



From left: Djinama Yilaga Choir members Michelle Davison, Maria Walker, Cheryl Davison, Iris White, Requia Campbell and Tamsin Davison

Koori choir gifts original fire song to Indigenous children of Bermagui

The Four Winds 'Djinama Yilaga' Koori Choir has gifted their newly created song, *Ganbi!*, to the Indigenous children of Bermagui Public School.

'This is a very special gift', said Cheryl Davison, Four Winds Aboriginal Creative Producer. 'The Choir has worked very hard to revitalise our language through song. Language is a very important part of a culture – it helps its people define themselves and describe their world. To rediscover it, to use it and to sing it has been a very emotional journey for us.'

Beautiful songs have been created with the support of acclaimed Indigenous singer-songwriter, Dr Lou Bennett AM, the newly-created Dhurga dictionary compiled by Trish Ellis, and the dedication of Yuin community choir members. Dr Bennett is currently undertaking a research project on the use of song composition as a process for returning language to community.

The coming together of the choir with Dr Bennett's work has been one of great mutual benefit. 'This is what Aboriginal people have always done – they have recounted the stories of life through song and sung them together, and it has kept them strong in culture. To be able to return a language to our people, in this case across four generations, is so promising for the future of our languages,' she said.

'Ganbi' means 'fire' in Dhurga. The song calls to all family, even family in nature – country, trees, birds and animals – to be vigilant and look out for approaching fire. 'Aboriginal people view animals, plants and rocks as family; they are our brothers

and sisters. This song reflects our concerns when the January 2020 fires approached. Our concern was not only for ourselves and our property, it was for our family, for nature, for those things we are responsible for caretaking for the future generations,' explained Cheryl. Like all good songwriters, Djinama Yilaga hope their songs will move audiences because of the significance of how, when and why they were created.

Four Winds will provide singing tutor, Robyn Martin, to help the Indigenous students at Bermagui Public School become familiar with the song before they, in turn, gift it to the broader school community. Although COVID has put a hold on the process, the school is eagerly awaiting for restrictions to ease before continuing on this journey. 'This is a really significant event happening at our school,' said Principal Brendan Constable. 'It's wonderful to see our Indigenous students empowered with one of the Yuin languages. We value revitalising languages.'

'Our School Learning Support officer, Gordon Campbell, has recently introduced a program of teaching Dhurga to all our students and staff. Having our Indigenous children be gifted this song and then pass it to the other students is a great thing for all children to see in their peers. Our Indigenous children, with the support of the school and Four Winds, relish the responsibility in keeping their culture strong. It's great for our school community to see them so proud to teach others.'

The Four Winds team

It must be spring – there's certainly new and creative energy around the place. Alone-time is nurturing deep thought and generative expression. Maybe the multiple new spaces in our lives are magnets for inspiration to reboot of aspects of our lives.

For many, this year is one of the most challenging, chaotic and confusing ever. The 'six month trauma slump' shows in a visceral weariness – yes, we are going forward, but it's difficult. The changing environmental, climatic, economic and now social conditions ensure no return to 'normal' – and in the space the new emerges with a plethora of learnings, suggestions and visions. The resilient bounce-back of our artists reflects the resilience of our community.

Letters to the editors

Wrong questions!

It concerns me that responses to 'motherhood' questions included in a 'community survey' recently undertaken by a special-interest group (the Cobargo Quaama Business Recovery Group), which is developing a 'rebuild masterplan for Cobargo' may, at some future time, be used to support suggestions by this group that, in reality, are not widely supported by the local community.

To start, their questions relate to the 'main street'. If a 'Cobargo Rebuild' plan is being developed, it surely should encompass the whole town. For example, if any significant building is to occur in the town, perhaps the unique, presently-available opportunity should be taken to move the town's 'main business street' away from a severely traffic-affected highway – with the focus of any (re) building being to the east of the highway. That sort of community discussion needs to be had before questions are asked about whether the 'historical character of the main street' should be retained or whether trees and landscaping should be included in any masterplan.

Surely decisions to rebuild on sites on Cobargo's (current) main street are the land-owners' prerogatives (and should be funded by them, not the public). What they ultimately construct will be determined by commercial demand for their structures, and this will then determine how the streetscape develops. Decisions to provide drive-through outlets such as fast-food outlets, service stations and tyre supply businesses, as an extreme example, will

Popping up like mushrooms are re-invented businesses, particularly for food options; community building projects; themed photographic displays (the prize is simply exposure); suggestions for open-sensed walks in local beauty; community gardens; writing competitions; supportive Building Angels; and re-visioning forums. The common ground is care of the whole, encouragement of each, sharing the providence.

The song gift of the 'Djinama Yilaga' Koori Choir, ringing through its country, calls to nature in the Durga language and reminds us of the human responsibility of caretaking for the land and future generations. We are a community in transition with the essential qualities ever-present.

demand a totally different streetscape than would a faux-history 'reconstruction' of a tourist-oriented town.

I would now like to see much more discussion about what role Cobargo township might be expected to play in the future, and exactly who it is likely to serve, before any further consideration is given to comparatively-trivial things such as main street streetscaping.

Peter Lacey
Quaama

To open, or not to open?

The article in the August Triangle, 'What will it take to save our lake?' raises some interesting points about Wallaga Lake.

Wallaga Lake is an ICOLL – one of many Intermittently Closed and Open Lakes and Lagoons along our coast. As the name suggests, it is natural for the Lake to close, usually during periods of low rainfall or drought. Waves, tides and wind also influence the closure of lake mouths. Records from 1993 to 2015 indicate Wallaga Lake is closed for 39% of the time and open for 61% with closed conditions ranging from nine days up to 810 days, but typically in the order of several months.

