

August 2016

1.50 incl.
GST

Delegate Doings



ISSN 1446-6716

Volume 15, issue 8.

WIND UP OF MEN FROM SNOWY RIVER PROJECT

The Men from Snowy River Commemorative March Committee held their final windup meeting on July 6th, members were thanked for their efforts in staging the re-enactment march in November and the big Australia Day weekend in January, they then were presented with a Community Service Award each, (from the Monaro Service Awards, in May by Mr. John Barilaro MP) and the illustrated copy of Neville Summerill's diary of his time on the re enactment march.

The committee, then approved of the list of donations presented and agreed to windup the accounts after all cheques have been presented.

I would like to congratulate one and all, for the help and donations we received, it was wonderful how this small community pulled together and we achieved the "impossible" yet again. Well done!
Gloria Cotterill.

Hon 'Treasurer.



List of Donations can be found on page 4.

Left: Peter Stuart, Alma Reed, Natalie Armstrong, Gloria Cotterill, John Judge, Penny Judge, Ian Sellers, Jan Ingram. (Missing from photo Janice Lewis, John Reed and Sharon Buckman)

Next Issue: then: and:

Inside this issue:

Dr Brendon Nelson	4
Pony Club	6
School news	10
St Josephs news	11
Here & There	13
Looking Back	14
Gardening news	16

Dates for your Calendar

- 9th August—Tuesday Club
- 9th August—Catering meeting RTC
- 7th. September DPA AGM
- 24th September new gallery exhibitions

Claim the date

- 15th October Combined church's Trivia Night

THANKYOU

To all our dear friends from
near and far.

Thankyou for your sympathy
and support. Please accept
this as our personal
thanks.

Norman and Audrey Armstrong

ANGLICAN PARISH GARDEN DAY

Saturday 3rd December 2016
Commencing at 10:00 am with Morning Tea

At
**Di & Matt Green's
property "Greenshill"**

Located 3.4 km from Bombala PO on Cann Valley HWY
Follow signs from Wedmore Rd

All gardens open till 4:00 pm
Lunch between 12:30 and 2:30



Markets
Stalls

Raffle on
the day

COST \$20 PP

ENTRY INCLUDES 5 GARDENS, MORNING TEA AND LUNCH

ESCARPADE CATERING MEETING

Notice

to all interested parties
Meeting to discuss catering
for the above event in
October.

Delegate RTC Tuesday
9th August at 6pm

DELEGATE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting

7th September at 3pm.

At Rural Transaction Centre

Followed by General Meeting.

All welcome

Scarlet Robin



www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp
Birds of Grassy Woodlands Communities in Landscapes Project 2009

- Scarlet Robin lives in dry eucalypt forests and woodlands. The understorey is usually open and grassy with few scattered shrubs.
- Scarlet Robin habitat usually contains abundant logs and fallen timber; these are important components of its habitat.
- The Scarlet Robin breeds on ridges, hills and foothills of the western slopes, the Great Dividing Range and eastern coastal regions; this species is occasionally found up to 1000 metres in altitude.
- In autumn and winter many Scarlet Robins live in open grassy woodlands, and grasslands or grazed paddocks with scattered trees.
- The Scarlet Robin is a quiet and unobtrusive species which is often quite tame and easily approached.
- Birds forage from low perches, fence-posts or on the ground, from where they pounce on small insects and other invertebrates which are taken from the ground, or off tree trunks and logs; they sometimes forage in the shrub or canopy layer.
- Scarlet Robin pairs defend a breeding territory and mainly breed between the months of July and January; they may raise two or three broods in each season.
- This species' nest is an open cup made of plant fibres and cobwebs and is built in the fork of tree usually more than 2 metres above the ground; nests are often found in a dead branch in a live tree, or in a dead tree or shrub.
- Eggs are pale greenish-, bluish- or brownish-white, spotted with brown; clutch size ranges from one to four.
- Birds usually occur singly or in pairs, occasionally in small family parties; pairs stay together year-round.
- In autumn and winter, the Scarlet Robin joins mixed flocks of other small insectivorous birds which forage through dry forests and woodlands.
- Listed as vulnerable in NSW

MATES4MATES

The donation from the Men from Snowy River Committee listed on the front page as Army Rehabilitation went to the charity known as Mates4Mates.

