

ANZAC DAY at Strathbogie 2025



Held on Thursday 24th April, so the school children can participate in the march - led by Strathbogie's very own piper, Greg Roberts, and service - so capably MC'd by Chris Thomson.

The speaker this year was Kylie Michelle, who spoke about her real

life experiences in the Navy and a few years later, the Army. Kylie lives on the site of the original Strathbogie School.

Allan Rowarth was responsible for raising the flags and volunteer members of the Strathbogie CFA were responsible for traffic control.

Morning tea was partaken in the Memorial Hall supper room and for this, we would like to thank Brian and Brenda Law and the Strathbogie Store. The Soldiers' Room was opened with a display on the table and the permanent soldiers photo display.

We had guests from Euroa RSL, Mayor Claire, Johnston family descendent from the Mansfield area and some locals which in all, made it such a nice day.



On behalf of the Strathbogie School and History Group, thank you to everyone that participated.

Loretta McPherson

What's On

May 8 RAR Gathering on the Grass p8
May 17—25 Festival of Fungi p17
May 17 Puff Ball p10, 17 & 18
May 18 CFA Safety Day p6
May 21 Community Grants close p9
May 24 Embrace Kids film at Hall p10
May 26 Art Trail EOI closes p14

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. Enquiries 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 Bridget Jones: Mad about the boy M May 2 10.30am, May 3 8.15pm, May 4 7.15pm

Black Bag M May 3 6pm, May 4 5pm Flow PG May 10 6pm, May 11 5pm Memoir of a Snail M May 10 8.15pm, May 11 7.15pm

I'm still here M May 17 6pm, May 18 5pm **The Room Next Door** PG May 17 8.45pm, May 18 7.45pm

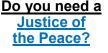
Mickey 17 M May 24 6pm, May 25 5pm Superman: The Christopher Reeve Story M May 24 8.45pm, May 25 7.45pm Picnic at Hanging Rock PG May 30 10.30am, May 31 6pm, June 1 5pm Green Card PG May 31 8.15pm, June 1 7.15pm

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



Library Service

The library service Mondays 10.00—12.00 in the Soldier's Room at the Hall. Next: May 5 & 19.



Chris Thomson 'Aberdeen' 5790 5340

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



Jokes of the Month

A couple are overheard talking. Partner One asks the other, "How do you control your anger when I annoy you?" Partner Two replies, "I just go clean the toilet." This leads to the question, "How does that help?" Partner Two answers, "I use your toothbrush!"

Two cows were standing next to each other in a field. Daisy says to Dolly, "I was artificially inseminated last night." Dolly says, "I don't believe you." "It's true. No bull!" Dolly exclaimed.



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Help on 1800 858 858 or go to gamblershelp.com.au 24hrs a day for immediate support.

Euroa Cinema

Tickets \$12 at box office or https:// events.humanitix.com/euroacommunity-cinema

Spit M May 3 7.30pm, May 4 4pm Black Bag M May 10 7.30pm, May 11 4pm

The Correspondent M May 17 7.30pm, May 18 4pm Mission Impossible: The Final Reckoning May 24 7.30pm, May 25 4pm

The Penguin Lessons M May 31 7.30pm, June 1 4pm

> **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

The Deadline for the June edition of Tableland Talk is Monday, May 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.

Mr Fong's Farm: The Old Chinaman's Hut Project. Strathbogie, Vic



There's an old dry-stone hut on our property at Brookleigh Road that has been keeping its secrets close to its chest for decades. With the help of some wonderful local people and some remarkable discoveries, I have found out a lot about it including its age, its use as a residence and that it used to be called 'The Old Chinaman's Hut'.

We have found plenty of evidence that supports the idea that a Chinese man lived there and that the hut was built 1860-1880 but what we really need is more local confirmation that this was the way people knew it and referred to it. So, if you ever heard anyone call the hut by that name – I'd really love to know. Or if by chance you know anything at all about it – please get in touch with me.

My aim is to submit this project to a number of historical and university groups for proper investigation so we can bring to life an understanding of the people who lived there and add that knowledge to Strathbogie's rich history.

