



March 2024

Strathbogie Tablelands focus on LEAP



The Strathbogie Tablelands community has enthusiastically embraced emergency planning with the assistance of the LEAPing into Resilience project. This initiative, funded by the Federal Government, aims to facilitate collaboration between rural communities and local emergency service providers. The Strathbogie Tablelands group is the fourth

township within the shire to engage in this self-help project.

Fifteen people including community members and agency representatives attended the first meeting of the Strathbogie LEAP Steering group at the Strathbogie Memorial Hall. The Steering Group were given an overview of the LEAPing into Resilience project and examples of recently completed Local Emergency Action Plans (LEAPs) for Violet Town, Avenel and Euroa to assist in planning for a community meeting to seek community input into their LEAP.

It is anticipated that the Strathbogie Tablelands LEAP will outline the actions and responsibilities which the community, agencies and Council can take to better prepare, respond and recover from emergency events. Peter Stephenson, Administrator of Strathbogie Shire Council, emphasised the significance of local involvement in shaping the emergency plans. "Locals possess valuable knowledge, such as escape routes and identifying vulnerable community members, which is essential in crafting effective emergency action plans tailored to each community's needs," he stated.

The plans will remain dynamic, subject to annual amendments, ensuring their relevance and efficacy. Mr. Stephenson also called for volunteers to contribute to the Nagambie LEAP document, underscoring the ongoing commitment to community resilience.

The steering groups have received guidance from Danna Lezcano, the project's Resilience Planning Officer, and Mark Leitingner, the Emergency Management Officer for Strathbogie Shire Council. Collaboration among the municipalities of Strathbogie, Mansfield, and Murrindindi has been instrumental in supporting communities to prepare for emergencies, extreme weather events, and other disasters.

The LEAPing into Resilience project stands as a testament to this joint initiative, driven by the shared goal of enhancing community preparedness and resilience.

The LEAPing into Resilience project is a joint initiative between Mansfield, Strathbogie and Murrindindi Shire Councils, funded by the Australian Government.

Tara Whitsed E: tara.whitsed@strathbogie.vic.gov.au | P: 0447 712 121

What's On

March 8 Goulburn Valley Water Customer Panel EOI closes p12

March 8 International Women's Day celebration p10

March 17 SCOFF See p8

March 17 Tom Alley remembered p9

March 31 Easter on Mt Wombat p12

All March Eleven Stories p17

April 14 Strathbogie Granite Talk p17

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 5790 5241

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 10am STAG Committee at the Hall. All welcome.

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

Euroa Cinema

The crime is mine M Mar 1 8pm, Mar 2 4pm

Priscilla M Mar 2 8pm, Mar 3 4pm

The Holdovers M Mar 9 8pm, Mar 10 4pm

Force of Nature: The Dry 2 M Mar 16

8pm, Mar 17 4pm Mar 22 10.30am

Journey beyond fear PG Mar 21 6pm

Bob Marley: One Love M Mar 23 8pm, Mar 24 4pm

Community Choice Movie Mar 30 8pm, Mar 31 4pm. Vote at 1800 065 993 (BH) or <https://share.strathbogie.vic.gov.au>

Tix \$12 at box office or
www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au

Do you need a Justice of the Peace?

Chris Thomson
'Aberdeen'
5790 5340

Boho South Hall

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



Swanpool CINEMA

The Holdovers M Mar 2 & 3 6pm

Asteroid City M Mar 2 & 3 8.45pm

Maestro M Mar 9 & 10 6pm

The Old Oak MA 15+ Mar 16 & 17 6pm

Biosphere M Mar 16 & 17 8.30pm

Force of Nature: The Dry 2 M Mar 23 & 24 6pm

You hurt my feelings MA 15+ Mar 23 & 24 8.15pm

Ferrari MA 15+ Mar 30 & 31 6pm

Dumb Money MA Mar 30 & 31 15+ 8.45pm

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

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

Jokes of the Month

Strange ... I must be getting stronger as I age. It used to be an effort to carry \$100 of groceries into the house from the car. Now I can carry in \$200 worth with one hand.

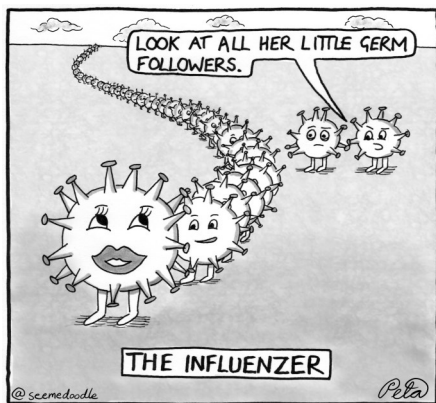
I was visiting my son and daughter in law the other day when I asked if I could borrow a newspaper. "This is the 21st century old man," said my son. "We don't waste money on newspapers. Use my iPad."

I can tell you, that bloody blowfly never knew what hit it!

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 >>>>

Cartoon by Peta Manning



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

Mobile Library

Dates for Strathbogie:

March 2, 16 and 30
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 592211

Strathbogie Recreation Ground

All bookings are to
be made with
Kim Usher
5790 5345

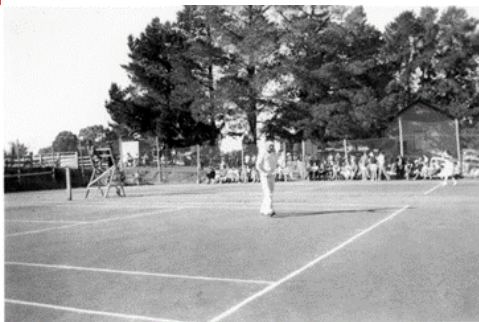
The Deadline for the April edition of Tableland Talk is Thursday, March 28, 2024.

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.*

Tennis in Bogie

Tennis has long been an important part of the social and sporting structure of our small community. Did you know it is 114 years since the Strathbogrie Tennis Club was formed?



Strathbogrie tennis courts at back of sawpits, Methodist Church & hall.

The first court was constructed at the Recreation Reserve, but later a court was constructed in Hayley Street, just below where the then Butter Factories' Manager's Residence existed.

