

~ Michelago Magpie 16 ~

*The Michelago Region Newsletter
from your Michelago Region Community Association
2 June 2023*

www.michelagoregion.org.au

Newsletter enquiries: newsletter@michelagoregion.org.au



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** Sea fog**

This view to the Tinderries is from Gary Morris and Jo Gaha's Clearview Road property, Pacawoolly.

Photo: Gary Morris



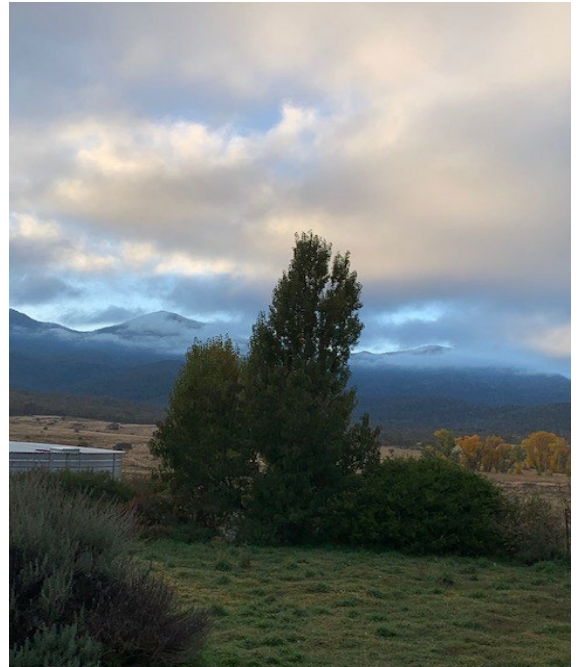
FOG ON THE MOUNTAIN

Leanne Thurling

There is fog on the mountain this morning
A drizzle of rain overnight
There wasn't enough to settle the dust
Or dampen the wash on the line.

There is fog on the mountain this morning
A sign that the rain fell elsewhere
The ground and the dams now thirsty as hell
As the dry we continue to bear.

There is fog on the mountain this morning
It rolls down like waves in the sea
And moistens the leaves of the eucalypts
The grasses and flowers beneath.



There is fog on the mountain this morning
Droplets that hold on tight to the plants
The insects and animals able to live
From the glistening drops that can dance.

There is fog on the mountain this morning
As the sun slowly peeks through the haze
And the fog gently moves to make way for the day
And the warmth of the sun's morning rays.

There is fog on the mountain this morning
Like a movie that plays from a reel
To watch as the forces of nature compete
Such a privilege to witness, I feel.

Photos above: Leanne Thurling



In the village, too,
'the fog gently moves
to make way for the
day.'

Photos: L. Pattison





Car-Boot sale

Photos: Peter Holland, Kerry Rooney, Leanne Pattison

Sunday 21 May. Twenty cars, lots of people and an amazing range of treasures made this experimental event a success.

The picturesque setting of the lovely old Church of St Patrick, the expansive, treed grounds and the sunny day were an inviting environment.

It was a little windy and cold at times, but that's the risk of late Autumn and people's good cheer made up for it.

The MRCA barbecue (sausages and ready-sliced onions from the Calwell butcher) and the Devonshire Teas coordinated by Janet Kelly, ably assisted by Cath Cotter and Tilly Turnbull and others who donated scones, provided excellent sustenance. A special mention to Susan Ryrie for her very popular shortbread.

The limited facility of only one toilet, the one in the presbytery, was not the problem organisers had feared. This event's successful use of the Church grounds might prompt the parish to see to the repair of the two toilets behind the Church.

The profit of \$642.60 was split 50/50 between the St Pat's restoration fund and the Michelago Railway Station's ongoing maintenance costs.

Below: The Bunston boys, Oliver and Thomas, returned for extra snags cooked by Barbecue Master Tony De Salis and Able Assistant Sally Hughes.



We (the MRCA organisers and Michael Scanlon of St Pat's) are very grateful to the Michelago Rural Fire Brigade for the loan of the barbecue and particularly to the then Brigade Captain, Scott Teys, who brought it to the site and retrieved it afterwards. The Brigade lends the barbecue free to community organisations, but we have given an appreciative donation.



The Catering Team



L to R from top: Barbecue Master Peter Holland; MRCA President Di & BM Tony; Kerry opens another bag of ready-chopped onions (so convenient!); BM Tony with Susan Ryrie; BM Tony, Sally, Leanne, Kerry; Michael Scanlon, BM Tony & Sally celebrate at the end of the day; Cath Cotter at the Devonshire Tea stall with scones, jam, cream and shortbread; Janet Kelly & Tilly.