Mates4Mates is a not for profit charity initiated by the RSL Queensland Branch which supports current and ex serving Australian Defence Force members (and their families) who have physical wounds, injuries or illness as a result of their service.

They provide physical, Rehabilitation and wellbeing services, Psychological services, Employment and Education Support services.

We feel that it is was fitting to donate some of the money raised in commemorating the Centenary of Men from Snowy River March, to a Group formed to help our Australian service men and women one hundred years on. As we all know many return from the front line damaged both mentally and physically. Now there is more understanding of PTS more help is available.

Left: Australian troops in Afghanistan boarding a Helicopter for a return flight home.



Letter from Dr Brendan Nelson Director of Australian War Memorial

Thank you for your letter dated 15 July 2016. It was an honour to be the Patron for this remarkable re-enactment march. I enjoyed immensely reading the diary notes of Mr Summerill. What struck me the most was how many generations seemed to participate in the march and the events surrounding it. I was particularly moved to see descendants of veterans marching with current serving soldiers. What a wonderful way to commemorate the brave young men who set off in the original march – how proud they would have been to know that their communities organized this 100 years on in their memory.

Please pass my warmest congratulations on to all the members of the Snowy River March Committee and the Delegate Progress Association for all that they achieved including the donations back into the Delegate community. A truly wonderful achievement to create a memorable event that will keep the sacrifices made by those men and women so long ago alive in the hearts and minds of the Delegate community now and into the future.

I look forward to seeing you at the Australian War Memorial in the spring.

Kind Regards
Brendan Nelson

Here is their spirit, in the heart of the land they loved,. and here we guard the record which they themselves made. C.E.W. Bean

Men from Snowy River Commemorative March Committee List of Donations

Helicopter / Windsock Fund (DPA)	\$5,000.00
Delegate History Room	\$2,000.00
Delegate School of Arts	\$2,000.00
Delegate Public School	\$500.00
(For Annual ANZAC Book Award.)	
Delegate Sub-branch RSL	\$500.00
Delegate Hospital Auxiliary	\$500.00
Delegate Fire Brigade	\$500.00
Snowy Hydro/ Southcare	\$1,000.00
Returned Veterans Rehabilitation	\$1,000.00

Delegate Café

64 Bombala St Delegate

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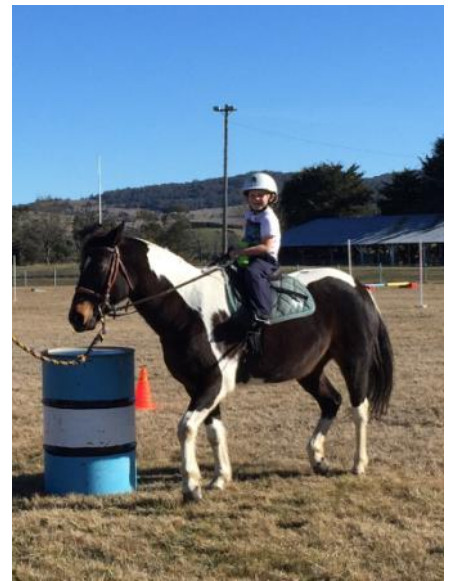
Fax: (02) 6458 8055

DELEGATE PONY CLUB NEWS

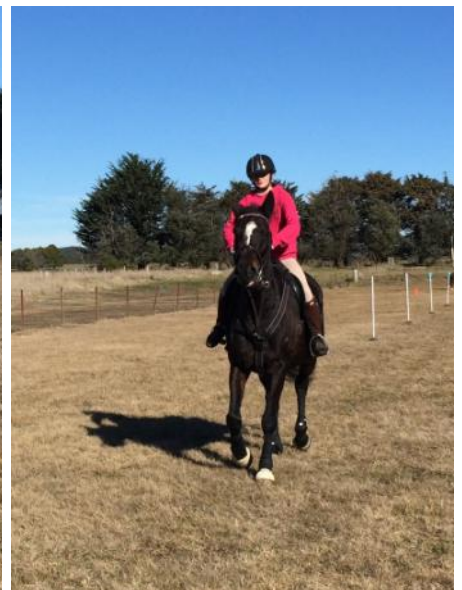
A well attended Rally on the 3rd July saw 10 riders taking part in some exciting new sporting and mounted games under the instruction of Rowena and Rachel Butterworth. All the riders and ponies enjoyed using new techniques and it was great to see the riders encouraging each other as they worked together as a team.

