

June 2016

1.50 incl.
GST

Delegate Doings



Delegate Progress
Association

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COUNCIL AMALGAMATION

Penny Judge



May 2016 will be remembered as a black month for democracy in the Bombala Council area. A small group had formed to plan action on the proposed merger with Cooma Monaro and Snowy River Councils. They had called a Public Meeting to coincide with the next Bombala Council Meeting. The meeting was intending to petition the council to hold a plebiscite as had been held in Kiama. The Kiama plebiscite resulted in a resounding 95% vote against amalgamation. The Bombala Public meeting was scheduled for May 17th.

And then Mike Baird struck. On 12th May 2016 at 12.30pm the Governor of NSW issued a Proclamation dismissing over 30 councils in NSW and creating so called Mega Councils in their place. Bombala council was no more. Our mayor Bob Stewart was never informed of his dismissal, he heard about it on the radio. What a disgusting way to treat someone who had served his region unstintingly for many years. The new Council entity Snowy Monaro Regional Council was to be administered by ex-mayor of Cooma, Dean Lynch. This unconditional administration would last for 17 months until the first council elections in September 2017. All assets and monies of the “financially fit” Bombala Council are transferred to Cooma. The new administrator has almost unlimited powers he has the final say on all decisions.

We are assured that everything will be business as usual but how can we be sure of this when one of the first actions of the new General Manager was to forbid council workers from attending a Public Meeting in Bombala on the 17th May. He was later forced to retract this illegal move.

At the public meeting the unelected administrator Mr Lynch faced an angry crowd of 230 people. Questions about job security, financial fairness, transparency and public accountability were answered with

continued on page 11

Next Issue: July 1st

then: August 5th

and: Sept 2nd

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Dates for your Calendar

- 15th June—School of Arts Meeting 11am
- Bundian Way and Borderline Gallery opening Saturday 25th June, 2pm.
- 29th Snowy Monaro Council meeting Berridale
- 30th June Conservatorium High School Hall 7.30
- DPA General meeting—July 6th

If you have any events you would like added to this Calendar please provide to the DPA by the end of each month.

Any contributions to your local newspaper are welcome but need to be provided electronically (email) to the DPA by the last week of the month prior to insertion.

CENSUS FIELD OFFICERS REQUIRED

The Australian Bureau of Statistics are seeking up to 38000 Census Field Officers to join their team. If you are community minded, able to use a computer mobile or tablet device, are an Australian Citizen or have the legal right to work in Australia then you may apply by going online to abs.gov.au/careers.

Conservatorium Annual Conquest Visit

David Miller and five talented students from the conservatorium Sydney will be visiting Bombala on Thursday 30th June 2016.

The ensemble will present another excellent concert at the High School hall at 7.30pm. These concerts are always very entertaining and a credit to these very versatile young people.

The centrepiece of the concert will be The Wentworth Quartet, a string quartet with Maxine Poon and Alex Chiu on violins, Joseph Coen on Viola and Emma Rayner on cello.

Henry Wright, baritone will also be entertaining us.

David Miller is their mentor and accompanist

At present we are seeking billets for three of the young people. We also provide the group with a dinner before the performance. Please contact Penelope 64588243 if you can assist in any way.

A wonderful cultural feast not to be missed.

FOR SALE

Wood Burning Heater

And Flue

Good Order

Phone

64588037

CLAIM THE DATE

A very special event will be happening on October 24th 2016 when 250 people and their cars will be visiting Delegate as part of EsCARpade a fund raising event for Camp Quality.

The group wish to have lunch in Delegate and have asked local community groups to participate. We will be paid \$15 a head. The DPA will coordinate the event but we ask for expressions of interest. Please contact us for more information

MPS HOSTS SUCCESSFUL BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Residents and guests joined together in the warmth of the local MPS lounge room to partake in the delicious goodies provided and to show their support for the Cancer Council of Australia. The local school was represented by Headmistress Carol Sellers, Sue Cusbert and senior pupils Jayden Clear and Brigid Dunne who were most helpful, clearing plates away and generally keeping busy. Organisers were thrilled with the result, raising \$758.00 for the cause.

Below: Brigid and Jayden were happy doing their good deed at the Biggest Morning Tea and R: resident Mrs. Edna Reed and visitor Mrs Enid Stewart.



Tuesday Club News

Sandra Walker

The Tuesday Club have been fairly quiet over the past few months, with only a couple of meetings this year. For their March meeting about 12 members attended the International Women's Day at the Delegate School of Arts. Along with about 50 other women, they enjoyed the day with several guest speakers covering a variety of subjects and were also treated to a delicious morning tea and lunch.

