

March 2021

1.50 incl.
GST

Delegate Doings



Delegate Progress
Association

ISSN 1446-6716

Volume 20, issue 3.

MONARO COMMUNITY CONNECT HOLD SUCCESSFUL LUNCHEON AT DELEGATE

Over thirty local women had a great day out on Sunday 28th February, when they attended a Monaro Family support service luncheon at the school of Arts. A delicious luncheon was served by the caterers, Bombala Rotary Club, prior to the two interesting guest speakers, Melissa McKendrick and Teresa

Melissa told us of her journey as a beekeeper, the many varieties of bees, from European to the native variety, their food requirements and samples of the type of hives required were on show on the stage. Teresa spoke of the advantages of growing native plants and she had brought baskets of native and other varieties of flowers, shrubs and trees, all of which she said provide food for bees. Many took advantage of her invitation to take samples and cuttings and all were given a small package of sunflower seeds so we can expect a bold showing of these golden flowers in local gardens next summer. Both the weaving and beeswax wraps demonstrations were very popular and all went away with a sample of their work.

R: Susie Diver, Recovery Assistance officer and friend Carmen Phillips.
Bottom Centre—Guest Speakers Mel and Teresa..

Other photos are of guests taking part in the workshops.



Next Issue: 2nd April then: 7th May and: 4th June

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Dates for your Calendar

- 9th March—Delegate Water Supply Options meeting Delegate School of Arts.
- 11th March—DPA Meeting
- 12th, 13th, 14th March –Delegate Camp Draft.
- 12th March—Opening Fashion through the Ages at Borderline Gallery.
- 16th March—Delegate Pre School AGM 2pm.
- 17th March –Accidental Counsellor, School of Arts.
- 17th March—Community workshop –Region Trails Master Plan– 6-7.30 Bombala Library.
- 10th. April—Rugby League—Delegate.
- 25th April—Anzac Day Ceremonies.



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Phil Pope
0417 453 545

FOR SALE PIANO

Delegate School of Arts
\$500 or best offer
Phone Doreen 64588037

Preschool AGM 16th March at 2pm

at the preschool and all families and community members are encouraged to attend. If they are unable to make that time but are interested in attending, please let us know on 0407089677.

Notice is given of the Annual General Meeting of the Delegate Country Club Ltd to be held at the Club on the 14th of March 2021, commencing at 3.30 pm.

All current financial members are welcome to attend.

The order of business shall be:

To confirm the Minutes of the previous AGM

To receive the President's and Treasurer's Reports

To conduct the election of the Board of Directors

To conduct any other business that may be presented to the meeting. NP Flower (Hon. Secretary)

DELEGATE CAMPDRAFT

The Delegate Campdraft will be held over the weekend of 12th, 13th & 14th March, 2021 in a Covid Safe format.

Checking in with QR codes will be required at the gate and our Covid Safe Plan will be adopted to encourage social distancing and hand hygiene rules. Paper records will be available for those that don't have electronic devices.

The Delegate Campdraft Committee apologise for any inconvenience caused, but these steps are necessary for the event to go ahead.

Our Committee also wish to thank the Snowy Monaro Regional Council for their generous donation of \$1500 to the Campdraft from their Donations & Sponsorships Program. This money will be used to cover the cost of waste removal over the weekend, with the balance going towards the purchase of a new BBQ for use by our hard working volunteers.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Council aligns customer service hours at all locations

Snowy Monaro Regional Council advises the Snowy Monaro community that from Monday 1 March 2021 all four customer services offices will operate Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.30pm*.

Council operates four customer service offices at Bombala, Berridale, Cooma and Jindabyne.

As a legacy of the 2016 amalgamation the Cooma office was operating on slightly different hours to the other three which caused some confusion in the community.

Since the amalgamation much work has been completed to unify our customer services, and aligning the hours of operation across all locations marks the final step in ensuring that our community receives the same experience and standard of service regardless of which office they visit or call.

Outside of business hours the community can contact Council via the 24/7 customer service line on 1300 345 345.

**Payments available from 8.30am to 4pm only.*

DELEGATE PRE SCHOOL NEWS

Delegate and District preschool has made a smooth transition into the school year with all children enjoying the changes to the backyard that were completed during the school holidays. As a result of receiving a Stronger Country Community grant, the upgrade to the back yard, which will be undertaken in stages during school holiday periods, was able to be started. A large verandah area was added to replace the aged pergola, a small cubby house and shop was formed using one end of our existing store shed and a stepped deck was created around the shady sandpit area. Stage two of the upgrade will see an extension to our bike track area and some various garden plantings.

