

THE TRIANGLE

COMMUNITY NEWS

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BROGO QUAAMA COBARGO BERMAGUI TILBA & LOCALITIES

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Homegrown talent hits the international scene

On Friday 7 March I was surprised and delighted to see that item number three on the ABC News website was a link to a performance by rock band 'Calling All Cars'. Delighted because some days earlier, Katie Ing of Tilba had told me proudly that her sons' (Haydn and James) band was to feature on radio station, Triple J the following Friday. It had happened, and ABC considered it noteworthy enough to place it high in their national news report that day.

For those not in the know, Haydn and James constitute two thirds of the trio Calling All Cars and were raised by parents Dave and Katie in Tilba. They are now based in Melbourne. Wikipedia states: 'Calling All Cars is an Australian rock band from Melbourne, Victoria and consists of brothers Haydn and James Ing, along with Adam Montgomery. The band have been heavily touring Australia for the past 3 years, released 2 acclaimed albums and have received considerable rotation on Australian radio, including 'album of the week' on Triple J. The band was named after *The Sopranos* episode, *Calling All Cars*'.

Living within a kilometre of the Ings, I was accustomed to hearing James' drums beating out a rhythm on weekends some years ago. Now, they are on the world stage, and in May will head off to Europe for around six months of touring. Formed in 2007, they have established quite a following with many tours to their credit.

Drawing from Wikipedia again: 'Their



Calling All Cars (photo compliments of David Haworth Photography)

first big stadium show was supporting Green Day in Auckland, New Zealand. They have also played many Australian music festivals including the Melbourne Big Day Out in Jan 2010 and were selected to open 11 shows alongside Wolfmother for AC/DC on the Australian leg of their Black Ice World Tour in February/March 2010'.

In March 2011 'Calling All Cars' supported 'Queens Of The Stone Age' on their Australian Tour. In 2013 they produced their

third album.

Between now and their departure for London, they have a flurry of tour engagements from WA to Queensland and Tasmania and all places in between. We congratulate the Ing family, and wish the boys luck in their rising prominence in the rock world, especially their European tour.

Harry Bate

Olga Masters Short Story Award Established

A group of triangle area residents, with the support of Well Thumbed Books and a generous local benefactor, has established a new literary award in honor of noted south coast writer, the late Olga Masters. A journalist, novelist, short-story writer, and playwright, Masters (who was born in Pambula in 1916 and lived in her youth in Cobargo) is widely considered to be one of Australia's leading 20th century literary figures.

The author of three collections of short stories and three novels Olga Masters, as one critic observed, 'has been called one of the best writers of fiction in Australia. Comedies of manners written with sensitivity, wit, and exuberance. Novels about mothers and daughters, fathers and sons. A very special

novelist who only began writing novels and short stories in her fifties after raising a large family'.

Open to all citizens and permanent residents of Australia, the award is for the best 2000 - 5000 word short story dealing with aspects of family life in rural Australia.

The main award, \$1500, will be for the best story by a writer over 21. In addition, a \$500 encouragement award will be given to the best story by a young writer, under 21.

The deadline for submission is 1 August and the Award will be presented in October.

Full details about the submission process and the judging panels will be available in the May issue of *The Triangle*.



Olga Masters lived in Cobargo, and wrote about the region

April is a busy month, it includes the Tilba Easter Festival, the magnificent Four Winds Festival and of course Anzac Day. This year, following the Tilba ANZAC service there will be an exhibition in the Tilba small hall. Details of this appear elsewhere in the paper but we would like to draw your attention to a call from the event organiser for the loan of WW1 photographs and memorabilia. Loaned items will be used either for this event or for a larger one that is being planned for 2015, which is of course the 100th anniversary of the tragic Gallipoli landing.

In this edition there is a letter from a

Brogo resident calling for the Bega Valley Shire to think again about the forced closure of Laidley and Ellen Russell’s scrap yard. The basis of this forced closure is said to be zoning requirements. Has the area been rezoned I wonder, if so surely a pre-existing use cannot be made the reason for a forced closure, or perhaps there was a problem with the original permit? Would the Bega Valley Shire Council care to clarify the position? *The Triangle* and our readers would like to understand the reasons behind the closure.

Some recent Bureau of Meteorology research highlights a likely reduction in the

number of storms driven by East Coast Lows (ECLs) in future and they point to climate change as the cause. These storms are often the ones that rescue us from a worrying dry spell. The projections suggest the number of ECLs will be reduced, possibly by as much as 40 per cent over the next 70 years. It also indicates that the individual events may well become stronger. Not really good news I know but forewarned is forearmed and, who knows, perhaps we will eventually get moving and stop climate change in its tracks or at least slow it down. The research was reported in the online journal *The Conversation*.

Letters to the editors

Bega Council kills local business

It was with more than a little irony that I read a recent advertisement in the Bega District News calling for expressions of interest to participate in a Council Business Growth Advisory Committee.

I have nothing against Council wishing to encourage local business and industry - God knows the area needs it - but the first thing you need to ensure is that you don’t discourage local businesses which are already here and making a quid.

That is exactly what this Council has done in the case of Laidley and Ellen Russell’s Scrap Yard. Ellen and Laidley have been in business in earth moving and scrap metal for 40 years in the Bega Valley. Like many others in this area I’ve used their scrap yard to purchase guttering, timber, drums and to offload scrap metal. When I couldn’t afford new items there was always a good chance I could pick up what I needed from the Russells.

But Council in its wisdom has seen fit to end all that. They are in the process of forcing this couple to close their business because it doesn’t meet Council’s zoning requirements. Strange isn’t it! A family business that has been operating successfully for 40 years, fulfilling a community need, is being forced out to satisfy zoning laws. Surely existing businesses should be allowed to continue.

While we are on the subject of irony, it is worth noting this Council has provided significant ratepayer funding for local artistic endeavours such as Sculpture on the Edge at Bermagui. Where do you think many local artists, metalworkers and artisans obtain their raw materials from? You guessed it – from hardworking people like Ellen and Laidley Russell’s scrap yard.

We all want new business and industry in the Bega Valley, but you don’t help your cause by forcing good local businesses to close their doors. That indicates a Council more interested in bureaucratic rules and regulations!

*Adam and Yasmine Bonner
Brogo*

That TPP: another view

David Condon’s piece on the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) in your last issue should have been a letter to the editor rather than a ‘general news’ item because it was very much an opinion.

The TPP is not ‘news’. It has been under negotiation since 2011 and readers can easily Google it. I got to ‘trans’ before Google gave me the TPP as first option. I clicked on that and got the Aust. Dept of Foreign Affairs TPP web pages. Nothing secret about that bit.

True, this site did say that negotiating texts were not being released, but that is normal practice for a treaty negotiation because where it ends is usually nothing like where it started. And in this case there would have been starting texts from each of the 12 countries – most of which, it should be added, already have trade agreements with Australia.

The site does have FAQ links – and one is for those Investor State Dispute Settlements (ISDSs) which concern Mr Condon. Turns out that the thrust of these is to treat foreign investors the same as local investors, and to provide protection against ‘sovereign risk’

like a government nationalising an investor’s business. Similar provisions have been part of Australian trade agreements for 30 years, and our companies have used them. It seems the only action against Australia was the tobacco companies’ recent action against plain-paper packaging of cigarettes.

The FAQs on this web site also explicitly say that the TPP will not affect Australian environmental laws, nor will the government agree to anything that limits our internet management, or things like the pharmaceutical benefits scheme.

I would expect Mr Condon to challenge the above, but I urge readers to visit the DFAT website and make up their own minds.

*David John Kelly
Akolele*

Planning for Baronda

Along with others I attended the NPWS’s ‘Baronda (Mimosa Rocks National Park)’ workshop in Tathra last weekend.

The workshop was held to develop ideas for the future use and management of the heritage listed Baronda House at Nelsons Lagoon which has been generously gifted to the state by Professor David Yencken and his wife Dr Helen Sykes.

Addressing the workshop, Professor Yencken stressed that both he and his wife would not like the house to be used for a commercial purpose.

Tim Shepherd, representing NPWS, informed workshop participants that his organisation is planning to honour the donors’ wishes.

Workshop participants suggested and discussed various small group community, educational, artistic, and scientific uses for consideration by NPWS in its planning process.

*Jack Miller
Bermagui*

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Letters to the editors

(continued)

To Bega Valley Shire Council: an open letter

I am writing to ask that Cuttagee Beach be declared a leashfree beach for dog walking, and have set out my reasons below.

My dog is a very important part of my life: she is my companion, my guard dog and an integral part of my keeping fit.

As a woman in my midsixties, with arthritic knees, hips and other joints, it is vital that I keep active and mobile, thus minimising my need to access health services.

As such I need to be able to walk on a beach which facilitates this activity.

From my point of view, and that of friends who have similar restrictions (hip replacements, knee replacements etc.) both Beares Beach and Camel Rock Beach present significant challenges.

Beares Beach is only accessible at low tide. I recently was hit and dumped by a wave as I tried to duck around the rocks at the northern start of that leash free beach walk at half tide. Because the low tide times are a constantly moving thing, it makes it difficult to plan a walk unless one lives by the sea.

The access way to the beach at the southern end of the parking area is dangerous, with loose and uneven boards (It causes me pain in my feet and knees on descending and ascending). It will only take one stumble and serious injury could result.

Camel Rock beach, while easier to get onto, is a very steep beach for walking. The soft sloping sand makes it very difficult and my walking companion (human that is), who has had a hip replacement, spends a week in pain after walking there. Once again, the only chance of any firm sand is at low tide, and that does not happen very often because of the rough nature of the water there.

Cuttagee, on the other hand, is both easy to access and, nine times out of ten, has a decent walking surface whether at low tide or not. I can go there at any time of the day, not dictated to by the tide. It is a reasonable length, hence providing a suitable challenge for fitness purposes, and it is safe to walk on. Since it is not a beach that the general public tends to lie about on, I can see no reason for it not to be a leashfree zone, even seasonally if necessary.

In my experience, people who live locally are responsible dog walkers. We get great pleasure seeing our dogs run free and we take care of the beaches, picking up rubbish on our walks – because this is our own back yard. It is most often visitors to the region who leave rubbish and dog droppings and don't care because they don't live here.

I strongly urge Council to seriously consider this request and make Cuttagee a leash free area for dog walking.

Rose Chaffey,
Quaama

Regarding my open letter to council, I have had a response from them -

'The Companion Animal Management Plan, which includes leash free areas, is due for review later this year ... The review will be advertised prior to being conducted but your letter will already be included in the matters for review so you won't need to write again'. [Peter Miles]

I urge other dog owners who love walking on the beach to also write to Council on this issue.

The person to contact is Peter Miles, email: PMiles@begavalley.nsw.gov.au'

We miss you John

(Eds: As happy as we are to welcome Christine Montague to the team, we are sad to see John Small relinquish his Tilba Bites – and we are not the only ones... see below. But John's still around - he's written a story about Tilba, memory and the power of the senses, p23)

Hi, extremely disappointed to see John Small will no long report the Tilba Bites. I looked forward to his insight, wit and variety in his reports. You let a good one go there.

Cheers,

Jim Mummery
Tilba

Thumbs Up



...to the many considerate drivers who slow down when passing joggers, cyclists, horse riders and pedestrians on Verona Road, Quaama.

...to BVSC, who cut down trees and leave them by the roadsides for pre-winter wood-gathering expeditioners.

Thumbs Down



...to the jerk who entered Will the Upholsterer's property and pinched his 12 inch scissors, which he has had since being an apprentice (1967).

...to the person who stole the money for a currently running CRAB (Cancer Research Advocate Bikers) raffle at the bar of the Dromedary Hotel .

...to selfish, inconsiderate dog owners who do not clean up their dogs' faeces. It is polluting and a health hazard, especially where people swim and play on the beach.

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Letters should be no more than 150 words. All letters must be accompanied by the writer's full name and give both business and home phone numbers so letters can be verified. Name and address may be withheld if the writer prefers.

All communications should be forwarded to:

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The Triangle is a community newspaper. Its aim is to provide information and news to the people in The Triangle area. The committee is made up of volunteers who donate their time and expertise for the benefit of our readers. *The Triangle* is financially self sufficient through income generated through our advertisers. This is a tight budget and prompt payment of accounts is appreciated. *The Triangle* is published every month except January and has a circulation of 1800.

Hello all, my name is Christine Montague and I will be providing you with your Tilba titbits for the foreseeable future. I moved to Central Tilba from Sydney just over four years ago and have never looked back. I have two kids and four grandchildren living in Sydney and Brisbane, and I share my life here with a dog and four chickens. I'm quite a social person so hopefully I will come across many stories and information to share with you and of course I encourage all to send anything of interest to me for inclusion.

The first point of interest I would like to share with you is the Little Yuin Pre-school. Under the expert guidance of its Director Lea Sutherland and the caring team of educators, this facility provides much needed care and education for local children of all origins. With limited funding the preschool is always looking for more children, volunteers and any assistance the local community can offer. Lea just spent



Breana, Tahj, Thomas, Latarni and Tea Rose working on a sculpture of Umbara, the Totem of the local Yuin People

some valuable time with the Central Tilba CWA discussing opportunities at the school with the ladies, many of whom have preschoolaged children. For anyone interested in learning more about what Little Yuin can offer please call 4473 7396 or email preschool@littleyuin.com

The Tilba Real Milk inaugural Producers Dinner was held on 1 March 2014 at the farm of Nic and Erica Dibden. Nic and Erica were thrilled to have successful celebrity chef Colin Fassnidge make the trip south from his Sydney restaurants, Four in Hand and 4 Fourteen, with his wife and two daughters to cook up a storm for 34 guests. Local producers Shane Buckley (provided organic oysters), Graham and Amanda Thompson from Symphony Farm (provided spatchcocks) and Hayley from Narooma Seafood (provided tuna) all came along on the night to talk about their passion for their product and how they produce it. Of course, to accompany the food was a wonderful wine selection from Rusty Fig Winery, Tilba Valley Winery and Mimosa Wines. Gary and Frances from Rusty Fig and Peter Herrmann from Tilba Valley Winery were also on hand to talk about their passion for grapes. Look out for more of these dinners with a local celebrity chef on the short list.

As to what's going on around town? We are still seeing tourists adding colour to town, with some busy days. The Dromedary Hotel continues to support local musicians by putting on music at the pub on most Sundays. Sadly, Maz's trusted side kick Scooby will not be entertaining us with his huge personality, his love of pizza and bar nuts and other antics – he was run over in front of The Drom in early March. He is missed by all.