Closure only becomes a problem when human structures are affected by rising water levels. As the ICOLL Entrance Management Policies - Review of Environmental Factors states, entrance management (artificial opening) is required 'for the sole purpose of reducing the impacts of flooding on private and public assets' (page 55). In the past, humans have unwittingly built on and used flood-

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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 area bounded by the three mountains (Gulaga, Mumbulla and Peak Alone). The committee comprises volunteers who donate their time and expertise for the benefit of our readers.

The Triangle is financially self-sufficient through advertising income. 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 1600 in print plus online visits.

prone land with no consideration for the natural environment and with little or no understanding of ecological processes.

The Entrance Management Policies have been devised in accordance with a myriad of State and Federal legislation, including Crown Lands, Fisheries and Threatened Species.

The trigger levels which determine when artificial openings can occur are set to maximise scouring of the opening while minimising impacts on infrastructure. Too low and the scouring will not be sufficient to keep the lake mouth open for long. For Wallaga Lake, the level is between 1.1 and 1.25.

The Manly Hydraulics Laboratory Automatic Water Level Monitoring on July 28 shows Wallaga Lake opened at a height of 1.54 which should give longer term opening, dependent on weather and wave action over coming months.

The rules were not 'set years ago' as said in the article. Both the Wallaga Lake Entrance Management Policy and the Review of Environmental Factors were finalised in late 2016.

There is no evidence 'the lake is sick'. Water quality monitoring has been undertaken, and recent studies indicate there is no cause for concern. The algae growth is natural and due to the severe drought experienced over recent years.

There are many Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs) in and around Wallaga Lake requiring periodic inundation which occurs when the Lake mouth is closed. These are Coastal Saltmarsh, Freshwater Wetlands on Coastal Floodplains, Bangalay Sand Forest, Estuarine Creekflat Scrub, Lowland Grassy Woodland, Far South Coast Dry Rainforest, Swamp Oak Floodplain Forest, Littoral Rainforest, River Flat Eucalypt Forest and Southern Floodplain Wetlands. Due to historical regular openings at low levels, some EECs have been adversely affected. The Entrance Management Policy aims to minimise the impacts on ecological processes. Some other factors taken into account are the impact on endangered shorebirds, climate change and sea level.

The Review of Environmental Factors is an interesting read. This information is available on Bega Valley Shire Council's website, www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au under Environment – Environment and Health - Coastal Zone Management - Entrance Management Policies. Cuttagee Lake's Entrance Management Policy can also be found there.

Information about ICOLLs, including the role of fisheries, is available at the Department of Primary Industries website www.dpi.nsw.gov.au, under Fisheries -

Habitat Management - Aquatic habitats - Wetland habitats - Coastal wetlands - Management of coastal lakes and lagoons NSW.

The article seemed to advocate for more artificial openings at lower water levels. Hopefully the information above shows such action would be detrimental to the health of the Lake and its ecosystems.

*Karen Joynes
Bermagui*

Social distancing? Or physical distancing?

To look after both ourselves and each other in our current reality, we need to be physically distancing, yet stay socially connected.

The COVID-19 virus doesn't care about the quality of my connection with you. It just needs a warm body with the right cell receptors to latch onto, so it can thrive and spread. It's up to us to keep our social connections alive, meaningful and supportive. Especially during a year like 2020 – after the bushfires we've all become keenly aware of how delicate our mental health can be, and how important it is to safeguard it.

So the new 'Covid Burkha' comes with its own set of issues. When we cover such an expressive part of our face, it can be harder for others to read our mood. I will surely miss seeing the lovely, slow spread of my favourite cashier's smile, her dimples popping as she passes me the goods. All those little signals that make a momentary connection, that say, 'We're all in this together', become more nebulous.

While it may feel harder to connect with someone when you're wearing a mask, a simple wave or a 'Heya' can go a long way.

In some ways we're like awkward adolescents adapting to these new practices. Some take a rebellious stance against them, some doggedly adhere to the letter, still others watch to see what friends do first before changing their habits. Surely we're doing the best we can, learning together.

How we engage and interpret these new practices – hand washing, wearing masks and physically distancing – is worthy of compassionate and clear conversations. It can either accentuate a sense of isolation and uncertainty, or it can communicate that 'I'm wearing this mask because I care about you, and I care about me. This is my brand of Love-in-Action today.'

The bushfires brought home to us how inextricably interdependent we are with our environment. This pandemic is showing us how interdependent we are with each other. We need to keep making the shift in

attitudes and behaviours, from:

'I need to protect and guard me and mine', to 'Let's take care of all of us, which naturally includes taking care of me.'

That practice is one that just might save our species.

*Madhuma Thompson
Bermagui*

Photo wanted

The Cobargo War Memorial was unveiled by the Australian Governor-General, Sir Isaac Isaacs, on 16 November 1935 – a most unusual undertaking by Australia's Head of State in a tiny country town.

No photograph of this ceremony can now be found, but one may have survived and be hidden among family papers somewhere in the area. Do you have this 'lost' historic gem, or do you know where it can be found?

*Peter Lacey
Quaama*

Think or drink

I remember when we heard that we might have to go into lockdown for six weeks. 'Oh no, how will we manage!' It's now six months later and 'lockdown' is almost becoming normal. But now we're slowly emerging, taking cautious steps – but ready to go back in at a moment's notice. Some already have – the Aberdonians, who couldn't resist the traditional pub crawl, back in again ...

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon warned us that coming out would be far harder than going in and she was right, as usual. Female leaders seem to be doing very well in this pandemic. I wonder why that is? Even a friend who didn't vote for Scottish independence said that Nicola really seems to care about people and not money. She isn't even talking about independence anymore, which strangely has made her popularity surge.