Children and staff have also started to participate in some local town excursions. If you are around the town on a Monday, keep your eye out for the little fluorescent vests being worn by the children and stop and have a chat with us all. Our first walk was very exciting for everyone as we talked about the buildings we walked past, counted magpies and cockatoos and chatted to the many friendly faces in the street. Staff are hoping to make this a regular event for the children as part of our program and helping our service to feel like we belong to the larger community.

Delegate and District Preschool is currently open Monday – Wednesday from 8:30 to 4pm and still have vacancies for new enrolments. We are a funded preschool, so therefore our weeks of operation are the same as public schools, with four terms making up our year. We are able to offer care to children as young as 6 weeks old as part of our service approval with this still being offered on a term basis. Please feel free to contact the centre on 0403033332 if you would like to discuss any enrolment details.

R: The new verandah and decking



BOMBALA PRE SCHOOL NEWS

The Bombala Pre School also have an exciting project on the go in the form of an Urban and Indigenous Garden. Enthusiastic efforts by students from Bombala Highschool and Public school together with St. Joey's Catholic School has the project moving towards completion. Coming up are plans for more interesting items including a chicken coop, an outdoor learning area, cultural-fire & yarnin space, a rocket space and outdoor kitchen, bird and bee hotels.

Their biggest news is that Costa Georgiadis (from ABC's Gardening Australia) will join them for a day of activities on the 9th May.



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

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DELEGATE HOTEL

Your host: Paul Herringe

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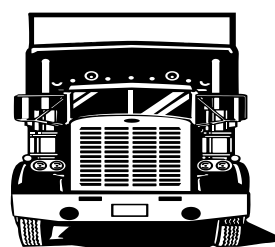
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Pick of the table and cash

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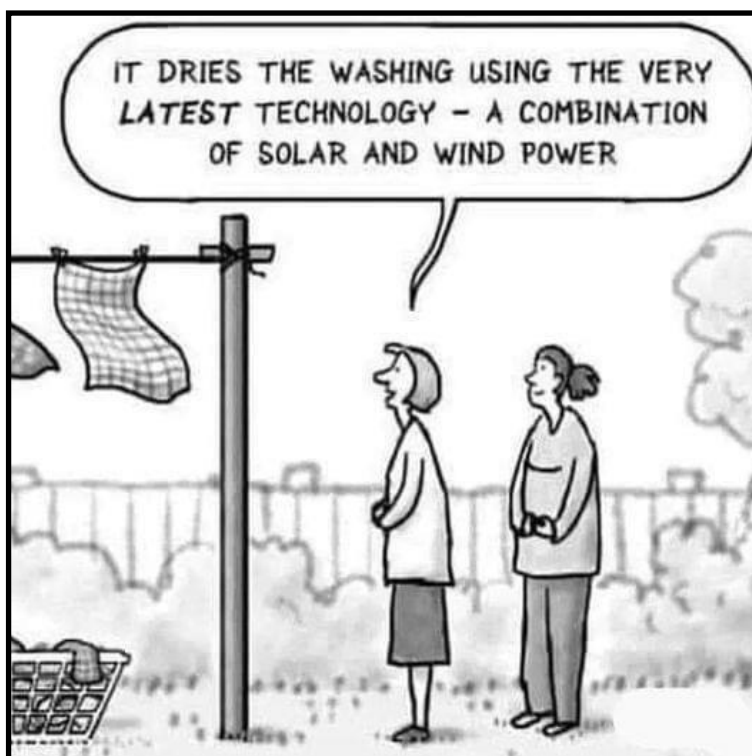
Mobile: 0418 516 076

Phone: (02) 6458 8085

Fax: (02) 6458 8055

FASHION THROUGH THE AGES

An exciting exhibition will be opening on the 12th March at the Borderline Gallery. It will include beautifully framed prints of fashions of yesteryear owned by Joan Jones and framed by her daughter Cynthia. There will be lots of other memorabilia and fashion on display, also some wedding photos from the past. An official opening will be held on Friday 12th March at 6pm and all are welcome to join us for a glass of wine and nibbles.