The organising of the Easter Festival is in full swing. This year promises to be another great year bringing thousands of visitors from near and far into town (did I hear some groans



The fish course: Charred Tuna with Wakame Puree, Pickled Seaweed, Fennel and Horseradish

then?). They hope to fill the large hall with local food and wine producers for a daylong display and information sessions. The festival promotes the township and local area and donates money each year to local organisations such as RFS, CWA and Central Tilba Chamber of Commerce, so come along and enjoy the day. The minimal entrance fee (\$10 adults, \$5 concessions/students) covers most activities and entertainment once inside and what a day it is. More information on the Tilba website and The Tilba Festival Facebook page. Anyone who would like to be involved on the day please contact me on the email address below.

I've had a few suggestions of ideas for monthly inclusions, so please put your thinking caps on and get any ideas to me. And can I let the first edition go by without a 'Barney' story? Wanting to get a bit fitter Barney bought a pushbike and set off for the Narooma bike track. To get the bike in the car he had to remove the bike's front wheel. This of course meant he had to re-attach it prior to riding, which he did. Unfortunately he did not tighten the handlebars nor the Tbar so had to make some riding repairs. He then realized he had no front brakes so again, trusty spanner in hand, he tightened them up – only to leave them too tight so had to ride against the force. So he bought a bike rack for his next visit and we all know this can be troublesome if we don't tighten all those nuts ... you guessed it, the bike fell off on the highway and will never see the bike track again. Let's see how he goes with the new bike!

If you have anything to contribute, please email me at montaguechristine@hotmail.com ... until next month.

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Innovative display at Tilba this Anzac Day

In conjunction with the ANZAC service to be held at 11.00 am at Tilba this year, an innovative display is planned for the small hall. Featured will be the noteworthy lives of two former Tilba veterans of World War 1, namely Sister Pearl Corkhill and Private Bert Latimer



Sister Pearl Corkhill 1915

as well as other information and exhibits related to the 'Great War'. Please come along to the service, and enjoy the privilege of viewing the display.

Pearl Corkhill was born and raised in Tilba Tilba at 'Marengo', just north of the church now called 'Open Sanctuary'. The home and land remain much as they were a century ago.

Pearl joined the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS) in June 1915, and was posted to Cairo where she attended to wounded



A.I.F #4270 Pte. Bertram Keith Latimer

including those from Gallipoli.

From there she was posted in March 1916 to France and served at hospitals in Le Havre and Rouen followed by some months at a casualty clearing station in the Somme region.

She served on the Western Front throughout 1917 and in 1918. Whilst still there, she received the very high honour of Military Medal for her courage and calmness while the casualty clearing station was being bombed. Only eight such medals were awarded.

Pearl returned and nursed at various hospitals in NSW, including Sydney and finally Bega where she retired in 1961.

She never married, but was well known and much loved throughout the community. In 1975 she donated her father's wonderful collection of photos taken of life in and around Tilba to the National Library of Australia, and these serve as a wonderful historical resource throughout Australia, but especially in Tilba. Pearl died in 1985. Corkhill Drive linking Central Tilba and Tilba Tilba is named after her.

An inspiring story of courage, a positive outlook and triumph over adversity is described in the tale of Private Bert Latimer. His story demonstrates many aspects of WW1, and wars in general, but fortunately is not a tragedy. Bert was born and raised in Central Tilba and served as a machine gunner on the Western Front in France in 1917 and 1918. There he suffered severe gunshot injuries to his feet as he dived head first into a trench, and subsequently had both lower limbs amputated.

Despite this, with the benefit of artificial limbs Bert went on to live a very full life, married, had a family, ran his own successful businesses, and even owned and operated a bus run. Yes, he managed to drive the bus.

His story with its local aspect, not only reflects some of the tragedy and aftermath of war, it demonstrates a seemingly indomitable spirit. It is uplifting. Please do take the opportunity to learn about Bert by visiting the display after the service. The information has been compiled by Bert's granddaughter, Kaye Sackett who is expected to attend the service as well.

The committee is still seeking photographs and memorabilia from people who are prepared to lend them. Copies will be made of any photographs, and we are asking that people who lend memorabilia be present on the day to look after their possessions and talk about them to people viewing the exhibition.

If you have an item or items you would like to offer, please contact us and we will enter your name and items into a register. Not all items will necessarily be exhibited in 2014 but may be in 2015. The committee plans for a bigger display in 2015, the centenary of the tragic Gallipoli landing.

Please contact David Oliphant on 4473 7838 to register your photographs and memorabilia.



Military Infectious Diseases Hospital, Choubra, Cairo. L to R: Pearl, Nurse Reardon, Nurse Cockburn.



Bert with his bus (Latimer's motor service Royal Mail)



Pearl in her senior years at the top of Mount Dromedary

Local Art and Environment liaison

See, one of the hallmarks of a community is its attitude to the environment and its inhabitants and how this relationship plays out. Here in Bermi, we have such a wealth of undeveloped, natural spaces for our population and visitors to enjoy and respect. In turn, this respect extends to their own personal surroundings and themselves within it.

Such is the expression of harmony and collaboration in the shape of Sculpture on the Edge and its rebirthing each year. Hosted by Mother Nature, namely Endeavour Point headland and the foreshore of Horseshoe Bay, this event brings beauty, inspiration and fun to our town.

Through the efforts of a small team of passionate residents, this is an annual celebration of 3D in its artistic multiplicity and diversity. It continues to draw the locals and a growing number of visitors, both artists and audience, who spend time overlooking one of the most pristine areas on the south coast, if not Australia.

They muse about and are amused by works of art amongst nature. This year, from a delightful and realistic conglomeration of dogs watching one's every move, to the king of the sea predators clad in tin cans, to a welded, evolving bird (or is it a plane? Or a dinosaur?), to the recreated garden-cum-wasteland of PET bottles, bike tyres and more, and the hypnotic, maze-like sandstone plinth – to name just a few of the 50 odd large pieces to behold. How rich we are.

The atmosphere of the site itself, being integral to this area for a millennium as a communal gathering spot, underpins this event. Each visitor and viewer is a little imbued with its spirit, too. What a heady cocktail of nature, art and spirit – just what a healthy town breeds and by which it is sustained.

Amongst the ABCs and 3Rs taught at school, can we ensure the values of the A(rt)



A collection of the local primary school children's works

and E(nvironment) connection are included too? Our happiness and welfare depend on it.

Yuin elder Lewis opened the proceedings with his usual wit, integrity and stories, honouring the event and our presence as a safe and creative community.

Local winners and winners

Every time we have winners we have losers, so, it is with mixed feelings that I announce Sculpture on the Edge prize winners: Alan Watt *Southern Exuberance*; Jen Mallinson *Marine Motion, Flow and Deconstructed Kelp*; Suzie Bleach and Andy Townsend *The Plot Thickens*; Mike MacGregor *The Binding Tree*; Janet Long *Roundabouts, 2013*; Tracey Sarsfield *Rapt/Wrapped, Nexus*; Amanda Stuart *Mongrel Country: Nil Tenure, The Year of the Water Snake and Lines of Desire*; Darren Mongta *Snake*; Trevor Dunbar *Emu Egg Centrepiece*; Adele Rae Cameron *Bittersweet*; Rachel Develin; Braidwood Central School *School of Fishes, Working Dog, Trout, Crab and In Memory of Steel*; Brett Martin *Protection (the shark)*; Pauline Balos *Ghossel Boats 1*; Sian Watson *Woman Child*. All prizes were kind donations by individuals, unofficial groups, businesses and organisations – a fabulous effort. In fact, the mix and number of prizes offered is testament in and of itself how we care about artists and their precious contribution to our lives and that of the world at large.

Local acknowledgement

On the subject of winning let it be said that basically we all like to be acknowledged, yet not to the detriment or ignoring of others. There is, however, another more difficult side to winning or being praised above others which can appear when we win life itself, such as with survivors of natural and manmade disasters or accidents. In some cases, this condition is now recognised as 'survivor syndrome'.

Actually, a mate of mine felt depressed and ill at ease back in 1970 about not being picked as a conscript to go to Vietnam, where some of his friends died or were injured. He has since made many trips to that part of the world and now lives nearby in Thailand. It seems he wanted to be close to the scene of his 'survival'. Others are more traumatised and this can cause upheaval in their lives.

So, perhaps we can acknowledge everyone who enters any art competition/exhibition and celebrate their efforts and creations, just for entering. They deserve it for offering themselves and their vulnerability for all to see. OK, supporting them financially is also a



Yuin elder Lewis opened the proceedings

worthwhile exercise, so perhaps we can include some money for each of them too. I wonder if this would work.

Local landline news

If you do not get the regular, comprehensive and informative South East Producers (SCPA) News via email, then it might be of interest to do so, at least once. It is not triangle-specific, yet many activities included are here or close by and all news pertains to our Bega valley. Anyway, this email newsletter can add value to our lives wherever we are and it reminds me of how we can live on our land in harmony with nature. If you have a news item that pertains to areas in or surrounding the Triangle, apart from our own publication that is, perhaps it could go into the next SCPA News. Email news@scpa.org.au or subscribe online to receive the email yourself (Google 'SCPA').

Local kids' art

Adults were not the only ones to feature in the art world over the time of Sculpture on the Edge. Espied in the foyer of the Community Centre was a collection of the local primary school children's works and of a particular nature too. It was all size-limited and made from recycled materials. A great exercise to get the brain working for a sustainable future – using the right stuff and keeping it to a sensible size. Shame more new home owners and builders cannot grasp that concept.

Local plans inSpiire

On Wednesday 5 March in Lamont St a listening post was set up by the national landscape architects, Spiire, to garner public opinions, ideas and challenges for the enhancing of our CBD (CBD is a bit over the top really for such a small area if compared with many others, yet realistic for us). The aim is to create a better public space for business and pleasure, without encroaching on or devaluing our natural heritage. There are many questions to be mulled over and this was an opportunity to have our say.

Though the outcome is being called a landscape plan, the main requirement which needs to be addressed is an overall, integrated



The oval in preparation

town development plan for traffic, pedestrian and commercial use, and longterm plan for infrastructure. Yes these areas are mentioned in the draft objectives yet, according to one local architect at least, this proposed landscaping plan seems to lack the necessary 'big picture' integration.

Locals see circus in town

As a child, I used to marvel at the Big Top, the animals, the trucks and the rouseabouts which were the unusual, slightly scary, yet aweinspiring conglomeration called the Circus. Well, in the heart of Bermi over a few days in February, emerged much of the same. All this activity was in preparation for the next big thing in our busy cultural calendar, the Seaside Fair.

It seems this country town tradition is alive and well which includes: the Blessing of the Fleet (albeit a very small one now); the street parade (to scare and bemuse, even a brass band); the rides that thrill and chill (screams and shrieks of delight or fear being obligatory); pop music from times past and from various sources, playing across the bay simultaneously; the buzz, sweat and cheers of the wood cutting events (albeit chainsaw powered now); stalls and exotic food stands and even live music on stage. What a day, and evening too. Thankfully, nature's rain from the night before held off.

Into the dark, the piped music inhabited our town, even if the rides were having a rest. The lights flashed, yet fewer squeals were heard above the noise of the machines keeping the show on the go. Unfortunately, by late afternoon the crowd had thinned dramatically and though from across the harbour it may have sounded like the hive of universal fun, it

was not. By 9.30 the cacophony was plain wearing on anyone nearby and when the big bang of the fireworks started, the competition for making loud noises finally ended. Traditions can be supportive, although if those who benefit are not locals then it is not. It creates a false impression of what is valued. Apart from the commercial side, the noise and flash bang is intrusive and generally not what Bermi is about. Some local organisations definitely profit from the stalls and rides, so it is valuable for them that this happens. Yet, this is a whole-of-town event, so collaboration with all members of the community is paramount to its benefit.

This town also has other festivals of a different kind every once in a while – much quieter and natural

Local seafood hit: Bermagui's BIG Seafood Celebration dinner

A new addition to the calendar and a chance to dress up a bit. The dinner is to take place on 17 May at the Bermagui Surf Lifesaving Club, starting at 6.30 pm. Paul West of River Cottage fame and his team of well-known local chefs will surprise and delight with a fourcourse meal brimming with locally sourced seafood and produce. Two complimentary wines will be provided on each table and the bar opens until late. There will be guest speakers and entertainment by Margaret Essex throughout the night. Tickets are \$75.00 per person which includes 10 lucky draws on the night. Make up your own table of 10 or join someone else's. The event is to support two local community groups: Montreal Gold Fields and the Bermagui Surf Lifesaving Club. We hope to see you there. Enquiries to

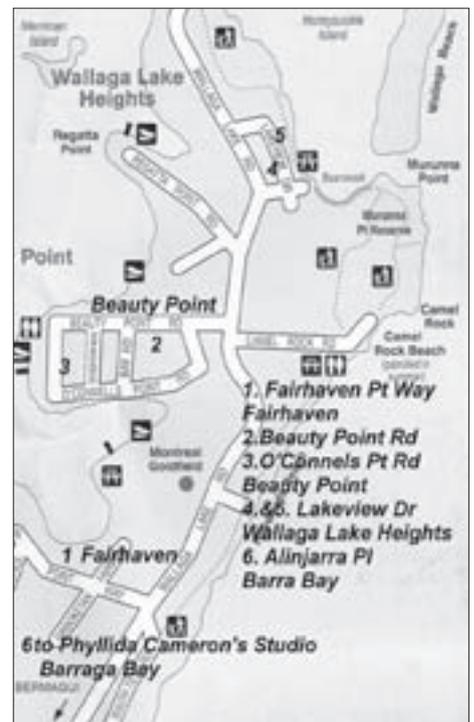
Chris on 6493 4321. Tickets are available from Pineapple House, Wallaga St, or send a cheque to PO Box 313 Bermagui.

Local farmer opens direct to public

On the topic of seafood, Wapengo Rocks wild organic oysters which have been appreciated for some time all over the place in restaurants and seafood outlets, are now being showcased all by themselves. Local oyster farmer Shane Buckley offers us a great selection of his produce, some in their birthday suit and some with dressings of various types in jars, on trays and more. The new, very swish shop (could be in Paddington) is in the Lamont St Arcade and is a delight to drop into just to chat with Shane or other staff. Bet you can't leave without something tasty. 'Fresh as', wholesome and local, so worth the visit. The very pleasant space on the street front (at present exhibiting art) will in time become a quality oyster and seafood restaurant, so watch that space.

Local artists' open studio Easter Monday

Art@bermi has an open studio trail in six locations and featuring eight artists on Easter Monday 21 April, 10 am – 4 pm. Maps are available at Shop 7 Art Space at the Wharf, or at the Visitor Information Centre Bunga Street. Look for the yellow flags.



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See page 24 for details

Garden Group Gives to Nardy House



A quirky corner. Bermagui Garden Group visited Fablewood Folly near Tilba last year

The Bermagui Community Garden Group recently decided that its surplus funds from 2013 would go to Nardy House at Quaama. Garden club members make a small donation each outing to cover costs, and at the end of each year, any surplus is donated to a local charity. Nardy House was an obvious choice this year.

