



April 2025

Oh, What a Night!

What a night we had AND it wouldn't have happened without a great community of like minded volunteers who put their energy and effort into making this the best night possible.

Thank you to all those who cooked, worked on the bar, in the kitchen and as decorative assistants.

The Hall Committee are very grateful to STAG and BOGARTS for inviting us to participate with them and accept any proceeds from this great celebration.



To those who baked: what a spread, what an amazing array of beautiful delights. The food was ready on time and looking scrumptious!

We started the night with a sausage sizzle cooked in the front of the Hall on a truly magic autumn evening.



Thanks to Uptown Brown and Afrobiotics, of course, you TOOK the cake, everyone danced the night away and had a ball.

Uptown Brown entertained the crowd as they mingled while the sun set.

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What's On

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- Ap 13** Euroa Explore Day p14
- Ap 19** Rockfish p11
- Ap 20** Mt Wombat Easter p6
- Ap 24** ANZAC Service p5
- Ap 24** Gathering on the Grass p8
- May 18** CFA Safety Day p16

Every Last Saturday of the month - Strathbogie Golf Club Community Meals.

Every First Monday of the month - Strathbogie Tableland History Group meets 1.30pm, Strathbogie Memorial Hall. strathbogiehistory@gmail.com

Every Second Wednesday of the month - Strathbogie Memorial Hall Committee meets 7pm in the Soldiers Room.
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 0439 008 500

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. Co-ordinator Kay Righetti 0418 171 439

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

Every Third Sunday of the month 9.30am STAG Committee at the Hall. All welcome.

Tennis at the Recreation Reserve. Enq about social tennis: Secretary Mayra Walsh 0423 475 564

Every Second Thursday 2pm starting. Spinning / Craft. Wajuna 0455 230 317

Every Monday during school term - Strathbogie Community Playgroup 9.30 -11.30am at the Rec. - Sharna 0401 445 675

Swanpool CINEMA

Tickets \$14 / \$12 / \$8 trybooking.com

Anora MA15+ Ap 5 6pm, Ap 6 5pm

After Yang PG Ap 5 8.45pm, Ap 6 7.45pm

The Brutalist M Ap 12 6pm, Ap13 5pm

Mufasa PG Ap 19 6pm, Ap 20 5pm

Fantastic Mr Fox PG Ap 19 8.30pm, Ap 20 7.30pm

Wallace & Gromit: Vengeance most fowl PG Ap 26 6pm, Ap 27 5pm

Will & Harper M Ap 26 8.15pm, Ap 27 7.15pm

Do you need a Justice of the Peace?

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Available for hire
Bookings contact:
Christine Ellis
0419 908 522 or
info@bohosouthhall.org



Euroa Cinema

Tickets \$12 at box office or <https://events.humanitix.com/euroa-community-cinema>

Ama Gloria PG Ap 4 8pm, Ap 5 4pm

White Bird Ap 5 8pm, Ap 6 4pm

Magic Beach G Ap 9 11am (sensory screening), Ap 9 3pm

Sing Sing MA15+ Ap 12 7.30pm, Ap 13 4pm

The Lost tiger G Ap 16 11am (sensory screening), Ap 16 3pm

One of them days MA15+ Ap 19 7.30pm, Ap 20 4pm

Disney's Snow White Ap 26 7.30pm, Ap 27 4pm

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

Cartoon by Peta Manning



Jokes of the month

Q: What has to be broken before you can use it?

A: An egg

Q: I'm tall when I'm young, and I'm short when I'm old. What am I?

A: A candle

Q: What month of the year has 28 days?

A: All of them

Q: What is full of holes but still holds water?

A: A sponge

Q: What question can you never answer yes to?

A: Are you asleep yet?

Contribute to Tableland Talk

Our community newsletter relies on community contributions to publish. We are all about sharing and enjoying Tableland stories and activities. Send us your local tall tales and true, photos and sketches, community and business advertisements. We love to hear from community members of all ages. See email below >>>

Tableland Talk is a community newsletter run by volunteers.

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

Library Service

The library service Mondays 10.00—12.00 in the Soldier's Room at the Hall. Next: March 3 & 17.

[GVMobileLibraryTimetable.pdf](#)

gvlibraries.com.au



Your Gambler's Help



Your local Gambler's Help service agency is Primary Care Connect. We offer free, confidential information, advice, and counselling to anyone affected by gambling.