Delegate

Tel: 6458 8004

Livestock— Tony Brady,

Sam Platts

Agronomy— Hugh Platts

0488281253

Merchandise

Insurance - Wool

Finance - Fertilizer

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HAPPY FAMILIES

Gloria Cotterill with her growing group of great grandchildren, from back L to R Montana holding Jayce, Misha holding Lane. Front: Beau, Gloria Paisley, Archie, Jackson and Riley.



Photo Courtesy of Kirby Rae Photography.

DELEGATE WATER SUPPLY OPTIONS STUDY

The Delegate community is invited by the Snowy Monaro Regional Council to attend a meeting at the Delegate School of Arts on the **9th March at 5.30pm** to discuss the water supply options study for the Delegate Water Treatment Plant upgrade

State Representative, John Barilarlo gave an assurance to the Delegate Progress Association that he had given \$15000 to the Council to upgrade both Delegate and Bombala water supplies. Since then Council has unsuccessfully explored the option of a bore, which was found to be unviable.

This option would have been very unpopular with residents, who have heard of the problems caused by bore water at Nimmitabel. We do not know what other options there are other than an upgrade to the existing supply, but we do know that we would like to see the "Not Potable" signs removed.

From Play to Reality – Doctor Dominic Sellers



Dom's journey so far has included attending the University of Wollongong to achieve a Bachelor of Medical and Health Sciences with Distinction in 2014. He completed Honors in 2015 and then Doctor of Medicine in 2019. During this time Dom had the opportunity to work in Forbes NSW for twelve months then Tonga and Darwin. In 2020, he finished his Internship at Wollongong Hospital and is currently a Resident there, too. He will finish this year and then decide his specialty area. Unfortunately, due to covid the traditional graduation ceremony did not take place.

All his family is very proud of his determination, resilience and achievements.

Rugby League in Delegate

Delegate will host the Bombala Blue Heelers and Cooma Stallions in all grades Saturday April 10th (weekend after Easter).

This game will be a reunion and celebration of the Delegate Tigers Clayton Cup 1970 winning side who defeated Bibbenluke 15 7 in Cooma in the grand final. Delegate were awarded the Claytons Cup as the best performed team in country NSW that year. Ex-players and supporters of any era are very welcome as are players and supporters of Bibbenluke.

The Blue Heelers first grade side will play in heritage Tiger jumpers which will be presented by 1970's players or their descendants to the first grade side at half time in the reserve grade.

Following the game the Delegate Country Club will host game day presentations and an auction of the heritage jumpers.

This game marks 51 years due to last years cancellation. It is expected that the Clayton Cup will be on display. Please support the Blue Heelers and the Delegate Country Club as football makes what is hoped to be an annual return to 'windy hill'.



Delegate Multi Purpose Service
Craigie St, Delegate 6459 8000

Wellness Clinic

Monday 9am-10am

Every week except Public Holidays

No Appointments necessary.

A clinic where well people come for health monitoring and a variety of nursing procedures such as:

- Wound care
- Blood pressure readings
- Blood sugar readings
- Suture or clip removal
- Injections with Doctors written order
- Other procedures that do not require a Doctor

Pathology clinic (conducted by Pathology West)

Wednesday 9.30am – 10.30 am.

No appointment necessary.

Every week except public holidays.

Women's Health Clinic

4th Thursday of the Month

Phone 1800999880 for appointments

Other Community Health Services

- Dietician
- Diabetes Educator
- Immunisations
- Podiatry
- Child and Family Health Nurse
- Generalist Community Health Nurse

To refer to any of the above please ring Community Health Central Intake team on 1800999880

Victorian Visits

Community Nurse visits Victorian Clients every fortnight. For referral or info ring

Orbost Regional Health 03 5154 6666 or

Delegate Community Health Nurse

on 6459 8000

OLD DELEGATE POST OFFICE

Home of the

Healing Hub and Creative

Hub

And Retailing

Homewares

Gourmet Foods

Handcrafted Gifts & Toys

Thursday to Saturday

10am to 4pm

40 Bombala St Delegate

02 64585289

Thursday afternoon Creative

Hub Workshops

12.30 to 2.30pm

Small charge for materials

Serendipitous Markets last

Saturday of the month.

