

May, 2021

Bioluminescence Event



You are invited to immerse yourself in this **FREE** outdoor multi-sensory digital projection event streaming across buildings in Binney Street and ancient Red Gum trees in Kirkland Avenue, Euroa.

This is an all ages event created by local school children in collaboration with The Little Projector Company.

BIOLUMINESCENCE celebrates the importance of Fungi in healthy ecosystems.

FRIDAY
21 MAY 2021
6PM - 9PM

**FREE
EVENT**

The SRCMN acknowledges the generous support of the Strathbogie Council and GBCMA. Thanks also to Euroa Secondary College, Perambin Primary Strathbogie Campus, Longwood Primary, and the Euroa Business Chamber. The Little Projector Company acknowledges the book "The Allure of Fungi" by ecologist and photographer Alison Pouliot as inspiration for Bioluminescence. Alison is presenting at two (booked out) Festival of Fungi events on May 22 in Strathbogie and May 23 in Euroa.



This is a COVID-safe event.

What's On

May 7, Landcare Acid Soils, Pastures, Moisture Probes and Deep Core Soil Sampling Field Day
10am at David Hamilton's Carpenters Lane property. Further details see page 9. Registration: contact Karen Brisbane on 0409 955 96
karenb@gbcm.vic.gov.au

May 21, Bioluminescence, Festival of Fungi. See page 1

Every Third Monday - 7.30pm STAG meet at Strathbogie Hall. Helen Peters, Secretary.

Every Second Tuesday of the month - Strathbogie Memorial Hall Committee meets 6pm in the Hall. Enq Mary Wynne 0419 592 211

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 Ph: Di Mackrell 5790 5241

Every 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

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 - 4pm Strathbogie Community of Food Finders at the Recreation Ground

Every Thursday - 5pm. Tennis at the Recreation Reserve. All welcome. Secretary Mayra Walsh



Winter Warning

While most people think of the CFA as being active during the summer, they are also called out in the winter months, mainly due to single house fires. It is time to check, and possibly change batteries, in smoke detectors. If you have a fire heater, it is important to have your chimney cleaned regularly.

Euroa Cinema

Supernova May 1 8pm, May 2 4pm
Sink or Swim May 7 8pm, May 8 4pm
French Exit May 8 8pm, May 9 4pm
The Father May 15 8pm, May 16 4pm
The Courier May 20 8pm, May 21 4pm
Godzilla vs Kong May 29 8pm, May 30 4pm

Tix at door, trybooking.com or Customer Service 5795 0000. **Prebooked \$8.**
 Euroa Community Cinema adheres to Vic Government - COVID 19 restrictions.

Do you need a Justice of the Peace?

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Got something to say?

Send us a

Letter to the Editor

Swanpool CINEMA

Nomadland May 1 6pm, May 2 5pm
The prime of Miss Jean Brodie May 1 8.15pm, May 2 7.15pm
Blackbird May 8 6pm, May 9 5pm
Summerland May 8 8.15pm, May 9 7.15pm
Minari May 15 6pm, May 16 5pm
Wild Mountain Thyme May 15 8.15pm, May 16 7.15pm
High Ground May 22 6pm, May 23 5pm
Girls can't surf May 22 8.15pm, May 23 7.15pm
The Father May 29 6pm, May 30 5pm
Adam May 29 8.15pm, May 30 7.15pm

Tickets \$13.50/\$11

www.swanpoolcinema.com.au

For information regarding the Violet Town Village Voice or to get an emailed copy each month contact Abbey Ferguson at villagevoice@violettown.org.au online at www.violettown.org.au

Support Strathbogie Landcare agricultural & conservation projects

Membership is \$10 per household. This gives you access to Landcare magazine, subsidised seedling purchases and community projects. Simply deposit \$10 into the Strathbogie Tableland Landcare account:
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 Acc 100081991 with your name as reference or contact Secretary Sean Mathews for a membership form
snmthws@bigpond.com

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?

