



MURGON MOMENTS



Produced in association with the Murgon Business & Development Association Inc.
118 Lamb Street, Murgon 4605. P.O. Box 166, Phone (07) 41681066, Fax (07) 41681947,
E-Mail Editor: Igeraghty@datawave.net.au

MURGON at the foothills of Boat Mountain, in the heart of the Burnett Valley, part of the great South Burnett.



The past 9 years have been a huge learning curve for me, with some tears, much laughter and the realization that we all have within us the strength to cope with whatever life throws at us. However, without the boundless love of my incredible family and the strong support of my wonderful friends life would have indeed been tough. I have been amazed by the amount of support and offers of help that have flooded in since I launched my Fundraiser. People are so kind. Special thanks to my friend, Raelene Dennis for taking on the role of co-ordinator which is a huge task and also to the small group of enthusiastic committee members supporting me. Legs have featured in all my fundraisers, but the best legs in the world will be the legs I receive as a result of the help that I have received from so many generous people. Thank you everyone – I love you all. Shona Muckert.

Photo L-R :
Morag Muckert (Mother) Laura Holding (Sister) Perry Muckert (Father) Seated: Shona Muckert

Continued page 22

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The Australian National titles will be held at Wondai airport during the Easter Weekend 18 - 21 April 2014. The South East Queensland Gyroplane Club will be hosting the Australian National Titles on behalf of Australian Sports

Rotorcraft Association at WONDAL during the Easter Weekend.

In addition to competition events on Saturday and Sunday, there will be an opportunity to get up close and personal with the pilots and their machines.



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15 members of the Murgon Orcas Swimming Club held a Swimathon recently to raise funds to replace equipment necessary for training and club events. Swimmers were sponsored to swim per lap, some even doing 100 laps. The club needs to be congratulated raising over \$1,000. The pool has gone from one of the least used pools in the South Burnett to the second most used pool. The water is heated by way of solar and mains and usually stays at about 28c. The pool will close for this season, as we go into winter, the week after Easter. Photo : Lori Hall, Amanda Hadley and Jessamy Zerner doing their laps.

MURGON MOMENTS

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DROWSY DRIVERS STAY ALIVE



Shift workers and tired drivers will have a better chance at arriving home safely thanks to a new safety kit.

Safety products distributor, Dawn Page, said "Statistics show that shift workers and long distance drivers are at a high risk in being involved in a drowsy driving accident."

"I was on a personal mission to find something that would help reduce this risk and I came across the Drowsy Driver Reviver Kit," said Mrs Page. "I then got in touch with Janey Dwyer,

a sleep expert who deals with a lot of the mines in North Queensland," she said.

Dawn Page is the owner of Work Stuff, a supplier of safety equipment, based in Kingaroy.

Janey Dwyer is a Sleep and Fatigue Consultant at the Bowen Basin Sleep Health Centre in Moranbah. She developed the kit to help drivers recognize drowsy symptoms. Ms Dwyer said "I am passionate about reducing fatigue and getting people home safely."

"You have to be smart enough to recognize the critical symptoms of drowsy driving and strong enough to over ride that powerful urge to continue driving while feeling drowsy," said Ms Dwyer. "The kit has all of the tools needed to pull over for a roadside nap. Power napping reduces the risk of a micro-sleep and helps road users arrive at their destination safely," said Ms Dwyer.

Work Stuff are the nominated distributors of the Drowsy Driver Reviver Kit. Mrs Page said "We are proud to be Janey's supplier. I am looking forward to meeting with business owners who have shift workers and helping them make their employee's time in a vehicle safer."

"It is too easy to say it will never happen to you because it can and the chances are that inevitably it will if you continue to drive drowsy," said Mrs Page. For more information about the kits, phone Dawn Page on (07) 4162 8432.

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APRIL 2014 EXHIBITION

The month of April will see the Wondai Regional Art Gallery hosting the 2014 Wondai Garden Expo Art Competition

Theme: Gardens of the South Burnett (Any Medium)

Prizes: \$200 (First Prize), \$150 (Second Prize), \$100 (Third Prize)

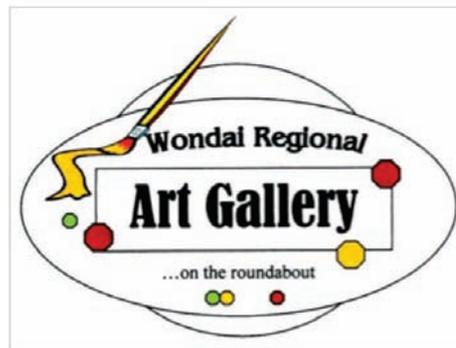
For further details of the competition contact Wondai Regional Art Gallery

Phone: 4168 5926

Email: wondaiartgallery@southburnett.qld.gov.au

Kidz Corner: Kingaroy State School

The exhibition will remain in the Gallery throughout the month of April 2014.



The Wondai Regional Art Gallery is open 7 days a week, 10.00am till 4.00pm. Free Entry Telephone: 07 4168 5926 or email wondaiartgallery@southburnett.qld.gov.au



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WHAT HAVE RECENT CATTLE PRICE RECOVERIES BEEN FOLLOWING DROUGHT?

Amidst one of the most crippling droughts of recent history, particularly across large swathes of Queensland where nearly 80% of the state is drought declared, cattle prices are at their lowest level in years, and it's difficult to see any light at the end of the tunnel.

Also as a result of the devastating drought, slaughter has been exceptionally high, with indicative weekly eastern states cattle slaughter reaching record highs for five consecutive weeks during February/March. Additionally, branding rates in the north are estimated to have averaged around 55% in 2013, meaning that from approximately 7.5 million head of northern females, significantly fewer calves will be coming through the system in 2014. Ultimately, the combination of these two factors will significantly tighten supplies.

Encouragingly, time and again throughout history, after cattle supplies have contracted significantly, prices have recovered substantially once there was a return to average seasonal conditions. Currently in the US, in the wake of several drought years, Choice fed steers are fetching 345A¢/kg lwt, up 29% from the beginning of 2013. Additionally, as a result of the very tight cow supplies, CattleFax anticipates cow prices in 2014 to average 25% higher, year-on-year.

The same trend is also exemplified in New Zealand, where the first six months of 2013 saw the majority of the North Island in the grip of a one in one hundred year drought, which underpinned historically high slaughter, and ultimately placed a very heavy burden on cattle prices. However, P2 steers are now fetching 378.2A¢/kg cwt at the farm gate, up 22% from the beginning of 2013 due to strong demand and much tighter supplies.

Locally, during the exceptionally tough drought of 2009 in Australia, the EYCI hit a low point of 282.75 in December, before recovering 25% over the following three months, after drenching, widespread rainfall. Assisted by a string of favourable seasons, the following 12 months saw the EYCI hike a further 20%, before reaching a high of 424.25¢/kg cwt in March 2011.

Indeed, while the cattle market is currently restricted by processing capacity, causing historically weak prices, a substantial recovery is inevitable once there is a break in seasonal conditions, like what has happened in the US and NZ, and recently in Australia.

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LOCK IT OR LOSE IT

The Queensland Police Service want to help prevent the theft of vehicles and property.

Protect your car and valuables. To reduce the risk of theft –

- Remove all valuables from the vehicle or keep them out of sight.
- Don't leave personal documents in your vehicle.
- Make sure you lock all doors and windows in your house and don't forget the car even when parked in your own driveway.
- Don't leave keys anywhere in the car and keep garage door openers out of sight.
- Put your wallets and keys out of sight in the house, not near the door where they can be easily grabbed.
- Don't leave valuable tools in the back of the ute unless you can secure them.
- Mark your property with microdots or a personal code.
- Regularly check your registration plates are in place.

