

TUBBUT TATTLER

ISSN 2200 - 5243



Next deadline: December 15th

November 2017

Tubbut Neighbourhood House

E-mail: tubbutnh@iinet.net.au

Phone: 02 64580295

Open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in school terms
<http://www.tubbutnh.com> Like us on Facebook



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*Su King leads us in yoga at Women's
Wellness Day Bonang in September
Photo Deb*

CLASSIFIEDS

TNH Bazaar/Big Bonang Arvo

The market/bazaar we have been talking about will be happening on Tuesday the 28th of November at the Big Bonang Arvo.

Everyone is welcome to hold a stall, you will be able to set up outside under the new roof space where the Pizza oven is. Sell out of suitcases or boxes, bring hanging racks or display on tarps (BYO). We will be able to supply some tables, please ring TNH. Set up at 2pm, BBA starts at 3.

FREE

Water Kefir Crystals for healthy gut flora. I have an abundance as my crystals keep multiplying.

Call Jenny at Bonang 0466 005 734

TRUCK & DRIVER AVAILABLE TO PICK UP OR DROP OFF

6.5metre Tilt Tray truck, happy to travel NSW or Victoria.

Pigs for sale (10-15 weeks old) \$50

Dorper sheep for sale contact for price

Contact Peter on 64580346 for more information

Septic getting full?

Robert Hampshire will pump out your loo. Septic tanks, porta-loos— no problems Truck has capacity to handle 2 tanks/trip Phone: 0417423983

Please keep your old glass bottles for Robert too as he is a passionate collector.

Goongerah Hall has a certified kitchen which is for hire at \$10 per day.

The hall also has portable speakers (USB etc jacks) at \$40 a day.

Contact Amy 03 51540118

Slashing—TNH is still looking for funding to slash for fire protection—no luck so far but let us know if you wish to be included if we are successful.

Bus trip to Bega

Bendoc bus goes to Bega the second Friday of November. Book at Bendoc Resource Centre

Tattler Contributions: We welcome your articles, news, reports on local groups, photos from local events, milestones, interesting stories, poems, biographies, births, deaths, historical items, and more.

The Tubbut Tattler is produced by the Coordinators of the Tubbut Neighbourhood House which is funded by the Victorian Government. Material herein is the responsibility of the authors and does not represent the views of the DVICG or Tubbut Neighbourhood House unless stated. We welcome material from, and of interest to, people in the border areas of East Gippsland and NSW.

WANTED

Old crockery of any colour except white, can have patterns, can be broken.

Please contact Sue Collins 64580287 or the NH, or leave at the Bonang Hall.

These will be used to Mosaic the new Pizza Oven at Bonang.

FOR SALE

Large Stihl Chainsaw 5 years old \$500

Generator \$400

Solar pump \$4,000

All in Excellent Condition

Please contact Heather on (02) 64580356

Happy to work out a good deal

WANTED

A couple of Laying chooks looking for a loving new home

Please contact Heather on (02)64580356

Bobcat contractor for hire

Slashing, clearing, small earthworks, levelling, preparation for sheds, carports, water tanks and paving and clean ups

Ring Steve 02 6458 0303 or email stephenscroope@bigpond.com

Bates' Fencing & Machine Hire



- Large 90hp Compact Track Loader.
- Tracks ensure minimal ground disturbance.
- 900 mm Trencher ideal for pipe / cable laying
- 6 ft slasher for paddock, scrub & advanced regrowth clearing with tree pusher, ideal for fence line maintenance
- 1600mm Road Broom / sweeper
- 300mm post hole auger
- Bucket, dozer blade, pallet & hay forks
- Fan assisted sprayer for difficult terrain
- Experienced operator
- Fully insured & GST registered
- Experienced in Rural fence design & construction

Available for cleaning (only)

Contact Natasha 64588162 or 0408477774

Advertising is free to local residents

News from Tubbut Neighbourhood House



WOMENS WELLNESS DAY

A fantastic day was had by all with great food, laughs, workshops, door prizes (thanks to Lou Lou's, Bombala Chemist and Tubbut Neighbourhood House), good conversations & company. A big Thank-You to everyone who attended and made the day what it was. We'd also like to thank Sue & Russell Collins & Steve Scroope for making sure the Pizza oven was built, seasoned and ready for us to cook our delicious pizzas.

If you have any ideas or requests for next year, please let us know.

Photos by Jill Redwood & the TNH



MASSAGES AT THE BONANG HALL

Kay Bristow comes to the Bonang Hall for massages if there are enough people to fill a day. Please contact the wonderful Kay on 0403627907

YOGA



All welcome on Tuesdays at the Bonang Hall
10.30am cost \$7.00.

Just turn up with comfortable clothes, a mat to lie on and a blanket to cover you.

NEW BOOK AT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

We have purchased a copy of the 'Lone Graves of Gippsland' Book by JG Rogers, which is a revised edition of the previously published '**Lonely Graves of the Gippsland Goldfields and Greater Gippsland**'

Tubbut Neighbourhood House has **lemons** aplenty and we are also keen to sell some eggs. Lemons are free, **eggs** are \$5 a dozen of which \$1 goes into TNH piggy-bank. Please ring if you want eggs so we can make sure there are some here!

If you want to attend any of the workshops and events that TNH organises and have transport problems please contact us & we will do what we can to get you there.

Cancellations, Date Changes and local news access

Sometimes our workshops or meetings may need to change or be cancelled due to certain circumstances. We try our best to let you know of any such changes but sometimes we cannot get that information to you quick enough. If you have Facebook, please like our page for quick access to information, or send us your email address if we don't already have it.

What's on

- Bushwalkers & Parks Vic Dinner at Bonang 18th November 6pm—\$10 per head. Must Book!
- DVICG Meeting Monday Nov 20, 10 am
- TNH closed Thursday Nov 23rd
- Big Bonang Arvo + market Tues Nov 28
- Bonang Christmas tree on Wednesday 20th.
- Tubbut NH Christmas lunch—Dec 21st at 12.30

Out & about

MYRLEFORD MUSIC

DECEMBER 2 & 3

A GREAT LINE UP OF REGULAR AND NEW BANDS
FROM COUNTRY TO RAP

6884 BONANG RD GOONGERAH
All welcome

Don't Forget your Appointment! Flying doctor optometrist service

Mon 13—Wed 15 November

Goongerah Hall

Half hour appointments from 9-5 Monday &
Tuesday, 9-12 on Wednesday

No appointments left unless cancellations
(please contact us if you need to cancel)

Please ring TNH 02 64580295

The Goongerah Hub is open to the public every Friday 10am to 3pm.

Use this opportunity to drop into the Goongerah Good Foods. The Whole Foods can help you minimize your trips into town by supplying you with wholesome organic foods. We have a range of flours, dried fruit and nuts, spices, seeds, rice, cereals and sugar. Please feel free to drop in and check it out. Don't forget your containers!

Neighbourhood house Barbecue at Delegate River fire shed

Wednesday December 6 at midday. Come and talk about what TNH can help you arrange for your community in 2018. Bring meat for you and salad to share. TNH will provide some food. All welcome—please let us know if you are coming

BIG

BONANG ARVO

Tuesday 28th November 2017—Bonang Hall 3—7pm



BBQ Dinner at 6pm
Community Market

Enquire Tubbut Neighbourhood House
(02) 64580295

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**lucky door prize. fruit & veg raffle.
health information and lots more**



GP Clinic, Dental Screening Clinic, Blood Pressure Checks, Women's Health, Dietician, District Nurse, Counselling Team, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Speech Therapy, DELWP, Parks Victoria, CFA, East Gippsland Shire, Library bus.



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Health
Southern NSW
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Royal Flying Doctor Service



Our kids
in the
snow in
Septem
ber

Bruthen Blues Adventures

We're sitting at the kitchen table. Bev, Tony and I, our hands wrapped around hot mugs of tea. It's cold outside. There are bulbs popping up all around the century old farmhouse, daffodils and jonquils. Weeping willows swing in the breeze, their leaves moving like beads in a shop door. It is so damn peaceful here.

It is not always this serene though. During the Bruthen Blues and Arts Festival you wouldn't hear the tinkling of the spoon in your teacup if you put your ear right next to it. Bev and Tony Grist's place... well it's a hoedown worth writing about.

On the third weekend of February every year, while the Bruthen Blues and Arts Festival revs its engine, Bev and Tony have over sixty people camping on their property at the edge of town. It's a festival within a festival.

The farmhouse is surrounded by undulating green paddocks and gardens but during the festival this is covered, grass-root to tip, in tents, caravans and decorations (how and why these decorations arrive on the property is another story altogether!). People name their campsites and put up signs. "We have the swamp rats. Down there by the dam. They're a rowdy lot. They put up blow up palm trees and call it a resort," says Tony.

"Have you told Mim about the Sunday night yet?" Bev says to Tony. There is no way to describe the look in her eyes other than delighted mischief. Bev and Tony exchange a glance. They are telepathically

trying to work out which bits should or shouldn't be told. Tony turns to me, "Sunday night..." He pauses and sips his tea, private memories making him grin. "When it's all over at the pub, well, a lot come back here. There's usually 80 plus people here on a Sunday night and there's a lot of musos and that and everyone just gets up and has a jam and... it's brilliant... it... well let's just say it goes all night." Some more specific details of these shenanigans please? I beg. Well the Granny Smith tree is not called that here because of the type of apples on it, they both say. But we will tell you that story later...

The Bruthen Blues and Arts Festival has bought people, local and abroad, the gift of a good time for 22 years. For many it is an annual pilgrimage, a yearly catharsis of quality music and letting your hair down, a creative outlet, an inspiration, a way to chill out and connect with people... and the blues, it is always about that soul clutching blues music.

Bev and Tony were there at the very first Blues Jam that started the whole thing. In fact *they* started the whole thing. Bev and Tony were part of the original crew who put on the first Blues Jam at the Swanny pub. For them this festival is a passion and a part of who they are. They have watched it grow, evolve and thrive. "We love it," says Bev, "we just absolutely love it. The atmosphere of the whole thing, you can't describe it."

Are they looking forward to the February 2018 festival? "Oooo yeah, it's gonna be good," says Tony and he has that glint in his eyes again.

And the granny smith tree? "Well it ended up covered in bras and knickers," says Tony, "the next morning, after a Sunday night, that Sunday night was charged from a 40 degree day, we woke up and they were all hanging there in the branches." Tony points to an apple tree, blossom not britches in its branches this time of year.

"Harmless fun," says Bev, "lots and lots of harmless fun." The Bruthen Blues and Arts Festival is on again in 2018. The 16th, 17th and 18th of February. Start getting excited folks! bruthenblues.com.au

Contributed by the organisers



Out & about

In Memory of David Francis Minchin

Born February 1933 sadly passed away on 14th October 2017
David was the Captain of the Bonang Fire Brigade, Hall Committee Member, he did the mail run from Orbost to Bendoc 3 times a week, Lions Club member, former councillor for North Riding on Orbost Shire, Tree Feller and Rabbit Trapper.

Husband to Kaye and **Father to** Richard, Lynette & Andrew
Brother to: Nona Collings, Ian Minchin (Blue), Jean East, Helen Neven & Alan Minchin (deceased)
Well-remembered by our communities

Congratulations to Matsya Willoughby

nominated for the Fred Hollows humanitarian award.

The Fred Hollows Foundation would like to congratulate Matsya on her nomination for the Fred Hollows Humanity Award!

The Victorian presentation ceremony will be held from 3.00 – 3.45pm on Thursday 26 October at Arrow on Swanston in Carlton, Melbourne.



What is the Fred Hollows Humanity Award?

The Award recognises Year 6 students who follow in Fred's footsteps by making a positive difference in their community. It celebrates students who show compassion, integrity and kindness in their everyday lives, just as Fred did.

Throughout 2017 Matsya has been enrolled at the Distance Education Centre Victoria (DECV), where she has been involved in a student leadership program, called The Student Voice. The main focus of The Student Voice over the last two terms has been to raise awareness of the plight of the orangutans of Borneo due to palm oil, within the DECV community, with over 4000 student, it is the largest school in Victoria.

Her teacher Melissa King, nominated Matsya for her great work in the Student Voice.

"Did you know some of the food we eat is endangering animals? Well, it's true.