In April a small number of members met at the Delegate Cafe to discuss some changes to the Club. In the future, organized activities will only be held second monthly, but members are encouraged to continue to meet at the Cafe for a cuppa and chat on the second Tuesday of the month when an activity is not organized.

Individual invitations will no longer be sent out to members, but notices will be posted in local shop windows to advise members of forthcoming activity. There was no planned activity for May as there was the usual Big Morning Tea and this is usually well attended by the community.

Our next meeting will be on June 14th at the Catholic Church Hall at 1.15pm for a 1.30pm start, to plan our next activity. Ramp access at side of building.

Please watch for notices in local shops and anyone requiring any information or assistance with transport, please contact Sandra Walker on 64588089.



Schools Visit Bundian Way Gallery

Students from all around the region visited the Bundian Way Gallery on Tuesday 31st May.

The weather was very cold and blustery but the welcome was warm.

The students and their teachers were visiting the gallery as part of an art program initiated by Pauline Coxon of Berridale. John Blay gave a slide show showing the students pictures of the track and telling

stories about the Way. From this the students will develop art works for the September exhibition in the Bundian gallery. As well as exploring the gallery and learning about the pathway the students were taken on a short tour of the local area, following a section of the Bundian way. They visited the Settlers Hut, the aboriginal reserve and drove over the Craigie Range to the stock reserve at Craigie.

The schools involved were from as far afield as Aaminaby, Berridale, Cooma, Monaro High School and Bombala High school.

There will be more of these days held to cover more schools in the region. The students and their teachers were really impressed with the Bundian Way Gallery.



Lighting up winter with fire and dance

The Tubbut-Bonang-Goongerah communities will celebrate their recovery from the 2014 fires with workshops featuring African dance and the creation of fire sculptures on Saturday and Sunday of the Queen's Birthday weekend.

"This year fire will be a source of entertainment as we head towards the solstice and the long winter nights which keep people indoors," said Lisa Camp, who has organized the weekend's activities with the help of a grant from the Arts Alliance at East Gippsland Shire Council.

"We see the dance and fire sculpture workshop as a way of balancing the horrific experiences of the fires of February 2014 the aftermath of which many of us are still dealing with.

"We are very excited about the quality of the workshop leaders who have international reputations. It is awesome that they are coming to our area.

The program:

Day one, Saturday June 11 – 2-6

2pm - 6pm Dance workshop, (warm up 20- 30 mins)

Working with fire, (lecture/presentation - + discussion - maybe 45mins)

& fire rope making & drawing commences (practical – 2.5 - 3 hours)

Day Two: Sunday June 12, 1-8 pm (bring food for dinner to share)

1 - 5pm Warm up (dance) Continue with fire drawings & finish

5 - 6pm Fire safety, rigging and fueling (lecture & practical)

6.30 - 7pm Burning Celebration

"We welcome everyone who wants to join this unique event and celebrate the strength and resilience of our community," said Lisa Camp.



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

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DELEGATE HOTEL

Your host: Graeme Payten

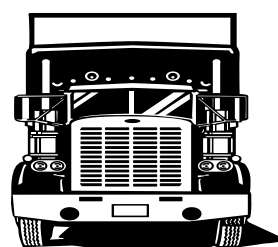
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School of Arts Update



The School of Arts was very busy on the weekend 21st-22nd May when it hosted a performance and a workshop.

The performance was “All This Living” a show by Camilla Blunden from Canberra. The show explored the bitter sweet aspects of a woman growing old disgracefully. Camilla starts with the frustration of the invisibility of the older woman and then moved through to a growing sense of empowerment by expressing her inner feelings and telling some very humorous

stories. The play was well received by a very appreciative audience. The next day was a workshop to launch the process of creating our own local theatrical production. The theme will be telling stories and we were able to hear and tell a wide variety of stories from past and present, funny and sad. One of the participants was Lis Shelley from Stage Flight Children’s theatre and Footprint theatre. Lis will be helping us along the journey to our own production later in the year.



Lea Collins then led us through a quick session showing us how to work our brand new lighting rig and updated skills with the sound system.

There will be a School of Arts Meeting on Wednesday 15th June 11am to discuss future directions for this great venue



GALLERY CHANGEOVER AND OPENING.

The Borderline Gallery will be changing its exhibition the week beginning June 21st. We welcome Art and craftwork from all mediums, painting, woodwork, textiles, photography, pottery, ceramics etc. Please bring any artwork to the gallery on any day that week. The exhibition will be titled “Monaro Winter Blues”

The opening will coincide with the opening of the new exhibition in the Bundian Way Gallery. The Bundian Gallery exhibition will feature Koori women artists.