At its last gathering, Denise Redmond

from Nardy House came to thank members personally and to tell us a little about Nardy and its services. Denise had members spellbound as she recounted the beginnings of the organisation, and of the monumental struggles it has had over the past 20 years. Those struggles still continue as the management committee battles for funding to bring the original vision of

Young bloke didn't tank after all

A correction to Paul Payten's Bermagui Banter write up of the George Bass Marathon in the February edition. The statement that 'The youngest member withdrew from sea sickness..', is not correct.

Rowan Blake was the 16 year old (and youngest member) mentioned, however it was

not Rowan who withdrew, but another member of the crew. Particularly given his age, I feel full credit should be given to Rowan for completing the entire course including, as Paul mentioned, part of it without a full crew complement.

Peta Blake

Nardy House, as a permanent home for people with profound disabilities, to fruition. It is hard to believe that such a needed and worthwhile organisation, one that provides services to a most vulnerable group of people, should have to virtually beg, borrow and steal to get it up and running.

Although our contribution was a small one, Denise said that it was most welcome because it may mean the purchase of extra linen, the payment of a bill or a little treat for the residents.

Bermagui Community Garden Group is a bunch of friendly gardening enthusiasts who meet every month to visit a local garden. We are always looking for new gardens to explore and inevitably find something of interest – maybe great landscaping ideas, or plants that look spectacular – we just love getting together to wander through gardens, be they large or small!

If you would like to join our group, or if you have a garden you would like to share with us (there is no obligation to open your garden to the group when you join!) we would love to hear from you.

For any enquiry regarding Bermagui Community Garden Group please contact Heather Sobey on 6493 5308 or email heathersobey@bigpond.com.

Anzac Day in Bermagui

The dawn service starts at 6.00 am at the memorial, followed by the traditional 'Gun Fire Breakfast' at the Bermagui Country Club at 7.00 am.

The main march assembles in the main street outside the supermarket at 10.40 am and steps off at 10.45 am to march to the memorial where the main service commences at 11.00 am.



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Bermagui 'Citizen of the Year' – Kerry Davies

U3A members waited with bated breath as the 2014 Bermagui Citizen of the Year announcement was made at this year's Seaside Fair. Having nominated founder and current Vice President Kerry Davies for the honours, the team were all watching Kerry closely as the announcement was made. When her name was called, Kerry stood in an almost catatonic state as it sunk in.

Kerry's nomination was made in recognition of her contributions to the ongoing learning and social inclusion of the Bermagui and nearby communities by establishing U3A Bermagui & District Inc.

When Kerry retired in 2007, mainly to recover from an illness, she moved to Beauty Point and spent the first 18 months relaxing and getting to know her new neighbours and community. After settling in she realized that she wanted to continue learning new things (and meeting new people) and discovered that there was little opportunity to participate in interesting classes or courses in our area.

Kerry is a great 'ideas person' and came up with the idea of forming a University of the Third Age (U3A) group in the area. She contacted all the people she had met in Beauty Point and invited them around for afternoon tea. She told them what she was planning and within that small group everyone had 'something' they could teach others – things that they had learned earlier in their lives.

Not afraid of a challenge or to start something new, Kerry called the first public meeting in November 2009 and successfully formed a steering committee to oversee the general running of the fledgling organisation. U3A Bermagui was born! Working within guidelines from U3A Network, the first year got underway. At its first annual general meeting Kerry took on the task of course coordinator and continued to encourage the new committee to look at innovative ideas and exciting ways in which to bring learning to the community.

Since its inception, U3A Bermagui & District has grown way beyond expectations, with a strong committee, a team of enthusiastic helpers and a huge group of tutors from all walks of life willing to teach others from their own experiences and knowledge. And all this within four short years and brought about by the vision, energy and inspiration of Kerry Davies.



Kerry Davies - Bermagui Citizen of the Year, and current Vice President of U3A Bermagui and District

Kerry grew up in Sydney's southern suburbs. After secondary schooling she enrolled at Sydney University to do a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree followed by a Diploma in Education. She started her teaching career at Cronulla High School, teaching HSC Indonesian. Kerry continued teaching until the mid 1970s when she and husband Ted travelled to Holland for 18 months as Ted took up employment there.

Kerry and Ted have three sons, Robbie,

Scott and Jordon, and by the end of the 1970s they returned to Australia and settled in Canberra. With three active boys to care for Kerry was not able to continue her career in teaching full time. Instead, she put all her energies into helping set up Montessori pre-schools in Canberra.

Through a family connection Kerry was always fascinated by our nearest neighbour, Indonesia. She actively sought academic courses that would further her knowledge of the language and culture and taught these to her students throughout her teaching career.

Kerry and Ted spent many vacations in Indonesia, learning more about the people and places of this interesting country. A visit to their home in Beauty Point feels like walking into a beautiful Balinese garden and villa, with many wonderful artefacts and furniture pieces on show.

This love of all things Indonesian also took Kerry into a very different career path. Whilst living in Canberra she started a business called 'Bali Gardens'. Here she designed and built Balinese style gardens in private homes and businesses, importing beautiful artefacts from Bali and all over Indonesia to decorate these gardens.

Kerry's move to Bermagui has certainly enriched the lives of those who have been fortunate enough to participate in the many courses she has taught through U3A. Some of those courses, which have all been well attended, have been 'Understanding our Neighbour, Indonesia', 'My Stroke of Insight', 'Ideas for the 21st Century', 'Ethics and Morals', and coming soon will be an extension to this course, simply called 'Ethics'.

The prospect of U3A Bermagui & District growing and growing looks very bright if Kerry keeps on having those brilliant ideas she is so well known for, and our community will look forward to many interesting and endless learning opportunities into the future.

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Good Season for Wine and Tomatoes

Located on a beautiful property at Coolagalite east of Cobargo, Rusty Fig Wines has had its best season since 2002. Vigneron Gary Potts says, 'Thanks to ideal weather conditions with a wet spring and hot, dry summer Rusty Fig had a record harvest of more than 16 tonnes or about 1000 cases of wine. Quality was excellent for all three varieties: Savarino, Verdelho (whites) and Tempranillo (red)'. It's also good to know that the Rusty Fig Wines website (rustyfigwines) has been revamped and now visitors can now see pictures of the property, read the descriptions of the wines on offer, see which restaurants stock them and also access a delivery-free (to the south coast) online ordering system.

Two other passionate, qualified winemakers, Euan and Carlin McKenzie (originally from Margaret River WA), are now located on Terlichs Road and making wine in a 100-year-old refurbished dairy. Euan and Carlin planted their vineyard three years ago and have used dry grown (no irrigation), natural farming methods to grow their grapes. Together Wines, their newly launched brand, has pinot noir and sauvignon blanc and will shortly provide shiraz and sangiovese. Look for this year's white in October and the reds around Anzac Day next year. You can check out their website for more information (togetherwines).

The dry weather has also produced a bumper crop of tomatoes for most growers. Christa Rehwinkel from No Dig Gardens, Wandella, is a specialist tomato grower and has tried up to 50 different varieties over the last 20 years. Christa advises that Sunray, a new variety tried this year, has been very popular and that some of the traditional heritage varieties will still be producing.

Cobargo's Food and Coffee is praised

Cobargo pharmacist, Vu Nguyen, was finally able to take a break with Nhu and the children handing over the management of his customers' care to experienced locum, Chris



Anzac Day march through Cobargo (photo from archives)

Stephens from Canberra. Pharmacist first and foremost, Chris also has a discerning palate and an appreciation of fine food and coffee. During the business hours of 9 am to 5 pm, Cobargo showed it has plenty of tasty menu options. When asked what were the highlights of his culinary trail, Chris particularly noted Chalk and Cheese for first-class coffee; Sweet Home Cobargo for smoked chicken salad (with the smoked chicken sourced from Cobargo Butchers) and snacks such as chocolate coated almonds and dried mango cheeks to keep the energy levels up; the Baking Buddies for their caramel slice; Cobargo Bakery for custard tarts and classic meat pie; The Train for its gourmet chunky meat pie and The Village Kitchen for fish & chips that were 'real value for money and as good as the best on offer anywhere'. It testifies to what we know – Cobargo is a worthwhile destination for great coffee and a range of healthy and delicious meals.

CWA News

Cobargo CWA has had a busy time lately, with a very welcome visit from Tanya Cameron, CWA State President NSW. Tanya, who comes from Rowena about 100 kms west of Narrabri, found the far south coast to be beautifully green. She loved the area and will return as a tourist 'after the drought at Rowena breaks'.

The talented cooks of CWA Cobargo branch were remarkably successful in the Far South Coast Group Land Cookery competition held at Bermagui Country Club on Tuesday 18 March. Cookery Officer Debbie Fisher received first place for her whole orange cake and her gluten-free caramel/almond slice; Sally Halupka received first place for her sultana cake and rich fruit cake and second place for her carrot and lemon jam; Norma Allen ranked second for her steamed fruit pudding and Lyn Jones came second with her whole

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Cobargo Conversations

orange cake. Maree Copping was third with her delicious homemade sweets and Barbara Maginnity came third in a very large field with her Donna Latter chocolate cake. Stephany Salter achieved an excellent third in the junior section with her lemon poppy seed muffins. To top off the day, Lyn Jones achieved first with her beautiful cot quilt. All who achieved a first place will be entering the state competition to be held in Griffith in May. Congratulations to everyone who entered as well as those who achieved places. Cookery Officer Debbie Fisher received a very special thank you for working so hard to make it all come together with the paperwork and encouragement as well as acting as a steward on the day. Well done Debbie.

Next time you eat a slice of cake from CWA, remember that they are award winners.

If you would like to join CWA and share a cuppa, please go to CWA Cottage on the second Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is 8 April, starting at 10.30 am. You will be warmly welcomed. CWA is looking for women interested in handicraft and is excited about starting a handicraft group at the cottage. Please ring Mary Williams on 6493 6167 if you are interested and she will put you in touch with CWA's handicraft officer.

Anzac Day 2014

Two lighthorsemen will lead the Cobargo Anzac Day march on Friday 25 April, adding a touch of nostalgia to this respectful community event.



Community members and returned servicemen gather around the Soldiers Memorial on Anzac Day

Cobargo Anzac commemoration 2014 will commence 10.30 am at the School of Arts on Bermagui Road and then march around to the war memorial opposite the service station. The focus of Anzac Day this year and next year will be World War I, because this year is the centenary of the start of the war and next year is the centenary of the Anzac landings at Gallipoli.

It's been interesting to learn how much the war affected the Cobargo area and to discover the identities of those from this area who were killed during World War I and whose names are listed on local memorials. The details are recounted in a series of three *We Will Remember Them* booklets compiled by Quaama historian Peter Lacey. The booklets are free and available from Well Thumbed Books and the visitor information centres in Cobargo and Bermagui.

Throughout the war, there was very strong support for the war effort from the Cobargo area. There are 99 names on the Cobargo memorial of those who served, plus 34 on the Bermagui memorial, 33 on the Quaama memorial and 42 on the Central Tilba memorial. In August 1918 *The Bega Budget*, when reporting that 20 more recruits from Cobargo had volunteered to join the army, observed that 'surely there's not an eligible (man) left in the Cobargo district'.

Local interest in the war was so intense that the local newspaper, *The Cobargo Chronicle*, subscribed to a cable service (which was funded by donations from locals) at the outbreak of the war so locals would have access to the most



It's been a bumper season for tomatoes and grapes

up-to-date war news.

In April 1916, the Cobargo community set up a returned soldiers fund to look after their returning servicemen from Cobargo and surrounding communities that 'owed Bermagui as their port', and raised £1200 within 2½ months – an enormous amount, equivalent to eleven years' wages for a soldier at the time.

Individuals were affected in many ways. At least 19 families from the Cobargo area lost a husband, father, son or brother during the war. Suffering a different sort of trauma, the head teacher of Cobargo School, Mr Kaiser, was forced to change his name to Mr King because of the intense anti-German feeling in the community at the time.

The local men and women who have served in the armed forces, along with their families and friends who supported them, will be honoured again at this year's Cobargo Anzac Day ceremony. Everyone is welcome to attend and to stay on afterwards for the free community Anzac Day morning tea in the RSL Memorial Hall.

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Cobargo alive and kicking

Following all the great events of the past couple of months, Cobargo Show, Cobargo Folk Festival and Bermagui Seaside Fair, it's time to take a little break and let yourself relax wandering through Cobargo on a 'go slow catch up tour'.

Wander into the Black Wattle Gallery next to the newsagent, just one part of Cobargo Creators Creativity – always in motion, diversifying, imagining, creating and surprising. See the wonderful art and craft of local people. An exciting new presentation is a full-wall exhibit by artist Tony Pye of Tilba. Tony is exhibiting a variety of 'Ships' – tall ships in full sail, fishermen, shipwrecks – here is something different. Your tour will widen your eyes with the talent and imagination presented in the displays at Black Wattle Gallery.

Let your feet wander over to the Lazy Lizard Gallery too. Delight in the imagination of other local talent. Don't forget to check out Cobargo Gnomes, a brilliant little illustrated book on ... you guessed it, the little creatures domiciled on the 'vacant block'. Your tour does not end there however. On Saturdays we have the laneway markets with fresh produce, fresh bakery loaves and cakes and craft materials for sale. Further down we have Sweet

Home Cobargo, all you ever wanted in organic health products. If you're going to a Gatsby ball or a charleston jig, around the corner we have Vintage Clothing. Cobargo has jewellery, pottery and clothing so there's no need to look further. When your tour is complete relax at Chalk and Cheese coffee shop or the Train Café. There's always something different in Cobargo.

But, HELP! All this comes at a price. Remember when shops were vacant and the main street deserted in Cobargo? Just two years ago the initiative and hard work of Suzy McKinnon of Black Wattle Gallery and her band of helpers brought Cobargo back to life. Others



Local artistic talent on display in Cobargo

Mindful Meditation – Stilling the chatter

Monday Mindful Meditation is a non-profit initiative to gather like-minded people who want to lead a happier, healthier life. The benefits of stilling the chattering mind are huge, from reducing stress and pain response to improving memory and the immune system. Mind exercises help create a more compassionate existence, starting with ourselves, which can benefit our relationships with our families, communities and way beyond.

This is a guided exercise using specific sounds to help reach the alpha/theta border (the brain waves between deep sleep and

being actively awake). It's not connected to any spiritual organisation or religion and it can have the effect of opening your heart and experiencing peace. All that's required is that you sit on a chair or wherever you like and be guided into deep relaxation.

The cost is \$5 or concession is a gold coin, and all money will go to charities chosen by participants. Sessions are held every Monday 5.30.6.30 pm at the Cobargo CWA hall. Contact Sarah on 0417 684 300 for more info, or just turn up.

