



The Dairy Museum hosted a South East Tour Bus for a museum tour and Christmas Lunch. The theme for the day was A Bush Christmas. Approximately 100 visitors enjoyed their meal and also the bush hospitality.

Photo : Enjoying the lunch in the new Barn Building at the Dairy Museum which was erected with the kind help of Stanwell (Tarong) Community Fund.



Photo L-R: Coral Graham with a much different looking Santa at the Proston Christmas Carnival

MORETON BAY COLLEGE OLD GIRLS



A group of Moreton Bay College Old Girls and friends gathered at Christine McAuliffe's home for an informal luncheon, to reminisce about their school days. They talked about old school times and how school days have changed so much over the years & they laughed about the good times and fun they enjoyed at Moreton Bay College & hope to meet up again sometime in 2016.

Back row, L to R - Christine McAuliffe, Judy Purcell (not a Moreton Bay girl), Jean Gray, Jay Clarke (not a Moreton Bay girl), Lesley Trout, Mary Mitchell, Joyce Horne.

Front row L to R - Judy Van Asperen, Fay Banks, Linda Olsen, Patricia Seiler, Coralie Fox



A Packed House Enjoying the Farmers night at Cloyna Hall



The Roberts family enjoying Christmas Dinner at the Castra Christmas Luncheon



**The old (centre) and the new uniforms for the Murgon Lions Club
Photo L-R: Alan Fowler, Bevan Routledge and Bill Kearney tending the Lions Merry Go Round**



Launch of local author Graham Braddock's Book "Operation Gravelrash" at the Wondai Art Gallery.
Photo L-R: Councillor Roz Heit, Graham Braddock, Councillor Kathy Duff.



Large crowds gathered at both our local dams Bjelke-Petersen & Boondooma and enjoyed Australia Day 2016 with lots of fun both on the water and fishing whilst others just enjoyed the Bar-B-Q.



In December the museum was fortunate to host Simon Stretton from Durong Dingo Sanctuary.

The attending high school students were enthralled to be able to lead and pat these very sociable animals. Simon gave us a very informative insight to the life of the dingo and we all, adults included, learned quite a lot from this very knowledgeable and passionate person.



Father Michael Carroll with Kathy Duff, Father Michael celebrated his 29th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood recently.

Maurice WILDER-NELIGAN ... *Mad Neligan*

9TH and 10th Battalion

by Col SUTCLIFFE

On the 2010 FFFAIF Tour of the Western Front, I undertook a Commemoration to my Great Uncle, 5168, Private Horace SUTCLIFFE (refer to article in Digger No 37 – December 2011). When the 2012 FFFAIF Tour was advertised, I decided that I would go again but would go with more research of other soldiers. In particular, my goal was to try to visit the graves of others on the memorial in Ayr where Horace is acknowledged. These soldiers I referred to as the Burdekin Boys who gave their lives in the Great War. The Burdekin being the river that runs through the area. In total there were 53 names on the 4 sides of the obelisk behind the War Memorial Arch (pictured). Many soldiers were easy to research with their Service Records in the National Archives and their listing on the Honour Roll at the Australian War Memorial. Several were difficult because of incorrect spelling or different initials or because they returned to Australia but died soon after from their injuries. At the end of the research there was still one mystery name...that of M. WILDER-NELIGAN who happened to be on the same panel as H. SUTCLIFFE. Within the National Archives there was no Service Record under the name WILDER-NELIGAN nor WILDER that could be attributed to a Soldier from Ayr. The closest was Maurice NELIGAN who was a dairyman from Mt Victoria, N.S.W. and served with the 4th Field Artillery Brigade. In addition, the Honour Roll of the Australian War Memorial had no record of a M. WILDER-NELIGAN being killed in the War.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

A03705

Through using internet searches of various combinations of spelling (eg NELLIGEN, NELIGAN, WILDER) eventually I was able to track down a possible lead in Maurice WILDER-NELIGAN who returned to Australia in 1919. His story is not only one of mystery but of a man who it can be said suited war and war brought out his leadership, his courage and perhaps his eccentricities.

A Maurice WILDER enlisted as a Private in the A.I.F. in August 1914 in Townsville and was assigned to the 9th Battalion. His attestation papers showed that he was born in Auckland, New Zealand and was single. At the time of his enlistment he was a weighbridge clerk in a sugar mill, most likely the Pioneer Sugar Mill, and lived at Kelly's Club Hotel at Brandon, a small town several miles north of Ayr and close to the Pioneer Sugar Mill. He gave as his next of kin, his brother Captain NELIGAN, Admiralty, London, England. Other information provided was that he was 28 years of age and 5 foot 8 inches tall.

Further research on this information revealed that WILDER was not born in New Zealand but was actually born at Tavistock, Devon, England on 4 October 1882 and was the son of Canon John West NELIGAN and his wife Charlotte. Maurice NELIGAN was well educated and attended Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Ipswich, England and Bedford Grammar School. The mystery behind his background is further heightened as on 18 February 1905 he married a

divorcee Frances Jane WYATT at the Register Office, Paddington, London. They had one daughter.

A few years after this, Maurice enlisted in the Royal Horse Artillery in England in September 1910. Like his enlistment in the A.I.F., he provided incorrect information and gave Maurice WILDER as his name, he lowered his age and gave New Zealand as his birthplace. It seems that he served as a Captain for about a year before leaving his family in London and emigrating to Sydney, Australia.

This is supported in the history of the 9th Battalion, AIF—"From Anzac to the Hindenburg Line", by Norman K Harvey who writes that NELIGAN was born at Tavistock, Devon, on October 2nd, 1882, and came of a well-

connected family. An uncle was formerly Bishop of Auckland, New Zealand, a brother a well-known London surgeon, and two other brothers were naval officers. He had served in the British Army, in one of the “crack” regiments, the Royal Horse Artillery, and subsequently came to Australia. There seems to be no information as to where the name WILDER came from.

By 1 January 1915, 974 Private Maurice WILDER was promoted to Sergeant. He was the Orderly Room Sergeant for the 9th Battalion when it landed at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915. Whilst it might be thought that he would not have been as involved in the fighting as front line soldiers, he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal ‘For conspicuous gallantry on the 26th April, 1915, near Gaba Tepe (Dardanelles). Assisted by another Non-Commissioned Officer (871 Sergeant CLARK), who was subsequently killed, he carried a wounded man into a place of safety under a very heavy fire. Later on he was instrumental in

collecting stragglers, whom he led back into the firing line.’ Source: ‘London Gazette’ No. 8865 Date: 6 September 1915.

Reports show that casualties amongst all ranks were high and WILDER was soon acting as the Adjutant for the Battalion and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant on 28 April 1915. He was never far from the action and on 27 May 1915 he led a raid on a Turkish post near Gaba Tepe, inflicting casualties and bringing back a prisoner without firing a shot and without losing a man. In June 1915, WILDER was wounded and evacuated to Egypt. He didn’t stay there for long and discharged himself from Hospital and returned to the 9th Battalion at Gallipoli and took up the position of Battalion Adjutant with the rank of Temporary Captain. He also put in a Declaration to indicate that when he enlisted on 18th August 1914 under the name of Maurice Wilder which name I now declare to be partly incorrect. The Name Maurice Wilder-Neligan I now declare to be my true name. There is an interesting story to these actions in “Campaigning with the Fighting 9th—In and out of the line with the Ninth Battalion” by Major CM Wrench MC. WRENCH tells how Maurice WILDER, when he was promoted to temporary captain on Gallipoli, “reverted to his original name except that he placed a hyphen between Wilder and Neligan...he had it officially gazetted, reading: Temp Capt Maurice Wilder, having changed his name will in future be know as Maurice Wilder-Neligan dated 9.11.15. This proved to be a clever move. “A sequel to Neligan’s return to Gallipoli from hospital in Egypt, without having been discharged.... a letter came before him (as Adjutant) from the authorities of No1 General Hospital requesting to know if Lieut Maurice Wilder had rejoined his Battalion, because if he had, he was

absent without leave from the hospital. Capt Neligan was able to reply by minute, with truth, that there was no man of that name and rank in the unit. This would have given Neligan great delight in confusing some “important” stickler for the rules.”...Neligan quickly became respectfully and popularly known by, and spoken of, as ‘Neligan’ by officers and troops alike.”

One of the photos of Gallipoli in the Australian War Memorial shows when Captain Reginald MacDougall BOWMAN, Australian Army Medical Corps (AAMC), visited some 9th Battalion officers in a support trench and features WILDER-NELIGAN. (Left to right: Captain J. M. DOUGALL, Lieutenant M. WILDER-NELIGAN (later Lieutenant Colonel CMG DSO DCM, Commanding Officer of the 10th Battalion), Captain BOWMAN and Captain E.C.P. PLANT (9th Battalion adjutant and later Major General DSO OBE, Commanding Officer of the NSW Lines of Communication Area in WW2).

By the time of the withdrawal of the A.I.F. from Gallipoli, WILDER-NELIGAN had been appointed a Captain. He had also been Mentioned in Dispatches.

During his time at Gallipoli, WILDER-NELIGAN also wrote to the Kelly family in Brandon. No doubt his exploits and letters were a factor in the enlistment of 3048 Private John William KELLY on 13 August 1915 and 5615 Leslie Edward KELLY on 1 April 1916. Both are Burdekin Boys listed on the War Memorial in Ayr as J.W. KELLY died of wounds on 7 June 1917 and L.E.KELLY was killed on 3 May 1917.