If you see anything that you may feel does not seem right, phone Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000 or your local police station.

TO MAKE YOU SMILE

A woman calls a local hospital. "Could you connect me to the person who gives information about patients?" I'd like to find out the condition of patient Sarah Smith in Room 302."

She is connected to the nursing station and makes the request.

The nurse responds: "Mrs Smith is doing very well. She's had two full meals, her blood pressure is fine, she is to be taken off the heart monitor in a couple of hours and, if she continues this improvement, Dr Jones is going to send her home tomorrow at noon."

The caller responds: "What a relief!" "That's wonderful news!"

The nurse says: "From your enthusiasm, you are obviously a close family member or friend."

"Neither!" says the caller. "I'm Sarah Smith in 302. Nobody in here tells you anything!"

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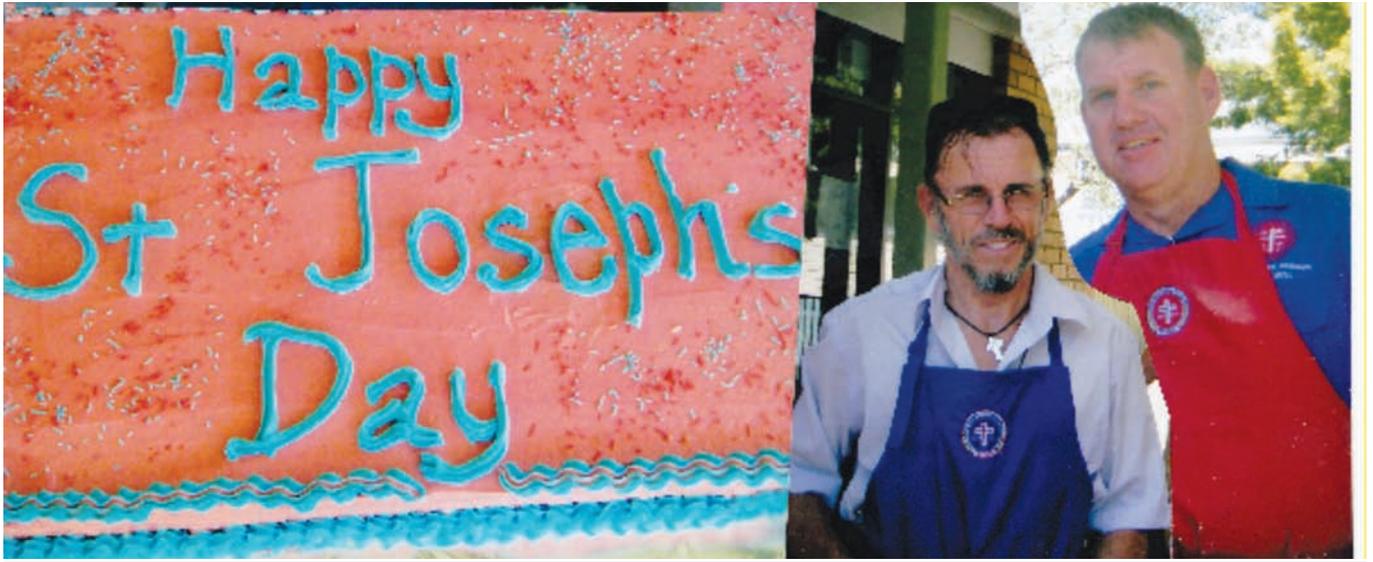
ST JOSEPH'S DAY 2014



St Joseph's School in Murgon celebrated St Joseph's Feast Day with a lovely mass. We welcomed parishioners, parents and carers to our mass.

Like any good party, cake and sausages were on the menu, there was a disco organised during lunchtime by the Nurture Group of 6/7 Student Leaders. Lots of hard work had gone into dance lessons leading up to the disco.

The afternoon session was spent with 'Buddy Classes' completing art and craft activities.



A NEW MANAGER FOR THE MURGON SERVICES CLUB

The new manager Gavin Cleary is only too happy to welcome everyone to the Club. Your visit may include lunch or evening meal, coffee and cake, a drink and game of pool with mates or a dabble on the pokies. The function room is available for meetings, parties and wedding receptions.

New Members are always welcome. When you join you will receive 10% discount from your food and drinks purchased.

Call in and say "Hi" to Gavin and his friendly staff.

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RATES DISCOUNT PERIOD EXTENDED FOR PRIMARY PRODUCERS

South Burnett Regional Council will extend the discounted rates period for bonafide primary producers due to the effect of the drought on farmers.

Mayor Wayne Kartzmann said, "Given that the South Burnett has been drought declared, Council has extended the discount period by one (1) month for primary producers to the 8 May 2014. Last week's rain was certainly needed although it wasn't enough for our farmers, who need our assistance."

"When there is a drought it is up to the State and Federal government to provide relief to our primary producers, however Council are looking at whatever we can do to also help. The extension of the discount period is one small way where we can assist South Burnett primary producers who are doing it tough at the moment," said Mayor Kartzmann.

Primary producers can apply for their discount period to be extended by filling in a simple one page form, which can be found on Council's website or at Council's customer service centres.

Finance Portfolio spokesperson, Councillor Keith Campbell said, "I support the extension of the discounted rates period. Our primary producers are dealing with the effects of the drought under a difficult economic environment and this extension will allow our primary producers an extra month to reorganise their finances."

"The ramifications of this extension will be on Council's cash-flow, however given the effect of the drought this will be something Council will have to manage," Cr Campbell said.

"Council appreciates that there are people who are not primary producers who are doing it tough. For the discount period to be extended to all residents will heavily effect the finances of council which could then effect services; therefore we can only extend it to primary producers directly effected by the drought at this stage," he said.

The extension of the rates period is part of a package of assistance that Council is working on to assist South Burnett primary producers.

Councillor Kathy Duff, spokesperson for Natural Resource Management said, "We are lobbying government in regards to roadside grazing. Under State government legislation, farmers have to pay for roadside grazing and surely we can open this small bit of grass up for our primary producers without it costing them."

The Rates Discount Period Extension application form can be found on Council's website www.southburnett.qld.gov.au or by visiting Council's customer service centres. For more information phone (07) 4189 9100.

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PREPARING COUNCIL'S BUDGET

South Burnett Regional Council is working on its 2014/15 budget and poring over all costs to identify savings. Mayor Kratzmann said, "This is a hard task as again this year we have absorbed unexpected cuts to funding from the Federal and State government."

In the budget papers of last year we forecast an increase in general rates of 'above 5%' knowing that our finances were under stress. Since that time two major shocks have occurred these being the reduction in grant money and the effects of drought on our farmers and businesses.

Mayor Kratzmann explained, "Each year we have progressively been reducing our operational costs so that despite normal inflationary indices since 2008/09, this council has been able to operate with an operational budget that is now less than the operational budget that was allocated in 2008/09."

Mayor Kratzmann said, "This in itself is a remarkable achievement and one that I believe is unique in medium sized rural and regional Queensland Councils. This has been achieved through good management of resources, reductions in staff, and improving business processes."

My Council's aim is get the general rate increase below the forecast 5%, hence we are working hard to identify which

services can be cut or reduced knowing full well that roads are our major priority.