We have a choice to make soon though, Nicola said. It's either 'think' or 'drink'. The pubs and restaurants have opened up with social distancing and now the schools have opened too, but with cases on the rise again it's going to be one or the other. I must admit that some of my most valuable life lessons, the ones that really made me think, came from the pub ... but I guess my vote will go to the schools. Having children at home for six months has raised respect for teachers, and kids are actually saying they want to go to school, so I guess you should make hay while the sun shines. When the schools go on holiday the pubs and restaurants could open again, if they still exist. Hard choices, hard times.

*Sarah Breakey
Edinburgh*

Community Notices

In recognition that meetings are not happening at the moment – at least, not in the ways they used to – we're placing 'Community Notices', the inside back page, in storage for the time being.

Let's hope we can bring it back soon. Before we do, we'll be contacting all groups to make sure that details – contact names and numbers, meeting times and places – are still correct.

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 a large image to work with. Please include a caption for your photo at the bottom of the article it accompanies.
3. Send all articles as **WORD** or **other TEXT** documents.
4. Please do not send posters or flyers! 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.
5. Think about a headline for your story. Please don't leave it to us!
6. Deadline is midday on the **22nd of the month**. Any questions at all, please email contributions@thetriangle.org.au

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Every Friday

He is old, fat and weather-beaten. His knees are strapped and he cannot bend. His clothing is tattered, nondescript and likely rejected from the local Saint Vincent de Paul shop.

Every Friday he is there. On the corner. In this quaint town where almost everyone else is travelling through to the coast or to the capital city.

He sits amongst his produce, on that same corner every Friday, as reliable as the chill wind turns up collars. Buckets of rocket peppery on the tongue, bunched red radishes like baubles for a bush Christmas tree, cauliflowers fat and white sit brain-like on the table and spinach, promising boring goodness and health, fill dirty white buckets.

All the produce is marked with earth as testimony to the morning harvest in a manner that would take an organic Sydney grocer hours to apply with a brush.

His health and decline over the years is in marked contrast to the produce he sells bursting with vitality. Every Friday I have the same thought. Will I end up looking like this bloke if I keep buying his fruit and veg?

Every Friday I have to bend to get the rocket from the bucket as his knees are crook.

And then every Friday I wait.

And wait.

He finishes the conversation with the old woman in front of me a number of times. They say goodbye a number of times and then they say 'hang on' a number of times and only then, like a very slow barn dance, he turns for my patronage.

Thankfully, we don't know each other well enough to chat yet, so the transaction is conducted on a reduced dose of Mogadon.

But still he fumbles around in his pocket for his mobile phone for the EFTPOS app. He adjusts his glasses. He gets out a pen and paper to add up the bill which is pointless anyway because he always says, 'What do you reckon? ... Ahhh ... just make it ten dollars.'

I give him my card. He turns it around, simultaneously trying to punch the amount into the mobile phone. He usually drops either the card or the mobile phone and we start again.

Every Friday.

'Bloody good these things, eh?' and we both look at his phone. 'Makes things quick, eh?'

Every bloody Friday.

John Longhurst

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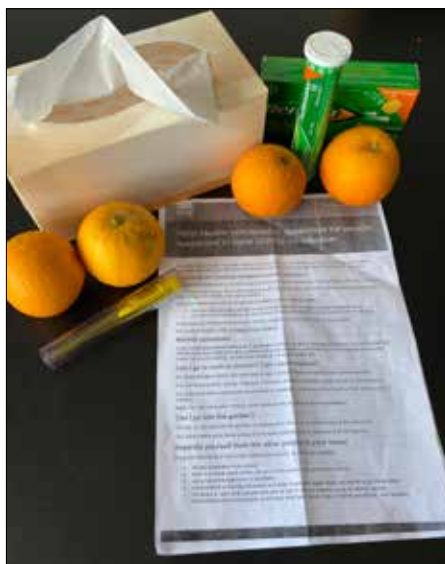
The COVID-19 test – my positive experience (and negative result!)

Early in August, I woke up with a very sore throat. I was instantly on alert – and, dare I say, alarmed! I've limited my socialising to a very small cohort; my hands have never been so clean, so often; I had the flu shot this year for the first time ever. And I'm one of the seemingly few who are wearing a mask in the supermarket. However, here I was with a very sore throat. I decided I should get a Covid Test, ASAP.

At the time of writing this article, Premier Gladys Berejiklian is asking people to take a COVID-19 test if they experience any of the following symptoms – cough, fever, sore throat, runny nose, loss of the sense of smell or taste, headache, aches and pains, or less common symptoms like diarrhoea, nausea or vomiting, or even just fatigue. It's a long list. She could just say, 'If you feel at all unwell, maybe you should

take a test!' What's surprising – and disappointing – is that the testing rates during August in NSW were at a new low – at just the time that there was a rise in positive cases. The best community defence, apparently, is not just to social distance, wash your hands, cover your coughs and sneezes and wear a mask (especially in public transport or in confined spaces with other people), but also to get tested if you have any symptoms!

My son, who lives interstate, took a test back in March and told me how awful it had been. Oh well, 'no pain no gain', I thought. The local medical centre asked a few questions about my symptoms and booked me into the test clinic behind the Narooma Lighthouse Surgery the following day. I was told to bring my own mask if I had one (yes) and was sent an email registration form to complete online beforehand. I imagine a paper copy could be arranged if you prefer.



What's all the fuss? Just do it.

I drove into the carpark and parked in the allocated space near the white tent. I rang the receptionist and soon the doctor came out, in full PPE attire, and waved me into the tent. Mask on ... sanitise hands at the door ... and into a very well-ventilated consulting room. Quick questions asked and then time for the dreaded swab!