The openings will be held on Saturday 25th June at 2pm. To be followed by light refreshments.

LANDMARK

an AWB company

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Delegate Campdraft report

The Delegate Campdraft was held over the weekend of 11th, 12th & 13th March in very pleasant weather. Rain Thursday night and a storm Saturday afternoon kept the dust down and cooled the air.

There were 870 entries over the 3 days and this kept the Committee members busy droving cattle to and from and administering the whole show to ensure that everything ran smoothly.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who jump in to help when needed, Norm Talbot and his B Doubles, Yvonne & Vernon for First Aid, all the cattle donors who so generously lend their stock to make the event possible and the drovers who give several days of their time to bring cattle in and then take them home again.

To the Community who donated cooking and volunteered their help in the kiosk and for the Saturday night dinner, a huge thank you from the ladies – we couldn't do this without your help.

A special event Saturday night was a cut out under lights which created great excitement and a lot of friendly rivalry. Phillip Collins and Spin eventually took the money from Matt French and Maximus after a run off for first, Keryn Gardiner's CK Peppioco and Matt French's Charm divided 3rd place.

A great weekend was had by all.

CABANANDRA CAMPDRAFT

– END OF AN ERA

A meeting was held on the 28th April, 1975 at the home of Jim & Janet Cameron and family to see if there was sufficient interest in forming a Campdraft Committee. Delegate had held a draft or two and there were a number of interested people in the local area.

Tom Ventry was elected President on that night and has remained in that position ever since.

The inaugural draft was held on the 24th May, 1975 on the old Cabanandra Sportsground & Racecourse on Jim & Janet's property. The program was for a Maiden draft with entry \$2, Open draft entry \$3 and the two Junior drafts entry \$1.

Prizemoney was paid to 5 places and totalled \$206.

Open draft places & prizemoney:

1 st	Bob Stokes	\$40
2 nd	John Coates	\$25
3 rd	David Rogers	\$15
4 th	Tom Ventry	\$10
5 th	Alistair Irving	\$ 5

Top Cutout Ron Connley \$20

Sorry – no names for the horses.

Pam Cameron was elected Secretary until 1982 when she moved away and her mother, Janet, took over until 1991 when the venue was shifted from the Cameron property at Cabanandra to the Ventry property at "Deddick Springs". Julie Sutton took on the Secretary/Treasurer position for the 91 and 92 drafts, then Laurie Reed was elected Sec/Treas for the 93 draft and has carried on ever since.

Over the years much work and Community involvement has gone into the facilities at "Deddick Springs".

Since 1975, only 4 drafts have not been held – drought in 1983 and 1998, equine flu in 2008 and a flood in the Snowy River in 2011 when cattle for the draft couldn't be crossed.

Representations to Vic Roads and Politicians, etc after this resulted in repairs to McKillops Bridge to make it safe to walk cattle over in times of high flows in the Snowy.

In 2007 disaster struck when Pat Ventry was killed while mustering sheep on the property. Pat's tireless work and organisation skills were sorely missed in the ensuing years. The "Pat Ventry Memorial" Open Draft was instigated in her memory.

Prizemoney has grown over the years to a total of \$13,000 and many thousands of dollars have been given away to local organisations and people in need of help; our major benefactors being the Delegate Hospital Auxiliary, local Halls and Fire Brigades, schools, etc.

2016 culminated in our biggest draft ever when, for the first time, some entries could not be accommodated. Three original competitors from 1975, Ron Connley, Keith Summerell and Jack Reed, still competing 41 years later, were present to "put one round".

A large crowd danced and celebrated the final Cabanandra Draft well into the small hours of Sunday morning.

A massive final "thank you" to all the volunteers who, over the years, so willingly gave of their time and know how to make every draft a resounding success. The workers, the cooks, the cattle donors, the drovers, the first aiders, the judges and everyone who contributed in any way, Thank you.



Photo by Jen Solomon

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.

Australian Broadcasting Corporation Amendment (Rural and Regional Advocacy)

Bill 2015 Submission 28 Robert McLeish

“The purpose of this bill is to amend the ABC's Charter in relation to the delivery of services to rural and regional Australia in each State and Territory, and it seeks to define the Corporation's mandate for its public service function for journalism in rural and regional Australia.”

The delivery of content to rural and regional Australia is severely hampered by a lack of coverage by local ABC radio to a lot of south eastern NSW, that is notionally covered by ABC South East NSW.

