to the verge in a time honoured show of mutual inconvenience and respect, a perfunctory wave followed by a warm feeling of hail fellow well met, we are all in this together, neighbours if not friends.

Equally intriguing along these backwater rural roads is;

1- the slow coach in car , trailer or truck who is content to potter along up the hill at 40 kms hr while a conga line of costly conveyance queues back to Euroa behind it , operators foaming and champing at the bit , cursing like fishermen

2- The charge of the light brigade through a mob of sheep or cattle on the road

3- the twilight/bad weather drive-past of someone broken down on the road

4- the aggressive acceleration past the horse rider/ pedestrian

but that, as they say, is a story for another day!

Chantelle O'Shanter

Off to pick up my new Beemer 4wd

Bugger it



**Saturday 5th
March**

8.00 pm

**Doors Open
7.30pm**

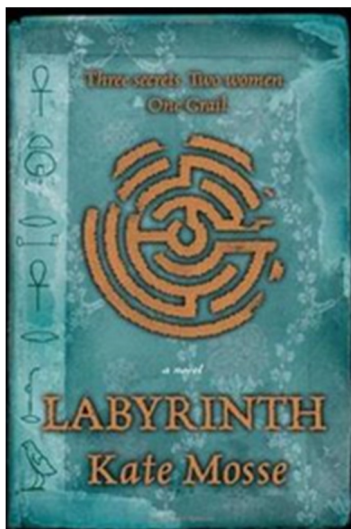
RuffArtZ "A Season of Saturdays 2016" Ruffy Community Hall, Nolans Rd

Co-Cheol ('Harmony' in Scots-Gaelic): The Best 'Up & Coming Celtic Act' at the 2015 National Folk Festival. Voices from other-worldly places, accompanied by harp, flute, ukulele and 'body-percussion'. Come and be entranced. BYO drinks and nibbles. Please book early to ensure your seat.

For tickets (\$75 for all 4 shows, or \$25.00 each) **contact Kym on 0409 172 595**

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Labyrinth by Kate Mosse, Orion, 2005

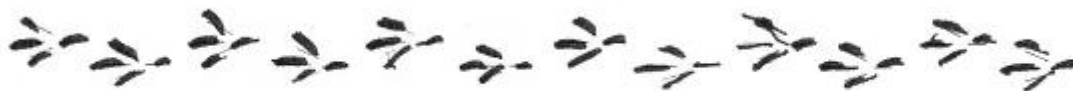


Kate Mosse OBE is a prolific English novelist, non-fiction and short story writer, who also works in radio as a broadcaster. She has written and published extensively and is best known for her adventure and ghost fiction. Some other titles by this author are *Eskimo Kissing*, *Crucifix Lane*, and the second and third titles in the *Labyrinth* trilogy – *Sepulchre* (2007) and *Citadel* (2012). In 2013, Mosse's collection of ghost stories *The Mistletoe Bride & Other Haunting Tales* appeared to acclaim. She has also written two plays, and contributed numerous essays and stories to anthologies.

Also in this issue: *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn, Broadway Books, 2014

Labyrinth lives up to its name. This large read (531 pages) combines two intertwined stories – a tale of mystery and intrigue set in France in the Middle Ages, and a modern tale of similar suspense set in 2005 in the same region. Dr Alice Tanner, a volunteer archaeologist on a dig at Pic de Soularac in the southern French region of Languedoc, stumbles across several skeletons in a cave in which there is an unmistakable air of evil. Her find makes her the target of a suspicious cult whose quest it is to find three books placed in the keeping of a young healer and herbalist, Alais, in the 12th century. These books contain diagrams and symbols which are of intense interest to characters in both time zones. Thus, the plots are linked in an historical fiction where the brutal civil war that ripped this region apart almost one thousand years ago produces characters of both noble and very nasty intent. Alais and Alice are linked in strange and wondrous ways, and both have to fight to avoid being taken over by the forces of evil.