The redeployment of the A.I.F. to France and the



Western Front provided further opportunities for Maurice and is best seen through the Awards and Honours he received.

The first of these was when he planned and carefully trained the troops for a major raid near Fleurbaix, launched on the night of 1-2 July. Its success was recognized by the award of the Distinguished Service Order to WILDER-NELIGAN who, despite serious wounds, had continued to command until all his men had returned. The details in the nomination of Captain Maurice WILDER-NELIGAN state that At FLEURBAIX, FRANCE, was O.C. a large raid composed of 168 all ranks 9th Battn A.I.F. which was carried out on night 1/2nd July 1916. The whole of the credit for the success of the raid which entered the enemy's trenches at three separate points was due to this Officer. He planned the whole raid, carefully selected the Officers and men, organised the three parties, laid down and supervised their training, devised numerous raiding appliances, with which he carefully experimented before adopting. During the training by his own personality and painstaking efforts inspired great confidence in all ranks for the success of the enterprise which resulted in 55 enemy being killed, 24 prisoners taken, a machine gun, quantity of rifles, gas masks, equipment and papers captured. Though severely wounded in the head by an enemy bomb, when half way through the operation, he stuck to his post until the conclusion. He showed great courage all through and in the early stage of the raid before getting into the enemy trench tackled a listening post himself disposing of two out of the three sentries in it. When on Gallipoli this Officer planned and carried out a somewhat similar successful raid but on enemy trenches 2000 yards from our line. In that operation too he showed excellent qualities of skilful and gallant leading but though twice recommended has received no award...Major General, commanding 1st Aust Division.

In October 1916 WILDER-NELIGAN was promoted to Major. WILDER-NELIGAN acted on several occasions as the Commanding Officer of the 9th Battalion. His superiors wrote that during this Brigade's tour in the HINNDENBURG Line in May 1917, the Battalion were on 6th May placed under the orders of the 1st Aust Infantry Brigade. Major M WILDER-NELIGAN was commanding this Battalion, the Commanding Officer being at the time in command of the 3rd Aust. Infantry Brigade. On the night of 6/7th May the 9th Battalion relieved the 3rd Battalion in O.G.1 (Hinndenburg Line) and on the morning of 7th May a bombing attack was carried out towards BULLECOURT along the 2 trenches of the Hinndenburg Line. Both the Brigadier General of the 1st Brigade and the divisional Commander 2nd Division have spoken most highly of the splendid organisation, dash and determination of this attack. The attack was carried out under very heavy enemy shelling, and was successful in joining up our left flank with the 7th division operating against BULLECOURT. Major WILDER-NELIGAN by his foresight and genius for organisation, his determination to get there and his unflinching optimism was without doubt primarily responsible for the success of this operation...signed Brigadier Bennett, Commanding 3rd Aust. Infy. Brigade. WILDER-NELIGAN was awarded Mentioned in Despatches.

This is supported in another Mentioned in Despatches that describes that during the period 26th February 1917 to 20th June 1917, Lieut-Colonel WILDER-NELIGAN worked strenuously as Second in Command of 9th Battalion, and from that date as Commander of the 10th Battalion he has succeeded in raising the standard of and raising the efficiency of the men in his command. On the 6th and 7th May 1917 Lieut-Colonel WILDER-NELIGAN commanded the 9th Battalion when in the HINNDENBURG Line, east of BULLECOURT and by his clever organization, untiring energy, zeal and exemplary bravery, was instrumental in adding important gain to our position...Major-General, Commanding First Australian Division.

By June 1917, WILDER-NELIGAN was a Lieutenant Colonel and had assumed command of the 10th Battalion. The history of the 10th Battalion indicates that within a few months [he] infused into that battalion a special eagerness. His determined and imaginative training prepared it for the battle of Polygon Wood in September—with brilliant results.

These results are seen in the citation for his award of a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George with the statement during the period from 22nd September 1917 to 24th February 1918, Lieutenant-Colonel WILDER-NELIGAN, D.S.O., D.C.M. has commanded the 10th Battalion in a most efficient manner. During the operation east of YPRES from 22nd September 1917 to 12th October 1918 he showed great gallantry and initiative, and was an inspiring example to all his men. It was owing to his personal influence during the training for and carrying out of the operations that his Battalion carried out such excellent work...Major-General, Commanding 1st Australian Division.

Perhaps his greatest achievement was the capture of Merris in July 1918, described by the inspector general of training in the British Expeditionary Force as the best show ever done by a battalion in France. **Brigadier-General BENNETT**, Commanding 3rd Australian Infantry Brigade made a nomination For distinguished service during the period up to 31st July 1918. In the attack on MERRIS on 30th July 1918, it was owing to his skill, initiative, energy and personal control, that the plan of enveloping the village was so successfully carried out, resulting in the attacking force of less than 200, capturing the village with over 200 prisoners and about 30 machine guns, with less than 20 casualties. WILDER-NELIGAN was awarded a Bar to his Distinguished Service Order. His courage and bravery is seen in the fighting for Lihons when he moved 250 or so yards ahead of his battalion, taking a

signalling lamp which he flashed red for halt and take cover, and yellow for advance. In this way he brought the 10th into position in support of the 9th with only one man wounded.

In addition to his brilliant tactics and organizational skills, WILDER-NELIGAN demonstrated tireless care for the well-being of his men, their clothing and fitness as well as their rations. Les Carlyon, in his book "The Great War" gives an indication of both WILDER-NELIGAN's concern for his men, as well as his eccentricity, when he writes Around the same time a machine gunner on the roof of a pillbox checked the advance of the 11th Battalion. The battalion was intermingled with the 10th, commanded by an eccentric Englishman, Lieutenant Colonel Maurice Wilder-Neligan. He sent a lieutenant and his platoon to take the pillbox. The lieutenant was within a few yards of the pillbox when a German shot him in the head. Wilder-Neligan said the men 'went mad'. Germans tried to surrender and Australians pelted them with bombs. Eventually they allowed a German officer and forty men to go to the rear. Wilder-Neligan was an unusual commander. While his men were resting—some puffing on German cigars—before going on to the final objective, they received the latest copies of two Fleet Street dailies, the Mail and the Mirror. Wilder-Neligan had arranged to have them brought up to the front.

His concern for the health of his men as well as the belief and desire that the troops would be off to take over Germany is evidenced in the Memo to Company Commanders within the 10th Battalion a few days after Armistice and found as an Appendix to the Battalion's War Diary for November 1918. Some have indicated that WILDER-NELIGAN was the best organizer in the A.I.F. though Charles BEAN wrote that he was a restless and adventurous spirit, an impetuous, daredevil officer but free of the carelessness with which those qualities are often associated.

WILDER-NELIGAN was Mentioned in Despatches a further 2 times and was also awarded the French Croix de Guerre before war's end. After the Armistice, WILDER-NELIGAN acted as a Brigadier

and commanded the 3rd Brigade Group, returning with them to Australia on the HMAT Takada, sailing from England on 19th July 1919. His A.I.F. appointment terminated in Queensland in October 1919.

WILDER-NELSON had been thinking of obtaining an administrative post in the Australian 'military or civil dependencies', and in March 1920 he joined the military administration of New Guinea as a lieutenant. He began as temporary deputy district officer attached to the Rabaul garrison. On 9 May 1921, when military government ended, he transferred to the civil administration, becoming district officer at Talasea, New Britain.

WILDER-NELSON undertook an extensive visit and assessment of Talasea from 14 to 29 July 1920. The Administrator of Papua New-Guinea, Mr T GRIFFITHS, forwarded the Report to both the Australian Defence Department and the Prime Minister's Office with the comment The Report is one of the best, and is certainly the most complete it has been my pleasure to receive during my service here, and I think will be of interest to the Minister, and to any bodies interested in the native races. A copy of the report can be found in the National Archives of Australia. WILDER-NELIGAN was quite forthright in his comments that covered 7 pages and reported on 90 villages. He also grouped the villages for Patrol purposes and indicated the best way of accessing them.

In January 1923, WILDER-NELSON was called to Rabaul by the administrator to answer allegations of financial malpractice made by a former German planter. Although he appears to have resigned, he set out for Rabaul by sea.

WILDER-NELIGAN went ashore to stay at the village of Ekerapi and to rest for a few days. On coming to wake him on 10 January, his servant found that WILDER-NELSON was dead. A coronial inquest by the acting district officer at Talasea found that the cause of death was unknown and that there were no suspicious circumstances. Survived by his wife and daughter, WILDER-NELSON had died intestate and in debt. His remains were buried on Garua Island, near Talasea, in accordance with his wishes; his wife placed a memorial stone on the grave. The Mail (Adelaide Newspaper) of 23 April 1927 in an article titled, Sleeps in a Lonely Grave reporting on WILDER-NELIGAN concluded He was buried on a New Guinea hillside, close to the sea. Friends and old comrades raising an impressive if not elaborate monument to his memory. Lieut.-Col. M. Wilder Neligan. C.M.G., D.S.O. and bar, D.C.M., and Croix de Guerre. His name with its long string of military decorations is perhaps the best way of illustrating the romantic nature of his career, and a tribute from a soldier who served under him gives an idea of how he was viewed as a soldier by those with whom he did his soldiering. "Colonel Neligan will never be forgotten." this former comrade said, 'while any man of the 10th Battalion who served under him survives. For bravery, initiative, and military brilliance he was unrivalled.'