While I think the content provided to rural and regional Australia is of a high quality, many people cannot access local ABC broadcasts. In addition when we experience emergency situations (bushfires, storms, flooding) that results in power outages, the access to ABC South East NSW is even more limited. This is in contrast to far greater access that is provided to rural and regional Australia by News 24, Triple J and Radio National which provides no local content and does not fulfil the role as an emergency broadcaster.

When we drive from Cooma to our farm near Delegate access to local ABC radio is extremely patchy and certainly does not fulfill the role as an emergency broadcaster for people travelling during an emergency. The radio reception for ABC South East NSW at our farm is reasonable in our house but very poor when using handheld radios or radios in our vehicles, which is how we need to access radio during an emergency and when we are working outside on the farm. The coverage of our local radio can be seen by the following website link:

<http://reception.abc.net.au/Reception.aspx> which is very small compared to Radio National, News24 and ABC Classic FM.

ABC local radio is vital to ourselves and our community, by providing much needed local content in communities that are very small and often very isolated. Currently the reception of ABC South East NSW is inadequate for our local area. I would like to see the boosting of the coverage (reception area) of ABC South East NSW to the equivalent of Radio National, to fulfil its role as both an emergency broadcaster and to provide much needed local content to our community.

DELEGATE SCHOOL NEWS

Principals of Delegate and Bombala Public Schools have attended the Rural and Remote Conference in Bathurst. The Rural and Remote Conference 2016 is run by educators with a passion for rural education, for educators in rural and remote communities.

Under the theme of “Building bridges, building futures” this conference provides an opportunity to:

- celebrate the achievements of rural and remote educational communities
- explore innovative and research based strategies for improving outcomes for all students
- align practice against key initiatives such as: the Rural and Remote Education Blueprint; Local Schools, Local Decisions; Great Teaching, Inspired Learning; and Connected Communities.
- build stronger community partnerships and
- discuss the challenges and opportunities that exist today and into the future.

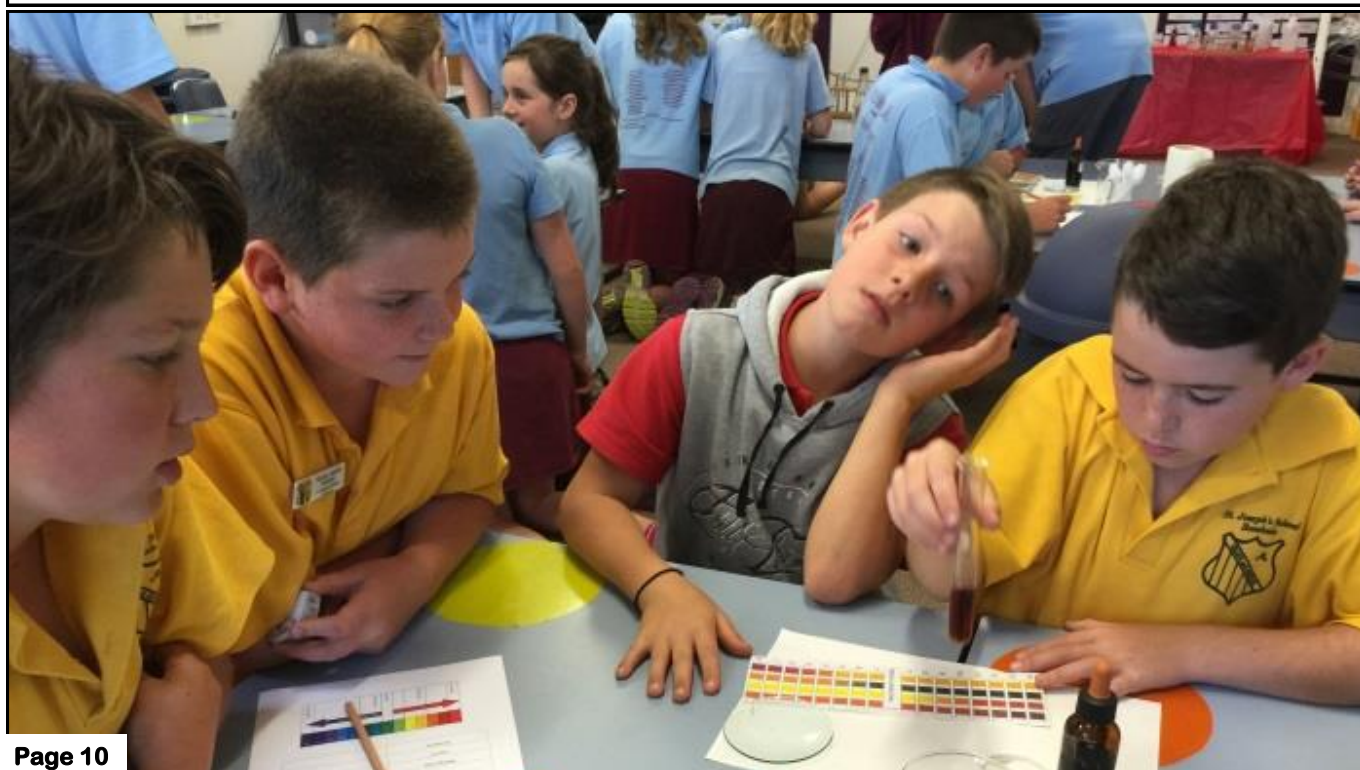
Our Delegate principal attended workshops that were useful including one based on the new Geography syllabus, technology, Fixed and Growth Mindsets which links very well to our implementation of ‘HOW2Learn’.