Easter Tournaments began in 1930 and saw people camped all the way down Main Street and at this stage the court at the Recreation Reserve was used once again.

Further progress came in 1930 with two sealed courts being constructed the rear of the Methodist Church (no longer in existence) and the then



Public Hall (now Doug and Sonya's home).

Finally, six courts were constructed at the Recreation Reserve in two stages, three being built in 1954, one in 1955 and two later.

For many decades the courts provided a pivotal social and competitive focal point for locals. Unfortunately, by the mid 2000's the club was formally closed, due to many families and players finding they had to move from the area for work, education or health reasons.

Luckily for us, the club was reformed in 2020 thanks to the tireless efforts of a few individuals, headed by the indomitable Craig Mecuri. Tuesday mornings see lessons available at the very reasonable cost of \$10, Thursday evenings free "hit and giggle" and of course Saturday is the competitive day. The club currently have a team in A Grade and were hoping to field a second team in the B Grade Division next year. *Sadly, there is the possibility that this will not happen and the club may even need to merge with another due to the lack of female player/members.*



So, you may ask, why does it matter?

It is a healthy outlet, both physically and mentally, it provides a local activity for our kids and it is family friendly. Perhaps most importantly from this writer's perspective is that it provides a sense of community, a sense of belonging. In this day and age where we can drive to anywhere we want, and many of us are not born here or have done schooling here, it can be difficult to find that sense of community/belonging. I know it took me a while!

If you think any of the above is important, then let's support our local tennis club, be it in coming for a Tuesday lesson or the casual Thursday session? Even better, join up as a member. Social membership is just \$10, Family \$200, Adult \$100, Junior \$50 and is easily accessed via the web site at <https://play.tennis.com.au/strathbogrietenniscub/Membership/Join>

Lisa Duggan

Easter on Mt Wombat. SUNDAY, March 31st 2024.



There is no better way to celebrate Easter Sunday here in the Strathbogrie Shire than to join with others and stand on Mt Wombat in the early hours of the morning at dawn, and watch the sun come up. There will be a short ecumenical service and an opportunity to sing some wonderful Easter hymns as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ. The service will be led by Pastor Bob Bruce (retired) and music accompaniment provided by Di Mackrell with her harp and piano accordion.

Please meet at Mt. Wombat 7.30 am (Daylight Saving finishes on 7th April). Bring a chair if you wish.

There will be car parking in several places below the summit, some involving a short walk and others a bit longer, depending on your level of fitness.

Should the weather be inclement we will adjourn to the Kelvin View Fire shed on the Euroa- Strathbogrie Road.

A hot drink and hot cross bun will be provided after the service.

You are also most welcome to bring your own thermos, mug and hot cross bun if you prefer.

Come and be part of this wonderful celebration this Easter Sunday. Hope to see you there at 7.15 am.

For enquiries, please contact Joan Wood 5795 1175 Strathbogrie Uniting Church, Bob Bruce. Euroa Baptist Church.

Joan Wood

A AERIAL SERVICES

Drone photos, videos and sales

Sales of DJI drones and spares at competitive prices

High resolution digital farm mapping

Property and real estate photography

Commercials and promotional videos

Asset and roof inspections

Call [0490 805 379](tel:0490805379) or email alastair@ataerial.com

Jackson's Produce Store

Cowslip Street, Violet Town

We are located in the main street of Violet Town and proudly stock our shelves with local produce and products, as well as fresh fruit and vegetables, gourmet cheese, biscuits, yoghurts, organics and superfoods, and lots more.

We also offer "Coomalong Estate" Oil re-fills.

Open Wednesday - Friday 10am to 4pm and
Saturday 10am to 1pm

Mobile: [0418773877](tel:0418773877) Email:

jacksonsvt@gmail.com

Strathbogie Ranges - Nature View -

*Stories, activities & more.
Ecology, landscape and
natural history*

<https://bit.ly/3sh52K1>



DYLAN KEMP 0467 088 248
DBEKEMP@OUTLOOK.COM



Strathbogie Brewing Company

Dave & Sandy Joyce

See our website for stockists

www.strathbogiebrewing.com.au

Strathbogie Tree

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



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.

A letter from Douglas Baxter



**Doug and Iris
Baxter**

This is a letter from Doug Baxter. Doug was my Uncle, my mother Margaret's younger brother. Doug and his wife Iris (nee Walker) both passed away in 2021, only 3 months apart. Doug was never short of a fascinating story, he had many to tell from his life experiences. He was a vibrant, fun character who had a beautiful singing voice. They moved to W.A very early on but would visit Strathbogie & Euroa quite often. Many people would remember him going to the over 70's lunches when he was in town, and telling stories about events and the old days.

He was a farmer at Glen Echo on Tames Rd, for many years, he bought the farm from his father when he married. After many years on the farm, he moved his family to W. A., where he farmed near Mt. Barker for many years. He was a shearer, and was still shearing into his

80's. My sisters and I loved listening to his stories about growing up in Strathbogie. He wrote this for me to share with the community.

In 1938 as rumbles of war began in Europe, my father WD (Bill) Baxter of Middle Brighton, in Melbourne thought of what he saw happen to civilians, women and children, in villages and cities occupied by the German Army, as they were beaten back by the Diggers of the 2nd Division. He was in charge of the Motor Transport trucks and ambulances, and following up as they advanced had 1st hand knowledge of the atrocities of war on civilians. He decided to lease out his garage and repair premises and house and move his family to "Glen Echo" his farm on Tames Road Strathbogie which he had owned for several years.

Sure enough war started the next year in September. Mother and Father, son Bill, or Sydney 19 yrs., daughter Margaret 17 yrs., and Yvonne 13 yrs., then sons Douglas 9 yrs., and Richard 3 yrs., all settled into the small 3 bedroom 70 year old weatherboard house.

Tremendous fires at Warburton in 1939 took the lives of 75 fire fighters seen by evacuees the next morning hanging in fences as the fires overtook them with their knapsacks still on some of them. Burnt charred leaves from Warburton dropped from the skies over a large section of Strathbogie that evening, and a fire at Boho that day burnt right up the walls of the local Hall, but it didn't catch fire.

