

TUBBUT TATTLER

ISSN 2200 - 5245



August 2018

Tubbut Neighbourhood House

E-mail: tubbutnh@iinet.net.au

Phone: 02 64580295

<http://www.tubbutnh.com> Like us on Facebook

Open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in school terms

<http://www.tubbutnh.com> Like us on Facebook

Next deadline: August 31st 2018



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Photograph of the Deddick Valley
by Jenny Starkey

CLASSIFIEDS

Orbost Solar and Electrical

Happy to come to our area

call Ben on 0434038395



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.

Local handyman—Available 24/7

-Firewood, gardening, general maintenance, rubbish removal, gutter cleaning, fencing, general farm duties, etc

-Free quotes

-Call Nathan Phillips on 0264580360

Mountain Pepper Berries

For sale

30 g for \$ 10, dried and ready to use.

Please contact

Barbara 0427401241

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.

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

GOONGERAH COMMUNITY HUB

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC EVERY FRIDAY, 10AM TO 3PM. goongerah@iinet.net.au

The Goongerah Hub is run by local volunteers and financed by donations. This fantastic venue is a great space for functions & workshops or just a simple drop in. There are comfy couches or a deck out the front to relax & have a cuppa & a chat. Wi-Fi, a stylish Op Shop as well as the Goongerah Good Foods,

If time and resource permit there is often something to eat!

We welcome more volunteers

If you see the sign out the front there will be a happy local inside to greet you & help or maybe

FOR HIRE

The Tubbut Neighbourhood House has the following for Hire:

Trailer—\$5.00 per day

Wood Splitter—\$10.00 per day

You can also borrow many of our books & gadgets:

Laminator, recording VHS to DVD player, Laptop, tablet, digital photo scanner, convert photos, slides

Available for cleaning (only)

Contact Natasha 64588162 or 0408477774

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.

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 re-growth 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

Call Mark on 02 64580225



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. *We also welcome any letters to the editors.*

Tubbut Neighbourhood House

Tubbut has been alive and busy with Bread Workshop thanks to Deb for sharing her Sourdough skills and knowledge, we also took this opportunity to have a community lunch with soup supplied by the Lisa's. Our enamelling workshop was a great success with community and school working together to create their masterpieces (more of these workshops will be happening). Our kiln is still getting use, these are some works of art by the Students at Goongerah Tubbut School which have now been fired.

Below: Sourdough rising
Right: Dave making his bread



Above: Nellie with her matching enamel jewellery



Above: fired artworks from
Goongerah Tubbut school

Right: Left: Community
lunch soup & bread day



Below: enamelling on pennies



Deddick Valley
Isolated
Community Group
Meeting and AGM
will be held at the
Tubbut
Neighbourhood
house on August
20th at 10am.

All Welcome

Women's Wellness Day
Tuesday 4th September 10am at the
Bonang Hall

More information to come

Men's Pizza and Health Night
At Bonang

Date is yet to be decided
(when the nights are a little warmer)
More information coming soon

Out and About



Memorial plaque on a Tree at the Jingalala River concrete bridge picnic area in Cabanandra.

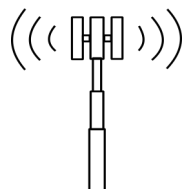
It was hard to find anyone in the area who knew who Geoffrey Bailey was.

Helen Neven met a lady who was at the NH house when it was shut over the holidays who is Geoffrey Bailey's Daughter.

Margaret Clark called in to see if her dad's favourite spot, the plaque was put there 10 years ago. He used to live in Bears house on the Delicknora road. Margaret went to Tubbut primary school with Penny and Clare.

Mobile in Tubbut!

Telstra are to build 17 new base stations across the state and Tubbut is to be one of them. They are commencing approvals with a view to connect the sites by the end of December 2019.



Margaret Bryant who was nearly 90 and living in Queensland passed away recently. Margaret used to go to school at Tubbut.

Vic Roads Meeting

Representatives from VicRoads; Kate Simmons and Bruce Strong, East Gippsland Shire; Mark and Tom and Pelz Haulage; Richard Pelz and Marcus, attended the meeting on Thursday 26th July at Tubbut to discuss the roads and the increased haulage traffic.

- The Jingalala bridge has had planks repaired and next week a bridge contractor is coming to repair/inspect the bridge.
- The Bonang and McKillops Road are classified category 5 roads which is on the bottom end of priority. There is no money for Grade 5 Roads coming from the government.
- Temporary speed restriction have been suggested for some parts of McKillops Rd which are going to be looked into.
- The Log trucks are satellite tracked, have dash cams, and heavily police themselves. There is a zero tolerance policy. And they will be in the area for about 3 years at this stage.
- There are no plans to seal sections of roads to reduce dust.
- Coup owners pay a levee to the government which the local council don't often see.
- More signs are going to be erected to warn of extra trucks on road.
- It was suggested that people purchase handheld UHF radios for their own piece of mind when travelling on the roads with the log trucks. (I purchased one from Ebay for \$80.00)
- The roads are graded twice a year in winter and spring and so far there are no plans to alter that.
- It was suggested that contacting your local member of parliament could be of benefit.

Above all drive safely to the conditions of our road and remember that there are always trucks, bikes and other cars using the road.

If you have any issues with the trucks or anything else, please contact the Lisa's at the Neighbourhood House and we will follow up any of your queries and get back to you.

Thank you to all who came and helped make pizzas (dough rolled by hand has well), cooked pizzas and cleaned up.

Out and About

Delegate Pony Club

Sundays Mounted Games Championship 24th June at Bungendore



Delegate Pony Club had one full team, the Khasbees, and one rider that rode in a mixed team.

The Khasbees came 7th in Division A out of a field of 9.

They placed 3rd in the sock race and the rope race, 4th in the stepping stone race and 5th in the five flag.

Team Khasbees was:

Jasmine Butterworth, Amber Butterworth, Shania Caldwell, Steph Richardson and Matsya Willoughby

Dala Willoughby rode with the Mix Matches which was made up with Murrenbateman Pony Club and Delegate Pony Club. All the riders had a lot of fun and learnt/mastered a lot of skills which built confidence.



Congratulations to the teams, the parents and all the helpers who make these days happen.



Equine Dentist

Gavin Morton comes once a year to the area, please contact him to arrange an appointment, needs numbers to make it worth while. Phone: 0412601460

Out & About

The Friends of Errinundra AGM at Bonang held on Saturday 21/07/2018 was well attended. Everyone enjoyed the catch up and eating lunch together.

