

\$2 ~ *Michelago Magpie* 50 ~ ©

3 July 2026

from your Michelago Region Community Association

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MEDIAEVAL BATTLES AS BURRA CELEBRATES THE SOLSTICE



20 June, Burra Park. To celebrate the solstice with the Burra Community Association at its first Mediaeval Faire, there were knights, monks, peasants, Vikings, fair ladies and maidens, Jake the blacksmith and a town crier.

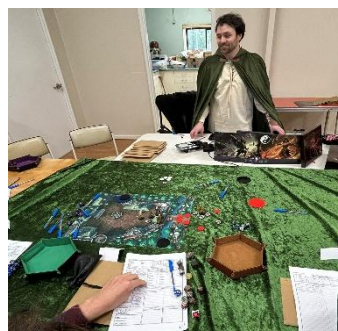
The mediaeval doctor wore his historically correct pre-Covid mask against infection from the vapours of The Plague.

For kids' safe war games, there was a miniature trebuchet for shooting balls over imaginary castle walls and a sticky archery target for far-flung, plastic arrows.

Inside the spacious Burra Community Hall, a Dungeons & Dragons Grandmaster orchestrated board battles, gentlefolk and childer crafted orange pomanders and painted personal shields. Artisan soaps, candles, jewellery and mediaeval-themed trinkets abounded.



There was free wassail for all lords, ladies and peasants and loads of timeless pasta, pizzas, tea and coffee. The Magpie loved the lasagne and vegetable-rich minestrone (left) from the Royalla Station Café.

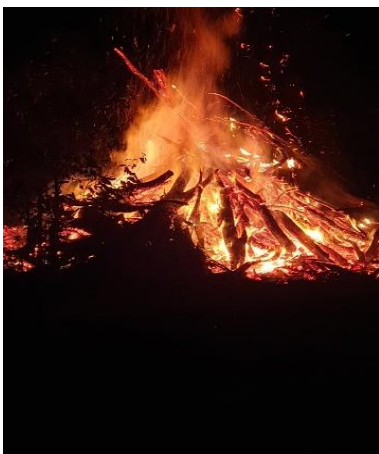




Viking-helmet wearing recent arrivals near Burra are Crocodile Mick and partner Michaela. They've moved here from the NT to be near the grandchildren. She is proud of her Viking ancestry and wears a wolfskin coat, bought, she emphasised, from an op-shop in Denmark.

R: Mick's croc-skin wristband, made from a crocodile head and naturally tanned.

Find him on Facebook: Crocodile Mick Pitman.



The solstice celebrations finished with the traditional bonfire, managed by the Burra RFS Brigade. The solstice fire is the symbolic ceremony to mark the longest, darkest night of the year and welcome the return of the light. It can be seen as welcoming the return of the sun (which actually appeared for the day).

Thank you to the Burra Community Association for organising an inclusive, entertaining, appropriate fair.

Entry was by donation. We hope the event was a good fundraiser for the Association.



MICHELAGO RAILWAY STATION: PROPOSED PATH RECONSTRUCTION

The following item is based on the MRCA President's application for Boco Rock funding.

Among all the praise for the recent Railway Heritage Market organised by Michelago Region Community Association (MRCA) (see *Michelago Magpie* 49), there was one big negative – the rocky path/driveway. It's long been a pedestrian problem, especially for people with walkers or prams. There have been sprained ankles.

A safer path is imperative for community events and tourist traffic.

The problem is caused by railway ballast throughout the station grounds: angular rocks up to 100mm long extending down roughly 30cm deep. The driveway is especially rocky and is used extensively by pedestrians as well as cars entering from and exiting to Ryrie Street.

MRCA decided to apply to the annual Boco Rock Community Enhancement Fund for a grant to pay for re-sheeting the driveway with decomposed granite, providing a new surface near the Cenotaph and flagpole and installing two pathways from the driveway to the railway station platform, including one giving wheelchair access.





The funding application had to provide assurance of the MRCA's capacity to deliver the project. This was given: the application highlighted (1) the 2019 Boco Rock grant to paint the exterior of the railway station, (2) a NSW bushfire relief grant to install a large BBQ, tables, seats and shelters at Clive Kelly Oval, completed in 2022, (3) a 2024 Boco Rock grant to erect a fence and sign at Clive Kelly Oval, (4) a Heritage NSW grant for internal plastering, carpentry and painting at the railway station, completed in 2025.

MRCA would like to think our application is very compelling, given the community importance of the historical railway station. However, there's no guarantee of success. The Fund is highly competitive. A decision is expected in August, with grants to be distributed in September.