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 /time:

tablelandtalk@gmail.com
 m: 0400 019 607

Shire Healthy Ageing Newsletter

Free hard copies available at participating supermarkets, POs, libraries, pharmacies, medical centres, community houses and op-shops or via <https://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/community/seniors-active-ageing>

Tableland Talk is a community newsletter run by a volunteer group.

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.

We would appreciate it if all invoices for advertising are paid in full, and promptly - we have to pay to publish.

The TT Team

Mobile Library

Dates for Strathbogie:

May 12 and 26
 10.00 - 12 noon

Every 2nd Saturday



Strathbogie Memorial Hall

Available for hire— \$150 with \$250 refundable deposit in case carpet cleaning is required.
 Bookings contact person is Mary Wynne
 Ph 0419 592 211

Strathbogie Recreation Ground

All bookings are to be made with
 Kim Usher
 5790 5345

The Deadline for the June edition of Tableland Talk is Wednesday, May 26, 2021.

Editor: Sean Mathews E: tablelandtalk@gmail.com M: 0400 019 607 or via Strathbogie PO / Store.
 Preferred formats: Word or Publisher files, font Arial 11, convert pdf to jpeg, images <250k. *TT Team.*

Strathbogie Tableland Action Group Inc.

While a number of committee members visited the Telstra van when it was in Strathbogie, there was little information available to indicate that service to the Tableland might improve.

Natasha is establishing a sub-committee to further pursue the availability of digital connectivity and has been advised that Domaine Chandon and Koala Orchards are investigating the erection of a communication tower in the Boho South area.

Several committee members met with representatives from the Shire and CFA to discuss planning for the next fire season and the following proposals have been made:

- Signage advising that visitors are entering a high fire danger area also include a warning that mobile black spots are experienced throughout the plateau.
- The Tableland Emergency Information brochure (printed 2010) and Personal Fire Plan documents be merged and updated for distribution before the next fire season

A CFA Expo focusing on community safety, written down plans, etc. be conducted at the start of the fire season.

There is still no progress to report on the completion of works at the Spring Creek picnic area or progress with plans to develop the Rec pavilion.

Strathbogie Campus Film Making and Gala Premiere



On Sunday March the 21st the Strathbogie campus hosted the film premier of "The Magic Pencils" and "Dinosaurs" at the Strathbogie Memorial Hall for the students and their extended families. We worked on the film in Term 4 last year. The Magic Pencils tells the tale of a new girl who arrives at school and transforms the lives of everyone who draw with her magic pencils.

As the film progresses, the characters discover their inner joy and creativity. On the Premiere night, the hall looked amazing,. There were streamers, props, a giant paper chain made by the junior class, a Lolly Stand, Violet Town's popcorn machine and an awesome supper by the parents club in the back room.

We made a banner out of actual pencils and shiny magical things and had a red carpet and fancy bollards with Sonny and Angus in suits guarding the door. Around 80 people attended, around 70 people attended looking very swish in outfits fit for a Hollywood film premiere.

Amy Shields who edited our film even set up a merchandise stall with "The Magic Pencils" screen printed T-Shirts! A massive thank you to Amy (light tree media) who worked with Suzie Bates, Joe Farrell and students to produce the movie. It was a huge undertaking.

Our school captains Holly and Beryl and last year's Vice-captain Alina hosted the evening and spoke very well to the large audience. A highlight of the evening was the entertaining Q and A with cast members after the film. It was a terrific celebration of all our hard work. We are very proud of our films. Thank-you to the Strathbogie Teachers, The Parents Club and Peranbin P.C for supporting this project. A special thankyou to Kate Long for playing the Wild, Wise Woman.

We will be hosting a public screening of our film in the near future and would love to invite you. Stay tuned for more details! - Suzie Bates



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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



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The Name Game: What defines a genus?