Sarah Lambert

followed suit and what we have today as a result is Cobargo alive and kicking. Now they need your support – volunteers are urgently needed at the Black Wattle to keep the doors open. Don't forget, this is a community gallery with all artists and artisans from the triangle, and all kept going by volunteers. Please call into the gallery Tuesday to Saturday and offer 3-4 hours a week/fortnight to keep the doors open. You do not have to be a member to help and all volunteers are given an introduction/induction and the guideline book is always on hand.

Yet Another Space for Art in Cobargo

Julie Steele from Cobargo Hotel is keen to support local artists and crafts people by offering display and sale space in the restaurant area. Drop in and see her if you are interested in being involved in creating yet another artistic space in Cobargo.

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Cobargo Conversations

20th Annual Horse and Gear sale on 10 May

It's on again and bigger than ever. The 20th annual quality Horse and Gear Sale is scheduled for Saturday 10 May. To celebrate the 20 year anniversary, special entertainment activities are being planned and we are putting out early calls for horses to be listed for sale. Our club uses profit from the sale to support club activities, maintain equipment and regularly donate to local community services. Both Cobargo Preschool and Cobargo Pony Club run food outlets on the day which are good fund raisers for them.

The sale is at the Cobargo Showground with the gear sale in the main pavilion. The entertainment and parade of horses starts at 10.30 am. The pavilion is opened for the sale at the close of the horse parade. Gear is accepted for sale on Friday afternoon 4.00-5.30 pm and Saturday morning 8.30-10.30 am. Sellers pay a non-refundable fee to enter each item.

The Cobargo Horse & Trail Riders club is a local social horse riding club which hosts interesting rides in the stunning mountainous and coastal regions of this amazing and often unexplored area. We are affiliated with Australian Trail Horse Riders Association (ATHRA) and operate under a code of conduct to ensure safe and pleasurable riding. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Cobargo Hotel at 6.30 pm for dinner with the meeting at 7.30 pm. We have just conducted our 2014 AGM. Below is an excerpt from the report by club president Richard Tarlinton.

'I feel the club has had a quieter year but there have been many highlights mainly the great bond of friendship and co-operation

between members and the willingness to help out in any situation.

'In March many members were able to ride a bus to Sydney to see the awesome production, *War Horse*. What a wonderful weekend it was. In April another ride down Wandella creek where we were welcomed at Provincial Plants and Landscapes with a presentation on its operation followed by a guided tour. What a great mix of things to discover and learn from, not to mention the great BBQ provided by the backup crew. Further rides took us to Bermagui, Yowrie and Verona – beaches, gullies, hills, ridges and creek beds.

'Our Horse and Gear Sale 2013 was yet another successful day. The highlight was the commitment shown by all club members to this well-established event that enables the club to give back to the community we live and ride in. "Ridingwise" just for something different we held an activities day at the showground where many of us faced new and interesting challenges with varying degrees of success, proving once again that we are not just a bunch of bush bashers. At times many of our riders ventured further afield and participated in rides held at Bemboka, Cathcart, Boydtown and Cadgee as well as going to the mountains (Kosciuszko National Park). It is good we can get around and now we have our new green club shirts Cobargo riders will certainly stand out in a crowd.

'Our monthly meetings are well attended by a core body of members who work hard to make decisions that will please the majority of members. New members are always welcome.'

Our Architecture – a photographic competition and exhibition

The Cobargo village and surrounding hills are home to many unique and picturesque architectural structures. The decaying dairy shed, the collapsing farmer's cottage or the imposing Catholic church are all part of this area's architectural heritage. We would like to celebrate it through photography.

As part of the ETC (eat, think, create) weekend in Cobargo the first 'Our Architecture' photography competition will be held. Works will be displayed in Cobargo during the

weekend.

We are looking for images that capture the mood and significance of our built environment. There are three categories: Best Colour Image – open \$75 prize; Best Black and White image – open \$50 prize; Best Image – under-18 \$25 prize.

Entry forms are available from Black Wattle Gallery or by emailing suzymc@ozemail.com.au

Food Swap a huge success

The first Cobargo/Quaama food swap took place in Cobargo on Sunday 16 March. About 40 people came with a huge variety of produce and related items. We had a cornucopia of goodies including carrots, beetroots, beans, zucchini, squash, chillies and giant garlic through to chestnuts, ruby grapefruit, lemons, limes, persimmons and watermelons. Lots of homesaved seeds and various jams and other preserves featured as well as fresh banana leaves, herbs, seedlings and alpaca poo.

Running from 9 am to noon it was a very relaxed and enjoyable gathering. People congregated in the shade of the angophora or on the veranda where tea, coffee and cakes were available for those whose appetite was stimulated by the fantastic array of produce available.

New links were made as people got to know each other and many expressed the desire to continue the swaps as a regular monthly event even through winter.

The next swap will start at 11 am on Sunday 13 April at Julie and Larry Bracher's on the Yowrie Rd. Julie and Larry have a new pizza oven and are offering lunch to everyone who brings pizza toppings to help out. Flyers will be distributed around Cobargo and Quaama with address details.



Rich pickings

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Anglican Parish of Cobargo Easter Services

All are welcome to celebrate Easter at the following services around the parish:

17 April, Maundy Thursday: 6 pm at All Saints Church, Wallaga Street, Bermagui. An Evening Service with foot washing and stripping of the altar. This will be followed by a simple love feast at the Rectory (soup, bread, dried fruit and nuts).

18 April, Good Friday: 10 am at Christ Church, Hoyer Street, Cobargo. A Service with hymns and no Communion.

19 April, Easter Saturday: 5 pm at St

Saviours Church, Quaama – Vigil and Lighting of the New Fire.

20 April, Easter Sunday: Dawn service at 6 am at the Blue Pool Car Park, Bermagui, to finish by 7 am Bring flowers to cover the Cross.

20 April, Easter Sunday: 8.30 am Holy Communion at All Saints Church, Wallaga Street, Bermagui.

20 April, Easter Sunday: 10.30 am Holy Communion at St Saviours Church, Quaama.



The Party Crashers: Easter Saturday

The Party Crashers (based at Wagga Wagga NSW but once locals to the area) are returning to Cobargo Hotel this Easter Saturday. The band features rock and country covers from the 70s and 80s through to current.

Ann Summerell sings lead vocals and plays bass on keys accompanied by Greg Summerell on acoustic guitar. BB Summerell holds the group together with her flowing rhythms and fills from the drums and a DJ box. A special performance from Poppa Szombati will feature on the night as he plays his bass guitar to rock up a few tunes.

The band has just finished recording their demo CD titled *Summer 2014* attracting work from venues throughout NSW and Victoria. Although a three-piece these guys have a massive sound making them a unique act and a must-see this Easter Saturday 19 April at 7.30 pm.

These guys rock.

Left: The Party Crashers



New kids at Preschool

The Cobargo Preschool has welcomed a couple of chooks.

Unfortunately staff couldn't get the chooks to stand near the kids for a photo (don't know why...) Eggs have been found in the toy box on the deck and the omelette they made from them was reported to be dee-licious!

Don't miss our regular Cobargo Preschool playgroup on Mondays from 10am to 12pm during school term. All welcome. Get familiar with the preschool, have a play and bring some fruit to share.



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Some of the People of Our Parish

Our parish history is really about the people, the buildings are just a small part of it. So who were some of the people?

There was Sam Sinclair who arrived with his blacksmith gear on a bicycle soon after he was demobilised from the Boer War. He set up his blacksmith shop on the corner of Bermagui and Tathra Roads where the motel now stands. Sam had friends at Milton and would cycle 'over' to visit.

Sam designed a turntable for wagons. Toohey's Brewery asked him to come to Sydney to make some for them. They were so impressed by his stature that for their logo they had a drawing of him holding a tankard with the words 'Here's Toohey' (Sam didn't drink much).

Sam was very strong and could bend cold horseshoes to shape. He apprenticed a sickly young man, Walter Lyons, who became very strong under Sam's direction, changed his name to Don Athaldo and toured the country as a strong man, extremely famous in his time.

Sam's faith in God was well demonstrated in the community. He was known for his kindness and generosity. He and his wife lent money (often not returned) to many people in the community and raised an abandoned child. It was Sam who went down the mineshafts at Monterey when a dog, calf or cow fell down.

We heard that he also acted as midwife when there was a difficult birth. Sam Sinclair was central to the purchase of the land for the church and its clearing.

Henry Freeman Sawtell was 22 years of age and about to be married when he selected the land at 'Narira' on 15 February 1883 under the Crown Lands Alienation Act of 1861. The land was described as grassed, open forest to steep, very heavily timbered country. Harry built a cosy slab cottage for his wife and what became six children. The children attended school in Cobargo and at Sam's Creek.

Once a month Church of England services were held in the Sawtell home for the benefit of the people living in the area. Harry was the senior warden when the present Anglican Church was built at Cobargo.

Harry Jubb (1887-1964) loved the sea and became a legend during his life in the fishing industry. He also loved his Lord. He worshipped at All Saints, where he was organist, church warden and bell ringer. There is a stained glass window at All Saints in his memory.

Charlie and Lucy Ferguson, dairy farmers at Coolagalite, were well known for their care for others. Charlie led Sunday school at Cobargo for many years.

Shirley Benny remembers that when she was a child Charlie would collect her and her brother each Sunday from their farm and take them to Sunday school. After Sunday school he took them to his family's home where Lucy would prepare lunch for them and for the Ferguson's own children. After lunch Charlie would then take Shirley and her brother back to their home.

Jim Cole (1927-2012) was a true

gentleman and a beautiful person, a member of the Rural Fire Service for 62 years, the Show Society forever, and a number of other committees. Jim loved the Lord and was a stalwart of Cobargo Anglican Church.

We celebrated our 125th birthday on 30 March. We are still putting together details of our parish history, including the people, and would appreciate any photos or information you have. Please contact Fiona Kotvojs (fiona.kotvojs@bigpond.com or 6493 6080).

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The Quaama Tennis Club (QTC) is in the final stages of taking over the lease for the crown land in the name of the club and will soon begin mending and restoring the clay surface, getting the courts up and going, and building up membership. So a bit of fundraising is in order.

They'll be drawing a 'Variety Harvest' raffle at the Harvest Fair and are looking for donations of prizes. Any donations big or small would be greatly appreciated. The committee is asking for each one of our fantastic community members to contribute one item! If you make preserves or have a great harvest of pumpkins or squash – please donate just one jar or vegetable to the raffle. If you have a good pantry of ready canned or packaged goods from the supermarket – just one of these will do. Or perhaps you have a few items gifted at Christmas that you know will not be used.

The raffle will be drawn at the Quaama Harvest Fair, so you can bring along fresh produce or baked goods for the raffle on the day. The Gillies family have kindly agreed to



Lisa and Ronnie Rae

receive non perishable donations at Quaama General Store – in the box marked 'Tennis Club Harvest Raffle'.

The next meeting of the QTC will be at the tennis courts (corner of Bermaguel and Cobargo Streets) on 6 April at 3 pm. Enquiries please phone President, Becky Grenfell on 0429 306 761.

A highly successful Cobargo/Quaama food swap meet was held last month in Cobargo. See this edition's Cobargo Conversations for the full story. The next one will be on Sunday 13 April at Julie and Larry Bracher's on the Yowrie Rd. Watch out for flyers around town for more details. And don't miss the Quaama Harvest Fair on Saturday 26 April. More details on this page.

I caught up with Julie from The Homestead in Brogo to ask how the 'Rae's your Glass' fundraiser went last month. This was organised by Ronnie Rae's friends to help out with costs for the family while Ronnie's dealing with illness.

Anyway, the night was an overwhelming success. Overall, more than \$14 000 was raised, far exceeding expectations. Local businesses and individuals donated goods for the auction; friends organised amongst themselves to do the catering; young blokes donned fancy dress to race the Brogo Cup obstacle course, patrons betting with the help of a form guide. Music was provided by the Brogo Choir, other local musicians and a band from Sydney.

A whopping 170 tickets were sold – a testament to this community's love and appreciation for the Rae family. All the best Ron.

Three down, two to go... news from Veronica and Warren: Kassi Abbott and Brett Sparling were married at Kruger Park in Brisbane on 15 March. The relaxed and very happy ceremony included a special family joining element as the marriage also brings together four children as devoted siblings. Best wishes to Kassi, Brett, Hannah, Jordyn, Xanda and Ashlyn for a wonderful life together.



Kassi Abbott and Brett Sparling, 15 March 2014



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Quaama Harvest Fair is back

Come along to Quaama School of Arts Hall, 9.00 am – 2.30 pm on Saturday 26 April (the weekend after Easter) for a celebration of autumn. There'll be all the usual attractions – verandah talks, stalls, competitions, performances and great food.

The Frayed Edges, Quaama's very own fibre arts group, will be hosting the competitions as well as promoting their upcoming 'Bra Show' which will raise money for breast cancer research. They'll have raffle tickets on sale so

please support them. Entries for competitions need to be in by 10.59 am with judging and tasting to start at 11.00 am.

Cooking competition categories are 'Zucchini's' (sweet, savoury, any which way) and 'Tomato Preserves'. The craft competition theme is 'Harvest – Using It All'. Enter your items made from leftovers of the summer harvest (pea and bean vines, cornstalks, fruit tree twigs, seed pods, etc).

Quaama trading table will feature a food swap section with information about the new food swap group operating in Quaama and Cobargo.

The theme for the Art in the Foyer exhibition is 'Water'. Work by locals of all ages and in any medium will be accepted for display and/or sale.

Quaama Quisine will be serving harvest-related dishes from the hall kitchen – all dishes donated by local community members. If

you would like to contribute a dish made from your bounty for selling on the day, please email Bhagya (devabhagya@bigpond.com).

There's still space for performers, demonstrators, talkers and stalls. Community groups with projects to spruik are especially welcome. If you want to be involved in any way email Veronica (joxamara@hotmail.com).

Anzac Day services in Cobargo and Quaama

Anzac Day will be commemorated in Cobargo on Friday 25 April with a march starting at 10.30 am outside the Cobargo School of Arts in Bermagui Road. Local and visiting members of the RSL, serving members of the defence forces, and ex-service men and women and their relatives and descendants are invited to join the march, which will be led by lighthorsemen, children from Quaama and Cobargo schools, and the 1st Cobargo Scout Group.

Marchers are asked to wear full-sized medals, as they may be entitled. People wearing a relative's medals should wear them on their right breast. Serving defence forces personnel may march in uniform, as appropriate.

The service of commemoration will commence as soon as the march reaches the memorial on the corner of Princes Highway and Tarlinton Street. Local organisations and individuals may lay wreaths at the appropriate time during the service.

A shortened Service will be held at the memorial in Quaama commencing at 9.30 am.

No dawn service will be held in Cobargo or Quaama. The closest dawn service will be held in Bermagui.