I am told it could be of significant historical interest. This is a bit of stretch but there's even a chance we know the name of the man who built the hut and lived in it – Fong. Local knowledge suggests Mr Fong came to Strathbogie from the gold fields and some old photos from 1970, which show other stone structures in the background, suggest he may have had small livestock or market gardens here.

There's also a chance this was a small Chinese settlement with other people, possibly his family, living there with him.

So please, if you have ever even just heard of the hut or have any knowledge, no matter how small give me (MeI) a call or text on 0461423604 or send me an email at <u>melaniegamble1@gmail.com</u>

This isn't just about stones, artifacts and old forgotten things, it is about someone who lived, worked, dreamed and was part of the early history of our community. *Mel Gamble*





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Strathbogie Ranges - Nature View –

Stories, activities & more. Ecology, landscape and natural history <u>https://bit.ly/3sh52K1</u>

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



Bogie Tree

- 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



Very Reasonable Advertising Rates - Advertising solely funds this newsletter. Advertisements for revenue raising or business advertisements are charged per issue at 1/8 page \$7, 1/4 page \$14, 1/2 page \$21, full page \$42. Exact size and placement is at the discretion of the Editor. Free community event advertising is at no cost. For more information e: tablelandtalk@gmail.com or m: 0400 019 607. Please support our advertisers.

Council to Undertake Comprehensive Community Engagement on Australia Day Funding

Strathbogie Shire Council is inviting the community to participate in an engagement process regarding Council's support of community events that acknowledge Australia Day. At its December 2024 Meeting, Council resolved to review its position on this matter, committing to engagement with the broader Strathbogie community, affected community groups, and First Nations representatives. A detailed engagement approach has now been developed and presented at the April 2025 Council Meeting for consideration.

Mayor Ewart-Kennedy said. "We understand that Australia Day holds different meanings for different people, and we want to ensure all voices are heard as we consider Council's future role in supporting these events." "We acknowledge that Australia Day is the responsibility of the Federal Government, which determines its broader political implications. As a result, our local poll will be focused solely on what Council can control – funding, representation and support of Australia Day events" Mayor Ewart-Kennedy went on to say. Australia Day is a federally recognised public holiday, Council is not engaging in discussions about changing the date or other political elements, as those remain matters for the Federal Government. Instead, we are focusing on understanding the sentiment of our community and implementing outcomes accordingly.

Council's Future Approach to Australia Day Events

Strathbogie Shire Council endorsed a comprehensive community engagement approach to gauge community sentiment regarding Council's support of Australia Day events. This engagement will include both a randomised telephone poll and an opt-in community poll, alongside other methods of community consultation. Council will also invite presentations from the Taungurung Land and Waters Council and Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation, as well as from local Australia Day Committees and groups that organise events on Australia Day.

A further report detailing the outcomes of these engagements—including individual reporting of each stream and the complete underlying data—will be presented to Council at a future meeting.

Next Steps

The community engagement process aligns with Council's adopted Community Engagement Policy and will be conducted at the "Consult" level of the IAP2 Spectrum — promising to inform, listen, and provide feedback on how input influences future decisions. We are acutely aware of the concerns from the

community about the use of funds to implement this and are committed to resourcing the best option available with fiscal responsibility at the forefront. Once engagement activities are complete, a full engagement report will be prepared and presented to Council for consideration before being made available to the public.

For more information and to participate in the poll, visit: https:// share.strathbogie.vic.gov.au -For further information: Michelle Harris Michelle.harris@strathbogie.vic.gov.au Ph: 0419 386 08



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

Sustainable Forests

In the 11 years since the first 2014 meeting much has happened and much has been achieved to protect Strathbogie Forest. For detailed information about this journey, visit the project website (<u>Our Strathbogie Forest</u>) and Facebook page (<u>Facebook page</u>).

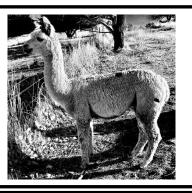
Find the page here: <u>Sustainable Forests – Strathbogie Tableland</u>

STAG Communications subcommittee

Alpacas for Lamb Protection

Protect your lambs and ewes from foxes this winter. We now have alpaca wethers available and ready to work. Shorn and vaccinated. We also have some females available.

Delivery can be negotiated. Prices vary, so call or email for details. Jenny 0408 533654 at Kelvin View or <u>tularosa@fastmail.com.au</u>





Have you heard of Sandakan?