John McRae, Program Manager for the Australian Alps national parks Cooperative Management Program was the guest speaker, travelling in his own time from Canberra to meet us and inform us about the work the program does. It brings together the states, NSW and Victoria, and ACT which each have a bit of the Alps in their jurisdictions as well as the federal government, to fund the position, some research and workshops. John works out of an office in Namadgi in the ACT and the office moves each three years and a new program manager is appointed (after July next year, it will be located in NSW).

The Alpine area is a very small and precious part of Australia's ecological regions - 0.3% of our landscape. How 'Alps' is defined varies from country to country; in Australia it refers to land above 1800 metres, characterised by absence of trees. The Alps are the source of three major rivers: the Murray, Snowy and Murrumbidgee so their ecological health is crucial to Australia's well-being.

The Alps provide habitat for migratory birds, RAMSAR listed wetlands and is heritage listed as well as a UNESCO biosphere. It is also home to a number of endangered species.

Climate change is a threat to all natural processes but the Alps are predicted to be worst affected - if we have the predicted average increase of two degrees, the Alps will have a rise of five degrees. This will mean the drying up of aquifers we depend upon, a disaster by anyone's reckoning.

Another topical discussion point in John's presentation was feral horse management and the contrasting ways that the ACT, NSW and Victorian governments go about feral horse management. Each has a different approach, with the ACT taking the strongest measures with a zero tolerance approach. NSW recently withdrew its control program in response to lobbying by people who care more about this introduced species than native species. We saw pictures of wetlands, the source of our rivers, trampled and compacted by horses hooves; seeing so many of these habitats are in NSW, we can expect a large rise in horse numbers which will be measured next autumn by aerial survey. Such are their numbers that they now pose a threat to campers and walkers in the Alps.

Of course, pigs, deer and to a lesser extent, goats, are also a threat, as is tourism, but horses have the most devastating impact at present.

After John's presentation, we watched a short film about the Emerald Link which proposes connecting up paths, old logging and other tracks to enable cycling, walking and car tourism in East Gippsland's forests from Bemm River to Mt Ellery. We talked about connecting up with the Bundian Way across the border, perhaps with Mt Delegate as a mountain bike playground and viewing area across the Monaro and East Gippsland. These are just ideas but we all agreed that it is a discussion point in future community planning.

Since it was an AGM, we looked at our finances and elected officebearers - there was no change from last year. We also reflected on activities undertaken by the group in the last 12 months and developed a program for the next 12 months. There was interest in becoming part of the official monitoring of the greater glider, an endangered species now relying on the Errinundra Plateau for its survival in this region. A grant for equipment will be prepared so that we can go out at midnight and look for this, the largest aerial marsupial, as it glides between the tops of tall trees.

We also agreed to lobby for the reopening of Greens Road which has been closed for over 20 years by damaged culverts. As the southern entrance to the Errinundra, we think it is important that it be reopened for tourist and local access and to provide an exit route in times of emergency.

People are welcome to join any of our activities; already planned are a working bee on the 17th of November and a half day activity followed by a Christmas BBQ lunch on the 15th of December.

Please keep an eye on Friends of Errinundra Facebook page for more details about our activities. We welcomed new members from both sides of the border and look forward to our next working bee and joining Victorian bushwalkers working on the Silvermine Track in Snowy River National Park.

Deb Foskey President

photo of John McRae



What's On

RED DUST AND ROCK POOLS BUNDIAN WAY GALLERY

Delegate, NSW



Batemars Bay (Gwiyala) by Bronwen Smith
Gudhi (Snake) by Gavin Chatfield

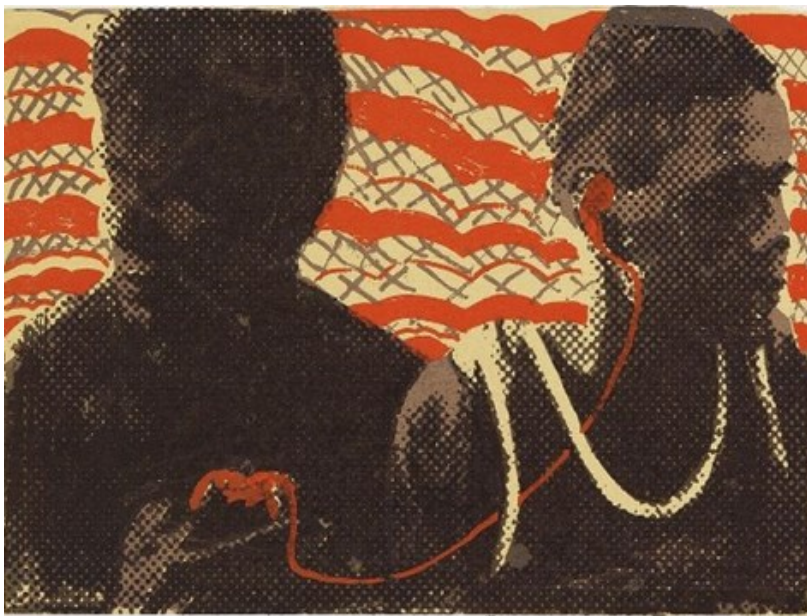
An exhibition featuring
the works of
Bronwen Smith and
Gavin Chatfield.

Bronwen is a proud Walbunga woman from the Yuin Nation who incorporates traditional dot painting techniques with linear designs to create her own style.

Gavin is a Wiradjuri man, born on the south coast and his work is influenced by traditional techniques of Western NSW.

Exhibition opens 5.30pm on 5 July to end September 2018
Please join us at the opening and to meet the artists

Delegate Progress Association,
Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council
& Snowy Monaro Regional Council



BALNHDPHURR — A LASTING IMPRESSION

In a remote corner of Arnhem Land sits Yirrkala Print Space, where, for over twenty years, the ancient craft of printmaking has not only survived, but prospered. A celebratory exhibition of this print space, Balnhdpurr — A Lasting Impression is presented by Artback NT in association with Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Centre.

Balnhdpurr — A Lasting Impression is a vibrant acknowledgement of the creative energies, talent and commitment of generations of Yolngu artists who have utilised and pushed the boundaries of such a medium to share significant cultural and historical stories. Showing at Bega Valley Regional Gallery until 8 September.