Thank you to all parents who came and visited our Literacy sessions .

A huge congratulations to Jaidyn, Mackenzie, Lincoln and Lydia who represented Delegate at the SMDPSSA Athletics Carnival in Cooma.



The Year 6 headed into Bombala to participate in a Science lesson organized by Bombala High School as part of the Transition program. Year 6 students from Bombala, Delegate and St. Joseph’s were present. Mrs Maree Coates designed a lesson around Acid and Alkaline substances. The students then rotated around practical activities. Another day is planned for Term 3 and the focus will be on Music.



Council Amalgamation

vague motherhood statements which failed to convince the Bombala and Delegate people present that they would be given equal standing with the other two regions within this new council area.

The meeting was addressed by several speakers including ex mayor Bob Stewart who expressed his disappointment in the consultation process which continually ignored Bombala Council's wish to Stand alone. The council's credentials were very good unlike the two councils that they have been merged with.

Penny Judge spoke on behalf of Delegate Progress Association, questioning Mr Lynch as to how he could keep track of all of the commitments of our small Council and ensure that the Delegate area in particular would not be forgotten.

Two speakers from the Save Our Council Coalition in Sydney spoke about the legal challenges that exempted councils have mounted, and the actions we can still take. The common theme was do not give up Its Not Over Yet!

The Federal MP Peter Hendy was present as was the Labor candidate Mike Kelly. Both spoke against forced amalgamation, however when asked to sign a pledge to act against forced amalgamations and to support plebiscites in affected council areas, Peter Hendy refused whilst Mike Kelly accepted.

Two community members Fay Simpson and Gabrielle Rea spoke about their commitment to their community and willingness to continue the fight for our council.

A Council Worker Union representative closed the meeting with assurances that the Union would support the Council workers against any job losses.

The first test of our new council resulted in a colossal FAIL one week later at the first combined council meeting at the Bombala Council Chambers. The first mark against the new administrator came when he denied entry to a member of the public, using two Police officers to prevent the man from entering the building. The second came when the administrator started the Public Forum advertised for 6 o'clock at 5.40pm effectively preventing people arriving after this time the chance to speak. Not only was there no room for them, but also they could not sign in to speak 15 mins before the Forum began.

And then began the biggest travesty of democracy ever witnessed in this town. Speakers from the public could ask questions and "make presentation" but there were no answers and there was no debate or discussion. The forum ended after 30 minutes. Then the council meeting with a quorum of one and no one permitted to speak under the "Code of Conduct" which gave the administrator the powers of mayor and councillors (26 under the old trio of councils) In less than 30 mins a 377 page Business Paper with 43 items of business had been dealt with. No debate no discussion. The four Bombala members of an Advisory Committee were announced, Steve Goodyer, Dianne Hampshire, Paul Perkins, and Gabby Rea. It remains to be seen how much influence this committee of 12 will have considering they were picked by the administrator and any decisions can be overridden by the Administrator. We as a community must be vigilant in keeping local issues within the focus of these four members and insisting on full reports from their meetings.

And the latest development... The Strathfield Council legal challenge has been upheld in the courts. This challenge focussed on the irregularities of the Delegate reports from Public meetings and the so called consultation process. As this was the same process state wide there are implications for those councils forced into mergers. Fingers crossed and we must keep fighting!

PS There are letters to Queen Elizabeth at the RTC, a small protest action which recognises that the Premiers action in bypassing the upper House and requesting the Governor to proclaim the dismissal of the councils, leaves us with no other level of appeal other than the Head of State, the Queen. Please sign one of these letters.