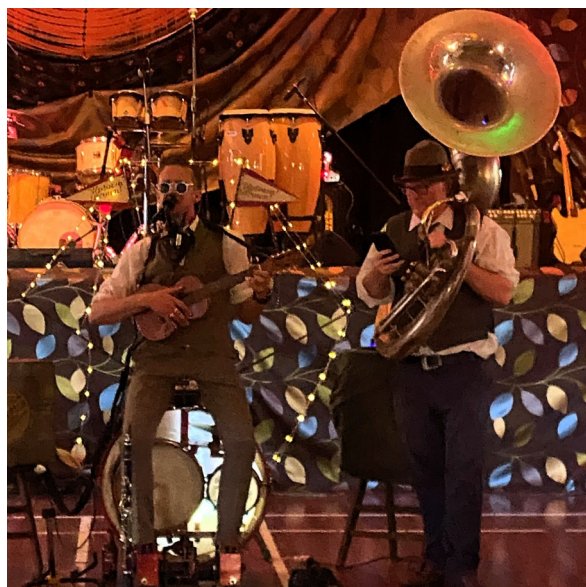
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Hours: 9am – 5pm Mon to Fri.
After hours services can be arranged.
You can also contact Gambler's Help on 1800 858 858 or go to gamblerhelp.com.au 24hrs a day for immediate support.

The Deadline for the May edition of Tableland Talk is Saturday, April 26, 2025.

e: tablelandtalk@gmail.com, m: 0400 019 607

Preferred formats: Word or Publisher files, font Arial 11, convert pdf to jpeg, images <250k. TT Team.

Continues from p1



..... and a splendid time
was had by all!

Mary Wynne & Suzie Bates

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Call for Volunteers

Our annual **Strathbogie Festival** will once again be held over Cup Weekend in November this year.

If you would like this fun social activity to continue with much needed funds raised for the community, please help the committee by volunteering your time/skills.

If you are available to help at all, please sign the roster sign up sheet in the general store. All assistance (big or small) will be greatly appreciated.

Any questions please contact me: *Deb McKie*

Chair, Strathbogie Festival Committee

Debmckie7@gmail.com

Strathbogie Ranges
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Ecology, landscape and
natural history

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Bogie Tree

+++++
 Bogie Tree is our unofficial Strathbogie Tableland bush telegraph. It is an email list based on Gaggie Mail and covers a fair percentage of the Tableland population and friends (both transient and permanent). Through this, we share the following information and more:

- 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 Bogie Tree, please send an email to Stuart on stuartb446@gmail.com or call on 0422 408 915

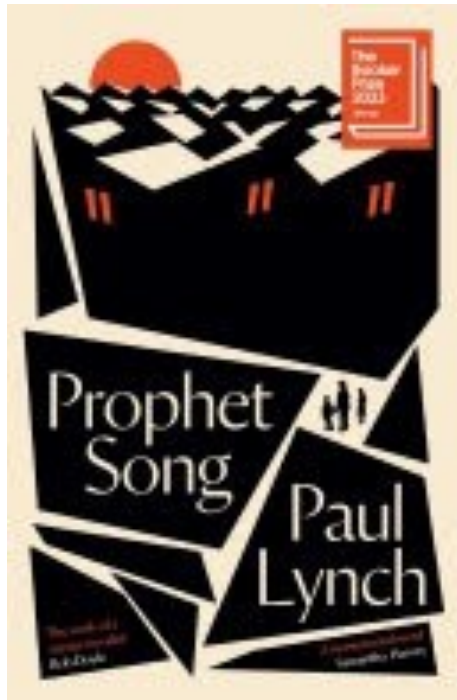


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The Bookshelf – notes from the Bohomians Bookclub

Prophet Song by Paul Lynch, Oneworld, 2023. Winner of the 2023 Booker Prize

Below – an excellent review by Dorothy Yaqub, Kenyon Collegian, <https://kenyoncollegian.com/arts/2024/02/review-prophet-song-has-flaws-but-it-deserved-the-booker/>



Prophet Song is a dystopian novel set in a version of present-day Ireland that is slowly descending into totalitarianism. The protagonist is Eilish Stack, a mother attempting to hold her family together after her husband, Larry, is arrested for being a labour union organizer. As the world crumbles around her, she remains steadfast in her fight to protect her children and win Larry's freedom. Her story is not a fun one to read; it is dark and violent and upsetting, but it also feels incredibly relevant to the current climate of global politics. The novel's greatest strengths are its pacing and world-building. Unlike most dystopias, which begin when circumstances are already awful, the world at the beginning of *Prophet Song* is virtually identical to our own; there are undertones of political instability, but nothing seems too out of the ordinary. By the end of the novel, however, Ireland has devolved into an unrecognizable, war-torn wasteland. Somehow, Lynch's writing makes this progression feel entirely natural. There are no drastic changes, but with each page, the reader feels the metaphorical vultures circling a little closer. *Prophet Song* is one of the most anxiety-inducing books I've ever read.

Much of the criticism the novel has received is directed at its unconventional style. There are no paragraph breaks, and the dialogue is not distinguished with quotation marks. (Many Irish authors write in this style, an homage to James Joyce's modernist classic *Ulysses*.) I understand why other readers took so much issue with these choices — they can make the story hard to follow at times — but I liked them. They enhanced my sense of dread, the feeling that Eilish was powerless in the face of a constant and unstoppable evil.