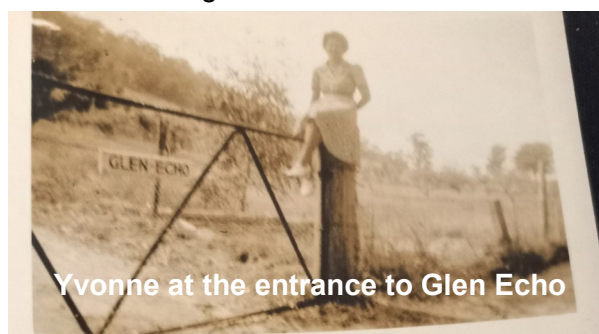
Amongst the Bogie population there were many returned soldiers from the 1st World War from 1914-18, Eric Tame our neighbour, Jack (JR) Smith, Mr. Moore and many others. As the war progressed many of Bogies' sons signed up for service in the armed forces. The district gave a farewell night in the Bogie Hall (which is now the old garage) and presented each with a wrist watch and wallet I think in 1940, farewell speeches were made by councillors. I think it was Mr. J.R. 'Jack' Smith. His son N.J. 'Jack' Smith was the one chosen by the enlisted men to reply for them, and he spoke of their resolve to go to war, to keep the flags flying high over our countries, (the Union Jack and our Aussie flag stretched out on the back wall of the stage) for they represent the freedom we and our fathers and mothers have enjoyed for many years, freedom of the press and total separation of church and state laws for the freedom of the people. His statements were received with much applause and tears from the mothers.

Oh yes Jim Broughton was one of them, if I remember correctly so was Alan Locke, I am not sure if Clive and Fred Jacka were also, but they were days of dread for our families in Bogie, my elder brother Sydney (Bill) 10 yrs my elder was called up when Japan entered the War, he joined the AIF and went training in Queensland, in the engineer section, and when his last embarkation leave finished at the farm "Glen Echo", he had to ride his push bike to Euroa, 20 miles away, to catch the troop train going north to Queensland, with all his gear on his back, knapsack, kitbag, rifle bayonet.

Continues page 6.....

There was no petrol in the car or petrol ration tickets to take him. Mother cried after we watched him disappear down the road. We didn't see him again till 2 years were up.

Our sisters Margaret and Yvonne were working in Melbourne then before they joined the Women's



Yvonne at the entrance to Glen Echo



Doug, brother Richard and Jim McLean
Boxing Day 1951

Australian Air Force. So that meant no men to do the farm work with horses, ploughing, harrowing the ground seeding in oats, plant potatoes milk 10 cows by hand night and morning then separate the cream from the milk with a hand turned "Alpha" separator. Feed calves and pigs, milk night and morning, and send the cream cans to the Euroa butter factory twice a week by Mr. Crosbie's truck on the cream and mail run for the War effort. So, School suffered badly, with so much to be done and Dad was not able to do any heavy work, from a back injury. So, a 12-year-old boy had to grow up quick and step into men's boots and do the work. Chaff cutting for cows and horses, mowing clover and meadow hay with a Mitchell Horse drawn buck rake then into big blocks of hay with a horse drawn sweep. Then sweep them into a haystack formed by hand with a pitch fork. In the winter cold, use a hand hay knife to cut the meadow hay into blocks to pitch over the fence to hungry milk cows at night with forks, often in the snow. It used to snow every winter in the 40's, and melt away by 5 days, in East Strathbogie.

When the oaten hay was ready I harnessed up 3 draft horses and used our reaper and binder machine to cut and tie the hay into sleeves (or sheaves?), which then had to be put grain up, batt down 8 to 10 sleeves into stooks, all over the paddock to dry out properly in summer before carting all into build hay stacks up with gable roofs of oaten hay to run the water off when it rained. Neighbours joined together and helped each other to get oaten hay in safely. Mr. Clarke, Mr. McCombe, Mr. Birch, Mr. McCallum sometimes Mr. Herb Mackrell and yours truly Douglas, as chief turners on the stack or wagon for the stack builder.

After harvest finished on hot summer days, having left Brighton, with its beautiful water close by, we would sometimes walk into Strathbogie, to the Smiths bridge pool, which was so wonderful to swim in, and swim for several hours, and then walk the five miles home again. It was very tiring I remember. Sometimes at weekends I would walk out to Mr Charlie Walkers timber mill to watch the bullock team drag in big logs from Toorour forest, front end of logs held up off the ground by a two wheeled "whim" it was called, to make them easier to pull by teams of bullocks of 14 to 20 in number. Including some of the surrounding farmers big bulls on loan, the strength was remarkable to see in action.

Mr Ben Hall and his boys were the teamsters and fallers of timber, with hand crosscut saws. This timber was vital in the war effort too, as well as the local fruit, milk, meat, potatoes, hemp crops for army wellbeing production, but most of all the farmers sons who like their fathers gave their lives in service for their countries in war time.

During the war there were dances held in the Bogie Hall (now the garage) and we young ones learnt to do many wonderful ballroom dances. The band, Pianist Mrs Green, Drums Mr. Green, Saxophone Barry Ellis and violinist Ivo Ellis. I think that was right, others may remember better, all on Saturday nights. Sometimes there were Tennis competitions played, A and B grade at Bogie, South Bogie, Kithbrook, Boho South, but that may have been after the War finished. The dances were a great way to get to know everyone on the Tableland, the older people played cards - Euchre and Crib. etc, with much noise and laughter. The progressive Barn dance was great when you got to dance with all the girls in the hall at once, and the mothers also with much greeting and talking. Sometimes the lads would get the horses out of the jinkers and buggies and put the horses in the saleyards, poke the shafts through the rails and harness them all up again, horse one side of the fence and vehicle the other. *Continues page 7*

There was great excitement later in the War when the Army came up into the bush at the back of South Bogie somewhere, in the winter to get mud experience, with trucks, jeeps and tanks before going into the jungle warfare. One weekend, they had tanks, jeeps and trucks exhibited opposite the Hall in Bogie, all the young ones crawling in and out of tanks which were Yankee Stewart and 2 other types and a great big one Churchill, and an Aussie made Matilda.