Michael Fett was also a Barbecue Master.



L: Michael Fett and Allan Lehepuu assembled the outdoor gas-heaters that the MRCA had bought with the Bushfire Community Recovery & Resilience Fund (BCRRF) grant.

They (the heaters) had been waiting in their boxes for just such an event. Now, instead of 'We'll do it later', the challenge was 'We'll do it now.'

As it turned out, they weren't really needed, but they're now ready for use another time.

The Sellers and Buyers



*Missing is a photo of Leanne Thurling's magnificent **blackberry-and-boysenberry jams and green tomato pickles**, made with love at her Tinderry's Dunblewin Farm. She grows her own jam fruit, making her own pectin from apples, grows her green tomatoes and grinds the spices for the pickle.*



L: There was lots of socialising at this community event.

R: Jo Gaha (who can knit in her sleep) did well with her alpaca wool beanies. Only a little alpaca poo sold. It's a great fertiliser that doesn't need seasoning for the garden, unlike chook and horse poo. Orders for both alpaca wool knitted goods and alpaca poo: 0417 288 857. www.pacawoolly.com.au



L: There are just these two beautiful Spring Valley kelpie pups left.

One sold at the car-boot sale. The parents are both working dogs. Vaccinated and microchipped. \$350 each. Both are boys.

For non-country people: kelpies are intelligent, friendly and lively. They need lots and lots of exercise.

Call Gerard 0427 398 921.

Thank you to all who donated to the railway station box.



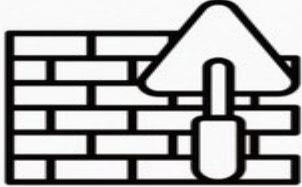
Feedback from car-boot sale

Plus: friendly, well-organised. Enough variety of items to be interesting. Excellent food. Lovely setting. Some had a good commercial day. Some didn't but still had a nice community time.

Minus: need more people coming to browse and buy, so we need a longer run-up time with more extensive advertising, including roadside signs. Warmer weather. More toilets.

On balance: a good thing to do, so maybe in late Spring.



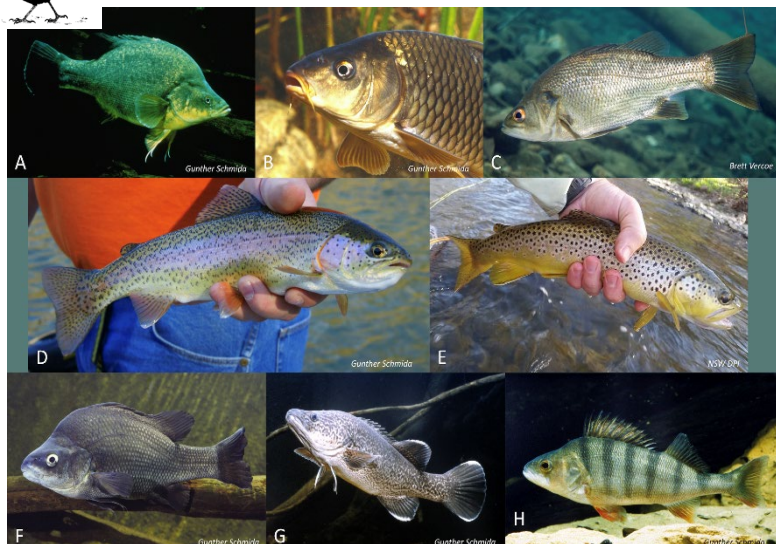


SOLID AF BRICKLAYING

New Homes	Extensions	Brick Walls
Block Walls	Letterboxes	Rock Walls
0456 949 771		fb: solidafbricklaying



Landcare – Fun fish survey – 10 questions, 10 minutes



For the past 3 years the Reaching for Recovery for the Macquarie Perch project has been running in our region. Local Land Services have been working with scientists, practitioners and the local community to work towards a long term plan to Bring Back the Mac.

To see what we have learned and where we need to go next, a quick

online 'community knowledge survey' has been put together that we hope you will participate in.

This is a survey of community knowledge of the Macquarie Perch, its habitat needs and its threats. If you prefer a paper version, please get in touch with Georgeanna Story at Upper Murrumbidgee Landcare on upper.murrumbidgee@gmail.com. You can find the survey [here](#).