Prophet Song is gripping, poignant and powerful. It is also, unfortunately, very prescient. Lynch does an incredible job of depicting how an ordinary government can descend into totalitarianism. If you have even a passing interest in politics, I strongly recommend it.

Next month: *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan, Grove Press, 2021

Ruth Fluhr

2025 Anzac Service on the Tableland



The 2025 ANZAC service in Strathbogie, is on Thursday, April 24th at 10.30 am, so the school children can attend.

Strathbogie's own piper Greg, will lead the march and our guest speaker, also from Strathbogie, is Kylie Michelle. She is an ex-army person.

There will be an opportunity for you to lay a wreath if you wish to do so.

Afterwards, we look forward to you joining us at the Memorial Hall for morning tea.

As we know, the memorial's rifle has been missing for some years, but we are grateful that the Euroa RSL has taken it on board and it won't be much longer before there is a replacement.

In conjunction with Peranbin Campus Strathbogie and Strathbogie Tableland History Group. Thanks to Victoria, Allan and Tracey.

The soldiers' memorial is 105 years old, this year. After many volunteer hours of organising, carting, erecting and even changing the road to suit, the statue was unveiled by the ever popular Brigadier General Pompey Elliott in October 1920.

Loretta McPherson
Strathbogie Tablelands History
Group

Strathbogrie Festival will once again be held over Cup Weekend

I am pleased to announce that our annual Strathbogrie Festival will be held in November this year.

Due to our success last year we were able to donate funds to a variety of community groups. We are particularly excited to be in the process of purchasing a new electric bbq for the rec ground due to the funds we raised.

The committee are very proud of our 2024 efforts and are hoping for more fundraising success this year.

We are reaching out to all community groups to let us know if there is anything you may need which will benefit our beautiful Strathbogrie community.

Please get in touch if you have any requests for your group or committee. We are keen for our fundraising efforts to be placed back into the community.

Deb McKie, Chair, Strathbogrie Festival Committee Debmckie7@gmail.com

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- Older siblings welcome; please keep in mind playgroup is screen free





CELEBRATE EASTER SUNDAY
April 20th 2025
AT SUNRISE
(6.51 am)
ON MT. WOMBAT

Come and join with others and be part of this Easter celebration.
Watch the sun come up and experience the joy of celebrating
the Resurrection of Jesus this Easter on the mountain top.
(Bring your chair and camera too.)
Meet at the Mountain top near the Telstra towers at 6.15am onwards.
Light refreshments will be provided after the service.

For further enquiries contact:
Ps. Bob Bruce, Euroa Baptist Church.
or Joan Wood. 0427905297.

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The STAG Report

The following notes are from our most recent Strathbogie Tableland Action Group meeting, which was held on 23rd March 2025 at the Boho South hall.

- There was more discussion on some of the items carried over from our February meeting.
- There has been no community feedback on solutions for the on going dumping of non recyclables & rubbish left at the Strathbogie Recreation ground, although there is community outrage that this is occurring.
- The hall committee and STAG along with Bogarts held a night of music and celebration at the Strathbogie Memorial Hall on 22nd March.
- The Safer Roads Strathbogie (SRS) has been approved as a new STAG subcommittee.
- We all liked the wildlife signs erected at the Strathbogie hall exits. More may be erected on some fences around the main access roads to the Strathbogie township.
- The pizza and film night held at the Strathbogie Rec reserve was a huge success. STAG would like to thank the Strathbogie Shire Council for their support and providing the free film and other activities.
- Steve Wardrop has been nominated and accepted as a new member of STAG.
- **Community bus service project:** Marion has been liaising with Jean McKinnon (The Council Community Development Officer) who will shortly assist Marion to devise a community poll. The Council will only support this idea if there is enough community support and the poll will be set up to see how much our community would use a bus service if it were to be established.

A course on how to safely use and maintain a chain saw has been held on 20th and 21st March. This was funded by the LEAP (Local Emergency Action Plan) funding. There were 8 places available. It is fully booked.

Stuart Bridgman

Quiz Question of the Month

What is a word, phrase, number, or other sequence of characters that reads the same backward as forward?

Answer: A:palindrome



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“Hi” to all newcomers to our beautiful Strathbogie Tableland & Community

STAG (Strathbogie Tableland Action Group), has prepared a number of Strathbogie Tableland Welcome Packs, which are available for all newcomers to our Tableland community.

The pack contains information on local committees and community groups, local events, bushfire emergency information, an edition of Tableland Talk (our local monthly newsletter), our local website (strathbogie.org), a local business directory, maps, some local goodies, etc.

