Strathbogie Tableland Action Group Inc.

Town Signage

As the proposed design for township entry signage did not receive full community support, STAG is seeking further suggestions from members of the community.

In general terms, the sign should:

- Be attractive and reflect the local character and charm of the municipality
- Have the appearance of a single panel with a consistent visual theme, style and colour scheme
- Compliment rather than dominate streetscapes
- Must be composed of no more than:
 "Welcome to Strathbogie Shire" with logo; and inclusion of the design element of the regional character

Suggestions should conform with the Shire's <u>new Boundary</u>, Town Entry and District Signage Policy, a copy of which is available at the store or can be provided on line by emailing stag@strathbogie.org.

Suggestions should either be placed in the box at the store or emailed to stag@strathbogie.org by 5pm on Friday 15th November.

Suggestions, providing they meet the requirements of the Shire's Policy, will then be displayed on the community noticeboard for four weeks for members of the community to vote.

Diesel Fuel

Following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Council and an agreement with Refuelling Solutions (RFS), STAG is pleased to announce that the diesel fuel supply will be available before Christmas, which will be of particular advantage to the CFA during the coming fire season. Prior to the commencement of operation RFS will hold an information session to answer any questions.

Community Action Plan

The revised Community Action Plan has been provided to Council and is available on the community website www.strathbogie.org

Community Grants

STAG is providing support to two successful community grant applications:

- to Landcare for provision of potable water in the Hall grounds
- to the Hall Committee for improved AV equipment.

STAG is happy to welcome new members to the committee – meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Soldiers Room at the Hall and all community members are welcome.

Helen Peters, Secretary

What's On

Oct 4 - Blue Skies Free Youth Music Event, Northern Republic See p3

Oct 5 - Euroa Arboretum School Holiday Workshop See p7

Oct 5-6 or 8-9 - Free Pool Lifeguard Training See p10

Oct 11 - Violet Town RSL AGM See p5

Oct 12 - SRCMN Riparian Walk See p9

Oct 13 - Stop Mynas Strathbogie Workshop See p7

Oct 13 - Nellie Melba Concert and Memorabilia Senior's Event See p13

Oct 15 - VTFNC AGM See p11

Oct 20 - CFA Day Hall See p14

Oct 27 - Strathbogie Landcare AGM. Strathbogie Hall 2pm See p9

Nov 1 - Aust Day nominations close Nov 1, 2, 3 & 9 - Strathbogie Arts Festival See pages 3, 7, 11, 13

Every Third Monday - 7.30pm STAG

meet at Strathbogie Hall

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

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

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

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

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

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

Every Third Sunday of the month - 3pm Strathbogie Community of Food Finders at the Recreation Ground

Every Thursday night from Oct 10. Strathbogie Recreation Ground. 6pm food & drinks

SWANPOOL CINEMA in Oct.

Tickets \$13.50/\$11 www.swanpoolcinema.com.au

Aga PG Oct 5 & 6 6pm Parasite MA15+ Oct 5 & 6 8pm

All is true M Oct 11 6pm, Oct 12 7pm, Oct 13 6pm

Puzzle M Oct 12 9.15pm, Oct 13 8.15pm

An unexpected love M Oct 19 7pm, Oct 20 6pm

Claire Darling M Oct 19 9.30pm, Oct 20 8.30pm

Apollo 11 PG Oct 26 7pm, Oct 27 1.30pm & 6pm

Hail Satan M Oct 26 9pm, Oct 27 8pm

For information regarding the Violet Town Village Voice or to get an emailed copy each month contact Robyn Thornhill at village.voice@yahoo.com Read it online at www.violettown.org.au

Do you need a

Justice of the Peace?

Chris Thomson 'Aberdeen' 5790 5340

Boho South Hall Available for hire. Bookings contact: Margaret Mactier Ph 5790 8544

Got something to say?
Send us a

Letter to the Editor

Euroa Cinema in October

To receive a weekly email update, send your details to:

<u>euroa.cinema@strathbogie.vic.gov.au</u> *Tickets* \$10, preschoolers free.

A dog's journey PG Oct 1 1pm (sensory screening), Oct 2 2pm

The extraordinary journey of the Fakir M Oct 4 8pm, Oct 6 4pm

Easy Rider MA15+ Oct 5 8pm Show & Shine Event

Palm Beach M Oct 11 & 12 8pm Dame Nellie Melba: a celebration Senior's Event. Concert & Memorabilia Oct 13 1.30pm Angel has fallen MA15+ Oct 19 8pm, Oct 20

Downton Abbey PG Oct 26 8pm, Oct 27 4pm

Check YOUR Local Event Doesn't Clash With ANOTHER Local Event.