Image: Djuwakan #2 Marika, photographic screenprint, 21 x 30cm

What's On

2018 East Gippsland Beef Conference Tues 14th (conference) & Wed 15th August (tours)



Location

Conference - Bairnsdale Sporting and Convention Centre, Great Alpine Rd Bairnsdale

2018 BetterBeef Conference

- ◆ Full day conference - 14th August
- ◆ Half day farm tours on 15th August with breakfast and lunch supplied.
- ◆ Presentations by leading, innovative producers and industry professionals
- ◆ Latest industry developments
- ◆ Networking opportunities
- ◆ Concurrent sessions with different presenters - you choose the topic

The Conference Dinner

- ◆ Featuring local produce
- ◆ Dinner speaker: Angus Kettleman, Texas Longhorn rancher.
- ◆ Cost: \$60 /person

Conference Cost

- ◆ Farmers: \$60 first person from business, \$40pp extras persons from same business.
- ◆ Non-farmers, eg agribusiness, govt : \$120.
- ◆ Students \$30
- ◆ Farm tours on day 2 (with breakfast and lunch) included in conference cost.
- ◆ Payment can be made at DELWP 574 Main St Bairnsdale or online at eventbrite.com.au

Conference program includes...

Beef Industry market outlook and analysis:

⇒ Robert Herrmann, Mecardo Analysis

Top habits of top producers :

⇒ Phil Holmes, Holmes and Co.

Managing kikuyu pastures for production & profit :

⇒ Erica Ayers, producer, Esperance, WA.

Getting the best commercial advantage from EBVs :

⇒ David Packer, MLA

Using electronic animal ID for beef cattle production :

⇒ Lindsay Marriott, Tarwin Lower

The future of livestock marketing

⇒ Angus Street, Auctions Plus

Weaning best practice:

⇒ Rick White BVSc, Bayer Australia

Balanced nutrition; 'the secret inside'

⇒ Dr Paul Cusack, Centre for Veterinary Education

Where to from here?

A Q&A session featuring a panel of industry experts discussing strategies for spring

To purchase tickets and see the full program go to:

2018egbc.eventbrite.com.au

Tickets available until **Tuesday August 7th**, or until sold out.

For more information contact the event manager: Craig Bush on 0427 943155

Silage wrap recycling will start soon in Wellington and East Gippsland Shires.

The collection period is over 4 weeks, and farmers are encouraged to use this service to dispose of their wrap.

Please remember to separate silage wrap (can be recycled) from net wrap (cannot be recycled).

Burning silage wrap is illegal and it is better for the environment if the wrap is not buried or put into landfill.

Silage wrap drop off points:

Where: **Kilmany Transfer Station**
Princes Highway
Kilmany
Cash and card payments accepted
Yarram Transfer Station
Hyland Highway
Yarram
Cash only accepted
Bairnsdale Landfill
200 Johnstons Road
Forge Creek
Cash and card payments accepted

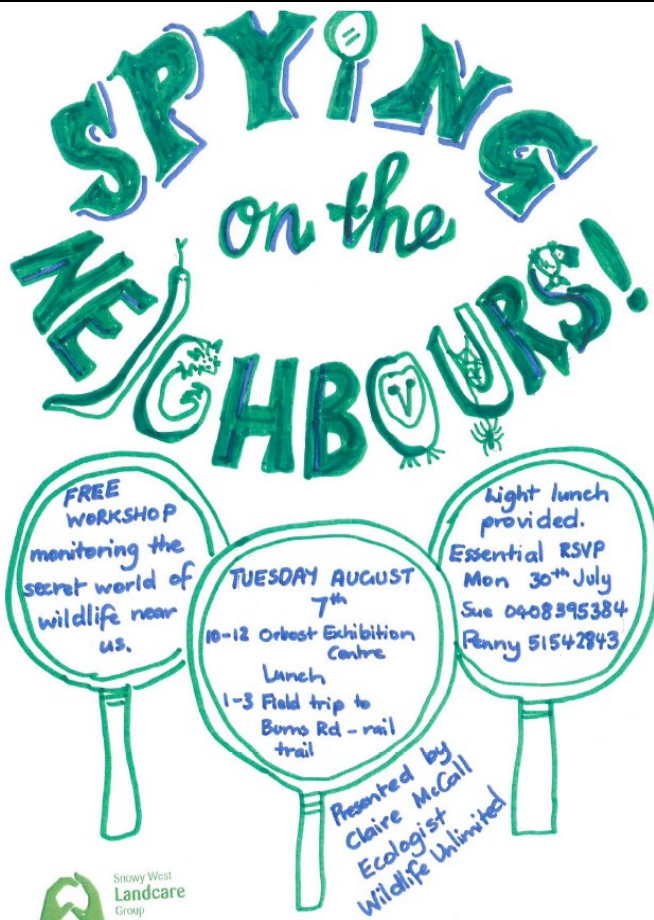
When: **Monday 16 July to Monday 13 August**
Cost: **\$11 per bulka bag**

How do I recycle?

- Silage wrap can be delivered in Bulka bags or Plasback bags
- No net wrap or bale twine
- Silage wrap needs to be shaken clean of silage, gravel and other contaminants
- If using Bulka bags, these must be able to be rolled off your vehicle or trailer at the site
- Payment is cash only at the Yarram Transfer Station

*Bulka bags are available for farmers, if required. Please contact the Wellington Shire Council Sustainability Projects Officer on **1300 366 244** for further information.