Every family took several soldiers home for tea, Dads' car was a big Hudson Super six and we got 15 people in, and on the running boards, on the outside, to go the 5 miles out Tames Road to "Glen Echo" for an evening meal. In our family (Mum, Dad sister Yvonne, cousin Jean, from Melbourne visiting, Douglas and Richard) and 9 soldiers, some inside, others outside, we had a pianola then so the old house was full of singers and noise and laughter. Some of the Soldiers were country boys from Gippsland and they volunteered to do the washing up with much laughter and water flicking. Time came to go back to camp, in an Army truck at the front gate tooting the horn, so there was a rush to get down there but not before.

Yvonne and Jeannie had kissed each soldier on the way to the gate and waved them goodbye. They were grim days as the War progressed, as our forces were on the back foot in Europe, Middle East, and in the Pacific, but the tide of loss slowly turned, and King George the 6th called for world Empire days of prayer for deliverance. I remember in the country the people got together in Bogie in the Schools and Churches for deliverance for our Men and homelands, and our pleas were answered at Dunkirk by a miraculous fog, the German invasion flotilla to England being turned back by a mighty West wind, the Air Force Battle of Britain, many events in the Pacific recognised as nature's intervention.

Jack Smith and brother-in-law Ross Smith came home, Jack injured by a land mine in North Africa and Ross, a yellow bony skeleton, when I met him riding round in the cream and mail run truck with Dick Rowarth (who served on the Kokoda trail) and disease from jungle fever down to 5 stone. He told me the Matron used to carry him to the toilet. Dick and he went to school together in Bogie. Ross used to ride his bike out to "Glen Echo" to see my sisters Margaret and Yvonne, before the war took him away. Later when I talked to Ross about how bony he was, with sunken eye sockets. He protested and said after the Burma railroad experience and Hell Fire pass which he survived (being a prisoner there under the Japanese for 4 years) he was fed up for 6 weeks in Singapore before coming home and put on lots of flesh before I saw him for the first time after the atomic bomb. The yellow skin was from medication he was on to recover from Malaria. So, these are just a few thoughts from years ago in the late 30s' and 40s' in Strathbogie, there is much more to tell but they were great days to grow up in.

Regards Douglas Baxter

This article was in the Tableland Talk September 2011.

Contributed by Tracey Thomson.

Harrys Creek Road Repairs Update

- 1\ The slip that currently is controlled using traffic lights.

The design contracts for this site were awarded and the preliminary designs and estimates have been provided by the consultants. We are currently finalising the negotiations with the state authorities on the funding arrangements for the ultimate repair and this will be finalised in the coming months. After this approval, Council will contract out the repairs which I anticipate will take approx. 6 months to complete.

- 2\ The second site that previously was controlled with traffic lights

At this site we are experiencing tunnelling under the surface of the road because of the fill materials and the construction techniques used back when the road was originally constructed. This tunnelling is creating instability in the pavement in this area and is required to be rectified. Council has secured the funding to perform the work and it is anticipated that works will commence on its rectification in the coming months.

- 3\ Permanent repairs to the potholes/pavement failures

At a number of locations along Harrys creek road we have been managing the many potholes that have been formed, particularly after the last 6 months of wet weather. Council has secured funding from the federal government to repair these areas with a more substantial treatment to reduce the likelihood of them reforming in the short term. We anticipate this work will also commence in the coming months.

John Harvey Director Sustainable Infrastructure, Strathbogie Shire Council



Scoff Gathering 2024

Bogie Rec Ground. Sunday 17 March 1:30pm

Please join the Scoff'rs on Sunday 17th March, 1:30pm, for a Meet and Greet at the Bogie Rec Ground. Bring your excess jams, chutneys, scobies, jellies, pickles and any other preserves you have kicking around that you would like to trade! Thanks Natasha for the preserve swap inspiration!

Excess produce, seedlings and seeds are also welcome. The Scoff Seed Box will be there.

Recipes are welcome. Nothing to swap - doesn't matter - come along anyway, meet and greet is the main idea.

Please bring a small plate of something to share for arvo tea and a gold coin donation for use of the Rec Ground.

Laura Binks



STRATHBOGIE

EXCAVATION & CONCRETE

CONCRETE SERVICES

**SHEDS
DRIVEWAYS
PATHS
CONCRETE STRUCTURES**

EXCAVATION SERVICES

**FENCE CLEARING
TRENCHING
AUGER DRILLING
DRIVEWAYS
DRAINS & CULVERTS**

Mob: 0418 141 950

Refuelling Solutions

24/7 Self Service Diesel

Strathbogie Fuel Cell 62 Spring Creek Rd

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

Mark Reynolds

Business Development Executive

Shepparton

M 0418 510 028

E mreynolds@rfs.com.au www.rfs.com.au



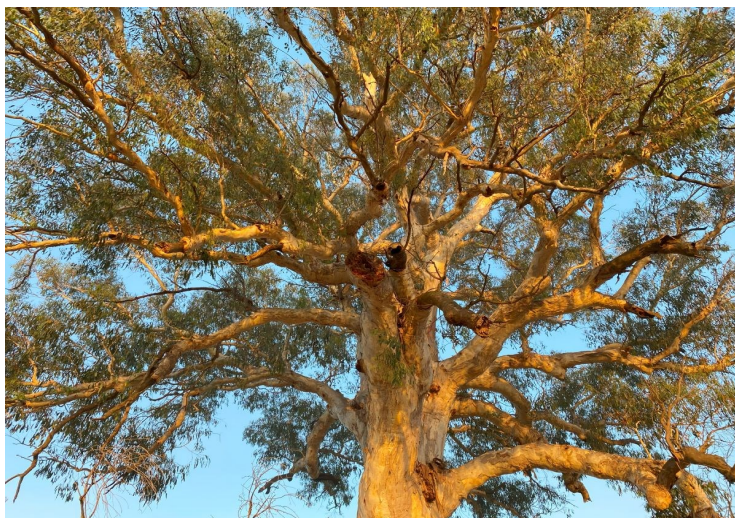
Beautiful Bogie Trees: A Candlebark on the Sevens

Each time we walk along the Sevens Creek reserve this magnificent old Candlebark tree commands our attention. She stands slightly apart on higher ground interrupting the horizon from every aspect. She's a landmark on foot and on Google maps.