If you would like one of these packs, please contact:

Kath Handasyde: kathstuart60@gmail.com

or

Pennie Beard: claneypenne@gmail.com

ARTBOX – Calling Artists of Strathbogie Shire

Would you like to showcase your art or craft in Strathbogie Shire’s travelling ARTBOX?

Following the success of this year’s exhibitions, when 30 artists throughout the year inspired the Strathbogie community with their work, we are now seeking artists to exhibit in this amazing space in 2025.

The exhibitions this year included internationally renowned artists alongside our up-and-coming local artists including pupils from Peranbin Primary College, Strathbogie Campus.

Since its launch in July 2023, ARTBOX has created a space for many local artists to exhibit their artwork.

This innovative travelling exhibition space promotes the skills of both established and emerging artists, providing a dynamic way to connect communities and visitors to our region through arts and culture.

Artists have reported strong interest in their work, resulting in multiple sales. ARTBOX continues to create opportunities for regional and remote communities in the Shire to experience and engage with the creative arts.

Artists can choose the town and exhibition dates that best suit them by talking with our Arts and Culture Officer Therese Thompson by phoning 1800 065 993 or by emailing info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au.

This touring ARTBOX is supported by Creative Arts Victoria.

For further information:

Merrill Boyd
E: Merrill.boyd@strathbogie.vic.gov.au
P: 0438 678 323

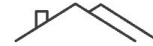


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SAVE THE DATE – Thursday, April 24th

**GATHERING ON THE GRASS
WOMEN WELCOMING WOMEN**

Come picnic with women from Syria, Iraq, Iran, Malaysia, Tamil Nadu & the Congo.

**Seven Creeks Park, Euroa, 11am – 2pm
Please bring a savoury (veg) or sweet plate to share & a rug (or chair if need be).**



Enquiries: Ruth Fluhr 0427979231

It's all the koala's fault.



On a blustery hot mid-summer's day, we sat in a shady clearing underneath some massive blue gums, looking to catch a breath and wondering whether we had finally found Nirvana. We'd spent the morning clambering among boulders, some the size of a 3-storey houses, and wandering through the dry, yet still verdant, bushland that characterises the Strathbogie Tableland.

It was hot and sweaty work - the heat amplified by precipitous terrain and parched environs - but we were buzzing with excitement. Why was that? Because we had spent the last 18 months diligently and doggedly trekking all over Victoria to find a plot of dirt to call our own. Every weekend had been spent on the road, exploring whole areas or just likely properties.

Every weekday night back home in the big city, scouring the internet for more places to consider. And this day, it was looking like we may have found a good'un.

Dana had found this property online and liked the vibe from the real estate photo set. I wasn't entirely sold but dug the area after we'd looked at one property in Galls Gap Rd recently. That one didn't work for us but this patch just might.

This day, after scoping and assessing the infrastructure, we took a long exploratory walk into the bushland that covered most of this block. Our relatively youthful fitness and enthusiasm had overcome the steep climb in and out of the valley. The whole country had been in extended drought and the duff was both thick and crunchy underfoot.

This place had challenges sure, but still ticked most of our boxes and just kind of felt right. The real clincher came as we rehydrated back at the picnic spot the previous owner had cleared. Sitting there umming and aghhhing, we were startled by a big male koala right above our heads, letting the world know his presence in the obscenely guttural way that only these critters can. We looked at each other and simultaneously said "it's a sign!"

18 years later, trusting this intuition still seems like a very good decision. I saw a healthy descendent last week and thanked it for grandpappies advice. We love this Bogie paradise.

John O'Brien

Too many country gardeners missing out on free soil test - EPA



EPA Victoria says too many country gardeners are missing out on free soil screening from a government citizen science project that's mapping soil conditions across the state. The state's environmental regulator says 2,000 home gardeners have registered and sent in more than 5,000 soil samples so far, but most have come from the metropolitan area.

Victoria's Chief Environmental Scientist Prof Mark Patrick Taylor says it's a free service for home gardeners that does science and the environment a favour. "Register on the EPA Victoria website, send in three small samples and you'll receive a scientific assessment of your soil condition and the trace elements it contains," Prof Taylor said. "It's a free offer to home gardeners anywhere in Victoria, but we're not seeing many samples from country areas so far," he said. "EPA's scientists will add your soil data to a study that is mapping soil condition across the state. You'll be helping scientific research and getting a detailed report on what's feeding your garden."