A hundred years ago, there were about 230,000 orangutans! But now, the Bornean orangutan is endangered with about 104,700 left and the Sumatran orangutan is critically endangered with only 7,500! This is because of palm oil.

We would appreciate your help spreading this information, so that we can eat less palm oil, and save more orangutans!"
(Taken from the Primary Student Voice Working Party information package)

For more information on The Fred Hollows Foundation, go to <https://www.hollows.org/>

Please save the date, Friday December 15th 2017 for the annual Bendoc Progress Association Inc Christmas Party. Party starts around 6.30 pm all welcome, BYOG and drinks also bring a friend. For food catering purposes please make your reservations by phone on 0264581402 Mon-Wed 9.30 to 2.30pm or by email, by Tuesday 12th December 2017.

Combined Training Day
Orbost, Tambo & Mt Delegate Groups

Sunday the 19th of November
Newmerella Recreation Reserve
Looking for expression of interest to join in on a combined training day

We Want YOU!

Brigades across Tambo, Mount Delegate & Orbost Groups are invited to attend and partake in a hose relay exercise, followed by lunch at the Newmerella Fire Station.

These practical training days are designed to build confidence and to learn.

Importantly, the days also provide the opportunity for participants to meet other members and to develop and enhance networks.

Times: 10:00 – 14:00hrs

Pre-requisites: Wildfire Firefighter (Minimum Skills) – Q0002A
Please bring your wildfire PPC and protective work boots

Exercise: Hose relay & pumping (simulation of town fire scenario)

"Opportunity for Crew Leaders, burn over practice & pre-season preparedness..."

Catering: Lunch provided (please notify of your crews dietary requirements in your RSVP)

Travel: Coordination of travel arrangements will be provided closer to date

Expression of interest to:
Louise Haughton on (03) 0407 642 660
or email l.haughton@cfa.vic.gov.au

BreastScreen Victoria's Mobile Screening Service is coming to Orbost

Appointments from
27 Oct to 13 Nov

You'll find us
Lind Lane Arcade - Lind Lane,
Wolseley Car Park

13 20 50

Bookings open now

Book at breastscreen.org.au or call **13 20 50**

A regular breast screen could save your life.

BreastScreen Victoria's Mobile Screening Service is:

quick • free • for women 50 and over • high quality digital screening
No doctor's referral required.

For more information about our visit
Please contact Mel Davis,
Health Promotion Manager
mdavis@breastscreen.org.au

BreastScreen Victoria
Caring about Women



For interpreter assistance call 13 16 50

TTY 13 36 77

Caring about Women

Out & about

RETURNED AND

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Hon. Sec. Maree Pope
Ph: 0427 453 450



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SERVICES LEAGUE

Delegate RSL Sub Branch
57 Bombala Street
DELEGATE NSW 2633
Delegate.RSL@gmail.com

REMEMBERANCE DAY 2017

SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER 10:40AM

AT THE CENOTAPH

(School of Arts Hall if Raining)

POPPY APPEAL:

As many of you would be aware, the RSL NSW Branch is undergoing a large degree of upheaval and reform at the moment. The ongoing Bergin enquiry and ACNC investigations have been closely followed by members of the public and ex-military all over the country.

Some of you may not be aware that RSL NSW State Council directed all sub-branches in NSW to suspend charitable fund-raising and Appeals while issues that have culminated in the Bergin enquiry are being dealt with.

Unfortunately, the suspension of Charitable fund raising will still be in force during the November Poppy Appeal. The RSL recognises the importance of this Appeal and accordingly, State Council and the Welfare and Benevolent Fund have provided around 90 poppies to Delegate for the sub-branch to give out to the public on the day.

We intend to have ex-military members of the sub-branch and our committee handing poppies out on November 11th to members of the community with our heartfelt gratitude for the help, respect and support you give to our veterans, both past and present. It is noticed and very much appreciated and we would urge you all to wear a poppy in Remembrance of those who paid the ultimate price for our freedoms over past and current conflicts.

I must Stress that we are currently unable to accept any money for those poppies at all.

Once again, I would like to thank you all for your support and help over the years and urge you all to be patient while the RSL sorts out those who would bring the league into discredit and refines its processes to avoid future potential for misuse of funds.

Please join with us on November 11th at the Delegate Cenotaph in commemoration for all who have died in service to this town and this country.

Phil Pope
President
Delegate RSL sub-Branch

<https://www.facebook.com/Delegate.RSL>

Delegate Pony Club Gymkhana

Sunday 26th November 2017 Delegate Showground

– 9:00am gear check for a 9:30am start

Entry fee \$20 per rider for registrations received by
12th November 2017

Age Groups -Led/Assisted - 9 & Under

11 -15 & Under 17— Under 7 - 11 & Under 13 -

Associates -7 & Under 9 - 13 & Under 15

Age Champions for the Day will be awarded at the
conclusion of all events

Gymkhana Events

- Riding Class - Western Pole Bend - Keyhole -

Riding Class-bareback - Barrel Race - Pony Twist -

Flag Race - Diamond Flag - Straight Barrel Race -

Bending Race - Clover Leaf - Keyhole Bounce -

Delegate's Stockmen's Challenge

- Table AM7 Showjump – Mini E, E, D, C, B & A

grade. No Led or assisted riders to showjump.

Grading and performance cards must be handed in on
the morning.

General

□ Riders must be financial members of PCANSW –
yellow rally card attendance & membership cards
MUST be presented at registration on the day of the
Gymkhana.

Enquiries to DPC Kelly Voveris on 0406 373

770 or Katrina Jamieson on 0428 301 176 or to

delegateponyclub@hotmail.com

Red Sunday Healing Through Narrative

Friday 8th December 2017—Bonang Hall 5.30pm



You are invited to the premiere of the long awaited community documentary, Red Sunday. Over 40 Bonang, Goongerah & Tubbut locals, plus DELWP & CFA representatives, participated in talking about their experiences during and after the 2014 Goongerah Deddick bushfires that lasted over 70 days.

Please join us in the telling of their story.

Show starts at 6pm sharp

Dinner at 7.15pm.

RSVP

Tubbut Neighbourhood House (02) 64580245 or
Bright 0440 317 803 or Loreise 0427 850 457



Proudly supported by



Delegate Pony Club

Proudly Presents with Assistance from

Snowy Monaro Regional Council

TRAINING DAY

25th November 2017

8am gear check for a strict 8:30am start at Delegate Showgrounds

Come and join us for a day of Fun, Filled Training.

Senior Group - Mr Peter Gillis will be running small groups through show jumping techniques



Show jumping, cross country and polocrosse plus some fun games will be presented to the **junior groups**



Senior Group - Come learn the finer techniques of dressage with Ms Shaun France

Senior Group - Join in for some fun with mounted games with Maureen and also some polocrosse techniques with Clive Cottrell

COST: \$80 per person for the day **OR** \$100 for Training day plus entry to gymkhana - 12 years and older
COST: \$60 per person for the day **OR** \$80 for Training day plus entry to gymkhana - under 12 years old
Camping: \$10 per family for the weekend

Camping Available & Showers (\$10.00 per family). There are limited stables and yards available and will need to be reserved!

CLUB SECRETARIES TO RSVP: by the **12th November 2017** to delegateponyclub@hotmail.com OR to Kelly on 0406 373 770

(please include Jumping Grade & PIC number)

Places are limited and is open to all ZONE 18 riders then to outside zones. There will be a BBQ running for Morning Tea and Lunch

Tubbut Neighbourhood House, the Tattler and the Errinundra to Snowy district

My apology for the long delay between Tattlers. Its not through lack of trying but events got in the way.

This is a good time to explain how things work at Tubbut Neighbourhood House (TNH) and suggest we think about next year.

TNH is governed by the Deddick Valley Isolated Community Group (DVICG) and funded by the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services to be open 20 hours a week, 52 weeks of the year. DVICG has the House open for the same number of hours over the year but for 23.5 hours on school weeks taking the school holidays out (the coordinators are not paid for 7 weeks of the year).

DVICG is elected annually and always keen to take on new members. We have members from the whole Errinundra to Snowy District (ESD) excluding Bendoc, which has its own neighbourhood house. However, we liaise more with Bendoc these days as we have many common interests.

Serving the whole ESD

As services pull out of our area and more is delivered via internet, TNH's work has become more crucial. We work with all the service deliverers and lobby to make sure they don't forget us.

We have signed a funding agreement in which we agree to:
Support the provision of programs and activities which lead to community-strengthening outcomes through:

- *supporting diversity by promoting community participation and inclusion;*
- *Facilitating community development and capacity building in support of individuals and groups within communities;*
- *Supporting lifelong learning opportunities for people to improve their training and employment pathways and community participation and*
- *Support planning and linkages to address locally identified priorities and needs.*

There are 2 paid coordinators (Lisa 13.5 hours and Deb 10 hours) but the Agreement requires us to deliver twice as many hours as we are paid for.

That doesn't mean the coordinators doing everything; it means working with our communities to develop activities and programs to make us stronger as a district. TNH does this by working with communities to provide answers to their needs. Community development is not welfare. We are not social workers. Between us we have many skills but not all—that's where you come in. We shouldn't be providing all the 20 hours of voluntary work required by the agreement in our own time. Our work is not confined to Tubbut. We are all small populations of scattered people and we share the same needs many of which are more accessible across the border.

- We work with Goongerah which has set up a community hub and would dearly like a funded neighbourhood house. However there hasn't been funding for new neighbourhood houses for some years. One has to close somewhere in Victoria—that's how we got our 5 extra hours a few years ago.
- We are having a barbecue lunch at Delegate River fire-shed this month as Tubbut is a long trip for residents and not on the way to anywhere else.
- We often have activities at Bonang Hall as it is a central location for most of the district.
- Sometimes it makes sense to locate things in Delegate and Delegate people are welcome at our events.

Coordinator changes

I am leaving my position at the end of 2017 one way or another—whether unpaid leave while the shape of things to come is worked out or 'retiring' is yet to be decided. I will work with Lisa and the committee for the smoothest transition. Other aspects of my life are taking over and I don't feel I can do TNH justice as coordinator any more. The number of hours involved (more like 20 than 10) reduces other things I'd like or need to be doing.

I will remain involved somehow or other, as a committee member at least. We'd like to hear from you about what you would like TNH to do for you and your community next year as that will assist the committee in planning for the year and selecting its new coordinator.

Some questions:

- What classes and activities would you like?
- Should the Tattler reduce its coverage and size
- What opportunities for strengthening your community are we missing?
- Are there any officials or experts you'd like to see more of in our district (eg Roads, communications, health)?
- What can you do to make TNH work better for your community?



Top—Taste of Tubbut 2011; Silk Painting at Bonang 2012; Felting at Tubbut 2014

The next meeting of DVICG on 20th November at 10am will discuss these matters as it contemplates the year ahead. We invite and welcome your thoughts.

Deb

Local News

Great to see holiday makers at Wattle Camp for a week. The couple from Marlo have been enjoying the fine weather and spending time fishing.

Healing Through Narrative – Fire Stories, a community documentary.

The fire documentary film is nearing completion! It is currently still being edited with producer Hannah Cairns and her colleague in Oregon, U.S.A. and we should have the first screen launch locally in 6 to 8 weeks. It has been a massive amount of work for all involved and we appreciate your patience and we are so grateful to those who participated in the interviews – there were over 40 people interviewed in March! Thank you J

Birgit and I have been reviewing 'rough cuts' to help the editing process –the first rough cut was 6 and half hours long!! Thankfully the next cut was only an hour long so it only took a few hours to review and determine feedback!

Stay tuned..... See poster elsewhere in Tattler
Lorelee & Birgit

4WD CLUBS AND PARKS VICTORIA Working Together to Make our Tracks Safer

The annual track clearing weekend held in conjunction with 4wd members from the Pajero and Landrover clubs was again a successful and enjoyable weekend. Three separate teams each with a Parks Victoria staff member leading the group cleared many tracks in the Alpine, Snowy and Errinundra national parks. It was very pleasing to have tracks cleared in time for the seasonal road closure gate opening that occurs just prior to the Melbourne Cup long weekend each year when members of the public look forward to once again driving on tracks that have been closed for approximately six months. The track clearing work undertaken each year with the volunteers also has the benefit of the tracks being cleared for fire access. The Saturday was somewhat of a long day and everyone enjoyed a sumptuous evening meal with the Tubbut community in Tubbut. After dinner everyone convoyed to McKillops bridge camping area to set up camp and get a campfire going to sit around, enjoy some refreshments and have a good chat. *Gary*



Thanks to Committee members from the Tubbut Hall & Tubbut Neighbourhood House for the great catering which was funded by Parks Victoria.