So at the end of my research on one of the Burdekin Boys who gave their Life in the Great War, the conclusion is reached that the misspelt name of M. WILDER-NELIGAN, perhaps, should not be on the list at the Ayr Memorial for those who gave their lives in the Great War as he had returned to Australia and, it would appear, did not die of war wounds. However, when one considers his feats, it is most likely that he should not have survived the war. He must be considered lucky. In addition to luck, his story is an amazing one rising from Private to Lieutenant-Colonel and is one of courage. WILDER-NELSON's sheer tactical brilliance and his unceasing care for his soldiers made 'Mad Neligan' a legend in his day. He was and remains a mysterious figure, save for the brief years of his military achievement.



FOOTNOTE: During a visit to Murgon, Queensland early in 2012 I took a photo of the town's War Memorial – A soldier in the middle of the main street.

Interestingly, at the base of the memorial is a small plaque with the words:



1st Photo: Profile portrait of Lieutenant Colonel (Lt Col) Maurice Wilder-Neligan CMG DSO and Bar DCM C de G, Commanding Officer of the 10th Battalion. Lt Col Wilder-Neligan returned to Australia on 16 July 1919.



At the Murgon Men's Shed Christmas Party a photo depicting the projects that the Murgon Men's Shed had completed was presented to President Paul Pfeffer in appreciation of his commitment and belief in the Men's Shed that is helping so many retired people connect with each other and enjoy each others company.

The philosophy of The Murgon Men's Shed is come and be part of our group even if it is for just a cup of Tea or Coffee or if you wish be part of the restoration teams that have restored the beauty of so many old objects. The Murgon Men's Shed is at the old Murgon Railway Station in Macalister Street and is open every Wednesday and Saturday mornings and everyone is made welcome.



MURGON DISTRICT FARM PAVED WAY FOR TOP PROFESSOR

No person could ever imagine that when Arthur Kratzmann was born in 1925 at what is now Murgon's Graham House that he would emboss his name into one of the outstanding educators in the history of Canada.

Arthur, the son of a former battling dairy sharefarmer died recently at Victoria on Vancouver Island, aged 90.



His amazing story can be attributed to the kindness and goodwill of Kingaroy's St Mary's Catholic School where he produced outstanding marks in the 1938 Statewide Grade Seven scholarship exam.

The move back to Booie by his parents from one of their best share farming properties at Speedwell near Proston saw Arthur as the only student for that grade at Booie school. Through the kindness of his mate Ron Groves and his mother from Hillsdale, they arranged for him to attend St Mary's.

Around this time, following the exam, Father Troy from St Mary's was seen having discussions about the future of Arthur Kratzmann with his accomplished teacher. Father Troy came to the Booie farms of Kratzmann's and Nystrom's on neighbouring properties and sitting on hay bales told Arthur's dad that his boy had to go onto higher education. His dad had no funds to provide secondary classes, so the matter was left at that.

Then Father Troy came once more and asked Bill Kratzmann if he would allow Arthur to attend Nudgee College as a boarder, receive all his own clothes, books, etc while at the College, and if they were happy about Arthur's capabilities, they would pay his way to Teachers Training College. These tremendous gestures were more than paid for when Arthur reached his greatest height – that of a Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University at Edmonton (Alberta) and later the University of Victoria (Vancouver Island), following three years of intense study at Chicago.

The red soil property that Arthur's parents were working at Speedwell was one of the best in the South Burnett with milking up to 100 cows night and morning when a "bombshell" arrived, owner Mr Yates telling that Bill Kratzmann's six months was up and he had a person to take over saying that the only original agreement was a handshake.

Little did the Kratzmann family know at this time that while it seemed so disappointing, that they and Mr Yates had no idea what the years would hold for Arthur as he progressed to adulthood.

There was a love for Murgon with the three lads as Arthur with his older brother Harold and step brother Jim Seabrook enjoyed their time in the town and country that surrounded.

Arthur in his memoirs says: "There are so many memories of Murgon that come to mind. What a thrill it was to go to the movies at Sweet's theatre and watch the silent films while a pianist created live mood music. What a sense of grown-upness when Dad perched me on a hotel bar and ordered a raspberry drink for me. What joy, on Friday afternoons when Dad, coming home from work, would lift me on his shoulders and give me some lollies. How fascinating, actually transfixing, to stand in front of auctioneer McInery's shop window and watch the working models of sawmills. How absorbing to learn the stories of the Bible in Sunday School at the nearby Church of England where Harold and I were baptized. And then of course there were the joy rides available in Tiger Moths at the nearby Angelfield.

The comfortable life soon became very uncomfortable with the onset of the depression. Workers were laid off, including his Dad. He searched and searched for work but to no avail.

Yet the family had to be fed, and house payments had to be made. One day he heard that a property owner with a holding at Booie, some 40km distant, wanted a family to work as share-farmers. Dad was most interested, and he negotiated the typical 50/50 contract.”

Bill and Dolly Kratzmann had battled the elements of farming at Booie, Ellesmere, Boat Mountain and Sexton while later growing vegetables at a residential property in Auchenflower, Brisbane just for the family’s survival.

His mum at Sexton just north of Woolooga had the unfortunate elements of a nervous breakdown. Life was tough on women having to assist morning and night to hand milk large herds of cows plus assist with many other chores. At Murgon she had to go through the trauma of losing a set of twins just after birth while a daughter was involved in a nasty fatal accident on Jones’ property at Booie when just short of two years old.

Arthur after successful exams at Nudgee College had his first posting from Teachers Training College (at 16 years of age) to be in charge of primary school classes at Thallon near St George and later at Haystack, near Warra on the Darling Downs. Some 18 months later he decided to join the RAAF where his older brothers were in the Army fighting in conflicts with Japan in islands north of Australia.

After initial training in Australia including some time at the Kingaroy air base, the Squadron was then transferred to Alberta, Canada.

It was here that he met his future wife, Mary who was in charge of the squadron’s post office. Near the completion of the war conflict in 1945, they were married at the base of Dafoe in Saskatchewan.

On his return to civilian life, Arthur taught at Stuart Valley, a former school adjacent to the Kingaroy Kumbia Highway on a site opposite the present caravan park..

He then received a posting to Munbura, a school near Mackay where he and wife, Mary, and their two young sons David and Terry later made positive moves to return to western Canada in 1949.

From a number of outback schools in Alberta and Saskatchewan he was nominated by the University of Alberta to study for a doctoral fellowship covering three years at the prestigious University of University of Chicago.

Arthur describes how Chicago put him upon a pedestal that one would have never dreamed of in earlier years. He later became Dean of the Faculty of Education at Universities at Edmonton, Alberta and Victoria, British Columbia.

With access to increased funds, Arthur felt for the brothers he had left behind who had all made positive moves into the various workforces initially around Kingaroy in that he gave all members of his brothers’ families lengthy holidays to Canada.

Commencing in 1990, Arthur was involved most successfully in educational policy making with China authorities over a seven year period. This was marred somewhat by the Tianemen Square uproar however Arthur was one of a rare few of people who received applause at Chinese functions plus in the streets, ordinary people would give him the thumbs up. Both Arthur and Mary were extremely disappointed when this major project was halted.

Then one of his greatest achievements was in 1994-95 to be the driving force of a Royal Commission into the future of education in British Columbia of students from kindergarten to Grade 12 over a 20 year period. This meant flying from cities to outback prairies spread across all of British Columbia. Millions of dollars were approved by the Canadian Government following the extensive research.

While in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in 1955, Arthur came in contact with a Grade six and Seven student Roberta Anderson who later changed her name to Joni Mitchell. She would later become a singer-songwriter and be known throughout the world. Arthur was able to instill in her a lifelong love of words which saw her dedicate her first album to him. She became one of Canada’s creative geniuses where at a special ceremony Arthur was asked to present her award. It was the first time the two had met again since the classroom in 1956.

In retirement, Arthur and Mary made several trips back to Queensland, their favourite holiday venue being Caloundra. Arthur is survived by wife Mary, 93 years of Victoria BC with two sons David and Terry and their families who live close by at Shawnigan Lake and Campbell River. Brothers are Keith (Tingoora) and Colin (Kingaroy). He is predeceased by Harold (Townsville) and step- brother Jim Seabrook of Booie.

OVER 40 CONDOLENCES SUBMITTED

Condolences just keep coming: Thanks have been expressed from all quarters for the daily newspaper The Times Colonist based on Vancouver Island for their outstanding reports on Arthur’s career and in particular allowing people across the country to express thoughts up until September of next year about Arthur.

Excerpts from just four of the writers say:

Arthur Kratzmann was one of my favorite people in the world. I was his secretary during his tenure as Dean of Education and will never forget his guidance and patience. — *Sharon Hanslip*

Arthur was a noble educator, charming gentleman, astute professional and a dear friend. What a beautiful difference a single life made.. – *Coral and Rupee Pallan*

Dr. Kratzmann was the finest educator I have met. He spoke to us of Joanie Mitchell from a Grade 7 student to an outstanding Canadian entertainer and the influence of her words on him. His knowledge from all walks of life was outstanding and my reaction was amazement at the way his mind worked. He had a powerful intelligence but an open, friendly manner. I am lucky to have been one of his students at UVic – *Lynne Murdoch*

I was fortunate to be able to share my deep affection for this remarkable friend and patience. He was always a source of inspiration and guidance to me and shared his great love of his beloved family. My belief has always been that leading by example was best and he was the master in every respect. - *Bruce Russell*

The former Boogie State School where Arthur Kratzmann attended on two different occasions has been relocated to the adjoining Bill and Mary McLennan's property adjacent to the Perrett farm where the Kratzmann families spent many years.