Full Moon Dance Gathering in Quaama

We had another fun gathering on the full moon in March with an hours dance followed by sharing delicious food and conversation outside in the balmy evening. It was great to welcome some newcomers from Brogo along with the regular crew. Come and join us and experience free form dance and movement using the rhythms and music to help us loosen up and express ourselves while celebrating the lunar cycles. Everyone brings food and drink to share and are encouraged to bring songs, stories, poetry and instruments for after

celebrations. Next dance date is Tuesday April 15th 6-7pm for dance, 7-9pm for after sharing, all at the Quaama Hall. Suggested donation \$10 (\$7 conc). This will be a special dance for the lunar eclipse.

There is a weekly women's dance every Tuesday from 10-11am. Cost \$5. All welcome.

For details contact Catherine at thetravellingmedicineshow@gmail.com or Ruth at treadsoftly@live.com.au.

Catherine McEwen

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Wildlife being stalked, shot and maimed

The second report in two days of a native animal being illegally shot has outraged members of WIRES, Australia's largest and longest standing native animal rescue organisation. The latest victim, an eastern grey kangaroo, was found with an arrow through its leg near the Mogo State Forest on the South Coast of NSW.

'Just months after the NSW Government has opened hunting back up in our state forests, we have incidents of native animals being unnecessarily maimed by uninformed or careless hunters,' says WIRES representative Justin McKee.

WIRES was called out to a property between Batemans Bay and Moruya to rescue the eastern grey kangaroo after a member of the public spotted it limping around with an arrow in its leg. Rescue volunteers fear the animal will die a slow and painful death as its mobility declines and the wound area becomes infected.

'Unfortunately, the reason the kangaroo escaped the hunter who stalked and successfully harpooned it, is the same reason it has escaped rescue volunteers. The animal is traumatised and will instinctively avoid human contact.

'These incidents are not in isolation. We were called out to the Central Coast to rescue a brush turkey the day before this kangaroo was seen. Unfortunately, the bird fled the site it was identified at and disappeared into nearby scrub. The animal is at risk of severe infection and is vulnerable to predators while it is not in care.

'It is important that the community understands that native animals are protected



Kangaroo with arrow (photo: WIRES)

under state and federal law. Stalking, hunting and killing an animal like this is a prosecutable offence and can result in hefty fines or time being served. It is clear the Government has its work cut out for it policing the hunting practices it is permitting. Barry O'Farrell needs to be tougher on those roaming our public lands armed with guns, knives and arrows.

'If anyone sees this or any other animal in need, please call WIRES and help us to report these incidents to the NSW Police. We must see an end to the unnecessary slaughtering of native animals,' concludes Justin McKee. Phone WIRES on 1300 094 737.

*Justin McKee
Advocacy, Media and Communications*

New transport project in the Bega Valley

A new Domestic Violence Transport project in the Bega valley will provide bus/taxi vouchers to affiliated services for distribution to their clients on a needs basis.

The project's target groups are: women and children who need transport assistance when escaping and/or recovering from domestic violence situations, and women and children living in isolated towns of the Bega Valley shire, who may not have a driver's license and/or are disadvantaged through socio-economic circumstances.

The Project is designed to support women and their families who need assistance with transport to leave an abusive situation and/or to access services and undertake tasks such as counselling, court attendance, medical appointments and shopping. The Bega Valley shire has little public transport and our clients may often be situated in isolated towns or don't have access to private or public transport.

For further information about the Bega Valley Domestic Violence Transport Project contact Gabrielle Powell at the Womens Resource Centre (WRC) 6492 1367 Wednesday to Friday 10 am - 4 pm.

Permaculture Design Course

Join us at The Crossing (6-19 April) for a residential permaculture design course in a beautiful bushland setting near Bermagui. The course covers the content of Bill Mollison's text *Permaculture: A Designer's Manual*. This course has been taught around the globe in every climatic zone for over 30 years. John Champagne weaves in half a dozen other tutors offering their unique expertise to include lectures and slides, group exercises and hands-on practical sessions.

Included in the course are two full days of site visits to permaculture properties: urban backyard, small and large acreage and the Bega Eco-Neighbourhood housing estate.

Outcomes for students will include:

Printed Stories Project: Embrace your creativity!

Wanted young women 12-24 years to:

- discover art, design, drawing, graphics and painting
- learn new skills, be creative, uncover your story through art
- work with professional artist and trainer Annie Franklin
- network with the Women's Resource Centre.

This is a FREE course but donations are appreciated

This course will be held at the Women's

understanding and applying the 12 permaculture principles to solving problems; gaining a solid knowledge of the science behind climate, soils, water and trees and how they interact; learning simple techniques for growing food efficiently; learning and applying the steps in the design process toward drawing a concept plan; understanding social permaculture and learning strategies for making communities resilient; becoming a member of a global movement and networking local initiatives.

For details and registrations visit the website (permaculturedesign.com) or contact John on 6492 7306 or email brogogg@bigpond.net.au.

Resource Centre 14 Peden St Bega on Thursdays, 17 and 24 April from 10 am to 2 pm
Please bring your own lunch (school holidays)

For more info or to book phone 6492 1367

This course is supported by the Bega Valley Shire Council and National Youth Week grants.

Women's Resource Centre is a non-profit organisation that provides information, referral, support and drop-in service for women of all ages.



U3A BERMAGUI & DISTRICT Inc.

"Fishing for Knowledge"

Term 1 has almost finished. Time to start thinking what you would like to do in Term 2. There are many new and exciting courses and workshops being offered, along with the popular ongoing courses.

TERM 2 REGISTRATION DAY

WEDNESDAY 23rd APRIL

10 am to 12 noon

BERMAGUI COUNTRY CLUB

LOOK AT WHAT'S NEW!

Spinning into the Future : Want to learn to Spin? This 2 session workshop caters for both experienced and beginner spinners.

Learn to Play Bridge: 8 session course will introduce you to the complex, challenging and immensely enjoyable world of a partnership game reputed to be the greatest card game of them all.

Mixed Art Media: Will allow the aspiring artist to work with a variety of media including pencil, charcoal, acrylic, pastels, watercolours and prints.

The Bundian Way: Project Officer John Blay, historian, writer, naturalist, will talk about the 265km route from Mount Kosciusko, through the Monaro to Twofold Bay.

A Sustainable House in the Valley: Tour this innovative stone house with its remarkable thermal properties.

Boost Your Mind Power: An inspiring, and fun filled 4 week course for a smarter you!

Tips for Tutors: Offers practical tips by experienced teacher - for those times when enthusiasm is not enough.

Fly Fishing at Lake Eucumbene: Want to learn to Fly Fish - this is your chance before the end of the trout season.

Plus a few more surprises Make sure you get the full Term 2 program! (available just before registration day)

AS WELL, SOME OF YOUR OLD FAVOURITES CONTINUING: Film and Lunch, Birdwatching, Travel Tales, Stitches, Computer Club, Music, Languages, Art, Lunch with a local treasure, Book Chat and many more.

For more information about upcoming courses and how to join U3A Bermagui, please go to our website www.bermagui.u3anet.org.au

OR

Pick up an information sheet from the brochure display holders at the following locations:

Bermagui Library; Bermagui Visitors Centre; Bermagui Country Club Foyer;

Well Thumbed Books, Cobargo; Narooma Library.

OR

Telephone the Secretary on 6493 4308

Every day everyone can help bring the defeat of cancer closer

Cancer Council NSW is working with the community every day to help bring the defeat of cancer closer. Everyone can play a role – it may be as small as covering up in the sun, donating some spare change toward support services, or it may be a bigger contribution such as volunteering your services and time or making ongoing donations throughout the year.

Local Merimbula resident and Co-chair of the Bega Valley Relay For Life, Jenny Groch, is helping to spread the message that every day something can be done to help beat cancer.

‘I started volunteering for Cancer Council NSW after attending the Wagga Wagga Relay For Life in 2000 and seeing what a fantastic community event it was. After moving to the South Coast I wanted to continue to do something to help play a role in trying to find a cure for this disease and through volunteering with Cancer Council I feel like I’m helping to make a difference in our community. The Relay For Life event isn’t just about fundraising to find a cure. It’s about the community coming together to make a

difference in the cancer fight’, Ms Groch said.

In the Southern NSW region alone, 3 883 people were diagnosed with cancer and 1 444 will die from the disease in a single year according to the latest figures. Cancer

said, ‘We can’t beat cancer alone. We are making great progress in the fight against cancer but there is still a lot of important work to do in the community, and we couldn’t do it without the help of amazing people like Jenny and the



Miss Relay participants model their outfits

rest of our incredibly hard-working committee. We are urging locals to help bring the defeat of cancer closer by getting involved in the upcoming Bega Valley Relay For Life. Teams walk overnight relay-style to support those who are battling cancer or caring for someone living with the disease, and to honour those we have lost.

‘It’s not a race around the track, it’s a race to save lives’.

The relay will be held on Saturday and Sunday 5-6 April (starting 9 am Saturday) at the Pambula sports ground, Pambula Beach Road. To register visit the website (relay.cancercouncil.com.au)

Sarah Flynn, Community Relations Coordinator

Council NSW is committed to reducing these numbers and increasing survival rates whilst communicating information about the important support services Cancer Council NSW can offer the community.

Sarah Flynn, Community Relations Coordinator for Cancer Council NSW (Bega)

Jumbo Jet of the Skies

Australian Seabird Rescue (ASR) receives many calls from concerned members of the public, particularly for hook and line entanglements. ASR rescues and rehabilitates all sea and shore birds as well as marine turtles. Here on the far south coast of NSW we get a variety of species including pelicans, cormorants, penguins, albatross, herons, swans,

silver gulls, giant petrels and shearwaters.

Pelicans and cormorants are the species we tend to see and interact with most when on the coast. Pelicans show very little fear of humans and frequent fishing areas and fish cleaning tables. They also forage near the shoreline and are the species most likely to be hooked accidentally.

Pelicans have a wing span of more than 2.5 metres and can live to 30 years in the wild. They normally feed in groups by cooperating with the herd to enclose schools of fish. They are not fussy when it comes to food and have been known to eat silver gulls, turtles and ducklings.

Recently a mature female came into care. We know she was a female because of the length of her beak (30-42 cm), her plumage was black and white, the skin around her eyes was yellow and her feet were blue.

She was ASR’s 1019th pelican rescued and she was from Tuross. She had a hook in the back of her neck and line wrapped around the top of her leg. The line around her leg had severed the nerves and ligaments. She had a secondary injury to the back of her throat. Pelicans are unable to take off, land and fish, without two functional legs. Unfortunately her story was a sad one and due to the extent of her injuries she was euthanised. If ASR had

been alerted sooner, earlier intervention could have saved her.

If you spot an injured sea or shore bird note down the species, injury, location and behaviour and call the ASR hotline 0431 282 238. If you accidentally hook a pelican or cormorant you can slowly reel them in to remove the hook and line. If you are unsure call the ASR hotline for guidance and assistance.

Penny Beaver

Australian Seabird Rescue (ASR)



Pelican 1019 in care for assessment

Think you can write?
Would you like to write?

Why not join our group
‘Writing for fun/pleasure’
at Bermagui Country Club
on the second Thursday of each month
at 1.30pm?

Enquiries phone:
Shirley: 6493 4773
or Dawn: 6493 3160.

We would love to see you.

Anzac Rock *by John Small*

The following article, titled *Rock Lilies, Memories of a Familiar Scent. Echo of a Ballina Garden* is an abridged version of an article originally published in *The Northern Star* newspaper on 30 January 1924. A longer reading is available in the highly recommended book *Negatives of Glass* by Tilba's Diana Watson. Thanks to Norm Hoyer for his assistance with this story.

'A whiff of faint elusive perfume, and then on the breeze from seaward, a characteristic scent, strong and penetrating. Rock lilies, blooming in a Ballina garden. Rock lilies! and memories! How subservient our thoughts are to our senses! Way back through the limbo of the years that the locust has eaten' the memories come tumbling.

A Spring day on the South Coast – a Sunday – two youths on the summit of that precipitous sided outcrop of granite known in the district as the Little Dromedary. They could not get higher than they are; they are perched on the rock pinnacle of the summit on the mountain. And in all this sunny land of Australia did mortal eye look on a fairer scene.

Dromedary, frowning, merely a dun hued timber clad wall of rock, rising stiffly from the surrounding undulating country, leading spurs running out to right and left until lost in the hazy distance. The air heavy with a Sabbath silence and heavy with the scent of the rock lilies, blooming everywhere in luxuriant golden splendour – clinging to the living rock – golden blooms drooping against the grey stone – in every crack and crevice – their means of sustenance a source of wonder.

Then, with thoughts' own swiftness, comes another memory. A different sky, but equally blue, another sea, and another mountain frowning over the bay. A Capetown garden and a rockery, two young soldiers on leave. And another whiff of scent, characteristic, unmistakable. Sure enough, on the sunny side of the of the rockery a golden to cream mass of bloom, and two young Australians went momentarily mad. And again the same two soldiers, once more in khaki after fifteen years. A bluer, brighter sky and a private garden in Cairo, meticulously correct, stiff and formal for the most part, but running wild at one end. And on the stone wall an Australian rock lily in full bloom.

Nine years until this morning since the passer-by smelt the rock lily scent, and as the perfume titillated his nostrils he unwittingly looked around for Dick. But Dick was not there, and in a moment another vision came to him. Two hundred men climbing out of a crumbling trench, silent save for the rustle of clothing and the rubbing of leather, sounds inevitably made by a body of men on the move. 'You know the objective boys. Steadily does it until we reach their trenches, and then give them the steel. Keep in touch'.

A nightmare creep through the darkness and a climb of a sandy, shell pitted hillside. Then a hoarse challenge and a red spitting rifle. Then a charging of men, a muffled cheer, curses and groans. and the thud of the muzzle on flesh as the steel went home.

Dick on the parapet with a dozen rifles flaming at him, stabbing, thrusting, doing a Trojan's part. Then, later, a group gathered beside a long shallow trench in a ravine – a padre with his collar and crosses – and a number of blanket-swathed figures, rigid and silent. The solemn words of the burial service to the accompaniment of a high flying shell, and the clink of spades in the stony soil as the



fatigue party filled in the trench.

'Dick, old man, I wonder do the Aegean breezes waft the scent of the rock lily to your spirit senses?' By H.E.S. (Harold Seccombe)

This story of an Anzac veteran recalling his fallen mate Dick, his childhood Tilba friend, and their journey as soldiers firstly to the South African Boer War, and onto their final parting at Gallipoli, illustrates lyrically the experience of war for so many Australian troops last century, shipped to the other side of the world to fight for 'King and Country'. You can perhaps understand how the discovery in strange new lands of these unique Australian flowers might have keenly thrilled the homesick senses of some of those young Australians who landed on those bloody shores of the Aegean Sea in 1915.

