

FEBRUARY 2009

A Note from our new councillor - Neil Murray

As your new councillor for Mt Wombat Ward I thought I should provide you with my background. I went to school in Melbourne; then studied Commerce and Economics at the University of Tasmania, graduating B.Ec (Hons). I then did a post-graduate course at Cambridge finishing with an M.A. At the university I was President of the Students Club and on the Boat Club and Ski Club committees. I rowed in the university crew; then later coached winning crews.

Having joined Shell I returned to Australia, working in marketing, sales, personnel and management. Shell was a wonderful training ground. However, I was head hunted to a large American management consulting firm, working in USA, Canada, New Zealand, Asia and Australia. It was stimulating but exhausting because of all the travel.

To spend more time with my wife and 3 children I joined TAA (now Qantas) as an Executive Director. I was responsible for customer services, government liaison, property, planning and development, new aircraft and associated companies such as Hertz and Dunk and Keppel Islands. I directed the purchase of the first wide bodied aircraft.

During all this time we had a farm at Yea running sheep and cattle. To pursue our own interests I resigned from TAA. I had really enjoyed my job but we had purchased a large irrigated versatile farm on the Goulburn River at Nagambie so we moved there over 25 years ago. I was on the board of the Stud Sheep breeders Association, eventually becoming President. My wife and I have judged sheep in Australia, New Zealand and England. 10 years ago we bought a property on the Seven Creeks and moved there in 2007 having sold out of Nagambie. We also have a place at Strathbogrie.

Since being elected to Council I have been on a steep learning curve. 5 of the 7 of us are new. We are dismayed to learn how little power we have. Spring Street holds the purse strings tightly and what power there is resides in the Chief Executive, not the Council. All we can do is work away quietly, making constructive suggestions. We have sent in our recommendations on how to spend the special federal grants announced with such a flourish before Christmas. I am confident we will be able to build the pedestrian bridge near the township of Strathbogrie. What I am not confident about is upgrading the Euroa-Strathbogrie Road; it is controlled by VicRoads and has a low priority.

I have been impressed by the community spirit of the people of Strathbogrie and hope I can make a contribution.

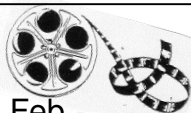
Neil Murray - Ph 57952742

(Ed note - I contacted Neil Murray, asking him to provide TT with some information about himself and his proposals for his term as councillor. Neil intends to provide TT and its reader's ongoing reports of his activities throughout his term - Fiona)

Snippets of History - Dairying & cultivation were started and about six years after settlement took place Strathbogrie was placed, in the statistics published by the Government, as the second greatest oat producing district in the State – twenty two thousand bags of oats were threshed that year. In 1903 Mr. J. Metzke's saleyards opened at Strathbogrie. In the same year Mr. G.W. Simpson's general store was burnt down. (It is thought this was opposite the present store), and the Co-Operative store was built.

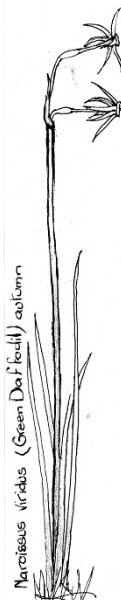


Euroa Cinema

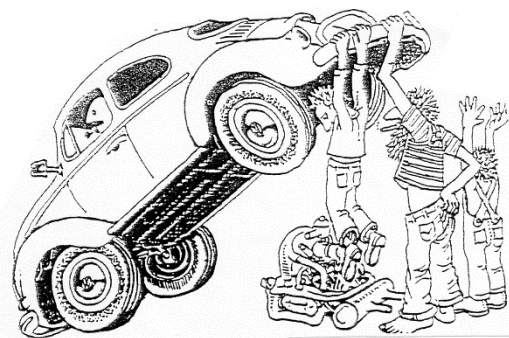


Sat 31st January - Sunday 1st Feb
 "Bedtime Stories" (G)
 Saturday 7th - Sunday 8th
 "Bolt" (G)
 Saturday 14th - Sunday 16th
 "Madagascar 2 -
 Escape 2 Africa" (PG)
 Saturday 21st - Sunday 23rd
 "Seven Pounds" (M)
 Saturday 28th - Sunday 2nd March
 "Marley and Me" (PG)
 Saturday 7th - Sunday 8th March
 "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" (M)
 Saturday 14th - Sunday 15th March
 "Twilight" (M)

*All session
 times 8 pm
 except
 Sunday's
 4 pm*



Basic Mechanical Repairs - all types of vehicles. Weekends only.
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 Lawnmowers and ride-ons, Chainsaw sharpening etc.