Tilt head back and the swab was in and out of the back of my throat before I even noticed. What, no discomfort? No gagging? Then the same swab was popped up into both nostrils, which tickled a bit, and brought on a sneeze (into my elbow). Nothing at all painful, really. And over in around ten seconds. So, what a needless fuss is being made about it!

I could expect the test results via text within 48 hours, during which time I was to isolate myself completely. And in just over

24 hours, I was a NEGATIVE! Just a cold or something like an allergy, but at least I knew! It cost me nothing but my time.

I would have no hesitation is taking another test. If we're all in this together, taking a COVID-19 test is part of being on the team we call Australia. In the words of the sports brand we all know, JUST DO IT!

Ann Maree Menager

PS the latest from Dr Gundi, on 22 August: 'I've just checked off a lot of swab results, all negative. Many people are apologetic because they've "only got a cold". We would rather swab too many people than miss the one positive, so please come and get tested anyway! But no news ... which is great news! And some of the masks people are making are beautiful – it's wonderful to see how quickly a new fashion trend has evolved'.

A Shout-out

I'd like to give a big shout-out to all of the unsung heroes in our communities.

To those who have helped collect donated items and bring them down for our communities to access.

To those who deliver goodies when you can't collect them yourself.

To those who offer to help and expect nothing in return.

To those that pop in to help build walls when the previous ones went up in smoke.

To those that help break down the emotional walls that you didn't think were there.

To those who make sure their neighbours are on lists so they don't get forgotten.

To those who have helped fill in forms when you can't deal with it alone.

To those who drive people around because vehicles are no longer available.

To those that supply meals when the

thought of food is just not there.

To those that drop in for a chat when it's miles out of their way.

To those who have listened when you thought no one would.

To those that would give a hug or a hand shake and expect nothing in return.

When a little goes go a long way, I thank you.

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Let's make the most of our three traumas

To recover from forces of nature like drought, fire and flood we need human closeness. To live with pandemics we need to distance ourselves from others and wear masks – which conflict with hugs and smiles. To live, despite climate change and biocide, we need to alter the ways we are living so that life on Earth can become viable for our children, with the balance of nature restored.

There is hard thinking to be done by all of us. The nature of work will alter in many cases as we become smarter.

People farming animals will need to be conscious of methane and regeneration. Monoculture damages biodiversity. Ocean fish may disappear as water quality gets worse. Mining is destructive of our planet. Some manufacturing poisons the air we all breathe. Spraying crops and gardens kills our insects, and the birds, lizards and frogs that feed on them.

How can we stop using water so extravagantly? Can

we stop eating comfort foods (mostly sugar and chemicals) and eat nutritiously (and risk being healthy)? How can we stop supporting practices that are making extinction probable?

Isolation gives us a chance to re-assess reality, to alter the direction we've been heading in.

Our outer and inner selves are complemented by our spiritual self. Through meditation we loosen the emotional hold the past, like post-trauma stress, has on our hearts, minds and bodies. We can all become capable of being here now.

When we leave trauma behind and move past decisions that we limit ourselves with, we achieve greater health, our hearts lighten up, and we become happier. Becoming more authentic is an interesting and joyful process.

Healthy, aware people being pro-active can lessen the looming trauma. Worth a try!

Maggie Camfield

The Triangle Haiku Challenge

The Triangle had an online Haiku Challenge in August. These are some of the wonderful entries.

Lynn Lawson:

How to train your cat:
Let it know who's boss, and then
Do the things it wants.

Fire and plague, now rain
2020's down the drain
Can we restart, please?

Jen Severn:

Seen at Quaama Store:
Grinning farmer has exchanged
Blundstones for gumboots.

Tony King:

Jesus opening
caught behind at thirty three
second innings hopes

A black cockatoo
The squeaky wheel in the sky
Cuts the peace in half

Endangered haiku
How long is our attention?
Is it good bye ku?

Gravity turned off
Even then it did not stop
The descent of man

Kai Jensen:

Rain and then more rain:
see the trees remembering
what it's like to drink!

Glenda Morgan:

Cloud reigns on my dam
Ah Water hens flash their tails
Iridescent blue

Three black cockatoos
Red of cheek pierce the sunlight
Shadows of plain rain

Rachel Colombo:

Corellas roosting ...
fluttering white prayer flags
bound to burnt branches

Dean Turner:

A Wonga pigeon
Car alarm bird of the bush
Can't give a hi coo

Don Firth:

First we had the fires
Then we had the pandemic
now we've flooding rains

Sarah Breakey:

Can't find the zoom link
mask wearing is so stifling
Time to make coffee



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After the weirdness ... the way we want to be

For many, if not most, the last year has been the strangest ever. And it won't go back to 'normal'. Changing environmental and climatic conditions, not to mention economic conditions, will change everything about the way we live, work and play.

So where do we go from here? Sit and await our fate? Search backwards for a mythical past? Or recognise that one of the few opportunities of this terrible time is to remake a society that is sustainable, fairer and kinder, and gives decent opportunities for our youngsters to lead fulfilling lives.

There's an absence of vision in society. Politics is a low-grade game played out for short-term gains and rewards for the few. Our politicians have forgotten to dream. Some of our Cobargo residents expressed their disgust eloquently during the fires. Thanks to them (at least in part) the Federal and State governments realised they had to lift their game during the next crisis: COVID-19. But already they're starting to drift back to tax cuts for the richest, while cutting back again on JobSearch allowances.

Let's help them return to the main game – the society we want to live in.

I'm going to put down some ideas. You're welcome to join in with your own contributions (email contributions@thetriangle.org.au). Depending on the response, we'll find a way to present this to our MPs, media and parliament and report their response back to Triangle readers.

