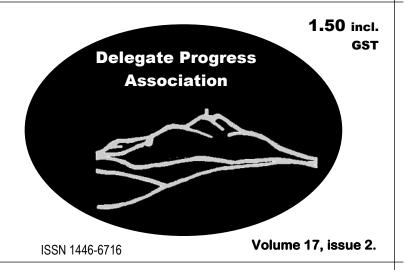
February 2018
Delegate
Doings



# DELEGATE CITIZENS HONOURED AT AUSTRALIA DAY CEREMONY

The Delegate Progress Association are proud to congratulate Jan Ingram on being awarded Bombala's Senior Citizen of the Year. Jan has been a long time valuable member of our Association, as well as being a hard working member of several other committees, including the Delegate Hospital Auxiliary and the Camp Draft Committees

We congratulate as well Caitlin Regent of Delegate for being awarded Junior Citizen of the Year and the Sunday Sips group for the Community Event of the Year. This year the Australia Day Celebrations returned home to Bombala, and the crowd were welcomed by the Australia Day Committee President David Murphy, with his own father Brian Murphy making the Australia Day address, and presenting the awards. Young Citizen of the Year Caitlin Regent, Bombala High School Student not only involves herself in community work, but this year received the Victor Chang Award. Fellow student Dakota Miles received the Sportsperson of the Year Award, and Graeme received the award on behalf of the Sunday Sips for the Community Event of the Year. It is pleasing to note that Bombala intends to carry on the tradition of the Australia Day Ceremony and presentations of awards.



Next Issue: March 9th then: April 6th and: May 4th

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#### **Dates for your Calendar**

- 3rd February—Country & Western night Country Club.
- 10th February -Cathcart Variety Show
- 13th February -DPA General Meeting
- 13th February– Tuesday Club, Delegate Cafe.
- 24th February—Bombala Rotary Markets
- 3rd March—Delegate Annual Show
- 9th,10th,11th March—Delegate Camp Draft

23rd.24th October -

CLAIMING THE DATE—DELEGATE SPECIAL ANNVER-SARY WEEKEND

#### Delegate Preschool is seeking passionate and motivated Staff to work in their preschool.

The staff we are looking for will possess the following qualities:-

Completed Certificate III or Diploma in Children Services, Current first aid certificate and anaphylaxis and asthma training, Current working with children check, Knowledge and understanding of EYLF and NQF, Be reliable, presentable, energetic with good organisational skills, Have a passion for educating young children.

If you have an interest in being part of a strong and supportive work environment with a focus on providing quality care and education we would love to hear from you.

Please email your resume to:

admin@delegatepreschool.com or contact Sherrida Edgecombe on 6458 8196 during working hours (Tue/wed 8.30am to 4pm) to obtain further information.

#### BOMBALA ROTARY MARKET

Saturday 24th February, 2018 8am—2pm.

Along the banks of the Bombala River.

For Additional information or to secure your stall site please call.

Geraldine Dyer 0448 351 1962

Tanya Ingram 0408 301 813

#### **MOVING SALE**

9 Victoria Parade, DELEGATE. SATURDAY 24TH FEBRUARY.

- 2 Seater Leather Lounge
- 2 Queen Beds
- 1 King Single Base

Fridge

2 Cabinets

T.V. & D.V.D.

Wardrobe

Kitchen items and more

Inspection welcome at any time prior to above date.

Phone 0458529541

Page 2

## HERITAGE ADVISER PIP GIOVANELLI FINALISES DELE-GATE TOWNSHIP INFORMATION

A successful two day visit to Delegate by Heritage Adviser Pip Giovanelli, saw much of Delegate's main street history linked to present day buildings. On a previous visit Pip and an employee of the Snowy Monaro Regional Council took photos of each building in the main street. This visit we were able to link our collection of historic photos to each house, along with as much history as we have so far been able to gather.

Pip is passionate about Heritage and is excited that so much of Delegate's past has been retained in the many buildings in the town and surrounding area. Our next task is to put together a list of Historic Rural homesteads in the district.

Pip has requested that he be part of Delegate's Streetscape planning, and he attended the meeting of local representatives with Linda Nicholson of Snowy Monaro Regional Council.

When invited to speak about Delegate's potential, he said that he had been driven around the town and saw many instances of old homes being restored surrounded by attractive gardens. However he said that unfortunately the oldest and most historic homes, with the least maintenance and care are in the main street which does not make a good impression on visitors. Coats of paint to the facades and neat gardens would make the world of difference he said.