Pictured are Mary McLennan (nee Schultz) and Keith Kratzmann who both sat side by side in the Boogie classroom some 74 years ago. Mary now 82 and Keith 81 along with brother Colin have many vivid memories of school life. The good was often marred by the excessive use of the cane by the headmaster. The Schultz family were wonderful to Keith and Colin (who were cared for and nurtured by their wonderful Uncle Jack), their Dad having to leave for sustainable work in Brisbane On many Saturdays the boys were invited to the Schultz property where Mrs Schultz would produce great lunches with roast duck and all the trimmings followed by good home made

icecream. Mr Martin Schultz also had a special grape vineyard while his smokehouse produced great wurst aided by homemade wine which the boys were allowed to have a sip on certain evening functions. Mary Schultz at just 12 years of age turned Keith into a competent dancer by teaching him to waltz aided by a wound up gramophone and the original 78 disc records.

Dr Arthur Kratzmann...from battling depression years in Murgon as a youngster to one of Canada's top educators.



Photo: Arthur in his retirement years in the lovely city of Victoria on Vancouver Island which is noted world wide for the massive Butchart Gardens. L-R : brother Keith, Arthur with wife Mary and Keith's wife Gayle during their visit to Vancouver Island in 2013.

-- Article compiled by Keith Kratzmann in respect of the love for his late brother and wife Mary.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - CUBA

Starting at 9.30 am on Saturday 4th March 2016, the Combined churches will host a World Day of Prayer event at New Horizons Church Murgon, 15292 Bunya Highway. Mrs Pat Van Kempen who has just returned from spending her Christmas holiday break in Cuba; the place of her birth, will share some of her experiences and insights into the country and its needs. The morning will end with a shared morning tea. Please bring a plate to share. All Welcome to attend.

Balgree Grazing Co

Livestock & General Cartage

Grant Brown

0427 952 881

4169 7818

balgree@rocketmail.com



THANKS TO ALL OF YOU



Dear Australian friends,

The day we returned in Holland from a wonderful Australian trip is still almost weeks behind us. In those weeks all kinds of memories have circled through our heads and believe us, all of them are wonderful. They keep remembering us of so many special days. Visiting Australia was far more than sitting in an aeroplane for hours. This trip brought us so much to think and talk about. We met so many lovely and warm-hearted people. You all in Murgon and South Burnett belong to them.

In our letter that is enclosed we want to say thank you for the perfect day you organised. We enjoyed it to be in your city. The wonderful gifts we carried back home in the orange bags were lovely. Our grandchildren were proud to have a real boomerang.

Copy of letter received

Dodewaard / Zetten, 15th December 2015

Dear Australian friends,

At the end of April 2014, we were looking forward to receive an Australian delegation. All of them were related in a certain way to Patrick Tiernan and Alfred Burns. The two young boys who died in Dodewaard in 1944 in the Netherlands and had found their resting place in our small village.

Years of investigations found their final touch by this visit. It was a mixed delegation of relatives, veterans, students, a mayor, an author, but all of them knew what happened on the 17th of June in 1944.

At that time we had no idea what we could expect of this trip, but be sure we were excited.

The 4th of May committee was ready for it, the inhabitants of Dodewaard were informed and interested in the history behind the two white gravestones and you can imagine, we all felt nervous.

People from the other side of the world in our village. It was talk of the town!

We had wonderful days and from the first moment we felt connected. Your history and ours touched each other on a small place on the graveyard.

At the departure we all experienced feelings of friendship and we all were moved and impressed by what we had heard and seen. It was no longer an Australian delegation, it became Australian friends.

A few weeks later, the death of sister Philomene came as a shock. The lovely woman from Australia.

We had met her only a few days, but it seemed as if we had known her for years. Inhabitants of Dodewaard expressed their feelings in a book of condolences and could show their feelings of grief and sorrow. Again we felt connected.

“Whenever you will come over to Australia, feel welcome”. This invitation at the departure was not spoken into a deaf man’s ear, and the longer we talked about it, the more real this invitation became.

In the beginning of 2015 Cees and Monique, Ries and Anke, and Paul and Annelies decided to plan the trip to Australia and in October we all left for this huge journey.

Impressed by the beauty of your country, we travelled alongside the coast, visited the cities, and again and again we experienced the cordiality of the Australian people. Sometimes it felt like a dream. As if we were living in another world. The Dutch autumn that changed into Australian spring within a few hours, felt so warm! The different language seemed no problem.

And then the moment of meeting friends in Australia, their country. It was so special to see all those well-known faces again, to hear their voices, to live in their homes and to hear from their plans to make our trip unforgettable.

It has been overwhelming for all of us to visit you. To be your guest in your house among so many family members feels special. Those open doors and lovely welcome parties. The moments to talk, to think and even cry together are indelible. It is heart-warming to see that the history of your boys is still alive, even with the young generation. The surprise of meeting Gareth Owen, to hear his story and the way he had to deal with history. The name of his father has been mentioned so many times at our tables as well. We could never imagine that the start in 2011 would bring us all together in this way.

Especially now, when the world seems to become more and more cruel and fearful, it is good to feel this warm friendship.

One of the trips that was organized for us was a trip by bus to Murgon / South Burnett. This time we saw more of the inlands of Australia and got an idea of the huge distances.

Members of the Murgon RSL Club joined the delegation in 2014, so it was so good to see, also in Murgon, familiar faces on arrival.

On the RSL club we were welcomed by the Dutch and Queensland flag and warm words of welcome by Leo Geraghty and Trevor Sanderson.

Outside on the square we saw the Murgon War Memorial and read the names of all the soldiers that died during several wars. Amongst them we recognized the name of Patrick Tiernan.

A solemn moment of laying flowers at the Memorial became the start of a very special and warm-feeling day in Murgon.

Friendly students showed us the way inside the RSL Club, where a lot of invited guests were already waiting. In a relaxed way we had the opportunity to talk to many of them during a very tasteful and well-organised lunch. With some of them we could speak Dutch! Amongst all those guests we were told was Mr. Paul Tunn, a former WWII Halifax crew member and former Murgon Mayor Bill Roberts, who was present when Patrick left to go to war. Incredible to realize that both of these gentlemen have been real part of this history.

Warm words of welcome from the Australian hosts should have been answered by a speech of mayor Cees Veerhoek from the Netherlands, but unfortunately Paul had to tell the audience that, due to the overcome of many Syrian refugees in The Netherlands, Mayor Cees Veerhoek had to cancel his trip to Australia, for which he felt very sorry. Nevertheless Paul could offer a wooden bench to Mayor Wayne Kratzmann for all the citizens of Murgon. A gift of friendship and remembrance.

Special moment of the ceremony was the presentation of “The Patrick Tiernan Story”.

In a stirring story, Liz Caffery, presented her “Patrick Tiernan - the cobbler from Murgon”.

Especially for the Dutch delegation, it were emotional moments to see and to hear Patrick's history.

A history they have researched and of which they feel part of on the side-line.

It is a great gift to have the book here in our cupboard. We are eager to read it.

Singing in a big circle the lovely song of Waltzing Mathilda meant the closing of a memorable afternoon. Packed with gift-bags, Australian hats and wonderful memories, we said goodbye to all of you.

We could not leave Murgon without having seen all the special facilities you have in your village. The Tiernan hotel (we only knew by drawings), the swimming pool, the gymnastic hall (where a lot of young children were practicing) your lovely houses and even a kangaroo and her baby.

A sight-seeing by Leo Geraghty that we will not easy forget. A promotor first-class of a village you can be proud of!

Back in Holland again we feel that this wonderful trip is still in our minds. Memories of fantastic weeks cannot be swiped out. And from time to time there are the flashbacks.

In the first days of being at home we felt a bit confused. The long trip, the difference in time and temperature asked their price. Our heads felt porous of all the impressions that we brought home. However we soon realized

that the stories we can tell our family and friends are so wonderful and warm and the pictures we made are so beautiful that there is only place for grateful memories.

Thanks to all of you for making our trip to Australia so special and unforgettable.

You are all part of these wonderful memories.

Here in Holland we live in the dark days before Christmas. Outside it is rainy and there is almost no sun, but we are used to it. In our minds and hearts there is still the Australian sunshine and warm feelings.

We wish you a wonderful and lovely Christmas and a hopeful and healthy New Year

Warmest friendly regards,

Cees and Monique

Ries and Anke

Paul and Annelies

We therefore say thank you to all people in Murgon and South Burnett. Thanks for your kindness and hospitality.

Cees and Monique van Meer

Ries and Anke Hoogakker

Paul and Annelies Struik

Photo : Ries Hoogakker, Mayor Wayne Kratzmann Paul Struik and Cees Van Meer

PROSTON SHOW SOCIETY NEWS



Proston is swinging into preparations for the 58th Annual Show with a special morning tea

at the Cultural Centre on Saturday morning 27th February. The theme for this morning is “Queen of Hearts” and there will be special competitions featuring decorated hats and face masks. At this event our entrants in the Miss Showgirl and Rural Ambassador competitions will also make an appearance.