Do you want to get the most people to your planned local event? Is your local event going to clash with another local event? We might be able to help. Ask Tableland Talk. Many local events are promoted through our local Newsletter. If you want to find out if another event is being promoted on a date you are planning for, get in touch. We will tell you if another local event has already been promoted on the same day and/or time:

tablelandtalk@gmail.com

Support Strathbogie Tableland Landcare Group agricultural & conservation projects

Membership is \$10 per household.

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

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

All community adverts are free.
Business adverts are charged at \$7 per issue for a usual size, or \$12 per issue for a third to half page.

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

This newsletter is entirely made up of contributions. Contributions to this newsletter are published as a forum for public discussion. The opinions expressed are the opinions of the contributors and not necessarily the opinions of the TT team. By publishing contributions this newsletter does not give its authority to the truth or validity of the material contained in contributions. Readers are reminded that all contributions **MUST** be submitted with the name and address of the writer.

Mobile Library

Dates for Strathbogie

(every 2nd Saturday, 9.30 - 12 noon)

Oct 5 and 19 Nov 2 & 9



Strathbogie Memorial Hall

Available for hire— \$150 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 5790 5345

The Deadline for November edition contributions to Tableland Talk is Friday, October 25, 2019.

e: tablelandtalk@gmail.com m: 0400 019 607 or via Strathbogie PO / Store.

Please note: Word or Publisher files, Arial font 11, convert pdf to jpeg, images < 250k preferred. The TT team

2020 Australia Day Award Nominations



Do you know someone who has shown considerable dedication to the community and is worthy of an Australia Day Award? Or is there a local organisation or community event that stands out?

If so, then we would like you to put pen to paper and fill in an Australia Day Award nomination form.

Remember, Australia Day is under 4 months away!

Nomination forms can be obtained in the following ways:

- In person: pick up from the Shire office in Euroa and the Nagambie Visitor Information Centre or Euroa Hub
- Online: via the website https://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/tourism/about-events/australia-day-celebrations

The award categories are:

- Community Organisation of the Year
- Community Event of the Year (event occurred after 27/01/2019)
- Junior Citizen of the Year (under 15 yrs at 26/01/2020)
- Young Citizen of the Year (between 15 25 yrs at 26/01/2020)
- Citizen of the Year (over 25 yrs at 26/01/2020)

On Sunday 26 January 2020, there will be Australia Day celebrations in Avenel, Euroa, Longwood, Nagambie, Strathbogie and Violet Town.

Nominations forms can be lodged by the following methods:

- Online: https://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/tourism/about-events/australia-day-celebrations
- Email: info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au
- Mail: PO Box 177 Euroa 3666
- In person: deliver the completed nomination form to Strathbogie Shire Council offices in Euroa or Nagambie.

Nominations close 5pm Friday 1 November 2019.



What are the curiosities that you make?

This is a call out to all you closet creatives on the Tableland. As part of the Art exhibition and sale, we are putting

together a section that celebrates our more low key local makers who love to create, yet whose work does not often get seen by a broader audience. Nearly all of us play with putting things together, colours and textures and bits and pieces. For some those creations may never appear from the shed they were welded in, or the sewing table they were stitched at. We want to bring your great creations into the light of day, to celebrate them and give them a chance to be seen.

It may be that you have been quietly working away illustrating botanicals, or making puppets, or welding letterboxes that will never receive a letter, or building a time machine in your shed. Maybe you have been knitting beanies in local ochre died wools, or illustrating a manuscript of Banjo Paterson poems with velum and gold leaf. Whatever it is that you do, we want to see it and so does the world. We want to celebrate that great imaginative process of yours that would dare to create.

There is no charge for locals who enter this part of the exhibition, these items will not be for sale. Simply contact us and let us know what you have got. We look forward to celebrating your work.

Sim Ayres, on behalf of the Bogart team.













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The Bogie Tree

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

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

To learn more or join the Bogie Tree, please send an email to Johnno on strathbogan@bigpond.com or call on 0439 818 366

Advertising Rates - All advertisements for community events and also buy/swap/sell adverts are placed free of charge. Advertisements for any commercial gain or business is charged at a rate of \$7 per issue for usual adverts, and 1/3 to 1/2 page is \$15.

Rates are very reasonable. Advertising solely funds this newsletter. Please support our advertisers. For more information, please email tablelandtalk@gmail.com, or phone 5790 5236

A Letter to the Editor regarding Polly McQuinn

Dear Editor,

I am Maurice Dash of Kelvin View, writing to tell you that Polly McQuinn was a man.

My grandfather Walter Crosbie, who lived on Kelvin View Road, was a faller in the west side of Mount Wombat. He cut logs for a timber mill on the end property many years ago of that road.