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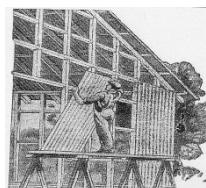


Beeswax Candles
 Hand rolled by
 Virginia Wild
 Ph 57908554

2009 Mobile Library dates for Strathbogie (every second Saturday from 9.30 - 12noon) -
 7th, 21st February, 7th March.



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Weeds a Problem? Call Dennis Taylor 57905144 or 0429190807.
"Discounted rates for Strathbogie Tableland Landcare Group members"



Deadline (as always) - 20th of each month. Email: f.a.townsend@activ8.net.au, ph 57905203, post PO Box 23 Strathbogie. Fiona Townsend

Strathbogie Tablelands Market Day & Art Exhibition

Firstly an ENORMOUS thanks to all of Strathbogie Tablelanders and Visitors for the wonderful support given to this event!

The weekend kicked off with a successful Opening Night of the Strathbogie Tablelands Art Show with 100 plus exceptional exhibits. Early viewers selected and purchased paintings and enjoyed the hospitality extend by the Strathbogie Memorial Hall Committee of Management.

Visitors continued to enjoy the quieter atmosphere of the Art Exhibition with good numbers taking advantage of the Saturday viewing.

Saturday night saw over 100 diners at the "Twilight in The Ranges Dinner" held at the Strathbogie Golf Club. Local residents and many visitors enjoyed a wonderful 2 course meal prepared by Captain Kim and his troops and where entertained by the lyrical sounds of BARK .

Sunday's Festivities kept both visitors and locals to Strathbogie entertained with the over 50 Market Stalls, The Art Exhibition, The Sheep Auction and Antique Road Show.

The Golf Club ladies cooked up storm with Devonshire Teas, Sim's Bread & Pastries, Ray's Sno Cones, Yusel's Turkish Delight's, STAG BBQ, the Boho Sth Berries and Cream all seemed to do a roaring trade. Refreshments at the Golf Club Bar and Andrew Cameron's & Baarrooka wines seemed to quench the thirst of patrons.

This year "David Freeman's Antique Roadshow" was held for the first time and shall no doubt be asked to come again due the wonderful response from people whom brought their treasures to be valued and hear the history of their pieces.

The Strathbogie Hall Committee of Management would like to thank everyone whom assisted and participated in the preparation and running of this event. As with all events this takes enormous amounts of time and behind the scene preparation.

Special thanks go to all Exhibitors and Stall Holders, Euroa Men's Shed, for assisting with the making up of the "Sheep" and to Col Broughton for his wonderful if somewhat unorthodox auctioneering talents in the raising of much needed funds for numerous local community groups.

To the wonderful Strathbogie Memorial Hall Committee of Management and their families whom all worked tirelessly to make this weekend a great success. As one of the younger members it never ceases to amaze me the dedication and stamina of our more mature members. These events don't just happen and we are lucky to have a great working team. Toni Down



FOUND - A set of 3 keys on a key holder were found in the hall grounds after the Festival on 11th January. If you think these belong to you please see Pam at the Strathbogie Store.



SUNDAY SOCCER

We have been playing a friendly game on Sunday evenings at 5pm ages 6 to 75 at the Recreation Reserve. At left is a photo taken at Jack and Sam Larrison's last game before they returned to Sweden in January. As well as locals, there were players from Ireland (working locally), Queensland (visiting locals) and the tableland. All are most welcome to join this friendly evening game.

As well, we are looking at holding a community volleyball game on Sunday 21st Feb at 4pm. Again all welcome.