The Sandakan "death march" remains the greatest single atrocity committed against Australians in any war. When Singapore fell, in February 1942, many of the captured Allied Forces, which included mostly Australians, were sent to Sandakan to build an airstrip.

By late 1944, with Allied Forces advancing toward Borneo, the Japanese decided to send about 2,000 prisoners to Ranau, in Borneo's rugged interior, about 260 kilometres away. Weak and sick prisoners staggered along the jungle tracks, those unable to continue died where they fell or were killed, many of their bodies never recovered, and those too weak to march in the first place, were left behind in Sandakan, where they all died or were killed.

Only six Australians – survived. One Prisoner of War who didn't make it back was Samuel John Hanley JURY, born right here at Strathbogie, and the grandson of James Rae, the local blacksmith 1903 – 1920. His mum was Jessie Stella Rae who had married Albert JURY.

The Jury family are from Bonnie Doon. Mrs Rae helped deliver baby Samuel, born at Strathbogie, June 26th 1908. Samuel's father Albert Jury, died in NSW in 1918, his grandfather James Rae died in 1924 and is buried in the Strathbogie cemetery and his mother Jessie died in 1938. Samuel married in 1929 and two children were born.

He enlisted from Thornbury in 1941, he was missing by March 1942, declared a prisoner of war April 1943, died in October 1945 and has no known grave. He is remembered at the Labuan War Cemetery on the small Island of Labuan, situated off the north west coast of Borneo and the Australian War Memorial.

The total number of graves on Labuan is 3,905 – 2,700 graves are those of the men from Sandakan of which nearly half are unnamed - it was reported that of the 2,400 men who left Sandakan only 260 arrived at Ranau and most of these succumbed later.





Loretta McPherson

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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: <u>kathstuart60@gmail.com</u>

or

Pennie Beard: claneypennie@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 <u>info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au</u>.

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, May 8th

GATHERING ON THE GRASS

WOMEN WELCOMING WOMEN

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Seven Creeks Park, Euroa, 11am – 2pm

Please bring a savoury (veg) or sweet

plate to share & a rug (or chair if need be).

Community Hubs Australia



Enquiries: Ruth Fluhr 0427979231

Exciting Funding Opportunities: Strathbogie Shire Council Launches 2025-2026 Community Grants Program

Community groups and event organisers - your chance to secure funding is here! Strathbogie Shire Council is thrilled to announce the launch of the 2025-2026 Community Grants Program, supporting local projects that strengthen, connect, and celebrate our vibrant community.

Mayor Cr Claire Ewart-Kennedy encouraged community groups to take advantage of the program. "These grants provide the financial support needed to transform great ideas into action,"

Funding Streams & Key Dates—The Community Strengthening Grant portal opens on 16 April 2025 and closes on 21 May 2025. There are three funding categories available:

• Sustainability Grants – for projects that align with Council's Climate Change Action Plan.

• Community Strengthening Grants – for projects that foster social connection and inclusion.

• Quick Response Grants – opening 1 July 2025 and available until 29 May 2026 (or until funds are exhausted).

"Last year, we were delighted to support 19 successful Community Grant applicants, delivering over \$163,000 in community-led projects that benefited our Shire," Cr Ewart-Kennedy said.

How to Apply & Get Support Applications must be submitted via Strathbogie SmartyGrants.

• Full details, including eligibility and an outline of the application and assessment process are available in the Community Grant Guidelines 2025-2026 https://Strathbogie.Smartygrants.com.au on Council's website.

Need help?

Council's Community Development Officer will be available between 17 April – 14 May to assist Community Grant applicants with the process, including tips on strengthening applications.

For further information: Michelle Harris Michelle.harris@strathbogie.vic.gov.au Ph: 0419 386 082

Quiz Question of the Month

Q: Aureolin is a shade of which colour?

wolleY :'19w2nA

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Strathbogie Memorial Hall Report

April saw the arrival and installation of a generator at the Hall. Funded generously by the Energy Resilience Grant from Ausnet. Our community is one step closer to being able to look after ourselves in an emergency.