Finance Portfolio Spokesperson Cr Keith Campbell is optimistic that a general rate increase will be below 5% but said that Council also needs to borrow money for bridges, water, and wastewater. Cr Campbell said, "Currently our water prices are well below those recommended by an external State government funded project. We are aware of this but will address this in a planned way over several years to avoid what is called price shock."

Cr Campbell said, "Since January we have done a dozen different financial models with the aim of minimising the impact of any rate increase. We are committed to balancing our budget and do not want to fall into a budget position where we are reported to Parliament and placed on watch by the Auditor General for being financially unsustainable. Some 16 Councils were recently placed on watch and reported to Parliament for being in a poor financial position."

"Council plans to bring down its budget in June", said Mayor Kratzmann. The bottom line is our budget must balance.

IT'S ON AGAIN

Sunday 22nd June – C&K Murgon Community Kindergarten Ladies' Luncheon

More details to follow.

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We sadly mourn the loss of :

HANSEN, Melvyn, Late of Murgon.

DONOHUE, Mavis Alice, Late of Murgon.

SHAILER, John William, Late of Murgon.

ROBERTS, Nora Kathleen (Kath) Late of Proston.

FINNEY, Daisy Ellen, Formerly of Manumbar.

SCHULTZ, Josephine, Late of Proston.

DO YOU SUFFER FROM VARICOSE VEINS? – by Dee the Naturopath

Many of us suffer from varicose veins. These are unsightly bulging veins that most often affect our calves and legs, but can also occur elsewhere throughout the body.

Inside every vein there are valves that prevent blood from flowing backwards. The leg muscles pump the veins to return blood to the heart against the effects of gravity. When veins become varicose (damaged and bulging), the valves no longer function properly, and this allows blood to flow backwards and the veins enlarge even more. Varicose veins are most common in the superficial veins of the legs, which are subject to high pressure when standing. Besides being a cosmetic problem, varicose veins can be very painful.

The major risk factors for developing varicose veins include hormonal imbalances (including pregnancy), standing or sitting for extended periods of time as well as carrying excess weight. In fact anything that adds extra stress to the body is going to impact veins. From a naturopathic standpoint one of the most important things to rectify is to get excess estrogen out of your body. Estrogen dominance or excess estrogen is often accompanied by poor liver function and often increases blood viscosity or thickness. This can contribute to vascular stagnation. And is one reason why vein pain can increase at certain points in the female cycle (ovulation and/or pre-menstrually), since these are the times that hormonal imbalance is often magnified.

Poor liver function or liver congestion impairs detoxification and can contribute to poor circulation causing blood flow to become stagnant and “back up.” Liver function can be improved through nutrition and herbal supplements and circulation can be improved greatly with the use of stimulant foods like ginger, garlic and spices like cayenne pepper and horseradish.

Also we know that the movement in your heel and calf when we walk helps to pump the de-oxygenated blood up your legs back to your heart and this is drastically decreased when you wear high heeled shoes.

Balance your hormones, improve your liver function and circulation, move more and lose excess weight. While they may not disappear entirely, you can reduce the pain and slow the progression of unsightly varicose veins.

For more detailed information on Naturopathic Health visit www.deethenaturopath.com. Available for consultations in Murgon, Kingaroy and now Gympie.

Dee Kirsch Naturopath, Murgon, QLD 4605, dee@datawave.net.au

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MURGON & DISTRICT BRANCH – NATIONAL SENIORS AUSTRALIA



The General Meeting will be held on Thursday 17th April at the Murgon Bowls Club at 10am after morning tea. A guest speaker will be present, also Mark Furness from Brisbane Head office of National Seniors Australia.

The next tour is on Thursday May 15th to Hervey Bay Discovery Sphere Complex Reefworld & Seafood shopping. Cost is \$70 p/p leaving Murgon at 7.30am Wondai 7.40am. For further information & booking for the tour contact Paula on (07) 41683114 or 0438708885.

There has been a destination change for November, it is now a cruise leaving Mooloolaba.

Our 2014 Tours Itinerary is available on request.

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A moment with the Mayor



The lack of rain across the majority of Queensland has seen 79% of our State officially 'Drought Declared'. We have gone from the flood disaster of 2011 & 2013 to a drought of immense proportions. Any landowner needing assistance is urged to contact the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry on ☎132 523.

State Roads

Council is continuing to lobby the State Government for upgrades to the many State controlled Roads in our Region. As main arterial thoroughfares the standard of some of these roads is 'poor' to say the least. We are hopeful of extra funding in the 2014 State Budget.

Roadside Grazing

Due to the current drought conditions more and more producers are being forced to graze their stock on the side of the road. Under the Land Protection Stock Route Management Act 2002 producers have to obtain a permit and

pay a prescribed fee. Council is lobbying the State Government for a reduction in this roadside grazing fee.

Meet and Greet

I will be visiting towns in the Region again in April. Members of the Community can make an appointment by contacting Bronwyn Barry on ☎4189 9155.

Location	Date
Blackbutt Office	Thursday 3 April
Murgon Office	Tuesday 8 April
Wondai Office	Friday 11 April
Nanango Office	Monday 14 April

Rate Discount

Don't forget to be eligible for the discount on your rates they must be paid by Monday 7 April 2014.

If you would like to discuss a payment plan please don't hesitate to drop into one of the Council offices and talk to our friendly Customer Service staff to arrange to pay your rates by installments.

Councillors available at Customer Service Centres

If you would like to meet with your local Councillor at a Customer Service Centre please contact them to arrange an appointment:

DIVISION 4 Cr Keith Campbell Kingaroy Office	Mobile: 0439 708 553 kcampbell@southburnett.qld.gov.au
DIVISION 1 Cr Barry Green Nanango Office	Mobile: 0417 767 444 bgreen@southburnett.qld.gov.au
DIVISION 2 Cr Debra Palmer Blackbutt Office	Mobile: 0419 769 994 dpalmer@southburnett.qld.gov.au
DIVISION 3 Cr Damien Tessmann Kingaroy Office	Mobile: 0409 490 175 dtessmann@southburnett.qld.gov.au
DIVISION 5 Cr Kathy Duff Murgon/Proston Offices	Mobile: 0437 020 705 kduff@southburnett.qld.gov.au
DIVISION 6 Cr Ros Heit Wondai Office	Mobile: 0477 010 743 rheit@southburnett.qld.gov.au

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ROMANTIC DINNER

A man and a woman were having a quiet, romantic dinner in a fine restaurant.

They were gazing lovingly at each other and holding hands. The waitress, taking another order at a table a few steps away, suddenly noticed the woman slowly sliding down her chair and under the table - but the man stared straight ahead.

The waitress watched as the woman slid all the way down her chair and out of sight under the table. Still, the man stared straight ahead.

The waitress, thinking this behavior a bit risqué and worried that it might offend other diners, went over to the table and tactfully, began by saying to the man "Pardon me, sir, but I think your wife just slid under the table."

The man calmly looked up at her and said, "No, she didn't. She just walked in."

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LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE



On Wednesday 2 April, 16 people came together in the Proston Library to share per the magic of today's technology.... the Joy that is Amanda Gore, Amanda's spirited, uplifting and humorous presentation focused on building strength and resiliency through changing attitudes, connecting people and managing change and to look on the bright side of life.

