

The impressive exhibition at the Bundian Way Gallery was officially opened by Council Development Officer, Karen Cash on Saturday 15th. July. The artist, Robert Campbell is well known and his paintings are well worth a visit. Following the official opening the group gathered in the Borderline Gallery for afternoon tea and nibbles, a pleasant end to an interesting afternoon.

Below: Some of Robert's paintings and bottom L. Denise Murphy and Sue Walcott, Centre Karen Cash and Penny Judge, R. Robynne Burchell, Denise Murphy, Sarah (daughter of Penny and John Judge, visiting from France), Sue Walcott and Rob McLeish.



Next Issue: 1st September

then: 6th October

and: 3rd November

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Dates for your Calendar

- 5th August Women on Monaro Exhibition Raglan Gallery
 8th August—DPA Meeting
 11th August—Bendoc Bus to Merimbula
 12th August Bendoc bus to Quilt & Craft Show Can-
- berra
- 5th September—Hospital Auxiliary Casserole Luncheon
- 16th September—Delegate Sand Green Championships

THANKYOU

We would like to give a big thankyou to the person who mowed our grass at 31 Bombala Street while Reg was in hospital. It was very much appreciated and we both

extend our grateful thanks.

DELEGATE PRESCHOOL

MONSTER RAFFLE

Delegate Preschool is holding a raffle with some

Only 500 tickets are being sold, so they are great

dicate to purchase a book and be entered into the

All proceeds go directly into our community pre-

school, creating quality early childhood education

odds for winning. Tickets are \$50 each, with a book consisting of 5 tickets. Why not form a syn-

- 19th September—Bendoc Bus to Floriade
- 23rd September—Tigers Football re-union
- 7-8th October—Delegate Golf Tournament

WIN A CAR! GREAT ODDS!

1st Prize: 2018 Toyota Yaris

3rd Prize: Two loads of wood

Book Buyers Draw: \$500 Cash

wonderful prizes.

2nd Prize: \$500 Cash

additional draw?

for Delegate.

with rego.

Bendoc Bus Trips

Merimbula- Seco	ond Friday each Month
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12th August Craft & Quilt Show Canberra

19th September Floriade Canberra

Contact Bendoc Resource Centre on 64581402 Mon—Wed

DELEGATE HOSPITAL AUXILIARY CASSEROLE LINCHEON

DELEGATE COUNTRY CLUB

- Tuesday 5th September
 - 11.30 for 12.00 Start
 - \$15.00 per head

(2 courses)

To book ring:

Claire 64581433 or Nola 64583285 for catering purposes.

Drop into the preschool, or see Jen Jeffries or Bec Kading for more info or to purchase.



SILVER MEDAL FOR JAMES TELFORD

Proud Grandfather Ron Collins has just phoned us from Brisbane let us know that his grandson James Telford came second in the final of the Junior Javelin event at the Oceania Games recently held in Suva, Fiji.

Following his success in the Australian Junior Championships, James aged 17 was selected in the Australian team for the Oceania Games, and with proud family members there to cheer him on, James came away with a silver medal, the gold going to the New Zealand competitor. There were 22 competitors in the Javelin throw, so it was no mean feat to come second.

Grandfather Ron, James' Dad, Daniel and a brother and sister spent an enjoyable week in Fiji watching the Games and James' coach Des Davis said this can be a stepping stone to further success but it is up to James as to whether he puts in the hard work and effort to achieve more.

James has the right build, being over 6ft.tall with a thick set strong upper body. Athleticism apparently runs in the Telford family with young sister Hayley recently winning School Champion at her primary school where she entered in eight events, winning them all.

Photo shows James seated between his siblings with Grandfather Ron on the left.



GARBAGE COLLECTION DELEGATE

Weekly Collection -Red Bins each Monday commencing 31st July Fortnightly Collection -Yellow Recycling Bins commencing Tuesday 1st August Recycling materials include Paper, Hard Plastics, Glass, Aluminium For some reason hard to fathom, all the bins weren't collected on Tuesday but the contractor came back he next day to collect the ones he had missed.

90th BIRTHDAY FOR JACK THORNTON

Jack "Nuggety" Thornton worked at Delegate Station before moving to Sydney in 1960.

He celebrated his milestone birthday with his wife Lorna and family, including great grandchildren at Carnarvon Golf Club.

Jack is a keen subscriber to the Delegate Doings and still can tell many tales from his early days in the District. Jack is pictured below with wife Lorna.