May is an action-packed month at the Hall, we are hosting the Puff Ball as a part of the Fungi festival on Saturday 17th May. Looking forward to seeing people in crazy fungi outfits dancing to Hoodoo Mayhem playing their New Orleans funk.

There is also a movie session on Sunday 24th May showing the inspirational documentary EMBRACE KIDS, a film by Taryn Brumfitt, which brings together a vibrant collection of stories from young people and famous friends alike, who share their experiences about body image, bullying, gender identity, advocacy, representation and more.



Dana Last



Brianna King

Counsellor | Embodied Processing Practitioner | Integrated Attachment Theory Coach | Trauma-informed Coach. Offering services to individuals Australia-wide via Telehealth (Zoom)

For more info please see my website:

lightthewaycounselling.com

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Strathbogie Recreation Ground

All bookings are to be made with John O'Brien 0439 818 366 <u>rec@strathbogie.org</u> slow anger infiltrates expands like smoke explodes into furious rage scorches and burns all it touches then dissolves into shame and misery

sean mathews

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A Gardener's Revenge

While strolling around our garden I spied snails had enjoyed many midnight feasts. Deciding this time they'd really gone too far I declared all out war on those slippery, slimy beasts.

> The villains would be dwelling nearby Of that there wasn't any doubt. I'd resort to a little detective work And seek those greedy culprits out.

So I followed a shiny silvery trail That resembled lurex thread spread upon the surface there. Knowing this trail would definitely Eventually lead me to their lair...

I discovered these gastropods Their stomachs quite extended. From gorging upon my plants I knew the time had finally come for me to take a stance. I exposed where they were blissfully dreaming Beneath a mossy rock. Devising a stealthy line of attack I murmured, 'A'ha are you lot in for a nasty shock!'

Maybe I'm some kind of diabolic monster For with foot poised above that slumbering bunch I experienced a perverse pleasure At the sound of the ensuring fatal crunch!!!

I guess that snails get hungry And that they have their needs. But there's something that I can't work out, WHY DON'T THEY EAT THE WEEDS?

> Helen Dunnachie courtesy of Dayle Tame

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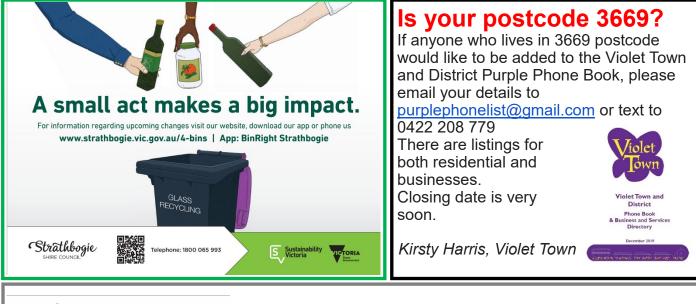
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Australia Day Awards 2010 Strathbogie Shire A Worthy Historic Nomination for Fiona Townsend



Fiona came from Queensland to live here on the Tableland with her husband Andrew about 14 years ago (sic) and has been an energetic and vibrant member of our Strathbogie community and a friend and inspiration to many. She juggles numerous roles as a fulltime teacher at Euroa Secondary College, wife

to Andrew, farmer, mother, daughter, Auntie, grandmother, and has been involved in many community activities in a voluntary capacity.

Soon after arriving on the Tableland she had a vision of producing a regular community newsletter specifically for residents of the Strathbogie Tableland. Her step-daughter Kate designed the masthead and Fiona subsequently launched our beloved "Tableland Talk" in 2000 which she continues to publish on a monthly basis (sic).

Tableland Talk has provided a monthly forum for Tableland residents to share their life stories, poems, ponderings, advertisements, jokes, Council news, St. Andrews Church news, coming events, welcomes & farewells, photographs, recipes, CFA Firewatch, reports of events held, School news, Violet Town Seed Savers reports, limericks, stories & photographs, bookclub reviews, the famous poems by our anonymous Donmil and stargazing by David Joyce.