Angus Martin



At least in a general sense, we all have a fair idea of what a **species** of animal or plant is: a recognisably distinct kind of creature which we can define, describe and give a unique name to. A more technical view is that individuals of a species can interbreed with each other, but not with members of other species. This is probably the best working definition, but it isn't a cast-iron one because we know that species may hybridise (cross-breed) under a variety of circumstances. So, for instance, no-one would argue that lions and tigers aren't distinct species, but hybrids – ligers or tigons, according to taste – are known (in captivity).

If the species is difficult to get a handle on, what about the genus? Some thoughts about it are prompted by a colleague's recent work on a genus of frogs which contains seven species, two in south-eastern Australia and five in southern WA. As adults they're a fairly uniform lot: small, ground-dwelling frogs, similar in appearance (except for colour); laying large eggs in depressions on land near water. So they seem to comprise an easily defined, tight-knit group, a textbook example of one genus containing seven species.

But further investigation showed that if you look a little more closely a different interpretation suggests itself. In the two eastern and one of the western species the eggs are laid in positions where they will be flooded or washed into ponds by rainfall; they will then hatch and there will be a normal active, swimming, feeding tadpole stage. But in the other four western species the entire development takes place on land; the tadpoles have rudimentary mouths and never get into the water or feed, being sustained entirely by the yolk content of the eggs. In frog-world, this is a fundamental and significant difference, and it would surely warrant the replacement of one genus containing seven species by two genera, one with three and one with four species.

Will this happen? I don't know, but I think it should. If it does, it will underline the major difference in life history pattern, and make each genus more uniform and therefore more revealing of the relationships among the species. It will, in other words, be a more **useful** arrangement. And that, after all, is what our system of classification should aim for. So how to define the genus? A genus is what a competent taxonomist says it is.

Just in passing, the derivations of the species names of the seven frogs are: one named for a person (Lea; I don't know who Lea was), one for where it is found (Victoria), one for its skin texture (smooth) and all the others for the colour of their undersurfaces: white, clay-yellow, rose-pink, yolk-yellow. So (hooray!) all but 'Lea' actually tell you something about the animal.



Quiz questions of the month

What was the name of the horse Ned Kelly rode to the siege at Glenrowan?
What action is it said the horse took at the time of the shooting?

Answer: page 6

ScoMoNoNo

by Donmil

You'll have to ask the States, said Scott,
It's their job – vaccination;
I'm much too busily engaged
In the game of vacillation.

The Weekend Local

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4/5 - 9-10.30am - Ruffy Tablelands Community Centre
4/5 - 12-2pm - Longwood Pub Paddock
4/5 - 3.30-5pm - Avenel Memorial Hall
5/5 - 9am-12pm - Euroa Saleyards
5/5 - 1.30pm-3pm - Nagambie Visitor Information Centre
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Quiz answer

The horse's name was Music. The horse is reputed to have broken loose to put herself between Ned and gunfire when Ned was shot at Glenrowan.

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The Ground Storey Part 3 - Reducing erosion and weeds

(This is the third article drawn from a recent publication about the role of 'the ground storey' - fallen logs, branches, sticks and leaves - as habitat.)*

Erosion: The organic ground layer provides a buffer for precious topsoil against the erosive effects of frost, heat, wind and water.



The impact of raindrops, especially in a heavy downpour, can, over time (and sometimes over not much time at all) have a devastating effect on the stability of the soil, especially on our old, friable, and thin Australian topsoils. Logs, branches, sticks and leaves 'trap' organic matter, disperse impact and reduce velocity of run-off during heavy downpours. Many eroding gullies reaching many meters wide and deep have been accelerated by the patter of raindrops relentlessly carving their way through exposed and unprotected topsoil into the layers below.

Of course, not all erosion can be blamed on a lack of fallen logs and the organic ground layer – that would be too simple! However, the ground storey contributes to the

overall health, resilience and stability of your property helping to protect against devastating impacts of erosion, which is always expensive – and often impossible – to restrict or fully repair.

Weeds: The removal of fallen logs and the organic ground layer disrupts the stability and 'intactness' of the environment, which can mean an open invitation for weeds.