Barista Coffee, Hot chocolate and Tea
now available at the old post office.



DELEGATE SCHOOL NEWS

Sport news

Students from Djamalan District PSSA attended the Snowy Mountains PSSA Zone Swimming Carnival last Wednesday and all students had a fantastic day and competed with pride and dignity. Our Small Schools (P5) Relay Team of Bella, Wyatt, Jessi and Georgina were successful in qualifying for the South Coast Regional PSSA Swimming Carnival in Dapto next Wednesday. Mr Bannister will transport these four students and one parent for each competitor to the event. These students should be extremely proud of this achievement and we look forward to cheering them on next week. A massive thankyou to our staff Mrs McKinnell and Mrs Tonissen for supporting all the students in Cooma last week.

In more sporting news, next Thursday 11 March 2021 is the Djamalan PSSA Cross Country event to be held at Delegate Country Club. Students who are yet to return their permission note need to do so as soon as possible to support our organisation of this event. Notes will also come home today for our K12 students to attend and support our competitors on the day. This needs to occur due to a staffing shortage on that day. If parents can volunteer their time to support the P&C Canteen on the day or to help out with marshalling on the course it would be great to see you there to help out.





Regional Trails Master Plan

Snowy Monaro | Have Your Say!

We need your local knowledge!

The Regional Trails Master Plan will identify sustainable trail opportunities on Council land which have the greatest potential to create benefits for the community, economy and environment. The success of this project relies on contributions from the community.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The project aims are to:

- Create a positive & collaborative culture for all users
- Strengthen the perception of the Snowy Mountains region as a destination of choice for mountain biking, cycling, trail running & walking
- Determine the optimal visitor trail experiences & iconic tourism opportunities
- Increase visitation that contributes positively to the local economy
- Enhance the sustainability & liveability for local communities.

A key component of this project is to further explore and assess the feasibility of the Lake Jindabyne Shared Trail.

ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

To contribute to the project, please share your knowledge by completing the online survey.

<https://yoursaysnowymonaro.com.au/snowy-monaro-regional-trails-masterplan>

The survey will be open until Monday 22 March 2021.

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

The Community Workshops will be held in-person at the venues and dates identified below, with an option for attendance via Zoom.

Registration for each workshop is compulsory. Please register at: <https://yoursaysnowymonaro.com.au/snowy-monaro-regional-trails-masterplan>

Michelago

When: Tuesday 9 March, 5:30 - 7pm

Where: Michelago Memorial Hall, Ryrie St, Michelago

Jindabyne

When: Thursday 11 March, 6 - 7:30pm

Where: Rydges Horizons Summit Room, 10 Kosciuszko Rd, Jindabyne

Adaminaby

When: Tuesday 16 March, 6 - 7:30pm

Where: Memorial Hall, 21 Denison St, Adaminaby

Bombala

When: Wednesday 17 March, 6 - 7:30pm

Where: Bombala Library, 163 Maybe St, Bombala

Cooma

When: Thursday 18 March Cooma, 6 - 7:30pm

Where: Cooma Ex-Services Club, 106 Vale St, Cooma

Please note: If COVID-19 government regulations restrict in-person attendance, all workshops will be held via Zoom only.

Further information

E alannah.dickeson@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au
P 1300 345 345

PROJECT PARTNERS

TREDWELL
MANAGEMENT

 **SNOWY MONARO**
REGIONAL COUNCIL



A new resource to keep you and your family safe

Snowy Monaro Regional Council today announced the release of the online disaster dashboard as part of a pilot program rolling out across 27 councils across NSW.

On the Snowy Monaro Disaster Dashboard residents will find real-time information on all emergencies in the local government area, information on preparing for emergencies and any assistance available to help individuals recover from disaster. The site pulls information from sources such as the RFS, LiveTraffic, Essential Energy and NSW DPIE.

The dashboard shows COVID-19 cases, fire incidents, flood incidents, road conditions weather radar, power outages, emergency news, and has links to ABC Radio and Council.

The service gives residents access to all relevant government information in one place, in real time. Data is collated by the Resilience NSW Regional Disaster Preparedness Program and displayed in an easy-to-understand format over a map of the area.

The Resilience NSW Regional Disaster Preparedness Program assists local governments in building on their capability to prepare for and respond to local emergencies.