OLD HOME TOWN GET TOGETHER

Below: Some former Delegate folk got together in Brisbane recently.

Front L to R Lesley Collins (nee Black), Mandy Giddings (nee Crawford and Barbara Ingram (nee Crawford). Back L to R Mick Giddings, Greg Ingram and Ron Collins..

The Collins and Ingram family live in Brisbane and often catch up, but Mandy and husband were visiting.



OUR NEW LIBRARY BUS

The Mobile Library is hard to miss with it's colourful exterior and it is always a welcome site when it visits the town. Readers are invited to browse through the extensive collection of books and DVD's and Anthony is always happy to help find a book for customers or order one from the Cooma Library. It is always a busy part of town every second Thursday, especially in the winter when the shorter days and cold nights lend themselves more to reading by the fire. Anthony pictured below in front of new



CONGRATULATIONS ALAN AND AUDREY

Below proud parents Alan and Audrey Buckman with their new daughter Florence Ann, born at Orange Hospital on the 1st July, 2017, weighing 7 lbs.

The little girl is the first grandchild for Sharon and Russel Buckman and a new grandchild for Therese Sheil of Orange and Doug and Bodie Wright of Bathurst.









TRANSPORT



LIVESTOCK & GENERAL

1 Hensleigh Street, DELEGATE 2633

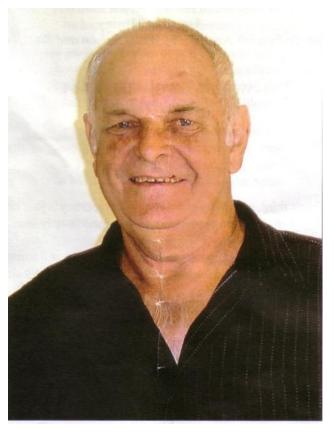
Mobile: 0418 516 076

Phone: (02) 6458 8085

Fax: (02) 6458 8055

Noel Francis Lewis 1946—2017

Noel was born in the Delegate Hospital on the 6th February, 1946. Second son to Phyllis and Walter Lewis. He attended Delegate public school until his parents settles on their farm at Tombong. Then he attended Woodglen Public School. Noel left school when he was around 15 years of age to work on a sheep and cattle station at Tombong. His spare time was rabbiting down and around the Snowy River. Noel moved to Bruthen due to work at the age of 18 to live with his grandmother. It was from here he started his long working life with things he loved. He drove a bulldozer for Bill Flynn at Bullumwaal and managed the property of Harry Morgan at Ensay. In 1966 Noel met Janice on a blind date over the old telephone system, then they met in person at the Bairnsdale Show — That's another story. They had a loving relationship and were married at Bairnsdale on the 1st July, 1967 and moved to Ensay to live. After a time they moved to Benambra to work a property owned by Col McKinnon. In February of 1969, Noel and Janice moved back to Bairnsdale where Noel got a position as Bar Manager at the Main Hotel owned by Bill and Yvonne Reeves. In his spare time and weekends, he did concrete work with his mate Sammy Martino.



Warren arrived and 2 1/2 years later Kym showed up. After 4 years Noel left the hotel because he wanted more time with his family - family always came first . He found work for a while with a builder from Metung, then worked with Lindsay Wangman plumbing at Lakes Entrance. After a while he met Noel and Laurie Neve at the office (the imperial hotel) and was offered a job working construction with them closer to home — He was back with his truck and heavy machinery that he loved. Many years were spent enjoying his work. Noel and Janice became the best friends of the Neve Family. Many happy events were spent together — duck hunting, camping, 4wdriving, fishing, just to name a few. After a long period with Neve Bros, Noel moved onto work with Cuthberts and Richards Road Construction —Jack of all trades. Unfortunately, due to ill health Noel had to retire from heavy full time work 20 years ago. Even with his failing health he continued to find part time work for many years until recently. Noel and Janice built their family home in Nicholson in 1992 with Noel helping Janice with the gardening etc — he never said "No" As well as all this work, Noel took on with his brother the family farm at Tombong, spending weekends travelling to help maintain the farm. Again his health eventually stopped him from doing this. He spent many happy and relaxing time with his family and friends up there. Noel and Janice had many happy holidays, both in Australia and Overseas, but Noel favourite relaxing time was around a BBQ or fire pot with good friends, family, a beer and good old country music. His moto was "It's 5 o'clock somewhere" He appreciated all that people did for him and his family, especially Janice and his loving family. Janice says "She couldn't have had a more loving, caring, compassionate husband — never complaining about the knocks he got in his life" His pride and joy were his children Warren and Kym and his son in law Andrew. He was very proud of his "Boys" Josh and Shaun.