Everyone is looking forward to the Gymkhana to be held at the Delegate Showground on the 4th September. Also two rally's will be held on the 7th and 21st August at 9.30am gear check with a 10am start in preparation for the up and coming Delegate Pony Club Gymkhana.

Below: Aspen, Courtney, Dustin.



Below: Gabby, Jasmine, and Rochell



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Tel: 6458 8004

a.h. - Peter Holt
Mobile 0427101418

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SEPTEMBER CHANGEOVER FOR BOTH GALLERIES

The spring exhibition at both the Bundian Way and Borderline Galleries will open on 24th September with exhibits required to be at the Gallery for cataloguing and hanging by the 20th. The "Younger than Springtime" exhibition will focus on exhibiting art and craft from aboriginal and local youth and of course there will be work from the usual talented exhibitors.

The present exhibition in the Bundian Way Gallery is particularly impressive with some very lovely paintings on display at reasonable prices. The winter display at the Borderline was also impressive with artists contributing to the "Winter Blues" theme.



Jake Heffernan

Lic No. 276075C

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NATIONAL BROADBAND

The NBN is gradually being installed throughout the district, and we are hearing good reports about the speed. Apparently it is in great demand, so there will be a delay before all customers are connected.

Following is an email received from Robert from Gumley Gumley who joined the Men from Snowy River March, after we had requested his mailing address so Gloria could send him a copy of Neville's Diary.

Hello Natalie

Your email was a welcome surprise this evening. I have been wondering how everything is going there. Like here you would have had some notable rainfalls over the last few months. Don't worry about the braces they are not important, if that was the worst thing to ever happen to me then I would be very happy.

I tell everyone I can, about the Snowy River men's march, and how the small town of Delegate (not Dalgety) was able to undertake such a smooth run event. I am so glad I made the effort to join you all for the march and to also return for the weekend parade. I have been wondering if the wall hanging made by the lady in Cooma ever made its way to Delegate? The way she passionately described it, it must be a real work of art.

I was pleased Neville kept a diary, I saw him making his daily entries, it was inspirational to see him on the march. He said at the start of the march his family thought he was mad, but by the time we got into Queanbeyan they were full of pride.

Anyway my postal address is as follows

I put a display in the cabinet in front of the Wagga Wagga City Library in April, based on the Kangaroo and Snowy River men's marches. I put some photos in and made mention that the two marches were related - in that men from both marches joined the 55th Battalion.

One thing I thought was excellent on the march was our daily session of music - violins, banjos, ukuleles etc made it very enjoyable, I would think El, Toby and Noah would not regret their involvement.

I hope everyone is well and fully recovered from all that activity (and the next time I see Noah he had better have learnt to recite *The Man from Snowy River*, fancy not knowing that!)

All the best

Rob

Below: Robert and Noah carrying the stretcher in the Street Parade in January.



Delegate Multi Purpose Service

Wellness Clinic is held at the MPS, in Craigie Street Delegate. People come to the clinic for procedures and assessment by nursing staff.

The clinic is open

Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 1pm to 2pm

Every week except public holidays.

No Appointments necessary.

A variety of procedures are available.

- Wound care
- Blood pressure readings
- Blood sugar readings
- Non-urgent ECG's
- Suture or clip removal
- Injections – with Dr's written order
- Other procedures that do not require a Dr.

Pathology clinic

Wednesday 9.30am – 10.30 am. No appointment necessary. Closed public holidays.

Other Services

Women's Health Nurse

3rd Wed of the month

Dietician and Diabetes Educator

2nd Thur of the month

Immunisations – 4th Fri of the month

Podiatry – for HACC clients – monthly

Ring the MPS for appointments for the dietician, diabetes, immunisation, podiatry and women's health 6459 8000

Child and Family Health – visits Delegate MPS on a regular basis ring Kirsty on 6458 5777 for an appointment.