JENNY'S REPAIRS & ALTERATIONS SERVICE



**** very reasonable rates ****



Anything from sewing on buttons, altering hems, resizing, repurposing, to adjusting a formal garment. Also mending, patching or altering such household items as curtains, bedding linen, cushion covers, etc.

You may not need to throw out that favourite piece you love to wear, or maybe there's something you've just bought that doesn't really fit.

Save yourself \$\$ by keeping items useful for longer and help to minimise waste

Contact Jenny:

Ph. 0400 484 485

Email: jenny258@bigpond.com



Poets

Sunday 28 May. How good is our railway station ...

Food, fire, good company, and expressive words both funny and serious made a convivial gathering.

Convenor Pud, Elizabeth, Sally, Shay and two Leannes were joined by Eddy Walker from Cooma, winner of the recent Cooma Show Senior Poetry competition.

They brought poetry they'd written (the topic this time was 'somebody in your life') and/or poetry by other people.

The next topic to try is 'a poem for a child'. Or not, as you wish. You could bring one or more that you like by somebody else. All welcome.

The group decided to bypass the solstice; the next meeting will be Sunday 9 July, 3pm.



Seed Savers

Photos & report: Anna Lucas



Serious chestnut-eating.

Sunday 28 May, 2pm. It was a chestnut cooking and eating time at Jenny and Allan's Tinderry eyrie, after a tour of their beautiful and productive garden.

A wonderful time was had on this particularly cold Sunday afternoon as some members of the Michelago Seed Savers group gathered around the toasty-warm fireplace.

Apart from partaking of roasted chestnuts (collected the day before from Monaro Chestnuts and Produce), we all thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality of Jenny and Allan in the Tinderreries.

[Some regulars at Seed Savers couldn't attend because of other commitments, but look forward to seeing the garden another time, especially for Allan's innovative garden structures. –Ed]



Breathe, Move, Relax: Sundays at Michelago Hall

4pm: Yoga (1hr) - \$20

5pm: Meditation (30mins) - \$10

or \$25 for both



yoga for people who think they can't do yoga

*fancy leg crossing as pictured above is not required!

Yoga is for everyone, no matter your body type!

Slow, mindful yoga designed to improve strength, flexibility, mobility and nervous system resilience.
All shapes offered can be modified to suit whatever is most beneficial for your body.

Yoga can help to decrease stress and improve your overall mental health & wellbeing, help with back pain, assist in the recovery from injuries or just generally improve your overall strength, flexibility and balance.

BYO mat, blanket & cushion.

Please message or call Belinda on 0411 043 027 to book in (bookings preferred just in case the class is cancelled for any reason) or for any additional information.

Private sessions are also available if you're not sure about coming along to a class or if you have something specific you'd like to work on.

Yoga classes, temporarily ceased, will resume Sunday 18 June, 4pm at the Michelago Hall, after Ms Yoga returns from her daughter's interstate basketball competitions.



Hat needing owner

This hat was left at the car-boot sale in St Patrick's Church Church grounds.

It's currently on the verandah of the presbytery.

If it's yours and you wish to reclaim it, please call Michael Scanlon on 0409 369 997.





Some Hall items update:

- There is now a dedicated mobile phone for all Booking enquiries. The number is 0493 638 878.
- Solar panels to the roof are to go ahead.
- SMRC Community Halls Funding is progressing to get some much-needed repairs and updates – new water tanks, guttering and necessary repairs.
- We are still in the running for a community grant being sought to purchase acoustic curtains – fingers are crossed.
- The wonderful work crew from Cooma Correctional Centre are to be booked to complete painting of external doors at the hall.
- A quote has been obtained for a new building sign for the front of the hall to replace the current cracked one.

BCRRF finishes soon



The Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund has been a very generous resource for the Michelago community.

Obtained three years ago with Kerry Rooney's skilled application writing, it has funded the building of the new electric barbecues and the two shelters at the Oval, free food and drink at barbecues, entertainment, the big dinner at the Hall, new tables and chairs, outdoor heaters (see car-boot sale report) and the printing of the *Michelago Magpie* newsletter.

The printed *Magpie*, available at the Michelago Shop, has proven increasingly popular. Some folk prefer the hard copy to the emailed one.

The MRCA thinks the token price of \$2 can continue post-BCRRF with the aid of a friendly local person with a posh printer. The MRCA certainly can't pay the good people at Kwik Kopy to continue printing it, although they've given a discount for including their advertisements.



We have been, and continue to be, grateful for this Federal-State funding. It's enabled the purchase of some substantial community resources that have enhanced opportunities for community interaction.

L: An Australia Day gathering at the bbqs and shelters for the Lucas and Wholohan families.