MRCA manages the Michelago Railway Station as a facility for our local community. The Station, listed on the NSW Heritage Register, was built in 1887 and requires ongoing maintenance so it is safe and presentable for community use and for visitors to Michelago.

For details of the Boco Rock Community Enhancement Fund, see p.16 of *Michelago Magpie 47*.



Above: Heritage Market Fair 2026 and ANZAC Day 2024.

L: A small person sitting on rocks with a bucketful of eggs at the Easter Egg Hunt 2023

R: Remembrance Day 2024



Station photos: K Rooney & L Pattison



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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (Not actual AGM →) MICHELAGO REGION COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (MRCA)

Saturday, 15 August, 3 pm, Michelago Railway Station



Do you know the locals? How many people can say 'Hi!' to you? Know your name?

Do you like community events? Think Oz Day barbecues, the Heritage Market Fair, ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, the Great Bake Off? The occasional garden cleanup at the railway station, the Gardening Group? Seniors Lunch? Saturday HIIT or Pilates? Do you use the tennis courts? The barbecues? The Clive Kelly Oval? Play with the cricket club? Thinking of starting a soccer group?

Are you part of smaller, private groups within the community, discussing books, gardens, movies, young children, school activities?

People make things happen when they connect, organise, make friends, feel good together and contribute a little of their time.



The MRCA has made community-wide things happen for many years. Many different people have played their parts. Some have contributed a lot of time and some just a little. It's all good.

There'll be vacancies on the committee. We'd really like new people to have a chance to plan, organise and advocate on behalf of their community. So, here's an invitation to connect. Do show your friendly face at the AGM and join the MRCA (or renew).

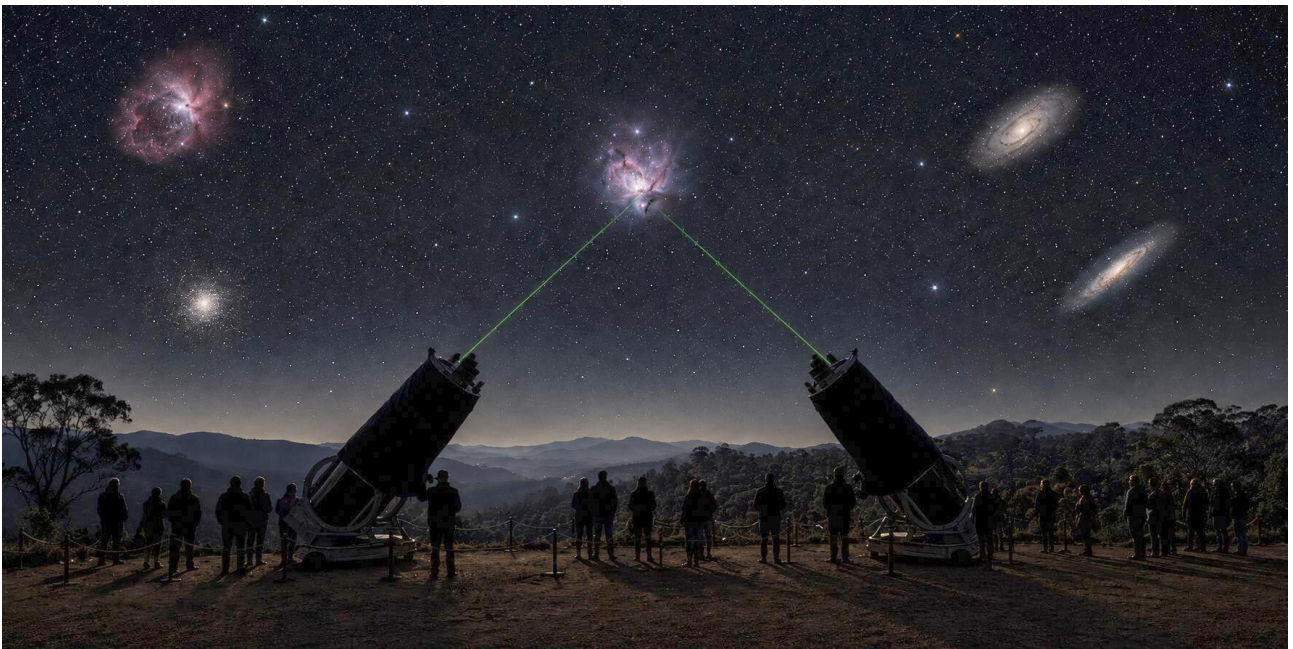
It's only \$10 p/a (\$15 family). There's no obligation to actually do anything, but if you'd like to play a part, you'd be very welcome. Come along, meet friends old and new, have a cuppa, a chat and vote for the coming year's committee.