Below: L: The old Post Office which was recently been purchased by Karen Cash, with the previous Convent in the background (now owned by Robert Ingram). R: An old photo of Stewart's Garage, - this building was previously Goodman's Store.







L: J. Mudies Hotel. Where this building was there are now two private residences, opposite the General Store. This hotel was previously called the Delegate Hotel, but the licence was revoked in the 1920's and moved to the present Hotel, which was previously called the Commercial Hotel.

#### DELEGATE COUNTRY CLUB HAPPENINGS.

The monster stocking was drawn just before Christmas and the lucky winner was Joan Jones, pictured standing with her prize.

2nd Prize, a ham went to Lachlan Reed.

3rd Prize, a turkey to Eddie Sellers.

4th prize, to Tayla Mikula.

Don't forget the Country and Western night on Saturday 3rd February with four different duos performing for your entertainment. A cover charge of \$10 covers entertainment and finger food.



## NEW WATER STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE SHIRE

Delegate is to get a new Water Station, in other words, a water bubbler. However our bubbler will be a little different to others throughout the Shire, as we can't drink the water. There will not be a sign saying "DONT DRINK" as we envisaged, but it will not be operational until we get our new wa-

ter supply.

The proposed Water Stations are very modern in design and as one Committee Member pointed out not altogether in keeping with our Heritage theme.



Above is a

picture of the new Bubbler which is to be placed in the Memorial Park. We will let you be the judge. Page 4

#### SHEARING COMPETITION AUSTRALIA DAY IN BOMBALA



Clinton Stuart and Anthony
Jamieson took part in the Bombala
Australia Day Shearing
Competition, always a popular event with the local crowd.



# Delegate Café

# 64 Bombala St Delegate DINE IN - TAKE AWAY OPEN 7 DAYS

Fruit & Veg - Groceries
DVD Hire - Eftpos
Tel (02) 6458 8171

Pizza available most Friday & Saturday Nights

ELGAS Distributor

Pickup Only (Sorry no Delivery)

# DELEGATE HOTEL

Your host: Graeme Payten

Accommodation Counter Lunches



Sky Channel & Pub Tab, ATM and Eftpos

Ph: 6458 8091

# TALBOT TRANSPORT



## LIVESTOCK & GENERAL

1 Hensleigh Street, DELEGATE 2633

Mobile: 0418 516 076

Phone: (02) 6458 8085

Fax: (02) 6458 8055

# Native Seed Collection & Plant Propagation Workshop 9am- 3pm Friday 9 March (BYO lunch and chair) "Black Flat" Corrowong

A key strategy to control weeds is to provide competition from native vegetation. This can be by using trees and shrubs to limit the spread of wind born weeds such as thistles, providing nitrogen from wattles for healthier grasses, providing stepping stones of trees and shrubs to achieve a balanced bird and insect population and a developing a diverse and vigorous population of grasses and forbs for production and ecological benefits.

Sourcing native seeds or plants (trees, shrubs, grasses and forbs) can be difficult and expensive, even though we may have a ready source of seeds available locally.

Karen Walker the Seedbank Coordinator for the Far South Coast Landcare Association is going to run a workshop to show people how to collect seed and propagate plants. Karen has extensive experience in collecting, storing and growing a wide range of native plants. The day will cover:

#### **Seed Collection**

Know when seeds are likely to be ready to be picked

Know when seeds are ripe for collection

Harvest seed from trees, shrubs, grasses and forbs using a variety of tricks of the trade

Transport and record collections

Extract and store seed

Mechanical harvesting demonstration for grasses and forbs

## **Plant Propagation**

Dormancy and associated treatments

Media to sow plants into and what containers to use

Workplace hygiene to limit disease transfer

Seed sowing steps

Germination and pricking out

Fertilisers and growing on

This will be a "hands on" day, where you will learn practical skills that you can take away with you to help collect seeds and grow native plants. It is suitable for anybody with an interest in native plants whether they live in town on an urban block, manage public land or have a farm.

Only 15 places available, although another workshop will be run if there is sufficient interest.