A television adaptation was released in 2012. The book was ranked as the best-selling book of 2006 by The Guardian and awarded the Best Read of the Year in the 2006 British Book Awards; it has sold millions of copies worldwide, and has been translated into 37 languages. Many of the Bohomians were generally not quite so enthusiastic, finding it confusing, top-heavy with overly-rich plotlines, and a bit far-fetched; however, there were a few who really enjoyed it, which just goes to show that one Bohomian's meat is another's gruel!



Seniors Lunches

Until the middle of last year seniors lunches were held each month in the hall. The lunches were partly sponsored by the Shire and run mainly by volunteers. These lunches ceased when the Council decided not to continue to provide a range of community services which had been government funded.

This funding has now been allocated to Nexus Primary Health, the main brief being to provide home and community care for those who have difficulty living at home. Having initially set up these services Nexus is now able to look at the provision of planned activities (social inclusion).

Nexus is able to provide some funding to continue the lunches which would be open to community members regardless of age. STAG has been asked to put a costed proposal to Nexus, however in order to do this we need some indication of the likely number of attendees and names of volunteers who are happy to continue to support this activity. It is anticipated that the activity would be similar to those held previously, ie lunch with either a speaker or some form of entertainment.

If you would like to attend these activities either as a participant or volunteer helper, please advise STAG by 18th March either by emailing stag@strathbogie.org or leaving a note in STAG's pigeon hole at the store.



Gratitude to a Yogini—Over the few past years Strathbogie has been blessed with a dedicated and very talented Yoga teacher. Amanda has generously shared her experienced understanding of Yoga with us each week, tirelessly helping us stretch our limits.

Amanda has decided to take a break this year and we all dearly hope that she will be back next year to support us in our practice.

Many, many thanks to you Amanda

Johny, Carol, Anna, Trevor, Barb, Jess, Karen, Taliah, Adanni, Elouera, Suzie... and many more

CFA Community Fireguard Groups—There are a number of Community Fireguard groups operating across the tableland. These groups are self managing, and support each other in the fire-ready preparation of their property, and in communication in the event of a nasty fire day, and generally supporting one another. Many of these groups started some years ago.

There has been some interest in forming a new community fireguard group in the Strathbogie area, given the fire season we have had so far.

If anyone in the local community is interested in starting a new group and going through the core CFG program, please email stag@strathbogie.org.
On behalf of **Maureen Piera** - Community Fireguard Co-Ordinator



Helping children to catch the reading bug!

Families are their children's first and most significant teachers and continue to participate in their learning throughout their lives. Peranbin Primary School recognises this and encourages it to occur at school as well as at home.

Interested in finding out more?

At Strathbogie Campus, we are running a program designed to support the work of parents and others to facilitate the learning of reading and writing.

It involves 4 sessions (about 1 hour in duration), which provides information on how to help children read and write, listen and speak. It aims to give you the confidence and skills to make a significant difference to your child's learning.

At the conclusion of these sessions, you may like to commit to helping in the classrooms at Bogie. OR, you may just wish to put the information you have learned to good use helping your child, grandchild, or a friend's child at home, with great benefits.

The dates are:

Monday 22nd Feb
Monday 29th Feb
Monday 7th March
Monday 21st March

Starting time is 3.45pm, in the Staffroom.

ALL Welcome!



*Editors note—
this has already
started—
contact the
school if you are
interested in
being involved
and have missed
the first two
session
Ph—57905250*



GV Library News

Euroa Library has a NEW opening time.

Euroa library will now open Tue – Fri at 9.30am instead of 10.00am.

It is also open over lunchtime.

We hope this new starting time is enjoyed and valued by our communities.

Joining is free and we have a huge range of ebooks, emagazines, books and dvds to choose from.

Drop in and join today and ask us about our free wifi and elearning classes.



Strathbogie Cemetery Trust.

Presentation of "Certificates of Appreciation"

for long service to the trust. Come and meet the current trustees and enjoy a BBQ. Find out some of the history of the Cemetery which dates back to the late 1800's. Saturday April the 2nd at the Strathbogie Cemetery from 11am. Bring a chair.

Enquiries to Michael
0409031516.