Environment

This is the era of environmental rehabilitation. There's a global need to rehabilitate environments, from the marine and estuarine to rainforests, deserts and everything in between, a vast enterprise for environmental services. Australia could produce more income from environmental rehabilitation than resource exploitation, and provide benefits to the global community. There could be a marine science institute based in Eden; with rehabilitation the ocean can provide two or three times what it does now.

Agricultural sustainability – every

crop must be sustainable, unless it's required for national self-sufficiency. For example, too much scarce water is used for exported rice and cotton. Stop the exports.

The emphasis should shift to rehabilitation of agricultural land. A national service program could be used to reduce soil erosion and loss, to remove weeds and feral animals – generating income from work that benefits everyone.

Fishing

Stop all commercial fishing within three kilometres of the coast and on all lakes and rivers (except for aquaculture).

Self-sufficiency

Australia doesn't make nails or screws. We no longer make the boots the Army wears. This is absurd. Factories for our fundamental self-sufficiency should be established in regional areas – hundreds of thousands of jobs, decentralising opportunities and incomes.

Youth

Although school is better than it was, too many children, particularly Indigenous and migrant kids, are square pegs being forced into round holes. Essentially, these lives are limited before they get a chance to grow into what they can be, often leading to crime.

These kids could be directed into some kind of voluntary national service if they start to go off the rails. They could learn basic life skills such as the benefits of exercise, managing money, self-sufficiency skills such as gardening and basic construction, creative skills such as painting and writing, small business operation. We should search out the interests and capabilities of each individual, and do everything to find the positive – give everyone the capacity to contribute to society. This won't be cheap but it will be better than paying for people to spend their life in gaol or worse.

It also makes sense for young people to be given a substantial sum of money, say \$250,000, early in their life to start a business, buy a home, or get an education. Spend the money now when they are young, when they are starting families, when it will do the most good, rather than wait until people are in their 50s and get kicked out of the workforce without a home, forced to survive on a crust until they are seventy, when they may receive a small aged pension.

Consumerism

As a society we buy too much junk. This is at the heart of our environmental issues globally. Why is there so much pollution? Why are the forests being cut down? Why are our garbage dumps overflowing? Too much stuff, demand-driven by advertising – a tax deduction, so it costs Hardly Normal nothing to entice people to buy more. Remove advertising as a tax deduction and start the process of reducing junk we don't need.

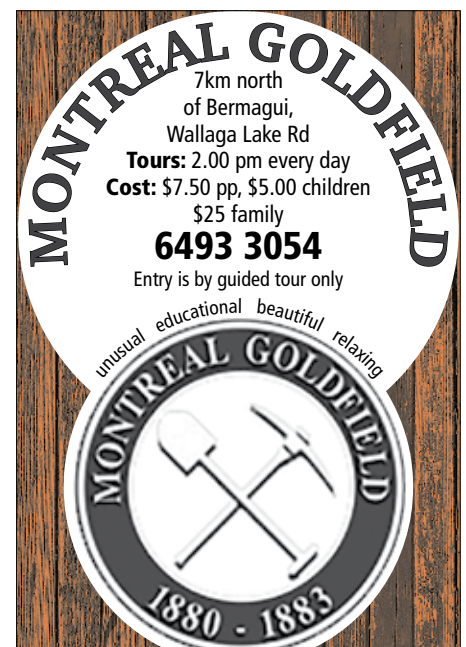
Taxation

Re-introduce death taxes on large inheritances. This will help each generation make their own way, moving society towards greater fairness. The tax generated can be used to help young people from poorer backgrounds get a better start.

I can think of a hundred things that can be changed to improve our lives and I'm sure you can too. Please send your thoughts to contributions@thetriangle.org.au.

If we don't tell the politicians what we want, we can't complain if we finish up with what they want.

Keith Bashford



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Springtime is the season of growth and renewal and has been given a big boost by excellent rain in August. Those of us fortunate enough to live in the Triangle area can easily take advantage of the natural world that surrounds us, even though the devastation of summer is still painful and real.

The effects of the past summer and the constant requirements to be COVID-aware are raw and demanding. As the joys of spring show themselves in flourishing gardens and active birdlife, enhanced by the rain, let's all remember that many are still recovering from the summer fires. A smile and a g'day go a long way to keep our community connected and supporting each other.

Community has their say

The 'Back to the Future' community planning forum was held on Saturday, 15 August in the Big Hall at Central Tilba. Originating from the Tilba District Chamber of Commerce's excellent submission to the NSW Bushfire Enquiry (see www.visittilba.com.au/post/back-to-the-future), and subsequently organised by the Tilba District Community Bushfire Protection Committee, the forum is an integral part of a process to reflect on the summer bushfires and develop a brief to direct fire preparation and protection works in the Tilba District.

All who participated found the forum very useful, well organised and well run. Diverse communities like Tilba District often have a wide range of skills, experience and knowledge – 2020 has certainly shown this, so it was no surprise to find a skilled facilitator – enter Phil Shorten. Phil and the Committee put together a program which started from the premise of 'What should we be doing as a community and what should agencies be doing?' Background information, drawn from the Chamber submission to the Bushfire Enquiry along

with other relevant information, was outlined on display boards.

The broad issues in focus for the forum were water supply and infrastructure; fuel loads and hazard reduction; historic villages, farms and other properties; communication and infrastructure; and power infrastructure. Participants were asked to develop the brief in the form of guidelines to inform the infrastructure works and hazard reduction activities to be undertaken by relevant agencies.