Lesley Dennien, who had arranged for the wonderful free Amanda Gore evening last year, was in attendance as were five others who had had their hearts touched by this great motivational speaker. Everyone felt so uplifted at the end of the session, that it was suggested that we should re-visit Amanda Gore, at least every 3 months, and so the next "Amanda Gore re-visited" will be held in the Proston Library in July, it will be free and will include morning tea. For more information contact Margaret Westerman Proston Library 41689103.

FREE HEARING TESTS

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BBOQ & Bowls

Friday Night

Fun

Date

11th & 24th April

From
4 pm

BBQ Dinner & Green Fees

Adults \$15 (includes Green fees & Burger)

Kids \$5 (includes Green fees and sausage sizzle)

Family \$35 (includes Green fees, 2x Burgers & 2x Sausage Sizzle - 2 adults & 2 Children)

All Welcome ~ Bookings Call 41681043

See You at
Murgon
Bowls Club

SPORTING GROUPS RECEIVE FUNDING

Three (3) South Burnett sporting organisations have received funding from the Mayor's Community Benefit Fund under Round One.

South Burnett Regional Council's Mayor Wayne Kratzmann said, "These funds were raised by last year's Mayoral Gala Ball and it's great to see them going to worthwhile projects in the community."

"We received three (3) exceptional projects that fulfilled the funding criteria. This first round was focussed on Junior Sport and the committee were impressed with these applications for funding," he said.

The successful recipients for Round One were –

1. South Burnett Saints AFC Inc for their project 'Developing Indigenous AFL Footballers'
2. Nanango Rugby League Football Club Inc for the 'Get Fit 2014' project
3. South Burnett Junior Rugby League Inc for the "School Rugby League Blitz' program

Mayor Kratzmann said, "The criteria for Round Two is for mental health with a focus on projects that deliver a meaningful outcome to the community of the South Burnett that don't receive support from other recognised channels."

Applications opened on Monday 31 March and will close on Thursday 24 April 2014. Applications will be assessed on Wednesday 7 May 2014. The allocated amount of funding for Round Two is \$15,000.

"Council conducts a lot of projects through our Healthy Community projects, yet more funding is needed for Mental Health projects. I am honoured to put my name to this fund and to have the next round of funding going towards Mental Health projects," said Mayor Kratzmann.

Mayor Kratzmann said, "The fund was set up to provide assistance to help build the capacity of South Burnett Community Organisations to deliver services, activities and programs for the benefit of the Region and Round Two's funding certainly falls within our vision for these funds."

The application form for Round Two of the Mayor's Community Benefit Fund can be downloaded at www.southburnett.qld.gov.au or by visiting a South Burnett Regional Council Customer Service Centre or by phoning (07) 4189 9100.

STUFFED COMPREHENSION

One should not take the English language for granted.

Paddy took two stuffed dogs to show at an Antiques Roadshow.

"Oooh!" the presenter said. "This is a very rare set, produced by the celebrated John Brothers Taxidermists who operated in London at the turn of the last century.

"Do you have any idea what they would fetch if they were in good condition?"

"Sticks!" Paddy replied.

ONLY ONE WINNER

Two Irishmen are sitting in a pub watching the Tour de France on TV. Seamus shakes his head and asks "Why the hell do they all do that?"

"Do what?" Mick replies.

"Go on them bikes for miles and miles, killing themselves up and down, round and round, day after day. Why would they torture themselves like that?"

"It's for the prestige and the money, don't you know?" Mick says. "The winner gets a million Euros."

"Sure, I understand that," Seamus says. "But why do the others do it?"

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Come join the Ration Shed Reconciliation Fun Run/Fun Walk from Murgon to Cherbourg on Sunday the 27th April (Anzac weekend)

The people of Cherbourg open their arms to welcome the people of Murgon and the South Burnett — run or to walk the 7 kilometres in the name of **friendship**, in the name of **hope**, in the name of **new possibilities...**

Run with friends, walk with strangers, share with everyone, enjoy together... and at the end of the route in the Cherbourg Memorial Park and the Ration Shed Museum we'll all have a big party – with food, traditional games, sports workshops, market stalls, dancers and performers — **starting at 10 am.**

Come and join the fun, even if you don't run (or walk) ... all welcome

Buses will leave Cherbourg for Murgon Showgrounds on Sunday morning at 7.15am for check-in at 7.30am for the race to start at **8am sharp.**

Shuttles will run between Cherbourg and Murgon after 10am on race day until 2pm.

Please note: the Cherbourg-Murgon road will be closed in both directions between 8am and 10am on the race day – Sunday 27 April.

Proceeds from the Fun Run will go to The Ration Shed Museum for their work in education and reconciliation.

**More information go to: <http://rationshed.com.au/funrun/>
Contact The Ration Shed Museum: 07 4169 5753**



There are three ways to register for the event:

1. You can register online at: <http://rationshed.com.au/funrun/fun-run-registration/>
 2. In person at the Ration Shed on Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 April or in Murgon Thursday 24 April (location to be confirmed)
 3. For students through their schools (see website for list of participating schools)
- All school children to get their parents/guardians to sign. If registration fees are too high for you, please come and talk to us – pay what you can as nobody is to be excluded because they can't pay.

**NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO REGISTRATION ON THE FUN RUN DAY!
REGISTRATIONS CLOSE AT MIDNIGHT ON FRIDAY 25 APRIL.**

HEALTH CARD INDEXATION FOR SENIORS

Deputy Prime Minister and Federal Member for Wide Bay, Warren Truss, today said thousands more self-funded retirees will have access to cheaper medicine and health benefits as the Coalition moves to deliver on its election commitment to index the Commonwealth Seniors Health Card.

“Wide Bay is home to many self-funded retirees for whom health care costs are a concern,” Mr Truss said.

“Since 2001, income thresholds for the Card have not kept pace with the cost of living. The Coalition’s legislation to index income thresholds for the Commonwealth Seniors Health Card allows more people to qualify for the Card.

“Self-funded retirees have saved for their retirement and our legislation will make it easier for them to access and keep the card, without having to worry about losing the entitlement due to modest adjustments in their income.

“The Coalition believes this is a necessary change to help people who might otherwise not have access to a health safety net.”

The current income thresholds for the Commonwealth Seniors Health Card are \$50,000 for singles and \$80,000 for couples combined. Annual indexation of the income thresholds in line with the Consumer Price Index will begin from 20 September 2014.

More information is available at the Department of Social Services website at www.dss.gov.au.

UPDATED AGE PENSION GUIDE AVAILABLE

Federal Member for Wide Bay and Deputy Prime Minister, Warren Truss today released an updated edition of his Age Pension Guide.

Mr Truss said the Guide was extremely popular amongst pensioners because it explains the terms and conditions that apply to the Age Pension as simply as possible.

“The Age Pension rules can be confusing and complicated for many people. This guide is designed in an easy to use format to help pensioners understand their entitlements,” Mr Truss said.

“The Age Pension payment rates are updated on the 20th March and 20th of September each year. Income and asset tests, and deeming and other provisions are also adjusted from time to time.

“These changes can affect the amount of assistance that pensioners are entitled to receive, so it is important that people have access to the latest information about what support is available and where it is available from.

“The Guide also provides information about a range of other issues relating to pensions, including the Pension Bonus and Work Bonus Schemes, the Carer Payment and Allowance, as well as health and discount cards that are available to pensioners,” Mr Truss said.

“The Guide is available free of charge and can be ordered by telephoning 1300 301 968, or downloaded from my website www.warrentruss.com.”