He told me about "Polly McQuinn" as he knew him, talked to him sometimes. Polly got his name by being a clean shaving gentleman.

Grandpa told me that there were a few stories about Polly McQuinn, so he was a bit doubtful about the truth in all these tales.

Hoping this information will help.

Yours faithfully,

Maurice R. Dash.

Violet Town RSL Sub-Branch News



There are many families on the Tableland and in surrounding areas that have had, and still do have, an association with one or more of the Services.

Spring is not only a busy time for Mother Nature, but also at your local RSL.

General Meeting. 11th October at 2pm

All members old and new, Service or Affiliates or those thinking about joining are all welcomed.

Poppies will be on sale early November.

On 1st December we will be celebrating our 100th birthday! Does anyone remember the first birthday? Special thanks goes to Pam Ellis, who organised our being able to use the VT Hall on that day. We need your HELP to make this a day to remember in Violet Town.

You can contact me on:

ph: 5790 8501 or

e: dualbrook@hotmail.com

LEST WE FORGET

John Ryan, President

Mateship

by Donmil

The Scott and The Donald

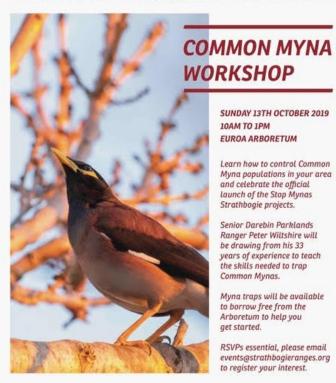
Are deep in cahoots;

Said The Scott: Please stand still

While I'm licking your boots.



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SHEILAS' SHACK

Attention: Ladies, Chicks, Gentle-women, Girlies, Lasses, Mademoiselles, Senoritas, Nanas, Grannies, Mummies & Sheilas....

For a while a few of us have been discussing setting up a female version of the Men's Shed with a smattering of CWA on the Tablelands. Finally the day has come, we've decided to run with our idea...'Sheilas' Shack' is soon to come to fruition.

Our vision for Sheilas' Shack is to create a positive space where women of all age groups can learn and share a broad range of skills, in an atmosphere free of fear of being judged or looking silly because we lack the knowledge or know-how. A space where we feel comfortable to ask so called dumb questions, and to learn things which we never had the opportunity to do so before, because it was seen as unladylike.

We want Sheilas' Shack to be a place where women will feel comfortable bringing their daughters and granddaughters. A place we can build resilience and nurture confidence. A place to help break down barriers and stereotypes of what women can and can't do. But, most of all, a place where we can have fun, unwind and be ourselves.

At the Sheilas' Shack, members will decide what they want to learn, teach and share. The sky's the limit to the topics we can explore.

At the moment, the following are just some of the topics which have already been suggested:

- ◆ Farm Fencing
- Mechanics
- ♦ Knot Tying i.e. truckie's knots, fencing knots etc
- Women's Health
- Financial Literacy
- Craft- crocheting, knitting, spinning, fabric/ fiber dying, leather-work etc
- ♦ Self-Defence
- Welding
- Animal Husbandry
- Carpentry & Woodwork

If we've sparked your interest and you'd like to get involved with the group, please get in touch with us by emailing or calling either:

Leanne Margrie at elourapark@gmail.com or 0412 606 364

Mary Wynne at mary.wynne03@gmail.com or 0419 592 211

Natasha Baldyga at

rainbowtriggerplant@hotmail.com or 0402 785 965

And fellas, if you have any ladies in your life who you think might be interest in joining Sheilas' Shack, please let them know.

Natasha Baldyga

Strathbogie has SPOKEN



After last year's successful inaugural spoken word event, this year SPOKEN gets even better as part of the 2019 Strathbogie Arts Festival by Bogarts.

Once again,

volunteer orators, readers, poets, story tellers, reciters and more will regale the audience with tall tales and true, passion and vigour, literary light and shade.

Everyone is welcome. Entry is free. We gather on November 9 from 2 - 4pm in Main Street's Saint Andrew's Church. This venue proved to be an acoustic treat last year. Tea, coffee and cake will be provided.

Want to participate? This year there are two ways to contribute.

- 1. Speak a piece. Original or a personal favourite, as long as it is spoken it is welcome.
- 2. Write a piece. Again, original or a favourite to share, submit a written work for us to hang in the Church grounds for visitors to read.

Contact Sean Mathews

e: snmthws@bigpond.com or m: 0400 019 607

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- ✓ Harrowing w/4m (13ft) harrows and stick raking w/7ft rake
- ✓ Pulling, pushing and towing (4 wheel diff locks for difficult terrain)
- ✓ Can also use your implements with our tractor Cat 2 3PL or Euro FEL

Flat rate of \$38.50 incl GST per hour (\$35 + GST), including all fuel and tractor transit time to/from Tames Road (southeast end) @ 40km/h max travel speed.