The 2019/20 bushfire season in the Snowy Monaro demonstrated how unpredictable and fast-changing emergencies can be,” said Mayor Peter Beer, Snowy Monaro Regional Council.

“Having immediate access to local emergency updates, as well as advice on preparations and potential risks will be of great benefit to our community. The new dashboard demonstrates Council is committed to providing residents with every possible resource in times of need.”

Residents are encouraged to visit <https://snowymonaro.disasterdashboards.com> and bookmark the page. All browsers are supported, but full functionality is only available on up-to-date versions of Chrome, Firefox and Safari.

ANZAC Day 2021

Delegate RSL Sub Branch will be holding the following services for ANZAC Day this year with some changes to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions as per NSW State Government health legislation

Dawn Service

6am at the Cenotaph at the western end of town. We are required to have a roped off area with controlled entry and COVID-19 sign in from all attendees is mandatory. Designated Seating will be provided at 2 metre spacing and all attendees are required to sit throughout the service.

A Covid Safe Marshall will be present at the entry point to assist with sign in and we request that attendees turn up at 5:30 in order to have everyone checked in and seated by 6am.

The dawn service will be followed immediately by a gunfire breakfast at the RSL Hall, 57 Bombala St, Delegate.

Main Service

There will not be a march this year, but we will hold a commemorative service in the park behind the Memorial Gates in the centre of town. We are required to have a roped off area with controlled entry and COVID-19 sign in from all attendees is mandatory. Designated Seating will be provided at 2 metre spacing and all attendees are required to sit throughout the service.

A Covid Safe Marshall will be present at the entry point to assist with sign in and we request that attendees turn up at 10:30 in order to have everyone checked in and seated by 11am.

At this point we are still unsure if we will be having a commemoration lunch at the Delegate Country Club. We will post further clarification in the April Delegate Doings and on the Delegate RSL facebook page as details come to hand.

Attendance numbers at both services will be limited to the number of people that each area can accommodate with the 2 metre spacing rule. Seat will be allocated on a 1st come, 1st served basis.

Finally, we would like to put out a call for volunteers from the community to assist with set up and tear down of the roped off areas and seating for the event. If you can assist on the 24th of April and the 25th of April, please contact our secretary, Mr Bill Bateman on 0428 431 942 or delegatesb@rslnsw.org.au



HERE & THERE

Happy birthday to all readers who were born in March, including Max Clear, Brody Lewis, Luke Mikula, Adam Mikula, Denise, Tracy Walker, Neil Armstrong, Cathy Reed, Lorraine Cottrell



It was great to see Carl (Crunchy) Cotton back in town for a few days. Carl, who now lives in Darwin with his wife Barbara, managed to catch up with quite a few old friends while here. His son Danny now lives in Perth and daughter Leah lives in Darwin with their families, so all a long way from his old home town.



Congratulations to Lorraine and Clive Cottrell, who are about to celebrate their 60th Wedding anniversary. Their

special day will be commemorated with family and friends on Saturday 6th March at the Country Club. Also happy birthday to Lorraine whose birthday was on the 4th March.

A training day for "Accidental Counsellor" will take place on Wednesday 17th March at the Delegate School of Arts., from 9.30am till 4.30 pm. Cost is free and lunch is provided.

Contact Yasmin Stein 89749825

You need to lock up your homes and sheds as there is a thief in the town. A local man, hearing a noise went to investigate and interrupted someone attempting to break into his shed. The person jumped the fence and disappeared, so suspicion falls on someone young and fit enough to leap a fence.



The Autumn night tennis competition is going well at the moment with some new players joining in, which is great to see. New players are always welcome. The games are played on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, commencing at 6.45pm.



The School of Arts Committee have advertised a piano for sale. With the addition of the Grand Piano donated by Marie Pope, there is no longer room for the second piano.



Council's new Community Dashboard site will provide information on fire, flood and other disasters. (see article page 2)

<https://snowymonaro.disasterdashboards.com>

The first to receive Covid vaccination in this area will be front line health workers and Nursing Home residents. At present, it appears the vaccine will be available at Bega Hospital. It is not known at this stage when or where it will be available in the Bombala/Delegate area.

There will also be Rugby League competition games at the Delegate Exhibition ground on 10th April between Bombala Blues and Cooma. Judging by the last games held in Delegate, it will attract a big crowd.