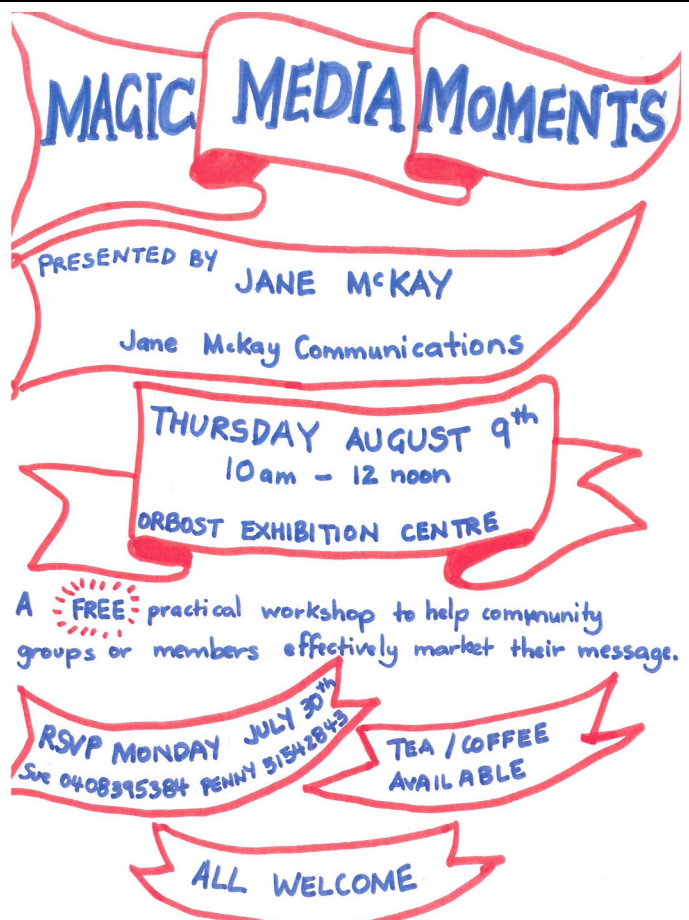
What's On



This workshop has been organised by Snowy West Landcare with financial support from the Victorian Government Community Skills Development Grant.

Kids Pics

Delegate RSL August 25 at 3 pm. Gold coin donation, bring snacks. Parents welcome. Our last event saw the hall bursting at the seams (that's why we use a small venue - warm and cosy). The film is Boss Baby, about a 7 year old boy's new suit-wearing baby brother and his gradual acceptance when they have to go on a mission to save the world.



This workshop has been organised by Snowy West Landcare with financial support from the Victorian Government Community Skills Development Grant.

Landcare calendar photos sought

Are you a happy snapper? We need you photos of birds, mammals and insects that provide us with pollination services for the East Gippsland Landcare 2019 Calendar.

The photographs need to be landscape, electronic and a minimum of 300 dpi. Please provide details of who took the picture, where it was taken, a paragraph about it and if you are from a Landcare Group, which one.

Closing date for photos is 30th September 2018.

Email contributions to penny.gray@fevl.org.au.

What's On

East Gippsland Shire Council

The current Council Community and Arts and Heritage grant round closes on 1 August 2018. Come and talk to us about your project ideas. Check the grant guidelines and application form [here](#)

Regional Arts Victoria : Arts Connect forum Friday September 7 in Orbost

Save the date for this opportunity to hear some great speakers and network with individuals and groups in the East Gippsland Creative Industry sector.

Gravel and Bitumen

A new book by local historian Tony Meade.

If you are interested in the origins of Bairnsdale's street names this should be really interesting. Over 400 names are included, also some 'lost' streets.

Copies of the book are available for purchase.

Contact : www.egfhg.org.au

Would you like to participate in an artist book exhibition in May 2019????

Amegilla Gallery is very excited to be calling for entries for its second artist book exhibition "disCOVER – the inventiveness of artist books" 2 – 30 May 2019.

Non-refundable participation fee of \$30 for 1 or 2 books per artist; 20% commission on works sold; for Conditions of Entry & Entry form contact amegillagallery@gmail.com.

If you know of an artist that may be interested in participating in this exhibition please share this information.

Non-refundable participation fee of \$30 for 1 or 2 books per artist; 20% commission on works sold; for Conditions of Entry & Entry form contact amegillagallery@gmail.com.

The Beggars Sing

Thursday 2 August, at the Forge Theatre and Arts Hub, 7.30pm

Friday 3 August at the Buchan Hall, 7.30pm.

Saturday 4 August at the Cabbage Tree Creek Hall, 7.30pm.

The Beggars Sing The Seekers is a concert celebration of The Seekers wonderful career. Featuring Adelaide international vocal group The Beggars: Renee Donaghey, Quentin Evers and Quinton Dunne.

This show features all The Seekers favourite songs.

The Beggars sound is often compared to The Seekers. Since 2006 the Beggars have made beautiful country folk and pop music together with a focus on the power of vocal harmony. They are brilliant singer songwriters with a crystal clear Australian acoustic sound.

Cafe Culture 3 - Dr Crask & His Swinging Elixir Band

07 Sep 2018 7:00pm

Albert and Co Function Centre, Bellevue on the Lakes

201 Esplanade, Lakes Entrance Vic 3909

Re-imagine the jumpin' vibe of the iconic Savoy Ballroom era.

Gregory Craske formed this band initially to play his charity event called Swingin' The Blues Away 2013; a swing dance event that raised money for an organization dealing with mental health issues in our community.

A keen Lindy Hopper himself, his focus has been on playing the tunes of the Savoy Ballroom Era, and to re-imagine the jumpin' vibe of this iconic dance hall with a smaller and more portable ensemble.

Internet Issues

BUSH CONNECTIVITY TIPS

Every Australian residence will be mapped for some form of nbn by 2020 (that's even if you live in the middle of no where and even if you currently have mobile service)

People who connect to (or are mapped but not connected) nbn Fixed Wireless services and nbn Sky Muster (Satellite) are NOT having their landlines "turned off". Please keep your current landline option when signing up to nbn if you live in these technology areas. Regardless of what the nbn provider may tell you, you can keep your current landline option. It is important that you know your rights. When switching your internet to nbn Fixed Wireless or Satellite DO NOT SWITCH your current landline to an internet based VOICE service.

Telstra are contracted to the Government to provide all residences with a landline voice service - it is called the Universal Service Obligation (USO), which is still in operation until 2032. There are plans to update this to a Universal Service Guarantee (USG), which will also include internet services. Under the USO you have rights that cover things such as ordering a landline service, fault rectification and repair times.

ESCALATING AN ISSUE

The BIRRR team have escalation pathways for all types of telecommunications issues, we can assist you in getting help to resolve your problems. Please do not think that there is nothing that can be done to troubleshoot your connection/s. We can help with issues such as: nbn Sky Muster service not working, is very slow, experiencing large number of drop outs etc

Landline voice service is not working, couldn't order a new landline or get reconnected, users experiencing poor quality voice, high number of faults, poor voice services over nbn connections

Mobile Service has diminished over time, has very poor speeds or is not working at all. Night-hawk modems and other equipment to boost signal not working.

nbn Fixed Line or nbn Fixed Wireless issues such as drop outs, poor speeds, congestion etc

NGWL - landlines that work over a 3G connection, users having difficulty with plan information, fault reporting and outages

ADSL - poor speeds, dropouts, no available ports

Please do not suffer in silence when there are many tools available to assist you to improve your service. BIRRR also recommends that you look into what NBN TECHNOLOGY you are mapped for, installations are free and it is a good idea to be in the nbn system prior to the rollout finishing in 2020.