The 2016 Show will be held on Saturday 5th March and is shaping up to be a real treat for those who enjoy a traditional rural exhibition. All the regular competitions with top class entrants will be on show, with the addition of many special entertainment features.

These include dodgem cars and other children’s amusements, a pet parade arranged by Viv’s Farm Animals, whip cracking, Young Farmers’ Challenge, fireworks and the Stepping Stones with an evening concert.

In the Pavilion the feature theme is “Hearts” with special prizes for entries which best depict the theme as well as the usual class and Champion awards.

President Helen Young said that she was very pleased with the efforts put in during the past year by various voluntary workers and sponsors including South Burnett Regional Council in order to have some much needed improvements made to the grounds.

These include a complete refurbishment of the grandstand, the replacement of the boundary fence at the stud stock arena and repainting and repairs to the main pavilion as well as some other minor repairs.

Helen said that Proston Show is a mainstay event for the Proston district and the state of the grounds should be a fitting backdrop to the wonderful quality exhibits which this Show always attracts. She said that it is up to everyone to thank the many sponsors and donors of the Show by putting in as many entries as possible and make the Show as good as it can be.

Show schedules are available in hard copy or online, please contact secretary Glenda on 0423 612 971 or President Helen on 4168 9297

CRISIS COMMITTEE



Way back in April 1994 our local Doctor, Joe Gangemi and a Murgon local favourite “ mover and shaker” Irma Close, bought into conception the CRISIS Committee.

At this time our local area was serviced by the helicopter medivacs and it looked like the service would be discontinued because of cost. The service offered to our local area was a vital link between our medical services and those available in the larger city based hospitals. Fearing the service would be stopped Dr Joe and Irma rallied the local community to start fundraising for our helicopter service, So began the CRISIS- Country Rescue Income Support Improvement Scheme.

The committee raised awareness in the community about the services offered by the chopper service. In the early days they were kept in the air by Corporate sponsorship and local support, there was no financial assistance offered by either Government. Fundraising was carried out throughout the areas of Murgon, Goomeri and Wondai.

Through the years the committee has got smaller and now the new President Raelene Dennis would like to see the committee reformed to again place a spotlight on the helicopter service.

Although the funding for the RACQ Careflight helicopter service has changed and the service now receives some funding from the State Government there is still a large short fall for the running expenses.

A flight from Murgon Hospital to Brisbane is approx \$14,000.00

Raelene took over the role of President when Irma retired and left the area in 2013, but with other commitments has not had too much spare time for CRISIS fundraising. Raelene said, over the past two years the local communities of Murgon and Goomeri have still been donating to the CRISIS appeal and I would like to thank the local organizations for their continued support. I have had a few people ask why CRISIS still exists as there are other ways to donate to RACQ Careflight? I feel there are people in the community that would like to assist in a way that shows they have compassion for others, it is not about putting a \$2 coin in a box and thinking “I’ve done my bit”, if we again have one signature event that we can hold either annually or bi annually that will give the whole community the opportunity to show there compassion, as you never know who will require the service. I know that some people do not like sending small amounts of money and would like to donate to a large pool. It does look lovely when we can donate a \$20,000.00 cheque to RACQ Careflight and say “This was raised by our locals”

If you would like to be part of the CRISIS Committee a meeting is being held at the SB PCYC Murgon on 16th February at 7.00pm. Please come along and offer your support.

Raelene can be contacted at Dennis Electrical Services 41681800 or her mobile 0407695826.

PCYC South Burnett

We welcome you to hopefully what will be a monthly update on the programs, activities and events that 2016 will bring not only to the club, but to the South Burnett. With all the hidden secrets that lay within the region of a places to visit, to be proud of and showcase to the nation. By promoting healthy lifestyles and a way to develop the youth to our next generation of Leaders and Elders for the area and something we can all be proud of and pass down to our children's children.

Throughout 2016, we will endeavour to expand our services through sport and recreation to showcase areas of the South Burnett Region and this can only be achieved with the support and assistance with the community.

A new arrangement of activities has been produced, as well as PCYC South Burnett registered as a Sporting School Coaching Provider under the Australian Government's move into getting more school aged children participating in physical activities.

Local Search Directories has also committed to a three year sponsorship of our gymnastics program to provide more youth with more opportunity within the region's sporting activities. Our Gymnastics program will be again commencing in Week Two or Term 1 with a possible expansion for a weekend class. This will be dependant on demand.

Plus don't miss our January Gym special for under \$300 for 12 months (terms and conditions apply).

Friday Night Live is on the first Friday of the month during school terms.

6.00- 9.00pm

It all starts here at PCYC. Where it ends is up to you.

Working with over 50,000 young people each year to achieve our vision of "*Enhancing Queensland communities through youth development*" PCYC Queensland is a not-for-profit organisation focusing on youth development throughout Queensland.

With 54 clubs throughout Queensland, PCYC offers many and diverse activities catering to the specific needs of young people in each local community. In addition to the day to day activities at our clubs, PCYC delivers a range of exciting life-changing leadership and crime-prevention programs.

THE CLASSIC WAY TO DANCE



From beginner to advance, to prepare for a formal or wedding. With the combination of dance and music, experience the tremendous benefit of movement and skill, combined with elegance to provide a fun and social atmosphere with our dance group, lead by qualified instructors to have a ball.

When: Thursday, Time: 1:00pm to 2:30pm

Cost: Cost \$4.00* per person, Tea and Coffee provided..

Bring: Your dancing shoes and expectation of enjoyment, All ages catered.

Seniors Having A Ball

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday



Seniors Having A Ball or SHAB as we like to call it, has been operating successfully over the past years under names such as Heart Moves and Life Fitness. This program is aimed at issues that many have with aging and not just for seniors. It provides light exercise to keep the heart and joints moving, improving coordination and mobility. It also provides a beginner platform to start any fitness activity on.

As well as the physical fitness atmosphere, join in with the fun and social characters within the group.

CLASS TIME 8:30am - 9:30am. COST Members \$4* Non Members \$7*

PARKOUR

(parkour will be attached to our gymnastics program).

Gymnastics for the street

BRAZILIAN BODY TONE – TUESDAY 4.30pm-5.30pm

Based on the principles of the well known workout “Brazil Butt Lift” – without the surgery – and focusing on the lower body. This ultimate workout will sculpt and tone your whole body in a fun and enjoyable atmosphere.

MIX IT UP – CIRCUIT FITNESS CLASS – FRIDAY 4.30PM-5.30PM

For a break in routine and for something different, whilst still achieving a great strength and cardio workout, we have reintroduced our MIX IT UP Circuit Class, this is on a Friday afternoon for those who can't wait until the weekend.

IT ALL STARTS HERE

PCYC South Burnett

40 Macalister Street, Murgon, 4605

Phone: 4168 1889 | Fax: 4168 3586 | Email: southburnett@pcyc.org.au | www.pcyc.org.au/SouthBurnett

Join the PCYC and be part of a large family Organization.

Membership fees: Seniors \$6.00 – Child \$20.00 – Adults \$30.00 – Family \$60.00

DATE CLAIMER

RESERVE FORCES DAY – WONDAL – SUNDAY 3RD JULY 2016

MURGON ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW 2016



The Murgon Show is being held on 11th and 12th March 2016. In previous years this is one weekend to look forward to with competitions in the ring with horses and stud cattle, outside prime and dairy cattle, dogs, poultry, and exhibits in the Pavilion.

The schools will have displays to be judged in the PCYC building. There is always a lot of work from the students put into these displays. The children get excited about seeing their name or school displayed for everyone to see.

On the grounds inside the main gate will be a pet display along with miniature horses. The Ute Show will be alongside a Show An Shine which will be a first for Murgon Show.

This year we will once again hear the voice of Don Costa who is very popular with show patrons just before the rodeo. Fireworks will be on the Saturday night during the rodeo.

Food including tea and coffee will be available on Friday and Saturday. When the show is coming to town, the first thing we think of is sideshows. They will be here again with their fairy floss, toffee apples and waffles along with rides for all ages.

There has been a request to bring back dairy cattle so they will be in the programme again since not being in competition since 2002.

On the Friday afternoon we will have the Young Paraders and Young Handlers for Stud Cattle and Young Judges for Prime and Stud Cattle starting around 4pm.

If there are any girls between the ages of 18 to 28 years, we have the Miss Showgirl competition and then if there are any girls younger the office will be able to help with a category.

Gates will open on Saturday 12th March at 6am. Gate prices have not changed this year so it is good value and good entertainment for the day. So put the 12th March in your diary to come to the show and see what the area has to offer from the farm to produce, cooking, crafts and lots of other fun to be done at our annual agricultural show.