Please register early to avoid disappointment by contacting Robert or Toni McLeish on <a href="mailto:raandtmcleish@gmail.com">raandtmcleish@gmail.com</a> or 6420 9991









Delegate
Tel: 6458 8004
Livestock— Tony Brady,
Sam Platts
Agronomy— Kathryn
Bullas
0409032019
Merchandise
Fertilisers



#### NEW PHOTO EXHIBIION IN THE BUNDIAN GALLERY

Megan Quinn from the Snowy Monaro Regional Council has just completed hanging the exhibition of the Ngarigo People, local and extended families.

Each photo is accompanied by a story, one of particular interest was the story of the long walk by an aboriginal family from the mountains to the sea, along what is now known to us as the Bundian Way. Another of local interest is the story of the family of Alex Brindle a local backtracker with the Delegate Police who raised a family on the Delegate Common in the early 1900's. The family could not find any official records, but after an article in the Orbost paper, they received several phone calls. One was from

Clarice Ingram, who was in her eighties at the time saying she remembered Alex Brindle and also Billy Rutherford another police blacktracker with the Delegate Police. Lois Crisp from Marlo also rang saying Billy Rutherford was the son of one of the stockmen at Jimembuen Station. Another lady Betty Osborne from Maffra Station also told of her memories of Billy Rutherford. "None of the official records preserved, the disappeared court proceedings that would have recorded evidence given by trackers, the missing Police employment records was countered by the memories of the old white people. Not big memories, but animated memories of real people."



The stories of these families will take some time to read, but should not be missed.

# ATTRACTIONS FOR OUR 110TH SHOW

John and Mary Horton Memorial Prize Most Successful exhibitor over pavilion section's C-O

Guess The Weight of The Bull: \$50.00 Prize.

Basketball Shootout: Organiser: Mr Ian Sellers.

**Barnyard Nursery** 

Sheep Colouring Competition: Billy Boiling Competition:

**Best Decorated Push Bike Competition:** 

Preschool, Kinder & Grades 1 &2, Primary Grades 3-6, High School Prizes 1st \$10.00, 2nd \$5.00 each section.

**Short Film Competition:** (no more than one and a half mins)

Any Format Any Subject

Primary School Section 12 years and under 1st Prize: \$25,00 2nd Prize: \$15.00 Encouragement Award: - \$10.00 Enquiries to Ian Sellers on 0428 984 485.

Entries close Friday 16 February 2018

and must be forwarded to Delegate RT/CT Centre in a portable format.

#### Dog Jumps

Working Dog Jump (Kelpies, Border Collies and Cattle Dogs)

Judge's Decision is final on eligibility.

1st Prize: \$100 plus Bag of Dog food

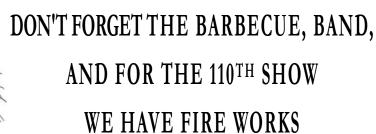
2nd Prize \$50 plus Bag of Dog food

3rd Prize Bag of Dog food

Open Dog Jump
I st Prize: \$50 plus Bag of Dog food
2nd Prize Bag of Dog food
Mini Dog Jump for Handlers under 16 years. Small prize for 1st, 2nd and 3rd

#### **Mechanical Bull Ride:**

\$250 Prize money - Split to be decided on day depending on entries



ON SATURDAY EVENING

New classes in photography sections, junior cooking sections, floral arrangements and condiments sections, Schedules available at General store, Bombala newsagency and Delegate Cafe

## **Delegate Multi Purpose Service**

<u>Wellness Clinic</u> 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

3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of the month

Dietician and Diabetes Educator

2<sup>nd</sup> Thur of the month

Immunisations – 4<sup>th</sup> 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

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

#### **FOR SALE**

One antique cane bassinette-no mattress, mattress protector.

Few toys/alphabet snake

Free standing crib—good condition \$120

Small Electric Washing Machine-Hoover, electric and roller—good condition runs well \$180.

One wooden Queen size bed, one foam mattress, one egg shell form—average condition \$100

One antique white cane cot, good condition \$140.00

Julie Jones

#### NEW MOBILE PHONE TOWER AT BONANG

Our friends over the border have finally received what they have been years lobbying for, a mobile phone tower which is part of the Federal Government's Mobile Phone Black Spot Program. However the tower lacks extra battery back-up and Telstra says it can't vary their standard back-up and eight hours is standard. The towers are vulnerable in case of fire as they rely on electricity delivered by wooden poles. Lightning strikes, heavy snows are other problems which could be encountered. Local Member Darren Chester has been asked to take up the position with Telstra. If any of the above happens, it could be like our water bubbler, look great, but not much use.