Weeds love bare ground. 'Cleaning up' the ground layer and burning it provides weeds with the perfect growing environment at the expense of more desired plants. Having evolved outside of the Australian environment, common weeds such as capeweed, heliotrope, St John's Wort and Paterson's curse don't need to cope with natural checks and balances such as predation and temperature extremes that native species experience. Many pest species are equipped to rise above these challenges – or they simply don't find them a challenge at all. Therefore, in Australia, these plants are adept at gaining a fast foothold in altered, unhealthy habitats – such as bare ground left open by the burning up of the ground layer and fallen timber. As many landholders who battle pest plants species already know, once a pest gains a foothold, it is almost impossible to completely close the door on it ever again. An organic ground layer means topsoil is better protected against weedy invasion.



Next month's articles will cover firewood collection and fire safety.

* Mentiplay-Smith, J. (2020). The Ground Storey: Fallen logs, branches, sticks and leaves for wildlife, property and landscape health.

Published by the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority with funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, and the support of the Moira Shire Council and the Broken Boosey Conservation Management Network.

Honeysuckle Art Exhibition "*The Shape of Things*"

Our last piece of information to share with you about this year's exhibition is who won the 2021 People's Choice Award.

With all exhibition visitors being able to vote for their favourite work of art in the exhibition, there were many votes to count and a huge range of favourites voted for.

However a clear winner emerged and this was 'Jackson's Produce Store', the amazing textile work by Jennie Wu Errey. Congratulations Jennie!

Thanks again everyone for your support of the exhibition. We are already planning our next exhibition for March next year. If you would like to help out in any way or be part of the HAC committee please let us know.

Contact Sue Paton 0408981435

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Autumn, the Busy Season

What an extremely busy time of the year, it seems there are field days on most weekends at the moment where you can learn about ways to protect environmental values on your property and increase your farming productivity.

In March, a number of Strathbogrie Tableland Landcare members attended the *'Rescuing Paddock Trees for Shade, Shelter and Habitat'* field day organised by Warrenbayne Boho Land Protection Group Inc.

Closer to home, the Acid Soils Pasture Sub-Group held an impromptu field day at David Hamilton's Carpenters Lane property in late March. Here the group walked around the paddock discussing the results of the various trials.

It was also a great opportunity to discuss with Karen Brisbane, from the Goulburn Broken CMA preparation for the upcoming Acid Soils, Pastures, Moisture Probes and Deep Core Soil Sampling Field Day on Friday 7th May starting at 10am at David Hamilton's Carpenters Lane property. For further details and registration, please contact Karen Brisbane on 0409 955 396 or karenb@gbcma.vic.gov.au



Our Landrace Acid Soils Pasture Sub-group also recently visited Robbie and Thel Hodge's biodynamic sheep farm over in Longwood. The group was totally captivated hearing Robbie explain how he has increased the biological diversity and level of organic matter in his soils, whilst significantly improving the productivity on his farm. He has achieved this by

applying a special brew of liquid fertilisers, rock-dust and a variety of other natural soil conditioners, in addition to re-sowing pastures with a variety of perennial and annual pasture species.

Besides attending field days, Landcare members have also been involved with bird surveys along the Seven Creeks Wildlife Reserve in partnership with BirdLife Australia. As the season is cooling down, the number of species was not as diverse, however White-browed Scrubwrens, Superb Fairy-wrens and a variety of honey-eaters were recorded.

As always, the dedicated troupe of volunteers who look after the reserve along Bridge-to-Bridge in Strathbogrie Township have been hard at work undertaking regular maintenance.

To help build our Landcare Group's capacity to respond to pest animals and coordinate control programs, Leanne Margrie attended Victorian Rabbit Action Network (VRAN) mentor training. Here Leanne learnt about the latest techniques for integrated rabbit control.