Council Corner

Deputy Mayor Tanya Higgins

Community Consultations

Michelago meeting: 10am Saturday 3 June in the Michelago Hall

It has been a busy month for Councillors, as we are out and about at Council-community meetings discussing Council's Operational Plan and Budget for next financial year. We are endeavouring to find the right balance between delivering the services that the community expects and managing our expenditure better.

Rural Land Use Strategy

At the May Council meeting, the **draft Settlements Strategy and Rural Land Use Strategy** were submitted for adoption, following years of work and community consultation. Following the last round of consultation, a number of changes had been made to accommodate some of the concerns of residents.

However, I felt that the community still needed an opportunity to consider those changes. **I moved that the adoption be deferred** until further consultation had occurred, and this was passed. Given that Council does not have a budget for further consultation, and at the moment we need to replace both Strategic Planners, this won't happen for a while.

That gives the community plenty of time to discuss their concerns with Councillors, and I will be hosting a couple of **local meetings with interested Michelago region people** to listen to your views, concerns and ideas. This part of the local government area is unique, with its own set of challenges and opportunities that need to be recognised.

Ryrie St Railway corridor clean-up

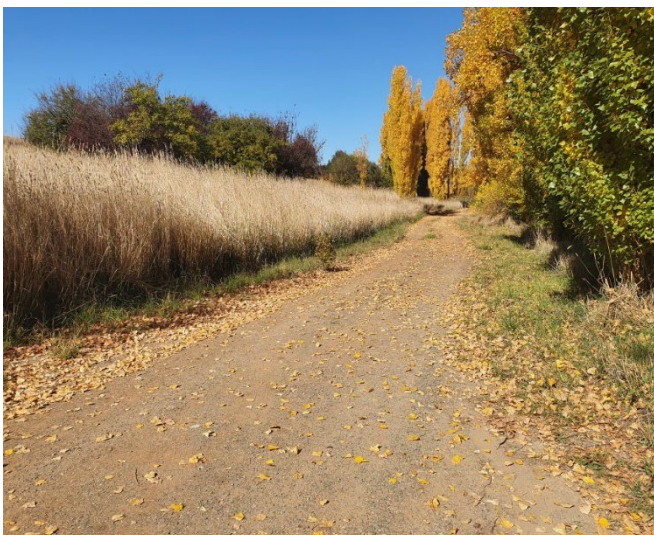
A number of residents from Michelago contacted me about the **overgrown grass** on the eastern side of Ryrie Street at the south of the village.

Since taking responsibility for the rail corridor, UGL had not slashed the grass and the fuel load had built up over a number of years. After **I raised it with Council staff**, they worked with the RFS and arranged to mow the council-owned verge immediately. Council also negotiated with UGL who followed up with a complete mow/slash of the whole area.

Please contact me on 0420 970 544, tanya.higgins@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au or on Facebook (Tanya Higgins – SMRC Labor Councillor) if you would like to catch up.

Below L: The growth before slashing, a little distance after the Anglican Church.

Below R: After slashing, near the police station. The tall grass had continued to the creek.





Connecting Rural Families

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\$80 per month

New!!

Up to 50Mbps

\$ 99 per month

New!!

Up to 100Mbps

\$129 per month



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Internet Packages to suit all needs!

Plans starting from

\$ 35 per month



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Advertisements: businesses can purchase advertisement space for \$30.00 for three issues (it might end up being a half-page or a full one, depending on space). Why per three issues rather than per month? Well, (a) sending an invoice monthly is more of an administrative task for we volunteers, and (b) we can't guarantee a timeframe for issues – issues depend on available content and volunteer time. Non-business ads are free.

Contributions: reactions, letters, photos and news items are welcome. Please send them to newsletter@michelagoregion.org.au Please give your name and put *Magpie* in the subject line. Published items will be attributed.

If you have events or activities planned, please email them to be listed in the calendar and also given article space if there's enough information: newsletter@michelagoregion.org.au

The MRCA committee reserves the right to edit contributions for length and clarity.

Aims: to publicise community events and activities and promote community identity. Yes, the Facebook pages do that, but the *Magpie* tries to give a more cohesive, detailed picture.



Photos, unless otherwise accredited, are by Leanne Pattison, Magpie Editor.

MRCA information

To belong to the MRCA, first download the membership form at www.michelagoregion.org.au It's only \$10 p/a single and \$15 p/a family. Peanuts. To renew, see the same for bank details, and please include your name.