'Bogie BP's'
FREE blood pressure
checks and
Type 2 diabetes risk
factor assessments.



At the Strathbogie Store
Thursday 12th February
2pm-4pm



CHOIR OF HARD KNOCKS Free Concert

Violet Town Recreation Reserve
Saturday, February 14th 2009
5.30pm start

Food available, picnic hampers welcome, along
with chairs or rugs

Please note: All Choir of Hard Knocks
events are alcohol free. No glass is allowed on
the reserve.

Violet Town Market - February 14, 8.00am -
1.00pm

HUME CORRIDOR COMMUNITY
OUTREACH HEALTH SERVICE

COME AND ENJOY...

TAI CHI



FOR HEALTH

6 week program commencing on:
Monday 16th February 2009

Time: 6 pm to 7 pm
Venue: Seven Creeks Park
(opposite Pub)

Cost: Gold coin per session
Please register on: 5736 6366

BLUEBERRY PICKERS WANTED

for February.

Phone Alistair and Glenda on 5790 5399.

Enquiries welcome.

Blythe Airie Blueberries, Ankers Road, Strathbogie.



FROZEN CULTIVATED BLACKBERRIES

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Cordial, Syrup, Jam, Blackberries
and ice-cream, etc.
BeeHaven Fruit Garden
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and everything in between.

Ph Brent Green

Ph 57905196 or 0417133077



Gathering women for art - a space for women of
the Strathbogie ranges to get together, meet new peo-
ple, catch up, and make art. We have received a small
grant from Women's Health to get women together.
Gatherings will be every Tuesday in Feb at the Strath-
bogie Hall in the afternoon. Any input, expertise is
welcome. Come along and tell your friends. Please let
me know if you plan to come. Dana 57905153, Kate
57905139. danarama@rabbit.com.au.

Women's gatherings@strathbogie hall 12.30-3.30

Tues 3rd Feb - Mosaics - I'll bring tiles, glass, adhe-
sive, tools and something to mosaic onto like a paver.
Bring ideas, favourite broken plates, shells etc, a ter-
racotta pot to mosaic on if you want.

Tues 10th Feb - Wool day - felting, knitting, crochet-
ing, I'll bring felting wool and felting stuff, some odd
woolly bits I have. I would love to try felting a knitted
piece, so bring something knitted in 100% wool and
remember it will shrink. If you have a wool skill you
can share, we are keen to learn.

Tues 17th Feb - Linocutting - Google linocutting for
inspiration, bring ideas. I will supply everything need-
ed and we can print at the end of the day.

Tues 24th Feb - Life Drawing - We can take it in turns
to model, clothes on or clothes off. Just having fun
sketching with some different mediums.

FOR SALE - WANTED - FREEBIES

Free - to a good home

Queen size bed base and mattress to give away to a
good home. In VGC. Will need to be picked up.

Ph Lindy 57908553

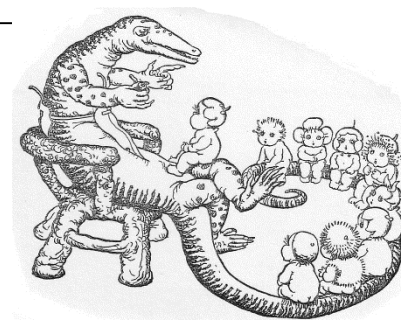
Free To Good Home

Double Bowl Stainless Steel Sink with draining board
both sides. Toilet cistern and bowl. Single bed mat-
tress. Ph Marilyn 5790 5135 (Lve message) (No
Tradies thankyou)

Clerihew Cornucopia

by Donmil

Could you check out ANY rural community,
And find such expertise in clerihewnity?
No, I think Tableland people are unique:
They versify just as readily as they speak!



Well, we sure been and gone and done clerihews, no doubt about that. What a gorgeous selection of wit and wisdom in the November issue, and what fitting tributes to our tireless Editor. Donmil frankly doesn't know whether he should be quietly proud of his part in initiating this avalanche of creativity; or (alternatively) whether he should take responsibility for unleashing a monster which threatens to take over the pages of *Tableland Talk* and leave no room for anything else. So it's time to move on; and, as already foreshadowed, limericks are our new challenge.