Tubbut School 1976 revisited



We are publishing the photograph again as Jan Ingram was able to identify all the children. As the driver of the school bus, Jan knew them well. Thanks for coming to our rescue Jan.

It might be easier to identify children if I say in circular manner.

So, back semi circle starting with the girl behind Paul Fry there is Robyn Perkins, Tanya Bass, Mark Ingram, Brenda Neven, Robyn Kirkby, Lyn Minchin, Philip Neven.

Sort of line starting with Paul Fry, Andy Minchin, Helen Browse (teacher) and Jenny Lee Stokes.

Next semi circle starting with John Neven, Vicki Kirkby, Kim Perkins, Simon Pearce.

Next Natalie Fry, Craig Martin, Fiona Ingram, Tanya Drake.

In front Danny Martin. The two Martin boys are sons of Christine Sims who was living at the Mill at Bonang at the time – not for very long.

Hope this helps.

Regards

Jan

From the departments

DELWP/CFA Joint Agency Preseason Briefing

October 19 at DELWP Depot Bendoc

A number of people from both sides of the border attended this session to hear the bodies tasked with prevention and extinguishment of fires tell us their plans for the season to come.

Signs that it could be a busy season came early as a number of fires started from private burn-offs early in October; the most serious were near Buchan and Marlo. The bill for the Marlo fire may come in at more than \$1 million.

Consequently DELWP moved the declaration of fire season forwards to October 16th, making it illegal to start a fire (apart from campfires) without a permit.

The briefing was attended mostly by people in the CFA and employees of DELWP and Parks Victoria and conducted by Miles Malcolm (CFA Division 11) and Trent Tonnissen (DELWP Bendoc). Miles took us through the sorts of things those of us who have our Minimum Skills certificates are familiar with: If you see something speak up; consider your health before you go out on the fire field; work together as one regardless of affiliation; use local knowledge; and be aware of what others are doing and where the escape routes are.

The Fire Operations Plan (FOP) hasn't been changed much by the new risk reduction strategy although priorities may have altered. The aim of tenure-blind management as in NSW is still a way off; hazardous trees are one barrier as DELWP must deal with these before they work on private land. The aim is to work as one fire sector by 2020.

I learned these things:

- People can be advised not to light fires but can't be stopped outside fire restrictions; in NSW people are liable for fires that get away no matter how they began
- If a private burn escapes, the person who lit it can be proved liable even outside fire season (but must be proved in court)
- When fire danger index is over 12, an aircraft is on alert and may be dispatched to the site (but do not count on it). Aircraft are stationed in Bairnsdale and Benambra.
- The fire crew contains many new people; their induction starts early November
- There are 160 people across the district (Snowy, Cann River, Orbost and Bendoc) including a dedicated Aboriginal liaison officer and 10 extra positions due to the early fires
- There are 70 forest operations workers across the district
- 'Reducing bushfire risk' is a Vic Govt program giving Snowy district \$3 million over 4 years to deploy declining timber industry operators in hazardous tree reduction and track maintenance. Machine operators must be on statewide panel and satisfy safety requirements. While packages were sent to 41 contractors, only one will get the contract.
- Bendoc will have 5 G wagons and 1 Unimog.



- Police in Queanbeyan district ask to be informed if

there is a fire incident but hopes that Delegate Police station will be manned by the end of November.

After the warmest and one of the driest winters on record, we need to go into this summer as prepared as possible. I asked DELWP/CFA to visit our area to meet with community so we can be sure that we go into the season with various understandings between us in order that we work together well. There was no assurance that there was time for such a meeting but its worth a try.

This article was prepared from notes taken at the meeting. Any mistakes are mine.

Deb Foskey

Fighting fires together across state borders

Bushfires don't respect boundaries and fires that start close to the Victorian-New South Wales border in the far east of our region have potential to threaten communities, infrastructure and assets in both states.

A long-running cross-border agreement between emergency response agencies addresses the issues and complexities of the management of cross-border fires. Forest Fire Management Victoria Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Chris Stephenson said: "Our state agencies have been collaborating for more than 20 years on a formal agreement to ensure a rapid and effective response to any bushfires close to the state border."

"We met in Lakes Entrance on the 18th of October to review, update and further strengthen our agreement and to prepare ourselves and our systems for the season ahead," Mr Stephenson said.

"The member agencies involved in the cross-border firefighting arrangements include NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Forestry Corporation of NSW, NSW Rural Fire Service, NSW Police, Forest Fire Management Victoria, Victorian CFA and Victoria Police."

CFA Assistant Chief Officer, Trevor Owen said: "It's critical that our fire agencies work together to protect communities, regardless of borders and boundaries."

"Our agencies rely heavily on our people and their relationships. It's essential for the safety of all Australians that we can work together with a common goal."

"Each agency can provide a range of specialist skills with an array of resources which, when combined can provide communities near the NSW-Victorian border with a bigger range of firefighting resources to meet our day-to-day fire demands."

"Liaison across the border and between agencies is robust, and the established cooperation and collaboration across an area of mutual interest will ensure a rapid and effective response to any bushfires that might threaten lives and property close to the state border and beyond."

CFA volunteers accuse leadership of failing to act on bullying

PETER HUNT, *The Weekly Times* October 11, 2017

THE CFA's leadership has been accused of hypocrisy and failure in its handling of alleged drawn-out and bitter battles between paid and volunteer members of far East Gippsland's most isolated brigades.

Mallacoota's brigade has imploded amid accusations of theft, bullying and threats of violence, which volunteers claim CFA management has been unable to resolve.

Members of the nearby Cann Valley brigade claim they are struggling to survive, with one female member facing expulsion for (next page)

raising her concerns over bullying and harassment with local media.

The ongoing divisions and disputes come amid the United Firefighters Union's bid to block the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission releasing its report into sexism and bullying within the CFA and MFB. In June Cann Valley volunteer Sherylle Holster was disciplined by CFA deputy chief officer Gary Cook for telling ABC radio the brigade had suffered "abuse and bullying at the hands of the paid CFA staff" and that two members had contemplated suicide.

Ms Holster highlighted a series of bullying and harassment claims, backed by a statutory declaration from brigade members. In one case, in April 2016, a career officer allegedly reacted to volunteer complaints by inviting the local lieutenant to "step outside".

Then CFA deputy chief officer Gary Cook responded by issuing Ms Holster with a disciplinary warning, stating: "I hold concern that your conduct and behaviour demonstrates your unsuitability to retain your CFA membership."

In November last year, then Mallacoota captain Graham Clark and his support officers were accused of misappropriating about \$5000 from a community event they organised.

Mr Clark said he immediately called on CFA headquarters to investigate the claim, once he became aware of it, which ultimately cleared him and other brigade members of any wrongdoing.

"Since then all I've wanted was the individuals who made the accusations to be disciplined," Mr Clark said. "But I'm very disappointed CFA senior management has failed to act."

"We need to change this boys' club culture and welcome equality," he said. "It's the CFA's obligation to keep the workplace safe, and they've failed to do that."

Fellow Mallacoota volunteer and recruitment officer Rick Cooper said he was dismayed at the CFA's failure to deal with the bullying he allegedly faced from a fellow volunteer, who he claimed threatened to "knock my block off" at a CFA meeting.

Mallacoota volunteer Cate Tregellas said Mr Cooper had done a great job in encouraging more women into the brigade, but that many had left in the wake of recent conflicts.

A CFA spokesman said it was "committed to a safe and inclusive workplace for volunteers and staff and therefore takes very seriously any allegations of misconduct, cultural or behavioural issues".

Sexual harassment, bullying, endemic for women in Country Fire Authority, says report

Nick McKenzie, Richard Baker October 17

"As people always say.... CFA is very much a family..... the Mafia. if you try and stand up against it you are dead. (Male SR380)

"Protection from accountability for poor performance and poor behaviour is entrenched within CFA," and ".describes the existence of a "brotherhood", and wrote that "the boys club culture is still very strong, with the expectation that you will not rat out anyone unless the behaviour is really outrageous."

"The alarming findings of the leaked Interim Report on Gender Diversity and Inclusion show that half of both male and female respondents reported being bullied, and one-third had been harassed, including sexual harassment.

"The report takes particular aim at the firefighters' union, 12 which it says perpetuates a culture of "no transparency or

accountability", and an industrial agreement that "counters any attempt to address even the most serious forms of reported conduct".

"[The] Andrews government claims it is committed to dealing with reports of bullying and harassment in the CFA and MFB, and has initiated an inquiry by Victoria's human rights commission. But the commission's inquiry has been blocked in the Supreme Court by the union, which argues its methodology is flawed and its inquiry biased."

"Literally hundreds and hundreds of respondents gave detail of behaviours that included criminal sexual assault; sexual harassment; physical altercations; bullying; intimidation; harassment; threats of violence and other forms of inappropriate behaviour causing various degrees of distress."

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/sexual-harassment-bullying-endemic-for-women-in-country-fire-authority-says-report-20171016-gz1szo.html>

Phos Chek poisons waterways

ABC's 4 Corners recently investigated the poisoning of community water supplies where the fire fighting foam containing PFAS has been used. The story focused on the military's use but this has also been widely used by fire fighters during every bushfire, by volunteers as well as paid fire fighters. The contamination of the wetlands near Sale's RAAF base and the EPA warning not to eat ducks, eels or fish from the area, is likely to be the thin end of a much more serious wedge.

The key ingredient in the red Phos Chek used by the hundreds of tonnes in bushfires has been a 'trade secret' for years and is suspected of being PFAS or related toxic component. We believe this cover-up is only now beginning to be exposed.

Quotes from the program:

"You've been giving your children water that's contaminated with chemicals.... so you're just trying to get your head around what does that mean?" Katherine resident

It's one of the biggest environmental scandals in Australian history. Harmful chemicals, leaching into the ground and waterways, contaminating the water relied upon for drinking.

"They became more and more certain...It was also in the food chain, and it was also a risk to human health. Their own report by their own expert made that clear, that there was a risk to human health." Investigator

These chemicals are the toxic legacy of fire-fighting foam, used for decades on Defence Force bases and other sites around Australia.

"They told us...this is the new asbestos. Those words exactly. That was them, giving a determination on how bad these foams were and that we had to pay attention to what they were telling us." Oakey resident

More information can be found at <http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/contamination/9032140>

The 2 articles above were contributed by Jill I see there is a job for a Phos Chek operator in the Bombala area. Poster at newsagent or Delegate café.

DEWLP's firewood season Sept 1 and closes November 30th. Maps on DELWP web site

Landcare News

REBUILDING LANDCARE AFTER DEEP CUTS

ABC Rural, Anna Vidot September 27 2017

After years of deep cuts the 2017 Budget announced Landcare will be funded at current levels to 2023. Landcare was gutted in the controversial 2014 budget, losing almost \$500 million in funding and facing further cuts in later years.

The Federal Government has revealed more details about how its billion-dollar investment in Landcare will be spent.

The bulk of it — \$450 million — will go to the Regional Land Partnerships Program which currently funds the Government's network of 56 natural resource management (NRM) organisations.

But it remains unclear how that money will be allocated, which conservation objectives will take priority, and whether groups other than the NRM organisations will be able to access any of that money.

The Government says those questions will be resolved over coming months, during "extensive" consultations with the sector and the community.

Of the \$1 billion for Landcare out to 2023 first announced in the 2017 Budget, \$5 million will be shared among community and volunteer groups in grants of up to \$50,000.

The 2017 budget announcement of a billion-dollar investment, keeping Landcare funded at current levels out to 2023, was welcomed by the volunteer groups which have driven the network since its creation.

Farmers have been integral to the program since it was created by the National Farmers Federation and Australian Conservation Foundation in 1989.

Agriculture Minister Barnaby Joyce said in a statement that the program recognises the "significant contribution to the protection of vital assets such as soils, water, vegetation and biodiversity".

The Government said the agriculture component of the new Landcare program is still being finalised, and will be announced in coming weeks.