A quick random selection of topics over the past nine years shows that we have been kept informed about events such as: ANZAC Day services, the Hall Supper & Soldiers' Room photograph displays, the major renovations to the Memorial Hall, Summer & Spring Festival activities, Australia Day nominations & award presentations, farewell to Rev. Ric Holland, the Material Girls' production of the quilted banner, drought relief information, creation of the Euroa Cinema, the community variety concert held in memory of Bruce Short, community grants availability, options for internet connection, Council Rural Living & rezoning strategies, recycle bins for Strathbogie, the creation of Milkwood Bread & Strathbogie Beef, Strathbogie Hall 50th Anniversary bash, Pap clinics & Boobs Bus visits, production of the latest history book, permit application for motorcycle training track at Boho South, Ken Dunnachie's climb of Mt. Bogong in his eightieth year, compilation & distribution of the community directory, "call to arms" against threat of timber plantations, primary school productions, phasing out of CDMA mobile phone network, establishment of the Strathbogie Tableland Action Group, arrival of the library van, new classroom for the school, farewell to Laurence Tame, development & launch of the community website — and this is only a small selection of what TT has reported!

Every month, Fiona methodically collects, solicits and edits material for the next issue and puts it all together. Most of us do not appreciate how much effort goes into this preparation behind the newsletter and it doesn't stop with the final copy – she then looks after the printing (at the Shire), folding, inserting and distribution of Tableland Talk. At this point thanks must also be given to Andrew, Alison and Jono as they have become the regular folders, but more importantly, the supportive backstop behind Fiona as she beavers away to publish Tableland Talk at the sacrifice of a family evening.

No matter what other demands she has had on her time, she has made sure that Tableland Talk has consistently arrived in our mailboxes every month. There was a year when Fiona was juggling running a full-time business in Shepparton, studying in Melbourne for her Diploma of Education, caring for two young children and sharing work on the farm, as well as having a chronic back injury which required surgery. She just kept soldiering on.

She would be the first to acknowledge that there have been other helpers along the way such as Helena McLaughlin and Leigh Hilton-Stewart, her family (who are expert folders), Ben & Olwyn Brook who deliver Tableland Talk in the Boho South area, and our Posties Lorraine & Di who deliver them with the mail, but in the end Fiona has been the driving force all the way and TT really is her creation.

Fiona has created a newsletter which has become a much-loved institution on the Tableland. Everyone reads it, people are increasingly contributing to it and it has done more than any other single local project to link residents and foster a sense of community. Tableland Talk is a community treasure which continues to go from strength to strength and her being awarded the title of Strathbogie Citizen of the Year would be a fitting acknowledgement of this achievement.

Expressions of Interest Open for Euroa Public Art Trail Project 2025

Strathbogie Shire Council is calling on artists to help shape the next chapter of Euroa's public art landscape, with Expressions of Interest (EOI) now open for the Euroa Public Art Trail Project 2025. Following the success of the iconic 'Swoop the Big Barrwarrang' magpie sculpture in Euroa's Seven Creeks Park, Council is excited to move into Stage Two of Euroa's public art journey. With \$50,000 allocated through the 2024-25 Pitch My Project initiative, this new phase will see the installation of at least two new freestanding sculptures in key locations across Euroa.

The Euroa Public Art Trail Project has been developed by Council in collaboration with the Euroa Chamber of Business and Commerce and the Euroa Action Group Inc. It aims to create a cohesive and vibrant public art experience that links existing and new sculptures, encourages exploration of Euroa's town centre, and reflects the community's artistic and cultural aspirations.

Community-Driven Themes and Locations

Earlier this year, Council sought community input on themes, locations, and the overall vision for the next phase of Euroa's public art development. The feedback revealed strong support for a continuation of the bird theme, as well as interest in sculptures representing local fauna, flora, and historical narratives.

As a result, sculptures will be prioritised for placement in Binney Street (between Brock Street and Railway Street) and Seven Creeks Park. Artists are encouraged to consider the distinct public safety, environmental, and aesthetic implications of these settings when developing their proposals.

Review Process

Unlike previous projects, there will not be a public vote on the final sculpture selection. Instead, a consultative panel—including representatives from the Euroa Chamber of Business and Commerce, Euroa Action Group Inc., Council's Arts and Culture Officer, and an independent arts professional—will assess submissions based on artistic quality, relevance to local stories, durability, and alignment with Council's Public Art Policy.