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AFFINAGE
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POLICE RANGERS MOVE INTO NEW ERA

Three St Mary's Catholic College students return to their former primary school every Wednesday to become Cherbourg Junior Police Rangers. Ky-Ky Warner, Hayden Boney and Anquon Sandow leave their Year-8 classes in Kingaroy and travel 45 minutes to take part in the programme at St Joseph's, Murgon.

They are now the rangers first senior leaders. The trio joined the group when it formed in 2011 and their parents wanted them to continue when they went to secondary school. They now do skills and drills on a weekly basis with a cohort of about 20 children.

Over the years they have also taken part in ANZAC Day marches and weekend rewards events at Stradbroke Island, Australia Zoo, the Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast's Underwater World, Goomeri and Murgon pool.

Great school attendance is a must for all Cherbourg Junior Police Rangers and coordinator, Louise Thompson, said the programme was terrific for a child's development. "It teaches discipline, self-respect and respect for others and the community," Louise said.

Ky-Ky now wants to be a police officer so she can "help lots of kids" and "it seems like it'd be a fun job".

Anquon wants to be an artist and Hayden is still thinking about his career. Perhaps Cherbourg Junior Police Rangers' activities will help him come to a decision.



Picture: front, Ky-Ky Warner, Hayden Boney and Anquon Sandow love being Cherbourg Junior Police Rangers leaders at Saint Joey's, Murgon. They're pictured with Murgon police constable Dan Coleman and police liaison officer Joe Sullivan.

Bjelke-Petersen Dam

at **Yallakool Tourist Park, Murgon**

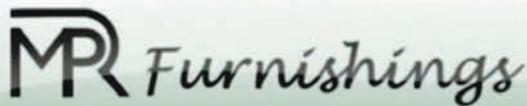


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It has been approximately 30 years now that I have been a Furniture Shop in Murgon. With the change of times and everyone now purchasing their goods from the Internet and bigger stores and after a lengthy discussion with my current owners, we have all decided that it is time to say

'Farewell'

I have enjoyed providing you with beautiful and wonderful Furniture. We have all enjoyed meeting some wonderful people and have come to be friends. I have been delighted in providing you with the Furniture that you have wanted. So many times we heard people say "I have been looking for that everywhere and here it is at home". Or "Wow - fancy seeing such a beautiful array of furniture in Murgon" or a city person coming to visit their relatives would say "There is nothing like this in the Big City and here it is here in Murgon".

But sadly, there are not enough of those anymore. Too many now say "I have bought this furniture off the internet and the parts are not correct, would you have them?" We can not support that anymore.

So - Farewell and all the best - it has been wonderful and we have many fond memories.

To celebrate our close, we are going to have a Clearance/Closing Down Sale. All Furniture must go prior to the 30th April 2014.

Thank you

TEN ON FOUR OFF FOR FLOOD CONTRACTORS

South Burnett Regional Council have engaged FK Gardner & Sons Group to carry out repairs to unsealed roads, culverts and the remaining floodways which were damaged during the heavy flooding rains in 2013. The work is being funded under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA).

On Tuesday 18 March 2014 FK Gardner & Sons Group began working a 10 day on 4 day off roster to increase efficiencies. Work is targeted for completion by the end of June 2014.

The roster commences on a Tuesday and finishes on the following Thursday week with crews working through every second weekend. For roads where repairs are close to houses, work will be scheduled for weekdays and every effort will be taken to minimise noise and dust.

For further information about the project please visit Council's website www.southburnett.qld.gov.au or phone 1300 789 279.



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The South Burnett Veterinary Group has two practices conveniently located at Murgon and Wondai.

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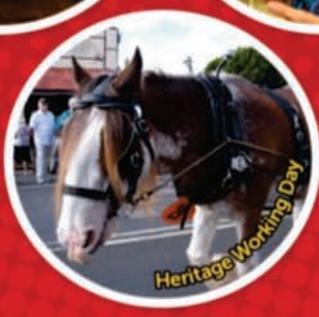
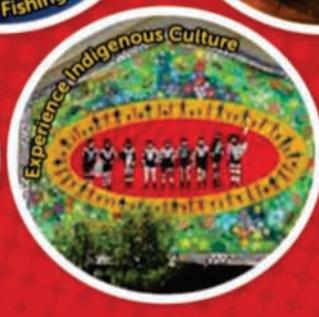
South Burnett and Cherbourg On Show

Labour Day Long Weekend

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This is the weekend to discover the
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For more information visit -
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MEET at MURGON in MAY

The South Burnett Support Group of Parkinson's Queensland Inc. would like to invite you to come along to our May Morning Meeting which will be held at Southern Cross Care – Castra, 2 Cooper Street, Murgon, on Monday 12th May commencing at 10am through to 12 noon. Morning tea will be provided and it is always so friendly to chat over a cuppa while catching up with old friends or making new friends.

Our group meets monthly on the 2nd Monday at Kingaroy at Orana Lutheran Complex, 24 MacDiarmid Street, but for the month of May, we have 'gone on the road' and have come to Murgon hoping to meet with you and to let you know about the South Burnett Support Group. We are all there to help each other in whatever way we can.

At the moment there are 47 Support Groups all over Queensland and we encourage you to join a Parkinson's Support Group in your locality whether or not you are affected by Parkinson's. Perhaps you may be one of the wonderful carers for a person that has Parkinson's or you just maybe interested in hearing about Parkinson's and how you could help. Everybody is welcome.

It's a great way to meet other people and is a service that Parkinson's Queensland provide to help people living with Parkinson's and their carers to maintain control of their lives through activities, sharing experiences and contact with other people. There is no better way to learn about Parkinson's than to speak to a person who shares the challenges you are going through.

Support groups connect people affected by Parkinson's and help them cope with the disease. They provide a place for group members to give and receive emotional support and share information. Most people find it rewarding to talk with others who have been through a similar experience.

Support Groups are also a place for laughter and having fun. People need a place to let their hair down and cry. They also need to laugh until they feel good and feel like just another person, not just a person with Parkinson's.

Don't forget to mark the date on your calendar and we look forward to catching up. For catering purposes, it would be really helpful if you could phone the Co-ordinator of the Group, Maree on 41 636010 or Lyn on 41 683116 before the 12th May.

Before coming to Murgon in May, Our next monthly meeting will be held at Orana Lutheran Complex, 24 MacDiarmid Street Kingaroy on Monday 14th April when Deb Frecklington MP will be in attendance at about 10.30am for a short visit and morning tea and will answer questions regarding State Health directions, policies etc. We hope you can join us.

LYN KOY

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ST DAVID'S BOONARA – 100 YEARS A GREAT DAY



On 2nd March, 2014, Transfiguration Sunday, a congregation of 200 people gathered at St David's Anglican Church, Boonara, when The Most Reverend Doctor Phillip Aspinall, Archbishop of Brisbane and Primate of Australia officiated at a 9.00 a.m Eucharist, in honour of the patron saint, David of Wales, and a centenary of worship in this country church - one of the few such buildings still standing proudly in its rural setting. It is a monument to the faith exhibited by the early settlers who saw fit to provide a special place of Christian worship where all can gather in communion and fellowship. In his address, Archbishop Aspinall spoke of the transforming effect of forgiveness and how, through a community of faithful Christians, the transforming light of Christ can shine upon a whole district. As the congregation overflowed into the shaded area outside, the efforts of the Goomeri Lions Club and Gavin Rewald of Virgo Funerals in providing sound to the outside were greatly appreciated by all.