So far, approximately 80% of the 5,800 individual samples screened have shown trace elements that are within recommended levels. EPA provides a scientific report, and if the soil is not up to scratch, EPA can give you some tips on ways to manage your garden. "Any home gardener who sends in samples can have scientific results for the price of the postage and ensure your family is gardening in soil you can trust – we just need more country people to get involved,"

Register or see more details on GardenSafe on the EPA Victoria website:
epa.vic.gov.au/for-community/get-involved/citizen-science-program/gardensafe



Strathbogrie Shire Council

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES | MORE DETAILS TO COME

Climate Ready Gardens: 2-day Design Course Euroa	26 March & 2 April 2025
ARTBOX -Euroa Impressions by Anna Mackrell, Bruce Hargraves and Deborah Cavanagh Euroa	2 April - 28 April 2025
Explore Euroa Day	13 April 2025
Childrens School Holiday Activities	April 2025
Volunteer Week Event	May 2025
Reconciliation Week Event at Shadforth Reserve, Violet Town	25 May 2025
ARTBOX - Festival of Fungus Euroa	May 2025

For more information please visit the 'Whats On' page via www.strathbogrie.vic.gov.au



Brianna King

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Rockfish: A Youth-Driven Festival of Music, Fishing & Fun!



Young people across the Shire are set to take centre stage as RockFish—a free, high energy event featuring live music, a fishing competition, and food vans—lands at the **Euroa Arboretum** on Saturday, 19th April 2025, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Co-designed by the Strathbogie Rocks FReeZA Youth Crew, RockFish is an exciting vape, tobacco, drug, and alcohol-free event that provides a safe and fun space for young people to connect, celebrate, and enjoy great entertainment.

The event will showcase electric bands including The Viceroy's, Ungraded and Punk Band from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM, followed by acoustic acts Lillian Kilroy, Jeremiah, Grace and Danny and more from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Meanwhile, a fishing competition will run from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM, offering prizes for the best catches of

the day. RockFish will celebrate young people's music and culture while also bringing together the community to connect, engage, and enjoy the beautiful region in which we live.

Attendees can enjoy a variety of food vans, giveaways, and community activities throughout the event. Funded by Freeza and The Community Recovery Hub which is jointly funded by the Australian and Victorian Governments through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

RockFish is part of a broader initiative to support youth-led events that build community connections and resilience. "RockFish is all about giving young people a space to enjoy live music, the outdoors, and each other's company in a positive and welcoming environment," said Mayor, Cr Claire Ewart-Kennedy. "This event has been shaped by young people for young people, and we're excited to see it come to life."

The event is free to attend, and all young people, families, and community members are encouraged to join in. Bookings can be made at <https://events.humanitix.com/rockfish>
For more information, visit www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au or call 1800 065 993

For further information: Tiffany Nicholas E: tiffany.nicholas@strathbogie.vic.gov.au P: 0438 184 693

BinRight Strathbogie App Now Available



Strathbogie Shire Council is making it easier than ever for residents to manage their waste and recycling with the launch of the BinRight Strathbogie app. This free app provides residents with personalised bin collection reminders, an A-Z waste sorting guide, and the latest updates on Council's waste services, ensuring everyone can sort it smart and bin it right.

From May to July 2025, all households with a kerbside collection service will receive a new purple-lidded bin for glass recycling. This bin will be collected once every four weeks, while the collection frequency of general rubbish, mixed recycling, and organics will remain the same.

The app will assist residents by displaying their updated bin schedule once the service begins.

The BinRight Strathbogie app is now available for free download on the [App Store \(Apple\)](#), and [Google Play \(Android\)](#). Find more information about the app at www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/binright-app.

For more information about the upcoming purple-lidded glass recycling bin rollout, visit www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/4-bins, or contact Council on 1800 065 993, or at info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au.

For further information:

Michelle Harris E: Michelle.Harris@strathbogie.vic.gov.au P: 0419 386 082





What's worth finding out on www.strathbogie.org?

There is no limit to the range of interests within the Strathbogie Garden Group; it encompasses whatever garden styles, plant preferences and related subjects that individuals care about. Afternoon (or morning) tea is a feature of our get-togethers but as there is usually too much, it's not compulsory to bring anything! This is also a time for "show and tell" when anyone can bring along something of interest from their garden to share with the group.

Every so often we organise a visit to a special garden, nursery or other venue of interest, usually car-pooling on these occasions and making a day of it.

Contact numbers are: 5790 8523 / 0438 823 594

wendyelowman@gmail.com

Find the page here: [Garden Group – Strathbogie Tableland](#)

STAG Communications subcommittee



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For all your On-Farm fuel deliveries and lube supplies please contact

Mark Reynolds

Business Development Executive

Shepparton

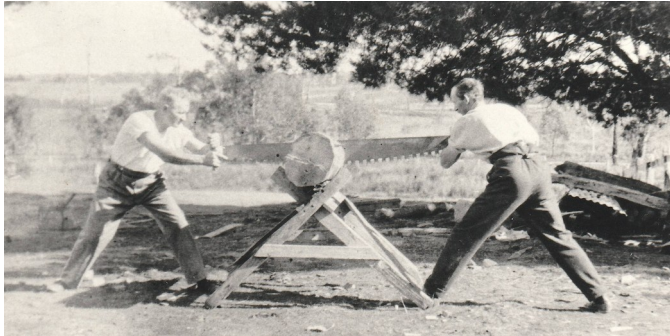
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"THE FAMOUS EASTER CHOP."