Do not hesitate to ask any further questions you may have. The BIRRR team understand how confusing new technology can be and we can help support you and guide you through the broadband jungle.....so send us an email today.

Kind Regards

The Team at

Better Internet for Rural, Regional & Remote Australia (BIRRR) The Team at Better Internet for RRR Australia (BIRRR) birrraus@gmail.com

Mountain Pepper Berry

A must in everyone's kitchen, Mountain Pepper Berry (*Tasmania lanceolate*)

Belonging to the Australian Bush tucker/Superfoods native, local Mountain Pepper Berries are delicious and a must in everyone's kitchen. Pepper berries are more versatile than conventional peppercorn, able to be used in sweet and savory dishes. The leaves, stems and berries have an aromatic peppery taste producing approx. 3 times the anti-oxidants of blueberries.

The berries are very rare and do not grow every year, they need specific conditions and are usually not found every year. When you see the Pepper bush, it does not mean they will carry berries.

Native birds, such as the Black Currawong eat the berries and unfortunately the large population of deer in our forests devastate the bushes as a whole.

Tasmania lanceolate is usually a compact 2 metre bushy shrub, but can grow to 10 meters tall. Leaf stalks and young stems are red, leaves are elliptical in shape. The Scrub or small tree is native to woodlands and cool temperate rainforest of south-eastern Australia.

Plants are either male or female. Both sexes have tiny cream colored flowers with narrow oblanceolate (Of a leaf shape; having a broad rounded apex and a tapering base) petals. The male flower has many stamens; the female flower has 2-lobed ovary. Only the female plants will carry berries. Flowering occurs in mid Spring. The ripened fruit (March-June) is a pea-sized 2-lobed lustrous deep-purple, almost black berry with many small angular seeds inside.

Mountain Pepper plants feature heavily in indigenous traditional uses, both in cooking and medicinally. Australian pepper berries are considered as one of the world's strongest anti-oxidant foods and a rich source of vitamin C. They are also high in antimicrobial and anti-arthritic properties.

Antioxidants are substances that can neutralise free radicals in your body. They can stop them damaging your health. The best known ones are vitamins A, C and E, and minerals such as copper, zinc and selenium, which can all act as antioxidants. Antioxidants are believed to prevent and delay Alzheimer's disease, autoimmune and cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes.

The Mountain Pepper Berry is also anti-inflammatory, Antimicrobial, high in polygodial compounds, in addition the berries carry lutein, iron, magnesium and calcium. Further benefits are antifungal, antihyperalgesia, antiseptic and anti allergic action.

It all sounds too good to be true, but there has been research done by the Griffith University for the people who like to read further about the amazing plant that grows in our local area.

I personally use the berries in my grinder already in the morning on my coffee, on my cheese with bread, for all cooking and at night on my red wine. Using the pepper for 4 month I have a lot more energy. We also added the grinded Pepper to our sausages made by the mobile butcher and they are one of the best sausages I have had. When you are interested to add the Mountain Pepper Berry to your kitchen please contact me

Barbara

0427401241

249cottage@gmail.com

Bendoc, 3888

https://research-repository.griffith.edu.au/bitstream/handle/10072/62509/95243_1.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

<https://www.sbs.com.au/food/article/2018/07/11/native-berry-has-four-times-antioxidants-blueberries>

Farmers & Growers

How bad is the drought and why has it been so dry?

ABC Weather

By Kate Doyle

Posted 11 Jun 2018, 5:12am

This autumn has been the fourth-warmest on record in Australia, with below average rainfall for most of the country, according to the Bureau of Meteorology's autumn summary. So how bad is the drought and why has it been so dry?

According to Blair Trewin, a senior climatologist at the bureau, the areas experiencing the most significant drought at the moment are in New South Wales, north-west Victoria and eastern South Australia.

"Many parts of central and eastern New South Wales have had well below average rainfall, really since April last year," Dr Trewin said.

"Since the start of this year, the dry conditions have spread to cover most inland parts of the state." Rain over the past few weeks in Western Australia has eased drought conditions there although some areas, particularly east of Albany in the state's south, remain dry.

Dr Trewin said the current conditions were the driest on record over a 14-month period for areas of NSW, including the upper Hunter, parts of the Illawarra and Southern Highlands, and an area in the central-west.

"When you look at the time scale of six months through to a year, it's a significant [drought] in the worst-affected parts of NSW," he said.

The only autumn on record drier than this one in southern Australia was in 1902, the year the Federation drought peaked, the Boer War ended, and women got the right to vote in New South Wales and federal elections.

During the Federation drought, the Darling River virtually ran dry at Bourke in NSW, and the Australian wheat crop was all but lost.

The current dry is not as extensive as the long-term droughts of the past.

"We certainly don't have those long-term drought conditions in New South Wales in the way that we had in the 1900s or the 1940s or 2000s," Dr Trewin said.

"1902 was a very bad year in its own right, but it actually came at the end of a prolonged period of dry weather which spanned seven to eight years.

"We've had nothing like that recently because 2016 was a really wet year for just about all of the regions."

However, Dr Trewin said parts of inland Queensland were experiencing long-term rainfall deficits.

Why is it so dry?

Dr Trewin said the dry conditions were due to what hadn't been happening, rather than what had. The systems which usually bring rain simply haven't come for New South Wales.

"During the summer, you're often looking at a feed of tropical moisture, when you get moisture feeding in from the tropical monsoon coming south," he said.

"But that didn't really happen this year, all the rain stayed in the tropics this time round."

There also haven't been any major feeds of Indian Ocean moisture from the north-west approaching fronts or east coast lows in the affected regions.

"There was an event in March which produced a lot of rain on the coast from about Newcastle northwards. But it had basically no effect inland and no effect south of Newcastle," Dr Trewin said.

Why aren't the systems coming?

Dr Trewin said the east coast lows tended to be random.

"But the lack of a major north-west feed [of moisture] is connected to sea surface temperatures in the Indian Ocean not being as warm as they were in 2016, for example."