✓ Other rural services also available (chainsawing, fencing, etc.)...same hourly rate but without transit costs – if we do it on our farm we can do it on yours!

Call Big Clarkey on 0406 074 019 or Julie/Clark on 5790 5226 to discuss!



New from Old.

Have you noticed that knitting wool does not have the same quality from years ago? Also, more often than not, the wool in our shops is mostly synthetic and has never been near the back of a sheep.

Don't despair. If you have a discarded jumper or cardigan made from real wool, it can be reused. Polly remembers doing this when money was short and a new jumper was needed.

The old jumper was first unpicked at the seams, then, starting at the top of the garment, unravel the knitting row by row until you get to the end of each ball. Then place 2 chairs back to back and wind the unraveled wool around the back of the chairs until you have a complete skein of wool. Then carefully remove the skein of wool from the back of the chair, making sure you tie off the end of the wool. Repeat with other balls of wool.

Then wash each skein separately and dunk gently in wool mix and lukewarm water until the wrinkles drop out. Roll the skein carefully in a towel to remove excess moisture and then hang the skeins of wool on the clothes line using an old pair of pantyhose, making sure you put a peg in-between each skein, so they don't tangle.

When the skeins are dry, hang each one separately over the 2 chairs again to enable it to be rolled into balls.

The result is some beautifully soft pure wool already to remake into another garment.

Happy knitting and smile when you think of all the money you have saved.

Remember, Polly is only trying to be helpful. Use my "Helpful Hints" at your own risk.



Polly

Riparian Walk #3.2 – Wombat Creek,

Strathbogie

Time & Date: 8:45am – 12:30pm

Saturday the 12th of October Fergusons Lane, Strathbogie

End: Forlonge Memorial Road

Difficulty: Moderate **Length:** 5km

Start:

Our riparian walks are back and bigger than ever, with 6 walks covering the best of the bogies as well as some new gems. The aim of these walks is to become better acquainted with our local waterways, and record some of their standout features along the way.

The first walk in our new riparian walk series was the beautiful mineral springs in Ruffy, so now it's bogie's turn to wow walkers with it's stunning scenery.

This walk is long (5km/3.5hours) and of moderate difficulty with several creek crossings and a lot of rock hopping. Hiking experience isn't necessary, but an average level of fitness and mobility will be required. The walk difficulty will increase drastically if wet weather precedes it, or if it's hot on the day.

Walkers will meet in the clearing on Fergusons Lane. From there, walkers will descend down Wombat Creek, following it to Forlonge Memorial Road. Walkers will then be driven back to their cars at the starting point.

Please note, as we'll be traversing private property on these walks, no dogs or other pets are allowed.

RSVPs are essential, so please email us at events@strathbogieranges.org to register your interest.

Alistair Tame, SR CMN Project Officer



Strathbogie Landcare AGM - All Welcome

This year's AGM will be held in the Supper Room of the Strathbogie Memorial Hall, Sunday, October 27 at 2pm. After reporting on activity for the past year and election of a Committee for 2020, members will be invited to inspect our group's progress creating one of the new Bridge to Bridge trail extensions: from Armstrong Avenue to Smith's Bridge.

Nominations for new Committee on members are welcome.

Sean Mathews Secretary. snmthws@bigpond.com

Do you have any of these missing Tableland Talk issues at home?

2000 - December (This is the first issue ever)

2001 - October and November

2002 - October

2003 - January?, March, April, May, June, July, Aug

2004 - January?, June, August

2006 - September

2007 - November

2008 - March

2009 - July

2014 - July ,November

2016 - June, July

The TT Team would like to complete our set. If you have any of these we would love to see / copy them: Contact Sean e: snmthws@bigpond.com

<u>Positions Vacant: Transfer Station Operators – Various Locations</u>

- Longwood Permanent Part Time (Approx. 8 hours per week)
- Ruffy Permanent Part Time (Approx. 8 hours per week)
- Violet Town Permanent Part Time (Approx. 11 hours per week)

Strathbogie Shire Council is seeking interested persons to operate the Violet Town, Longwood and Ruffy Transfer Stations. These positions are being advertised separately but interested applicants can apply for one or more. Refer to our website for opening hours.

The successful applicant will have sound skills in customer service as well as knowledge and experience in the handling, recording and receipting of cash and electronic financial transactions.

A current Victorian Driver's License is essential for this role and employment is dependent upon successful completion of a National Police Check prior to commencement. Pay will commence at Band 2, \$32.06 per hour.