Our loved one with the big smile, hearty kookaburra laugh will never be forgotten.



SNOWY MONARO REGIONAL COUNCIL INFORMATION RE WASTE COLLECTION

Scrap Metal accepted at facilities only. DO NOT place in Kerbside Bins

Waste Oil accepted at facilities only, DO NOT place in kerbside bins

E-Waste accepted at facilities only DO NOT place in kerbside bins

Batteries accepted at facilities only DO NOT placed in kerbside bins

What can be recycled in yellow lidded recycling bin:

Rigid plastic containers from the kitchen, bathroom or laundry (including takeaway containers, disposable and non-disposable plastic cups and plates)

PET bottles amber green and clear glass bottles and jars including metal lids (lids separated)

Aerosols, Aluminium, Steel cans including pet food cans scraped clean where possible, beverage cans, aluminium foil and foil trays.

Liquid paperboard such as milk and juice cartons and disposable coffee cups (please ensure they are empty of liquids and tops removed)

Paper and cardboard including newspapers, magazines, egg cartons, office paper, windowed envelopes, telephone books and empty pizza boxes.

RISE IN RATES

Those who have received their latest rate notice, will be unpleasantly surprised to see that there has been quite a rise. The sewerage access fee is doubled to \$900.00

COUNCIL MERGERS "FATALLY FLAWED" SAYS NSW SUPREME COURT.

Country councils operating as exiled groups following their forced amalgamations with bigger, less financially fit and not so progressive new councils will take heart with a damning decision of the NSW Supreme Court on Monday 31st July.

The NSW Court of Appeal has found that the Berejiklian Government merger proposals affecting several metro Sydney councils, Hunters Hill, Lane Cove and Strathfield were legally "fatally flawed."

The Supreme Court findings follow the Berejiklian Government's announcement last Thursday abandoning all merger proposals for metro councils fighting in the courts including Ku-ring-gai Council that had already won and Woollahra that is before the High Court.

"The Supreme Court has called the merger proposals affecting the metro councils "fatally flawed." Now all merged country councils who want to be independent should understand that the policy decisions made against country and regional councils, including Tumbarumba, Gundagai, Guyra, and Bombala could also be judged "fatally flawed" by the courts if they had been in legal proceedings. The process was not only fatally flawed but the policy of forced council amalgamations was clearly wrong and unworkable As has been found in many studies both here and overseas,

These court decisions have delivered a justifiable and democratically correct judgement for those councils that have the courage and tenacity to fight this undemocratic and arrogant Government . Country councils still fighting the terrible merger decisions of the Government must now renew their fight to ensure that demergers take place.

Forced council mergers are failing, sold out by their local Liberal or National Party MPs and endorsed councillors, and told not to fight mergers.

This Thursday August 3 the "Referendums Bill" passed by the Parliament's Upper House will be debated in the Lower House. It is supported by all political parties except the Liberal/National Party. It includes plebiscites or referendums for local communities to decide whether they want their former council and council areas back.

What does this mean for Delegate?

If you think this entire merger process has been wrong from the start then we can take action. Demerging is POSSIBLE in fact if more waste of time and money is to be avoided it is crucial that these rural councils demerge NOW.

There will be petitions circulating calling for plebiscites and returns to old council boundaries. If you would like to see a return to LOCAL government and a chance to start again with a new revitalised Bombala Council be a part of the growing protest.

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

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

PLANS FOR AMENITIES AT BILL JEFFREYS PARK.

Karen Cash and a representative from Snowy Monaro Council in charge of Parks and Camping Grounds, met with members of the Delegate Progress Association. Plans for the proposed upgrade of facilities at the park were presented. The old toilet and shower block is to be refitted and a new camp kitchen to be built. The old area previously used by both campers and the community will have a facelift. No time frame was mentioned for the proposed works, but we hope it is not too far away as we have been waiting for an upgrade of the old outdated facility for a long time.

It is a lovely spot with the river as a boundary on two sides a walking track, lovely shade trees and when the upgrade takes place we should see a rise in the number of visitors.

> Men From Snowy River RED POLO SHIRT SALE \$5 each at Delegate Rural Transaction Centre.

DELEGATE SCHOOL NEWS

Middle School Day

From Callan

I liked Ollie the robot. He is fast and obsessed because no-one was using him. He was going all over the place. The Mars Mission is fun. You had to develop a code to make the EV3 Robot push a rock.