These guidelines will inform the design of solutions by the relevant agencies as they grapple with regulations and the creative tension between the need for hazard reduction and the values we all share around protecting the ecology and cultural heritage (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) of this district.

The workshop content, commentary and key participant contributions in the form of their opinions on what worked or didn't work last bushfire season has now been written up as a visual record. This document provides a transparent record of the planning forum proceedings



Participants reflecting and recording their experiences and ideas.

and will serve as an executive brief for the Tilba District Community Bushfire Protection Committee. The document will be available to participants and the wider community shortly. Members of the Tilba District Community Bushfire Protection Committee planned to meet with NSWRFs and relevant agencies on 26 August to share the community's concerns and discuss bushfire protection planning for Tilba District.

Congratulations to all involved for developing and implementing this excellent community participation. There was a lot of thought and hard work put in and this will continue as the Tilba District Community Bushfire Protection Committee follows through and advocates for the best possible outcomes for the Tilba District.

Mungala Bugaali Gallery Opening

The beguiling name for this new venture by local Walbanga/Ngarigo artist, Cheryl Davison, means Cloud Possum in the local Dhurga language – and



Cheryl Davison opens her 'small, exquisite' Mungala Bugaali Gallery this month.

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establishes an appropriate connection with Gulaga. Opening on 17 September, to coincide with the River of Arts Festival (18 to 27 September), this small, exquisite gallery is located in the old dining room of the Tilba Teapot Cafe. While the main focus will be an outlet for Cheryl's popular cards and prints, it will also showcase her other creative skills in fabric design, screen-printing and jewellery-making. The gallery will have a range of these handmade products available, made in collaboration with Tulgeen's Stitches and Prints social enterprise and other local artists thus supporting local artistic endeavours. There will also be books from Indigenous publishing house Magabala Books as well as a range of herbal teas based on traditional herbs.

For Cheryl, the creation and opening of this special gallery feels like the culmination of years of work. She's excited that it's an opportunity for self-determination, expressing her love of creating, family involvement and as a role model for her community. Best wishes to Cheryl – we can't wait to welcome this important addition to Central Tilba.

Chamber News

Well done to the Chamber, whose President, Peter Lonergan, with the assistance of Eurobodalla Shire Council, submitted an application for a Bushfire Recovery Grant and was successful in securing \$30,000 towards running the next Tilba Easter Festival. This is a first for the Festival, which has never received external funding in its 35 years of operation. The Festival has always been self-funded, voluntarily operated and has returned many, many thousands of dollars to local community organisations.

The Chamber has had a busy time with its key role in organising the community forum. In addition, Eurobodalla Shire Council's new Tourism and Events Manager, Tim Booth, attended the last meeting to discuss digital marketing opportunities. Through Council's tourism website, www.eurobodalla.com.au, businesses can gain access to two promotional digital campaigns – 36 postcards and specific itineraries, eg Kids, Walks, Food, Beach, whereby messages and information can be sent to individuals and groups. Tim indicated that information about how to participate will be provided to the Chamber. It's worth noting that the Chamber has a very active Facebook page – Visit Tilba.

A particular focus of the Chamber is visitor amenities. Ernst & Young has chosen shelters for the picnic tables outside the ABC Cheese Factory as an appropriate project to help support Central Tilba in the wake of the recent bushfires. Quotes are currently being sought and the Chamber will be contributing \$8000, donated some years ago by the Tilba Festival.

Central Tilba Little Big School

I'm always impressed with what this little school gets up to. In mid-August the Stage 2 students (years 3 and 4) went on a field trip to the Bournda Environmental Education Centre. This centre is a Department of Education school located within Bournda National Park, a superb natural setting ideally suited for the delivery of environmental education and sustainability programs across a range of key learning areas. These programs are important in providing students with the interests, skills and knowledge to live in an environmentally aware and sustainable way.



Nash and other Stage 2 students visited Bournda Environmental Education Centre last month.

Stage 3 students (years 5 and 6) are currently engrossed in making a film for the upcoming River of Arts Festival. Working in collaboration with Narooma local and highly regarded drama teacher Amy Spurgeon, the students are involved in the whole process, from planning to production. The theme for the festival is 'Resilience' in response to the hardships that the Shire has faced this year. The film is called 'Images of Resilient Youth' and details will be on the River of Arts Festival

Program in the Arts on Parade section. Keep an eye out.

Tilba nibbles

In August, 2019, my records show no rainfall – how different was this August! One of the surprising aspects of the rainfall this year is how long it has taken for the creeks and natural waterways to run – they are certainly running now, which has meant that Tilba Tilba could come off water restrictions. And farm dams are full to the brim. Perhaps best of all is the opening of the coastal lakes – Corunna, Tilba Tilba, Little Lake and Wallaga. All will benefit from a good flush, which in turn will improve their health – although some of the recent plantings in the riparian zone at Tilba Tilba Lake may have been lost.

Great to see that *The Triangle* now has a companion newsletter covering the Bodalla area. Moo's News' first edition, July-August 2020, has made its appearance and is available at the Bodalla Post Office. Auspiced by South Coast Health and Sustainability Alliance (SHASA) with funding from COORDINARE (South Eastern NSW Primary Health Network), the newsletter will be produced bi-monthly, using 'Ms Moo', their whizz-bang printer. COORDINARE has taken a strong lead in supporting the recovery of bushfire-affected communities. Congratulations to the Moo's News team – see Facebook page, Moo's News.

Moruya's Repair Cafe opened its doors on Friday, 28 August from 10 am to 2 pm and is temporarily located at the Red Door Hall, Page Street, Moruya.



Little Lake, Tilba, benefitted from August's major rain events.