How to Apply

Artists interested in applying should download the brief and EOI form via Council's website. The total project budget of \$50,000 must cover all aspects of the commission, including design, structural engineering, fabrication, and installation. Artists may submit proposals for a single sculpture or a series of works, provided they align with the overall budget and project vision. EOIs are open until 5pm on May 7, 2025, with successful applicants notified by May 26 2025. Installation of the final sculptures is intended for completion by July 31 2025.

For more information or assistance with the application process, contact Council's Arts & Culture Officer at info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au or call 1800 065993 (Monday-Wednesday). - For further information: Michelle Harris E: Michelle.Harris@strathbogie.vic.gov.au P: 0419 386 082

Recipe of the Month

The time for hearty soups is near! Lentil and Spinach Soup

Ingredients

2 tbspn peanut oil
2 large brown onions finely chopped
2 clove crushed garlic
2 tspn ground cumin
1 tspn ground turmeric
1 tspn ground coriander
3 cups red lentils
1.25 litres vegetable or chicken stock
1 litre water
500g finely chopped spinach

Method

Heat oil in a large saucepan. Cook onions and garlic, stirring until onion is soft. Add spices, stirring until fragrant.

Add lentils, stir to combine with spices. Add stock

and the water. Bring to boil. Simmer uncovered 20 minutes or until lentils are tender. Remove from heat, blend or process soup until smooth. Add spinach and stir over heat again until hot. Garnish with coriander and yoghurt.



Walk of the Month Plain Creek, Merrijig



Carters Road Picnic Area, Mt Buller Rd., Merrijig 3723

2.5hrs, 7.45km, intermediate difficulty

A pretty as pretty walk along the water fern edged and ever tumbling Plain Creek up to where it spills over a cliff as a waterfall.

Plain Creek is a tributary of the Delatite River, with the confluence below Carter's Mill Camping Ground. Enjoy walking the length of this very pretty waterway to Plain Creek Falls.

You will traverse a forested cold climate rainforest damp gully track lined with ferns and in cooler months rich with fungi.

This loop walk to Plain Creek Falls starts from the well appointed Carter's Day Visitor Area. There are BBQs, toilets and camping sites. There is drinking water at the pumping station on the river. It follows a well signed dirt walking track. There are a few rocks along the way that make the surface uneven, as well as some muddy patches.





There is a modest if steady incline most of the way. The track crosses the creek in a few places via good condition metal bridges. There is a fenced off viewing area at the falls. Be mindful it is easy for kids to get under the rail onto the slippery rocks below the torrent and above the drop below.

Return via the loop (mapped below) along Plain Creek Track. For a pleasant contrast, this loop takes you through the higher ground of the forest. These mountains have a long history of logging and saw milling. Today the timber is advancing regrowth as part of Mansfield State Forest.

As you go you will see evidence of the timber cutting during the past century in the form of large remnant stumps with the slots cut into them. These were where tree fellers inserted boards for standing on while cutting higher up the trunk. There was once a timber tramway, but remnants were burnt in a bushfire.

Alternatively, you can return the way you came for a shorter walk. For the full map visit: <u>Plain</u> <u>Creek Falls Walk, Merrijig - Walking Maps</u>

Sean Mathews



Free training helps support people in suicide distress

A free, evidence-based suicide prevention training course is available to anyone living or working in the Murray PHN (Primary Health Network) region, which covers 100,000 sq km of central, north western and north eastern Victoria. Murray PHN is funding *Question. Persuade. Refer. (QPR),* an online training program endorsed by the Black Dog Institute's LifeSpan trials.

QPR helps people to identify the warning signs of someone at risk of suicide, builds confidence to speak to them about their thoughts and provides the tools to connect them with professional care. The training is open to anyone 18 years or over, takes only 60 minutes and can be completed in multiple sittings. It's perfect for hairdressers, baristas, bankers, sporting clubs, or anyone who regularly interacts with a range of people.

Interested community members can visit murrayphn.org.au/qpr to register. Registration includes access to several useful resources related to suicide prevention. Suicide prevention training can help community members recognise and respond to suicidality, creating a local safety net. By initiating vital conversations, people can help to break down barriers and create better cultures of understanding and support.