Applications must include a cover letter, current resume and a statement addressing the key selection criteria as outlined in the position description.

Positions are also available in our casual pool to back fill across all sites. 25% casual loading will apply.

Applications must be submitted by **5pm, Friday, 4 October 2019** and addressed to:

Chris Dube Executive HR Business Partner Strathbogie Shire Council PO Box 177 EUROA VIC 3666.

Alternatively, you may submit your application via email to info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au

A copy of the Position Description can be found on the Council website.

For further information about this position, please contact Molly Odgers, Waste Management Officer on 5795 0000



Positions Vacant: School Crossing Supervisors

Strathbogie Shire Council is seeking Expressions of Interest from members of our community to be considered as part of a casual team of School Crossing Supervisors to backfill current Supervisors while they are on leave or unable to attend to the duties.

Council currently provides school crossing supervision at the following locations before and after school times on a daily basis during school terms:

- St John's Primary School, Euroa
- Euroa Primary School
- St Joseph's Primary School, Nagambie
 - Nagambie Primary School
- Avenel Primary School

The key duty of this role is to control the safe and orderly passage of school children and others across our school crossings.

The successful applicants will need to attend school crossings to make sure people follow the Road Safety Regulations and to educate children and other users of the correct procedure and use of the school crossing. Council is committed to keeping the community safe and a satisfactory Working with Children Check is compulsory for this position.

If you are interested in applying, please submit a cover letter and resume outlining your experience relevant to the role and any preference regarding location you may have to support your interest to

info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au by 5pm Wednesday, 9 October 2019.

If you are successful, you will be provided the required training associated with the role at no cost. If you have any questions, please contact Leanne Waters or Cameron Fraser at Council Offices on 1800 065 993.



Pool Lifeguard Training

Strathbogie Shire Council, in conjunction with Life Saving Victoria, is seeking Expressions of Interest from residents of the Strathbogie Shire to participate in a free Pool Lifeguard Training Course on Saturday 5th October and Sunday 6th October at the Benalla Aquatic Centre YMCA OR Tuesday 8th October and Wednesday 9th October at the Wangaratta Indoor Sports and Aquatic Centre.

The two day course will give participants the qualifications required to supervise swimming pool users, covering a number of areas including pool surveillance, scanning techniques, rescue skills, oxygen resuscitation and emergency care.

Participants must have a current first aid certificate and must be at least 16 years of age, or turning 16 by the end of 2019, due to the physical requirements of the course. There are a maximum of 16 places in the course and Council will explore the option of running another course if there is demand.

To register your interest, please email Council at info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au, expressing your interest in participating in the Lifeguard Training, by no later than close of business Monday 30th September, 2019. Please ensure you provide your name, age, address, phone number and a copy of your First Aid certificate.

Council will get in contact with you to provide further information upon receiving your email. If you have any questions relating to the Lifeguard Training Course, or to clarify prerequisites for the course, please contact Council Offices on 1800 065 993

Strathbogie

An invitation



To take part in creating beautiful ephemeral art pieces as sculptures on the inspiring bridge to bridge walking track as part of the Bogarts Festival, opening November 1.

The idea is that we create sculptural art and beauty from natural materials along the walking track. (stone, leaves, reeds, mud, hair, wood, moss, etc.)

The walk will be visited by the public as part of the Bogarts Festival, November 1-9. Then the creations will be allowed to age in place, a process that will hopefully be photographed.

If you are interested we would love to meet you to tour the site, chat, share ideas, and inspire each other.

The ephemeral Bogarts team will be there on Friday, October 4 from 9.30am for sharing and site tour. and also Friday the 11th,18th and 25th October from 9.30am.

When I say there... lingering along Bridge to Bridge between Spring Creek bridge and Haley Street Bogarts festival is aiming to be a carbon neutral event by donating all profits from wood fired pizzas on the night of the party to tree planting in Strathbogie. We will be pizza munching, dancing, singing, tree lovers. Hope you can join us.

Dana, Bogartist

2019 Violet Town Football Netball Club Award Winners

It was truly a night to remember last Friday.

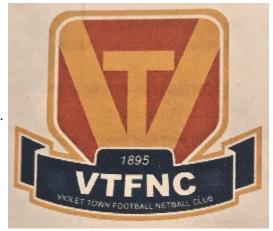
NETBALL

A Grade B & F- Emma Warnock. Runner up - Tegan Ross. Coaches Award - Megan Horsbourgh.

B Grade B&F - Jenna Brunner. Runners up - Joint winners Thalia Ellis and Leah Wynd. Coaches Award - Abbey Frampton. Most improved - Sam Palmer

C Grade B&F - Joint winners - Stacey Reid and Nicole Butterworth. Runner up Erin Dawson. Most Improved - Brianna Cotchin. Coaches Award - Eliza Brunner.