NEWS OF VAL CRAWFORD FORMER RESIDENT

An article in a recent Bairnsdale Advertiser about a vision impaired group showed a photo of former resident Val Crawford at one of their monthly get togethers. Part of the article states Val Crawford of Lucknow is 87 and says she counts the weeks to the next luncheon. Since temporal arteritis robbed Val of her sight seven years ago, the once active gardener says "I don't go out very much". Val had blinding headaches over six weeks. She says her doctor didn't know how to treat it. "I lost sight in one eye one week and the next a week later. It really stopped me in my tracks, she said. While she may have the company of her son and his partner at home of a night, Val relishes the monthly meets for the social interaction, and wishes there were more regular meetings.

Ian Matheson of Bairnsdale concurs and both believe that if more activities, such as craft work, lunches and outings were provided vision impaired people wouldn't feel so isolated.



DELEGATE WINS THE TRIFECTA!

At the Monaro Service Awards ceremony in Cooma on Tuesday 24th May the little community with a BIG heart scooped the pool once again.

Three awards were given to the Delegate community, two to individuals, and the big prize to the Delegate Progress Association.

The awards were as follows:-

Sandra O'Hagan : 'For her incredible dedication over the past five years to researching the stories of WW1 veterans from the Snowy mountains, in turn ensuring that those who fought for our freedom will not be forgotten'

Penelope Judge : ' For service to the Delegate community, and her role informing, training and leading the Snowy Mob children's choir as part of the Anzac centenary and the Men From Snowy River March commemorations'

Delegate Progress Association Outstanding Community Service Award : For the Associations incredible dedication and commitment to the organisation of the Men From Snowy River March commemorations. This award was accepted by Alma Reed, Penelope Judge, Sharon Buckman and Gloria Cotterill on behalf of the Delegate Progress Association.

Mr John Barilaro MP, member for Monaro, in presenting the awards emphasised the important role of volunteer groups in strengthening the fabric of small communities. He re-iterated his support of small communities and the importance of funding for the volunteer groups.

We will definitely keep you to your word Mr Barilaro.



HERE & THERE

There are lots of June Birthdays—many happy returns to all. Joan Jones, Craig Lewis, Lakeisha Clear, Tayla Mikula, Evelyn Walker, Carol Graczol, Lillian Ber, Sandra O'Hagan, Wendy Bruce, Trish Guthrie, Phil Pope, Norman Armstrong, Barry Reed, Kaye Reed, Bradley Matthews. Congratulations also to Kate Guthrie who celebrated her 18th birthday recently. Kate is the daughter of Wayne and Karen and granddaughter of Trish and Peter Guthrie.



The packed attendance at the Bombala RSL Auditorium on Tuesday 17th May was indicative of the strong public feeling regarding the Council amalgamation. Firstly at the high handed undemocratic way in which it was done and the forcing of the merger of viable Councils with Councils carrying debts. This has happened all over the State and feelings are running high and judging by the opinions voiced by a number of speakers, we haven't heard the last of it. The whole scheme was badly thought out and our neighbours over the border can bear out the fact that no benefits came to them from the mergers in Victoria when their Council was moved from Orbost to Bairnsdale. Parliamentarians will find out to their cost that this jack boot approach does not go

down well with the public.

The new logos and letterheads for the merged council came out immediately after the announcement. Are we still "Platypus Country" or has our platypus become a snow bunny.



The death occurred on the 14th May of a man who arrived in Delegate in the early 1950's to teach at the Woodglen School and spent several years in the area. Laurie Walsh who was a prominent member of the successful Delegate Tigers football team passed away at Albion Park on 14th May, 2016. His wife Esme, also a local school teacher whom he married while in Delegate, pre-deceased him and Laurie is survived by his big family, Christine, Peter, Debbie, Michael, Richard, Colin, Lyn, Paul, Kathryn, Bernard, Jason, their partners, children and grandchildren. Sympathy is extended to all.

We also hear of the death of a man who spent his younger days in this area. Colin (Sonny) Bryant died in Perth last month after a long illness. Many may remember him as a very good singer, who frequently entertained at local functions.

It is disappointing to learn that the ABC no longer broadcasts

funeral announcements. A new policy apparently, meaning some funerals have passed before we hear of them.

Our new local Council representative Committee will comprise, former Councillors Steve Goodyer and Di Hampshire plus Gabby Rea and Paul Perkins.

Mick Lomas, well known member of the Bombala Electrical team has decided to call it a day. Having been called on to install Televisions, whitegoods and do repairs for over four decades he will be missed by the Public. We wish him well in his retirement.

New property numbers will shortly be allocated in Delegate and other small towns in the area. A "Open house" meeting was held at the RTC on Tuesday 7th June, but it seems very few people knew about it.