## **DELEGATE SCHOOL NEWS**



Delegate Public School's 2018 Kindergarten Class—Amelia & Georgina Jeffreys, Harlan Ingram, Jessi Kidd, Mason Brooks and Lola Tonnisen.

#### **RETURN THANKS**

Anne and the family of the late Malcolm Martin drew strength from the many flowers, cards and words of support received during our time of immense sadness and loss. Please accept this as our personal thanks to all who had us in their thoughts throughout this difficult time.

Special mention must be made to Gabby at the Flower Pantry in Cooma for the beautiful floral arrangements; also to Ken Dodge at the Cooma Hotel for the refreshments at Malcolm's wake and for providing a wonderful venue where we celebrated and shared stories of his life.

#### DELEGATE PONY CLUB NEWS

Delegate Pony Club held its 2018 registration day on Sunday with ten riders braving the searing heat. The kids were put through their paces with trot poles and mounted game practice as well as sessions on grooming, parts of the horse and how to hold and use your reins one and two handed.

2018 is going to be an exciting year for Delegate Pony Club with members commencing their pony club efficiency certificates, lots of guest instructors and activities culminating in our annual training day and gymkhana on the weekend of 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November.

Our rally days are the first Sunday of each month at the Delegate Showground and new members are always welcome.

L Stephanie Richardson and her mare Bonnie. Riders learn the finer points of grooming their horses. Aspen Cameron and his pony over the trot poles.







#### AUSTRALIA DAY RECIPIENTS WHO RECEIVED AWARDS

Jan Ingram

Graeme Payten,

Caitlin Regent.







## Position Available Coordinator at Tubbut Neighbourhood House

Tubbut Neighbourhood House has a position available for a coordinator. The position is for 10 hours per week hours and times are negotiable plus volunteer hours.

Interviews will be conducted in the middle of February, and start date will be Thursday 1st March 2018...

For a job description and key selection criteria or any other enquires please contact Sue Collins (President) 02 64580287

We are keen to hear from people interested in working in the community and managing the day to day business of the neighbourhood house.

Forward your application by the end of January and mark as Confidential.

To: Sue Collins, Bonang Road, Bonang Vic 3888 or

email to Sue Collins at <a href="mailto:hondacr85@activ8.net.au">hondacr85@activ8.net.au</a>

#### DELEGATE COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

The following Community Reference Group was appointed to liaise with Linda Nicholson of the Snowy Monaro Regional Council regarding grant monies for different projects and further consultation on the Streetscape, Robin Guthrie, Sharon Buckman, Susan Tocchini, Jan Ingram and Natalie Armstrong.

Also present were two of our local Councillors, Sue Haslingden and Ann Maslin.

A preliminary meeting held on Wednesday, 23rd January regarding the acquittal of outstanding grants, as well as the proposed Streetscape. The good news is that Linda advised the meeting that cost of the work to be done on drainage in Delegate's main street will be separate to the streetscape money, which has been a matter of concern for the local group. There are also plans for work to be done in all local cemeteries—tree removal was mentioned but it was pointed out that Delegate Cemetery is in need of more tree plantings, not tree removal.

An Architect is to be asked to draw up a plan for the Streetscape, which hopefully will be presented at the next meeting on 21st March and then we may know what is actually to be included, because at this point we are in the dark.

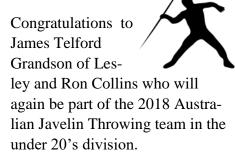
The possibility of a collection point for a "Return and Earn" machine was discussed and the group was advised to contact Tomra-Cleanaway, the group responsible for the roll out of the machines. It may be an opportunity for a local group or charity to earn additional income.

The Group will meet monthly until all projects are completed.

## **HERE & THERE**

Many Happy Returns to all those born in February, including Jayden Clear, Flynn Callaway, Mark Reed, Craig Cotterill. As we do not print the Doings in January, belated birthday wishes to January people including Laken Clear, Memorial Gardens at Worrigee. Michael Lewis, Philip Reed, Christine Moss and Trent Tonnissen.

Congratulations also to two ladies who are celebrating special birthdays this month, Mandy Giddings and Michele Ingram.



Chris Grobben who lives in Orr Street and used to drive a large truck, decided that she was too old for that game and intended to take up gardening instead. Unfortunately she had an accident and ended up in Bega Hospital with a badly broken leg. She has now returned to Bombala Hospital where she will probably be spending several more days. So we have removed her gardening ad..for the present and wish her a speedy recovery.