Writing a good cleriheew is hard; a good limerick is infinitely harder. The rules for limericks are strict and uncompromising, as we'll see. Rather than consuming excessive amounts of valuable TT space with our efforts, my idea is to briefly explain, over the next few issues, the finer points of limerickery. This will be prelude to a subsequent **limerick competition**, open to all comers. But only entries judged by the Editor and Donmil to be of excellent quality will be published in TT (maybe all entries could get a guernsey on the website, though?). The absolute best limerick will win a yet-to-be-identified prize.

Depending on when you read this, Donmil sincerely hopes that you have had a wonderful Christmas and that the New Year may bring you peace and joy and lots more **rain**.

(Ed note: there have already been some limericks sent in - see page 6)

STRATHBOGIE LANDCARE NEWS

Bridge to Bridge theft leaves Strathbogie Tableland Community uncomfortable.

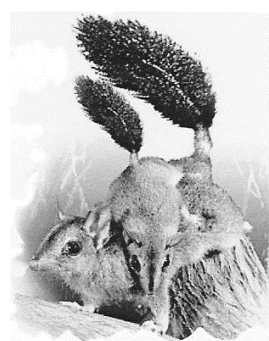
A Landcare member visiting the Bridge to Bridge Natural Environment Walk on Saturday 10th January 2009 was devastated to find 3 Interpretive signs had been stolen. These signs were installed mainly for school children and visitors to be able to appreciate the animals that use the Reserve including the particular habitat zones they occupy.

These signs were part of a government grant to revive and rehabilitate an area that was in a jungle like condition before hand. The project was acknowledged by the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority with a significant award. The area is utilized by local school children and 2 Melbourne high school camps in the area.

It is very sad when a person had to stoop to these sorts of actions to satisfy their warped outlook when there are so many positive things that need doing.

In view of the shadow this casts on our community a significant reward has been offered for anyone who can provide information on person or persons responsible for this theft (the cost of replacement will be over \$1000.). This is one of many crimes involving signs in the area. Euroa Police are investigating.

Information received will be in strict confidence phone/fax 57 90 8563.



URGENT - A HOUSE TO RENT: Virginia & Malachy are urgently seeking to rent a house on the Tableland. They have to move out of the house they are currently renting by February 18th. If anyone knows of a house available please contact Virginia asap on 5790 8554..



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NEWS FROM ST. ANDREWS. JAN. 2009 It was a wonderful occasion to see so many of our community attend the Christmas Carol Service, and experience the warmth and sense of joy that comes when we celebrate the birth of Christ. The children from Strathbogie School had done a wonderful job decorating the Church both inside and outside, as well as the Christmas tree itself. Special lighting also added to the worshipful atmosphere, and when candles were lit the Church was totally transformed.

Maddy and Sophie Graley, and Lucy Moore delighted everyone with a retelling of the Christmas story using shadow puppets. Di Mackrell as always showed us just what the human voice can sound like when combined with others when we sang two wonderful rounds. She also most capably accompanied us on the organ on the many carols that we sang.

The children from the Strathbogie School also delighted everyone with their rendition of "Joy the World" using handbells. To finish off a wonderful evening we walked a short distance to the home of Di and Rolf Eberhardt's, who generously offered their home so that we could all enjoy a shared supper together.

Church services at St Andrews Uniting Church, Main Street Strathbogie, continue throughout the year on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 11.30am usually followed by coffee and a chat at the Strathbogie store. Our services are ably led by lay-preacher Neil Short on the 2nd Sunday of the month, and Rev. Mark Blackwell on the 4th Sunday. On the other Sundays, services are held at the Violet Town Uniting Church at 9.30am. We would love to have you come and join us.

How fortunate we are in this country that we can worship God freely, whereas in so many other parts of the world, religious freedom does not exist. May we never take this freedom for granted. This quote from Alexander Tyler brings this into greater focus.