He said another common theme in recent winters was a stronger than usual sub-tropical ridge over southern Australia.

Farmers & Growers (cont)

"That means that frontal systems that would normally start affecting southern Australia more generally during the winter are instead mostly passing south of the continent, really only affecting Tasmania and perhaps southern Victoria."

This is not a one-off

University of Melbourne PhD candidate Mandy Freud is studying past Australian climates, using corals, ice cores, tree rings and cave records to investigate what the climate was like up to 800 years ago.

Ms Freud said she had been looking at 30 and 50 year trends in warm and cool season rainfall, going back 400 years.

"It looks like the north is getting wetter during the warm season when they get all the rain and the south is getting drier during the cold season when actually a lot of rain falls in the south," she said.

"If we look at the cool season, we can see that the Murray Darling Basin has quite an unusual declining trend in rainfall for the past 30 years."

Ms Freud said central to northern NSW did not have any discernible trends, and south-west WA was variable, with recent declines in cool season rainfall.

"We can say that there has been a decline in rainfall over almost the past 50 years. There's a decline of about three millimetres a year that we can see in south-west WA."

"We think it has something to do with a change in the Southern Annular Mode."

The Southern Annular Mode (SAM) describes how far the westerly wind belt can move up into the south of Australia.

It's these westerlies that traditionally bring rain to southern Australia in autumn and winter.

High pressure over Australia can block these lows from getting through, causing a positive SAM and low cool season rainfall for southern Australia.

The outlook for winter

The Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting that winter is likely to be drier than average in south-east Australia and parts of WA, particularly in June.

"If we were to have significantly below normal rainfall through the winter, which is what the outlook is pointing towards, that would clearly exacerbate the rainfall deficits that we currently have," Dr Trewin said.

Orange peel fodder a zesty addition to keep cattle alive during drought

As the drought wears on, many producers are turning to alternate sources of feed for their stock. Just last week a Victorian farmer turned to watermelon as a supplement.

Video: Farmer in drought turns to watermelon to feed hungry cattle (ABC News)

Last night, a farmer in northern NSW took delivery of a load of orange peel.

For humans, orange zest is a tasty addition to some dishes, and Gunnedah farmer Edward Hoddle believes his cows will also appreciate the sweet addition to a dry diet of cotton seed and hay.

"In the drought you have to be pragmatic and we are looking at all options. This peel is manna from heaven arriving in the back of a truck," he said.

The family owns a citrus farm but runs around 700 head of cattle as well.

Currently they are stocking just cows and calves as the drought takes hold, but even fodder crops have failed.

Although the peel comes from the very oranges they sent away to juice companies, it had never occurred to them before to use the by-product as stock feed.

I felt it

I was devastated when I lost my hat. I never stopped looking for it but I never saw it or nits like again. How do you replace a one-off?

That hat was a Nepalese cap, pillbox shape, made of black wool fabric with a brim that turned up and livened the black with bright colourful stripes. The brim came down to cover the ears when it was really cold. It fitted perfectly and looked good. When I wore that hat, I felt that I could be seen by the world as I really was.

In the years of that hat I was a privileged post-graduate scholar at ANU and an active participant in a new political party, the Greens.

The hat was perfect for that sort of person.

I lost it many times and it always came back to me. "Oh Deb's left her hat."
Thus I expected it to turn up for years after the initial loss.

That hat went through a lot with me. I'm sure it knew what was going on in my mind, sitting on top of it as it did. It would have shared my immense sadness as its time on my head started after the loss of my son.

It also knew of my attempt to make up to the world by giving birth to a daughter. It completed my outfit through all those hard years of single-motherhood and poverty. It experienced the worst aspect of parenthood when some very large lice dropped into the basin when I combed my hair in some toilets in Hobart one winter.

I was at a Greens national conference. I kept my discovery to myself, my hair encased firmly in my hat. Perhaps I had been too busy treating my daughter's lice to look at my own hair. Or, perhaps I was too busy doing everything else to know my daughter had lice. When I was back home again everything was subjected to the hottest water for the longest time possible – including my hat.

It survived, a bit smaller and a lot more felted.

I wore it until I lost it. After that, I wasn't a person who wore a hat.

When I moved back to the bush I didn't need my suits, purchased from op-shops the lot of them, and never looking right. What a relief to take them back to an op-shop. Apart from warmth and sun protection, women no longer wear hats, even in the bush, even at weddings and funerals, unless they look great in them.

I have some beanies and balaclavas that cover my head and ears on wintry days. I try to have a going-out hat. Last year I bought a red felt hat with a cocky brim. It was a very cheerful red and would have looked good on my forty-something face; my sixty-something old face didn't look right in it.

When I do wear it, I take it off before I arrive so that people don't think I'm attention-seeking.

I was reconciled to never again having the right hat.

One weekend the Riviera Spinners came up from Bairnsdale to our little settlement. I went along to help with the lunch, meet people and help with dinner. When I arrived at the Bonang Hall it was transformed with colour and tables demonstrating everything you can do to wool: carding, spinning, dying, weaving, felting; there were piles of wool of every hue.

I felt it (cont.)

“Come and try something,” one of the wool women said.

“I don’t do craft,” I said.

Since everyone was there because they do, they looked at me with horror.

I was planning to stay through the afternoon until dinner time; I hadn’t thought of how I might fill in the time. After the dishes were dealt with, I wandered into the hall for a close look and was taken by the pictures people were making by felting wool onto muslin. You didn’t have to be an artist or a craftsperson for that. Just slap the wool on....

Well it wasn’t as easy as it looked. There was a lot of pulling at wool and stroking it, soaping it and pressing it down, thumping it and putting it in hot water and throwing it around and, finally, ironing it. It took hours.

I loved the process of making it and ended up with a wall hanging representing the bush aflame.

On the other table, people were felting bowls. The idea of a felt bowl seemed silly to me – I’m used to bowls that break when they hit the floor but are capable of containing fluids. I have many of them.

But the more I looked at those bowls the more I could see that if they were a bit bigger they could be... a kind of hat. Probably a beret, which are really just felt bowls.

I would make a beret. I came the next day – I hadn’t intended to – with a beret from home (which I never wear because it makes my face look fatter) and, with the help of a Bairnsdale woman who was also an old friend rediscovered, we traced the shape and the process started. The hat was to be mostly red with black design on the brim (not that berets have brims).