Sublime music at the Strathbogie Memorial Hall

On a gorgeous warm Sunday evening, with a welcome breeze wafting in through the hall doors, Tablelanders and visitors to these gentle hills were given a musical treat. Tenzin Choegyal (vocals and traditional Tibetan strings), Taro Terehara (*banuri*) and Nick Lester (saxophone) transported the audience to the sweeping Himalayas with music that soared, swooped and transported listeners to realms of pure sound, engaging the mind and touching the heart.

A master of traditional Tibetan instruments, Tenzin is a Tibetan singer-songwriter well-known for his extraordinary vocal ability. He is also an outstanding composer/performer with a great depth of musical knowledge, intuition and inventiveness. Tenzin feels a particular connection to the music of the nomadic people of his homeland and attributes much of his musical passion to those early influences. Taro Terahara is a leading musician in the thriving and highly competitive Indian classical music scene in Japan, and Nick Lester is a highly-skilled and well-known local musician and teacher of music.

The audience were invited to join in with singing (in Sanskrit, no less!), which they did with enthusiasm; one member of the audience was even able to contribute some throat singing, which was perfect for the occasion. A light supper allowed the attendees to mingle and share the wonderful ambience created by this beautiful music. Thanks must go to Suzie Bates for her efforts in bringing Tenzin and Taro (and Nick) back to Strathbogie.

Editor's note: **throat singing** or **overtone chanting**, **harmonic singing** – is a type of singing in which the singer manipulates the resonances created as air travels from the lungs, past the vocal folds and out of the lips to produce a melody.



The Bookshelf – notes from the Bohomians Bookclub

Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn, Broadway Books, 2014.

This 466-page psychological thriller has made its mark (on this writer, at least) by being the book I most wanted to toss in the woodstove! Unfortunately — or rather, fortunately, as the book is library property — the recent challenging hot days have seen our woodstove unlit for some weeks. But what is it about *Gone Girl* that rangled so much?

Gillian Flynn's crime novel, set in New York and Missouri, is full of mystery and suspense. Nick Dunne is a 40-something popular culture writer whose wife, Amy, goes missing; she has, to all appearances, met with foul play. The marriage is in trouble, and as the story unravels, it is increasingly unclear just who the 'bad guy' is here. The reader is led into a series of blind alleys and false trails that only serve to make the main characters less and less likeable. The reader becomes Gillian Flynn's plaything, wrenched back and forth in a tale that never allows resolution, eliciting our sympathies for both narrators, only to have doubt inserted into one's judgement. This is intentional. Flynn has employed the technique of *unreliable narrator* to extreme in this dark and sorry exposé of the sad and strange places the mind can inhabit. But it is the moral emptiness of the novel that makes this reader, at least, question whether life is too short to grant this book even a morning of one's time. Flynn said, in speaking of her intention in writing the book, "I wanted the whole thing to feel bankrupt ... I wanted it to really feel like a marriage that had been hollowed out in a city that had been hollowed out and a country that was increasingly hollowed out". The total effect for yours truly was the feeling of one's stomach in the days after food-poisoning from bad fish. I will never inhabit such a world; I'd rather succumb to the toxic trevally!