Note: new regular meeting time is 2pm, 2nd Wednesday of the month. See What's On? p.24.



TELESCOPE NIGHT – EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT (clouds permitting)

Peter Bobroff



The image is obviously AI-enhanced, but the flat site, small stars and the hills are real. Added in the sky by AI are: Orion nebula, Eta Carina, Omega Centaurus and two galaxies (one edge-on and one face-on). And the crowd.

Peter has lasers that make it easy to point the telescope without bending to look through a sight.

Fun fact: The bigger the telescope, the smaller the area of sky it can cover.

Discover the stars! They're amazing and Peter can answer your questions –Ed.

Where: 231 Mt Livingstone Rd, Michelago, NSW.

From Michelago village, south on the Monaro highway, turn right (west) into Mt Livingstone Rd, up the hill to the T-junction with Lawler Rd, turn right, then 400m, up the rise, take the second gate (with the light on it). Track is not too bad if taken slowly. To big shed on the hill.

Who to contact: Beth Bobroff 0400 142 074 or Peter Bobroff 0431 561 677, pjb@flix.com.au

When: best to arrive before sunset, at least on the first visit.

Wear: it is usually colder than you'd think. It's often 3 degrees colder than in the valley.

Why: light from some of the visible galaxies has taken 10 million years to get here and it will be disappointed not to reach your retina.

What's there: plenty of telescopes, chairs etc. Warm inside the shed.

Watch out for the wildlife on the roads. Wet your whistle on tea, coffee and anti-freeze.

*'...Where the air is clear as crystal, and the white stars fairly blaze
At midnight in the cold and frosty sky ...' From A B Paterson's The Man from Snowy River*



*Random kangaroos
near the telescope site.
NOT AI-generated.
Photo: Peter Bobroff*



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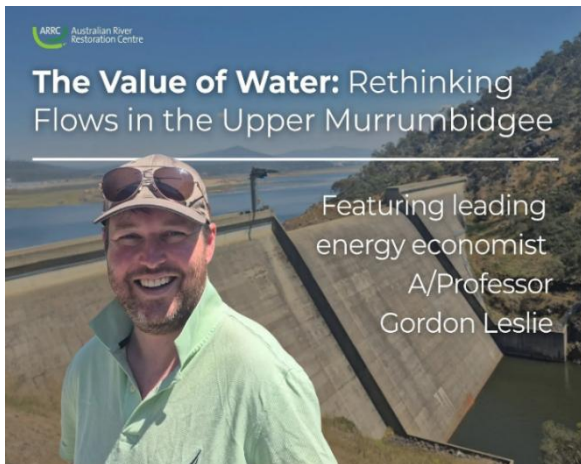
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THE UPPER MURRUMBIDGEE

Article provided by Sally Hughes



ARDC Australian River Restoration Centre

The Value of Water: Rethinking Flows in the Upper Murrumbidgee

Featuring leading energy economist
A/Professor Gordon Leslie

The link to the webinar summary and recording is below this list of 'Key Insights'.

The 2019 cease to flow wasn't bad luck, it was a system failure. When the Upper Murrumbidgee stopped flowing, the environmental value of releasing water was extraordinarily high, yet no additional releases occurred.

What does this say about previous arrangements?

Water has three competing values at any moment in time. Releasing it down the Upper Murrumbidgee for environmental flows, releasing it for electricity generation, or keeping it stored for future option value. These values change constantly with rainfall forecasts, electricity price forecasts, environmental conditions, and grid conditions. The economic ideal adjusts to these shifts. Current rules do not.

Snowy Hydro knows what water is worth to them. We don't. Snowy Hydro Limited operates with internal estimates of the opportunity cost of water, the threshold price at which they're willing to release a fraction of water to generate energy versus keeping that fraction stored. This is private information. Any compensation framework that doesn't make this transparent thus risks overpaying for less water.

If you pay for an additional environmental release based on average electricity prices instead of true opportunity cost, you could pay too much. Gordon's research shows that

using volume weighted average prices to value water could result in dramatically higher compensation costs. With a fixed \$10 million drought relief fund, this means buying substantially less water than the framework intends.

Tasmania has already implemented an approach to this problem. The Tasmanian Economic Regulator sets water transfer prices for Hydro Tasmania using a transparent formula tied to electricity futures prices and dam levels. There is no technical impediment to adopting a similar approach on the Snowy Scheme.