Dear Landcarers and Partners,

The National Landcare Program phase 2 is now underway with several tiers of funding available. The two main opportunities at present are the *Small Grants Program* and the *Smart Farming Partnership Program*. Each of these are competitive and open to a wide array of organisations and companies. The basic outline is:

Small Grants Program

- Both environmental and farming projects
- Tier 1 Grants \$5,000-\$50,000, Tier 2 \$50,000-\$100,000
- Typical Landcare activities would easily fit this category
- Public benefit essential – e.g co-contributions on private land

Closing date 2pm 7th December

Smart Farming Partnership Program

- Multi-year projects of \$250K to \$4M
- Partnerships are essential
- Productivity and land health focus
- Project scope includes innovative tools, training, techniques, management changes to improve mainstream farming
- Public benefit essential – e.g co-contributions on private land

Closing date 2pm 21st December (Cont next column)

Kangaroo management fails farmers as roo numbers hit record levels

ABC Rural By Kieu Trinh Nguyen and David Claughton
29 September 2017



Kangaroos are an iconic symbol of Australia and seeing one is on the top of every tourist's must-see list, but there are too many of them according to farmers and they want to triple the number they can shoot.

After being decimated during the long drought years from the late 1990s to 2008, aerial surveys by state government agencies indicate that kangaroo numbers are up again at record levels.

There are about 50 million kangaroos now, about double the human population, with 22 million in Queensland and a record 17 million in New South Wales, according to the Office of Environment and Heritage in that state.

Without natural predators like dingos keeping their numbers down, kangaroos are causing farmers huge problems.

There is some research from the Australian National University and Deakin University that supports the claim that they are having an impact on agriculture and the environment.

The research shows that large numbers of kangaroos can reduce the occurrence of native grasses, which livestock graze on and can also affect the diversity and cover of shrubs and the quality of habitat for various native species including beetles, reptiles, birds and bandicoots.

WHAT CAN FARMERS DO ABOUT IT?

It is illegal to shoot kangaroos without a permit, and there are strict controls on the number of permits issued, but farmers and professional hunters can apply to the National Parks office in South Australia, Western Australia, New South Wales and Queensland for approvals.

Mr Clapham said farmers could only get about a third of the tags they needed and they want that number boosted.

"What we would like to see is the licensing regulation relaxed," he said.

The harvest of kangaroos is limited to a maximum of 15-17 per cent of the population, depending on the species and also depending on the situation in particular management zones. There were only 360,000 kangaroos harvested in New South Wales last year, even though a quota of 2.5 million was approved by OEH.

CAN THE INDUSTRY HELP TO CONTROL THE NUMBERS?

John Kelly, executive officer from the Kangaroo Industry Association, said the industry was growing and harvesting kangaroo significantly helped increase farm productivity. Australia exported around 4,000 tonnes of kangaroo meat annually and had access to more than 60 countries but export volumes were low compared to the total red meat exports from Australia.

Also, there remained many countries that still did not approve kangaroo for human consumption.

The domestic market was also small, but founder and director of Macro Meats Ray Borda said it was growing.

So could the kangaroo meat industry help to control kangaroo numbers? Wildlife expert Catherine Herbert did not think so.

"The quota has never been actually met," she said.

"So I think the kangaroo industry has an important role to play but it isn't set up to try and limit the damage by the kangaroos per se."

Three explanatory videos are provided by the Federal Govt at <http://www.nrm.gov.au/national-landcare-program>

The guidelines provide substantial detail in order for Groups to further consider their options.

We are working on a number of initiatives and would be pleased to work with partners to ensure some good projects are adopted in the local area. To discuss any project initiatives or seek help on your own Group activities, please call soon as there is only a short window to work on application details.

Regards, Mark Chaplin Snowy River Interstate Landcare Committee

Farmers & Growers

Pesticide residue detected in 75 per cent of honey sold worldwide

ABC Science environment reporter [Nick Kilvert](#) October 4



A survey of honey from around the world has found that 75 per cent of samples tested contain at least one or more types of pesticide.

Swiss scientists tested 198 honey samples sourced from every continent except Antarctica for the presence of five neonicotinoid pesticides, which are commonly used in agriculture.

Honey from North America, Asia and Europe contained the highest levels of pesticides, they reported in the journal [Science](#).

The researchers stressed that the levels of contamination found in the honey were "below the maximum-residue level authorised for human consumption" by the European Union. But they said that exposure to these pesticides, which target the nervous system, may harm bees and other pollinators. "There are increasing concerns about the impact of these systemic pesticides [on] honey bees and wild bees," they wrote.

[Colony collapse](#) was first recognised 10 years ago, when beekeepers in the United States noticed that thousands of hives were completely empty of bees.

A number of factors have since been discovered to contribute to colony collapse, including pesticides ingested by bees at sub-lethal levels.

Study co-author Professor Edward Mitchell from the University of Neuchatel in Switzerland, said even at low levels neonicotinoids were cause for concern.

"These pesticides are so incredibly toxic that they have a considerable effect at concentrations that are barely measurable," he said.

OCEANIA'S MOST COMMON PESTICIDE ON EU BANNED LIST

The researchers employed the help of citizen scientists to send samples of honey purchased in shops around the world back to their laboratory in Switzerland.

"Many of our samples were from very remote regions. We also aimed to [include] isolated oceanic islands and places in central parts of continents far away from big industrial areas," Professor Mitchell said.

"In many of these places we had positive samples."

While 30 per cent of samples contained a single pesticide, 45 per cent contained a minimum of two, and up to five different types of neonicotinoid.

Thiamethoxam, which was the most commonly detected pesticide in honey from Oceania, was put on a temporary ban by the EU in 2013 following concerns over colony collapse.

Of the 198 samples, six were taken from Australia. According to the study authors, none of the samples reached levels known to have "marked detrimental effects" on bees.

A French law passed in 2016 will see the banning of neonicotinoids by 2018.

Although colony collapse is yet to be detected in Australia, North America and Europe have still been experiencing high bee mortality over the winter months.

Lamb or Mutton: Peak body wants to change the definition of what we eat

ABC Rural By [Jess Davis](#), [Kit Mochan](#), [Laurissa Smith](#) October 5



The peak body, the Sheepmeat Council of Australia (SCA), has taken steps to clarify the definition of lamb saying the change would allow them to put more "lamb" on the market.

WHAT IS LAMB?

Michael Craig, a sheep producer from Victoria's western district and SCA Director said under the system if any teeth [of the lamb] erupt, the product changes from the lamb category to the mutton category.

"And that can be quite a big price drop," he said. The proposal by the Sheepmeat Council of Australia would change the definition of a lamb to a sheep less than 12 months of age or a sheep which does not have any permanent teeth in wear. Mr Craig said under the present definition producers were not always selling a finished product.

"For us it's more we would finish our lamb properly. Right now, if the teeth start erupting they say they better sell," he said.

"The idea is it's effectively giving the processor a better product while not penalising farmers for holding on too long."



In years gone by, butchers would select their animals at the saleyards and check their teeth.

Today they enlist buyers to do the job.

TRUST IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN

Northern Tasmanian butcher Jean Molenaar said it came down to trust across the supply chain

"The animals go into the saleyard, they get selected into their pens like lambs, mutton, two toothed, hoggets and so forth," Mr Molenaar said. "Once they're sold as that, they're stamped and labelled as that and then sent to the slaughterhouse."

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

Chair of SCA's marketing John Wallace said the proposed change would bring Australia into line with our main competitor, New Zealand.



After submissions close at the end of November, Sheep Producers Australia will meet to determine their industry policy position before releasing a final public report in February.

Regional towns go it alone to strike renewable energy deals

ABC Rural By [Lucy Barbour](#) October 18
The Federal Government has [made its energy policy clear](#), but some rural communities have been working to fix the so-called [energy crisis](#) themselves.
There are more than 50 [community energy projects](#) across the country, many of them in regional areas.
National Farmers' Federation president Fiona Simson said people had [not been waiting for politicians to fix problems with power](#).
"We're completely fed up. In fact we're so fed up that people are actually doing it on their own, taking matters into their own hands," she said.
"They're looking at how much they're paying for their energy and power and they're not at this point seeing that there's going to be an easy answer to that."
Ed Suttle, from Goulburn in regional New South Wales, is one of many people spurred on to act.
"It is really embarrassing to watch the lack of decision-making in Canberra for the last 10 years," he said.
Mr Suttle heads a volunteer group trying to build a 1.2-megawatt solar farm at Goulburn, which would power hundreds of homes.
The group is passionate about climate action, and Mr Suttle said the project "will" reduce people's power bills.
"We wouldn't reach an arrangement with an electricity retailer who would not on-sell at a very reasonable price," he said.
"The farm will collect power from the sun. That power is then transmitted into Essential Energy who own the poles and wires.
"From there the power will be sold to the eventual purchasers, whoever they may be."
The key to keeping prices down is the retailer, or middle man, that will on-sell electricity generated from the solar farm.
Mr Suttle said his group, Community Energy 4 Goulburn, was working on a partnership with Energy Locals, a retailer that offered significantly lower prices.
PROVIDING AFFORDABLE, SECURE PRICING
Energy Locals founder Adrian Merrick said his business model was based on increasing demand for affordable, secure pricing.
"We retain a service fee that is already built into our tariffs of \$12.50 per customer per month and that is it," he explained.
"I would like to kill off the grid as we know it today.
"Does that mean we will have every customer being an island of their own? No, although I think there is a very real world in which a greater proportion of customers will say stuff this, I'm on my own."
Grattan Institute energy program director Tony Wood agrees.
"If people are going to go off the grid, does anybody have an obligation to supply this essential service to those houses and businesses?" he said.
"In the past the answer was always yes. In the future that may not be the case."



Sky Muster: Bush internet users welcome satellite data increase

ABC Rural By [Robin McConchie](#) October 3
Data allowances for Sky Muster satellite users doubled on Sunday and the increase is more than welcome in the bush.
THE NBN ANNOUNCED BACK IN JUNE THAT THE MAXIMUM DATA ALLOWANCE WOULD BE INCREASED TO 300 GIGABYTES PER MONTH ON THE SKY MUSTER SATELLITE SERVICE AND THE ALLOWANCE FOR PEAK USE WOULD ALSO DOUBLE TO 150GB PER MONTH.
Ms Sparrow said nine of the 11 retail providers had released plans which included the new data allowance.
"If you were on a high end plan, like 70-75GB of peak data previously, you will be able to access that 300GB, or you can upgrade your plan," she said.
On the question of cost, Ms Sparrow said it was like buying shoes — you get what you pay for.
"The cost averages at about \$80 a month. The plan stays the same but you get increased data," she said.
"If you want to access a higher plan then you would have to pay more."
BIRRR has been lobbying not only for increased data allowance but also reduced data charges, improved customer service and reliability.
Ms Sparrow said there had been some improvement but the data drought was not over.
PARLIAMENTARY REPORT RECOMMENDS INCREASED LIMITS
The next big challenge according to Ms Sparrow will be the Federal Government response to the Joint Standing Committee report on the NBN roll-out.
The Committee report was handed down on Friday and has made 23 recommendations.
BIRRR welcomed recommendations that would see the establishment of a Rural and Regional Reference group and for Sky Muster data limits to be linked to the average Australian fixed line data use.
"We are very appreciative of the increase in data now, but with the rate that Australia's data usage grows we really need to have that benchmarked to average Australian use, so it grows," she said.
"Essentially, Australian data usage is growing by 33 per cent a year.
"If we look at this Sky Muster announcement [of 300GB] being a one off, then that is not going to grow with Australians' usage needs."
Ms Sparrow said to meet the increasing demand for data in the bush there would need to be an increase in fixed line wireless services.
"We are working with the NBN and the Government to do things like alleviating the pressure on the satellite and there are many ways to do that," she said.
"[One way is] by extending fixed wireless towers to areas that have a lot of Sky Muster users."
The question then centres around who pays.

The Mobile Tower to be erected on Honeysuckle Track is delayed—we won't see it before Christmas now according to Gary Austen of Telstra. We are trying to obtain funding to put a radio booster on the tower but there is much to work out. There is cost of equipment and rental to Telstra which we will seek to have waived. We may need your help and support—please stay tuned.