Farewell to a mate: Arthur George Worthley

I lost a mate, we lost a mate, everyone lost a mate with the sad passing of Tilba Tilba's very own character, Arthur Worthley. As we all know, the Triangle area is full of characters, and Arthur Worthley was one of them.

Arthur George Worthley was born on 8 June 1947 in Sydney and passed away peacefully on 22 July 2020 at Moruya Hospital.

Arthur was 'old school'. And why not? We could all do with a little of that these days. Yes, he loved the company of a few blokes and a few beers, but his respect for women was heartfelt. His expression, 'Ducks on the pond', when a lady came into the company of men, will be remembered as a sign of his courtesy to women.

Artie was raised firstly in Redfern, Sydney (and was a passionate Rabbitohs supporter), went to school at St Peter's Primary School in Surry Hills, then on to De La Salle College, Surry Hills. Later he, his mum and sisters Beryl and Joan moved to Revesby. When he left school, Artie became an apprentice carriage builder with NSW Railways and a very gifted tradesman. As a young man he also joined the CMF (Army Reserves) after his mother would not let him join the regular army (he was too young) during the Vietnam War.

Artie did some traveling abroad for a time as a young fella, and while hitch-hiking in Italy was picked up by the Maserati racing team. Somehow he sweet-talked his way onto the team as a mechanic. True story! And just one of the many good stories Artie had up his sleeve.

Then Artie met his soul mate Lyn. They married in 1971 and produced three wonderful girls – Lisa, Jennine, and Amy. Lyn and Artie were blessed with the joy of grandchildren Declan, Kiannah, Kye, Lewis, Allerah and Harlen.

In 2004 Arthur and Lynne settled down in Arthur's mum's home in Tilba Tilba, and cemented themselves into the Tilba community. Arthur became the 'go to' guy with any carpentry problem (but not so much with mechanics! How did that Italian racing team go back then, I wonder? Hmmm?)

Golf became Arthur's passion and he joined the Bermagui Country Club. Arthur spoke very fondly of his golfing buddies and cherished their camaraderie. His love of our country was also strong. Who could ever forget Arthur leading the march down Bate St, Central Tilba on Anzac Day?

But it was Tilba Tilba he really loved. Having a beer, or ten, Artie would talk about the problems of the world then ... 'Look at this place! Tilba! How lucky are we, mate?' So true, Artie, so true.

Artie, you will always be with us, mate, you just beat us to the glorious heaven that awaits us all.



Arthur Worthley – 'old school'

All your mates salute you, digger, and trust you don't drink all the beer before we get to see you again.

Never will you meet a man who more faithfully lived by his values.

Chris Scroggy



Despite inclement weather and Covid limitations, local poetic factions staged the Battle of the Bards on 22 August in Bermagui. No casualties have been reported. But event preparations instigated at least one visit from the ambos, and there's a clue in this photo – and a red herring. More on page 33.

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Well Thumbed: ten years of books, food, community ... and fun

'We had no idea what we were doing. We had no books, no bookshelves. No cash reserves to speak of. And none of us really wanted to work.'

That was Heather O'Connor, remembering a planning meeting in May 2010. Someone had 'some damn-fool idea' of a second-hand bookshop in Cobargo, and five women – Heather, Virginia White, Louise Brown, Annie Lee and Chris Haynes – had gathered to discuss it over lunch.

'Seriously, we weren't even through the hors d'oeuvres and there seemed to be no hope... Four months later we opened.'

Well Thumbed Books in September 2010 was one room of books in the old Cobargo Bakery. The stock was pilfered from the collections of the women and their friends, and from whatever market stalls and deceased estates they could find. But they needn't have worried. 'You open the door to a second-hand book store,' Louise says, 'and the books just pour in.'

As for shelves, they managed with planks on bricks at first, but soon had furniture stripper Col Rayner knocking them together.

Ten years later, Well Thumbed Books is four rooms of packed shelves. Pre-Covid, a small, amicable gathering would be settled with coffee mugs on plastic

chairs on the footpath out front. A serious reader or two would be picking through the 'recommended' shelves just inside the front door. Further in, specialist collectors would be blowing the dust off obscure titles and building small wish-list stacks.

These days the five women are founders Heather, Louise and Virginia – with Linda Sang, who joined after a year, and Nicky Hutteman more recently, to replace Chris and Annie who both moved interstate.

Selling books is almost a secondary pursuit at Well Thumbed. Virginia remembers Dave and Barb Rugendyke doing Friday morning storytime sessions for pre-schoolers in the early days. More recently a young guitarist has been using the meeting room to write songs and practise.

Often on Saturday mornings a crowd would descend upon the pews and seats in the meeting room to launch a book for a local author, and their warmth, encouragement and enthusiasm would be palpable. Only a cynic might venture that some were there more for the gourmet morning tea afterwards.

'Oh, and the "Taste of the Triangle" dinner in the Hall!' says Virginia. Food has always been central. 'We all cooked, under the direction of our very own chef, Linda.

And all the food was sourced from within thirty kilometres of Cobargo.' That was in 2013, and it raised nearly \$5000 for the School of Arts Hall.

There's also the Community Car, available short-term to any Triangle-area licensed driver over 25, for \$10 a day. It's 'garaged' at the bookshop and fully maintained, pro bono, by mechanic Chris Norris two doors down.

Linda remembers the Olga Masters Festival in 2014. The idea started life as a day of readings, a corned beef and pickle sandwich competition (food had to be in there, somewhere) and a guided walk around Olga's haunts in Cobargo, but soon Four Winds had added a second day, with jazz music and a radio play at the Windsong Pavilion, attended by the huge Masters clan – all five of Olga's surviving, hugely talented children, and their families – with a national short story competition thrown in.