It’s a big thing, to make a bowl/hat. It takes a lot of felt and a lot of time. We were still at it, my instructor-friend and I, after everyone had left. Layer after layer, soaping after soaping, trying to hurry it along with hot water. Finally Cathy deemed it finished enough to take home, wet on my head to stretch it to the right shape and size.

Back home and admiring its emerald inside and it’s irregularly patterned outside, I could see that it didn’t want to be a beret, that hat, and it didn’t need to be either. It was still wet enough to work and mould so I pinched its patterned outer ring into a brim and pegged it up overnight. A pill-box was emerging.

I soaped it again and squeezed its new edge, trying to emulate what they used to call ‘permanent press’ then sat it by the stove to drip. By morning it was dry enough to try on.

That’s when I realised that I have a hat again: one that looks good; one that says something about me. It’s not the same hat but I’m not the same ‘me’ either.

Written by Deb Foskey



Robyn Thorburn

Robyn's years in our area touched many people's lives, through craft, work and her kindness. Robyn worked at Tubbut Primary School, the Tavern, the Bonang store, the Tubbut Neighbourhood House and worked with Orbost Regional help with home care. She was always busy knitting, baking, and heading off to the market to sell all her goods. I'm sure there's more that I've missed.

Some of the comments from our Facebook page

Tracey Romans: Condolences to her family I have lots of fond memories of working with Robyn at the Delegate River Tavern R.I.P. Robyn

Katrina Jamieson: That is sad news. Loved my time working with Robyn at the Tubbut school. Her chocolate zucchini cake was second to none. Condolences to her children and grandchildren

Robyn was the backbone of making this school recipe book happen. She spent many hours of her own time typing recipes for this book. Her recipe did not appear in the book, she didn't want to share it then as it was so popular on her stalls at the local markets. I was so lucky for her to share it with me personally. A great way to use up zucchini's when you have lots of them. Freezes really well too.

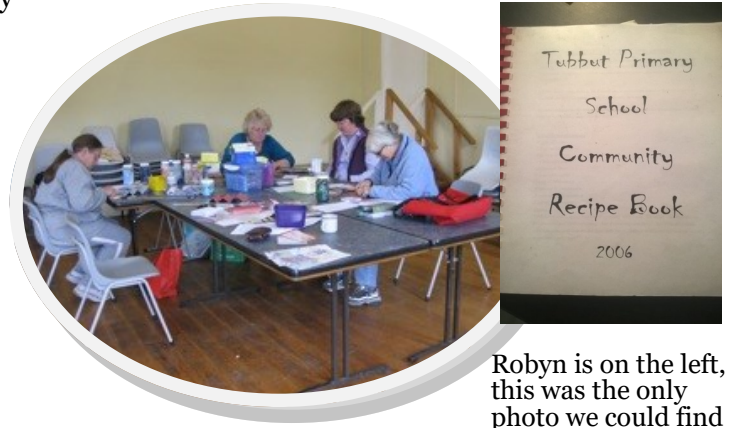
Bridget Andy: Oh, that is sad to hear. Robyn was a beacon of light during some tough times and I'll always remember her as an absolute gem. Rest easy now, Robyn

Sue Collins: Oh no so sad to hear this Robyn was a great lady and a great friend sending love to Joanne, Michael and family's

Bev Tyler: I spoke to her two weeks ago. Hard to believe she has gone. She was such a hard worker. Robyn had amazing energy for the markets. She was preparing for Toora market that she was organising last time we spoke. I worked with Robyn on my first day at Tubbut school. Also at Tubbut NH, she was very passionate about her interests. Robyn was happy where she lived, nearer her family, and spent a lot of time looking after her mother. Robyn loved tennis and went to Australian Open every year, and staying up all night to watch the international matches. Robyn always had a beautiful long pony tail and a lovely laugh.

Patrizia Neven: Oh so sad! Condolences to the family

She was so sad to leave the area but her mum was not well and her daughter Joanne wanted to be closer so she could spend more time with her grandchildren, she loved them so much, I always laughed about the name they gave her when they were old enough to talk, the called her 'grumpy' and she loved it. She had 4 grandkids all girls, Joannes two and her son Michael had two. She told me many funny stories over the years. She had a tough life right through but was always there for anyone who needed a little help, shw was a great friend and I will miss her dearly. Sue Collins



Robyn is on the left, this was the only photo we could find

Pam Ingram: We will no longer be getting a Christmas card saying 'love and sunshine' from Robyn

Deb Foskey: Like everyone else, I was shocked and saddened to hear of the death of Robyn Thorburn who died recently at her home near Toora in South Gippsland. Robyn lived in our area for many years, arriving in the 1990s with her partner of the time, Brian Cameron. She was a familiar face at markets and many people sought out her jams and preserves. How many nights she must have stayed up late waiting for a jam to jell or a preserve to thicken.

She had an enormous amount of resources for the crafts that she loved and was always busy creating something. If you needed help, Robyn was there, as many people have reason to appreciate. Working at the neighbourhood house gave her scope for this aspect of her character.

Everyone has different memories of Robyn: from the Delegate River Tavern, from the Bonang Store, from the markets and community events and at Tubbut Neighbourhood House. She loved her house at Bonang which she bought after years of renting but chose to sell before moving to South Gippsland to be closer to her mother and children and grandchildren. When I visited her there she took pleasure in showing me the fruit trees in the garden of her rental property - all to be ingredients for her market goods.

Robyn was only 64 when she died and it was a surprise to all. Perhaps her friends can take comfort from the fact that she was sitting in her favourite chair with her knitting in her lap when she was found.

To hear her voice again, have a look at the digital story she made at Tubbut Neighbourhood House. You can view it on Youtube,

<https://youtu.be/IHFvsoEPqso>

Kids Capers



ZOO AND AQUARIUM

When we arrived at the zoo we had lunch in the carpark. First we went to the aquarium and saw a huge eel and a tiny shark and heaps of fish. When we went out of the aquarium we looked at all the animals like lions, snow leopards, hyenas, giraffes, monkeys, cheetahs, tigers and otters. I was really looking forward to seeing the elephants but there were no elephants, I wasn't happy. (By Imogen)

Questacon

How you get to the top floor is a spiral staircase that is very high and crooked it was weird to walk up. At Questacon there was a ball controlled by a magnet that made patterns in the sand. There was four player air-hockey and you could play against a robot that would not let you win. There was a really big slide and I wasn't allowed to go on it because the day before we went on camp my bone got crushed in my buggy. My favourite part was the air cannon where you shift the cannon to get the ball through the hoops. (By Ben)

THE WAR MEMORIAL

In the morning we went to the War Memorial. I saw 2 tanks and heaps of cannons and I really liked them. There is an Eternal Flame that's been going for 60 years and it will probably go for ever. We wrote on crosses to send a message to the soldiers who died in war to help us (because then we wouldn't be here today) so we thanked them with a message for their grave. When we were inside we went on a plane simulator that was kind of scary because it felt like it was crashing. My favourite part was in the simulator. BY KASH.