The district will be saddened to hear of the passing of one time

resident Anthony Roberts who passed away on the 26th February Anthony had been resident of a nursing home at Nowra for the last few years. His funeral will be held Thursday at the Shoalhaven

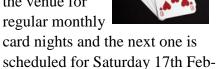
The death occurred on Friday 26th January in Bombala Hospital of local lady Lorraine Kading who had been ill for some time. Lorraine is survived by two children, Greta and Raymond and two grandchildren, Lily and Thomas. Her funeral will take place in Delegate on Monday 5th February. Sympathy is extended to the family.

Congratulations to Tammy and John Guthrie on the birth of a baby girl at Cooma Hospital on 22nd January. The little girl who is a sister for Declan and Liam will be named Ellen Mary.

Ellen is a third grandchild for Robin and Chops Guthrie and an-

other grand daughter for Leanne and Glen Johnson.

The local RSL Hall has been the venue for regular monthly



ruary commencing at 5pm.

Our local camping ground saw lots of visitors over Christmas and the New Year. Hopefully the refurbishments to the old toilet block and the new camp kitchen will be completed soon.

Some welcome rain arrived on Tuesday of this week. Others were lucky enough to receive some storm rain, which did not arrive in the township, despite a few very noisy thunder and light shows.

We note in the Monaro Post that Stephen Reed received a Community Services Award at the Community Australia Day Awards. Congratulations to Stephen and all who received Awards.

The Bombala Blue Heelers have announced the appointment of three coaches for the upcoming footy season.

FOOTBALL

They are Patrice Ingram for the Ladies League Tag, Paul Per-

kins for the Rugby League 1st grade side and Fijian recruit Saimoni Buinimasi for the Reserve Grade team.

The Tuesday Club's next get together is on the 13th February at the Delegate Cafe.

# LOOKING BACK

#### ITS A SMALL WORLD

We are always commenting that it is a small world and this was never more evident when Gloria was chatting to an elderly lady one day during her cruise to New Zealand. After the usual "Where are you from", it turned out that the lady, not only knew Delegate, but was born there. She sent us a memoir of her early life in Delegate and we include it below.

For Gloria whom I met on board the Sun Princess and whose full name and details I have mislaid. Herewith the memoir as promised. It is very trivial and personal – and may have inaccuracies. If only I had asked my parents more about their life there.....I can be contacted at 02 9818 2497 (Mobile currently lost) or 6/2-6 Louisa Road, Birchgrove, NSW 2041. Margaret Beale (nee Whitfeld).

When he finished his medical course, just at the end of World War 1, my father Stanley George Whitfeld went to England as ship's doctor on a ship of returning POWs. From there he went to Edinburgh and gained his Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons qualification. In about 1924 he bought the medical practice in Delegate which had at the time a population of about ? He of course was the only doctor. Then he met at a local cricket match and later married, Jean Frances Freestone, daughter of E.P. Freestone, Manager of the Commercial Bank in Bombala. She had two sisters, Olga and Nancy. My brother, John was born in 1926 at Camden where my mother's family had settled. I was born in 1928 at the recently built cottage hospital in Delegate. Dr. Jefferis drove from Bombala to deliver me just before midnight on 31st March.

Our house had been purpose-built for a doctor's residence. There being no chemist in the area, my father dispensed his own prescriptions in a special little room with zinc-lined counters and sink. Of course there was no penicillin or antibiotics in those days.

From across the road came the sound of the school bell and the children chanting their tables. My brother had correspondence lessons, supervised by our mother. I remember the pictures in his little English readers of rosy - cheeked children with mufflers pushing a hoop, or feeding ducks in the pond. John and I played with Jock, son of the local Commercial Bank manager, Harold McKellar and his wife Phyllis. We roamed freely, made snowmen and played on the woodpile which was our ship. Our father, a Sydney University cricket 'blue', taught John to wield a bat. The bakery, the only shop I remember, had a shelf of celluloid dolls. Mystery?