- Our webinar recording and summary is live here:
<https://theforgottenriver.au/updates/the-value-of-water>

[The link includes a plea for responses in the coming consultation period and for campaign donations via a 'Donate Here' button –Ed.]



MICHELAGO RURAL FIRE BRIGADE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & AWARDS PRESENTATION

Brien Hallett

Some 20 members of our Michelago Rural Fire Brigade met on the evening of Friday 19 June at the Memorial Hall to hear reports about the 2025-6 year and to elect new office bearers for the forthcoming year.



Special guest was the new RFS Monaro District Manager, Lachlan Gilchrist (*at left*), who addressed the meeting, conducted elections for various positions and presented a range of service awards.



In her report, brigade Captain Abby McPherson said that it had been a busy year with 18 callouts including 12 fires, three motor vehicle accidents and even two false alarms. She thanked members for turning out when the fire alarm sounded – including to one interstate deployment – and supporting training and community engagement activities.

Abby also recognised the support of members' families for this vital community service.

District Manager Lachlan Gilchrist then conducted elections for officeholder positions, and the results were as follows:

- President: Brent Wallis
- Vice-president: Ian Hooley
- Treasurer: Brien Hallett
- Secretary: Lee Harris
- Captain: Abby McPherson
- Senior Deputy Captain: Peter Butler
- Deputy Captains: Derek Giucci, James Suthern.

A range of other positions were also filled, including permit officers for landholders to conduct burning and these will be Abby McPherson, Derek Giucci, Peter Butler and Brent Wallis.

Award Presentations

A highlight of the meeting was the presentation of various awards including three Australian Fire Service Medals to former Brigade Captains Brent Wallis and Keith Howker as well as former Senior Deputy Captain Duncan McNeill.

As Captain Abby McPherson told the *Magpie*, "This meritorious award under the Australian honours system recognises distinguished service by a member of an Australian fire service. The recognition for Brent, Duncan and Keith is well deserved and reflects well on the whole brigade."

District Manager Lachlan Gilchrist then presented 10-year long service medals to Scott Teys and Dave Ferris as well as 20-year clasps to Duncan McNeill, Keith Howker, Aldo Giucci, Derek Giucci and Brien Hallett.

This was a successful meeting, and the brigade looks forward to working with Lachlan as the new Monaro District Manager.



From left: District Manager Lachlan Gilchrist presents Australian Fire Service Medals to Brent Wallis, Duncan McNeill and Keith Howker. The Australian Fire Service Medal.

Photos: Chloe McPherson.





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LEGENDARY PHOTOGRAPHERS AT MICHELAGO

Kerry Rooney

Magpie readers who watch the Sunday *Insiders* on ABC TV would know Mike Bowers as the presenter of *Talking Pictures*, a pithy section of the program that sums up a week in politics through photographs and cartoons.

Mike (*at right*) is an award-winning press gallery photographer who has captured many memorable moments in national politics and taken countless stunning shots of Australia. It turns out that Mike lives not far away and is well acquainted with our railway station.

Recently, Mike dropped by to do a photo shoot. The subject was a musician, JV Scott, an emerging country and folk performer, looking for new publicity material.



Given JV (*photos left and right*) writes original songs, he may come up with some lyrics inspired by Michelago. At the very least, we can hope to see our rustic railway station in his posters or on the cover of an album.

Coincidences abound. During the visit to our station, Mike admired the splendid steam train photo on display in the centre of the main waiting room.



My follow-up inquiry to our honorary Station Master, Lindsay Richmond, revealed Michelago railway's connection with another legendary press gallery photographer, the late Graeme 'Bluey' Thomson. Bluey is best remembered for a 1987 photo of Bill Hayden curtsying to his successor Bob Hawke.

Bluey was a train buff and recorded a lot of rail history in his photos. He got along very well with the late Tim Fischer, former leader of the Nationals and an avid supporter of rail transport.



A member of the Australian Railway Historical Society, Bluey was like an unofficial photographer for the ACT branch. So, it was Bluey who immortalised the steam locomotive at Michelago in a fabulous night-time photo (*at left*). One legendary photographer had indeed spotted the talent of an earlier legend.

The ACT branch of the Australian Railway Historical Society restored our station and railway line and ran tourist trains from Canberra to Michelago for nearly a decade until 2002.

Want to know more? Order your copy of the Michelago Railway Station booklet, for just \$5 from kerryaroonney@gmail.com

Visit Mike Bowers' website [here](#) to see his amazing photographs.

Read about Bluey Thomson and see his photos on the [Museum of Australian Democracy](#) website.