From Ajay

We made codes for the Bee Bots to make it from the start to finish. We controlled Spiro and Ollie to move with an

iPad.





Mobile Dental Clinic

We have been advised that the Mobile Dental Clinic will be at Bombala Public School from 21-28th August. If needed, there are forms still available at school.

- Kinder Orientation
- Program Term 3:
- 17th August
- 24th August
- 1 31st August
- 17th September

BETTER TREATMENT PATHWAYS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

The NSW Government has awarded a \$50,000 grant to the Southern NSW Local Health District to improve treatment pathways for bowel cancer patients.

NSW Parliamentary Secretary for Southern NSW, Bronnie Taylor MLC, said the Southern NSW LHD would use the NSW Health grant to work with Coordinare Primary Health Network to develop localised diagnostic and referral pathways for bowel cancer.

"The development of effective cancer treatment pathways will help people from rural and regional areas, culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and Aboriginal people access cancer diagnostic services," Ms Taylor said.

"They will also receive culturally appropriate information to help them receive timely cancer care referrals, so they can achieve the best possible outcomes."

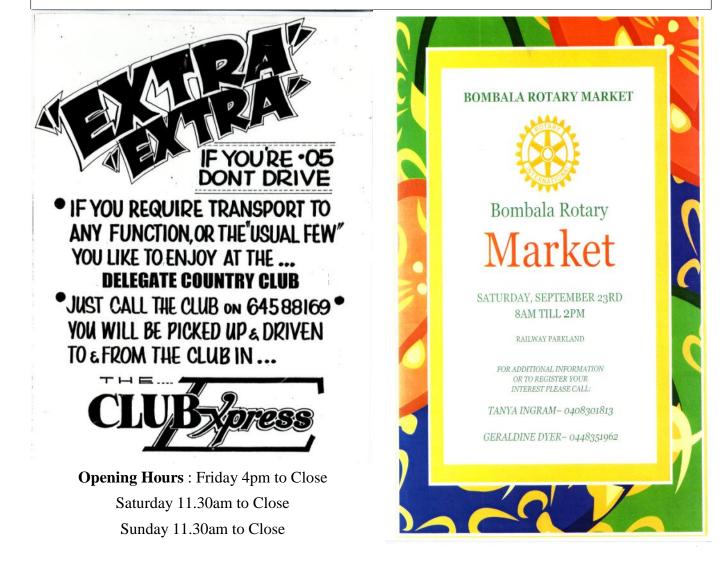
The latest round of funding under the *Innovations in Cancer Control Grant Program* delivers more than \$3.4 million to metropolitan and regional Local Health Districts, Primary Health Networks and non-government organisations.

This includes \$300,000 for state-wide projects to increase Lesbian, Bisexual and Queer Women's (LBQW) participation in breast screening and to help primary schools implement the SunSmart policy.

NSW Health awards these grants through the Cancer Institute NSW for projects targeting groups at higher risk of poor health outcomes, such as refugees, multicultural and Aboriginal communities, LGBTIQ people and people living in regional NSW.

NSW Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research Brad Hazzard congratulated the Southern NSW Local Health District on its success in the funding round.

"These grants are awarded to both the public system and non-government organisations," Mr Hazzard said.



FAREWELL LUNCHEON FOR LEONIE WALMSLEY

A group of Delegate Progress Association volunteers got together at the Delegate Cafe to farewell Leonie Walmsley who is moving to Canberra. Leonie will be greatly missed as she took an interest and helped a number of local institutions. She was a valuable member of the Progress Association and her work in doing the Gallery books will be greatly missed. She also was involved with both the Pre-School and the local School, where a farewell luncheon was held in the School Kitchen which was attended by both parents and pupils. The Progress Association presented Leonie with a potted cyclamen and a signed card, wishing her all the best in her new life.

Below L: Seated clockwise Sandra Walker, Gail Smallman, Jan Ingram, Guest of Honour Leonie.



The 19th Hole—News from Delegate Country Club

The Delegate Country Club Board has been joined by member, Pat Campbell who has accepted the position of Secretary of the Club, many thanks go to Pat for accepting this important position. Now with a full complement, the Committee can look forward to the future and better days ahead.