Congratulations to Harry Sellers on receiving a RAS and NSW Merino Breeders Scholarship. (see article Page 14)

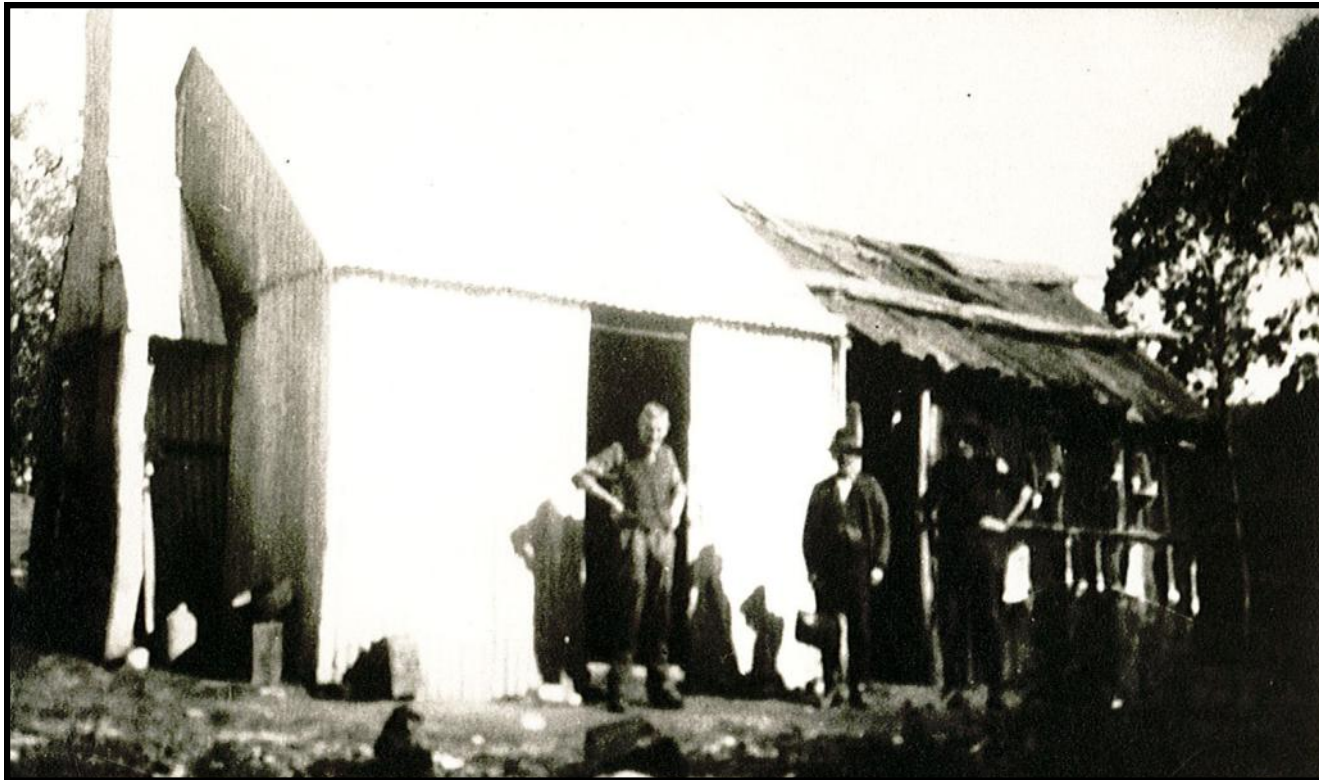
There will be a new exhibition in both the Bundian Way and Borderline Galleries, the official opening taking place on Saturday. 25th June at 2pm.

South East Local Land Services has announced a restructure of the organisation.

The community briefing session that will be run by LLS on **16th June 3pm at The Heritage Guesthouse at Bombala.**

RSVP, Rodney Rankin by phoning 0409 240806.

LOOKING BACK



Above: Another photo from Rosemary's Album, the historic Ambyne Hut, with Joker Johnstone, Mick Collins and Bill Johnstone, taken in 1918.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED TO HARRISON SELLERS

Local boy Harry Sellers was recently the recipient of a prestigious Scholarship awarded by the Royal Agricultural Foundation sponsored by the NSW Stud Merino Breeder's Association. Harry who is in his third year of a Bachelor of Rural Science degree at the University of New England said it was an honour to receive the scholarship, which will open up many opportunities for him in his preferred field of Agriculture. He is yet to decide on his career path which may be in genetics, nutrition or agronomy. Harry is the son of Carol and Ian Sellers who are justifiably proud of his achievements and we congratulate him and wish him well in the future.