On 26 May, Michelago Public School posted on Facebook:

Remembering Claire Maree Plummer 💙

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Claire Maree Plummer (Pittavino). Claire was a valued part of the Michelago community and will be remembered by many for her time as Principal of Michelago Public School, where she made a lasting impact on the lives of students, families and staff.



Our thoughts are with Claire's family, friends and all those whose lives she touched during this difficult time.

MORE ABOUT CLAIRE

Kerry Rooney

Claire Plummer taught at Michelago Public School for three decades, teaching two generations of the same family in some cases. She commenced as an assistant teacher in 1991, later becoming Principal and retired in 2020.



Claire was instrumental in organising the 150th anniversary event for the school in 2018. This brought back hundreds of former pupils to join in the day's festivities.

On 15 June this year, the school organised an afternoon tea for former students, parents and staff to honour Claire's years of dedicated service to the Michelago school community.

This link about the 150th anniversary event is to *Region*, an online newsletter: [Region article](#)



Main photo: 2018 students and staff at Michelago Public School. Claire is second from the right in the third row from the top. Credit: Region newsletter. From left: 1. Bridie Turnbull with the children of Claire's daughter, Dominique, at the afternoon tea 15 June 2026. 2. From the school's Facebook page after the 150th anniversary celebrations.

TRIBUTES

Catherine Turnbull (née Kelly)

‘Claire’s time at Michelago Public School began the very year I started kindergarten, and I feel incredibly fortunate to have been one of her students. She was an inspiring teacher whose kindness, dedication and passion helped make my primary school years some of the happiest and most memorable of my life.

Claire had a remarkable gift for bringing out the very best in her students, nurturing not only their academic abilities but also a genuine love of learning. She was a truly exceptional educator, and I will always be grateful for the impact she had on my life.

It was especially meaningful that my three daughters were also fortunate enough to learn under Claire’s guidance during their years at Michelago Public School. Few teachers have the privilege of shaping generations of the same family, and her influence will continue to be felt for years to come. She leaves behind a remarkable and enduring legacy.’

Bridie Turnbull

‘Mrs Plummer was an extraordinary teacher, principal, and friend whose kindness, warmth, and generosity touched the lives of so many. I was fortunate enough to not only know her as my teacher, but also as a friend. She had a remarkable gift for making everyone feel welcomed and valued, and her warmth extended far beyond the classroom. She created a school environment where every student felt supported, encouraged, and believed in. She had a special way of making learning enjoyable and creating traditions that so many of us still remember today. Whether it was welcoming her class into her home to bake gingerbread houses or dedicating countless hours into planning the iconic end-of-year performances for which she was renowned, every event and tradition reflected on the care, dedication and love she had for her students.

Her impact cannot be measured by the years she spent simply teaching, but by the countless lives she influenced through her compassion, patience and unwavering support. She leaves behind a legacy of kindness, encouragement and cherished memories that will live on through the countless lives she touched.’

Anna Bunston (née Kenyon)

‘I was very sad to hear the sad news that Claire Plummer had passed away. Claire was taking a break from Michelago School when my boys started there but had been Principal there for many years. She returned when my boys were in Years 1 and 3 and was there when my youngest moved on at the end of Year 5.

Her commitment to the school and the students’ learning and well-being was truly inspiring. Claire was always calm and approachable, happy to discuss any concerns and consider ideas for the school. Her warm, positive energy made students and parents feel comfortable and valued.’



SNOWY MONARO
REGIONAL LIBRARY

Story Time & Rhyme time at Michelago

*Sessions on Wednesdays - 10.30am **

Join us for a bit of dancing and a story or two!

Cooma library will be visiting your local area to bring some of the 'library' to you!

Time: 10.30am to 11.30am

Where: Michelago School Library

Wednesday - 22nd July

Wednesday - 12th August

Wednesday - 16 September

Wednesday - 14th October

Wednesday - 18th November

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SCAN ME



MICHELAGO MEMORIAL HALL – NOTE UPDATED EMAIL

Bookings: Michelago.Memorial.Hall@gmail.com or 0494 178 469

Here's the usual handy information about Hall hire.

The Hall has all facilities for your function.

Hall hire rates

- a) Daytime: \$18.00 p/h. Refundable deposit bond: \$170.00 per event.
- b) Evening Event: \$295.00 + refundable deposit bond \$260.00.
- c) Equipment hire (tables, chairs, urn, etc) for out-of-hall use: \$1 per chair, \$5 per table. Other equipment by arrangement with the Hall Committee.

Local fund-raising events can hire the hall at a reduced fee.