In order to ensure any rabbit control works are successful, it is vital the whole community get involved, rather than just individual landowners. To help support this outcome, the Granite Creeks Project which our Landcare is a member, help provide advice and subsidies to landowners to undertake works to destroy rabbit warrens and harbour, such as Blackberries. If you'd like more information about this program please contact Neil Devanny, Granite Creeks Chairperson on 0457 526 566 or see <https://www.geckoclan.com.au/group/granite-creeks-project-landcare-network/>

Landcare committee members have also received numerous complaints from locals about a number of roadside vegetation removal cases. As highlighted in the last Tableland Talk edition, those people needing to remove native vegetation along roadsides in order to maintain and/ or replace fences, must first contact council for their consent, prior to any works being undertaken. Similarly, those concerned about particular cases of roadside vegetation removal are strongly encouraged to contact Council directly as they are the responsible authority for native vegetation removal.

Natasha Baldyga

President- Strathbogrie Tableland Landcare

0402 785 965 or rainbowtriggerplant@hotmail.com



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Strathbogie Memorial Hall

The committee met last week as usual to continue our management role. We have recently welcomed 3 new members, Baz Taggart, Dana Last and Jodie Green. We are sure that they will keep us on our toes. We are always keen to welcome newcomers to the group, with the idea of injecting new ideas and helping us fundraise for a new kitchen. So, if you've got some ideas and energy we would love you to make contact.

As some of you will know there has been a leak in the kitchen that we are keen to have fixed and consequently this has caused some difficulties. It highlights the fact that serious work needs to be done in that area. We are planning to apply for some grants to try and get this underway.

Over the past eighteen months we have been discussing with the Council, the Management Entity becoming an incorporated association. Strathbogie Shire Council are holding some information sessions for all Committees of Management that are not incorporated. They help the committees explore what the risks and the potential benefits are. This is a worthwhile exercise as it enables us to meet the Council staff and other committee members from across the Shire.

There have been some great ideas tabled as fundraisers and hopefully in the next few weeks we will enlighten you as to what some of them are. Remember you can obtain keys to use the hall toilets from Pam's store and the Council is now back on track with the toilet cleaning. There were some hiccups last year with COVID but at this stage we are continuing as normal with the usual Covid Safe practices in place.

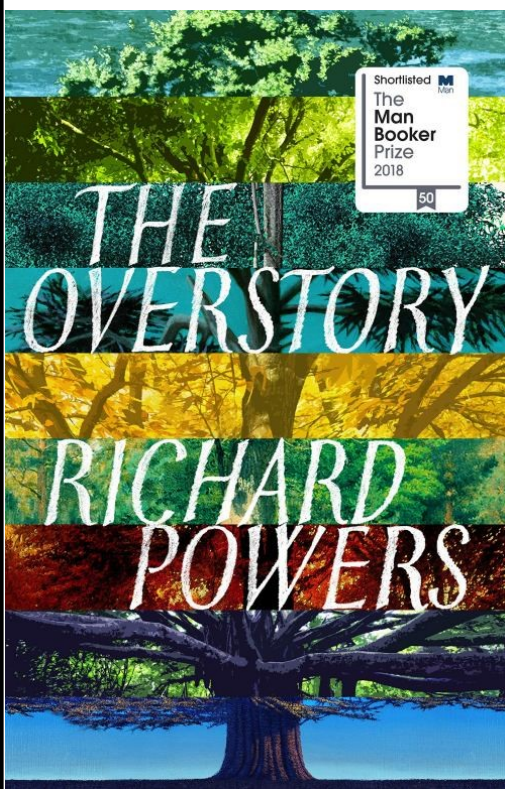
Looking forward to advertising our first Community EVENT, keep your eye on the Bogie Tree and our Community Notice Board opposite the Hall/ School.

We will also be putting the call out for a working bee soon, for a general inside tidy up and some outside jobs. Free sausage in bread for helpers!!!

Let's strengthen our Community with our Hall

Mary Wynne mary.wynne03@gmail.com

The Bookshelf – notes from the Bohomians Bookclub



The Overstory by Richard Powers, Vintage (2019)

This is a big book, in every sense of the word – a breath-taking book.