At Strathbogie North. By "Pass the Salt."



Mackrell WG on left & W Ellis on right
training for cross-cut sawing competition
Strathbogie North Hall

While out at North Strathbogie, a week or two ago,
I heard there were some sports on-of course I had to go;
I knew that everybody there would greet their kin and kith.
And that the sport would be quite clean, as the starter was Bob Smith.
The first thing, though, that struck me and started me to muse
Was the absence of the "bookies," and likewise of the booze;
Thought I, well there is wisdom, by committee here displayed, -
As I viewed the happy crowd, all in their best arrayed.
Still I'd no time to ponder, amidst this happy throng,
As the crowd were moving here and there to follow Bob Smith's gong;
I followed all and sundry till at a sudden stop,
We all stood round the warriors of the famous 'Bogie chop.
Time-keepers came with watch in hand to time the fine displays,
While starter Smith looked anxious, likewise did Joseph Hayes,
Gus Crosbie, mounted on his steed, was looking at his best,
While all the girls admired him as he straightened up his chest.
"Stand back there, please," he shouted, as his Arab gave a prance,
"We wish the chop to be quite fair, give everyone a chance."
The crowd, though all excited, obeyed his word at once,
And, mind you, as for shifting crowds, I tell you he's no dunce.
As clerk of course and what-not he shouted himself hoarse,
It struck me, as I saw him, he should be in the force;
His father. Standing near him is a steward good and true,
For, minus Mr. Crosbie, what would "The 'Bogie" do?
Although his quiet manner hardly lets you know he's there,
He always sees that everything is carried on quite fair;
I think the North Strathbogie folk, and some of them from birth,
Look up to Mr. Crosbie, for well they know his worth.
Had I the space and time I could enlarge a lot
On all the faithful stewards I saw there on the spot.
Just one I'd like to mention, jolly as a sailor,
And one they all esteem so much, his name is Johnny Taylor.
He picks the winner every time, as they come past the post.
I never heard of one dispute in that assembled host.
He does his duty thoroughly, and that's the best he can,
And, like the village blacksmith, cares not for any man.
But I must get to business, and tell you of the chop,
And leave the trots and hunts alone, or else I'll never stop,
So, as I said before, I must say so again,
I got quite close up to the logs, to see the awful strain.
The first I noted at one end, among a lot of fresh 'uns.
Was veteran Willy Mackrell, shaking hands with Sessions;
I overheard a word from Will, "he thought he would be beat,"
He didn't Chop in usual form, came second in his heat.'
But now the chop is nearing, ready for the start,
And starter Smith is standing to play his little part:
"Get on your logs," a steward says (I think it's Johnny Taylor)
And as the ladies stand and look, each grows a little paler.
The warriors stand with axe in hand, each looking at his blade,
Each thinking that perhaps to him the prize would soon be paid;

Some are extra heavy men, some a little frailer,
"They're of," -the first to got the word to go, was Arthur Taylor.
He makes a mighty slashing cut, he heaves his axe on high,
The people standing near him send out a cheering cry
"Go it, Art., you darling boy," one dear old dame did roar:
Says Arthur, "Well, I'll try to win." Good lad, "Excelsior."
He keeps on chopping, does his best, with telling mighty digs,
And now two more have started, Williams and Young Briggs;
Yes, Bill McCoombe is at it, Will Einsporn's going strong,
And as the crowd start cheering, thought I we shan't be long."
For all the rest are at it now, young axe men in full bloom,
The one that's to be reckoned with, they said, was Tom McCoombe;
Excitement grows the more intense, each trying each to beat,
And Mackrell, Sessions, Williams, Briggs, are in the final heat.
Before I leave the heats though, one thing I'd like to say,
That is, I think Les Armstrong is the coming man to-day;
Of course I don't profess to know what some had "up their sleeve."
But, in a year, or may be less, young Les will make them grieve.
A batch of happy maidens are watching young Lance Ray,
For the village blacksmith's son is there to chop his log away.
He rolls his sleeves right to the top of those brown, brawny arms,
And as he smiles at all the girls, it is a "sight that charms."
Of course we can't forget the vet., Will Mackrell, who's still sound,
And truer sportsman's hard to find in searching 'Bogie round,
He's chopped in many famous chops, and won a score or more,
And if he likes to keep it, he's "not behind the door."
At any rate, be what that is, the four of them have met
Williams, Briggs, Sessions, Mack, each anxious to get set;
Of course the first two get a start, like rabbit from a dog,
For Mackrell, likewise Sessions, are not yet upon their log.
Bob Smith is looking anxious, his watch is in his hand,
His waddy, balanced in the air, down on the gong doth land;
The tension now is awful, as axes fly and flash,
For Mackrell's got ago on, and how his log does crash.
And Session's got to business, to win it if he can,
If picking out an athlete, he's just the sort of man,
As cool as old "Jack" Carbine he looked when he was done,
His cuts were clean and even-the famous chop he'd won.
And now that Willy Mack is beaten by young Sessions,
'Twill keep the interest in the sport, if followed up by fresh 'uns.
When asked it he'd a rival now, the only thing he'd tell is
"I am almost sure to lose if run against by Ellis."
"PASS THE SALT."