The tennis courts are free for community members to use. The Hall Committee is responsible for minor maintenance of the tennis courts and clubhouse and asks that players who have tightened the nets before a game loosen them when they finish playing. Please close the gates and take any rubbish with you.

BBQs: please, please clean them after use! Instructions are on the side. Sorry, there's no water supply at the oval. Please take your own.



MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE

The Committee continues to care for the Hall after the committee-initiated extensive refurbishments of the last three years. Now an important maintenance: Allan has replaced the battery in the Hall-funded AED machine at the Café. News: it seems Council will replace the decrepit water tank.



GARDEN GROUP, 21 June, at the tennis clubhouse



Ivan's chainsaw-savaged hand is healing and his garden advice was valuable, as always. Lettuces and clumps of flax and irises were shared, as were deliciously edible items. Despite the cold, there were new, very welcome attendees. There'll be no meeting in chilly July, though. We look forward to August for optimistic seedlings amid signs of Spring.

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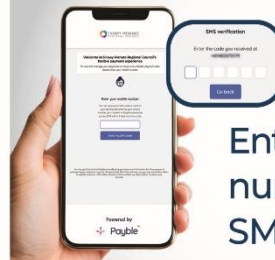
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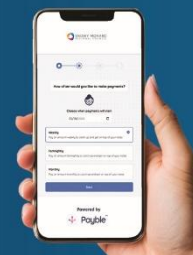
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Winter Trees

All the complicated details
of the attiring and
the disattiring are completed.

A liquid moon
moves gently among
the long branches.

Thus having prepared their buds
against a sure winter
the wise trees
stand sleeping in the cold.

By William Carlos Williams

Photo: Michelago, June 2026



HOW TO NOTIFY YOUR BURN



The statutory Bush Fire Danger Period across the Snowy Monaro LGA, which includes our Brigade area, ended at midnight on 31 March 2026.

You no longer need an approved permit to burn. However, you still need to notify the NSW RFS of your burning activities with at least 24 hours' notice.

You also need to notify your immediate neighbours 24 hours in advance, not just rely on a community Facebook post (which is also handy for the wider community).

To notify the NSW RFS of your upcoming burning activities, please visit [NSW RFS](https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/safeburning)

Then go to Apply, Notify, Enquire, then Notify of your planned burn. There, fill out the form and read the mandatory conditions: 1. Notify neighbours at least 24 hours before. 2. Check the weather forecast and fire danger. 3. Use fire safely with clearings all around. 4. Monitor the fire in person and see that it is fully extinguished.



THANKS TO ALL NSW RFS members

[The link to this 10 June Facebook post was sent to all NSW RFS members, including the Magpie –Ed.]

Today, on First Responders Day, I would like to personally acknowledge and thank every volunteer and staff member across the NSW Rural Fire Service.

As Group Officer 13, Mid North Coast, I have the privilege of working alongside some truly dedicated and professional people who continually put the needs of their communities before their own. Whether it's responding to bush fires, structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, storms, flood operations, community engagement activities or the countless hours spent training and maintaining equipment, your commitment never goes unnoticed.

Our volunteers and staff answer the call at all hours, often leaving their families, workplaces, and personal commitments behind to help others during their most difficult times. That level of dedication deserves recognition and respect.

I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the families, employers, and loved ones who support our members. Your understanding, encouragement, and sacrifices make it possible for our people to serve their communities when they are needed most.

Today is an opportunity to reflect on the incredible contribution made by first responders across our nation, and I am proud to stand alongside the men and women of the NSW Rural Fire Service.

Thank you for your service, your professionalism and your unwavering commitment to keeping our communities safe.

Damian Chester
Group Officer 13 – Mid North Coast
NSW Rural Fire Service 🚒👨‍🚒

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CHOOSE TO BE A RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER



Media release issued Tuesday 2 June 2026

Dogs are a part of everyday life in regional areas like the Snowy Monaro, whether it's on the farm, as part of the family or in a range of specialised jobs.

As more households than ever are choosing to keep a pet, and more people than ever are choosing to swap city streets for life among the mountain peaks, it's up to each of us to make the choice to be a responsible pet owner.



Reports by local farmers to Council in 2026 show an alarming rise in the number and frequency of incidents where pet dogs are hurting and killing farm animals.

Council has investigated 20 dog attacks on stock in 2026 so far, surpassing 2025's full-year total of 17 with six months still to go.

With the agriculture sector under immense pressure right now, we're calling on all local dog owners to protect their pets, our farmers, and our community by choosing to keep their animals contained, socialised and properly trained.