Half a struggling platypus population killed by illegal yabby pots in Victoria's east

ABC Gippsland By [Nicole Asher](#) 30 May 2017,



Photo: The platypus population was recovering from fires and drought. (Supplied: Healesville Sanctuary)

Conservationists are calling for a crackdown on deadly yabby pots after up to half a platypus population in Victoria's east was wiped out by illegal nets.

Five platypuses were found dead inside two opera house traps in a dam connected to Labertouche Creek near Jindivick, east of Melbourne, last week.

The use of opera house nets are illegal in public waterways in Victoria, and people caught using them could face a \$37,000 fine or up to two years in jail.

Researchers have been monitoring the Labertouche Creek platypus population since 2009, when numbers were decimated by droughts and the Black Saturday bushfires.

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) regional manager of environment and natural resources, Ryan Incoll, said the nets were death traps for platypuses, water rats, turtles and diving water birds.

"It appears the nets have been in the dam for some time, and individual platypuses have entered them over a long period," Mr Incoll said.

"One net contained three dead platypuses, the other contained two."



Photo: Five drowned platypuses retrieved from Labertouche Creek, east of Melbourne. (Supplied: CESAR Australia)

Animals find their way into the nets, become trapped and ultimately drown.

Mr Incoll said the deaths were concerning but not uncommon.

"We remind the community that it is illegal to use or possess opera house nets in, on, or next to all Victorian public waters," Mr Incoll said.

"DELWP is continuing to work with fisheries officers throughout Victoria to detect and deter people from illegally using opera house nets.

"We want to deter lazy fishing practices and the selfish use of

illegal nets."

POPULATION WAS SLOWLY RECOVERING AFTER FIRES, DROUGHT

CESAR Australia senior wildlife ecologist Josh Griffiths is part of a team that has been monitoring the Labertouche Creek platypuses for nearly 10 years. He said the deaths were a blow to the population, which had been slowly recovering in recent years from fires and drought.

"We would estimate there is only 10 to 15 resident platypuses in Labertouche Creek ... the fact five have been killed needlessly is a massive setback for the population," Mr Griffiths said.

"They're one of our most iconic species. I'm sure they're not worth a little feed of yabbies."

Mr Griffiths said while it was unlikely sale of the nets would be banned, people needed to be educated about the risks they posed to wildlife.

"We probably hear about [deaths] several times a year, usually during the summer months," he said.

"The reality is there are probably thousands of these nets out there, and we only hear of a fraction of these incidents.

"Potentially there are over 100 platypus that could get drowned in these just in Victoria alone. It's quite an issue."

Europe delays phasing out 'probably carcinogenic' glyphosate herbicide as farmers, scientists say it is safe

ABC Rural By [Sarina Locke](#) October 26 2017

Europe has delayed a decision again on whether to phase-out glyphosate herbicide, widely used in Australia under the brand name Roundup as a weed killer.

It has been a rocky ride for farmers relying on glyphosate due to the World Health Organisation's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) declaring it "probably carcinogenic" in 2015. But the EU food safety regulator ruled that same year that it was safe, and in March 2017 the [European chemical regulator](#) ruled that glyphosate was neither a carcinogen nor a mutagen.

This week's failure to reach a consensus on extending the license for the widely used herbicide came after members of the EU Parliament voted for a phase-out over five years.

Another vote is expected within the next two months. Greenpeace, NGOs supporting organics and consumer groups have delighted in the success of their campaign against the herbicide developed by Monsanto over 40 years ago.

Activists handed the EU a petition with 1.3 million signatures calling for the ban, pressuring the European Commission not to renew the licence for a further 10 years.



Goongerah grapevine

A picture of the Hamilton Reed grave when it had a fence. There are plans afoot to re-fence the site to remember the first white settlers in Goongerah. Contact Goongerah Hub or TNH if you want to assist in the process or have ideas.



GOONGERAH NEWS

The Men's Shed plan is progressing with the site yet to be decided on.

The new Goongerah Good Foods co-op is to be housed in its own insulated shed thanks to a funding grant from FRRR. So far the site has been levelled and the concrete slab has been started.

After a recent meeting of residents the Goongerah and District Arts, Education and Employment inc (GDAEE) group has been kicked into action again with new office bearers and ideas to work on.

Now that the Goongerah campground has a new septic toilet structure, the charming old toilet with its bull-nosed veranda and picket railing will be enlarged and repurposed into a general shelter with a picnic table, bench and information. Thanks to DELWP for agreeing to retain this feature. Friends of Errinundra is providing funding for materials and DELWP is providing the workers. Many campers have commented on the building over the years for being full of character and unlike most camping area toilets. The toilet was relocated further up the hill, thanks to DELWP



Changing Times—Part 4

screaming and the shed was completely engulfed in flames.

She tried to scream but the fear in her body allowed no sound to emerge, she started the chair rolling down the hill and saw John bring the car to a halt, jump out and race to the shed. She saw another figure also racing for the shed but both men were driven back by the intense heat, they tried again but suddenly the front overhang of the shed collapsed pinning both men under it. Just as that happened two more cars pulled up, men jumped from them and quickly pulled the two men from under the fallen timber.

Karen could hear the Police siren as they rushed towards their home, she tried to stop her chair by applying the brakes but nothing happened but then one of the wheels hit a large rock throwing Karen screaming into the air, she hit the ground, the gravel removing the skin from her face, shoulder and hip on one side. She was dazed by the impact but she heard Detective Rankin say "we are too late, the children must be dead" and she began sobbing.

John was groggy when he was dragged away from the shed, he knew someone had been beside him but could not tell who it was as his eyes had been full of smoke. He sat up and could see the shed was on the verge of collapse, he turned his head away from his children's grave. Just then he saw his wife racing down the hill and the chair hitting the rock, as John jumped to his feet, Karen screamed, as she fell and skidded to a stop in the gravel. John raced to her and cradled her in his arms, she was sobbing, deep heavy uncontrolled sobs. He felt as if his heart was tearing in half inside his body. O God, please God why had this happened to his family? It was then he felt Sandra's arms around them both and she was crying and kept saying, over and over. "It's all my fault, it's all my fault!"

He thought this tragedy would kill Karen, he felt his life had all but ended with the loss of their children, he was about to lift his wife from the ground when he heard Allan Burton's voice saying 'I don't believe it!' John turned around and stood in utter shock, amazed to see his three children climb out from behind a bank at the back of the shed. As they walked towards him, he rushed to them throwing his arms around them, embracing each one of them, tears running down his face.

When he looked at them again he saw a look of astonishment on their faces, they were looking past him, he turned but could not move, he was frozen with shock. Before his eyes he could see a miracle happening, Karen had risen to her feet aided by Sandra, she took an unsteady step then three more before she fell back down. John leapt forward and caught her, the children raced to her crying with joy, Karen was also crying and saying "I've done it, to get to my children! I've walked!" John could not answer, he just held her close.

Sandra walked up and placed her arms around the children, quietly asking how did you escape the fire, I know you were in the shed. Brian was the first to speak and said we have been playing prisoners of war in the shed and we had dug a tunnel to escape, so when the fire engulfed the shed we used our ready made tunnel to escape! He turned to his Mum saying it's lucky you did not stop us when Mark tipped dirt everywhere. At that moment John and Karen couldn't have agreed more. As John carried his wife inside their house he could see the Police were questioning three men, Allan Burton, Jim Hughes and Paul Sanders, how were all three men here at the one time? But he had more to think about for a little while, he would hear about them in good time.

Sandra had dressed Karen's wounds before the Police called her in for questioning, then it was about an hour and a half before Karen and John were called into the other room. They sat and listened as Detective Rankin, filled in the last ninety minutes for them, he first told them Sandra's story, how she had removed the pin from the wheelchair, then had tried to keep one child in the house with her, signalling the would be killer when the other two were playing in the shed, by opening the front door.

However she had had a change of heart and was not going to open the door but then unthinkingly had done so when she tried to stop Mark from going into the shed. John then asked why this man wanted one child alive? Rankin replied, the man wanted one child alive as he wanted to adopt him after he had got rid of John, this was all in his murderous plan. Then Sandra told the Police about the will that both Paul and Jim had read that night, on reading the will the Police established a motive for these attempted murders.

The Police questioned Jim first, he told them that Sandra had phoned him and asked him to be here at ten thirty. Sandra confirmed this and was crying as she told the Police how she had suspected Jim and had known if he arrived at the time she had asked, she would know that he was not the would be killer. She looked at Jim and added, "I had to be sure, Jim" Jim walked over and put his arm around Sandra and said 'I understand'

Allan Booth was the next one questioned, he told them that he had received a phone earlier from a man, who had given John's name and told him to be here at ten thirty. The man would not give any reason, so Allan had reluctantly agreed to come. He told the Police he had known about the contents of the will as Paul had told him the night they had been drinking together, he also said that he and Paul had discussed a plan to wreck John's life but not like this. Only as far as his job was concerned, if Paul could get a job in the company, between them they would bring about John's downfall in the firm

When Allan had sobered up he had changed his mind about this plan and had spoken to John telling him to never let Paul get a job in the firm and apologised for his past behaviour, they had shaken hands and were firm friends once more.

When the Police questioned Paul, he claimed he had also received a phone call telling him to be here and that he had arrived here just a little ahead of Jim

and Allan, but the Police were one jump ahead this time and smashed Paul's story to pieces. Detective Rankin then explained how the Police had already left when Sandra phoned, they had also received a phone call to be there at ten thirty five, just in time to see Allan at the scene of the crime. Paul did not intend to show himself, but when Sandra had screamed 'all the children were in the shed', that meant his plan would not succeed so he had tried to rescue one of them. The Police suspected that Sandra had not told them all that she knew. They had watched her and had seen her stopped by a man a few nights ago, knowing something was afoot they had placed a watch on the two main suspects, Paul and Allan Burton.

Rankin had made a call to headquarters when questioning had begun and found Burton had been telling the truth, he had left his home at the time he had stated but Paul had left an hour earlier. The Police had also found his car under the trees about two hundred yards away from the house. He claimed he had left it there to keep it cool and was walking to the house when the shed caught fire. The Police soon proved this to be a lie for they had checked the motors on all three vehicles, finding Paul's motor was all but cold whilst the other two were too hot to touch.

Paul finally confessed to his crime. he said that he had intended to get married next month to the woman he had spoken to John about and believed his plan would succeed. The Police did not charge Sandra with any crime, although she did remove the pin from the wheelchair, Karen did not press charges for they realised the pressure she had been under. Sandra also promised to stay working for them because it would be some time before Karen would be completely well again.

As John and Karen looked over the copy of the will they felt very sorry for Paul, for their father's will read that on reaching the age of fifteen, all his grandchildren would receive an equal amount of shares from a company in which he had a large holding. Paul had not married as yet and did not have any children, he was low on funds so he had devised his evil plan, although it had failed, he had caused John's family untold trouble and grief.

How sad all this had turned out, for if Paul had only gone to the trouble of checking on this company, he would have found out that it had gone bankrupt a few months after his father's death and that the shares were worthless. John put the will down, he looked around at his family as he did so Karen looked at him and smiled, when he saw her smile of old, he knew times were changing in their favour at last.

This concludes Karl Cotterill's story. Parts 1-3 have been published in preceding editions of the Tubbut Tattler (which explains why this excerpt begins in the middle of a sentence). Thank you to Gloria for contributing this story.

Christmas hampers



This year we are sourcing our Christmas hampers from the Orbost Food Pantry. Let us know if you would like to be on our list; this hamper also includes a voucher for fresh meat.

For those who don't know, free food can be picked up from this shop on weekdays. It is in the arcade which links the main street to the carpark.

Laurie Neven's roadworks story continued

Another time I remember I was not long working at Deddick with C.White. We had to drive down to C.Ludwics at Deddick and bring the tractor and grader back to C.White's but we did not get there. There was a straight bit in the road and I was fooling with the steering wheel because the grader was attached to the three point linkage. The weight of the grader lifted the front of the tractor and made the steering light and the next thing I knew I was off the road and straight up a box tree. I had stacked the poor old Fordson tractor.

Still shaken I got down and had a look at the damage and knew it wasn't going anywhere. I started walking in the direction to C.White's still thinking of what I had done. I was kicking myself but I can tell you the memory is still there. It was not long before C.White came back and asked me, 'Where is the tractor and grader?'

I told him what had happened. In an abrupt voice he asked, "speeding I s'pose?"