Our father drove all over the district in all weathers, sometimes attending to a sick animal as there was no vet. As the only doctor in the area, he got to know the local landed gentry, in particular the property where the artist Hilda Rix Nicholson lived. She was an avant- garde woman artist who had painted and studied abroad, in places such as Paris and North Africa. Hilda and my mother were friends. They sewed babies' clothes together and Hilda taught my mother how to do French knots and hemstitching. We had a painting by Hilda of her son Rix- alas long since disappeared. There was also the Walcott family - Paddy Walcott was my godfather, and gave me a silver egg cup with my name engraved. But we lost touch. He had a son Tony.

Elaborate fancy dress children's parties were held at various country houses. No trouble was spared in making the costumes. John and I appeared as Gum Nut and Gum Blossom and another time as Jack and Jill when I had a flowered crinoline skirt, matching bonnet, and lacy pantaloons. We had no electricity, but a wood stove, wood fires and the soft pink glow of beautiful, etched kerosene lamps and little spirit night lamps in our bedroom.

I made a nostalgic trip back over 30 years ago when I think Delegate was at its lowest ebb. The house seemed small and shabby, the verandah not the vast expanse where I had ridden my tricycle. There had been some housing developed on the grassy slope, and all around lay rusty cars and machinery. Very depressing. The room at the pub was bleak and it seemed that I could not get dinner anywhere. I jumped in the car and headed back to a cosy motel with room service in Bombala. It was good to hear that the town has regained new life, and I would so love to visit again.

# **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

Rev. Robert Lindeck 6241557 Mob. Anglican:

0408531544

Rev Judy Holdsworth—64583513

Services: 11am every Sunday...

66A Bombala Street

**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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	1 Issue \$17.50 \$35.00 \$70.00 \$80.00	1 6 Issues \$17.50 \$87.50 \$35.00 \$175.00 \$70.00 \$80.00	

Colour advertising: prices on application

#### **Autumn Already**

After that prolonged heat wave it is hard to believe that Autumn is with us already! It is not only the calendar telling us this, nor the abrupt change in weather, but also what we can observe that our plants are already doing. Grape hyacinths and Autumn crocus are showing above the soil surface and if you happen to disturb daffodils and jonquils you will see that they are making new root

growth. Many summer perennials have however had their day and need to be cut back and their clumps thinned. Think of plants such as daylilies, salvias, campion and pentstemons. Some other flowers such as

dahlias will be a joy until the first frost.

Whilst pruning and tidying up remember that it is too late to trim back spring flowering shrubs if you want flowers next season and that it is a bit early for the summer flowerers such as buddleia and crepe myrtle. When buddleia are finished they benefit from being cut to ground level. This pushes up new strong big flowered growth. If not pruned this way they collapse completely after a few years as the wood is soft.

**FEBRUARY** is perhaps the busiest time of year. Not only are summer crops such as Tomatoes, Zucchini, Beans still producing well and needing daily attention but it is also the peak time to establish most of the winter crops



Figure 1 This cultivar pentstemon 'Windsor Red' is commonly seen in district gardens. The name pentstemon for this group of plants means five (pent) stamens and the vast majority of the species come from the prairies of North America.

e.g. Broccoli, Carrots, Parsnip, Turnips, Brussels Sprouts, Silver Beet. These typical European vegetables all have to be well established by the end of February or they will bolt to seed in Spring. This means that unless you have beds spare, some summer crops that are still producing will have to be pulled out. It never works for me because it is really only in February that significant yields from summer crops start to occur. I find it essential to have extra beds available in order to simultaneously establish winter types while summer crops peak rather than copy the common practice elsewhere in warmer places of having winter crops as a succession to summer types.

Climate is changing. The type of garden plants that we have found successful here have been constrained traditionally by the degree and frequency of winter frost. Whilst there will be still be severe frost, perhaps occurring less frequently increasingly, a new constraint will also be the severity and prolonged nature of summer heat. In my own garden this year a mature Korean Quince (Pseudocydonia sinensis) died of heat despite watering. This plant has mid-pink camellia-like flowers, smooth multi-coloured bark, bears edible fragrant quince-like fruit and has vibrant red Autumn foliage. Such a perfect decora-

tive and useful small tree!

It is inevitable that the palette of successful plants will change. It would be great if you have already observed change in your garden if you would let us know at the RTC or stocchini2@ bigpond.com so that we could assemble the local experience.

Petunias can be revitalised with a haircut now. They are such giving plants tolerating heat as well as temperatures to minus 4 degrees so there is plenty of growing time left for them. The other fail safe annual is the pansy which

gives reliable winter cheer and it should be established fairly soon to bulk up before winter.