Under 15 B & F - Amber Ragg. Runner up - Macey Ross. Coaches Award - Casey Stovell. Most improved - Ella Ives.



FOOTBALL

Seniors B & F - Matt McCarty. Runner up - Jayden Guppy. Most Consistent - Nick Abley. Goal Kicking - Matt McCarty (30). Coaches Award - triple winners Nathan Abley, Ashton Triffit, Ryan Llord-Williams.



Reserves B & F - Butch Exton Memorial Traphy - Riley Dowell. Runner up - Nick Pakalaloudokas. Coaches Award - Finn Lowres.

Club Awards

Life Members' Awards were presented to Jack Frewin and Sean Horsbrough.

Neil Burden Award - Jayden Guppy. Runner up Ryan Jennings.

Patrick Ryan Memorial Junior Award - joint winners Ellie Triffit and Macey Ross.

Brian Hayes Award - Matthew Holmes.

Date to remember: VTFNC AGM October 15, 2019 - ALL WELCOME. We are hoping for a good turn out.

Congratulations to all winners - GO TOWNERS!

John Ryan

Hello Everyone,

Since residents received their rates notices earlier this month, a number of people have emailed or telephoned me regarding the increase in rates on the Tableland. I would like to use this article to address the issue of rates.

Rates and charges across the Tableland have increased by approximately 9 - 12%. Residents are asking the reasonable question, "If the State government has capped the increase in rates at 2.5%, how can my charge increase 4 to 5 times that amount?"

I should point out that Strathbogie Shire increased its rates and charges by an amount that is under the government cap. The increase for the 2019/20 financial year has been set at 2.25%. This is the second year running that the Shire has increased its revenue by an amount below the cap set by the Victorian government. This reflects Council's intent to focus on efficiency and to take steps to limit the effect on property owners of the historically high rates in the Shire.

The reason why rate increases on the Strathbogie Tableland are so high this year is a function of property valuations. It is important to note that the change in property valuation has no effect on Shire revenue. The Shire does not get increased revenue if valuations rise, nor does it lose money if valuations fall. Rates revenue is solely determined by the amount that Council decides to raise from ratepayers through the budgeting process (an increase of 2.25% in 2019/20).

Valuations are important because they determine how much an individual property (versus other properties) will contribute to the total rates amount declared in the budget. Valuations determine how the 'rates pie' is divided up, not the size of the pie.

The effect year on year is that if the value of property A goes up by 10% and the value of property B goes down, then in that year property A will make an increased contribution to total rates and charges, while property B's contribution will fall.

So, how are the valuations determined? In 2017 the Victorian government legislated that valuations would be undertaken annually by the Victorian Valuer-General, instead of the previous arrangement where councils did their own valuations every second year. The Victorian government uses valuations to levy land tax.

In determining the revaluation of property, sales transactions of similar properties in the previous year play a significant role. Sales transactions are determined to be the indicator of 'market value' of properties. However, because of a relatively limited number of transactions in any particular year, it is possible that this method may have a distorted impact on the valuation of a particular property.

If you have concerns that the valuation of your property may not be accurate, you have the right to appeal your valuation. You have two months from the issue date of your rates notice to appeal. The Council has an appeal form for completion and it can be obtained by calling customer service on 1800 065 993.

I would like to finish by highlighting the steps that your Council has taken to improve the fairness of rates and charges. As well as increasing revenue by less than the cap set by the State government for the last two years, the Council has cut the Municipal Charge (the flat rate charge that is levied on all properties regardless of value) from \$266 to \$133. Council has also increased the discount on the general rate that farms pay from 17.5% to 20%. Since this Council was elected, the amount that farms pay of the general rate has decreased from 85% to 80%.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Council matters, please feel free to contact me at Alistair. Thomson@strathbogie.vic.gov.au or on 0427 335 766.

Please note that the comments in this article are my own as Ward Councillor and should not be taken as the official view of Strathbogie Shire Council.







CELEBRATE DAME NELLIE MELBA THIS SENIORS FESTIVAL

f /bogartsfestival

Seniors living in the Strathbogie Shire are invited to a free afternoon of enjoyment at the Dame Nellie Melba concert and memorabilia event, Sunday 13th October from 1.15pm, Euroa Community Cinema. Courtesy of Strathbogie Shire Council as part of Seniors Festival throughout the month of October.

Attendees will be able to enjoy a tribute of Melba's life and career with musical interludes by Soprano Helen Koehne, tenor Raymond Khong and baritone Jamie Moffat and will be complemented by a performance from local group Strathbogie Singers.