In the late 1970s I travelled to the Greek island of Crete, also in the Aegean Sea, a young Aussie looking for adventure. Fortunately I carried only a pack and not a rifle. It wasn't fashionable then to attend the dawn service at Gallipoli, and in any case there was at that time a military coup in Turkey which prevented a visit. I was too young to value the past anyway. But my grandfather had fought at Gallipoli in 1915 as a footborne Light Horseman. Later, remounted, he rode in the charge of Beersheba that finally won the battle with the Turks for Palestine. Of all the horrors he went through the only one he talked of was, at the end of the war in November 1918, having to shoot his faithful horse, brought with him all the way

from sign-up in Australia and then carried him through the deadly deserts of the Middle East. The powers that be decided that the Light Horse mounts would not be shipped home, instead they would be handed over to the Egyptians as work horses. My grandfather couldn't bear the thought that his Aussie 'mate' would be turned to hard work and likely brutal treatment at the hands of the natives. Many Light Horsemen did the same to save their horses this fate. It was a very different world from the Aussie homeland they hadn't seen for over four years.

I had been away from home for a year or so when I was travelling around Crete. One day I rode on a motorcycle down a narrow dirt road to a seaside town and soon found myself passing through an avenue of tall gum trees lining the track. I put my head up and watched the oh so familiar foliage whipping by above against the blue and was transported back home for an instant. In the village, gums around the houses gave cool aromatic shade against the summer sun. I asked a local why there were Australian trees lining the track and all over their quiet town. He told me that in 1941 there were Australian and Kiwi troops here trying to defend the island during the Nazi invasion of Crete. After the occupation many of these new generation Anzacs were left behind following the allied evacuation and

they hid around the mountainous countryside fighting with the local partisans against the Germans. The Anzacs had been fed and sheltered for a few years and became part of the community. After the war, the villagers planted the gums as a memorial to these hard young men from the other side of the world. As an Aussie, I was made very welcome in that little town and my overnight stay was a little bit wistful. A keen reminder of home brought about by a chance encounter with familiar things in foreign places.

Australians have left their footprints and many memorials all over the world during our short history as a nation but none more so than those left by the servicemen and women during the European and Middle East battles of the two World Wars. Volunteers to the dubious call for their king maybe, but always at heart for their country. Central Tilba has its own memorial of course, its goldleafed names honoured every 25 April with the Anzac Day service. But there is another more natural memorial that is fading into memory. If you stand at the bottom of the driveway into Central Tilba School you see Little Dromedary across the valley. You can imagine those two boys sitting on its peak, looking over a scene virtually unchanged from that time in the late 1800s. If you turn around 180 degrees you look over a steep gully that climbs to the tree line of Mount Dromedary. On top of a rise there's a tall, narrow block of granite, nearly overgrown today with black

(continued p27)

The Triangle's *Eco Edge* Competition

Local environmental company AKT has this year sponsored a page in the *Triangle* every month. Our brief was pretty broad: the page was to be on environmental themes. So we thought we'd devote part of the page to local environmental news, and open the rest to you, the readership, in a competition.

Every month we will publish the best creative, environmental

contribution – story, essay, poem, painting, drawing, photograph – we receive.

So look around and start writing, drawing and photographing. There's a wealth of inspiration around us. The winner receives \$400.

This month we have a contribution from Sandra Taylor of Wandella.

It feels like love to me

My table is jammed up against the bedroom windows, looking out to the mandarin and lime trees, the pink salvias flowering, the callistemon – home and harbour to lots of birds – also flowering, buddleia flowering, the bay laurel with its fresh new light green tips, scrubby grasses tangled with carpet left over from the war against kikuyu all merging into the thick, impenetrable orchard of towering black wattles.

The faint echo of chooks is heard at odd moments when the membrane between parallel realities collapses and the past bleeds through to the present bleeds through to the future bringing through all possibilities.

The sun is playing peek-a-boo, the wind is painting broad brush strokes and the temperature remains at, 'I think I'll put a cardy on'.

First day of autumn.

With a practiced flip of the calendar, seasons warp and flex, passing our summer into memories and calling up leaf-fall in glorious colours, cooler mornings, shorter sharper days, abundant harvests and golden hours.

Above me in the roof sits a rat, looking 'sick', according to John, who brought the ladder into the pantry and with flashlight in hand climbed up through the manhole to take a look.

Only a couple of weeks ago John and Greg finished, if there is such a word in bushlore, the rat-proofing of the roof. They completed the stretch in the glasshouse effectively blocking off all access (we hoped). The patter of tiny feet continued.

With a new staple gun John went back over areas where the old gun had begun to fail. Would this be the final nail?

Quiet for a day or two but maybe because the rain was so heavy on the roof that all other sound was blocked out. This morning we heard a scurry and a gnawing.

Now it sits there waiting for its final scamper back into the arms of the Great Spirit.

'I can see a skeleton over the kitchen sink', John shouts to me.

Oh, that would be the one that rained maggots down into the kitchen while we were lolling at the beach and my son-in-law was home here working.

We got a message from him telling us how creepy it was at home. Maggots were dropping out of the ceiling onto the benches and floor and wriggling their way towards the rest of their lives.

Greg was on constant clean up until the skinks joined the party. Like the cavalry they turned up in the nick of time, only without the bugle, and set to with relish. Next time I went back home to water the garden the kitchen was clean as a whistle.

A few days ago we could hear a rustling and tussling under the loquat tree. Eventually we could make out a red belly black snake with a skink in its mouth. Two legs hung limply in the air as the snake slowly expanded its jaw.

Someone's horror is someone else's meat.

Last night before dark a mother and child were nuzzling each other in the garden. It looked very like love to me. I watched the mama wallaby gently cradle her child's face between her paws and tenderly lick it clean. From there they moved into play.

In the French documentary 'Babies' the African mother cleans her baby with her tongue. She rolls her tongue all over the body and spits out whatever grit she encounters.

I don't so much lick my grandson but I do enjoy sniffing him and I do love to nuzzle my face into his sweet baby body. And I do smooch noisily whenever I can. At two and a half he is leaving babyhood behind and I ask him, how much longer can I get away with this? He smiles and ducks away from me to get back into his play.

My girls will testify that I am still a bit of a smoocher, the joy of plastering my love all over their beautiful grown up faces and drinking in their fragrance of being.

I imagine the rat upstairs, if it is a mum, is probably as loving to its young as we are.

And yet we have decided that it has no place in our house. No apologies. Yes, remorse.

And again yesterday evening, standing at the door of the lounge room, I call out to John. 'What?', he says when he comes to look, 'As if you haven't seen a wallaby a thousand times before?'

It's true, I have, but that little fella that is big enough to nibble on its own still likes to bury its head in its mother's pouch and stand there for ages drinking.

And I like to watch them. I like to watch it all.

I am still as captivated and fascinated as the day I entered this forest thirty years ago.

I am as bewitched as the first day we met.

It feels like love to me.

Sandra Taylor



AKT, a company of some 32 years' standing, currently is engaging regional skills, talents and attitudes to build machines for a very competitive export market in recycling.

As a corporate entity AKT understands well that, over and above book balances, whenever possible companies need to shoulder the additional burdens and special social demands of their own local community. This year AKT donated \$1000 to South Coast Field Days.

But AKT is also active internationally. Because we are about more than just making money, this year AKT International donated £6000 to ABCs and Rice, a charity in Cambodia, to purchase buses as a safe and reliable mode of transportation to and from government school for children living in poverty.



Local Community encouraged to help reduce future smoking rates

Cancer Council NSW is calling on local community members attending the Eurobodalla Relay for Life to have their photo taken to show their support for reducing the availability of tobacco across NSW. Local community members participating in Relay for Life next month are encouraged to take a photo pledge to tell the NSW government that selling tobacco anywhere, anytime, is harmful and not helpful to the community.

'With over 9000 tobacco retail outlets across NSW, we are calling on local community members to really get behind the snap and sign

activity that will be taking place at their local Relay for Life on 12 and 13 April said Sarah Flynn, Community Relations Coordinator for Cancer Council southern region.

'People attending their local Relay for Life will have the opportunity to sign and photograph a pledge form showing they are ready to take a stand against the huge oversupply of tobacco in the community.

'Our suburbs and towns are flooded with cigarettes. They are sold on street corners across NSW, including near schools, tempting children and adolescents to experiment with smoking.

Already over 4000 community members have taken the pledge to show the Government they want action to reduce the availability of tobacco to help protect future generations from smoking related diseases, and make it easier for current smokers to quit,' Sarah said.

Look for the Cancer Council tent at your Relay event to get involved and show your support.

To register a team call 4223 0200 or visit our website (relay.cancercouncil.com.au).

School-based traineeship with The Crossing



Crew hayseeds 2008

We are looking for a new trainee. Our current trainee Sam Hodder who won school-based trainee of the year in 2012 is leaving us in May. While he was with us from year 10 to 12, Sam completed both Certificate 2 and 3 in Land Conservation Management. He also guided almost 1000 young people on journeys, helped collect seeds and plant over 9000 trees, surveyed almost 100 square kilometres of bush helping local landowners, volunteers and National Parks staff to find remaining koala territories in the south east. Sam also achieved his Remote Area First Aid and completed a 250 km Sea to Snow Journey. Truly a remarkable young man, Sam also won a Bega Valley Australia Day award along the way for his services to the community, particularly through his sporting contributions to cricket and soccer.

Before Sam goes he will be helping The Crossing to meet and interview future schoolbased trainee candidates currently doing year 10 or 11. Here's the ad Sam helped us put together:

Schoolbased Traineeships (Yr 10 or 11) with The Crossing Land Education Trust. The traineeship involves: one day a week paid work with The Crossing Land Education Trust (with some additional multiday work periods); one day a week TAFE attendance to study

Certificate 2 in Land Conservation Management (at Bega or Moruya TAFE); and three days a week school attendance to complete your HSC (the TAFE Certificate 2 means less subjects for HSC).

The Traineeship tasks include: assisting groups of young people on journeys with bushwalking, bike riding, canoeing and camping; landscaping, fencing, food growing and food preparation; tree identification, growing, planting and maintenance; and forest habitat survey to measure detailed changes in the forest over time.

Successful completion of the schoolbased traineeship may lead to a further parttime traineeship after the HSC at The Crossing, based on Certificate 3 in Land Conservation Management.

To apply please call Project Director Dean Turner on 6493 3400 or email thecrossing@thebegavalley.org.au to arrange a time to visit The Crossing with your parents to discuss the traineeship. More information about The Crossing Land Education Trust can be found on the website (Google.thecrossing)

After visiting The Crossing your application should include your CV, plus a letter explaining: why this traineeship would be beneficial for you; why you would be good for

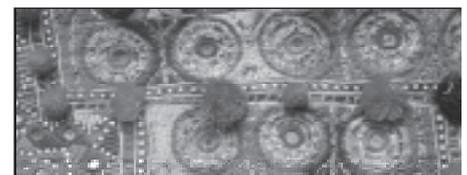
The Crossing as a schoolbased trainee; how you would get to your trainee days at The Crossing which is 6 km from Bermagui township on Nutleys Creek Rd.

For those who are wondering, The Crossing is a training camp for young people to learn about environmental conservation, landcare and sustainable agriculture. It is also a bush camp that continues to be made by young people.

The Crossing trains future young leaders and encourages young agricultural and recreation students and students interested in the outdoors to make a start in the workforce and finish their schooling at the same time.

Our volunteer Board of Directors is also on the lookout for the young at heart to help us support young people and young staff in a positive and hands-on way. At the moment we are looking for a retired farmer now living in Bermagui who might like to pass on his/her knowledge and assistance from time to time and be a back-up in a call for assistance.

The Crossing is 6 km from Bermagui up river. Visitors who would like to see the camp are encouraged to contact us to arrange a suitable time as we can be busy with young people and projects.



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6492 4694

Open Monday - Friday 9:30 to 5.00

Saturday 9.30 to 12.30

www.tribalinteriors.com.au

Cobargo Folk Festival delivers again

Sunday 24 February at the Folk Festival: kicked off with Michael Menager and Friends in the Magpie tent. Michael, from Tantawangalo, plays guitar and sings his own songs, shades of Arlo Guthrie in their simplicity. It's all in the lyrics, which are personal, confessional, wry and honest. Michael was accompanied by friends Heath Cullen (guitar, banjo) and Ricky Henderson (guitar).

Next up at the same venue: Peter Anderson, playing Appalachian Dulcimer and piano accordion. Can you imagine *Buffalo Gals* on dulcimer? He did it.

Over to Mumbulla tent for Mike Martin of Candelo, delivering the usual all-original, heartfelt, leftist, green, foot-tapping social commentary. Great stuff. Accompanied by Lindsay Martin (no relation) on fiddle. Felicity, a ballad about abuse in all its guises, was beautiful. And then Mike's son Sam arrived, with his contagious grin, to accompany him on mandolin for *Paid my Dues*, about surviving on the music scene.

Can I stop for a moment to mention the flies? One thing for us in the audience, with a free hand or two for the Aussie Salute, but how would it be, up on stage with both hands engaged, flies free-ranging all over your face? Will power, mind over matter, whatever – performers, I salute you!

Melanie Horsnell, also from Candelo, was

next. Her two little girls arrived soon enough, the younger one sitting between Melanie's feet for the duration. No problem. Melanie kept Gypsy and the audience happy with songs of love, strength and fragility, observational and melodic. She has the sweetest sound. Robyn Martin got up to accompany her on bass and Heath Cullen on guitar, Robyn's partner Sam rounding up the troops of Candelo kids, stage right.



Canuck troubadour Scott Cook

What is it about Candelo? It must be in the water. Profoundly musical, creative, eternally supportive of each other – one huge, friendly,

smiling tribe, even the few not called Martin. It warms my heart to see them milling around each other's acts, onstage or off.

Still in Mumbulla, Texan blues artist Frank Macias and his band Los Amigos upped the tempo and volume to get the crowd hollering and clapping in time. And there was Sam Martin again, reincarnated as an Amigo... Then Doug de Vries played Brazil-tinged guitar, some lovely bossa nova and more. Local Markus Kuchenbuch got up to accompany him on flute. Then Mal Webb arrived to add some sublime percussive scat on the last number, mesmerising the audience and making me wish I could stay for his act, but I was determined to catch Scott Cook, Canuck troubadour and last-minute entry to the Festival.

Supported by instant band Heath Cullen and Lindsay Martin (those Candeloons again!), Scott entranced the audience in the Yuin venue with his black-molasses voice and whimsical lyrics. He opened with ode to the wilderness and love song *Fish Jumpin (... pollywogs wogglin, insects getting it on and minds bogglin, well, smoke dragons, happy hounds waggin, flies and butterflies ziggin and zaggin ...)* and finished with a beautiful rendition of Kermit's *Rainbow Connection*, which I hadn't heard for much too long.