Last weekend we returned to see her at first light. The newly marked walking track along the Sevens from Brookleigh Road Bridge to Armstrong Avenue guided us past old skyscraper trees slowly prising granite boulders apart and through fields of kangaroo grass sweeping dew across our boots. As the sun rose and the mist lifted there she was again, standing firm above the creek's edge – a stunning candle in the mist.

Do take the opportunity to walk this new track along the Sevens and nod to her in honour of time past and time to come. It really is worth the soggy socks. Having met her on this walk we will be ensuring her legacy by planting Candlebark trees (*Eucalyptus rubida*) on our place. We hope you might like to, too.

Bridget O'Connor and Chester Merrick



I know that many of you must be seeing some wonderful native trees around the Strathbogies, so why not contribute a photo of your favourites for Tableland Talk? Please send photos, and indicate the locality, plus a short paragraph if you wish, (or contact me and I can write something for you).

Email to: kathstuart60@gmail.com a few days before the last Friday of each month or send directly to the Tableland Talk team at: tablelandtalk@gmail.com

VALE: Tom 'Bob' Alley

If you met Tom 'Bob' Alley on one of his regular summer visits to Boho South and Strathbogie, then you will probably remember him as a larger-than-life character, with a gravelly laugh, a great sense of humour and a zest for life that was infectious.

Tom came to 'Bogie from Kentucky, USA, by way of London, UK, where he had resided for many years. Over 30 summers (minus one or two), he endeared himself to many in the Strathbogie area. Tom was a big consumer of books, tobacco, good coffee and Coke on ice, and a willing participant in whatever was going – golf, dinners, festivals, pizza nights, gardening – whatever. He was also a lover of breakfast at the Strathbogie General Store, where lively conversations and friendships grew.

Sadly, the 'baccy' caught up with him, and after a short stint in hospital in London over this last summer, he passed away on January 18th. However, in typical fashion, up until Christmas, his head had been full of a building project on his excellently maintained garden allotment in the London suburb of Ealing. We'll miss the big American 'Pom' up here on the Tableland.

If you would like to join in celebrating Tom's life and his love of his summers downunder, join us at the Strathbogie General Store on Sunday, March 17 between 11am and 2pm. A group photo of his Aussie mates will be taken at 12pm, which will be sent with tributes to be included in his wake, to be held in London in April on his garden allotment.

Please indicate your intention to attend by going to <https://www.trybooking.com/CPLYI> to register and assist the store to cater for an even larger than usual number of Sunday orders.

Ruth Fluhr



The Weekend Local

Euroa's gourmet providore stocking produce from the Strathbogie Ranges and surrounds. Relax over a great coffee or tea from Mansfield Coffee Merchant, take away a local bottle of beer, wine or Sassy Sister

berry liqueur made at Merton. Our ever expanding stock reflects the diversity of food produced in our region by passionate and committed people.

Weekdays:

⇒ 10am to 3.30pm

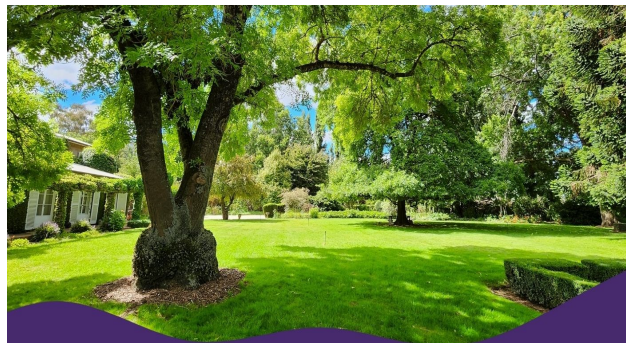
Weekends:

⇒ 9am to 3.30pm

Email:

dayle@theweekendlocal.com.au

Mobile: 0490 842 383



Strathbogie Shire Council presents International Women's Day

Free for all community members!

You're invited to attend a free community morning tea event to celebrate International Women's Day.

Hear from guest speakers:

- Hayley Purbrick - Sustainability and Environmental Activist
- Emily Quattrocchi - Short Film Director and Disability Advocate

Join us to #InspireInclusion in a beautiful garden setting

When: **10.30am, Friday 8th March**
Venue: **Tahbilk's Homestead Private Gardens, Nagambie**



Bookings are essential for this event. To book, visit:
<http://tinyurl.com/SS-IWD>



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.

Phone: (03)58233200

Email: intake@primarycareconnect.com.au

Hours: 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday. After hours services can be arranged.

You can also contact Gambler's Help on 1800 858 858 or go to gamblershelp.com.au 24hrs a day for immediate support.



0407 095 179

Servicing the Strathbogie Shire and Surrounds

"No job too big or too small"

- Qualified Plumber and Gas Fitter
- New homes, renovations and extensions
- Roofing, spouting and down pipes
- Septic tanks, pumps and blocked drains
- Gas heaters and kitchen appliances
- 24 Hour emergency plumbing
- Wood heaters and skylights

Licensed Plumber & Gas Fitter 50447

CROYDONDALE CABINETS

**CABINET MAKERS, KITCHENS,
SHOP FITTINGS
NEW HOMES, RENOVATIONS, REFACES**

Ph: 0408 349 072

Graeme McKenzie, Strathbogie ABN 27 746 178 130

Email: gmc13990@bigpond.net.au



Brianna King

ACA Reg Counsellor #20374

Offering Trauma-Informed Counselling services to individuals & couples Australia-wide via Telehealth (Phone/Zoom)

For more info please see my website:
lightthewaycounselling.com

For enquiries or bookings:
lightthewaycounselling@gmail.com

Phone: 0439 776 040

Find me on Facebook & Instagram for daily content:
Light the Way Counselling.

