

The Euroa Gazette

Incorporating the Nagambie Times and Violet Town Sentinel



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Alleged copper wire thieves tracked down by police

By TARA WHITSED

EUROA police officers have arrested two men in relation to copper wire theft on the railway line between Euroa and Violet Town.

Leading Senior Constable Peter Bath of Euroa police said the men were only some of the people allegedly involved in taking the wire, which have been operating in different groups.

“All up they’ve probably stolen around \$150,000 worth,” he said. The men are not local to Euroa, with one aged 32 and the other 26 years. Meanwhile, Ld Snr Const

Bath also said there had been farm equipment stolen from a shed in the Violet Town area and farmers should be reminded to lock up their facilities overnight.

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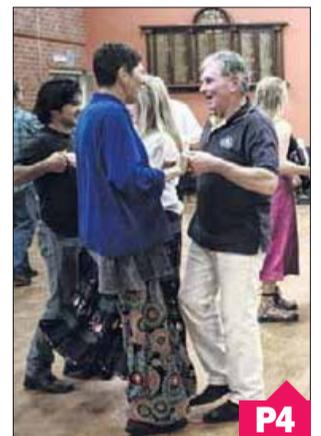
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Our People - Eliza Hoare



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Sharman's swan song



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Grooving at Puff Ball



SPORT

Euroa players have a ball



LOCAL HOSPITAL FUNDRAISER: Euroa's Bruce Hargrave (centre) held an event to raise funds for the Euroa Health Building Fund Appeal. He is pictured with visiting car club presidents Phil Podbury (left) and Noel McLaughlin (right). PHOTO: Dale Mann

Sue's handmade quilts raise healthy funds

By TARA WHITSED

EUROA couple Bruce and Sue Hargrave have raised \$2500 to date for the Euroa Health Building Fund Appeal after holding a number of fundraisers in recent weeks. The pair most recently held an

exhibition of Sue's handmade quilts, which was attended by around 40 cars from the Goulburn Valley Motor Vehicle Drivers Club and the Jamieson and Alpine Car Club.

“Sue and I are both members of the clubs,” Bruce said.

“We thought Sue makes lovely

quilts so we'll throw an exhibition and invite the car clubs to come and see.”

The exhibition came after an event held at the couple's property two weeks ago.

“We had a luncheon two weeks ago and that was terrific,” Bruce said.

Here the pair held an art auction

where one of Bruce's paintings was auctioned by Strathbogies Shire Council mayor Colleen Furlanetto for \$600.

He said they also raised \$800 through donations and a raffle.

“It will all go to the hospital,” he said.

Illegal repeater probe

TELSTRA is investigating the possible use of illegal repeater(s) in the area, following a number of complaints by local customers experiencing service problems.

Telstra area general manager Steve Tinker said it was investigating whether the use of an illegal repeater was interfering with the local mobile base station.

Telstra media spokesperson James Kelly explained that mobile repeater devices were designed to replicate and improve mobile signal.

“Telstra regularly use these devices in their network,

Telstra investigates use of device interfering with signal



BY CAROLINE KEENAN
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however, when used without appropriate licences and technical specifications they can interfere with mobile coverage in surrounding areas,” he said.

Mr Tinker said technicians visited the area on May 6 to try to triangulate the repeater's position and advise the owner to switch it off.

“The interference appears to have been occurring at different times, and when the repeater is not operating the Telstra network performs as it should,” he said.

For Nagambie resident Sandra Ison the alleged inconsistent reception troubles and the failure of Telstra to inform customers of what was happening wasn't good enough.

Earlier in the month she said she had experienced three consecutive days with no con-

nection and with an aging husband had to search the area for a place to make phone calls.

“For older people, it's just not good enough,” she said.

“It's mainly for health reasons that this needs to be addressed.”

Mr Kelly said the policing and management of illegal repeaters was an Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) responsibility and Mr Tinker said unfortunately there was continued easy availability

of these devices, especially through the internet.

“They continued to have a serious negative impact on network performance and customer experience in regional areas,” he said.

Mr Kelly suggested that customers who do live in an area where coverage was inconsistent could look into the Telstra Mobile Smart Antenna.

“(This) could improve their reception without causing interference to other customers' mobile reception,” he said.