Murray PHN CEO Matt Jones said that feedback from participants who've completed the training so far has been positive, with 84 per cent saying they'd recommend the program to others. "Since we launched access to QPR in our region, we've had more than 700 people register and complete the training, with feedback showing that 98 per cent believe they're now in a better position to help someone who is suicidal."

If you are in an emergency or at immediate risk of harm to yourself or others, please contact emergency services on 000. Other services include Lifeline – 13 13 14 or lifeline.org.au or Suicide Call Back Service –1300 659 467 or suicidecallbackservice.org.au

A note on reporting suicide: There is extensive literature linking media reporting of suicide with increased suicide rates. Suicidal behaviour can be 'learned' from the media when reports are sensationalised, focus on celebrities, are repeated, and explicitly describe location and method details. Evidence suggests that responsible reporting of suicide by the media can reduce suicide rates. Mindframe Australia's Media Guidelines support the media to report suicide accurately, responsibly and ethically. Access the guidelines at https://mindframe.org.au/industry-hubs/for-media

About us: Murray PHN is one of 29 PHNs (Primary Health Networks) around Australia working to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of primary healthcare and service systems. Across our region, we work with general practitioners (GPs), community health, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs), pharmacy, aged care and allied health practitioners, and with acute services such as hospitals, specialists and emergency care.

The role of PHNs is to help to support and integrate the work of these important services to ensure that the people get the right care, in the right place, at the right time. In the Murray PHN region, which covers almost 100,000 sq km of regional Victoria, we work to develop and maintain sustainable models of primary healthcare for our communities.

Contact details

Email communications@murrayphn.org.au anytime or alternatively contact:

- Monday Thursday: Jackie Grant, Murray PHN Communications Specialist e: jgrant@murrayphn.org.au or t: 0408 366 312
- Tuesday Friday: Amity Bradford, Murray PHN Communications Specialist e: abradford@murrayphn.org.au o or t: 0412 060 308



Festival of Fungi 17-25 May 2025

Join us for an exhilarating celebration at the upcoming biennial Festival of Fungi, hosted by Strathbogie Ranges Conservation! Our diverse program has something for everyone. Experience a captivating art projection installation for all ages, dive into the fascinating world of fungi with Alison Pouliot, and enjoy a lively night of dancing and festivities at the Puff Ball. Don't miss out on these unforgettable events!

Booking required for all events as below.

Opening of Art Exhibition: Fungi of the Strathbogie Ranges

Sat 17 May 12pm_1.30pm

The 2025 Festival of Fungi kicks off on Sat 17 May, 12pm with the launch of an art exhibition from local artists at ArtBox. The artist's work celebrates the extraordinary diversity of local fungi and the vital role they play in ecosystems.

Venue: Art Box Binney Street Euroa (Next to Mawson's bakery)

Free event; registration required:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1307772385409

Puff Ball Dance with Hoodoo Mayhem Sat 17 May 5.30pm–10.00pm

It will be a fantastic event! The Puff Ball Dance at the Strathbogie Memorial Hall is a family-friendly occasion with live music from Hoodoo Mayhem. It's a great opportunity to dance, enjoy some fungiinspired costumes, and participate in a fun community gathering. Dinner is available by donation (cash only), and drinks can be purchased on-site. Don't forget to wear your fungi-inspired costume and get ready to dance your socks off!

Venue: Strathbogie Memorial Hall

Tickets: \$25, concession \$15

Bookings at:

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/1306830217359

Bioluminescence_Light Projection Fri 23 May 6pm-9pm

Step into a world of magic and wonder as the North East Hotel is transformed by a stunning light projection installation! Created in collaboration with the innovative Little Projector Company and talented local students, this dazzling display promises to captivate audiences of all ages.

Bring the whole family and experience the enchantment—it's a night you won't want to miss!

Venue: North Eastern Hotel, DeBoos Street Euroa, 3666.

Free event; registration required: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1302796933699

Strathbogie Fungus Discovery Workshop and Foray

Sat 24 May 10am-2.00pm

SOLD OUT To be added to waiting list:

Email admin@strathbogieranges.org

Book Launch Funga Obscura by Alison Pouliot Sun 25 May 10am–11.00am

Renowned ecologist and photographer Alison Pouliot launches another remarkable book celebrating the hidden world of fungi.