CSIRO DISCOVERY CENTRE

At the CSIRO we held stick insects and we played a stupid game and it was really hard. Then we saw some fish in tanks but they were only little fish. There was a really cool electric lightning globe and it was awesome and when I put my hands on it, it zapped me. (By Tahlia)

There has been talk going around that the Tubbut Goongerah P-8 School will be closing next year. I'd like to take this opportunity to let you all know that the School will be running as usual unless **all** the children leave. It would be a shame to lose these schools so hopefully we will see families with children move into the area soon.

Health

Health news from over the border

Southern Area Health Services is the primary provider for people living in the border regions. I (Deb Foskey) attend the Community Consultation Committee meetings held monthly in Delegate and try to keep abreast of changes and matters of interest. Please use me to put your concerns and questions into an arena where they will be answered.

This month:

My Health Record

If you listen to the radio or watch TV you will know that we are at the beginning of a 3 month period when Australians can choose to opt out of the electronic health record system whereby health professionals around Australia can

see your health records on-line. Its also a place where you can lodge your end of life intentions document (where you choose the medical options you want at the end of your life).

So far the message from health groups is broadly supportive — against the warnings of privacy advocates and some IT security experts.

Doctors say My Health Record will help improve services to rural Australians, indigenous Australians and other vulnerable people in the community.

Unless you can be assured of seeing the same doctor every time you visit a medical centre, the e-health record will save you time recounting your medical issues and treatments every time you visit. For that reason, I am choosing to stay in.

Southern NSW Local Health District has a new web site. From here you can access all services offered in the regions. <http://www.snswlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/>

Finally, now there is one number for all regional services

The new contact details are:

Phone 1800 999 880

Fax 1300 797 331

Email SNSWLHD-CommunityIntake@health.nsw.gov.au

COMMUNITY HEALTH UNVEILS CENTRAL INTAKE SERVICE

Southern NSW Local Health District has Community Health Centres, also referred to as Community Health Services, operating across the Health District. The aim is to provide a broad range of services to the local community.

Community health care is made up of a number of areas, including dental, allied health, counselling, maternal and child health services, rehabilitation programs and nursing services. The services available depend on the needs of individuals, families and community living in the district.

Southern NSW Local Health District are pleased to announce the introduction of Central Intake Service, beginning 30 April. The aim of the service is to provide a single point of access to community health across the health district.

Having single phone, fax and email lines will streamline the referral process and will provide an instant acknowledgement of a referral to the services.

Buses from Bombala to Cooma HYDRO pool run regularly. For more info, ring 02 64554000 or 02 64584620

Recipes (Robyn Thorburn's)

YOUR RECIPES

CHOCOLATE ZUCHINNI CAKE

- 2 ½ cups S.R. flour
- ½ cup cocoa
- 1 cup castor sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon bi-carb soda
- ¼ teaspoon baking powder
- ½ cup milk
- 1 tablespoon vanilla essence
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup canola oil (can use vegetable oil)
- 2 large zucchini grated (about 2 handfuls when grated)

Pre-heat oven to 180°C
Grease a 30 x 20cm baking tin & line base with baking paper
Sift combined dry ingredients
In another bowl mix all other ingredients
Combine the two mixtures well
Bake for 40 minutes or until cooked
Cool 5 minutes, then invert onto wire rack to cool

Ice with chocolate icing

Thank you Katrina Jamieson for sending this recipe

Gardening

AUGUST - Peter Cundall's sowing guide for vegetables

PLANT: Certified seed potatoes, Jerusalem artichokes, shallots, potato onions, garlic cloves and oca (*Oxalis tuberosa*). Off-sets (suckers) of globe artichokes (for tasty food and brilliant flowers). Divisions of chives, rhubarb and asparagus crowns. Sturdy young seedlings of cabbage, cauliflower, celery, broccoli, lettuce, onion and leeks.

SOW: Direct where they are to be grown seed of peas (including delicious snow peas), broad beans, turnips, swedes, Asian brassicas, English spinach and onions. In warm, well-drained soil or containers, sow silverbeet, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli and lettuce seeds.

What to do in the Garden for August

It's your very last chance to put bare rooted trees in! Race down to the nursery now, and grab some fruit trees, including apples, pears, plums, peaches, and nectarines. Deciduous exotic trees can be planted in now also.

There's a bit happening in the veggie patch, so you could try spinach, broad beans, Jerusalem artichokes (put them in a pot or they can take over!!), potatoes, peas, onions, parsley, cabbage, broccoli, rocket, silverbeet, cauliflower, lettuce, leek, Asian greens, radish, beetroot and parsnip. Pruning and weeding is a top job to do at this time of year. Deciduous fruit trees love a big old haircut now, except your apricot!

If planning on putting in some tomatoes next month, prepare a bed now (your toms will thank you for it). Do this by popping in some organic compost, pelletised chook poo, a wee bit of water, and applying straw mulch-avoid sugarcane in these areas due to the transport associated with its supply.

This bed will be awesome come September....and you will have the greatest tomatoes in the street!

Get spraying! To prevent peach leaf curl (which also effects Nectarines)

Top up mulch on your veggie patches, herb gardens and ornamental beds. Choose sustainable, low environmental impact mulch, one that will enrich your soil as it breaks down.

Green manure crops (like faba beans or field peas) are good to go now.....improve that dormant veggie patch!

On really cold days, why not head out to the shed, and sharpen, clean, oil and maintain your garden tools. Sounds tedious, but it's really rewarding, and will save you cash and plant illness in the long run.



August 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1 TNH closed	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 TNH closed	9 Library	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Goongerah	18	19
20 DVICG meet- ing 10am	21	22	23 Library	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Screen printing		

4th September—Woman's day at Bonang