Retro furniture, novel box sets, whipper-snippers to Winger's Greatest Hits are some of the items you can buy from the Scrap Marts at the Cooma and Jindabyne tips. They are open to shoppers from 1pm -5pm in Cooma on Saturday, and between 10am and 3pm on Sundays.



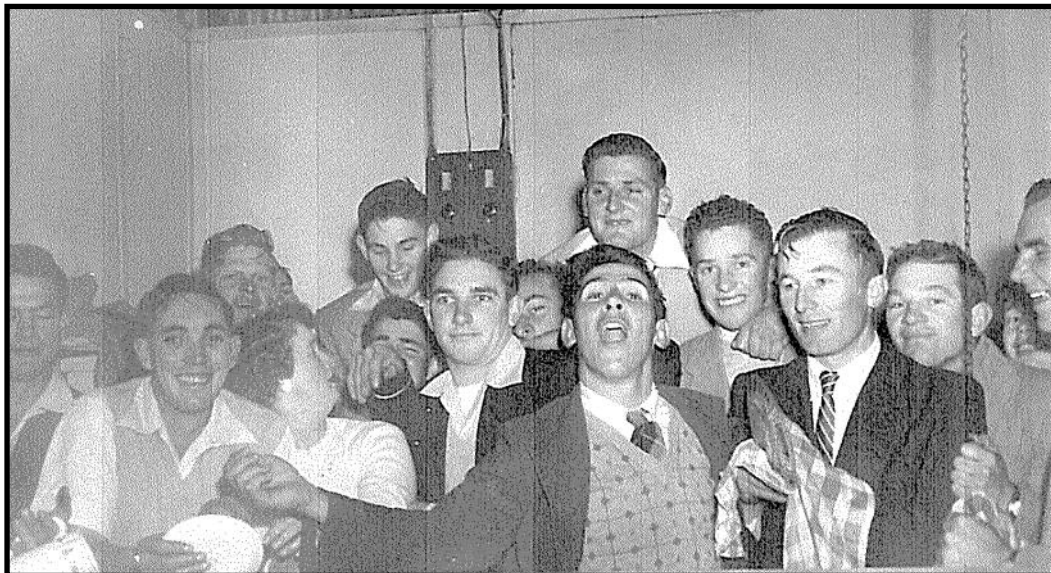
LOOKING BACK



The Callaughan family. A large extended Delegate family, perhaps taken in the 1940's. A Mr. Charles Callaughan was Editor of the Delegate Argus, before it was sold to Mr. Ashby and the paper was then printed out of the building now owned by Mr. Bill Bateman. The Callaughan family still lived in that house until the 1950's. The building was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Ron Mead, but we do not know the date.

The photo below appeared in last month's Doings. Scrub Crotty has named all those in the photo and tells us that it was taken at a fund raising dance at Craigie in 1956 run by the local Rugby League Football Club. The group were washing up after supper.

L. to R A. Collins, J. Thompson, J. Bates, Madge Stewart, A. Oliver, J. Baker, J. Crotty, B. Crotty, A. Brotherton, J. Fletcher, P. Ingram, H. Sellers, Bl Watling, Clarrie. Jones.



Community Information

EMERGENCY / AMBULANCE: 000

FIRE: 000

POLICE

Delegate: 6458 8044

Bombala: 6458 3444

Cooma: 6452 0099

Bendoc: 6458 1523

CHURCHES

CATHOLIC

Father Mick McAndrew 02 8331 7609

Sister Teresa Keane: 6458 3045

1st 5th Sundays Mass Delegate Sat
6pm and Bombala Sunday 8am

2nd & 4th Sunday –Liturgy Del.Sat 6pm

Bombala Sun. 9am

3rd Sun. Mass Del. Sun 8am Bom. 10am

Mass Delegate MPS 2nd Wed. 10.30am

Website www.cg.org.au/bombala

Email: joeysdelegate@gmail.com

ANGLICAN

Rev. Judy Holdsworth 04 0853 1544

Rev. John Kuruvilla 0406765443

Services: 11am every Sunday.