TUESDAY CLUB NEWS

The next get together of the Tuesday 9th August will be held at the Catholic Church Hall at 1.15pm

Our mystery Guest Speaker will recount some humorous anecdotes about some characters from the past.

It is important that these stories highlighting the humour of our unique local identities not be forgotten and passed on to future generations.

So much of rural life has changed and these characters are an snapshot of the history of the district.

Plans for the next month include a visit to Member Kaye Reed's home where we will have an opportunity to see her great array of quilting and other craft which she has assembled over the years.

The following month we have been invited to the home of Jayne and Henry Sellers, at Corrowong for lunch. It will be an opportunity to take photos of the fields of yellow Canola which should be in full bloom at that time.

Further details regarding these activities will be available closer to the time.

ITEMS FOR SALE

There are a number of items left over from the Men from Snowy River Merchandise at the Rural Transaction Centre. Good quality T shirts in all sizes and hats will sell at a very reduced price. As the MFSR Account has now been wound up and the money distributed, the Progress Association will put the money for these sales towards a worthy local project.

DELEGATE SCHOOL NEWS

New classroom furniture

The school has ordered new classroom furniture and hopefully it will arrive over the next few weeks. We will keep a few tables and chairs but we have nowhere to store the rest. So for a minimal amount some tables and chairs will be for sale.

Healthy Harold came to school!

During the final week of Term 2 the Life Education van visited Delegate Public School. The students had a wonderful time learning all about healthy choices and meeting Healthy Harold. The K12 class also received workbooks titled 'Harold's Surprise' which includes a range of informative follow-up activities.

Principal's Report

Welcome back everyone! Welcome especially to our new student and family, Clarissa Marrapodi. We hope you enjoy your new school.

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Bucholtz who are expecting their baby in early December. They are

very excited and we wish them well. What will happen whilst Mrs B is on maternity leave? We are unable to confirm our options but as soon as we know we will let you know. There is an overnight excursion for Years 2, 3, 4 and 6. After the swimming carnival the P&C discussed the possibility of how we could do more swimming. The excursion will be to Pambula for three days, Wednesday, 17th August to Friday, 19th August. This will involve 4 lessons at the Sapphire Aquatic Centre. We will stay at Pambula Beach Discovery Holiday Park in cabins. The permission and information note is attached and we would like the note returned by Tuesday, 2nd August. The P&C have generously subsidized this excursion and we are hoping for some parents to accompany us. On Friday, 12th August, we will be having an Olympic day. Mr. Rocke is organising some Brazilian recipes for the kitchen and there will be 'olympic' events throughout the day including an opening ceremony march and sport. The students can wear colours from a country they would like to represent. Carol Sellers, Principal



The 2016 Fire Awareness Awards are now open to anyone who has implemented a project or program over the last two years that helps reduce the effect of fire in Victoria.

Projects can focus on any fire type, including structure (housing, commercial, industrial) fires, bushfires or grass fires.

Community categories: Access and Inclusion, Community-led Prevention, Community-led Preparedness, Education, Innovation and Design, Recovery

Long-standing supporter of the awards, RACV Insurance provides a \$10,000 Award for Excellence to the most outstanding project.

Entries close 15 September 2016

For more information about the 2016 Fire Awareness Awards visit www.fireawarenessawards.com.au, email VicFireAwards@delwp.vic.gov.au or follow via Facebook and Twitter.

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NEWS FROM St JOSEPH'S CHURCH

Last Wednesday, parishioners of the Catholic Community as well as Father Mick, Sister Teresa Kearne and John and Anna Vincent met with the new editor of the Catholic Voice Newspaper, John McLaurin at the Catholic Church Hall. John's family is originally from the Holbrook area, but he has been working as a journalist in Harden for the past twelve months and is travelling around the Archdiocese familiarizing himself with the area. This is the first time our small community has had a visit from anyone connected with the Catholic Voice, so we took the opportunity to invite John to lunch and he readily accepted. He was very impressed with the historical display of our Church and congratulated parishioners on their achievements and plans for the future which include the painting of the exterior and replacing the old louvers windows on the verandah.

Further plans include the popular "The Three Church's Trivia Night" which will be held on Saturday 15th October, with compere Greg Crotty assuring all of a great night, so come along and support our local Churches. On Sunday 16th October, a special Mass will be held to celebrate the Centenary of the Mass at St Josephs, followed by a light lunch.