Welcome to Murgon's new web site
Lots of stories, photos, events
download the Murgon Moments
A great place to Live, Work & Play
murgon.net.au



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AMBULANCE-MURGON (NON URGENT)	131233
BARAMBAH REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTRE	41698600
BEYOND BLUE (National Depression Initiative)	1300224636
BJELKE -PETERSEN DAM	41684746
BOONDOOMBA DAM-TOURIST PARK	41689694
CASTRA RETIREMENT HOME	41681076
CR KATHY DUFF (local councillor Murgon- Proston area Div 5)	41680225
CRIME STOPPERS	1800 333 000
DENTIST-MURGON	41681540
DOCTOR-MURGON	41682722
GRAHAM HOUSE	41698400
HOSPITAL CHERBOURG	41698800
HOSPITAL-MURGON	41699600
INFORMATION CENTRE-MURGON	41683864
JEFF SEENEY MLA (STATE MEMBER for Murgon)	1800 812 119
LIBRARY-MURGON	41699018
MURGON MOMENTS (Editor)	41681869
PARKS AND WILDLIFE (EPA)	1300 130 372
PHARMACY-MURGON	41681022
POISONS INFORMATION CENTRE	131126
POLICE LINK (To report non urgent incidents)	131444
POLICE-CHERBOURG	41681166
POLICE-MURGON	41795222
PROSTON INFORMATION CENTRE	41685652
PROSTON LIBRARY	41689103
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PURSERS BUS LINE	41681533
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RACQ	131111
SES-MURGON	132500
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SOUTH BURNETT REGIONAL COUNCIL-MURGON OFFICE	41699000
TAXI-MURGON	41681766
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JOKE FOR THE MONTH

A lion woke up one morning with an overbearing desire to remind his fellow creatures that he was king of the jungle.

So he marched over to a monkey and roared:

“Who is the mightiest animal in the jungle?”

You are, Master, said the monkey, quivering.

Then the lion came across a wildebeest.

“Who is the mightiest animal in the jungle?” roared the lion

You are, Master, answered the wildebeest, shaking with fear.

Next the lion met an elephant.

“Who is the mightiest animal in the jungle?” roared the lion

The elephant grabbed the lion with his trunk, slammed him repeatedly

against a tree, dropped him like a stone and ambled off.

All right shouted the lion. There’s no need to turn nasty just because you didn’t know the answer.

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Wondai Regional Art Gallery

On the Roundabout, Wondai

February 2016 Exhibition

“Here And There” (Main gallery)

An exhibition of work by Sue Lederhose covering locations around South East Queensland, Northern Territory, Western Australia, Thailand and New Zealand as well as some WW1 interpretative works.

Although these artworks cover a wide area geographically and a variety of subject matter the artist keeps coming back to her first love of rural landscapes.

The beauty of the bush and inland Australia constantly draws the artist’s eye. The strong colours are there, already to be laid down on the painting surface and the light makes the image sing.

“From The Radium Diaries” (Front gallery)

The works in this exhibition are taken from the visual diaries of Faye Cook and Jan Sody, kept during their radiation treatment for breast cancer. They are aiming to reach out to others who have had similar experiences and to encourage their participation in the creative process through informal workshops and eventually, other exhibitions.

“Love, Loss and Depression” (Third gallery)

Late in 2013 Allison Seiler developed depression as a result of drought, stress, anxiety and self image issues. As a result Allison’s paintings became darker and more personalised to her struggle featuring beautiful women and figures as well as eyes which Allison is mesmerised by. Each painting does paint a thousand words all of which being a story of struggle....an exhibition of blood, medication and inspirational bursts.

Kids Korner St Joseph’s Primary School

Opening Night: Friday 5th February 2016, from 6pm

\$5.00 entry includes Hot & Cold Supper & Punch

Live Entertainment

The exhibition will remain in the Wondai Regional Art Gallery throughout the month of February 2016.

The exhibition will be open 7 days a week, 10.00am till 4.00pm. Free Entry.

Telephone: 07 4168 5926 or email wondaiartgallery@southburnett.qld.gov.au



BARAMBAH GARDEN CLUB NEWS

We had our end of year meeting at the home of Bill & Lyn Vlaanderen where we had an enjoyable relaxed meeting. This is one of the few meetings where we do not have a speaker. We had a good look around Lyn’s immaculate garden before enjoy lunch together.

Our produce competition winners for the year are

Natives	1st Jean Green	2nd Fay Collard
Bulbs/Lily	1st Bill Kapernick	2nd Gordon Rehbein
Rose	1st Jan Reitmajor	2nd Lyn Vlaanderen & Marlene Emmerton
Geranium	1st Bill Kapernick	2nd Marlene Emmerton
Any Flower	1st Marlene Emmerton	2nd Bill Kapernick & Lyn Vlaanderen
Fruit	1st Doris Hay & Jean Green	2nd Bill Kapernick
Veg	1st Jean Green	2nd Doris Hay & Marlene Emmerton
Root Crop	1st Jean Green	2nd Lyn Vlaanderen

2016 will be a busy and informative year with subjects including native bees, orchids, capers and more. For information please ph 41686238. Until next time Happy Gardening

Kathy's Comments

Looking Forward

May I wish everyone all the very best of everything in 2016. The rail trail will be completed before the 30th of June. Campbell's Bridge will also be completed before the 30th of June. There are also some upgrades to the Proston Cemetery to be done including a columbarium and a new fence in this financial year. I hope that the work at the Murgon State School, funded through a joint Safer Schools project, will help to improve the parking and make the area safer.

Looking Back

January- Joan Adams from Tablelands was named the South Burnett Citizen of the Year. Noel Cheshire received the Senior and Jared Sippel the Junior Sportsperson of the Year. The Murgon Local Achiever was awarded to Paul Pfeffer. Del Blanch from Proston was honoured with the South Burnett Volunteer of the Year and Zig and Sharon Zoldak were named the Hivesville/Proston Local Achievers.

February- Council received joint funding for a feral animal trapping project across the region. Council funded an upgrade to the box culvert on Campbell's Rd as part of the Byee flood plain management project. Major repairs were completed to drainage in Hivesville's Main Street. Boondooma Dam Fishing Comp was a great success.

March – The Show season began with Proston and Murgon hosting successful events. Sunday Creek Bridge on the Gayndah/Hivesville Rd was completed. Clean Up Australia Day in Murgon was held at the Lily Ponds. The tender was awarded for work to commence on the Murgon pool.

April- Anzac Day ceremonies marking the Centenary were held and had some special touches. Murgon hosted a wonderful ceremony with one hundred white balloons and homing pigeons released into the air. I had the honour of officially opening the Lest We Forget Archway. Proston and Murgon ladies knitted hundreds of poppies for displays. Boondooma Homestead hosted another great Heritage week and special Anzac Service.

May- A very successful Reconciliation Fun Run was held from Murgon to Cherbourg. I had the honour of officially launching the Dual Arts project. The Cloyna and Brigooda Transfer Stations were opened for public use. I had the honour of officially opening the Wondai Hospital Auxiliary Fete. Graham House was presented with \$15000 at the Mayor's Ball as part of the Community Benefit fund.

June – Cycling Qld came to Murgon and hundreds of cyclists participated in the trek around Boat Mountain. Council brought down the Annual Budget with highlights including joint funding for the Murgon State School SafeST car park project, work at the PCYC, the Murgon Town Hall, Murgon tennis courts and additional money for the Murgon Pool. Campbell's, Stonelands, Mondure, Manar and Webbers Creek bridges were also provided for in the budget. The Proston library, the tennis court, the cemetery fence and drainage work in Rodney Street were funded. The Proston Rural water was separated out as a stand- alone scheme to help to minimise costs for rural producers.

July- Hivesville Transfer station was opened to the public. Cherbourg hosted some very successful NAIDOC events. Murgon Junior Rugby League hosted the 50th Anniversary of the under 43kg Carnival.

August – Boondooma Homestead hosted a very successful "Scots in the Bush". The first meeting to start a Proston Men's Shed was held with a large attendance of keen supporters. Wondai held a successful Show.

September –The Mayor's Charity Golf Day was held in Murgon



along with the opening of the extensions to the Murgon BP Roadhouse.

October-The South Burnett & Cherbourg on Show initiative attracted over 60 events and thousands of visitors to our region. Moffatdale School held a wonderful Centenary celebration and I had the honour of officially opening Brydges Park. Mondure hosted a successful Farmer's Night as part of grant funding Council received. The extensions to the Murgon Pool were officially opened.

November – Rotary hosted another spectacular Murgon Music Muster. Moffatdale Ridge Winery received the Murgon Business Award at the South Burnett Business Excellence Awards. Johnson Street sealing was completed in Hivesville. Murgon hosted a wonderful luncheon with a return delegation from the Netherlands.

December – Cloyna hosted a successful Farmer's Night sponsored by a grant Council received. Certificates were presented to two of our retiring volunteers from the Murgon VIC, Happy Ditchman and Lyn Koy. Hancock Prospecting sponsored major prizes for the Christmas Lights.

These are just a few snippets of what I felt was a successful but challenging 2015. Thank you to everyone for the support you have given me in my role as a Councillor and I look forward to working with you all again if I am re-elected in March, 2016.

As always I am working on following up jobs and concerns that have been brought to my attention. Please contact me if you have an issue or wish to make an appointment

Cr Kathy Duff (Division 5) South Burnett Regional Council

Phone 07 41680225 or 0437020705 or email kduff@southburnett.qld.gov.au



Front : Emma and Sheryl Franz.

Elgin Vale QCWA News

The members finished up their busy year with catering at the Canteen at Nanango Races. The branch will recess now till the first Tuesday in February. For their December meeting the ladies invited local women from the district to join them in some Christmas festivities. Visitors and members enjoyed Chicken and ham with a selection of delicious salads followed by tarts and cheesecake. After the luncheon a hoy afternoon was held. This is very popular amongst the ladies and there is always creates lots of laughter and fun during the afternoon. Christmas cake and a cuppa ended the day.