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

Delegate Progress Association Inc.

66A Bombala Street

DELEGATE NSW 2633

PH 6458 8388 Fax 64588 374

E-mail dpaoffice@bigpond.com

delegateprogress@exemail.com.au

(for paper)

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Winter Plant Care with Susan Tocchini

With the cold and heaps of rain arriving together our Winter weather has arrived late and in a rush. Although plants in the garden and those in pots suffer exactly the same winter stresses they do so to differing degrees. Garden soil provides a more stable environment for plant roots but there are more options to protect the aerial parts of plants that are in pots.

The most important concept to hold in mind is that the growth rate and overall well-being of plants is dominated by **soil temperature not air temperature**. Because roots are active in warm soil they continue to absorb water and its dissolved nutrients providing the steady supply that is necessary for the proper function of the aerial parts. Warm roots alone will not prevent damage to above ground parts when air temperatures are very low but will allow plants to fully access their inbuilt strategies to resist damage. Cold, wet soil is the death of just about all cultivated plants. In these conditions the plants are not only simultaneously starved of water and its nutrients due to slowed uptake but also the roots are prone to fungal and bacterial attack. Actively growing roots have younger more robust cells that are naturally resistant to invasion by pathogens.

The roots of garden plants have an inbuilt advantage in that the seasonal and the diurnal range of soil temperature is less than that experienced by potted plants. Pot plants have greater difficulty because the small soil volume means that not only are there large temperature fluctuations throughout the 24 hours period but also, since the active roots tend to lie against the pot wall, the chill effect at night is amplified. Similarly, these surface roots are very prone to scorching from rapid heating whenever sunlight falls on the pot, particularly if it is black plastic and this can happen even in winter.

Another aspect to remember is that the plants we tend to put in pots are usually more tender in the first place and so more needy than those entrusted to the garden. Tropical plants for example have no mechanisms at all to resist frost damage.

It is difficult to keep roots functioning properly in pots because pots are difficult to water adequately. Soil compaction occurs naturally over time causing water to flow down the inside of the pot walls. Even though water is flowing out of the pot bottom the soil in the core will be completely dry and therefore contain dead roots. The only way to be sure watering is thorough is to immerse the pot in a bucket of water until bubbling ceases. Another benefit of immersion is that it helps get rid of colonies of ants, earwigs and slaters (but does not affect slugs) that often congregate in the bottom of pots damaging the roots. Of course immersion is not possible with large pots. Pushing a thin rod into the soil to make channels for water entry is an option.

Now the degree that **air temperature** affects the upper parts of the plant is a much more complex topic. The interplay of the many factors produce seemingly inconsistent effects. Some of the factors are the capacity of the roots to deliver water, the degree that windiness strips water from leaves and stems, the duration and degree of cold, light levels, nutrition, stored food reserves in both roots and stems, maturity of tissues, position in the life cycle, disease assaults, constancy of the weather pattern and the characteristics of the species grown. Cold protection of the aerial parts can take many forms such as mulch over crowns, or for those plants where bark may split, wrapping stems in hessian or overlaying leaves with frost fabric blankets. If these materials become waterlogged the depth of cold experienced increases as does the incidence of rots.

It is often not appreciated that a white frost settles. The commonly used plastic tree guard will protect the plant from predation and wind but it also creates a frost pocket. A guard dedicated to frost protection should be in the form of a horizontal panel held a little above the foliage and open at the sides. When the air is so dry that moisture is not deposited as frost a black frost occurs where plant cells freeze and burst. A white frost is protective in that as water freezes it gives off 80 calories per gram of heat which is transferred to the surface on which it freezes protecting plant cells. However, as the ice melts to water in the morning it needs to take up 80 calories of heat again. This principle underpins the technique of minimising frost damage by hosing off frost before the sun hits. It works because heat in the liquid water causes the frost to melt. Of course in very cold conditions care must be taken that ice does not re-form. (Interestingly just as surface water evaporates into the atmosphere it must obtain an additional 540 calories per gram which it takes from the air causing that sudden drop in air temperature we feel as dew lifts).

To reduce time and effort demanded by gardening it's better to avoid growing plants that require special cold weather care especially since struggling or swaddled plants are so unattractive. If you cannot resist (and who can) do put in place any protective measures required well before the cold hits. Plants in robust health always have a better outcome. Above all do not cut off damage until new growth commences in Spring. For pots, further practical steps are to water with warm water and to place them inside a larger pot e.g. a plastic pot inside a decorative pot. This provides an air barrier which moderates the effect of the extremes of cold and heat on roots.