To save on power, it was decided to hold the monthly meetings in the local RSL hall during the winter months. The committee have been discussing the heating at the club and are looking at better and more efficient heating than what is there at present. Hopefully golf for the kids will be starting up again soon and the "kids room" could be in line for a makeover. It is good to see the Courtesy Bus has been well patronised lately, especially Friday nights for Sophie's lovely meals—well done Sophie and girls, they served 26 meals last Friday night.

There are some important events coming up soon, watch out for the dates. Delegate will be holding the Sand Green Championships in September this year, followed by Delegate Tigers football re-union, then the Annual Delegate tournament in October.

A big thankyou must go out to all the volunteers who help keep the club functioning, you are appreci-

ated by all, members, customers and committee alike. If you are new in town, why not join the Club, memberships are very reasonable, the 18 hole course is spectacular and it's a great way to get some exercise. The ball's in your court! Sorry, wrong sport!

President: Carl Crotty

Publicity: Gloria Cotterill.

R: A group of golfers ready to hit off.



HERE & THERE

Happy birthday to all those born in August including, Claire Strickland, Su King, Hunter Reed, Philomena Collins, Laura

Chapman, Sharon Buckman, Maria Calloway, Amelia and Georgina Jeffreys, Tom Ventry.



Happy birthday also to Maria Callaway who celebrated her birthday at Narooma with her family.

Lesley and Ron Collins, both from Delegate are shortly going on a Perth to Brisbane Cruise, commencing with a flight to Sydney followed by a journey on the Indian Pacific train to Perth where they will board the Cruise ship. More news from them is that they were recently at a barbecue at the home of Barb and Greg Ingram where they met up with more old friends, Mandy Giddings (nee Crawford) and husband Mick who are on their annual migration to warmer climes.

Ron and Lesley are also regular visitors to Ted Crawford, now in Residential Care. Ted is not travelling too well, but Ron says he loves to reminisce about his life in Delegate, where he was born, married and raised his family. Ted and his wife Charmaine also owned the local Fruit Barn which they ran together for many years. Our new bins have arrived, and at first there was some confusion as to which bin to put out and what exactly goes where. Flyers will be arriving and there will be information in the local papers. No doubt we will all learn what goes into recycling and what we must not put in the bin with the yellow lid, which will be collected fortnightly. The smaller one with the red lid will be collected weekly on Mondays.

Former local man Noel Lewis died on 26th June and was buried at Bairnsdale on 4th July. Noel moved to Bruthen at the age of 18 and spent the rest of his life around the Bairnsdale area. He is survived by his wife Janice, children Warren and Kym and two grandchildren. His brother Roger and two sisters Rhonda and Cherie also survive him, and sympathy is extended to all.

The Death occurred recently of one of Delegate's most senior ladies, Mrs. Jean Talbot. Jean who passed away suddenly, aged 94 years, had a wonderful memory of early life in Delegate. Her funeral service took place on 26th both. July at St Joseph's Catholic Church, followed by interment in the Delegate cemetery. Jean is survived by two sons, Kevin and Norman and six grandchildren and great grand children. Her only daughter Pauline and husband Jack pre-deceased her. Sympathy is extended to all.

The death occurred last week of a Meryl Lock who was born at Craigie and spent her early life there before she and husband Brian settled in Bombala. Her funeral took place in Canberra on the 3rd August. Meryl is survived by two children, Nicole and Dean and grandchildren. Her husband Brian pre-deceased her.

Local man Bill Taylor died at Bombala Hospital on Saturday 29th July. Bill is survived by one sister Sandra, three brothers, Frank, Colin and Keith. Bill will be buried following a graveside ceremony at Delegate Cemetery on Monday 7th August.

Sympathy is extended to all.

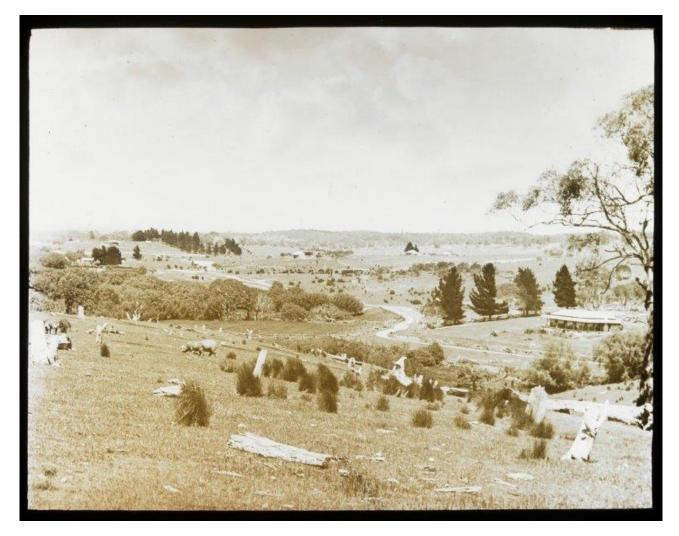
Gloria's grand daughter, Tiana Cotterill's Basketball team won the Southern Division Grand final, (under 18), now they are off to Maitland to play other area divisions for the NSW State Cup.

