

There are many theories on the derivation of the town's name. It was originally known as Kelly's Point and changed to Hebel in the early 1880's. A suggestion that when the name was changed, a German family resided in the town whose surname, or the Christian name of the father was Hebel.

Another suggestion is that Hebel was an aboriginal word for signpost or hot place has been disregarded. The reason for this being the letter "H" does not exist as the initial letter of any word in any known Aboriginal dialect.

According to the official records, the Hebel Store was established in 1897, but it was likely to have been operating well before this date. The store as it is today is in fact two buildings, incorporating the original store plus the Hebel dance hall built around the same date. Visitors to the store need to watch their step as the old dance floor moves. What is used, as a storeroom today, was the old supper room or "lean to" from the dance hall days.

It has been claimed that Dan Kelly and Steve Hart from the legendary Ned Kelly Gang lived for a while in the Hebel area under assumed names. A book called "Horsemen Bold" written by Donald Hambleton Johnson documents the presence of these men in the area.

The Hebel Hotel was originally opened in 1894 as a Cobb & Co stop and later operated as a hotel. According to locals the building has not changed its name since that time. This wonderful hotel has a colourful history and cannot be missed on a visit to Hebel.

The Crafty Yum Yum Cottage is frequented by both locals and visitors from afar who have heard about the tasty home baked pasties and cakes found in the small isolated community.