Richard Powers has created a stunningly beautiful, but disturbing hymn of praise to a parallel world – the world of old-growth forest. Conceptually, but never physically far from the voracious, capitalist, economy-driven world of modern business, this forest world is 'vast, slow, interconnected, resourceful, magnificently inventive, and almost invisible to us.' The characters that carry the story are gathered gradually into a quest – the saving of the forest: a party-girl college undergraduate in the late 1980s dies by electrocution, but returns to life with powers that allow her to hear and see messages from the natural world; Nick Hoel, a reclusive artist, inherits the family photographic collection of three generations of portraits of the one, massive American chestnut tree; Adam, a psychology professor, clings to his one-step-removed research until he no longer can; a wheelchair-bound computer scientist and gamer, Neelay, creates a digital parallel world, *Mastery*, that eventually threatens to engulf and destroy him; Doug escapes death as a Vietnam War airman by falling from an attack aircraft into the arms of a banyan tree; and Patricia Westerford, an environmental scientist, creates an underground seedbank for the future regeneration of the doomed forest. The

novel reads in many aspects like non-fiction – this story is so present, so plausible and is actually happening while we sleep. It is a call to arms, a call to wake up to the path that awaits our very recently arrived species should we not listen. There is terror, beauty and tragedy, but also lashings of compassion and humanity. In my book, it's a must-read.

Next month: *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*, Random House, 2012

Ruth Fluhr



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Give me a call or drop me a line. If I can't talk, I'll respond ASAP.
(I'm still working in Euroa a couple of days a week).



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You can arrive at the farm any time between 11.00am to 4.00pm. From there you'll be able to pick your own steak, which will be served with vegetables roasted in Wagyu fat and sides.

Prices range from \$40 - \$90 per plate (depending on how fancy the steak is that you choose). We also offer other fare like charcuterie & sharing platters as well as a kids menu. Sevens Creek Wagyu is pooch friendly but they must be on a lead.

Soft drink and water will be available to purchase, but please BYO booze.

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Sassy Sister Decadent Blueberry Liqueur

A labour of love and passion from Amanda Furlong and Rob Mitchell. We create Sassy Sister at Bilyara Springs, our sustainable farm and craft distillery, nestled in the foothills of Victoria's pristine Strathbogie Ranges. Made using our organically grown berries, and locally sourced Oak aged spirits, Sassy Sister is distilled and bottled on site at Bilyara Springs.

With Sassy Sister we celebrate and honour generations of strong and independent women. The name Sassy Sister is inspired by two sisters from our family, who combine sweet natures with a zesty wit and luscious vintage style. These sassy sisters have matured into beautiful and capable women - just as our own Sassy Sister has matured into a sumptuous and sophisticated liqueur.

Available across the North East, in Euroa through Strathbogie Local Open Food Network, Weekend Local and Burtons SUPA IGA. She is in both supermarkets in Mansfield and she can be tasted as a cocktail at the Luna Bar in Mansfield where "Sassy Smash" is on their cocktail list.

Or buy direct from www.sassysisterliqueur.com.au

Strathbogie Forest Citizen Science



Over the four years from 2016 to 2020 hundreds of locals, friends and visitors took part in the Strathbogie Forest Citizen Science Program, a series of activities that shed light on the animals, plants and fungi that call this forest home.

The Strathbogie Forest is the largest stand of native bush left in the entire Strathbogie Ranges and is the last refuge for thousands of species that once occurred across the ranges, yet its ecology is surprisingly poorly known. Our citizen science program, conducted by the Strathbogie Ranges Conservation Management Network and supported by the Victorian Government, aimed to improve our understanding of the forest.