John commended parishioners on their perseverance in continuing to provide a dedicated faith community for future generations, despite an increasing number of Churches closing especially in small rural areas. Parishioners responded that their hope was that our faith communities in Delegate will continue to be supportive and supported into the future.

The parishioners appreciated John's visit and presented him with a copy of the book on the Church's history and invited him back to attend the celebrations in October.

Below: Clive Cottrell, Sister Teresa, Peter Reed and John Vincent. R: John McLaurin.



Delegate Library

It started out with members bringing in books which they were finished with, for others at the RTC to read. The idea has really caught on and we now have dozens of books arranged in alphabetical order. All are welcome to borrow just sign an exercise book when they take books out, and return them to the right space. We have more empty shelves and would welcome donations of books.



MEDIA RELEASE

NSW Health report shows over 65s drink alcohol more than young people

The 2016 Chief Health Officer's Report, Trends in alcohol use and health-related harms in NSW, has revealed a new picture of community drinking patterns.

The report found that people are still drinking too much, with a quarter of all adults drinking at levels that put their long-term health at risk.

But what may be surprising to some is that daily drinking is highest for people over 65 years and lowest for people aged 16-24 years.

NSW Health's Chief Health Officer Dr Kerry Chant said she was pleased to see that young people are initiating drinking later and are drinking at less hazardous levels than previous years.

"It is also encouraging to see there are a decreasing number of adults drinking at levels that increase long-term risk of harm. However, improvements can still be made in reducing harmful drinking in men, young adults, Aboriginal people, and people living in regional and remote areas of NSW," said Dr Chant.

The number of high school students who drank alcohol in the past 12 months dropped significantly from 63.5 per cent in 2005 to 43.7 per cent in 2014. Alcohol-attributable hospitalisations for 15-24 year olds have also decreased over the past nine years.

Dr Chant said the report also shows about one in seven people aged 65 years or over drank alcohol daily (14.8%) – substantially higher than the youngest age groups (0.8% of people aged 16-24 years and 3.3% of people aged 25-44 years).

"Excessive alcohol consumption is one of the main preventable public health problems in Australia, with alcohol use noted as the leading contributor to the burden of disease in Australia for people 25 to 44 years of age," said Dr Chant.

"It not only affects the drinker but can also contribute to relationship and family problems, public intoxication, and other criminal offences. Alcohol use also increases the likelihood and extent of aggressive behaviour."

Other key findings of the Report include that Aboriginal people are equally as likely to abstain from drinking alcohol as non-Aboriginal people and that one-third of adults do not drink alcohol, with higher rates for women and people born in non-English speaking countries.

NSW Health provides a range of specialist drug and alcohol treatment services addressing both short- and long-term impacts arising from alcohol misuse. This includes withdrawal management, community-based counselling and case management, the Involuntary Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program and hospital-based consultation liaison services.

NSW Health also offers information and education to the public in several ways such as on the Your Room website as well as through a 24 hours/day hotline for crisis assistance. For further information, please visit: www.yourroom.com.au or www.fds.org.au

A link to the Report can be found here <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/hsnsw/Pages/chief-healthofficers-report-2016.aspx>

HERE & THERE

Many Happy Returns to all the August birthdays including Claire Strickland, Su King, Hunter Reed, Philomena Collins, Laura Chapman, Sharon Buckman, Maria Callaway, Amelia and Georgina Jeffreys, Tom Ventry.



The death occurred on Monday 5th July at Heyfield Victoria of former local man Max Stuart. Max spent his early life in the local area before moving to Heyfield in Victoria 30 years ago. His funeral took place on Monday 11th July at Heyfield. Max is survived by wife Rhonda, three children Bronwyn, Cassandra, Brenton and 6 grandchildren, Grace, Jack, Zhara, Tia, Xavier and Tess. Sympathy is extended to all.

The death occurred in Canberra on the 17th July of John David Bryson, Commodore CSM RAN. The burial service was held at the Anzac Memorial Chapel at the Royal Military College, Duntroon. The deceased is survived by his wife Cynthia (nee Jones) one son Tom and a sister Judy. Sympathy is extended to all

Congratulations to Maree and John Coates on the birth of their first child at Cooma Hospital on the 3rd July. The baby girl weighed in at over 8 lbs and is to be named Lainey Kate. She is the fourth grandchild for Michelle and Garry Ingram and the third grandchild for Kay and Peter Coates of Cathcart.