An exhibition of rare memorabilia will be on display, which will include letters, photographs, posters, programs and stage props relating to Melba's great career and the festivities will finish with an afternoon tea.

Strathbogie Shire Mayor Cr Amanda McClaren said Seniors Festival is an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the outstanding contributions seniors make to their communities.

"Over 30 percent of our population is 60, or above the age of 60, and our seniors play an integral role in many of our community groups and volunteer their time to making the Strathbogie Shire a wonderful place to live," Cr McClaren said.

"This year's theme for Seniors Festival is *Get into it!* and we really encourage our local seniors to embrace that theme and come along to our Dame Nellie Melba Celebration or one of the many other seniors events happening in the region and across Victoria."

It is a free event, but bookings are essential. You can register on trybooking www.trybooking.com/book/event? eid=537297, or call Council Offices on 1800 065 993 or email info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au.

Seniors who are in possession of a Victorian Seniors Card can also enjoy free public transport from Sunday 6 October to Sunday 13 October which includes all metropolitan and V-Line services.

You will need to carry your Seniors Myki Card and Victorian Seniors Card with you on public transport and you can touch on and off as usual, but you won't be charged.

For more information about Victorian Seniors Festival and other events happening in the region, please visit www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au.



Hi Folks,

Every year just before the commencement of, or, at the start of Bush Fire season a special training day and information session is held and presented by The Strathbogie CFA.

This year the date is SUNDAY 20TH OCTOBER.

The event will be held at the Strathbogie Memorial Hall commencing 9am (sharp)

The Community Safety team from Shepparton will be conducting both sessions,

1. Home Safety

2. Planning and Preparation for Bushfire Safety

The course will run between 9 am and 1.30pm

With Devonshire tea and a BBQ lunch provided

So please keep this date free

Further info will be sent to bogietree shortly

Please get in early to register your interest.



OUR SUMMER OF FUN 2019 / 2020 BEGINS AT THE
REC GROUND
ON THURSDAY 10TH OCTOBER
6PM START
AND WILL RUN TILL THE END OF MARCH

(EXCEPT BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR)

OUR USUAL FULLY STOCKED BAR WILL BE AVAILABLE WITH YOUR FAVOURITE BEERS, WINES , SPIRITS AND OF COURSE FREE DRINKS FOR THE KIDS

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FROM THE COMMUNITY TO HELP US RUN THE BAR AND ASSIST WITH THE PIZZA

MAKING AND LIGHTING THE PIZZA OVEN

IF YOU HAVE YOUR RSA OR FOOD HANDLING CERTIFICATE

THAT'S GREAT, IF NOT DON'T LET THAT STOP YOU, WE WILL ASSIST YOU IN GETTING THE EXPERIENCED NEEDED CONTACTS

DAVID JOYCE AND KIM USHER



The Name Game: those pesky name-changes

Why do the scientific names of animals and plants seem to get changed so often? The beautiful red-flowering gum, for instance, which we all knew belonged to the genus *Eucalyptus*, suddenly became *Corymbia* (the species name, *ficifolia*, remains the same). Botanists had decided that the genus *Eucalyptus* was so big, diverse and unwieldy that it would reflect reality better if it were divided into three genera: *Eucalyptus*, *Corymbia* and *Angophora*. Colloquially, it's still OK to call them all "eucalypts".



Again, what was regarded as one species may with further research be split into two or more. The brightly patterned and now highly endangered little Corroboree Frogs of the Australian alpine zone were

originally all included in *Pseudophryne corroboree* (no marks for knowing that *pseudo* means false; *phryne* comes from Greek *phrynos*, toad. The animal looks like, but isn't, a small toad). Later studies suggested that the differences between the Brindabella and Kosciuszko populations were marked enough for the Brindabella ones to acquire separate species status and a changed name; *Pseudophryne pengilleyi*, named for biologist Ross Pengilley, who had made a detailed study of them. The Kosciuszko population keeps the original name *Pseudophryne corroboree* (sigh of relief: it's such a wonderful name).

Unfortunately, a scientific name may not be changed merely because it has turned out to be unsuitable. The classic example is the Australian Green Tree Frog (well-known to Sydney-siders but absent from Victoria). It is indeed a bright green animal, but its scientific name is Litoria caerulea. Litoria probably comes from Latin litoralis, of the seashore, hardly appropriate for a freshwater frog. But even less suitable is caerulea, from Latin caeruleus, blue. Why would a spectacularly green frog be described as blue? There's actually a simple explanation: the original species description was based on a dead, preserved specimen, and in preservative the skin colour changes to a dull greyish-blue. But the rules don't allow it to be traded in on a true, less blue, name.