Suffice to say - went home happy.

Jen Severn

Watch this space for
new
Members Promotion.

Bermagui Country Club

www.bermaguicountryclub.com.au

Ph: 02 64934340

the Terrace Restaurant—02 64934177



We have it all ...

Golf

Tennis

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Arts & Craft

...and more

<p>Wednesday</p> <p>NEW Members Badge Draw</p> <p>5.45pm, 6.45pm, 7.45pm</p> <p>Raffles 7.00pm Trivia 8.00pm</p>	<p>Watch your team play NRL & AFL games on our BIG screens. Come along and enjoy the atmosphere in the lounge.</p>
<p>Friday</p> <p>Raffles—over 30 prizes</p> <p>First Draw 7.30pm</p>	<p>Sunday 13th April</p> <p>Monster Raffle</p> <p>Tickets on sale from 1.00pm</p>

Bingo

Monday 11am

Pool Comps

Wednesday &
Friday 7.30pm

NPL Poker

Thursday
Registration 6pm

Lunch Menu 7 days from 12 - 2pm - Restaurant open 7 days from 6 - 9 pm

April 7, 8 & 9 Ladies NSW Seniors Championship to be held at Bermagui Country Club

Entertainment for April:

4th 'Vanessa Lea & the Road Train', 11th 'Darryl Lamb', 13th Easter Raffle - 'Struth',
18th 'Jay Podger', 19th 'Mewstone Rock', 25th 'Ray Stephens', 28th 'Don Ryan'

Veronica O'Leary and Jackie Lallemand, Ivy Hill 4-28 April

Two artists, Veronica O'Leary and Jackie Lallemand, have created diverse new work for Ivy Hill this year.

Veronica O'Leary's paintings and drawings in this exhibition focus on the natural world and the landscape of banksia, spotted gum and tea tree which make up our



Jackie Lallemand's sculptures are inspired by her daily life

coastal environment. In these works she has tried to express the complexity of our bushscape, its rugged beauty and its exotic strangeness. Sir Joseph Banks remarked that the strange Australian flowers, particularly the banksia, looked as if it had been 'dropt' from another planet.

Veronica describes her work: 'The gouache paintings and watercolours are of my immediate environment - my palm garden and the little park I look at each day. These gardens, like all gardens, are a place of refuge, a complex, intriguing and beautiful haven, a man-made retreat from the frenzied world and a source of artistic inspiration. I have enjoyed working with different drawing media - pencil, ink, watercolour washes and with painting mediums of oil and acrylic. Working in both a small and very large scale has enabled me to experiment with composition and focus'.

Jackie Lallemand's sculptural pieces are inspired by her daily life. She lived on a 'block' on the Monaro for over 30 years and kept large numbers of domestic poultry and many dogs. The wild open terrain and ever changing light



Pandanus Palm, Byron by Veronica O'Leary

have influenced her surface textures and colour treatments.

Jackie's subject matter for this exhibition includes chooks, not just the dogs of her previous exhibitions at Ivy Hill. She finds both pleasure and amusement in the many ways the birds interact. Her old favorites, dogs, are always a source of fascination, combining a mythical presence with simple honest emotions. Jackie explores what it is possible to sculpt using hand-building pottery techniques and different firing schedules.

Anzac Rock (continued from p23)

wattle and fig trees close around its base. This local landmark is called Anzac Rock, so named because of its resemblance to the crown of a digger's slouch hat. When the rock lilies are in bloom during spring, clusters of these flowers growing on the top spill out to resemble the emu feathers which also adorned the slouch hats of the Australian Light Horse Brigades. Local legend has it that we are allowed to pick this protected species, but only from the top of Anzac Rock. You'd need to be a monkey to get to them though.

To its right you see a precipitous bluff that forms one side of Paradise Rock, with its clusters of lilies growing out of the crevices of its almost sheer face. In this steep gully and

towering rock faces you can gain a sense of the sort of country that the Anzacs battled on for over five months of stinking stalemate at Gallipoli 99 years ago this April. The spirit of the lilies and the flower of our 1915 youth share remarkably similar characteristics: hardy, tenacious endurance and a unique character bred by isolation. And although the 'whitefella' culture is only a blink at 225 years young we might turn our mind to one of our natural sacred sites, one on our own shores for a change, telling a very local story of service and sacrifice for the common good against aggression, violence and greed. So here I'd like to propose the clearing away of those wild wattles and figs to reveal all of Anzac Rock, with its glorious green and yellow crown, especially for next year's

centenary of Anzac Day. A very fitting image for a very significant ceremonial.

Unfortunately, the recent acquisition of the property that the rock stands on and its return to the Gulaga Reserve with its mooted revegetation of the old farmland to its natural state, could be a stumbling block. Besides the emotional significance of Anzac Rock outlined above, to many locals this possible development poses a real threat to Central Tilba, in that this relatively open land is our only buffer between the town and a future deadly fire on the mountain. In 2009 the blaze was stopped at the tree line here. It could well be another fight for a fair go for all. But that's another issue, for another issue.

John Small



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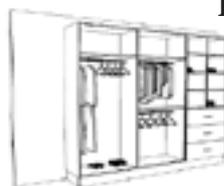
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What I love about living in a rural community is the various homecooked dishes one gets to sample at any get together. This month I'm sharing a few of my favourite dishes that are winners at a shared table.

Corn Fritters with Polenta

2 cups of corn kernels
½ cup polenta
large handful of flat leafed parsley chopped
2 large eggs or 3 small ones lightly whisked
½ cup SR flour (can use gluten free) plus 1 heaped tsp baking powder
½-1 cup soda water
sea salt and cracked black pepper
½ cup crumbled feta optional
250 ml sunflower or any light oil for frying



Combine all ingredients except oil in a bowl and season with salt and pepper. Stir till combined and stand mixture for 10 minutes. Cook large tablespoons full in hot oil in a non-stick frypan over medium heat for 3-4 minutes each side or until golden. Drain on paper towels. Good hot or cold. Serve with slices of avocado and tomato chutney or salsa. Or try this version of guacamole. Serves 4

Guacamole

1-2 ripe avocados
kernels cut from a corn cob
1 small ripe tomato diced (seeds squeezed out)
2 cloves (not too big) garlic finely chopped

handful coriander leaves roughly chopped
juice of a lime
2 tbsp sweet chilli sauce salt and pepper to taste

Put everything in a food processor and pulse quickly. Guacamole should retain texture.

Zucchini Fritters

3 zucchini coarsely grated
1 tsp sea salt
1 onion finely diced
4 handfuls of flat leafed parsley chopped
1 handful of dill chopped
3 tbsp plain flour
2 large eggs whisked

freshly ground black pepper
250 ml sunflower or other oil suitable for frying

Put grated zucchini in a colander, toss salt through and allow the liquid to drain for a half an hour. Squeeze the excess liquid from the zucchini and transfer the zucchini to a bowl. Add the rest of the ingredients except oil, and mix to combine. Season to taste. Cook fritters as described in the corn recipe. These are also good hot or cold. Try serving these with a simple garlic yogurt: fold a garlic clove, which has been crushed in a mortar and pestle with a pinch of salt, into 250 gm of Greek yogurt.



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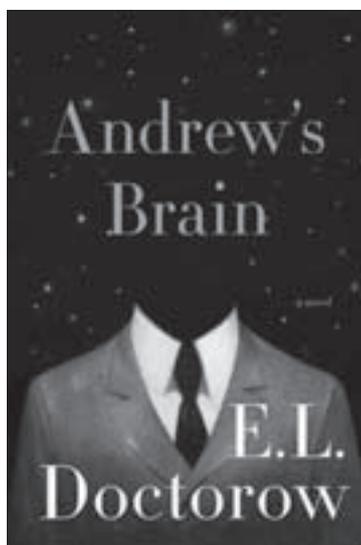
**EL Doctorow,
Andrew's Brain,
Abacus, \$29.99**

Thanks Sarah Gardiner for doing the review for last month – I should have asked you for this one too! EL Doctorow has written some of my all-time favourite books – especially *The Book of Daniel*, *Homer and Langley* and *The March*. So I was so excited when I saw this for sale. I actually thought he was dead, but no, he's only 83.

But this is the weirdest thing I've read for years. One reviewer called it a 'novel that somersaults through time and perspective'. I was completely lost in the conversation between Andrew and a character he calls Doc (a computer? a doctor? ventriloquist?). I got it that poor old Andrew was plagued by misfortune and death (including that of his young wife on 911), I got the not-so-subtle references to George Bush and his staff, but after that – almost no idea!

Another reviewer mentioned that Doctorow is Obama's favourite author, and recently read *Ragtime*, one of his earliest novels – I'd love to know what he thought of this. (Sarah is going to read it next, so perhaps she'll throw some light on it for us).

On a happier note, I'm re-reading Chaim Potok's fabulous novel, *The Chosen*, because my granddaughter is reading it for her Year 12 literature subject. I think I'll shout myself the indulgence of revisiting some of his others – and I'm definitely going to re-read *The March* to restore my faith in Doctorow.



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The Cool Colours of Autumn

As we head into the cooler months of the year we should not forget that the garden can be as beautiful in the throes of late autumn/winter as during the warmer seasons of spring and summer.

The cooler months bring with it the beautiful structure of the bare trees with their interesting shapes and bark colours as they drop the final stages of their autumn leaves and the first frosts cloak them in a glistening white. What better time than to see the amazing colours of the bark of Crepe Myrtle. This beautiful small tree not only has amazing flowers in mid-autumn but is then followed by glorious coloured leaves as they fall to reveal the greyish pink bark that is a standout feature of this plant.

Another great tree for winter colour is the Golden Ash which after losing its leaves is left with lovely yellow branches that give an eerie look through the frost and fogs of winter.

The winter garden brings with it the flowering of many plants including the glorious Hellebore. These beautiful perennials thrive under deciduous trees as they are protected from the summer heat by the trees and as the leaves fall they are exposed to the winter sun where they throw out their clusters of softly coloured flowers to face the sun. There has been an amazing amount of breeding done with these plants in recent times bringing to the gardening world many forms and colours. Both in single and double forms, they come in a wide range of colours from white, through shades of pink and burgundy, to greys and yellow.

Another group of plants that perform very well in the cooler months with their late autumn to winter flowering are the Camellia sasanqua. This group of plants have many uses from screening to espalier and ground covers. The ground cover varieties, Marge Miller and Snow look fabulous in a large pot or as a groundcover hanging over a wall or under and around the base of upright forms of Camellia.

Sasanqua Camellias are an extremely hardy plant and can tolerate full sun and once established lengthy periods of dry conditions. Coming in both single and double forms they have a wide range of colours including white, pink, burgundy and red.

Moving along from plants that make



Camellia sasanqua

our late autumn into winter gardens look great, we shouldn't forget about the general maintenance of the garden. At the writing of this article we urgently need some good soaking rain and it is important to remember that autumn can be very dry in the garden and a close eye should be kept on watering. People often tell me they have not had to water because when they went outside early in the morning that there was dew on the ground and this should keep their plants going. This is completely wrong as this moisture is very soon evaporated by the sun and is not then available to the plants.

Late autumn also brings with it the last opportunity to do some late fertilising of both lawns and gardens to give the plants a last feed before it becomes too cold for them to take up the nutrient. A complete NPK lawn food for lawns will keep them looking nice and green until the frost starts to brown them off. A couple of handfuls of an organic fertiliser around trees and shrubs will also help them through until spring.

Finally the flower and vegetable gardens should be well and truly planted with winter/spring plants. Pansies, viola, primula, wallflower and stocks are just some of the flowers that can go in now. Cabbage, caulie, broad beans, onions and carrots are just a few of the vegetables that could be given a go.

Watch out for cabbage moths as they can do some early damage to cabbages and cauliflowers etc.

Until next time, keep mulching.

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At *The Triangle* we are in the process of refreshing our **Community Notices** page to ensure it is up-to-date and relevant.

Please contact us at the_triangle2@bigpond.com if you still wish to be included. If you don't have email please call 6493 8515.

If we haven't heard from you by 21 May, we may remove your notice.

Guidelines for contributors

Thanks for your local stories and photos! We love them and they make the *Triangle* our very own.

Just a few tips for submitting stories and photos...

1. Stories should be 300 words maximum except by prior arrangement.
2. Photos should be sent as **separate JPG attachments** – **not embedded into your story**. Please send the original digital photo, uncompressed, so we have as large an image as possible to play with. Please include a caption for your photo at the bottom of the article it accompanies.

3. Please do not send posters or flyers! We cannot reproduce them. Instead write a few paragraphs about your event and include the date, time and venue in that. And attach a photo if you have one.

4. Have a think about a headline for your story. Believe us, we're usually quite braindead at the end of our editorial meeting and can only come up with lame puns and cliches. Don't leave it to us!

Any questions at all, please email us the_triangle2@bigpond.com.

Mayor of Murrah Street passes away

'Bessie' Skoutarides died recently at 16 years of age.

Well known as the Mayor of Murrah Street (East) for her 'free range' of the headland neighbourhood and her usual observation post on the nature strip, Bessie was quite an identity in Bermagui. George (Skoutarides) got Bessie as a pup, and although George was a seasoned professional fisherman, Bessie inherited nothing of George's seafaring constitution. Indeed, George tells of the first and last time he took Bessie to sea on the *St Joseph*. She was as sick as ... well, as sick as a dog! Never again to (dis)grace the deck was the mutual agreement between George and Bessie.



Bessie was the first neighbour I met when I inspected the house Chris and I (then new kids in town) were eventually to settle for in 2007. (Yes, that's right, as nearly everyone we met would point out at first meeting, and before any particulars were exchanged, – 'You've bought Edith Blacka's house, haven't you?'. That doesn't happen in the 'big smoke' – we can tell you.) I digress. There was this big black dog with white spotty paws studiously eyeing me off from the nature strip over the road. I went over, she gave me one bark, I gave her one pat, and that started a friendship that only George, as master, could understand.

I soon had the pleasure of taking Bessie for her long walks when George was doing his various commercial fishing consultancies overseas. It was on one of these walks that a stranger sang out to me, 'I see you have the Mayor of Murrah Street with you'.

A cattle dog/red heeler cross, Bessie was very intelligent. She was never a working dog, but had she been I have no doubt that she would have become 'top dog' on the farm. You could look Bessie in the eye and give her any complex instruction just once clearly and she would comply, to the letter, forever after. Her herding instinct was powerful. It was impossible to go for a walk in a group without Bessie continually circling everyone and nudging them closer

together – and if anyone broke away into a run she would sprint around in front, bail them up and give them a right barking-down! Once introduced to our ageing cat, 'Bonnie', Bessie was friend and protector. Always alert, she would shepherd Bonnie off the road and heaven

help any odd dog that dared to hassle Bonnie!