David Jones, of retail store fame, bought the Boonara property for two of his sons George Hall and David Mander, after the death in California of original selector, Ned Hawkins, who sought his fortune in the gold rush there. A goodly number of Jones descendants attended the day. They came from far and wide, including England, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Toowoomba and the Gold and Sunshine Coasts. They were joined by descendants of the three original Maudsley brothers who settled Trinity, Unadban and Margoo holdings. With Llewellyn Mander Jones who provided the land they were the main driving force behind the building of the church on its original site.

After the death in WW2 of Jack Mander Jones, St David's church was moved across the road to its present site, again on Jones- provided land. Memorial gates were erected to grace the entrance. Well known district resident and former Commonwealth Games boxing gold medalist, Arthur Bradley, represented his father who was with Jack Jones in the Singapore campaign when he was killed. The original Jones burial grounds were included with the new site and remain as a public cemetery. Mrs Linda Kitt, great-great- grand daughter of David Jones and Mr Glen Maudsley, great-grandson of Richard Maudsley, spoke on behalf of these two founding dynasties.

Details of the history of the church and its place in the life of the district are provided in "A Tapestry Of Faith", compiled by Marcia McIntosh, which was officially launched on the day. Some copies are still available. A framed 'family tree' depicting the line of descent from David Jones, through David Mander Jones and his son, Llewellyn Mander Jones was presented to St David's church by Mrs Linda Kitt (England) and Mr Ken Mander Jones (Toowoomba). Many thanks to Sandra Nesbitt, former owner and restorer of Boonara Homestead, for this precious historical item.

A sumptuous Basket Luncheon had the tables groaning under the weight of delicious food, which included



gourmet barbequed sausages and Marilyn Maudsley's delicious (and famous) Black Forest Cheesecake.

It was wonderful to see so many current residents of the district there to celebrate this auspicious day, and to welcome former residents. As well as the Archbishop and his wife, Dr Christa Aspinall, we were graced by the presence of five returning Anglican clergy, representatives from other denomination within the district, visitors from our Sister Parish of St Clement's in Stafford and a contingent from St Mary's Anglican church in Redcliffe, the Gympie Regional Council Mayor, Mr Ron Dyne and his wife, Dulcie, Councillor Tony Perrett and wife Michele and former Kilkivan Shire Mayor, Alec McIntosh.

The celebration fruit cake, beautifully iced by Mrs Muriel Schultz of Murgon, was cut by former Rector Alf Gerlach and Mrs Judy Lewis, the grand-daughter of the first Vicar at St David's, Rev. John Howard Steer. By all accounts it was enjoyed by all as one 'consumer' was heard to remark that it was a very holy cake – 'full of the spirit'.

Twins, Charlotte and Addison McIntosh, presented gifts to Mrs Aspinall and Mrs Dyne.

The organizing committee wishes to express its thanks to all who, in any way, small or large, contributed to the outstanding success of this special day. Mention must be made of the sterling effort of the Goomeri SES in providing, erecting and later on dismantling, the shade shelters in the grounds, for security watch over night and for the traffic control on what is a quite dangerous section of highway.

BAIT, READ IT CAREFULLY AND DON'T GET CAUGHT!

(Story from a fishing club member) While on holidays over at Straddie we got thoroughly worked over by the fisheries patrol. Apart from checking fish sizes etc they were very interested in the bait and in particular the live blood worms. Where had we got them and had we caught them ourselves. When told that they were from Paul Dymock he asked for a receipt.

We were told that with the number we had (over 30) and if Ben had been stopped on his own after picking them up he would definitely have been fined. We were told to always make sure we get a receipt when buying live worms. He also seemed to be quite interested in the source of all bait and every esky and bait container was checked.

MURGON STATE SCHOOL CAMPUS P & C SERVICE AUCTION

We will be holding another 'Service Auction' this year on Friday 13 June and we need your help.

We are looking for anyone who can donate a service/s to assist in this very successful fundraising venture.

Last year parents/carers and community members donated the following services to assist with the auction: ironing, dog walking, haircuts, septic cleaning, truck hire, tree removal, swimming lessons, music lessons, physiotherapy sessions, wheel alignments, and these are just a few.

If you have a service that you can offer to be part of our Auction, please contact Judith Wessling at Murgon State School on 41 698 333.



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HELP ME WALK AGAIN

A capacity crowd filled the Murgon Town Hall and The PCYC Charity Ball was a huge success with over \$8,000 raised in an Auction of numerous items plus the Murgon Apex Club member Chris Murray handed Shona Muckert a cheque from APEX for \$10,000. The multi draw raffle and the sale of the ornamental legs that adorned the tables and the stage created lots of laughs. MC. Don Rutley kept the action happening and Shona gave special thanks to all those who helped and volunteered on this memorable night.



Brakes on \$1.75 billion Roads to Recovery boost

The Australian Government's \$1.75 billion five-year funding for the Roads to Recovery Programme is at risk of being blocked in the Senate, Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development and Federal Member for Wide Bay Warren Truss, said today.

The Federal Coalition Government passed legislation in the House of Representatives to extend Roads to Recovery funding for the next five years (from 2014-15 to 2018-19)

"If some members of the senate vote against the legislation in the Senate, the Programme will terminate. Based on current allocations, Councils in Wide Bay could lose more than \$6 million in Roads to Recovery funding each year over the next five years," Mr Truss said.

"That amounts to a lot of bitumen for much needed work on our local roads and streets. Councils rely on this funding and our communities can ill-afford to lose this vital investment."

The Federal Government's \$1.75 billion commitment is designed to help Councils maintain and upgrade local roads, improving safety and transport efficiency, and supporting economic development across the country.

"It is difficult to understand the objection to this funding by some members of the senate, who are threatening the very future of the Programme. Unless this legislation passes the Senate, it is local councils and local roads users who will pay the price. Our communities and businesses in Wide Bay desperately need this injection of funding for local roads now, Mr Truss said.