Join us for the release of *Funga Obscura* — a stunning new exploration of fungi through Alison's expert lens and ecological insight. Discover the mysterious beauty and vital importance of fungi in our ecosystems.

Signed copies of *Funga Obscura* will be available, along with Alison's previous acclaimed publications.

Don't miss the chance to connect with Alison and delve deeper into the fascinating world beneath our feet.

Venue U3A, 19 Kirkland Avenue, Euroa **Free event; registration required:**

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1289056756459

Lunch and Seminar with Alison Pouliot Sun 25 May 2025 12pm-2.30pm

Join us for a delicious lunch at the Northern Republic restaurant, where the versatility of fungi takes center stage as a gourmet delight. While you enjoy your meal, ecologist, author, and photographer Alison Pouliot will guide you through the fascinating world of the Kingdom Fungi revealing their hidden wonders and ecological importance.

Signed copies of her books will be available for purchase.

Venue: Northern Republic Restaurant, 17 Kirkland Avenue West, Euroa

Tickets: \$65 includes appetiser, two course lunch & glass of wine.

Bookings: Indicate special food requirements & any preferences for people you would like at your table

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/1280573512849

For more information about all events and tickets

Website for Strathbogie Ranges Conservation at www.strathbogieranges.org.au

Bogarts is Hosting another Party at the Bogie Hall on Saturday, May 17th. The Puff Ball is part of the Festival of Fungi with fabulous live music dancing and food! If you enjoyed the Afrobiotics party then you will love this one! Tickets: \$25 including booking fee \$15 concession Under 12 free Book tickets here: https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/puff-ball-dance-with-live-music-for-the-festival-of-fungi-tickets-1306830217359?aff=oddtdtcreator The Festival of Fungi is held every two years and run by the Strathbogie Ranges Conservation Management Network. Go to their website for the full list of activities, including an art exhibition, projection festival, workshops and talk with renowned ecologist and environmental photographer. Alison Pouliot https://alisonpouliot.com/ https://www.strathbogieranges.org.au/ The Puff Ball is a fun night for the whole family with live music from Hoodoo Mayhem. Heavily seduced by New Orleans funk and brass, Hoodoo are a horn blowin' beat party as good as they come. Featuring ten of Melbourne's hottest horn players and stick technicians with special guests at every performance. The band boasts a creative and organic repertoire of original music and is proud of their unique Melbourne sound. Hoodoo Mayhem will be cooking up some Funky Fungi inspired tunes for our party! https://hoodoomayhem.com/ We encourage you to have fun with some fungi inspired dress ups-it's optional of course. Think mushroom caps, spotty dresses, stink horn trousers, the king and queen of the fungi kingdom or you can come as your favourite Mycologist (or as yourself) we will also have some dress ups you can borrow on the night if you choose to, (no pressure) Link to some costume ideas here https://pin.it/7zZXpHsCv The night kicks off at 5:30pm with sausages and mushroom burgers for sale (cash only). At 6pm there will be a second line parade. A second line parade is a vibrant street celebration deeply rooted in the traditions of New Orleans. It features a brass band leading the way (the "first line"), followed by a crowd of dancers, revellers, and anyone who wants to join the fun (the "second line"). Hoodoo will entertain us in the hall and on the dance floor from 7pm, tea and coffee and supper at 8pm for a cash donation. Drinks available at the bar - eftpos available and ticket available on the door (please book in advance if possible) No BYO alcohol. If you have an RSA and would like to volunteer a shift behind the bar please email Sim—bewildernest@gmail.com Please book your tickets soon to assist us with catering and share this event with your family, we can't wait to see you all on the 17th. With thanks, the BogArts and Festival of Fungi Team THE FESTIVAL OF FUNGI AND BOGARTS VAMD HOODOO pogie Memoria MAYHEM 5:30pm: Doors open 6pm: Second Line Parade \$15 7pm - Late Live Music in the Hall 5:30-7pm: Sausage sizzle (cash) 8pm: Supper -(cash donation) Under 12 Drinks at the bar (efpos/cash) free

No BYO Alcohol- Get Tickets Here!

https://hoodoomayhem.com/ https://www.strathbogieranges.org.au https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/puff-ball-dance

Fancy

STRATHBOGIE