DELEGATE MPS 6459 8000

BOMBALA MPS 6458 5777

Community Health Central intake team on 1800 999880

Victorian Visits—Community Nurse visits Victorian Clients every
fortnight. For referral or info ring Orbest Regional Health 03 5154
6666 or

Delegate Community Health Nurse on 6459 8000

Bombala Medical Practice 6458 3022

Healthdirect and GP helpline 1800 022 222

(See advert in paper for detailed information)

MONARO FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICE

Bombala Office: 6458 4888

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

Delegate Pre School: 6458 8196

Delegate Public school: 6458 8183

DELEGATE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

RTCT Centre - 6458 8388— dpaooffice@bigpond.com

Newspaper: delegateprogress@exemail.com.au

Tubbut Access Centre 6458 0295

NRMA/RACV: John Stewart: 6458 8047

Delegate Progress Association Inc.

66A Bombala Street

DELEGATE NSW 2633

PH 6458 8388 Fax 64588 374

E-mail dpaooffice@bigpond.com

delegateprogress@exemail.com.au

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ADVERTISING IN THE “DELEGATE DOINGS”

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

Colour advertising: prices on application

Scent in the Winter Garden and Some Myths Dispelled.

Although they will not bloom until Spring and are not strictly a winter scent, let us get the Sweet Pea story sorted first up, since fast approaching March 17 is the oft touted best time in garden lore to sow Sweet Peas. Remember all pea **flowers** are suppressed by frost. If any pea is sown now as we enter the frosty period, we must maintain foliage for months during the cold times. Foliage becomes overgrown and subject to a number of fungal diseases. March 17 sowing properly belongs to climates warmer than ours such as Melbourne. Dr Keith Hammett of Massey, NZ is a world-renowned breeder (the hamettiii range) offers this advice to gardeners,

"Do not soak the seed before sowing," "Seeds need **air** as well as moisture to germinate. The exception to this is agriculturally grown seed from California that has not been mechanically harvested. They have experienced a 'Hard Seed' problem as a consequence. "Luckily here most mail order companies and major nurseries buy the far superior seed that has been hand harvested from plants grown in New Zealand. You'll also often be advised to start your sweet peas off in autumn so they can establish before winter sets in, he says "the perfect time to sow, as days are starting to lengthen," he says. "Sweet peas, like culinary peas, germinate and grow at low temperatures." Sown in July plants will have experienced several hard frosts and be robust for Spring. So the myths about timing and hard seed arise from different climates and the commercial harvesting methods.



Sweet peas became garden flowers in 1690s, when a Sicilian monk, Francisco Cupani began sending colourful forms to gardening friends in Holland and England. His favorite, Cupani's Original, is still grown today, with profuse, powerfully scented pink-and-burgundy flowers. on bushy plants 5-6 feet high. By the mid 1700s, more colour variations arose, including Painted Lady, an intensely scented rose-and-pink bicolour that's also still available. The first dwarf sweet pea, Cupid , 1901, is also still in cultivation.

Interestingly the length of flower stem is maximised by the difference in day/night temperature and this is why stems get shorter as summer progresses. Sadly, sweet peas and many other flowers don't smell as strongly as they once did, especially when grown in urban areas. Research shows that polluted air can reduce plant fragrances significantly. Ground-level ozone in particular biologically disrupts fragrance production and breaks down scent molecules quickly, so they don't travel as far on the air. So it is not faulty childhood memories or ageing noses to blame at all !



Now to true winter scents, and most have relatively small flowers. Sweet box (*Sarcococca confusa*) prefers a good, well-drained soil. In time it will slowly sucker about and reach up to waist height. Try not to grow it in too much sunshine as the foliage tends to yellow – a shady back door where the fragrance can waft through an open window would be an ideal place to site it.

Witch hazels (*Hamamelis mollis*) are not the easiest of shrubs to grow. They are slow and prefer cool winters, hate windy, dry summers and poor soils. Like all winter flowers they benefit from being set against a dark backdrop where they are lit by winter sunshine. *Hamamelis* have an elegant tiered character rather like a Japanese maple and demand plenty of space to stand out. Others to try are Mahonia, Daphne, winter-flowering honeysuckle (*Lonicera fragrantissima*) and wintersweet (*Chimonanthus praecox*), Skimmias also make berries. However, we need to rethink these European plants as water becomes more scarce and Summers hotter.

There are many perfumed Australian plants that suit our climate. Eucalyptus elata has the strongest peppermint smelling leaves and is available in the dwarf form "Dry White". Flowers are Eriostemon and Victorian mint bush as well as many of the wattles.