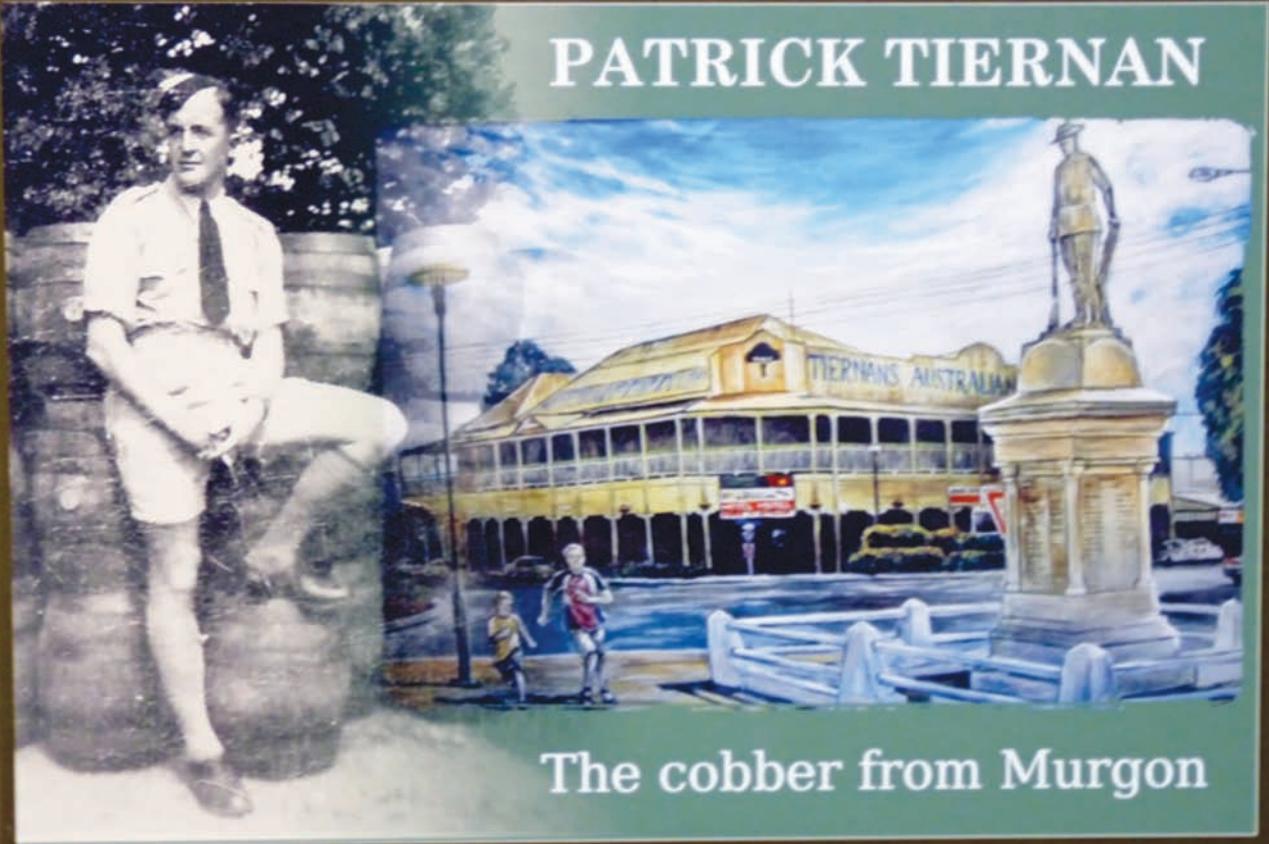
Local Government Area

Roads to Recovery Allocation for 2013-14

Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	\$114,310
Fraser Coast Regional Council	\$1,205,536
Gympie Regional Council	\$1,243,539
South Burnett Regional Council	\$1,108,650
Sunshine Coast Regional Council	\$2,339,286

Total funding for 2013-14: \$6,011,321

PATRICK TIERNAN



Elizabeth Caffery

Over many months now we have been meeting and discussing the Patrick Tiernan Project!

I would like to share this amazing story with you.

The municipality of Neder-Betuwe is situated in the area of the same name and it has 22,463 inhabitants. The municipality consists of six villages. Dodewaard, Echteld, Ijzendoorn, Kesteren, Ochten and Opheusden. The River Rhine makes up the northern border and the southern border is the river Waal. Dodewaard is 1 hour from Amsterdam which is famous for its beautiful gardens, lovely towns, and fabulous buildings,

In July 2012, the South Burnett Regional Council Mayor Wayne Kratzman, received a letter from the Mayor of the Council of Neder-Betuwe in Holland advising the South Burnett Regional Council of the plan to install a plaque at the graves of Australian crewman Patrick Tiernan (from Murgon) and Alfred Burns (from Lidcombe, Sydney, New South Wales) who have been buried in the cemetery in the village of Dodewaard since 1944. These men died in 1944 when their Halifax 715 was shot down over Betuwe in Holland.

On the 4th May each year (the day of remembrance) there, the town Council, the children of 2 elementary schools, veterans of Dodewaard and the local Memorial Committee World War 2, visit the graves to lay flowers and hold 2 minutes silence to pay their respects in order to honour and thank these soldiers for all they have done, far from home, for the liberation of their country.

The Mayor advised our Council in the letter, in order to keep the memory of these 2 crew members alive, they would like to erect a plaque with a story of their last flight with pictures next to their grave so people who visit, can become acquainted with their story.

On behalf of the Murgon community and to respectfully thank the Dodewaard community for tending Patrick's grave, the South Burnett Regional Council is sending a small delegation including the Mayor and his wife and some of Our Returned Services RSL Club members, and myself who gratefully accepted the invitation to represent the community of Murgon to Neder-Betuwe to attend the ceremony on the 4th May, 2014. The Council in conjunction with Liz Caffrey, who is also coming, is producing a commemorative book of stories, photo's and dialogue of Patrick Tiernan, and the history of Murgon and the delegation trip, the book which has been completed, is the gift for the people of Dodewaard for their 70 years of dedicated respect shown towards Patrick and Alf Burns and the maintenance of their graves.

(Front page cover shown above)

Patrick Tiernan known as Flight Sergeant Patrick Edward Thomas Tiernan

Son of James and Mary Tiernan of Murgon, Qld Australia.

Crashed and died on 17th June 1944 – aged 29 years.

The people of Dodewaard have now found parts of the plane and Jillian Tiernan, the former Hotel licensee, of the Tiernan's Australian Hotel, has visited the area and is, with one of her sons, accompanying a small group of people from the South Burnett to join in their celebrations in May next year, the 70th anniversary of their flight.

This celebration next year will cement an everlasting relationship between Dodewaard Holland and Murgon Australia and we have a page out of their local magazine, like the Murgon Moments, showing what the people of Dodewaard thought of Jillian Tiernan's visit earlier this year. The people of Dodewaard and their ancestors are so grateful for the help and sacrifice that these soldiers and airmen gave to their country and villages and can't wait to see us..

We are to Fly out of Australia on Monday 28th April at 9 pm, 3 days after our own 2014 ANZAC Day celebrations. And return back to Amsterdam on Tuesday May 6th for our flight home.

Placing a Poppy to honour War heroes from World War 1

This will be part of the deputation's visit to honour Patrick Tiernan,

As the 100 year anniversary of the commencement of World War 1 approaches, South Burnett residents will soon have an opportunity to honour family members who died at Flanders Fields in Belgium. In May, a delegation from the South Burnett will visit three memorial sites to acknowledge the sacrifice of some of the fallen from the South Burnett and place a poppy in their memory.

On May 1, just prior to the Tiernan Memorial Day in Dodewaard, the group intends to travel to Belgium and pay their respects at the Menin Gate at Ypres, the Buttes New British Cemetery at Polygon Wood and the Tyne Cot Cemetery and Memorial. These are three well-known memorials which honour servicemen who lost their lives in combat on the Western Front during World War 1. Some of the fiercest battles of the war with an appalling loss of life occurred in this area around the Ypres Salient, Polygon Wood and Passchendaele, known at Flanders Fields.

There are 55,000 names inscribed on the Menin Gate at Ypres of soldiers from the British Commonwealth who lost their lives in Belgium and who have no known grave. Over 6,000 of these names belong to Australians.

This is a list of the Murgon names on the Murgon war monument whose names are on the Menin Gate (see below). The students (and others) will place poppies beside their names.

William George **Armstrong**. MURGON 2372 Private 47th Bn Infantry. Died in Belgium 8.06.1917. Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium (43 years)

Arthur Frank (Alf) **Caswell**. MURGON 4168 Private 9th Bn. Died Belgium 7. 10. 1917. Menin Gate (22 years)

Philip Ted **Kluck**. MURGON 3514 Private 52nd Bn Infantry. Died in Belgium. 26.09.1917. Menin Gate.