Based Creek Junction VIC 3669

A tribute to our dear friend, the late Tom Alley

We first met Tom Alley in the early to mid-1980s, via a mutual friend. Tom, originally from the USA, but a long term Londonite, had started coming to Australia in February each year, to have a break from the London winter. Initially, Tom visited friends in Melbourne. He often stayed with us, and I have fond memories of him teaching us Tai Chi on our front lawn in Murrumbreena. A bit later we started bringing him up to our blocks in the Strathbogie Ranges and he fell in love with the area. Tom helped us with our building projects, gardens and all other manner of things. As some of you will know, Tom was a very keen gardener, and had a garden plot just out of London, where he produced beautiful vegies (some winning prizes in local shows). We got to see the photos! He was also a fantastic baker, and treated us to beautiful breads and scrumptious berry pies, baked in our camp oven on the open fire in front of the shed, where we all stayed. Tom always enjoyed coming to the Tolmie Sports with us each year – and afterwards we would all stay with my sister and brother-in-law, and the BBQ and chatting would go very late into the evening! Another of Toms favourite events was the annual Yarra Junction Fiddlers Convention – a fantastic celebration of blue grass music that he came to with a group of us nearly every year. Tom loved to travel, so apart from coming to the Bogies each year he would also hire a car and visit somewhere in Australia that he thought he would like to see.

Over the last few years, Tom took up golf, and he really enjoyed his daily round at the Strathbogie Golf Club, followed by breakfast at the Bogie General Store, which he loved. Being Tom, this meant that he met and chatted to many locals. He was even featured in the Euroa Gazette last year.

Tom contacted us late last year with the terrible news that he had cancer. He had commenced treatment, but passed away peacefully in a London hospital, in January this year. We are all so very sad to lose our dear friend Tom, but at least he has had an amazing life, lived to the full, and, some of it he shared with us. Farewell Tom, we will miss you.



Recipe of the Month

Recently when I was short staffed in my business in Euroa, the very kind Kae Lummas contacted me offering her assistance, even during her lunch break. Her husband also offered to assist, adding that he didn't know what he could really do. I flippantly replied that Rob could whip up a passionfruit sponge for the shop for the coming weekend. They duly arrived on the Saturday morning with a beautiful homemade passionfruit sponge. I later found Rob's recipe attached which I am now sharing with you all:

- Grease 8" tin with oily rag off bench.
- Put ingredients in the old tin you drained oil out of the ute in.
- Mix ingredients with any drill attachment at hand and your battery charged drill.
- Scrape mixture into dish with your paint scraper.
- Check for any loose nuts and bolts that "might" have fallen into mixture.
- Hook up oxy & welder and bake for 15 mins.

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG??

Love Rob xx

The sponge was so deliciousjust ask Alastair Tame who was fortunate to be back at the farm that weekend.

Dayle Tame



What's worth reading on www.strathbogie.org?

How can you contact our only Justice of the Peace?

Go to this page https://strathbogie.org/?page_id=234

STAG Communications sub committee



Our new Customer Accountability Panel will be a key customer voice in planning for our future and reflecting on our promises and actions.

We're seeking expressions of interest - here's your chance to be involved.

The panel, a broad representation of our entire customer base, will meet annually. You don't need any experience in the water sector - we'll provide everything you need to participate. Panel participants will be paid for their time.



Find out more about the panel and submit your interest by scanning the QR code.

Expressions of interest close Friday 8 March.



**CELEBRATE EASTER SUNDAY
MARCH 31ST.
AT SUNRISE
(7.30 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 7.15am.

For further enquiries contact:
Ps. Bob Bruce, Euroa Baptist Church.
or Joan Wood. 57951175

Getting To Know You.....

Name? – Allan Rowarth

Where were you Born? – Euroa Hospital

Siblings? – Eldest of 5 boys

Hobbies/Sports whilst growing up? – Tennis, Cricket, Golf, Football.

Current hobbies? Golf, lawn bowls and an odd pot.

Name the places you have lived? – Strathbogie, Euroa

Food Fan or Food for Fuel? – Fuel

Jobs you have held? – Farm hand, Fuel contacting, General Carrier, Australia Post Mail Contractor, School Bus Contractor, Business owner.

Favourite genre of music? – Country and Western – Charlie Pride, Kenny Rogers

Dancer or non-dancer? - Dancer

Anything on your Bucket List you haven't ticked off? – Uluru, Northern Queensland, Western Australia, the Nullarbor

Favourite animal? Dog

Community Groups you are involved with? – Strathbogie Tableland History Group and Golf Club – plenty of others over time!

Favourite holiday destination? Anywhere by the seaside

When you were a child, what did you want to be when you “Grew up?” Truck Driver

Nickname/s? – Litte Dick, Big Al

Lisa Duggan

STAG update from February Meeting

STAG returned to the Strathbogie Hall for their February meeting On Sunday 18th February.

Committee members in attendance were: Adrian, Henry, Pennie, Joel, Kath, Dave, Stuart and Fran. Apologies: - Alli, Mark and Jim

Items discussed.

Welcome to our new member Fran Kearney, a new member to the STAG committee who will be the representative from the Golf Club

LEAP program. Stuart reported, the program has commenced and will report further on this. As part of this it was noted that the STAG generator at the golf club is there for emergencies and will need to be serviced and run regularly.

STAG sent a letter to the Shire about repairing Harry's Creek Road. Shire responded. The repairs will be extensive so will take some time to complete, but it will need to be a long term solution, not just a patch up job.

STAG have finalised the action plan points. These have been sent to Jean at the Shire, who will complete it and make it available to all Tableland residents as soon as it is completed.

Because of the continuous disruptions to our power supply, STAG thought to set up an Energy sub committee, to address and source alternatives to help our

community become islandable, in the event of disruptions. A meeting was called for community to attend and show interest on 6th Feb. at 7pm. There was not enough interest so will not be going ahead but as part of the action plan will remain as an ongoing agenda item.