The first meeting in the New Year will be held 2nd February at 10am. New members and visitors are always welcome. For further particulars contact Lois Thurecht 41623824.

Photo: Standing - Roslyn Franz, Val Knight, Lois Thurecht, Eva Ryan and Marlene Munt,

Local Government elections is Saturday 19 March 2016

Polling day for the upcoming Local Government elections is Saturday 19 March 2016.

Electors are reminded that it is compulsory for all enrolled voters to vote in the election.

Residents can check or update their enrolment details at www.ecq.qld.gov.au or by phoning 1300 881 665.

Polling booth and pre-poll centre locations will be available closer to the election. Polling booths will be open on election day between 8 am and 6 pm.

Residents interested in working at the election can apply online now at <http://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/elections2/working-at-an-election>

Position descriptions, duties, terms and conditions of employment are listed. Successful applicants will be contacted by email with a formal offer of employment.

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CLOSING TIME

For all news items and advertisements is the 25th of each month and they are to be either EMAILED to lgeraghty@datawave.net.au or delivered to

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NEWS FROM GRAHAM HOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Helping Hand For Locals Affected By Drought

Are you, or is someone you know, struggling to make ends meet and need a helping hand? Graham House can provide emergency relief and support to community members experiencing drought-related financial hardship. Families and individuals in need can apply for one-off assistance to pay for everyday expenses and necessities such as bills, food, school items and or rent. This project has been made possible by funding through the Queensland Government Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services and will be available for drought-affected community members within the Murgon catchment area. If you or someone you know needs help please don't hesitate to call Linda or Sharon on 4169 8400 or email sharon.dowden@grahamhouse.org.au. Our team can meet and discuss support options with you at our Community Centre on 21 Taylor Street East, Murgon. Alternatively we can meet you at your home or a venue of your choice.

Graham House's 6 week parenting program, Circle Of Security, is running from 25 February 2016 in Murgon and 5 May 2016 in Kingaroy. To register and for more information please call Dot on 4169 8400.

Graham House Community Kitchen will re-commence on Monday 1 February 2016 from 10am-12pm at the Centre. A Community Kitchen is a group of like-minded individuals who come together on a regular basis to socialise and cook affordable and nutritious meals. These sessions can help you make new friends, develop teamwork and leadership skills, learn how to budget, learn new cooking techniques and recipes and save money on food costs. To join and for more information contact Kerry or Dot on 4169 8400

DO YOU KNOW A CLUB THAT COULD DO WITH A FINANCIAL BOOST?

Applications for the Summer round of the Holden Home Ground Advantage program are closing the end of February, so make sure you get your clubs application in soon.

Holden's Commitment

In 2014 Holden announced a \$5 million commitment to support local sporting clubs across Australia over the next 10 years. Each year, a summer and Winter round will award \$250,000 worth of grants, including one worth \$100,000!

Maryborough Bears AFL Club

The Maryborough Bears AFL Club received the major \$100,000 grant to create separate change room facilities for female member. "We want to encourage females young and old to get in sport and the grant will give us the opportunity to do exactly this" Maryborough Bears President, Jason O'Brien said.

To date 39 clubs (including one in Kingaroy) across a wide range of sports have received grants including gymnastics, cricket, football, netball, tennis, soccer and rugby. Grants are awarded for projects big and small, from ground and facility upgrades to replacing uniforms and equipment.

Applications for the current round close 29th February 2016

For details, including how to apply on line type in, holden home ground advantage

Or see your local Holden Dealer

Get Started is one of three funding programs that comprise the Queensland Government's Get in the Game initiative to support grassroots sport and recreation.

Get Started assists children and young people who can least afford or may otherwise benefit from joining a sport or recreation club by providing a voucher of \$150.00 to help pay the cost of membership and/or participation fees with a registered Get Started club.

Round 7 Dates:

Voucher applications open on **Wednesday, 27 January 2016**.

Voucher applications close on **Wednesday, 30 March 2016**, or earlier if all available vouchers are allocated.

Vouchers expire (must be presented to a Get Started club) by **Friday, 6 May 2016**.

Voucher redemptions close (Club must redeem) by Friday, **20th May 2016**.

We sadly mourn the loss of :

SCHULZ, Esther, Late of Wondai and Castra, Murgon, Formerly of Mondure

MURRAY, Trevor, Late of Proston and formerly of Julia Creek and Goomborian

BARTLETT, Richard John (Jack), Late of 'Castra' Murgon and formerly of Proston

THOMPSON, Robert John (Bob), Late of Windera

BIRCH, Colin James, Late of Toowoomba and formerly of Wattle Camp near Memerambi.

ANDREWS, Norman William, late of Pittsworth, formerly of Murgon.

GRUNDY, Ernest Harold, late of Maryborough, formerly of Wondai

FERGUSON, Geoffrey, late of Woombye Care formerly of Goomeri & Kilkivan.

McKEWAN, Melville Leslie "Mel" late of Gympie formerly of Tansey.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES MURGON



With an exciting new Hyundai motor dealership franchise about to open in Murgon, full time employment opportunities are currently available for the following positions.

Apprentice Automotive Technician

Applicants will need to demonstrate strong numeracy and comprehension skills, an excellent work ethic, a current driver licence and a genuine desire to secure trade qualifications with a career path in the motor industry,

Sales Professional / Trainee

Applicants will need to demonstrate proven sales experience or a natural flare for sales, excellent communication and people skills, a current driver licence and a high level of motivation with the ambition to succeed

Applications for these positions should include a current resume and be e-mailed to em@burnett.net.au or enquiries may be directed to Employment Matters 0429 000 139.

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KINGAROY SB Regional Council

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CROW FM

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BGA GOOMERI

FOODWORKS GOOMERI

IN MURGON THIS MONTH

Particulars available at the Visitor Information Centre

Monday	1	SES, Quota,
Tuesday	2	Art classes Graham House, Creative Friendships, Squash, Queensland Rural Womens Network Inc,
Wednesday	3	Bowls, Cards (6.30pm Mondure Hall), Murgon Shed Men, Murgon Judo Club, Rotary,
Thursday	4	Golf, St Joseph's Bingo, Guides, Mainly Music, Cards (9.30am Bowls Club), Nursing Mothers, South Burnett Cake Decorators, Spinners & Weavers, The classic way to dance,
Friday	5	Social Tennis, Community Bingo, Shab's, Night Bowls, PCYC Friday Night Live,
Saturday	6	Bowls, Golf, Murgon Shed Men, Murgon Judo Club, Nanango Stamp Fair, South Burnett Shed Men,
Sunday	7	Bowls, Golf, Church Services, Catholic Mass,
Monday	8	SES, Parkinsons Support Group,
Tuesday	9	Art classes Graham House, Murgon Show Society, Lions, Creative Friendships, Squash
Wednesday	10	Murgon Judo Club, Murgon Shed Men, Cards (6.30pm Mondure Hall), Rotary,
Thursday	11	St Joseph's Bingo, RSL Bingo, Cards (9.30am Bowls Club), MBDA meet, Guides, Golf, Ambulance meet, The classic way to dance,
Friday	12	Social Tennis, Community Bingo, Shab's, Night Bowls, Barambah Garden Club,
Saturday	13	Bowls, Golf, Murgon Shed Men, Murgon Judo Club, Burnett Flyers Fly In, Anglican Mothers Union, Catholic Mass, Nanango Stamp Club, Boondooma Dam Fishing Comp,
Sunday	14	Bowls, Golf, Church Services, Murgon Markets, Valentine's Day, Boondooma Dam Fishing Comp,
Monday	15	SES,
Tuesday	16	Art classes Graham House, Creative Friendships, Squash, Cattle Sale, CRISIS meet,
Wednesday	17	Murgon Judo Club, Murgon Shed Men, Cards (6.30pm Mondure Hall), Rotary, Steps, Hospital Auxiliary,
Thursday	18	St Joseph's Bingo, RSL Bingo, Cards (9.30am Bowls Club), National Seniors, Spinners & Weavers, Guides, Golf, Mainly Music, SB PCYC, The classic way to dance,
Friday	19	Social Tennis, Community Bingo, Shab's, Night Bowls, Blue Light Disco,
Saturday	20	Bowls, Golf, Murgon Shed Men, Murgon Judo Club, Dairy Museum Meet,
Sunday	21	Bowls, Golf, Church Services, Buffalo Lodge, Catholic Mass,
Monday	22	SES,
Tuesday	23	Art classes Graham House, Lions, Creative Friendships, Squash, Diabetes Support Group, Uniting Church Friendship Group,
Wednesday	24	Murgon Judo Club, Murgon Shed Men, Cards (6.30pm Mondure Hall), Rotary, Burnett Bird Keepers,
Thursday	25	St Joseph's Bingo, RSL Bingo, Cards (9.30am Bowls Club), Guides, Golf, Murgon Moments Deadline, Circle Of Security, The classic way to dance,
Friday	26	Social Tennis, Community Bingo, Shab's, Night Bowls, Goomeri & District Garden Club,
Saturday	27	Bowls, Golf, Murgon Shed Men, Murgon Judo Club, Catholic Mass,
Sunday	28	Bowls, Golf, Church Services, Camera Club, Hivesville Markets,
Monday	29	SES, DATE CLAIMER MARCH 2016
Tuesday	1	Cattle Sale, Art classes Graham House, Creative Friendships, Squash, Queensland Rural Womens Network Inc, Mainly Music,
Wednesday	2	Murgon Shed Men, Murgon Judo Club, Cards (6.30pm Mondure Hall), Rotary,
Thursday	3	St Joseph's Bingo, RSL Bingo, Cards (9.30am Bowls Club), Spinners & Weavers, Guides, Golf, Nursing Mothers, South Burnett Cake Decorators, Mainly Music, The classic way to dance,
Friday	4	Social Tennis, Community Bingo, Shab's, Night Bowls, PCYC Friday Night Live, World Day of Prayer,
Saturday	5	Bowls, Golf, Murgon Shed Men, Murgon Judo Club, Proston Show, Big Shed Happens,
Sunday	6	Bowls, Golf, Church Services, Catholic Mass,
Monday	7	SES, Quota,
Tuesday	8	Squash, Art classes Graham House, Creative Friendships, Lions, Murgon Show Society, Gympie/ South Burnett Handcraft and Cultural,
Wednesday	9	Murgon Shed Men, Murgon Judo Club, Cards (6.30pm Mondure Hall), Rotary,
Thursday	10	St Joseph's Bingo, RSL Bingo, Cards (9.30am Bowls Club), Ambulance meet, MBDA meet, The classic way to dance,