The wet weather has caused a delay with the building of the new amenities block. Despite making numerous requests we have not seen a copy of the plans

The death occurred recently in Bombala of a former local man Dennis Lock. Dennis spent his early life with his family at Hayden's Bog, moving to Bombala in later years. His funeral took place at the Bombala Cemetery on 1st August after a service in the Presbyterian Church. Dennis' wife Clare having pre-deceased him he is survived by three daughters Bonita, Renata and Rebecca and their families, one brother Alan and sister Brenda.

We hear also of the deaths of two former locals, Keith Collins and Patricia Clarke.

Keith was born in Delegate and attended the local public school before his parents Ken and Betty Collins moved away, eventually settling on the NSW south Coast. Keith was the youngest of three

boys and is survived by his mother Betty and his brothers Paul and Jock, his father Ken having passed away a few years ago.

Patricia known as Patsy, the daughter of Lloyd and Judy Clarke also spent her younger days in Delegate before moving to Canberra where her death occurred. Her mother and father having pre-deceased her she is survived by four sisters Debbie, Jackie, Louise, Annette and one brother Arthur.

Sympathy is extended to all bereaved families.

The NSW Government are conducting an enquiry into Public Transport in rural areas and called for submissions. The Progress Association forwarded a submission as did two of their members. We also forwarded details of the Web Page to the Bombala Chamber of Commerce, in the hope that they would also send in a submission. Since the change in the Rail Link service, Bombala and surrounds have been greatly inconvenienced. With an ageing population, good public transport is essential for their well being and needs.

We note that the New Snowy River Council intends to promote the Bombala Area as a place to visit using the platypus Logo. The Bundian Way, Bundian Gallery and soon to be Tourist Drives will be a very important feature of this district, it is to be hoped that it is included in the promotion.

LOOKING BACK



The old postcard above was possibly taken in the 1950's and the top left hand corner shows a very different Delegate . There were at that time three businesses near the creek opposite Delcotts, the Harris Brothers had a gift store, there was a Cafe in the middle with a dress shop owned by Mrs Jean Manning, next door.

On the bottom right is a photo of the old Golf Clubhouse which was on a property leased from by the late Mr and Mrs Malcolm Campbell. It was a very interesting Golf Course and as a large Membership and was also the Social hub of the District.

GARDEN ARTICLE (contd. From back page)

I am always interested in how our Great-grandparents lived. Some of the nutritional diseases of the past have disappeared as we have learnt more about the role of vitamins. An example is Pellagra, a vitamin deficiency that appears with a diet deficient in milk and vegetables. The skin deteriorates, followed by diarrhoea, dementia and death and in 1914 it was the second leading cause of death in the southern states of USA. Today the challenge to general health is more subtle than straight out vitamin deficiencies. It is associated in as yet unknown ways with food additives, residual pesticides and herbicides, leakage of chemicals from plastic and deterioration of food nutrient density from both the modern growing techniques and long cold storage.

So what better way of living well than by the exercise of growing your own food and the health benefits gained from eating it.

Community Information

EMERGENCY / AMBULANCE: 000

FIRE: 000

POLICE

Delegate: 6458 8044

Bombala : 64583444

Cooma: 6452 0099

Bendoc: 6458 1523

HOSPITAL: 6459 8000

DOCTOR: 64951369

CHURCHES

Catholic: Father Mick McAndrew 64522062

Sister Teresa Keane: 6458 3045

Services: Delegate Saturday 6:00pm

Liturgy of the word and Holy Communion

Bombala Sunday 9:00am

Liturgy of the word and Holy Communion

Anglican: Rev. Robert Lindeck 6241557 Mob.

0408531544

Rev Judy Holdsworth—64583513

Services: 11am every Sunday..

COMMUNITY HEALTH (3 days per week)

Generalist Community Nurse –Monday, Thursday, Friday

Wellness Clinic—Monday , Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 1pm to 2pm

Pathology—Wednesdays 0930-1-3- hours

Immunisation Clinic—Fourth Thursday from 1100hours.