View the easy guide to preventing dog attacks online at <https://qrco.de/dog-attacks>.

State laws and regulations require all dogs to be microchipped, registered, and wearing a collar with their owner's contact details at all times. Away from home, all dogs must be on a lead and under effective control – except in off-leash areas.

Dog owners risk fines, penalties, civil liability, and could have their pet declared a nuisance, dangerous or menacing, which could see their pet removed.

Farmers are legally entitled to take all reasonable action to protect their livestock against dog attacks, which means straying pets in regional and rural areas are at even greater risk than in towns and cities.

For more information on responsible pet ownership, please visit Council's website at <https://qrco.de/SMRCpets>, email council@smrc.nsw.gov.au or phone 1300 345 345.

Any attacks on livestock should be reported to Council immediately on 1300 345 345, with rangers on call 24/7 every day of the year.

Media Contact

Communications Department

1300 345 345 | communications@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au





KANGAROO ALERTS [Recently
published in summary, this is printed in
full by request.]



(02) 6299 1966



wildcare.com.au



@WildcareQBN

We share our homes with some of Australia's most incredible wildlife, and it's a frequent occurrence that we come across native animals. For Wildcare, road safety is a serious concern, and it's this time of year which we find the number of orphaned joeys spikes exponentially. It's important for motorists to understand the risks and take steps to reduce them for their own safety, and that of our wildlife.



Kangaroos are most active during dawn and dusk. Their unpredictable behaviour and speed mean they can suddenly leap across roads, giving drivers little time to react. In rural areas, especially where vegetation is close to the roadside, kangaroos may be hidden until the last moment. If you travel, particularly along rural roads, there are some precautions you can take to avoid having a collision.

- Drive with caution at dawn and dusk. Avoid driving during these times and, if you must drive, reduce your speed and stay alert.
- Take note of wildlife signs. They are placed where wildlife crossings are common. If you see a sign, slow down and increase your awareness, especially around corners and along verges.
- Stay alert, as kangaroos often travel in mobs (groups). If there's one, there could be more.
- Don't swerve if a kangaroo jumps out in front of you; at high speeds, you risk loss of control or rolling your vehicle. Instead, brake steadily and firmly in a straight line.

Each year, we respond to hundreds of accidents involving native animals, with kangaroos making up a vast majority of these. Accidents happen, but it's important to know what to do after that.

- Pull over safely and turn on your hazard lights.
- Check for injuries – to yourself, passengers and, from a safe distance, the animal.
- Do not approach an injured kangaroo directly. They can be dangerous when scared or hurt.
- If the kangaroo is alive and injured, or is deceased and a female, contact the 24/7 Wildcare Helpline on (02) 6299 1966 for assistance assessing the kangaroo or advice with checking the pouch.

Sharing the road with wildlife is a reality of life in Australia and it comes with responsibility. By driving with extra caution, especially during high-risk times, you can reduce the chance of a collision. Always put safety first, for yourself and the wildlife that make Australia unique.

If you're interested to be a rehabilitator for native wildlife, go to wildcare.com.au to find out more.
Krystal Hemsworth, Communications Coordinator communications@wildcare.com.au
Wildcare Queanbeyan Inc.



MICHELAGO RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

**YOUR COMMUNITY-BASED RURAL FIRE BRIGADE
PROTECTS YOU|
NEEDS YOU**

*Are you new to the district? Please join us!
We can help you, your family and property: 'Prepare, Act, Survive'*

The Michelago Rural Fire Brigade

- is made up entirely of volunteers
- welcomes both male and female members
- values diverse skills and experiences
- has free, monthly training sessions
- has access to free training with the NSW Rural Fire Service Monaro Team
- collaborates with other rural brigades like Colinton and Anembo
- protects people and property against natural disasters
- provides fire protection for emergency services attending motor vehicle accidents
- issues fire permits
- participates in community fire-safety education programs
- is funded for trucks, equipment and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) through the Rural Fire Fighting Fund and Local Government
- works with the community.

Be in the community — be in the Brigade

President — Brent Wallis

Enquiries

Captain — Abby McPherson — 0417 548 118



HERE'S A NEW LOCAL BUSINESS

CRANE HIRE PLUS ANYTHING TO DO WITH METAL Details p.7



FABCON

E N G I N E E R I N G



Michelago Magpie information. Get the Magpie free by email: send name and email address to newsletter@michelagoregion.org.au Print copies are \$2. This goes to the Railway Station maintenance. Previous issues can be read on www.michelagoregion.org.au

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Advertisements: businesses can purchase advertisement space for \$20.00 per issue (about a quarter or half a page, depending on space). Full-page ads are \$30. All proceeds help the MRCA maintain the heritage-listed Michelago Railway Station. Non-business ads are free.