Tiana's dad, Brendon Cotterill is off to Tasmania in November to fish in the National Fly Fishing Championships so Good luck to both.

Congratulations to Alan and Audrey Buckman on the birth of their first child, Florence Ann born on 1/7/17 at Orange Hospital weighing 7 lbs.



LOOKING BACK



A very old photo of Delegate, not many houses to be seen.



Judging by the ladies dress, this was also taken a long time ago when the showground was on land which is now Bill Jeffreys Park

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Community Information

EMERGENCY / AMBULANCE: 000

<u>FIRE</u>: 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

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) *********

'Delegate Doings' Subscription: \$38.60 by Post Email \$16.50. *********

Cash or Cheque payable to The Delegate Progress Association Inc

Amount \$_

<u>Name</u>

Address or email:

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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

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 Back Page	\$70.00 \$80.00	\$350.00	\$630.00
Full Page Insert	\$90.00		
Colour advertising: prices on application			

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THANK GOODNESS FOR THE NEW-STYLE FRUIT TREES

Until recently all fruit trees really did grow into big trees and these required major surgery to keep fruit within reach. No matter how savagely they were pruned, 'reach' still meant using a ladder and picking pole as well. However, there is a more significant problem related to heavy pruning. Such pruning promotes vegetative growth at the expense of reproduction i.e. leaves not flowers. This is particularly apparent in pome fruits that have permanent fruiting spurs. Pomes are the apples, pears, and quince group. These permanent spurs take years to form on these trees whereas stone fruit that bear flowers on second year wood will recover productivity more quickly from inappropriate pruning.

Today there are available a number of styles of dwarf growth habit trees developed for commercial orchardists that are, co-incidentally, ideal for the home gardener. There are the columnar trees (narrow, upright), the super dwarf (less than 1 metre) and dwarf (2-3 metres) all bearing normal size fruit. These trees have revolutionised the efficiency of commercial fruit growing.

The potential of dwarf trees was recognised when the use of complex scientific equipment allowed greater understanding of plant physiology particularly how plants partition and transport nutrients to various positions in the tree. This knowledge has led to new pruning techniques that minimise wood growth and maximise fruit production. These techniques are applicable to all forms of fruit trees, even the traditional big trees where selected branches are now retained in their entirety and only spurs thinned.



The columnar trees are grafted from selected shoots in much the same way that the 'pencil pine' versions of many conifers have been developed for ornamental gardens. However, the growth of the dwarf fruit trees is controlled by grafting tissue of normal varieties onto special rootstock that is not vigorous. Use of a selected rootstock is not new but in the past it was used to confer disease resistance or to help adaptation to less than ideal soil environments. All these dwarf forms are heavy bearing and the most needed pruning practice is to reduce the number of fruit on each limb in proportion to the limb's ability to

support the weight.

Columnar trees have very short 'arms' and if they are torn off there remains a gap on the trunk that is never replaced by a new bud. This is a consequence of the top of the trunk controlling the lower growth which is the very physiological feature that created the desired columnar shape. This type of natural growth habit emulates the labour intensive 'cordon' method of pruning.

Dwarf trees tend to have a semi-weeping habit especially the apples and this is to be promoted because horizontal branches develop the most fruit (hence the popular espalier pruning method). Each arm is pruned back in winter just enough to stop it touching the ground. This can be tricky with some varieties

such as 'Granny Smith' that have their best spurs on the tips. Here an internal framework of sub-branches needs to be retained to provide enough tips.

Stone fruits are more tolerant of pruning errors. Basically the upward new shoots of the current season are reduced to three to six buds to provide the next year's crop. Of the stones, apricots need the least attention because they also produce quite long lived spurs.

Inexpert pruning is not the only factor inducing crop failure in our

area. That is mostly due to those sudden and intermittent late frosts, but then once fruit is developing parrots come looking for their seeds. The only protection is netting the trees tightly. Rabbits can ring-bark trunks and lichen can weaken branches but at least with small growing trees these difficulties are much more easily overcome.