We got in his ute and headed for the tractor. He took a look at the tractor and give a grunt. We turned around in the ute and went back to his house. It's a wonder he didn't sack me. I don't know what he said to the bosses but they sent up a Chamberlain tractor. The chamberlain tractor was brought up on a CRB truck and they took the old Fordson back to Bairnsdale. The Fordson belonged to N.Bryant. He then had it fixed up to make more money with it. I thought he'd be mad at me; just when you think everything is bad things turn another way and are good again.

One time C.White had his holidays and got C.Ludwic to be the boss. The first day we did some work and he said to me he would like to drive to his house. We just got through his gate and the road master came around the bend. C.Ludwic stopped his car and took off the trailer. He turned around and pulled up alongside the road master. He was none the wiser. I think we went painting posts that day and C.Ludwic got the idea to paint a few large rocks on the side of the road as a guide around the bend and there were lots of bends in the Tubbut road. The road master went onto Bairnsdale in that direction as far as I know. I don't know what we did after that. Pot holing on the side of the road, a bit of grading with the grader and tractor because C.Ludwic could drive a tractor or a bulldozer. He had them on his farm so knew well enough how to use them.

Another day at the CRB C.White had me shoveling rocks off the graded surface. It was done by a power grader. I had done a kilometer and the grader driver came along and picked me up in the grader. At the time I did not think, we got out of the grader and C.White said "you must've worked flat out". We had smoko and went back up the road, myself and C.White and he nearly had a fit. "You" he said. "I asked you to get the stones off the road." Did I feel bad, but it wasn't my fault. He said I should've done more stone tossing because there wasn't enough done before smoko. His words were, "I asked you to get the stones off the road". Sometimes I think the man was obsessed because he said I should've done more of the stone clearing.

Another day he got up me when I was on the drawn grader and he was on the tractor. I was still learning to use the drawn grader, I only had to wind up and down the screws on the grader. He was on the tractor and we were going along. He pulled up and said I am going to send you a note. In old terms this is a way of saying you're going to get the sack. I didn't know that at the time but certainly do now. I thought it meant how to do the job. Silly me. He was whingeing, the old B. I did not lose my job though, I was given another chance.

Another day we were potholing and, not thinking, I said "Is there any under the ute?"

His face was black with anger and the reply came back "Do you think I would pull up on top of them?" then the other times I had made him mad. Well it did not stop there. He tried to tell

me how he wanted to drive the drawn grader. Up the other side of McKillops bridge, he was raving mad.

D.Horton was driving the tractor and C.White was on the grader. C.White was telling D.Horton to keep over as far as possible on the edge of the road. So D.Horton had half the rear tyre sticking over the edge of the road. It was too much for C.White and put the breeze up the old B. This is what D.Horton told me.

After that a fence was erected with double gates. Four huts were built and a block with shower and toilet and a septic tank was also put in. A large machinery shed was also built with a sturdy concrete floor. An oil room with tools you could lock away. A water pump down on the river which pumped up to a high water tank in the yard. When it came to put in the septic tank drain in, C.Towns and I did that. Sometimes the road would slip in the wet and you had rocks as big as a dozer blade. We would then hire a bulldozer to clear the road of the rocks and dirt. We would watch the rocks fall down to the river and there would be a gigantic splash. Another time a truck or semi trailer ran off the road not quite into the Deddick river as the snowy pines had stopped the truck from going any further. This happened on the other side of C.Ludwig's farm.

One time T.Ventry pulled up near one of the cliffs, got out of his car and heard a rumble up above him. He got back in his car and moved on. He looked back in the rear-vision mirror and rocks had fallen where he had just driven from. This was a lucky move. I asked B.Stokes once "Do you think rocks will stop rolling on the Tubbut road?" He replied never. I'd say that he was right.

Another time in Tubbut there was a hell of a storm. It washed out creeks, road crossings, bridge approaches - you name it, it was washed out. K.McLeod came up from Orbost when he found out about the damage. He was going over it with all of us and the Bonang crew as well as the Tubbut crew. The first creek he came to the dirt foundation was still there over the culvert and someone had driver over it in a volkswagon and the dirt had fallen in behind him and he was trapped. He couldn't go forward and couldn't reverse back. He had to zoom over the dirt fast and being a light car he made it and the dirt collapsed behind him but he was safe. At T.Ingrams property called Station Creek the same thing happened. I was walking across the old wooden culvert and the bitumen dirt fell in behind me. All the dirt was washed away and just left the crust of dirt and bitumen. We hired T.Ingram's Ferguson tractor to take the engineers around all the damage because big rocks and boulders had been washed down and into the river. When they were satisfied with what they looked at I had the job of returning the tractor back to T.Ingrams shed. I didn't make it at the time because the cam chain broke and the motor stopped. I walked down to where the bosses were and W.Haley went crook at me because he thought I was being irresponsible and driving the tractor too hard. At that time W.Haley was not the boss of the Bonang gang, H.Hudson was. He said "It's not his fault. It could have happened to anyone." So after that the only transport we had from there to there was a push bike which belonged to Mrs. Haley. Who'd ever heard of a CRB run by a bicycle and if you want proof of this I'm going to get pictures off Mrs. Haley with H.Hudson and W.Haley standing there with the bike. I have photos also of the creek washed out at T.Ingrams. That wasn't the only creek that went, there was a few others. One in particular called Graveyard Creek.

Kids' Capers

In the holidays

I went to a place called Tathra Beachside. When we got there we set up the caravan and I got a juice box. We went on the jumping pillow and I made two friends called Mark and Jackson. Mark and I were riding to the hut so we could watch The Lost Village. In the movie there were four Smurfs called Clumsy, Brainy, Strong Smurf and Smurfette. They got ambushed by girls then the power went out on the TV. In the morning I went to the pool with Mark and we dived to the bottom of the pool and touched it with our hands. We watched a music video, where a girl was a tentacle monster and she went to a pub and a boy tried to kiss the girl. Then they danced and her leg turned into a tentacle she got him drunk and went up some stairs and she ate him! Then we went to dinner and then went to bed. In the morning we left and went back hooooooooooooooooooooome.

By Ben.

The Holidays

On the holidays I went to the movies and watched Captain Underpants, it was funny because there's a bad guy called Professor Poopypants and he wanted to get rid of laughter. On the next day we went to mini golf and there was a loop to loop hole and I was so close to getting a hole in one. Why I did not get a hole in one is because the ball bounced all around the walls and then stopped right next to the hole. The next day Mum and I played soccer, Mum got one goal and I got five goals.

By Dragen

THE HOLIDAYS

Yesterday Dad went up the back on the motor bike and he shot a dingo. Mum, Dad, Ben and I went to Tathra on the holidays. We stayed 2 nights. To go in the water park you had to wear a bracelet and the bracelet had this written on it, Tathra Beachside. There was a pool next to the water park. I went in the water park first then I went in the pool then when I went back to the water park I went down the water slide backwards. It was very fun.

By Imogen

The Holidays

In the holidays some fox hunters came to our house and these are their names. Paul, Wayne, Sarah, Lachy, Julian and Joseph. Paul is the father of Sarah and Lachy. Wayne is the father of Julian and Joseph. After an hour Ward, Riley and Kade came to our house. Kade was annoying. The next day we shot the .22 long rifle and it was fun. I shot an old heater and a clay thing. Then the next day Mum, Georgia, Tori, Kash, Grace, Tahlia, Jobie, Chloe, Mum mum and I packed for a holiday to Berrara. On the way there we stopped at Batemans Bay for a feed. After we ate we headed to Berrara, finally we got there. We walked around the house and then we unpacked our stuff. On Tuesday we went to the lake to swim and

canoe. At night Tori, Chloe and I played Monopoly and it took forever to finish. Then it was dinner time. For dinner we had lasagne, steak and salad. It was yum. On Wednesday Kash, Chloe and I went for a bike ride on the BMX track. There were 2 crazy puppies trying to get us. One was black and one was brown. Then one night Mum rang Daddy to feed Petra and Clements. When Mum went outside she saw a big fluffy dog and it was cute. The next day it was my birthday and that day we went home. On the way home we went to Smiggle and it smelt so good in there I didn't want to leave. On the way home we also stopped at Mum Mum's house in Delegate for about 40 minutes. Finally we got home. When I got inside I went to Petra and her kittens. They were much bigger than when we left. Then I went to Clements and he was much bigger as well.

By Josie

ON THE HOLIDAYS

On the holidays we went on holiday to Narooma. We stayed there for four days and we rode the bikes in town. There were surfboards, boogie boards, and canoes at the holiday house. The next day we went to the beach and we brought the canoes and the boogie board. The first thing I did was go canoeing in the mouth of the river the next thing I did was boogie boarding. I was going to go in the ocean but the waves were too big so I went in the mouth of the river. One day we went to Jervis bay and had Maccas and KFC. After lunch we went home. A few days later I mowed all the lawn on the ride on mower. I felt glee. I was proud of myself.

BY KASH.

The Holidays

In the holidays I went to the movie and watched the Emoji Movie. At the movie we got some pop- corn. We went to Jervis Bay and we went to the pool room and then we went to play outside. Then we went to Smiggle store and Mum bought me a little bag and a watch. It made me so, so, so happy! It was so nice of her. We stayed at the Tree Motel and Chloe fell in the pool. It was cold in the pool and she shivered and she had to have two towels. I only put my feet in. Mum and Elise stayed in the cabin and they watched television. Then we went home.

By Tahlia



Health Matters

October is Mental Health month but, of course, mental health is a state to strive for all year round. While there is much we can do to safeguard our mental health, especially eating well and keeping fit through exercise, remember that if you do have issues, you are part of a significant minority, 48% of Australians at last count. Victorians in the Errinundra to Snowy District have been well-served since the 2014 fires, with first Di Robinson and a number of counsellors from other services and now Birgit Schaedler of the Royal Flying Doctor Service visiting us regularly.

Delegate district is not—yet—so well-served but a visit to the Delegate MPS CCC on Monday 23rd may be a harbinger of change. Jenny Keioskie, the Rural Adversity Mental Health Coordinator for Southern Area Health District, fired up the committee with awareness of the range of mental health issues people in our area might be struggling with.

Jenny is the daughter of a stoic farmer who told her that she'd have no hope of getting farmers talking to her about their mental health. She has proved him wrong and is passionate about the need to open up opportunities for people to talk about their feelings and find the services that will help them.

Demand for mental health services is expanding but rural areas are lagging in service provision. Its good to hear that Headspace, for young people, is being established in Bega and to hear that mental health services regularly come to Bombala though a doctor's referral is needed to access them.

While on-line services are not for everyone, Jenny says that research indicates that they are as successful as face-to-face services, so that's good to hear. (You can start with beyondblue.org.au or eheadspace.org.au for young people).

We are hoping that Jenny will be able to talk further about mental health issues early next year and she is looking at her schedule to see whether she can make it to the next Delegate show.

Jenny is not herself a counsellor but can point NSW people in the right direction with a phone call on 0447278957.



Flying Doctor issues new snakebite advice 5 Oct 2017

Our South Eastern Section has updated its advice and procedures following the publication of a new snakebite study. [The Australian Snakebite Project](#) is the most comprehensive ever carried out, involved over 1500 patients and collated snakebite data from the past 10 years (2005-15)

"As venomous snakes are found in every state and territory we urge everyone, not just those in the warmer Outback locations, to be vigilant."

["There are around 3,000 reported snakebites each year in Australia, resulting in 500 hospital admissions and an average of two fatalities."](#)

The Australian Snakebite Project threw up some surprising statistics, which challenges many long-held perceptions about where snake attacks occur and how to treat them. In those attacks in which the snake was positively identified, the brown snake was the most common biter (41%), followed by the tiger snake (17%) and red-bellied black snake (16%).

There-quarters of the people bitten are males aged in their 30's. Most snake attacks occur near houses, not in the bush. Half of all bites occurred while people were out walking, with gardening and trying to catch a snake the most common other scenarios.

While only 20- 25 out of 835 cases they studied resulted in death, the effects of a snakebite can be debilitating and far-reaching. Three-quarters of those bitten experienced venom-induced consumption coagulopathy, which causes blood clotting and life-threatening haemorrhages. Acute kidney injuries, brain and muscle damage and cardiac arrest are other possible side effects.

"That's why it's important that people act quickly after a possible bite," said Tracey.