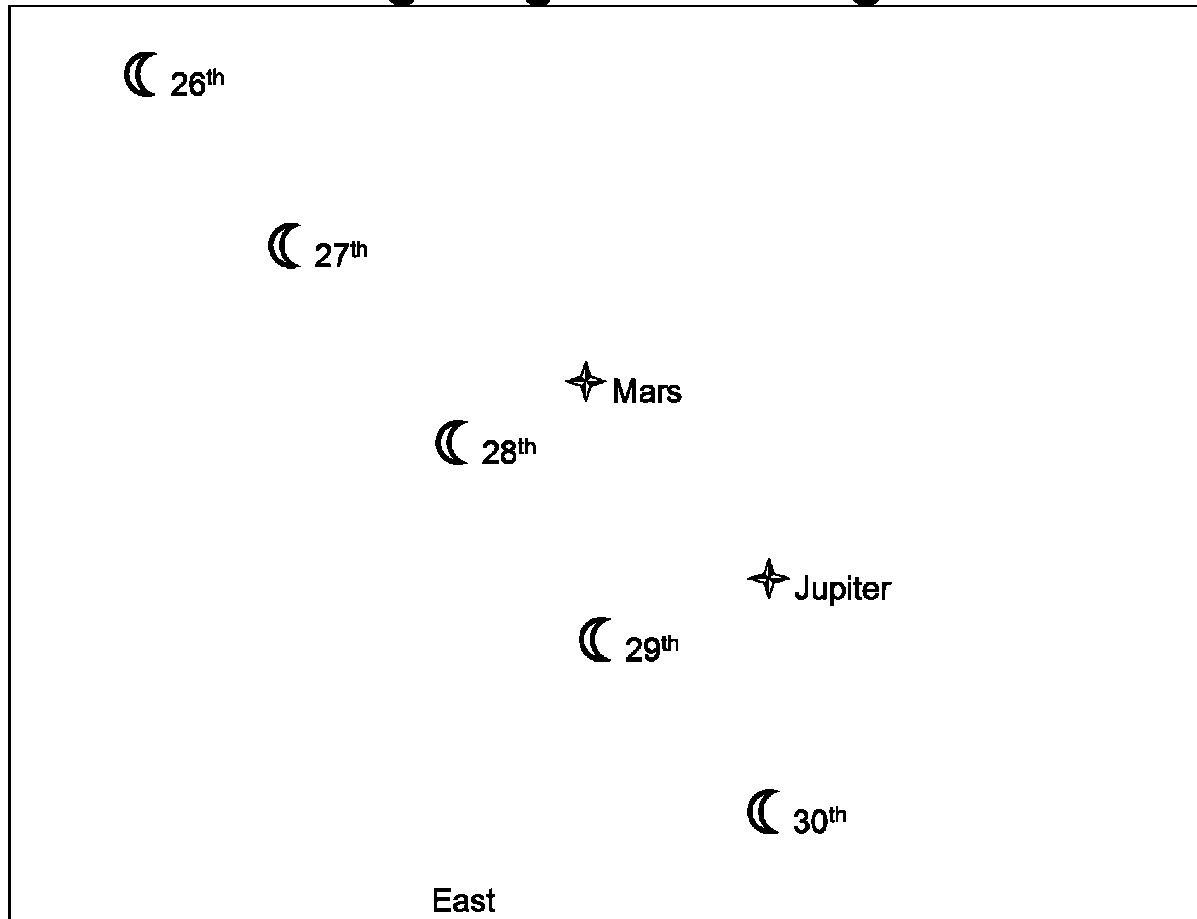
While one can admire the skill of this writer in sustaining the page-turning suspense of this sizable read, and, indeed, in evoking such a negative reaction (Bohomians were unanimous in finding this title unpalatable), do we really need yet another indication of the depths that things can sink to – in a marriage, a city or, indeed, a powerful, game-changing nation?

Gillian Flynn's take on the influences and impulses that led her to create *Gone Girl* are interesting. Other Flynn titles are instructive: *Dark Places* (blurb – *Home is where the lies are*), and *Sharp Objects* (blurb – *This family is not nuclear, it's toxic*). Feminists had a field day with her avowed intention to demonstrate 'non-conformity to the traditional perception of women as innately good characters'. She also prompted one reviewer to say that *Gone Girl* 'kicked the (crime) genre into high gear'. The 2014 film of the novel grossed over \$368 million at the box office, and there is talk of a sequel.

Oh, dear ...

Next month: *The Miniaturist* by Jessie Burton, Picador, 2014

Stargazing in Strathbogie



The view looking East from Strathbogie at around 9pm for the last week of March, showing the position of Mars, Saturn and the Moon.

Information from *Australian Sky & Telescope* (David Joyce)



RuffArtZ

Escape the ordinary for four nights.
Season Tickets still available!