That's not to say Bessie was an angel. Her exploits were legendary: Such as when she mutilated a certain fisherman's prize catch before the obligatory photographs could be arranged; such as stealing other dogs' bones and weekenders' unguarded fish at the nearby units; such as her penchant for occasionally nipping a bike rider; and such as her perpetual dislike of just

two tradesmen's utes with shotgun-riding dogs – even after the dogs had gone!

Bessie had a great nose – and not just for smell. Indeed, I termed her 'Busy Body Bessie'. Nothing out of the ordinary happened in the neighbourhood without a big black nose being poked in! For instance, if visitors called at our house Bessie would materialise from nowhere to be first through the door – as if to say, 'You're new, and I know my way around this place, so just follow me'. Nobody had secrets from her.

Bessie was not your typical slobberer. She had an air of independence and self-assuredness which could be mistaken for aloofness. Actually, she was typically loyal and loving – if you were George's friend, you were Bessie's friend.

Towards the end of her remarkable longevity, the keen senses were gone – virtually blind, deaf and doddering, and appreciative of a knee to lean against. Sad, but loveable to the end and the memories are indelible. And, perhaps not missed as much by some unsuspecting bike riders!

Dave Richard-Preston

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AL-ANON

Bega, Tuesdays 5pm Catholic Church Hall, Gipps St Narooma, Saturdays 11am, Uniting Church Hall, Wagonga St. Ph Dean 0407 302 545

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Bermagui Saturday 2pm, Anglican Church Hall Ph Dave on 6493 5014

ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE

Far South Coast Branch Meetings for 2013 at Club Bega at 10am: 16th April, 18th June, AGM - July, 20th August, 15th October, 17th December, 2013. All enquiries phone 0400 372 609. All welcome.

ANGLICAN PARISH OF COBARGO AND BERMAGUI

Quaama: St Saviour's 3rd Sunday, 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. Every 1st Wednesday of the month 10.00 a.m. Morning Service; Cobargo: Christ Church 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays; 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion. Bermagui: All Saints: Thursdays, 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion; Sundays, 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

BERMAGUI KNOW YOUR BIBLE

A non-denominational ladies Bible study group meets at the Union Church, West Street, at 9.45am every Tuesday. All ladies welcome. Ph Maree Selby 6493 3057 or Lyn Gammage 6493 4960

BERMAGUI BADMINTON CLUB

Bermagui Sports Stadium. Social Badminton - Tuesdays 2 to 4pm, Sundays 10am to 12noon. Contact Heather on 6493 6310. Competition Badminton - Wednesdays 7pm to 9pm

BERMAGUI BAPTIST CHURCH

West Street, Bermagui. Family Service 11.00 a.m. All Welcome.

BERMAGUI COUNTRY CLUB ARTS SOCIETY

Monday: Porcelain Art; Tuesday: Art, Needlework/Quilting; Thurs: Leadlighting/mosaics Fri: Pottery, mosaics. Visitors, new members welcome. 6493 4340

THE BERMAGUI MARKET

Last Sunday of the month. Coordinated by the Bermagui Red Cross. Gary Stevens, 6493 6581

BERMAGUI & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

Needs new members. Those interested please phone Rod Moore on 6493 5068. Meet 1st Thurs. each month at Bermagui Country Club & 3rd Thurs. at Cobargo Hotel at 7.00pm for 7.30pm

BERMAGUI INDOOR BOWLS CLUB

Meets for social bowls in the lower auditorium Bermagui Country Club, Mondays 6:30pm. Ladies and men. Contact Nerida on 6493 4364

BERMAGUI GARDEN GROUP

1st Tuesday Morning every Month 10.00am until 12 noon. Venues vary. For info phone Heather Sobey on 6493 5308

BERMAGUI CROQUET CLUB

Bermagui Country Club, Thursday 2.00-4.00pm. New players always welcome, tuition and friendly games always available, equipment provided. Call Dave, 6493 5014.

BERMAGUI DUNE CARE

Meets on the third Sunday morning of each month Contact: bermaguidunecare@skymesh.com.au

BERMAGUI SES UNIT

No. 1 Bermagui-Tathra Rd. Bermagui. Meetings every Tuesday 6pm. Ph. 6493 4199

BERMAGUI TINY TEDDIES PLAYGROUP

Fridays 10-12 during school term. Newborn, toddlers, all welcome! CWA Hall, Corunna St, Bermagui. Gold coin donation. Lots of toys, other mums and bubs, great for meeting other mums in the area.

BERMAGUI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting First Wednesday of Month, 2.00pm at Museum in Community Centre, Bunga Street. Researchers & helpers welcome. Ph Errol Masterson 6493 4108 or Denise McGlashan 0488 597 967.

BERMAGUI U3A

(University of the Third Age) Lifelong Learning Opportunities For a full list of courses and timetable visit: www.bermagui.u3anet.org.au

BERMAGUI WEIGHTLIFTING CLUB Inc.

Gym room Bermagui Sports Stadium. Facilities for Olympic Style Weightlifting and training with weight for all. Coaching is available. Wednesdays and Sundays 4pm to 6pm. Contact John, 6493 5887

COBARGO GARDENING & FRIENDSHIP CLUB

2nd Monday every month - 12 midday. Venues vary For info phone Robyn Herdegen 6493 8324 or Margaret Portbury 6493 6461.

COBARGO SHOW MEETING

2nd Wednesday every month, 8pm - CWA Rooms. Contact Lynn Parr 6493 6795.

COBARGO PRE-SCHOOL

Tuesday - Friday for 3yo and over. Caring for your child's early education. Chris McKnight, 6493 6660

COBARGO PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Every Monday 10am-12pm (school terms) \$4 per family. Bring a piece of fruit to share for morning tea. All Welcome. Phone 6493 6660 for info.

COBARGO SoA HALL COMMITTEE

Meets quarterly. Hall bookings and inquiries: Sheelagh Brunton 6493 6538

1ST COBARGO SCOUT GROUP

Children 6 - 15yrs wanting to learn new skills, enjoy outdoor activities, have fun. Meetings 6.30pm to 8pm in school term Cobargo Showground dining hall. Contact Graham Parr on 6493 6795

COBARGO TOURIST & BUSINESS ASSN

Meetings 2nd Tuesday of every month at Cobargo Hotel, 6pm. Contact: Narelle Cooper on 6493 6655

COBARGO CWA

CWA Rooms, 2nd Tues of the month, 10.30am. cwa.cobargo@gmail.com. Cottage Hire 6493 6428

COBARGO'S LANEWAY MARKETS

Every Saturday morning from 9am til 1pm. An initiative of Cobargo Creators

COBARGO & DISTRICT RED CROSS

for meeting dates or catering enquiries phone 0488 048 701, 6493 6948 or 6493 6435

MOBILE TOY LIBRARY

& Parenting Resource Service. All parents of chn 0-6 welcome to join. Cobargo - once a month on a Wednesday 1.30pm-2.30pm at CWA cottage, Bermagui - every 2nd Friday 10.30am - 12pm in the Ambulance station. Quaama - Wed. by prior arrangement. Enquiries: 0428 667 924

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

Mon 1.30 - 3.30pm, Thurs. 7.30 - 9.30pm: Cobargo School of Arts Supper Room. Information phone: 6493 6538. cobargohall@gmail.com.

SPIRITUAL FOLK CLUB - CONNECT!

Every 3rd Sunday of the month, 4.30 for 5pm. Open mic for songs, poems, stories, testimonies. Narooma Uniting Church hall behind the church, Princes Hwy. David 4473 7838.

TILBA MARKET

Home grown, Hand made, Grow it, Make it, Sew it, Bake it every Saturday 8am to 12, Central Tilba Hall Stall booking essential, phone Kay on 4473 7231

TILBA VALLEY WINES BRIDGE CLUB

1st Wednesday every month from 2pm. All standards catered for - partners not necessary. Visitors to the area especially welcome. Further details: Peter 4473 7308

QUAAMA / COBARGO QUILTERS

Meets Mondays 10am - 3.30pm in the CWA Cottage, Bermagui Road, Cobargo, and welcomes anyone who does patchwork, quilting, or any other needlework. Lorraine James 6493 7175, Mary Cooke 6493 7320 or Cheryl Turney 6493 6524.

QUAAMA INDEPENDENT RIDERS ASSOC.

Meet 1st Wed. of the month Quaama Rodeo grounds, 7.30pm. All welcome. Ph. Katrina 6492 7138.

QUAAMA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Meets 2nd Monday of the month, 7pm, at Quaama School of Arts Hall to plan Quaama community events and projects. Membership \$5pa. New members and non-members always welcome. Enquiries: Veronica Abbott 0437 263 128. See www.quaama.org.au

MT DROMEDARY UNITING CHURCH

Bermagui: Sundays 9am at the Union Church, West St. Bermagui, Cobargo: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays at 11am; 4th Sausage sizzla at 7pm & praise night at 6pm, Cobargo Bermagui Rd. Minister Rev. D. Oliphant. Ring Col: 6493 6531 Churches also at Narooma and Bodalla

MYSTERY BAY COAST CARE

Contact: Christina Potts 4473 7053 Meet: 9.30-12.30 3rd Sat Month @ swings. All Welcome.

LIFE DRAWING SESSIONS

Cobargo SofA Hall every second Sunday. Set up, 1.45pm. Drawing, 2-4pm. Naomi 6493 7307.

DIGNAMS CREEK COMMUNITY GROUP

Meets randomly. For info phone Shannon Russack, Pres. 6493 6512 or Merryn Carey, Sec. 6493 6747.

OPEN SANCTUARY@TILBA

Gatherings at Holy Trinity Church Tilba Tilba on the 2nd and 4th Saturday evening of each month at 5pm. Music, meditation and shared reflections, supper afterwards so please bring a plate if able. Meditation group meets every Wed at 10 am. Inq: Rev Linda Chapman 0422 273 021.

NAROOMA & DISTRICTS CAMERA CLUB

Meetings at Anglican Church Hall, Narooma, 7pm; 1st Tuesdays Technical Workshops, 3rd Tuesdays regular club nights. Whether beginner or pro, come and experience the joy of photography in a friendly atmosphere. Dave Cotton 6493 5014.

HEART TO HEART

2nd & 4th Saturday of month from 12:30 to 3.00pm at 2a Brighton Park Road, Beauty Point. Discuss the Ageless Wisdoms of Alice A. Bailey teachings. Phone: Christine on 4476 8732 or Lorraine on 6493 3061

NAROOMA BLUE WATER DRAGONS

A community focused Dragon Boat Club, Now paddling on the Wagonga Inlet, Narooma. For information contact Peter or Kathryn Essex on 4476 3952 or email narooma.bwd@gmail.com

WALLAGA LAKE/BERMAGUI MEN'S SHED

Meets every Thursday from 10am at Umbarra Cultural Centre, Akolele. All men are welcome. For information ring John "Robbo" Robinson on 6493 4357 or Fergus McWhirter on 6493 4360.

THE YUIN FOLK CLUB

Folk Night Evenings, visiting performers, usually first Friday in month (please check first.) For more info, ph Secretary, Coral Vorbach 6493 6758

Community Notices are advertised in *The Triangle* for non-profit groups free of charge. If details of your group change, please advise us at the_triangle2@bigpond.com

For the Fridge Door

APRIL	EVENT	WHERE	TIME
Wed 2	social bridge	Tilba Valley Winery	from 2pm
Sun 6	Josh Rawiri	Bermagui Beach Hotel	4pm
	Mettaphor	Tilba Valley Winery	12.30pm
Fri 11	Darryl Lamb	Bermagui Country Club	7.30pm
Sat 12	family dance afternoon	Cobargo Hotel	from 3pm
Sun 13	blacksmithing demonstration	Galba Forge, 345 Yowrie Rd, Wandella	1pm - 5pm
	monster raffle	Bermagui Country Club	from 1pm
	Ricky Bloomfield	Bermagui Beach Hotel	4pm
Fri 18	Jay Podger	Bermagui Country Club	7.30pm
Sat 19	Partycrashers	Cobargo Hotel	7.30pm
	Three on a Tree	Bermagui Beach Hotel	7.30pm
	Mewstone Rock	Bermagui Country Club	7.30pm
Sun 20	Mike Ward	Tilba Valley Winery	12.30pm
	Trevor Best	Bermagui Beach Hotel	4pm
Fri 25	Cobargo ANZAC march	School of Arts Hall, Cobargo	from 10.30am
	Quaama ANZAC service	Quaama memorial	9.30am
	Tilba ANZAC march, service and memorabilia display in small hall	Cenotaph, Tilba	march from 10.45am, service 11.00am
	Bermagui ANZAC dawn service, march, memorial service	Bermagui memorial for march assemble outside supermarket	dawn service 6.00am, march 10.45, memorial service 11.00am
	ANZAC day 2 up	Bermagui Beach Hotel	till 6pm
	Ray Stephens	Bermagui Country Club	7.30pm
Sat 26	Quaama Harvest Fair	Quaama School of Arts Hall	9am - 2pm
	Beautifully Mad	Tilba Valley Winery	7.30pm
Sun 27	Wayne Trezise	Bermagui Beach Hotel	4pm
MAY			
Wed 7	social bridge	Tilba Valley Winery	from 2pm
Sat 10	horse and gear sale, parade, entertainment	Cobargo showgrounds	from 10.30am
REGULARS			
Mondays	Quaama/Cobargo Quilters	CWA Cottage Cobargo	10am - 3.30pm
	BINGO	Bermagui Country Club	10.30am
Tuesdays	Dance and Move women only	Quaama Hall	10am - 11am
first Tues of the month	Bermagui Garden Group	venues vary phone Heather 6493 5308	10am - 12 noon
Wednesdays	Scrabble	Well Thumbed Books Cobargo	10am
	pool comp	Bermagui Country Club	from 7.30pm
last Wed of the month	Bermagui Historical Society Meeting	Bermagui Museum in Community Centre	2pm
every second Thursday	Senior's Pick the Numbers	Cobargo Hotel	from 11am
Fridays	Meat Raffles	Cobargo Hotel	from 5pm
	pool comp	Bermagui Country Club	from 7.30pm
	Tiny Teddies Play Group	CWA Hall Bermagui	10am - 12pm
Saturdays	Punters Pick	Cobargo Hotel	from 5pm
	live band or DJ	Bermagui Country Club	8pm
	under 16s art classes	behind Cobargo Supermarket	10 -11am
ART			
Fri 4 - Mon 28	Veronica O'Leary and Jackie Lallemand exhibit	Ivy Hill Gallery, 1795 Bermagui Rd, Wapengo	10am - 5pm Fri - Mon

Email your events with date, time and venue to the_triangle2@bigpond.com by the 22nd of the month