"Surprisingly, they're often painless and may go unnoticed as tissue damage is mostly light – lacerations, scratches or light bruising along with some bleeding or swelling. As over 90% of snakebites occur on the upper and lower limbs, these are the places to check first."

"Common symptoms include an unexplained collapse, vomiting and abdominal pain, bleeding or paralysis."

Many dangerous myths surround the treatment of snakebites. The most important dos and don'ts include.

- **Do NOT** wash the area of the bite or try to suck out the venom. It is extremely important to retain traces of venom for use with venom identification kits.

- **Do NOT** incise or cut the bite, or apply a high tourniquet. Cutting or incising the bite won't help. High tourniquets are ineffective and can be fatal if released.

- **Do** bandage firmly, splint and immobilise to stop the spread of venom. All the major medical associations recommend slowing the spread of venom by placing a folded pad over the bite area and then applying a firm bandage. It should not stop blood flow to the limb or congest the veins. Only remove the bandage in a medical facility, as the release of pressure will cause a rapid flow of venom through the bloodstream.

- **Do NOT** allow the victim to walk or move their limbs. Use a splint or sling to minimise all limb movement. Put the patient on a stretcher or bring transportation to the patient.

- **Do** seek medical help immediately as the venom can cause severe damage to health or even death within a few hours.

The new study has prompted the RFDS SE to reverse previous long-standing advice about the importance of identifying the colour and type of snake.

"Staying in the area after an attack can be dangerous and recent advances in medication mean we can now treat any snakebite with a generic polyvalent anti-venom, so identification is no longer necessary."

There has been some useful; discussion on a page I follow for goat-keepers in response to someone's goat being bitten by a snake. The answer below is from an American vet so its applicability to Australia should be considered. However, when our animals are bitten we need a quick fix, so far as we from the vet so I am including it over the page.

Deb

When your dog gets bitten by a snake

First, let me say that I have been a vet for 23 years in N Florida. We treat probably an average of 15 snake bites a year. That would translate to over 300 snake bite cases I have treated, or been involved in. So my opinions are not based on what happened to one dog, or my neighbour's dog or even the 2 dogs that have been bitten that I personally owned. So not only have I treated a lot, but since I do treat so many, I stay current with current treatment options and what works best (based on data, not stories).

So, here goes with some absolutes about snakes. The things that follow are facts that I have either observed or read or both.

-There is no magic time for how long until treatment. get them there as soon as you safely can. I have saved dogs that were bitten 24 hours prior and had patients die that I saw within 30 minutes. The exception is if there is a bite to the tongue or inside of mouth that may cause breathing issues. I have never seen a bite to the nose cause life threatening breathing issues.

-you do not need to make any effort whatsoever to "get the snake" to take it to the vet. If it is poisonous and causes swelling, we know what to do.

-antivenin (antivenom) is NOT an antidote (meaning it cures). I rarely give it anymore. There are situations where I think it is best to give it. but I have found very little prediction of survival based on antivenin administration. There are some cases that are so bad, you had better use everything you have (bites to the trunk (body) of small dogs or cats).

-Benadryl (Diphenhydramine) is NEVER wrong to give and almost always, if not always, will help the patient. The liquid is nearly as fast as an injection. 1mg per pound of body weight.

-treatment by a veterinarian will ALWAYS result in less disease for the patient. Absolutely, many patients will survive without veterinary treatment. But snake venom is a huge protein and huge proteins are deposited on the basement membrane of the kidneys when filtered. This leads to immune related injury to the kidneys from snake bites that may not be clinically relevant, but could lead to permanent kidney damage that could affect them later in life. Intravenous fluids reduces this risk as well as keeps the patient well hydrated to get rid of the venom and reduce the toxins built up from necrotic (dead) tissue resulting from snake bites. Simply put, if you want to increase the dog's chances of survival and less long term disease, take them to the vet. If the dog is not worth that much to you, then take your chances, plenty of dogs survive with no treatment. But that means nothing for what will happen with YOUR dog (there are so many factors to consider)

-a lot of factors play a role in the odds for the dog:

*Location of bite-nose, face, head, legs, trunk of body (best to worst)

*time of year-fall snakes have been actively feeding and have less stored venom, spring snakes have more likelihood of having stored venom from less recent feeding

*amount of injection - a miss or an oblique bite that does not get full injection

*species of snake

*size of snake (more venom = more serious)

*prior history of bites improves patients odds (more immune response to the venom)

*vaccination (just don't know enough to know if this helps or not, not sure anyone can yet answer that question with anything other than a story)

*electroshock-worthless or less-may actually harm tissue, no one is really doing this anymore, but I still get asked this occasionally - anyone, vet or otherwise, can NOT predict which dog will live and which will survive by looking at them, or even by running tests. there are just so many variables. I can often tell someone that the odds are bad or that the odds are good, but sometimes I am wrong. I still get surprised. If you have a 99% chance of survival-that means 1 in 100 die of the disease. good odds unless you are the 1.

My opinions are that antivenom is overused (easier to defend

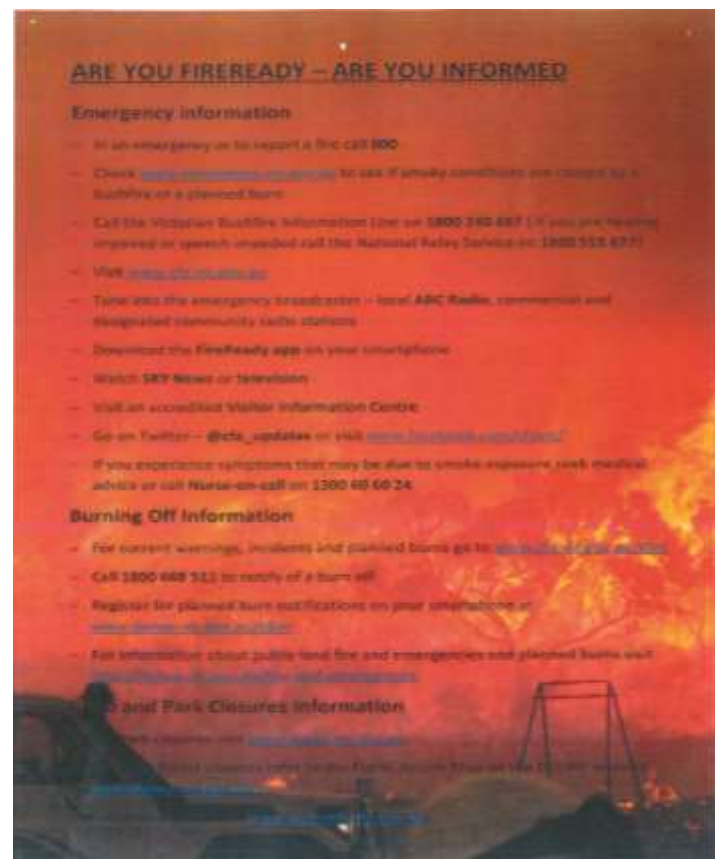
yourself in court-I gave the dog antivenin, so I did everything-but it is expensive and we probably grossly underdose it-a 12 year old human near me treated by people vets (:laughing6) was given 110 vials -at around \$3000 per vial in humans-in dogs it is between 700-1000 each and we typically give one-they probably need many many more-I am NOT saying don't give it, I am just saying it should be decided on a case by case basis). IV fluids are the single most important factor that we can control in helping a snake bite victim recover with the minimal amount of disease, with benadryl being second. Some patients are going to die, no matter if they were in a veterinary University Teaching Hospital at the time of the bite and there is NOTHING that could have been done to save them. I have had patients die with 30 minutes of the bite (one was a Jack Russel bit in the side of the chest, the other was an American Bulldog bit between 5-10 times all over the body).

If you ask me, "What can I do to make the odds the best in my dog's favour that it will not die from a snake bite?", I would say;

a) Get your dog Snake proofed (or better yet, Snake Trained)-a defanged snake is released and the dog is taken near them and an E-collar is used to make them want to stay the H away from snakes. It needs to be done more than once to make sure the dog is a believer. there are plenty of folks around the state that do this and it is relatively inexpensive and is well worth the effort. Should probably be repeated yearly to every other year.

b) keep benadryl in your dog first aid kit-Children's Liquid, generic is fine. Give them 1 tsp for every 12.5 pounds of body weight if they are bitten.

c) get your dog to a vet if they are bitten as soon as reasonably possible-do not be overdramatic and get in a car accident to get there, but do not stop at the dry cleaners on the way either. Proceed with due haste. Sorry for such a long post, but I have strong opinions, based on a lot of experience, on this subject. (A Vet with experience in treating animals with snakebite)



Let's talk about mental health

the mental health continuum

Our mental health is on a continuum and we all move backwards and forwards along this continuum throughout our lives.

Just like physical health, mental health isn't a static state.

This diagram highlights a few stages along the mental health continuum. We may not fit solely into one of these columns, but it's important to be aware of indicators that we might be having a tough time and need to do something to look after ourselves.

WELL			UNWELL
Self-aware and calm	Irritable or impatient	Angry	Aggressive or out of control
Coping well	Worried or nervous	Very nervous and panicky	Highly anxious Panic attacks
Positive outlook	Overwhelmed	Feeling hopeless	Depressed or suicidal thoughts
Working productively	Forgetful Putting things off	Performing poorly	Unable to perform duties
Sleeping normally	Trouble sleeping	Restless, disturbed sleep	Sleeping too much or too little
Energetic	Lacking energy	Tired	Physical symptoms of illness
Keeping active	Decreasing activities	Little enjoyment from activities	Avoiding activities
Feeling connected	Withdrawing from social occasions	Irritated and frustrated with others	Isolated from others

Find our animation on YouTube, CRRMH NSW.

how can I look after myself?

These things we can do to help ourselves mental health and cope with tough times:

1. **Know your value**

Know your value - It's important to know your value and your strengths and weaknesses, learn and recognise your strengths and build upon them using your strengths to help others and contribute to your community. It gives a sense of meaning and purpose that is important for keeping mental health.

2. **Establish** - Bring a fresh perspective and looking at your situation and other things in relation to keeping mental health. When you're stressed we often eat quick and unhealthy foods and drink more frequently, however this will lead to more stress and is a problem.

3. **Be active** - It's important to stay active in physical, social, and mental. It's important to be active in your current situation and keep it going. For some, increasing your physical activity might be having to take the stairs, go to the gym or other things that get your heart rate up. Increasing your mental activity could be doing a crossword, being a volunteer, doing a course, or taking a course.

These are only a few ideas. You can find out more about them in our mental health resources and we encourage you to explore them and see what works for you.

4. **Work towards a goal** - It's important to have a goal and work towards it. It's important to have a goal and work towards it. It's important to have a goal and work towards it. It's important to have a goal and work towards it.

how can I know if someone's unwell?

There are usually signs that indicate that someone is struggling with their mental health. You or someone else may notice these signs, or the person struggling may tell you.

Respectful signs include:

- Changes in mood
- Feelings of panic, nervousness or being on edge
- Difficulty carrying out usual tasks or activities
- Lack of interest in the future
- Relationship issues
- Social withdrawal
- Loss of interest in usual enjoyable things
- Low energy, lethargy and unusual physical complaints
- Changes in sleeping patterns and appetite
- Changes in drug or alcohol use
- Uncharacteristic behaviours

how can I have the conversation?

Once we notice that a person isn't travelling well, we may need to start a conversation to ask how they are feeling and provide them with information they need it.

If you're planning on having a conversation with someone you're worried about, it's important to:

- Find an appropriate time and place
- Be respectful and discreet
- Ask open-ended questions
- Listen and show empathy
- Ensure you're not dismissive
- Reassure and offer hope for the future
- Support healthy behaviours

You might say:

- "How are you feeling?"
- "I haven't seen you around lately. What's been happening?"
- "Things have been tough lately. How are you managing?" "How's the family managing?"

RECIPES

This is the pizza dough that was used at the Women's Day.

Rich Pizza Dough

Impasto ricco per la pizza



Preparation Time: 15 minutes
Cooking Time: 15 minutes
(Does not include rising time for dough)
Makes: 2 large or 4 individual pizzas

7g packet (2 teaspoons dry yeast)
½ cup warm water
1 teaspoon sugar
2 cups plain flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 egg, beaten
3 tablespoons olive oil

Make sure the water is just warm, if it is too hot it will kill the yeast and the dough won't rise.