*This appeared in Euroa Advertiser, May 8th 1908.
Courtesy Loretta McPherson and Irene Jones*

Strathbogie Memorial Hall Rooms & Accessories Hire

Available for hire:

- ⇒ Main Hall -\$200
- ⇒ Supper Room -\$70
- ⇒ Soldiers Room -\$50
- ⇒ Kitchen -\$50
- ⇒ Projector -\$60
- ⇒ PA hire -\$20

*Any excessive power usage due to heating/
cooling will be invoiced to the user.*

For more information ring Mary 0419 592 211
or Marg 0407 919 005.

Euroa Explore Day to Bring the Community Together



Residents are invited to come together for a day of fun, connection, and community spirit at the Euroa Explore Day on Sunday, 13 April 2025, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Seven Creeks Park, Euroa. This free, family-friendly event is part of Council's ongoing commitment to strengthening community resilience following the 2022 floods. Featuring live music, food vans, kids' activities, and more than 22 local organisations showcasing their work, the event aims to bring the community together, support local groups, and encourage volunteer participation.

Mayor, Cr Claire Ewart-Kennedy said the event is a fantastic opportunity for residents to reconnect, explore local opportunities, and enjoy a fun-filled day with family and friends. "This event is all about celebrating the strength and resilience of our community," Mayor Ewart-Kennedy said. "It's a chance to come together, meet new people, and discover the amazing clubs and groups that help make Euroa such a great place to live."

The event will offer superhero training for kids, face painting, and Easter egg hunts, as well as miniature railway rides from 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM. Attendees will also have the chance to speak with local organisations and clubs, learn about volunteer opportunities, and get involved in community activities.

This event is funded by the Community Recovery Hub. The Community Recovery Hub is jointly funded by the Australian and Victorian Governments through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

For more information visit www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au or call 1800 065 99



**GRANITE BRIDGE
AGRICULTURAL
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**Rural Contracting
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& Chainsaw Work**

Tractor Work Using Deutz Fahr 96hp Tractor:

- ◊ Flail Mowing with 2.4m (8ft) cutting width
- ◊ Front End Loader Work - Bucket, Heavy Stick Rake, Pallet Forks
- ◊ Hay handling with front and rear forks
- ◊ Post Hole Digging - 6" to 24" diameter augers
- ◊ Harrowing with 4m (13ft) harrows
- ◊ Grading with 1.8m (6ft) grader blade
- ◊ Light Plowing / Scarification with 3.2m S-Tine Cultivator
- ◊ Pulling, Pushing and Towing - 4wd and 4 wheel diff locks can pull whole trees!



Fencing, Chainsaw & General Work:

- ◊ New Fence Erections
 - timber, steel or concrete posts, wire or wire/hinge joint fences
- ◊ Fence Repair and Clearing Trees Off Fences
- ◊ Chainsaw Work and other tasks around the farm



Now offering Deep Ripping, Pipelaying (via ripper), and Fertiliser Spreading!

Jobs requiring two men charged with additional \$55/hour

RATES: Tractor Work: \$77 per hour incl. GST (\$70 + GST)
Other Work: \$55 per hour incl. GST (\$50+GST)

- Rates include fuel & oil - transit time charged - materials and other consumables extra -

Call Big Clarky on 0406 074 019 or Julie on 5790 5226 to discuss!

Recipe of the Month

It is time for **Tomato Sauce!**

Ingredients

- 1 ½ kilos tomatoes roughly chopped
- ⅔ cup white wine vinegar
- 3 teaspoons salt
- ½ cup caster sugar
- 1 clove garlic sliced thinly
- 1 teaspoon fresh ginger grated (or ¼ teaspoon ground dried ginger)
- ½ teaspoon whole cloves (or ¼ teaspoon ground cloves)
- ½ teaspoon allspice (ground)
- 3 teaspoons black peppercorns
- ⅛ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 onion (optional, onion isn't in some recipes but many people prefer a recipe with onion)



Method

Place all ingredients in a large saucepan and bring to the boil, stirring. Simmer for 2-3 hours, partly covered and stirring from time to time. Strain half of the mixture through a coarse sieve into a bowl, and then the other half. Use a spoon to push sauce through the sieve and extract as much liquid as possible. Discard solids.