The program conducted nocturnal surveys, habitat assessments, trailcam surveys, fungi forays and community bush walks which, collectively, have vastly improved our understanding of this forest. To read and see more about the project and results, search online for 'Strathbogie Forest Citizen Science' or visit https://strathbogie_ranges_nature_review.wordpress.com/

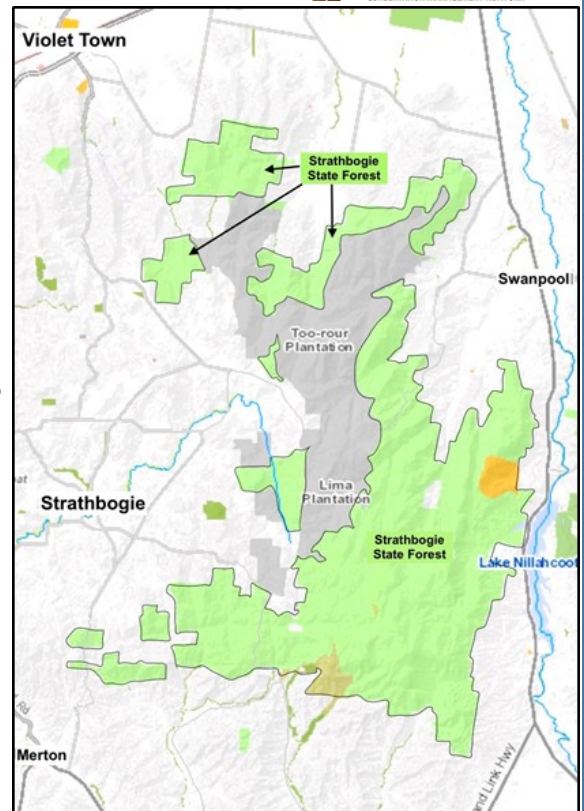
Our findings include:

- The Strathbogie Forest supports large numbers of the threatened Greater Glider possum, a population that is of regional, if not state-wide importance.
- The tiny Feathertail Glider, though hard to find, is common and widespread in the forest.
- Long-nosed Bandicoots, which are slowly disappearing in the farming landscape of the Tableland, can still be found in the forest.
- The Powerful Owl, which dines on Greater Glider, can be heard calling in many different parts of the forest.
- Sambar Deer are now so widespread that they occur across the length and breadth of the forest and beyond. Fallow Deer are much less numerous and prefer the drier, more open forest areas.
- Two species appear to have become extinct in the Strathbogie Forest and the broader region, in the last few decades – the Spot-tailed Quoll and the Yellow-bellied Glider possum. The last quoll was recorded in the mid-1980s and the last Yellow-bellied Glider in the mid-1990s.
- The Feral Cat and Red Fox are now ubiquitous in the forest. There appear to be many more foxes than cat and it's likely foxes are helping keep cat numbers in check. In the absence of effective cat control measures, having foxes in the forest is perhaps the lesser of two evils.

Above all else, large parts of the forest are clearly ecologically healthy and have high conservation value. The many forest tracks make it easy to get around (at least in dry weather!) and there's simply no excuse not to explore. Over the next few issues of TT, I'll bring you some snippets and stories from the forest to remind you to visit this gem on our doorstep.

For now, I'll leave you with the Australian Owlet-nightjar, a shy, insectivorous, nocturnal bird the size of a plump Grey Shrike-thrush. Though rarely seen, once you know its call, you're likely to hear it on still nights when you wander outside for a peek at the stars. It has two main calls: a pleasant churring repeated at intervals and a penetrating, metallic 'aeiirk!' (according to Mr Morcombe). Like all nightjars it has a wide mouth/gape and catches insects in flight or on the ground. It roosts and nests in tree hollows and is happy to use nest-boxes for this purpose. It lives in forest, woodland and also farmland, as long as there's some patches of nice bush around.