Luke **Pringle**. MURGON 2234 Lance Corporal 52nd Bn Infantry. Died in Belgium. 7.06.1917. Menin Gate (28 years)

Charles Harold **Raistrick**. MURGON 564 Private 11th Company Australian Machine Gun Corps. Died in Belgium 14.10.1917. Menin Gate (33 years)

Frank Lacey **Sweet**. GAYDNAH 7311 Private 15th Bn Infantry. Died in Belgium. 27.09.1917. Menin Gate (25 years)

William Clarence **Turnbull**. GAYNDAH 5654 Private 25TH Bn. Died in Belgium 4.10.1917. Menin Gate. (26 years)

An additional 35,000 names from UK and New Zealand units are inscribed at Tyne Cot which also has a cemetery with almost 12,000 graves of Commonwealth servicemen of which 8,369 of the burials are unidentified. There are now 2,000 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in Buttes New British Cemetery, less than 400 of them are identified.

War monuments in towns throughout the South Burnett reveal the tragic loss of life of young men from small South Burnett communities during World War 1. Some of their names appear on the Menin Gate, others are buried in the various war cemeteries throughout the Western Front in France and Belgium. A remarkable story in recent years concerns the discovery of the body of John (Jack) Hunter from Nanango in 2006. He died in 1917 during the horrific fighting at Polygon Wood. His remains were identified through DNA and on Remembrance Day 2007, 90 years after he was killed, Jack was reinterred at Buttes New British Cemetery in Polygon Wood.

The South Burnett Regional Council now invites local residents to provide the names of family members which may be inscribed on the Menin Gate or who are buried at Tyne Cot or the Buttes cemetery at Polygon Wood.

Members of the delegation will place a poppy on behalf of the family and record the moment with a photograph which will be passed on to the family after the return of the group.

It is requested that details of the location of the names or graves are researched and accurate information is specified. Supplying battalion number and rank will also be helpful. Without these details, it may be impossible to locate the name or the grave. A useful research website is the Commonwealth War Graves Commission: www.cwgc.org or search the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial site: www.gov.au

Example: Wesley Butsworth. Brooklands. Private. 17th Battalion. Died 9 October 1917. Name inscribed on the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres. Panel 7- 17-23-25-27-29-31.

For details of the Menin Gate see: <http://www.greatwar.co.uk/ypres-salient/memorial-menin-gate.htm>

Names must be provided by April 21 2014 to Julie Foley at the South Burnett Regional Council Office. This will enable appropriate organisation before the departure of the delegation.

Further information or assistance with research can be obtained by calling Julie at: Ph: 4189 9543 or email contact: jfoley@southburnett.qld.gov.au



Large crowds including ex service men and women and school children turn out on ANZAC DAY 25th April for the Parade and Remembrance Service in Murgon.

The symbolism of the red poppy

The red poppy which bloomed in the trenches and on the graves of soldiers in Flanders and which continues to flower in fields in Flanders has now become the symbol of remembrance.

The poppy was immortalised in John McCrae's poem "In Flanders' Fields". It remains to this day one of the most memorable war poems ever written. It is a lasting legacy of the terrible battle in the Ypres salient in the spring of 1915 in Flanders' Fields.

In Flanders' Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders' Fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders' Fields.

The little red poppies that will be placed on graves in war cemeteries or beside names on war memorials of soldiers from South Burnett families are exact replicas in size and colour of the poppies that bloom in Flanders Fields.



An excerpt from Lord Plumer's speech at the unveiling of the memorial, 24th July, 1927:

"..... One of the most tragic features of the Great War was the number of casualties reported as 'Missing, believed killed'. To their relatives there must have been added to their grief a tinge of bitterness and a feeling that everything possible had not been done to recover their loved ones' bodies and give them reverent burial... when peace came and the last ray of hope had been extinguished the void seemed deeper and the outlook more forlorn for those who had no grave to visit, no place where they could lay tokens of loving remembrance. ... It was resolved that here at Ypres, where so many of the 'Missing' are known to have fallen, there should be erected a memorial worthy of them which should give expression to the nation's gratitude for their sacrifice and its sympathy with those who mourned them. A memorial has been erected which, in its simple grandeur, fulfils this object, and now it can be said of each one in whose honour we are assembled here today: 'He is not missing; he is here'."

Photo L – R : Liz Caffery, Bob Burns & Jane Deed (all originally from Wondai) placing a poppy on the wall at the Menin gate beside the name of their great-uncle in 2008.



And Murgon High School Captains Jeffrey Kinsella and Kirsten Upton who will be representing the Murgon School and accompanying the delegation.

SUCCESS DESPITE DROUGHT AT MURGON SHOW

The Murgon Showgrounds on Friday 14th Saturday 15th was alive with families with excited children, very happy competitors, side show alley lit up rock and rollin, snakes alive, ElJay wowing patrons with his bike riding, poultry galore, machinery, and much, much more. What a great day weatherwise. If it had rained we would still have had a great day but that held off until Sunday night.

Out of nowhere we had more poultry than the shed could handle with owners of 70 birds having to be told "sorry the shed is full". What a fantastic display of birds for the first time at 91 shows has this happened.

Dog numbers were around the usual numbers with over 300 being judged. Chief Steward, Margaret Burgess, is to be commended with the way she managed this section.



Horses are always seen at Agricultural Shows but little did we expect to be still doing showjumping at 6.45pm. We always expect good numbers but this year the numbers were half as many again and the same for the hack, pony and ridden classes.

Cattle both prime and stud were surprising with the state of the paddocks. We had 50 prime cattle and when entries left the office for stud beef there were 150 head and more entered on the day.

The Pavilion was a great sight with the amount of photography, culinary, floral art, needlework, horticulture, and homespun with Judy Gray demonstrating how it is done on her loom, old collectables and farm and garden produce. There was a first this year in the farm produce with Mr Dudley Sippel putting up a prize of \$100 for the best square bale of green

Lucerne. This was won by Mr Greg Louis. It was decided by the entrants in this class that they would donate the bales to the show society. At 4pm Mr Glen Von Hoff auctioned all ten bales with the highest bidder being Councillor Ros Heit from Kingaroy. Coincidentally she happened to drive to Murgon in a ute so it was quickly put into the back and taken back to Kingaroy.

Another surprise in the Farm and Garden section was the cotton which was on display only. One of our vendors had never seen cotton since she was a small girl and was delighted when she asked show society member and chief steward Mr Robert Eisenmenger what was going to be done with the cotton only to be told she could have it as the owner, Mrs Marg Englemann, brought it just to support the show. Thank you to people such as Mrs Englemann for supporting our local event.

It was wonderful to see Seng's Machinery again at the show. For many years machinery has been missing. Also South Burnett Motorcycles who were delighted to be placed next to ElJay performance motorbike rider.

The reptile awareness vendor did a great demonstration with telling the crowd around his snake pit how to avoid being bitten by a snake and what to do if bitten.



Fireworks are always a good crowd pleaser and this year was just as good as ever. Trying to fit all show competitors, fireworks and then a rodeo is a real balancing act for the show society. The Grandstand was filling so to keep the crowd until fireworks and rodeo started, we had Mr Arthur Nettelield entertain with his country style singing. He is a well-known artist and the crowd loved his singing.

Because of the large numbers of riders who entered the rodeo, it had to be started early. When the numbers of riders were sent to us, it looked like the rodeo would be going longer into the night but with the contractor's persistence; it went over smoothly with 90 plus riders doing their best to do the job they came to do. Thank you to Barambah Rodeo Academy for bringing some of their boys in to give them a go at real rodeo riding.