NATIONAL SENIORS SOUTH BURNETT BRANCH



The next meeting of Murgon & District Branch of National Seniors Australia will be held on Thursday 18th February at the Murgon Bowls Club. All current members are requested to attend to assist in making arrangements for the Zone Conference 103 which our branch is hosting. The Zone Conference will be held on May 19th at the Murgon Bowls Club. This is for all NSA current members to voice their concerns and also to hear what Head Office is assisting us with. We would like to hear from you.

The next coach trip is on Thursday 17th March to the Glasshouse Mountains. If you are having a transport problem coming on our coach trips or attending meetings please mention same when making a booking with Paula.

The photo competition is Sunrise or Sunset.

For further information contact Paula (President) on 07 41683114 or Maureen (Secretary) 07 41681822 or Trish (Publicity Officer) on 41 681604.

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The Burnett's Best Music Mix

Working together to bring you the issues that matter most



Towards the end of the 2015 school year, the members of the Murgon State School Earlyact Club organised a coin chain fundraising activity outside the Visitor Information Centre. Thanks to the generosity and kindness of shoppers and the local businesses of Murgon that day, the students were excited and thrilled to have raised \$450.85.

Earlyact is a primary school service club that is sponsored by our local Rotary Club and co-ordinated by three members of the school staff. We have about 25 members who range in age from year 4 to year 6. Each year we aim to serve our school, local, national and global communities through a variety of activities and fundraisers. This year we put all our efforts into supporting Swags for Homeless.

Together with other money raised throughout the year we were able to send \$1,260 to Swags for Homeless, a not for profit charity working with over 350 homeless welfare agencies to provide emergency relief Backpack Beds to every street sleeping homeless person turned away from shelter. These ultra-lightweight Backpack Beds are of an award winning design that can be easily set up and quickly packed away if an emergency arises.

Barbara Quinn, Judith Wessling and Nanette Smith (are Earlyact co-ordinators)



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Katie Zerner
Fran Hutton

MASSAGE THERAPIST:
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Name	Address	Category
Diane Bosel	1 Wills Street, Nanango	Winner Nanango Urban
Allan & Rosemary Strunge	10 Grey Street, Nanango	Runner Up Nanango Urban
Ken & Dianne Lawes	102 Muir Road, Nanango	Winner Nanango Rural
Cheryl Ashdown	106 Lanigan Road, Nanango	Runner Up Nanango Rural
Monica Dennis	Cnr Jefferies & Nutt Street, Murgon	Winner Murgon Urban
Geddes Family	5 Nutt Street, Murgon	Runner Up Murgon Urban
Wayne & Louise Thomas	298 Louttuts Road, Murgon	Winner Murgon Rural
McUtchen Family	592 Morgans Road, Murgon	Runner Up Murgon Rural
Andrew & Renita Olsen	119 Pring Street, Wondai	Winner Wondai Urban
Krystle Walters & Liam Baker	52 Pring Street, Wondai	Runner Up Wondai Urban
Dwayne & Michelle Barlett-Kennedy	30 Amaroo Drive, Wondai	Winner Wondai Rural
Keith McConnell	343 K.Duff Road, Wondai	Runner Up Wondai Rural
Geoff & Veronnica Hartwig	97 Ivy Street, Kingaroy	Winner Kingaroy Urban
Lisa Coutts	11 Venman Street, Kingaroy	Runner Up Kingaroy Urban
Tony Wilson	43 Benair Drive, Kingaroy	Winner Kingaroy Rural
Paul & Kristine Winter	25 Winters Road, Kingaroy	Runner Up Kingaroy Rural
The Cavanaugh Family	6 Douglas Street, Blackbutt	Winner Blackbutt Urban
Wingfield Family	18 Douglas Street, Blackbutt	Runner Up Blackbutt Urban
Clinton & Brenda Stretton	23 Bowman Road, Blackbutt	Winner Blackbutt Rural
Hillview Kidz Family Day Care	3 Daisy Court, Kingaroy	Winner Business
Nanango Taxi & Delivery	12 Greenwood Creek Road, Nanango	Runner Up Business

Glendon Street Carpark Upgrade

Residents and Businesses are advised the South Burnett Regional Council has programmed to commence the Glendon Street Carpark upgrade in Kingaroy on Monday, 11 January 2016.

This project will include the replacement of existing water & sewerage mains, reconstruction of Circular Place and the upgrade of existing parking areas.

Construction work will include clearing, excavation, gravel pavement, asphalt bitumen seal, landscaping, signage and line marking.

Throughout the project, works will be staged to minimise disruption to accesses and parking with completion expected in approximately four (4) months.

Access to local businesses that back onto or front Circular Place will be affected in stages with road closures and changed traffic conditions in place as required. Pedestrian traffic will also be restricted at times during construction.

Residents or Businesses that have concerns during the construction period should contact the Manager of Roads & Drainage - Jeff Stephan.

For further enquires please contact Customer Service on 4189 9100.

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2015 MITSUBISHI MQ TRITON GLX DEMO 4X4

Manual, dual cab utility, V6 diesel, air con, alloy wheels, tub liner, tonneau cover, towbar, only 3000km



\$37,990
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2014 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER ES 2WD WAGON

2.0L 4 cylinder engine, 6 speed CVT auto, 60/40 flat folding rear seats, power windows, cruise control, traction control, alloy wheels



ONLY \$28,990
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USED VEHICLE SALE

2013 RG COLORADO LX DUAL CAB

4x4 Diesel, 5sp manual, towbar, tinted glass, Bluetooth, one owner, log books



\$27,990
DRIVE AWAY

2002 JF HOLDEN VECTRA GL

Auto sedan, 2.2 litre 4 cyl, log books, air cond, cruise control



\$4,990
DRIVE AWAY

RC COLORADO LX

4x4 diesel manual dual cab utility, abs, alloy wheels, towbar, bullbar, one owner.



\$25,990
DRIVE AWAY

2008 SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5 DOOR HATCH

5 speed manual, alloy wheels, dual & side air bags, 60/40 split fold rear seats, power windows, keyless entry, one local log book owner.



\$8,790
DRIVE AWAY

2010 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 7 SEAT WAGON

2.2 L Turbo Diesel, Automatic, all wheel drive, Alloy wheels, Towbar, reverse sensors, Dual & Side air bags, power windows, cruise control, low km one owner, log books



\$25,990
DRIVE AWAY

2010 HOLDEN BARINA

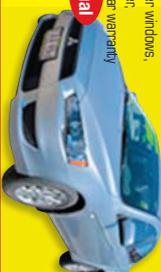
2 Local owners, Log Books, Full Service history including timing belt just done, Alloy Wheels, Dual Airbags, 60/40 Split fold rear seats, Rear air bags, 5 speed manual, for sale from the best first car or spare



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SALE

2010 MITSUBISHI LANCER SX SEDAN

2.0L 4 cylinder, 5 speed manual, rear spoiler, alloy wheels, cruise control, power windows, radio/CD, one local log book owner, only 26,000km, still under new car warranty



\$14,490
DRIVE AWAY

2007 MAZDA 3 NEO SEDAN

2.0 L 4 Cyl Petrol, 5 spd manual, alloy wheels, abs brakes, keyless entry, dual air bags, low km, excellent condition, log books



\$12,790
DRIVE AWAY

2010 NISSAN NAVARA ST-R 4X4 DUAL CAB

Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, Canopy, Bullbar, Winch, Dual Battery System, Towbar, One Owner, Log Books, Low kms



\$25,990
DRIVE AWAY

2008 NISSAN NAVARA ST-X

Automatic, dual cab utility, bullbar, towbar, sports bar, tonneau cover, side steps, air cond



SALE

2012 HOLDEN VE SERIES II SV6 SEDAN

3.6L V6, 6 Speed manual, immaculate condition, 6 Air Bags, Body kit, Sports Suspension, Power windows, Cruise Control, Bluetooth Connectivity, One local log book owner



\$26,490
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V6 Petrol/LPG, auto, alloy wheels, cruise control, power windows, dual & side air bags, low km, excellent condition



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