So, if the law is an ass maybe science is too. But how did you go with last month's challenge? The squeezy animal whose scientific and common names are the same is the Boa Constrictor, Boa constrictor: boa from Latin boa, water-serpent; constrictor, no explanation needed. And the plant in question is Aloe Vera, Aloe vera: aloe from Greek aloe, a plant; vera from Latin verus, true. But why Aloe Vera should be regarded as truer than any of the other numerous species of Aloe, I'm afraid I can't tell you.

If you know of any other "double" examples I'd love to hear about them.

Angus Martin

First snake of the season?



This Highland Copperhead was spotted basking near Seven Creeks last week. Looking a bit sluggish in the warmish spring sunshine, it appeared to be lazily at peace with the world. However, it was extremely quick to discover some vigour when it thought the photographer was getting too close. It switched from stretched out and calm to head up and neck coiled in a reflexive instant.

Always remember a slowly meandering snake can change into a rapid striker in a flash with little provocation. Sure, some species are twitchier than others, but the best advice is to admire from a distance, you go your way and let them go theirs.

Often mistaken for an Eastern Brown Snake, this species' bite can also cause a fatal outcome. However, it does tend toward a quieter disposition than its much more aggressive cousin.

Like the Brown, the Copperhead colours vary from brown to black with a range of patterns. There is one distinguishing consistency though, the Copperhead features white triangular patterns along its lips. If you look closely you can see them above.

The Highland Copperhead is common in open woodland and grazed land, especially near water. It is often seen along Tableland riparian trails. Preferred habitat is fallen timber, matted vegetation, tussocks, burrows and under flat stones. They are easy to unexpectedly stumble upon. So, watch out for mis steps in such areas.

Tolerant of relatively cooler climates, Copperheads are often the first emergent reptile seen after winter.

Sean Mathews

Politics

The Leader of the Opposition droned on despite warnings from The Speaker, who was eventually banging his gavel repeatedly. Finally, The Speaker lost his temper and hurled the gavel at the Leader. He missed and hit someone on the front bench, who slumped to the ground. The injured politician said, "Hit me again. I can still hear the bastard!"

Adams & Newell, The Penguin Book of Australian Jokes 1994

Decoration Making for the Strathbogie Arts Festival - community good times with more to come.



Over the Grand Final weekend, believe it or not, other events of significance were taking place here on the Tableland.

Johnno pumps out pizza to an enthused band of craft savvy workers, who in their turn pump out Arts Festival decorations.

Multiple bags and piles of donated fabric, rolls of paper, string, spools of thread and sewing machines are the resources of the weekend. Buntings and murals, masks, paintings and flags are crafted for colour, light and movement.

The kids are involved. With Sonny and Alina painting flags, creating bandanas and making sure enough pizza is eaten to justify the cooking. Sonny takes on the role chief tea maker.

Meanwhile, Trevor rolls pizza dough and prepares apple pies, he talks about what fun it is sharing the making and the preparatory phase of a community event for everyone. In fact ,Trevor thinks the prep is being enjoyed every bit as much as the upcoming exhibitions and performances will be.

Dana is thriving on the great support from our community. Materials have been donated, entries are flowing in. Dana is seeing some new styles of art, edgy art, art that speaks of vital passion and fresh commitment.

The build up is thrilling - and daunting. It is a time for watching her personal dreams of bringing art to the community being fulfilled, of watching alter egos emerge, of surprising people and being surprised, of new ways to fill spaces and transform ideas. Everyone is stimulated, working on their strengths, stretching to new horizons. Even Committee meetings go for hours as the ideas flow, engender new thinking, get tossed, reviewed and refined by one then another, actions are shared and every reveal is new.

Sim learns on the job - he was born to sew! "Every time I finish they give me another stack. I even look like I know what I am doing! Now I have a new skill, I'll be making a pair of jeans next (or maybe a handkerchief). Just look at what we have done! I love doing all this together".



Wow, community bunting! Katie is loving the experience of sharing these fabrics that have come from random closets and are so diversely beautiful. Look at this cloth she presents, its colour, its brightness,



the feeling of happiness it brings. Katie is blown away with the Bogart and Bogie communities, creating togetherness, sharing skills, knowledge, variety and piles, stacks, volumes of upcycled fabric to create something new. And then there is the best pizza in the world!

Katie is very impressed with what is being accomplished and what is coming. She sees the main resources as the people. What is being created here, this weekend, is the alchemy of people coming together.

Entries (see details p13) are open for the Art Exhibition, Curiosities, Sculpture Walk, SPOKEN event and Singing Workshop. Late entries may be considered if there is room, but space is going fast- best get yours in NOW!

Sean Mathews