"The average age of the world's great civilizations has been 200 years. Those nations have progressed through the following sequence-

from bondage to spiritual faith; from spiritual faith to great courage; from courage to liberty; from liberty to abundance; from abundance to selfishness; from selfishness to complacency; from complacency to apathy; from apathy to dependency; from dependency back to bondage."

In today's world with the continuing conflict in so many countries and the uncertain economic outlook for 2009 it is interesting to ponder where our society is in the above sequence. (Joan Wood)



Introduction to Home Brewing

A 2 part course explaining the basics and requirements for home beer making.

- **Choosing, cleaning and recycling bottles.**
- **Brewing and fermentation techniques.**
- **Bottling and cellaring beers**
- **Course includes hands on experience of brewing, You will make a batch of beer and take home some bottles!**

Home-brewed beer can be much better and much cheaper than the commercial product with no chemicals or artificial ingredients.

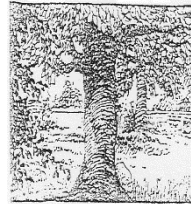
March 12th, 7pm to put the brews on, and March 19th, bottling.

7pm at the Supper Room, Violet Town Community Centre.

Tell Simon (0435 218 008) you are coming so he knows to bring enough equipment, and bring clean beer bottles if possible. (stubbies or longnecks - 5 to 10 of them)

Cost \$10.00 per person

Supported by the Violet Town Eco Living Project



the oak tree restaurant

Open every Friday and Saturday nights and Sunday for lunch.

Bookings - Ph Olga 57908510

Some limericks - sent in by Judith Durston, who said she couldn't resist the challenge sent out by Donmill!

There is an old man called Bino
Who is reluctant to drink any vino
However he works very hard
In managing a vineyard
This produces a very nice pinot

There is a young man from Strathbogie
Who could never be called an old foggy,
His acting is so good
That he definitely should
Be awarded the prestigious logie

There is a young woman called Di
Whose music never goes awry
And what's better my gosh
Than her songs at "Nosh"
Are the tunes she has her uke group try

Update on Internet options on the tableland



Dial-up remains the cheapest and slowest option and uses the existing phone line.

ADSL also works on the existing phone line but is only available to those who live close to the Strathbogie exchange. It's fast and reliable and reasonable in cost.

ISDN Home has now been disconnected and its replacement **ISDN Business** will only be available for twelve months before being phased out, and is very expensive.

This leaves only two options for tablelanders wanting something better than dial-up.

Satellite broadband: there are several providers who service this area and next month we'll publish a list of the known ones and their plans. Satellite works pretty well though it's a bit weather-sensitive, and quite a few people up here have such a service and are happy with it. Its download speeds, depending on your plan, can be quite fast. There is a government subsidy available at the moment of something close to \$3000 to cover the cost of installation.

Wireless broadband: Telstra is concentrating heavily on developing its wireless NextG network which services both internet and mobile phone traffic. We are cautiously optimistic that Telstra will set up a NextG transmission facility (probably on Mt Wombat) in the next eighteen months and that would reach a fair proportion of residents. In the meantime, Telstra are willing to visit any property and test it for current reception. Ring Telstra in Shepparton or Telstra Countrywide at Benalla to arrange a visit.

There are currently towers at Euroa, Badaginnie, Glenrowan, Mansfield and Merton, and an increasing number of residents have found that they can actually get reception from one or more of these. Wireless broadband is reliable and cheaper than satellite, and has a range of plans.

We'll keep you updated.