There are **four good reasons** for joining the Michelago Region Community Association:

1. The more representative we are, the more we can achieve for our village and region.
2. You get updates from Council.
3. All funds go to running costs, including upkeep, rental and insurance for Michelago's Heritage Railway Station.
These costs are eating into reserves because of Covid-cancellations of major fundraising events. The Committee is working on other fund-raiser options and really appreciates all the volunteer assistance.
4. It's sociable – you know what's happening, who's doing what, and you participate only if you want to.

Di and Leanne for the MRCA Committee <http://www.michelagoregion.org.au/mrca/>

Meetings are open: 2nd Wed of the month, 6 pm, Railway Station. All Michelagoans are welcome.



~ Michelago Magpie Calendar ~

Please send quick updates of what's coming up, what's on and any corrections to newsletter@michelagoregion.org.au If the *Magpie* knows about it, it will be here.

If your friends want to be on the mailing list for the *Magpie* and its calendar, send names and emails to the above address.

Regular (Venues, contacts and times can change; information is here as received.)

- **Choir** Thursdays 7–8pm. St Thomas's Church, Ryrie St (next to the police station).
- **Fire Brigade** training first Sunday of the month, 9am–12noon. Contact details: MRCA notice board at the Michelago General Store.
- **Hall Committee** general meeting. Hall. Monthly 3rd Wed 6pm.
- **Hall bookings:** memorial.hall@michelagoregion.org.au or phone new number 0493 638 878 (hire rates will increase soon; for current rates, see *Magpie11*).
- **HIIT** (high intensity interval training) exercise class with Peter (0417 427 494). Hall. Sat 8am. \$10. 'Works for all ages.'
- **Library.** Mobile library 9.45—11.30, Mondays, outside the school. Next stops 5 & 19 June, then 5, 17, 31 July (see *Magpie 13* for complete library calendar. Schedule is also on the Shop Noticeboard).
- **MRCA** general meeting (open). Railway station. Monthly 2nd Wed 6pm.
- **Pony Club.** Monthly 2nd Sunday. Enquiries: Rhys (0401 778 004) or Alisha (0422 623 304) or email michelagoponyclub.secretary@gmail.com Also see <https://ponyclubaustralia.com.au/>
- **Pre-School.** Hall. Teacher: Debbie is on leave. A new teacher hasn't been appointed yet. It has been weekly, Mondays 6am–6pm. *Magpie* awaits information about resumption.
- **Seed Savers.** See below for June date. To check dates and locations or if you have other questions, please call or email Belinda: 0411 043 027 or hello@michelagoyoga.com.au
- **Senior Lunch Group.** 1st Monday of the month, 1pm, the Shop. More info in *Magpie10*.
- **St Patrick's** Catholic Church. Mass monthly, usu. 2nd Sat, 5.30pm. Updates on Facebook's Michelago Noticeboard.
- **St Thomas's** Anglican Church. Holy Communion. Monthly, 3rd Sunday 11am.
- **Trail Riders:** usu. monthly, 1st Sat. Check details on Tinderry tab of Australian Trail Horse Riders Association (ATHRA). *Magpie 4* has a feature write-up. President Don Munns 0407 235 407. Membership – Secretary Heidi Dreyer 0434 197 122.
- **Yoga.** Hall. Sundays (1) Yoga 4pm, 1 hour, \$20. (2) Meditation 5pm, ½ hour \$10. Or \$25 both. Note changed times below & p9 for June.

One-offs (that we know about) (Venues and times can change; information is here as received.)

June

- **Councillor meeting.** Saturday 3, 10am, Michelago Community Hall.
- **Poets.** Cancelled for June – too dark, too cold! To resume Sunday 9 July, 3pm, Railway Station.
- **Seed Savers.** Sunday 25 June, 2pm. At a local garden or the railway station. Enquiries Belinda 0411 043 027.
- **Yoga:** next class Sunday 18 June, 4pm, Hall. No classes for the rest of May or for Sunday 11 June, then classes are planned to resume. See also p9.
- **Basketry workshop** with Leah Oliver. For details: www.thislushcorner.com
- **Sew-good with Jenny.** Call Jenny to book for classes 0400 484 485, jenny258@bigpond.com (Also see her new ad p7 for **Repairs & Alterations Service.**)

July

- **Sew-good with Jenny.** Call Jenny to book for classes 0400 484 485, jenny258@bigpond.com (Also see her new ad p7 for **Repairs & Alterations Service.**)
- **Poets.** 9 July, 3pm, railway station. Enquiries: Pud on 0409 220 842.