Bert Lobert



We're here for you 5 days a week

Monday:	9:30am - 4:30pm*
Tuesday:	9:00am - 12:00pm
Wednesday:	9:30am - 4:30pm*
Thursday:	9:30am - 4:30pm*
Friday:	9:00am - 12:00pm

(* Closed for lunch 12:30pm - 1:30pm)

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Strathbogie Flavours



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Walk of the Month

Euroa Arboretum Walk

Euroa Main Rd (near the southern Hume Fwy turn off)



I am often surprised to meet people who have not visited “The Arb.” Various circuits are on offer, Any distance you choose up to 4km with loops. All are easy. The Euroa Arboretum offers a unique opportunity to spend time amongst many species indigenous to NE Victoria. The site also caters for enjoyment of several outdoor activities.

Established in 1990, the 27 hectare Euroa Arboretum has become a beloved destination for visitors wanting a diverse outdoor experience as well as being a leading service provider of ecological restoration, education, information and supplies.

Originally a sheep farm, then the depot site for the freeway work to by-pass Euroa, the land was handed over by VicRoads to the local community. A volunteer Committee of Management was formed and the site was transformed into a beautiful park of woodland and wetland environments, walking tracks, picnic areas and an indigenous plant nursery.

Growing back the Bush

This heavily compacted site has been transformed. However, the Arboretum is much more than a recreational park. The Arboretum's motto is “Growing back the Bush”. One of the main objectives of the Arboretum is to provide seed for revegetation work. For example, species like the Silver Banksia (*Banksia marginata*) were once widespread across the catchment. This plant was a critical source of nectar for winter feeding honeyeaters and for migrating birds. It is now reduced to a handful of sites with only a few scattered plants.

The Arboretum has collected seed or cuttings from parent plants and now grows them en masse with the objective of using the precious seed for

revegetation work. The Arboretum works closely with DELWP to propagate and protect a range of threatened species from extinction.

The plant nursery at the Euroa Arboretum produces and sells approximately 60,000 indigenous plants for revegetation projects throughout the region. There is also a section of Australian natives for gardens and sale at markets.

The Goulburn Broken Indigenous Seedbank (GBIS) is also part of Euroa Arboretum in cooperation with Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority. The GBIS mission is to provide genetically healthy seed to support landscape restoration activities and to improve landscape health and resilience of biodiversity, especially in the face of climate change.

Amenities

Toilets
Public art
Car parks
Bike riding
Picnic shelter
Potable water
Picnic tables and seats
Water activities: canoeing, fishing with a licence
Well-marked walking trails open all year
Nursery: Monday 12-5pm, Thursday 12-5pm

Cautions

Snakes may be encountered

Restrictions

Dogs on a leash
Take rubbish with you

Sean Mathews



Peranbin Primary College Strathbogie Campus



Holly in her Grade 6 shirt

The Juniors have been heads down and tails up working hard on their Number Fluency and boy all their hard work is paying off. Some of us are counting to 10 and some of us are counting by 6s and everything in between. All of us have made excellent progress.

In Maths our senior students have been revising the topics of symmetry, fractions and 2D shapes. Our reading focus was using rhyming patterns to make predictions in our text. As our Inquiry topic came to an end, we looked at where people have migrated from to live in Australia since the 1800s. We have also been writing an information report about Australian inland explorers, such as Burke and Wills and Joseph Banks. The children have been doing their own research, planning their own reports and will be making their own power point presentations.

More photos from the Film Night Gala below



Recipe of the Month

A spicy winter warmer: Tofu Laksa

Ingredients

100g rice vermicelli noodles
250g diced firm tofu
1 tblspn vegetable oil
2 tblspn red curry paste
2 cloves crushed garlic
2 tspn chopped fresh lemongrass
2 tspn ground turmeric
3 1/4 cups coconut milk
1L water

400g baby bok choy
1 1/2 cups bean sprouts
1tblspn lime juice
2 tspn fish sauce
Fresh coriander & spring onions



Method

Cover noodles with boiling water for 5 min, then drain. Heat oil to saute paste, garlic, lemongrass & turmeric until fragrant. Add coconut milk & water. Bring to boil, add noodles, tofu & bok choy - simmer 5 min. Add remaining ingredients, stir through until heated. Other vegetables can be added.