Alternatively, blend the cooked sauce in a food processor or chopper (but keep in mind the sauce will have a spicier kick).

Pour hot mixture into a medium-sized sterilised bottle and seal.

Store in fridge or a cool and dark place (depending on the process you used to can the sauce). If you are not familiar with how to properly preserve sauces, store in the fridge to be safe.

Once opened, store in the fridge.

In forests

In forests we go walking to find the time for talking
to take us away from the city hustle ever stalking

I meet you on love's wings at the perimeter of
meadows
and I love you all the more as we enter soft green
forest shadows

we take the paths less trodden to open new forest
doors
we find our way to high places to meres and rugged
moors

the ferns they point our way with glistening fronds a
waving
guiding us through the timeless forest we find
ourselves a weaving
hand in hand we travel each a lovestruck wandering
Gypsy
a time a place alone together precious magical and
carefree

sun rays light the glades with golden shafts of
wonder
we look aloft, laugh and dance beneath the forest
grandeur

we lie down on forest beds and let our fingers do
some walking
our hands our lips our tongue tips put a silence to
the talking

again the language of forest love begins and with it
our renewal
I'll always be your forest love you my cherished
forest jewel

Sean Mathews



North Creek, Strathbogie Forest. Perfect for lovers.

Tableland Chainsaw course, funded by the Local Emergency Action Plan



On the 20th and 21st of March, a group of eight Tablelanders participated in a chainsaw course, run by The Hub for Learning. This accredited course covered the safe operation and maintenance of chainsaws, and how to trim and cut felled trees, with the idea of having more skills in our community, including to assist when we have fallen trees around the Tableland.

practical training, including sharpening and cutting felled timber.

There was a strong focus on safe chainsaw practices and PPE. Our first day, held at the Strathbogie Memorial Hall, covered theory and chainsaw maintenance. The 2nd day, which we ran at our place at Boho South, was hands on setting chainsaw chains, PPE and various approaches to



Our Trainer, from The Hub for Learning, Gavin Thomas, was excellent: knowledgeable, very helpful, clear and cheerful. The result was a fantastic two days, and while we were all a tad tired at the end, we came away feeling much more confident and proficient with our chainsaws. We all agreed that our training was also a heap of fun – there were many laughs and a great sense of camaraderie.

This course was generously funded out of the Local Emergency Action Plan (LEAP) money from Murrindindi (there has been excellent collaboration between our local Shires during the LEAP projects). Our thanks to the team who helped make this happen: Peter Sharman (Murrindindi Shire), Alexandra Parratt (The Hub for Learning) and Mark Leitinger (Strathbogie Shire).

Kath Handasyde (text), Stuart Bridgman (Photos)

Home Fire Safety Information Session, Strathbogie



There are about 3800 house fires in Victoria every year. These incidents result in property damage, injuries and sometimes death. Increase your awareness of common causes of fires in the home and understand the ways to prevent them.

**Sunday 18 May 2025
10:30am - 11:30am
Strathbogie Memorial Hall**

Come along for a discussion on home fire safety over scones, tea and coffee

Topics covered include:

- Current smoke alarm recommendations
- Fire Safety in the kitchen, laundry, and bedrooms
- Electrical Safety
- Heater Safety
- Safety around open flames
- BBQ Safety
- Home Escape Plans

For further information and to RSVP contact:
Emily - emily.birch@cfa.vic.gov.au 0447 415 849
or Kim - kim.usher@bigpond.com 0439 468 906

cfa.vic.gov.au

'The Euroa Three' Art Box exhibition

features the work of three accomplished artists whose passion for their surroundings is vividly expressed in their art:

□ **Bruce Hargrave** – With a background in education and a deep appreciation for the spontaneity of watercolour, Bruce's paintings capture the ever-changing beauty of Euroa and Melbourne's Albert Park. "It is the excitement of watercolour which I love—the challenge of delicious colour mixes and the depth, distance, and drama that this medium can evoke".

□ **Deb Cavanagh** – After years of exploring the landscapes of northern and central Australia, Deb now focuses on the transitions of Taungurung Country and Melbourne. Her vibrant works depict local landscapes, birds, botanicals, and even much-loved pets. "There is really no need to venture far; everything unfolds right on my doorstep," she reflects.

□ **Anna Mackrell** – Raised in Strathbogie and internationally trained, Anna's expressive oil paintings and drawings capture the essence of the region's landscapes and flora. With extensive teaching and exhibition experience, Anna continues to be an integral part of Victoria's art scene. At least one of the artists will be in attendance each day, providing visitors with an opportunity to engage with the creative minds behind the works.

Artbox, Euroa 2 April – 28 April