The RuffArtZ Season of Saturdays 2016 is set to hit the ground running with the first of the four shows in the annual program featuring four dynamic young women who sing like angels. "Co-Cheol" (pronounced Co-Sharl, meaning 'harmony' in Scots-Gaelic) not only sing in four part harmony but also between them play harp, flute, piano accordion and ukulele. The group has enjoyed great success, including taking out the "Best Up & Coming Celtic Act" award at the 2015 National Folk Festival.

The other shows in the RuffArtZ Season of Saturdays will be: the *Melbourne Guitar Quartet* on 5th May, *The Lagerphones* on 10th Sep and, to conclude a great line-up: Kate Auty & her Band in *Backwards in High Heels* on 19th November.

We hope you can join us for the sensational 17th successive RuffArtZ Season of Saturdays.

All concerts commence at 8pm sharp at Ruffy Hall. Doors Open 7.30.

BYO drinks and nibbles (but leave some space for the famous \$5 'cake & coffee/tea' at interval)

Please book early to ensure your seat.

Season Ticket: 4 shows \$75; Individual Show Tickets \$25; Student concessions; Supervised Children under 16 free.

Contact Kym: 0409 172 595 or email: ruffartztickets@gmail.com

ruffycommunity.com.au



STRATHBOGIE TABLELAND ACTION GROUP



Emergency Planning

The CFA has offered to conduct fireguard training for any members of the community who would like to join an existing fireguard group or establish their own. While we may be nearing the end of summer, the bush-fire season is still with us and training now will give participants plenty of time to implement their plan for next summer.

Seniors Lunches (see note on page 8)

STAG will meet with representatives from Nexus Health, the organisation which now has the funding for these activities previously administered by the Shire.

Community Website

The website (www.strathbogie.org) has recently been transferred to a new server which should ensure that the bandwidth is not exceeded. Previously some difficulties had been experienced towards the end of each month.

Polly McQuinns

STAG is currently liaising with Parks Victoria to undertake works to make Pollys more user friendly and as safe as possible.

Disabled Parks

STAG will liaise with Council following a request to create disabled parking areas at both the hall and the rec ground.

Solar Power

A local resident has expressed interest in forming a purchasing group for solar power. He has been invited to address the next STAG meeting.

STAG meets in the Soldiers Room at 7.30pm on the first Monday of the month. All community members are welcome.

Hearty congratulations to the Australia Day community award winners—we will be featuring their stories in next month's edition of Tableland Talk.



Last gasps

by Donmil

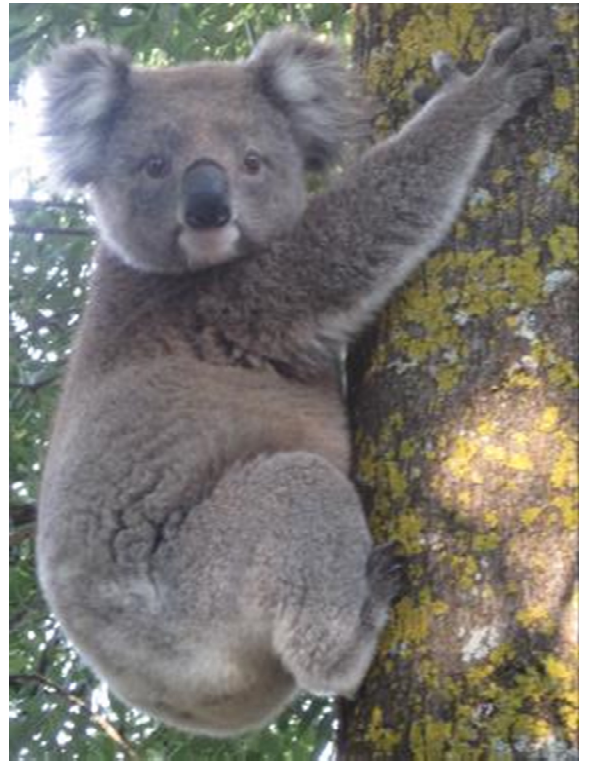
Said Kevin Andrew: "We've had our day,
No-one cares now what we say,
But let's keep saying it anyway."