Podiatry Clinic

Victorian Visits Tuesdays

Call MPS 64598000

Healthdirect and GP helpline 1800022222

MONARO FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICE

Bombala Office: 6458 4888

open Tues to Thurs - 9:00am to 5:00pm

COUNCIL CHAMBERS: 6458 3555

DELEGATE PRE-SCHOOL: 6458 8196

DELEGATE PUBLIC SCHOOL: 6458 8183

DELEGATE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

RTCT Centre - 6458 8388— dpaoffice@bigpond.com

Newspaper: delegateprogress@exemail.com.au

NRMA/RACV: Jack Stewart: 64588047

TUBBUT ACCESS CENTRE: 6458 0295

DELEGATE CARAVAN PARK: 64584047

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ADVERTISING IN THE “DELEGATE DOINGS”

Spot Ad:	1	6	11
\$5 cash—\$7.50 a/c	Issue	Issues	Issues
1/4 Page	\$17.50	\$87.50	\$157.50
1/2 Page	\$35.00	\$175.00	\$315.00
Full Page	\$70.00	\$350.00	\$630.00
Back Page	\$80.00		
Full Page Insert	\$90.00		

Colour advertising: prices on application

GARDENING (By Susan Tocchini)

Pruning and Some Food Plants to Start Now

Last month I touched on pruning the most common non-flowering plants in our gardens, the conifers. To recap, conifers have a strong growth habit favouring a terminal bud that keeps growing in order to elongate the branches as the principal defence against snow and wind load. They cannot recover from intrusive pruning into the woody areas as this wood has quite early in life has undergone 'hormonal changes' that has matured the wood to the point that it no longer has the ability to produce new growth buds.

This is in contrast to most flowering plants that readily produce new growth from buds at points created by leaf scars. These are called axillary buds. This is why we can renovate-prune fruit trees or cut hydrangeas and roses almost to ground level. Many flowering plants never produce wood and are easy to propagate from cuttings or leaves – think of begonias and cactus.

Eucalypts are also an interesting group because, in contrast to conifers, they have the ability to produce vegetative buds from under the bark of wood that is hundreds of years old. These epicormic buds are a defence against the most common stressor of Eucalypts - fire and drought. The die-back of Manna gum (*E. viminalis*) around Berridale is thought to be from changed water availability (a combination of drought years and altered water table) coupled with a weevil destroying the recovery buds.

Another interesting aspect is that when the epicormics buds do start developing they generate juvenile leaves. A Eucalypt can therefore be kept in the juvenile phase by pruning. It is common in borders in England to see our towering Blue gums coppiced to produce a glaucous silver-blue background colour to contrast perennials and is also the technique used by nurserymen to get suitable foliage for the florist trade. This pruning makes use of another common feature of Eucalypts that is the development of an underground structure called a lingotuber that also generates vegetative growth buds. Eucalypts appeared quite recently in plant evolution history at a time when Australia was drying out and the rain forest was shrinking. Eucalypts have the habit of self-pruning meaning that they have the ability to reduce their crown when conditions are poor in order to best maintain their bodies. This then increases the number of cavities which explains why such a high proportion of Australian birds are hollow nesters.

Now to vegetables. The first signs of Spring growth are already apparent. What usually occurs in the vegetable garden is that overwintering plants bolt to seed. This is common with brassicas, root vegetables and silverbeet. To overcome the Spring 'famine' it is time to plant some Asian Greens for their leaves, coriander, cress and rocket. A good standby that does well in cold and changeable Spring weather is English Spinach. It can be harvested by pulling the whole plant or leaf by leaf and given some shade it will go on into Summer here. Start Silver beet now also as it is productive in warmer weather. It can be leathery in early Spring as the cold thickens the leaves so rely on English spinach then for tender leaves.

Snow peas and broad beans can be planted in the garden now. The foliage of both are not affected by frost but the flowers fail to pollinate if frost occurs on the day they open. Both of these plants self-pollinate so are not reliant on the presence of insects. I find that shelling peas do better if planting is delayed until it is not quite so wet as it is now as they are much more vulnerable to disease than snow peas. They do not like intermittent hot days either so their productive window is quite restricted.