You will know if the dough has been kneaded enough when it doesn't stick to the board and it springs back when you press a finger into it.

The dough can be cut into sections, flattened a little and shaped into rounds then packed into plastic freezer bags and frozen for up to 1 month. Thaw at room temperature for approximately 1 hour, knead for 2-3 minutes and shape into the pizzas as required. Add toppings and bake following directions.

Combine yeast, warm water and sugar in a small bowl, cover with plastic wrap and allow to stand in a warm place for 10 minutes or until small bubbles appear on the surface.

Sift plain flour and salt into a large bowl. Pour in the yeast mixture, beaten egg and olive oil. Stir until the dough comes together and turn onto a floured surface and knead for approximately 5 minutes or until dough is smooth and elastic.

Place dough in a large greased bowl. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise in a warm place for 40 minutes or until dough is doubled in size.

Knead dough again for 3-4 minutes and roll out to 4 x 15cm rounds or 2 large 30cm round pizzas. Use as directed, baking at the recommended temperature according to chosen recipe.

The pizza oven at Bonang is ready to go. Take some wood and your dough and ingredients and a few people for the best pizzas you've ever had. Stay tuned for a working bee to get the Tubbut pizza oven built.

flourless jaffa cake

Ch. 1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100

Ingredients

- 4 cups (1kg) plain flour
- 1 cup (250g) sugar
- 1/2 cup (125g) butter
- 1/2 cup (125g) oil
- 1/2 cup (125g) milk
- 1/2 cup (125g) eggs
- 1/2 cup (125g) baking powder
- 1/2 cup (125g) baking soda
- 1/2 cup (125g) salt
- 1/2 cup (125g) vinegar

Method

Preheat oven to 180°C. In a large bowl, mix flour, sugar, butter, oil, milk, eggs, baking powder, baking soda, salt, and vinegar. Stir until well combined. Pour into a greased cake tin. Bake for 15-20 minutes. Remove from oven and let cool. Cut into squares. Store in airtight container.

Bone broth... so much more than a trend

Author: Alyce Cimino 25 September 2017



Bone broth is made from simmering organic beef, chicken or fish bones for several hours to extract the nutrients, collagen, gelatine, protein and minerals. This tincture is then drunk warm, added into soups and meals to boost overall health and wellness.

There can be many benefits to consuming a cup of bone broth, while it may be slightly daunting it can be a very simple way to use food to enhance overall health.

One thing to note is ALWAYS go organic! Bones while extremely nutrient rich they are also the perfect storage house for toxins, chemicals and heavy metals. When we slow cook the bones these toxins leave the bones and stay in the broth – this is never ideal to our health.

Each batch will have a slightly different nutritional profile but here are the key nutrients! Amino acids, calcium, collagen, protein, glucosamine, gelatine, iron, magnesium and manganese, potassium, zinc and other essential minerals.

COLLAGEN helps to heal and soothe the digestive track while reducing general inflammation. Collagen is responsible for our skin elasticity and consumption is often associated with an improvement in overall appearance.

Bone broth contains essential minerals to provide the building blocks for a healthy immune system.

Organic bone broth is a natural source of [glucosamine](#), gelatine, amino acids and essential minerals – all which are essential for healthy bones and healthy joints.

Drinking bone broth may help to provide the raw materials for building healthy bones.

BASIC BEEF BONE BROTH RECIPE

Ingredients:

- 2 kg organic beef bones (beef marrow, knuckle bones ask your local organic butcher)
- 2 organic onions, skin on roughly chopped
- 1 – 2 organic carrots, roughly chopped
- 1-2 celery sticks
- any leftover fresh herbs that need to be used up
- 2 – 3 bay leaves
- 1 – 2 L of filtered water
- splash of apple cider vinegar

Method:

In a preheated oven, lightly roast the organic bones for about 15-20 minutes.

Once roasted, add the bones and vegetables into a large pot and cover with water

Simmer on a low heat for at least 12 hours (the longer the stronger). This can also be done in a slow cooker.

Once cooked, remove from heat and strain and store in glass jars.

The bone broth can be frozen and used as needed.

Local Government Matters

One Place, One Plan Project

The aim of the One Place, One Plan Project is to enable Council to develop a coordinated, place based planning framework for its communities across the 12 Service Districts.

It will enable communities to participate in conversations and decision making about how their community operates, the facilities and services they access and the way they work with council and other agencies to plan now and into the future. We have been successful in getting the Building Better Regions Funding for the place planning projects.

We were successful in also getting the National Disaster Resilience Grant to work in Omeo and Mallacoota as well. Part of the project will focus on building the community's knowledge and understanding of council processes and incorporate data gathering and community profiling activities.

At the end of this project we will have developed a plan for each specific place/district.

Regards

Sueanne—Coming to Bonang 10 am Wednesday Nov 29 to gather information for our Plan. All welcome

Errinundra-Snowy Update

The community planning group has adopted the name for our district suggested by Shoshanah Keller. It's a great name, and we are in no danger of it being adopted by other districts, which had happened with Mountain Rivers. We've been meeting every couple of months and are keen to get membership representing every part of our region. The meetings are open to anyone with interest. It is the only group that works across all the communities in the former north riding.

Our most recent meeting was on Thursday October 19th at the Bendoc Pub. We held it there because we wanted more participation from Bendoc people and were rewarded with Beaver (of course), Claire Strickland and Marion Sheldrick. Our discussion ranged across many topics:

- The Bonang Road sealing petition—a big push for signatures and then pull them in and arrange for Tim Bull to table them in parliament.
- The Errinundra-Snowy map: Dawn has completed it and it is a work of art (see excerpt below). It is also as accurate as we could make it; thanks to everyone who looked at it, including Sandy and Alan Cameron and families, Deb Tresham, Michael Johnson, Gary Bellesini and David Butterworth. Next step is to finalise the text for the back and print it. We will be visiting Rainbow Press in the near future to deliver the map and text. Large copies will be available for community notice boards and for sale while we plan to have quantities of A3 size available at popular tourist spots.
- Social enterprise—a number of ideas were presented as promising—much more discussion is needed as well as support to make them real.
- As the Shire now has funding (Building better regions) to assist us in our planning we need to think about what kind of expertise will be of most help.
- Everyone is interested in a community meeting to discuss priorities for work on our roads.

Deb



Gardening for the Future Climate

with Susan Tocchini

Most garden plants take years to mature so it is prudent when planting new trees and shrubs to consider the likely future climate conditions. In many ways we have become fixated on being a 'cold climate area' and have looked to the European style forgetting how much moisture those styles require to maintain their good looks. For example, I usually have a stunning display of daffodils and this year those few sudden hot windy days completely withered the flowers as they opened. This is a sign of things to come as the climate here continues to change.

We cannot be entirely certain of how much the climate will change here, or how fast, but we already know that it is changing just from listening to the memories of our older residents. The weather station records from Bombala and Craigie 'Bondi Forest' show these memories to be true. One thing that is certain is that the lower stream flows in summer will change our water usage habits.

Our area has the distinction of having the greatest 'between years' variation in rainfall in Australia and we break records even globally. This is because our rain comes from multiple weather systems that we just happen to be on the edge of so we never experience their full effect. We rely a lot on the 'Westerlies' wind for steady **winter** rain but this belt is moving South and increasingly missing the continent completely. The projections for our area are a continuation of what is already happening: that winter-spring rain will continue to decline a lot and that summer-autumn rain will increase a little. This not good news because as temperatures rise so will warm season evaporation making soils that have not been replenished by winter rain very dry indeed.

So what to do?

Firstly, develop a different attitude to the lawn. Switch to strong summer grasses like kikuyu and winter growers such as rye. Lift the mower blades a couple of notches so that grass roots are always well protected by foliage. This reduces water requirement dramatically. Slightly longer grass has deeper roots too and becomes much more resilient to hot days.

Secondly, increase soil carbon everywhere you can. This is done by increasing organic matter- make compost with everything available, grass clippings, paper, leaves and leave litter where it falls. The life of the soil and the availability of plant ready nutrients depends on the constant cycling of organic matter by the soil organisms. Biochar has become a fashion and it certainly holds water but it also locks up nutrients and does not contribute much to the dynamic nature of a living soil. The scientist who first wrote about its role in the Amazon later wrote that Earth's soils have been so degraded and eroded by human use that there is no longer sufficient elements like phosphorus and calcium available terrestrially to lock away semi-permanently in biochar. Most of the extra supply that we once had in the soil body is now at the bottom of the ocean.

Thirdly, choose plants that are able to take dry days without collapsing. Look to Mediterranean types, to South Africa and California and most importantly to our own native plants that have been so under-utilised in the past. Recently there has been a surge in breeding by nurserymen of garden-worthy cultivars.

Fourthly, consider a canopy planting that will cast light shade over the garden for at least part of the day. Many deciduous trees and tall shrubs have dense foliage so cast very dense shade that limits what can be grown beneath, as do conifers. Select sparse crowned types – dwarf eucalypts, fruit trees, wattles, deciduous white cedar and crepe myrtle.

Fifthly, minimise the annuals. These are very shallow rooted in proportion to the mass display of flowers so require consistent available moisture to do well.

Lastly, do your health a favour and use scarce water resources to grow useful plants. Things like chives and strawberries make neat border, clumps of parsley give a cool green splash and there is nothing amiss with a dark glossy green capsicum flowering whitely in the shrubbery.

Best of all plant for the birds. Sadly the bird population has a very restricted in species. It would be lovely to have honeyeaters once again common in the garden.

Look out for the Scarlet Robin. This species is critically endangered and our area is one of their last refuges. They need the shelter of dense low shrubs and use these as perches to gather insects from longish grass. Another reason to let the grass grow!



November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Oct 29	Oct 30	Oct 31 Yoga at Bonang every Tuesday at 10.30	1—Cuppa & Chat Birgit & Cassie Moore Manager RFDS Vic Health Services Goongerah 10a m Tubbut 1.30pm	2 Library Bus	3 Bus trip to Russian orthodox monastery Please book TNH	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Optometrist at Goongerah McKillops Bridge closure over next 4 weeks (8-4)	14 Optometrist at Goongerah	15 Optometrist at Goongerah	16 Computers with Sharon Library Bus	17	18 Bushwalkers & Parks dinner at Bonang Glass slumping in Delegate
19	20 DVICG Meeting 10am at NH	21	22	23 TNH open but Lisa & Deb at Black Rainbow with map	24	25 Delegate Pony Club training day Delegate showgrounds
26 Delegate Pony Club Gymkhana Delegate Showgrounds	27	28 Big Bonang Arvo! & community market	29	30 Library Bus	1 Dec	2 Dec

Road Maintenance McKillops Bridge, Deddick

Eastern Region Alliance, on behalf of VicRoads, will commence important maintenance repair works to the historic McKillops Bridge over the Snowy River at Deddick from 13 November 2017.

What is being done?

Maintenance crews will repair timber decking across the entire length of McKillops Bridge. This essential maintenance was last completed in 2012, and ensures the historic structure is maintained to a safe and acceptable standard for the local community and tourists who pass the bridge.

Timing

Works are due to commence Monday 13 November and extend for approximately four weeks, weather permitting. Sections of the timber deck will need to be removed making the bridge impassable Monday - Friday between 8am - 4pm.

Bridge closure

McKillops Bridge will be closed during the day to allow for sections of the timber deck to be taken apart and replaced.

VicRoads understands that the closure of the bridge means that tourists and locals in the area may have to alter around the maintenance work. In the event of an emergency, access can be restored. Vehicles can still cross the bridge outside of working hours. We have reached out to emergency services, local media, community groups and information centres to spread the word.

Tourist information

The camp ground on the western side of the bridge can be accessed by Gellatray while the picnic area and hayak launch area on the eastern side of the bridge may be accessed from Bonang.

Contact

Throughout the duration of the works, the community can contact Eastern Region Alliance with any issues or concerns about the works. For more information, call 13 11 70 and ask to speak with Fiona or Julie from the Visitor's Customer Service Team.



Things can always change, so if you are interested in anything, please ring and make sure it is still on.

3rd December—Golden Age party Delegate
6th December—Delegate River lunch
8th December—Our Fire film screening
15th December—Bendoc Christmas Party
20th December—Bonang Christmas Tree
21st December—Community Christmas Lunch