Rubbish left in and around the recycle bins at the Rec ground is very disappointing as it means the recycling will go to landfill and it is a terrible eyesore to our recreation reserve. There is a continual problem with sorting, landfill rubbish being put into bins and litter all around the area. Some Suggestions were to fence it and users have keys to access, perhaps have a red rubbish bin as well, better signage. How can we solve this problem? Any suggestions please.

Please use the recycle bins correctly and show you care about our environment and each other.

Wildlife signage is a high priority for our area and we will be pursuing it vigorously. The shire are reluctant to be involved so we will be pursuing it through the Pitch my Project scheme or if that fails, as a community project.

It's fantastic to see the Tableland Talk has grown. Thankyou everyone for your contributions and especially to Sean who puts it all together.

Stuart Bridgman



**Now open in Strathbogie - Ted Paterson's Mechanical
Servicing and Repairs.**



**Need a small engine repaired, a mower fixed, a chainsaw sharpened, trailer lights
reliant, basic car servicing or brake work? With years of previous experience delivering mechanical
repairs to the Strathbogie community - I'm back and I'm your man!**

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).



Mob: 0438 017 361 E: alexvic64@gmail.com



SOLAR PUMPS FOR AUSTRALIAN FARMERS

- Full DC Solar Pump Packages starting from \$1980
- DC Submersible and Surface Mount Pumps
- Hybrid Solar Pumps - AC/DC
- Lifetime Support from Commodore Australia



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO SEE OUR
COMPLETE RANGE OF SOLAR SOLUTIONS.**



COMMODORE
INDEPENDENT ENERGY SYSTEMS

**COMMODORE
AUSTRALIA**

P 1300 669 256 | sales@commodoreaustralia.com.au
www.commodoreaustralia.com.au

Strathbogie IT

New business to the area relocated from QLD.

Sales, Service & Support for all your hardware & software requirements.

Microsoft Certified, Insured.

35 years of experience

Call Simon on 0428-327-203

E: simon@strathbogieit.com.au

www.strathbogieit.com.au



STRATHBOGIE GENERAL STORE

Open 7 days a week

Your local general store, café and post office. Fully licensed.

Yummy breakfasts and lunches, Friday night Fish and Chips.

Local honey, wines and beer.

Local handcrafts.

Phone 0473 211 400



Strathbogie  Dental
FAMILY DENTAL CARE

**NOW
OPEN**

**Dr Thomas
Hudson**
Stacey Putker
(Children's Dental)

(03) 4702 2111

36 Kennedy St Euroa
At Euroa Health

Strathbogie Recreation Reserve and Hall – 2024 and beyond.

“The Rec” is one of our long-loved community assets. Once home to strong footy, cricket, and tennis clubs, only the recently revived latter now survives. From the early 90s and into the mid-2000s, membership dwindled to unsustainable levels and the teams dissolved. Some casual soccer followed, and a group of locals kept the flame alive with the ongoing tradition of a Thursday night get together for a few drinks and valuable catchup.

A Committee of Management formed, and regular BBQs and roasts were hosted. Funds from these ventures went straight back into upgrading the facility with heating, air conditioning and a cool room. A community drive gathered funds for a wood fired pizza oven, and this was complemented by Dave and Sandy Joyce’s Strathbogie Brewing Company providing Strathbogie’s finest beer on tap.

Thursday nights at the Rec grew and grew, with regular attendances of 50-100 locals, friends and visitors. It quickly became a family friendly institution and many looked forward to planning their week around the night. It became a place where we could all gather and share our week, regardless of demographic, background or any other marker, and forget any differences as we bonded over living in such a special locale.

During this period, Shire regulations changed and a second committee (Strathbogie Sports & Recreation Club Inc.) was formed to take on the liquor license and manage the bar.

Pandemic restrictions messed up a lot of plans and the Rec was no exception. Catchups and events became sporadic until restrictions fully lifted and we started getting together again. Meanwhile, plans for extensions had been with the Shire and they stated works during the summer of 2022/23. With the venue out of action, Thursday nights went back into hiatus. Long term locals and fresh newcomers missed this greatly.

Summer 2023/24 saw things kicking off again at the Rec. With renovations mostly complete, we could fire up the oven and kick off Thursday nights once more. It started slowly but is picking up momentum again and has been a blast for the last few months.

Both committees dissolved and elections were held in late Jan / early Feb 2024. The new groups (see below) are full of energy to take this valuable social institution forward. We have a few issues to sort through, but they are minor in the context of what this place provides for our community. To open the new bar, we are working with the Shire to finalise renovations and Liquor Control to extend license conditions. We are also looking to update booking / access procedures and encourage new clubs and events to use the space.

On behalf of both committees, I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to Sim Ayres, David Jamieson, Kim Usher, and David Joyce for their tireless work over the last decade or so in keeping this place running and growing. And to also extend thanks to all the many volunteers who light the oven, make the pizzas, pour the drinks and clean up afterwards – this work is tireless but necessary and we salute you all – you know who you are. Thank You.

John O'Brien (Johnno)

New Recreation Reserve Management sub committee

The Recreation Reserve Management Sub committee was formed at the Recreation Reserve on Tuesday night, 20th Feb.

As a shire facility, it will be under the auspice of the Strathbogie Memorial Hall Committee.

Committee members are: Johnno O'Brien – Chair, Lisa Duggan – Treasurer, Pennie Beard – Secretary, Kerry Hewlitt, Alice Wells, Mayra Walsh, Craig Mercuri.

The Committee of Management role will be to

- Oversee maintenance and improvements.
- Set hiring fees.
- Take bookings for use.

The committee hopes to establish good governance and transparency through regular meetings and updating the community about all that is going on at the Recreation Reserve.

Strathbogie Sports & Recreation Committee Inc.

Held an AGM on 24th January 2024. All positions were spilled and elections held for new office bearers. Results as follows:

Chair John O'Brien, Deputy Chair Craig Mercuri, Treasurer David Jones, Secretary Sandy Joyce

Members: Henry O'Connor, David Joyce, Lisa Duggan, Charlie Primmer, Ceitidh Hopper (Chopper), James Ryan, Kerry Hewlitt

This group then met on 30th January 2024 to work on setting up a framework for the future of the bar and its functions. We discussed licensing, building renovations, community functions and relationship with Rec Committee of Management.