Jon Frederick (for the STAG Broadband and Mobile Phone Working Group)

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on weekends

Lunch 7 days

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57905381



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Wanted - any unused magazines eg Women's Weekly or Women's Day for the children at the Special School for Kids at Seymour. Call or drop off at Ike's 57905317

NEED FARM HELP? - NO JOB TOO BIG OR SMALL

FOR ALL YOUR

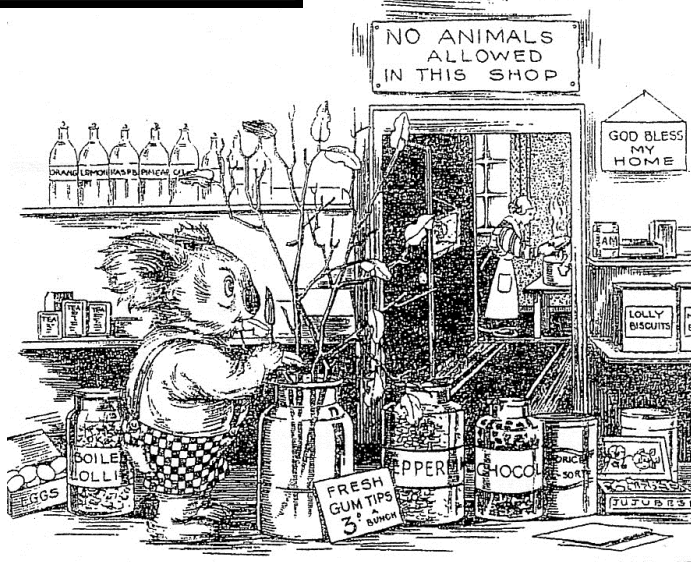
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- On property sheep kill/cut
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bogie area

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0419483692/5795165



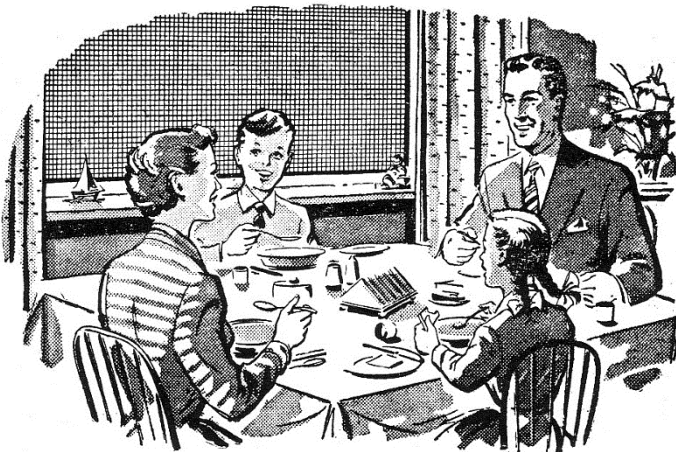
Stargazing in Strathbogie



In February Orion, can be seen high in the Northern sky after sunset which most of us will recognize as the saucepan. In Greek mythology it is known as the hunter. Orion is one of the most conspicuous constellations and contains many bright stars. One of these, Betelgeuse, is easily distinguished by its reddish colour. Orion's belt - consisting of three bright stars - lies nearly on the celestial equator. His sword, south of the belt, contains the great Orion Nebula, (the middle star in the handle of the saucepan) visible to the unaided eye, an emission nebula containing hundreds of young stars. Faint extensions of this nebula fill almost the whole constellation. It is well worth the effort to have a look at this nebular through binoculars or a small telescope.

Information from Encyclopædia Britannica, Redshift (David Joyce)

The school notes will resume next issue - we wish all at Strathbogie School a very happy start to the new year.



Thank you from Tess Noonan Egan - Just a few words of appreciation to all of the people who supported and voted for me in last month's local election. Your help and passion sustained my efforts and though unsuccessful in my bid to represent you, it was still a privilege to participate in the process. Meeting new people and visiting with old friends was a most enjoyable and enlightening experience.

Since the vote, I have been truly inspired by your kind words of encouragement.

To all of the residents across the Mt Wombat Ward, thank you for considering me as a candidate.

As with so many of you in this community, it is in my nature to contribute and to work in keeping where we live a great place to be. Tess.

BO HO GIE music
Next on
27th February
Boho Hall 7.30pm
Ph John 57905271

Found - some plates have been left behind after the Carols by Candlelight supper at Di and Rolf's: a glass microwave plate, a blue rooster plate and a white one with a green trim. Please collect from 38 Main St. Also a rainbow candle light. I still have a mood ring, a green jumper (ladies) and a white shrug from the 70's dance to be collected. Di 57905174