"Good idea! Yes, let's,"
Said Eric Abetz.



Strathbogie Campus

2016 —welcome back to school!!



Strathbogie Campus is excited to welcome 3 delightful new Preppies this year—Audrey Anderson & her parents Kylie & Campbell; Beryl Farrell & parents Hayley & Joe, and Connor Garden with old-timers Bec & Jarrod. We hope you have a long and happy association with our campus.

We're also thrilled to welcome 2 new arrivals—Georgie and Allie - Georgie in grade 4 and Allie in grade 2. We're so happy you decided to join our school girls & a big welcome to mum Maree as well.

And lastly of course a big welcome also to our newest staff member Ben Moyle who this year is teaching in the Junior Room. Helen Eadie is again Campus Coordinator and the Senior Room class teacher. Kate Hand is again Peranbin's specialist teacher taking P.E. and Art.??????????????

Terry is back in the office 3 days a fortnight during first term with Princess Robbie taking on 1 of these days a fortnight after the first term holidays.

Parent Group News

Our truly awesome parents were once more busy over the break running 2 fundraisers. Firstly the annual New Year's Day Merton Races where they catered for the crowds with a barbecue, sandwiches, cakes, slices, drinks, and much more—all with incredible efficiency and good humour. Well done to all who helped in any way....and hey.....they raised in excess of \$3000! More detail to come next month.

Then they were out again at the Arts Festival weekend car boot sale selling heaps of pre-loved treasures, icy cold lemonade, cakes, biscuits etc. and raised close to \$600. What a great group of parents we have at our school!

Thanks - more thank you's - to Ike Millar for mowing and having the school grounds looking spruce for the Festival weekend and the start of school.

- to Juana McKeachie, Julie Bond & Suzie Bates and their families for looking after our feathered friends over the break, and for those others who also dropped off scraps for them.

Thank you one and all!

Written by a parent on the day school started back!!!

It was so wonderful to see all the kids arriving this morning, they were really genuinely enthusiastic about being there and there were lots of big smiles! Lots of parents stayed for a chat too and several even attended the first school assembly for the year.

We have quite a few new families and students at the school this year. It was so lovely seeing the kids greet each other and welcome in the new students.

We also have a new teacher! Mr. Moyle in the junior classroom (prep - 2) is joining Helen Eadie who started at the school last year and as well as teaching the senior classroom (3-6) is also the campus coordinator. What a fantastic team!

At the end of last year we said goodbye to Jessica Schulz who has been teaching the junior kids for the last 3 years. Some parents got together and wrote a goodbye poem for Ms Schulz. It's pasted below.

It's going to be a great year at Strathbogie Primary!
Mayra (Strathbogie Campus [parent])

Her Name Is Jess

*Our bright happy friend, her name is Jess,
She loves our kids, she is the best.
We love your awesome fancy nails
Your creativity never fails.*

*The teacher with the Minion Vibe,
The Prep 1 2, your Minion Tribe.
Your Classroom bright, a happy place,
Greeted by your smiling face.*

*The best at school, in Kung Fu,
Lightning fast, Jess leads the crew.
Say full stop, she'll know what to do,
We all know ellipsis, thanks to you.*

*You crowd control our noisy rabble,
The worm moves down to yellow apple.
But if it creeps along to red,
Some great advice our kids are fed.*

*Angus, Alina, Kayden and Sonny,
You really should be paid more money.
Bridget, Bianca, Markito, Charli and Wade,
Strong foundations you have laid.*

*You taught us lots of maths and spelling,
Even with your tonsils swelling.
You love to share your life with us,
Your tales of adventure are a plus.*

*We'll miss you in Strathbogie town,
We hope we see you still around.
You've brought so much, to our school,
Jess, we all think you're so cool.*

*Three fantastic fun-filled years,
We can't deny we'll shed some tears.
We thank you for your caring heart,
We wish you well on your new path.*

14 December 2015

Parents at Strathbogie Campus
Peranbin Primary College