We're here for you

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)

36 Binney St, Euroa
5795 1771

gmcu Euroa is a part of the Benalla-Strathbogie team.

• Benalla • Euroa • Violet Town •

If you need assistance outside these hours,
please call the Benalla branch.
9am - 5pm Monday to Friday.
03 5762 3380 - gmcu.com.au

gmcu.

Goulburn Murray Credit Union Co-operative Limited ABN 87 087 661 509 AFSL/Australian Credit Licence No. 241364. Terms & conditions, fees & charges and eligibility criteria may apply.

GRANITE BRIDGE AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISES



Rural Contracting Tractor, Fencing & 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!

A talk by Neil Phillips

Sunday, 14th April at 11.30am at the Strathbogie Hall with a light lunch to follow.



Neil has been studying the geology of the Strathbogie Ranges for many years and has presented the findings in short talks and field excursions from Tallarook to Swanpool. The Strathbogie Granite Project is a collaboration of his field studies, combined with the expertise of colleagues at the University of Melbourne, Stellenbosch University in South Africa and with input from colleagues in Portugal. Neil's presentation will draw upon recordings taken on the plateau with much of the work being done on private property: permission for this work is greatly appreciated.

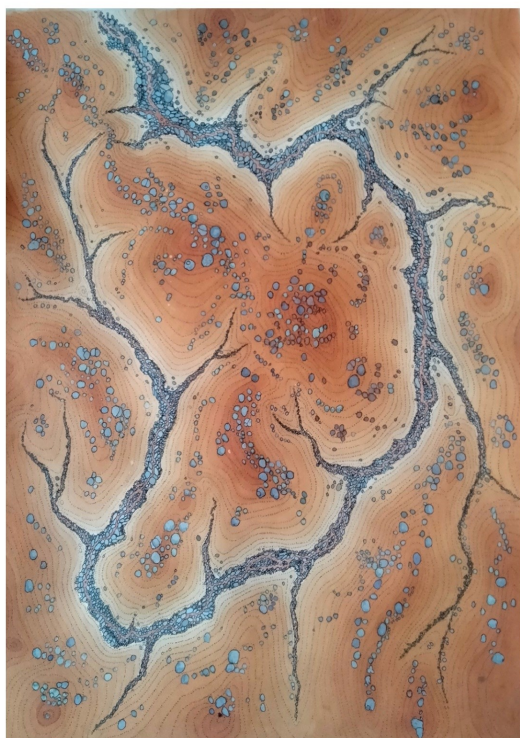
The granite geology plays a part in so many of the landforms and features we see on the plateau from the iconic boulders to extensive rock slabs, waterfalls, steep scarps, perched paddocks and seeps and bogs halfway up hillsides. This granite body covers 2000 sq km and there are some interesting variations between the four main plateaus of Tallarook, Highlands, Seven Creeks and Mt Samaria.

Neil's love affair with the Strathbogie Ranges began with mapping around Mt Strathbogie as an undergraduate student and has continued to the present day. He regularly imparts his knowledge and understanding of the Strathbogie granite formations to various community groups as seminars and on field trips.

There will be a brief Landcare Meeting beforehand with reports from our sub committees including Tree Planting plans for this year; progress with our pasture trials; and other work that Strathbogie Landcare is undertaking.



This event is free to attend and we welcome all who are interested in our Tableland and its geology. For catering purposes could you please email prighetti@macsfield.com.au or text 0418 148 511 your name and the number of any visitors that will be attending with you.



ELEVEN STORIES

AN EXHIBITION OF MUD MAPS, POSSIBLE LANDSCAPES, AND TALL STORIES

BY SIMEON AYRES

BUSH GATHERINGS GALLERY
208 HIGH STREET, VIOLET TOWN
OPENING FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY
6PM

AND SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS
IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH 10AM
TO 2PM

OR BY APPOINTMENT
0455246141/0417166824

Peranbin Primary College Strathbogie Campus

Our 2024 school year has started off smoothly with all students settling in well and getting back into the school routine. We welcomed three Foundation students, Isaac, Johnathan and Isaac R; along with Lewis in Grade 2 and Jocelyn in Grade 4. We were also happy to see some returning staff members, Ms Barratt, and Ms Holleran our Principal who spent last year at another school. We have Miss Jung for Auslan, Health, Inquiry and P.E. and we look forward to our weekly sessions with her.

We have appointed our Bogie Leadership Team which consists of School Captain – Carissa Croxson, Vice-Captain – Lachlan Garden, along with Alex Delahey and Quinn Butler who will be meeting with students regularly in their new leadership roles to give all of our students a voice. Their speeches were impressive and were a perfect example of our students upholding our school values. Well done everybody!

We are very grateful to Sue and Dave for having our campus looking so amazing, inside and out!

Senior Room

Our Senior Inquiry focus is Fairy Tales and Myths. We have been learning to write in paragraphs, and all students have been planning their own narrative. We have begun reading “The Bad Beginning” as our class novel, which will be used to practice a range of comprehension strategies across the term.

We have been setting up our new online learning accounts, for typing and reading, and familiarising students with logging on to these on the laptops and iPads.

In Maths we have been working on unknown values in equations and number patterns, and have been learning to convert between different units of time. We also made pancakes during our Maths session with the Senior Class calculating the time it would take to cook pancakes for the entire class.

Junior Room

In Literacy, the Juniors have been reading fairy tales, noting important elements in the stories. They have also created sentences with their own make-believe lands and characters. The spelling focus has been on ‘s’ and ‘a’ sound in Prep and ‘sh/ch/th’ blends in 1/2.

In Numeracy the students have continued to work with patterns. Preps have been learning to recognise the amounts represented on dice faces and in small collections, Year 1/2 students focus has been on patterns with 2, 5, and 10 objects or numbers repeating. We have also been learning to name and order days and months.

During PE the Seniors skill focus has been on the two-handed strike during T-ball. The Juniors have been practising ball handling skills using rolling.

Music with Sile



Pip and her patterns in Maths