Contributions: photos (jpg preferred, please) 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 and would like them listed in the *Michelago Magpie's What's On?* list, please email them to 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, and one that builds up a Michelago history.

Photos and articles, unless otherwise accredited, are by Leanne Pattison, *MM* Editor.

Michelago Region Community Association information – please join/renew.



To join the MRCA, first download the membership form from the home page at www.michelagoregion.org.au and email it to mrca@michelagoregion.org.au

Questions? Please email.

It's only \$10 p/a single and \$15 p/a family. Joining or renewing, you can pay by EFT: BSB 633000 Account number 126401058

Account name: Michelago Region Community Association Inc. Please include your name.

There are **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. All funds go to running costs, including upkeep, rental and insurance for Michelago's heritage-listed Railway Station. The Committee applies for government grants and occasionally organises other fund-raisers.
2. It's sociable – you know what's happening, who's doing what, and you participate only if you want to.

The MRCA Committee <http://www.michelagoregion.org.au/mrca/>

Meetings are open: 2nd Wednesday of most months, 6 pm, Railway Station. Next: 8 July. All Michelagoans are welcome. The minutes are on the website: www.michelagoregion.org.au



What's on?



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.
Advertise in the *Magpie*: contact the Editor newsletter@michelagoregion.org.au

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

- **Bingo**: 1st Monday of the month. Licensed café & store. Happy Hour, dinner 6 pm. Bingo 7 pm.
- **Bredbo CWA Markets** 4th Sunday of the month, 9–3pm
- **Choir** Thursdays, 7–8 pm in school term, St Thomas Church, Ryrie St. Occasional cancellations: call Jenny 0400 484 485 to check. Choir is having a winter break. It will recommence in August. Date tba.
- **Colinton Fire Brigade** Training 2nd Saturday of the month, from 1pm. 4574 Monaro Hwy, Colinton. Contact: secretarycolintonrfs@gmail.com
- **Michelago Fire Brigade** training usually second Sunday of the month, 9am–1pm. Contact details: MRCA notice board at the Michelago General Store. Captain Abby 0417 548 118.
- **Garden Group (was Seed Savers)** Enquiries: SMS Jenny 0400 484 485 or jenny258@bigpond.com Also p.13.
- **Hall** Committee general meeting. Hall. Currently every 2nd month, 3rd Wed 6 pm.
- **Hall bookings** Michelago.Memorial.Hall@gmail.com 0494 178 469. Hire rates p.13. Note new email.
- **HIIT** (high intensity interval training) exercise class with Peter (0417 427 494). Hall. Sat 8am. \$5 just to cover Hall hiring cost. 'Works for all ages.' See article in *Magpie* 40. Call Peter to check class is on.
- **Library Outreach Service**. Monthly, 4th Thursday to collect pre-orders outside the school 10.30–11.30. Next delivery Thurs 16 July. See SMRC site & *Magpie* 36 for how to order books.
- **Massage** Michelle O'Leary comes to you with her massage table. 0401 535 414
- **MRCA** general meeting (open). Railway station. Usually monthly, 2nd Wed 2 pm. Next: 8 July.
- **Pilates** Saturdays, 9.30-10.15 am in school term. Hall. See flyer on shop noticeboard.
- **Pony Club** Monthly 2nd Sunday. Enquiries: President: Romney (0428 297 514, romney.kelly@outlook.com) or Secretary: Sarah Nockles (nockles.sarah@gmail.com). Also see <https://ponyclubaustralia.com.au>
- **Senior Lunch Group** 1st Monday of the month, 12.30 pm. Location varies. Call Janet 0414 785 865 to check.
- **Story, Rhyme & Dance Time** for kiddies. School. Wednesdays 10.30 –11.30. Next: 22 July. See p.12.
- **St Patrick's** Catholic Church. Vigil Mass. Last Saturday of the month, 4 pm.
- **St Thomas** Anglican Church. Holy Communion. Monthly, 3rd Sunday 11 am.
- **Trail Riders** Usually monthly, 1st Sat. Check details on Tinderry tab of Australian Trail Horse Riders Association (ATHRA). President: John Harris. 0417 246 289 << jh1950@me.com >>

Coming happenings that we know about. Venues and times can change.

August Sat 15, 3.00pm, Railway Station. MRCA AGM. Please come have a cuppa, a chat and vote for the new committee. Helpful hands and minds are welcome. See p. 5.



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