Undaunted, the Well Thumbed women hosted a 'Sisters in Crime' literary festival two years later – a host of acclaimed Australian female crime-writers did readings, talks and panel sessions – and kept visitors spellbound during meal-breaks too.

'Generally, someone has an idea, then the five of us just share our different interests and abilities,' says Linda. 'It's all about books, community and food.'

Nicky agrees. 'And between us, we manage to cover all reading genres! For instance, Heather's our political reader and would be quite happy to cordon off the back room – sci-fi, fantasy and "beach fiction". But I know there's a place for this lighter stuff, especially since the fires.'

Since those NYE bushfires, I for one have been amazed at how many friends and contacts from afar have enquired – timorously – about the fate of Well Thumbed Books. And an anonymous handwritten notice appeared in the bookshop window the next day – 'Post-Apocalyptic Fiction moved to Current Affairs' – and soon gained fame in an article in the New York Times.

This month the team celebrates Well Thumbed's tenth birthday. Virginia speaks for them all – 'I've met a lot of people and made a lot of friends. And I've saved a fortune on books!'

'Yes, really all we wanted was a steady supply of books,' says Heather. 'I mean, for ourselves! And to have fun. Fun was stipulated, right from the start.'



Covering all genres – the Well Thumbed team. Virginia, Heather, Nicky, Louise and Linda

Life as we knew it has changed so much. Finding some aspects of what used to be is very comforting, so when I awake to the morning birds warbling it's wonderful – it breaks the eerie stillness and quiet after the event. I'm also delighted to see our house dam full to overflowing, which has not happened for about eight years.

The countryside is also showing a different face, with lots of places now cleaned up, portable homes in place, and the build of some permanent homes under way. I am saddened as I hear of locals who have moved on, however ... and we must also embrace those who have come to join our part of the world.

There's still plenty of fencing to be done and BlazeAid are looking for more recruits. Young or old, if you feel like you want to help with the Cobargo recovery go and see Jess at the BlazeAid camp, located at the Narira Sportsground. No experience needed.

The Cobargo Show Society held its AGM recently and the new office-bearers are: President, Daniel Allen; Senior Vice President, June Tarlinton; Junior Vice Presidents, Warren Salway and Dave Allen; Treasurer, Christy Holland; Assistant Treasurer, Dave Rugendyke; Honorary Secretary, Naomi Rolfe. It was deemed necessary to cancel the Spring Horse Show in October. We still don't know if we'll be able to host our main show in February 2021, but if we're allowed, we'll endeavour to have the

best recovery show ever.

Congratulations are extended to Troy Tyrell and Chloe Cole as they welcome a new baby daughter, Natalie Elizabeth, and also to Kristen and Ben Cowdroy, on their new daughter, Lexi Hope. Marcia and Andrew Tarlinton are thrilled that their son Tim has announced his engagement to Sophie.

On a sad note we farewell Ken Alexander, who passed away on 17 August after a massive heart attack. Ken was a local natural healer of great repute who on New Year's Eve lost his house and the plants he'd collected from around the world, a devastating ordeal. Condolences to his family and friends.



Ken Alexander, 14.11.1949 – 17.08.2020
A great healer to so many, he will be missed. Thank you, Ken.

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Michael Robert Shipton, 6.2.1975 – 27.7.2020

It was a very sad day on 27 July when we learned Michael had passed away after a short battle with cancer. He died at his beloved home, 'Kanoona' in Candelo, surrounded by his adored wife Ancret, children Kassie, Mitchell and Ava, and family members. He was the youngest child of Bob and Bev Shipton, son-in-law of Naomi and Bill (deceased) Lewis and brother to Willie, Dean and Lianne. He grew up on the family dairy farm, 'Verona Valley', at Verona.

Michael became a fifth generation dairy farmer when he took up his apprenticeship at 'Crystal Brook Jerseys', Bemboka, under the watchful eye of Basil Alcock. He then went back to the family farm, but they soon realised the farm wasn't big enough to support two families. He eventually moved out to Cowra with Ancret to work with the Thompson family as a Herd Manager, where he learned a different style of dairy farming.

There was a short stint on a Queensland cattle property, mustering 6000 head, and one at Moxey Farms at Gooloogong. Then a share-farming position at Nar Nar Goon in Victoria became available. The keen couple packed up (by now with Kassie and Mitchell) and headed south, aiming to own their own farm back in the Bega Valley, close to their families, by the time Michael was 40.

Just five months shy of Michael's fortieth birthday, it became a reality. By now Ava had been born, their family was complete. They bought their dream farm 'Kanoona' and moved home to the Valley. It was a joyous time. Something that would normally take a lifetime in the world of farming, Michael had managed to achieve in a few short years, purely through his passion for dairy farming, determination and hard work.

Shiptons are renowned for working hard and being careful with their money and Michael was no exception. When he was 17 years old, he paid cash for a yellow Nissan Patrol, which he still used as his work horse after 28 years of ownership. On the day of his funeral, it was very fitting that he was taken around the farm at Kanoona on the back of his ute for one last check of his much-loved cows and lush green paddocks.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, many friends and family were unable to attend the funeral. So a guard of honour formed at the farm, and this quickly grew in size due to the respect Michael held. As the funeral cortege travelled the 57 kilometres to Cobargo, hundreds of people stood silently by the roadside, holding yellow flowers. The first bunch of flowers Michael gave Ancret was yellow roses, so yellow flowers had always remained a favourite of theirs.

Michael's family were humbled and honoured to see so many people turning out to farewell him. All along the roadside, at intersections and in their driveways, farmers, friends, business associates and the children's schoolmates stood holding yellow flowers. Many were also holding handmade signs of love and support for Ancret and the children. In the packed main street of Cobargo, mourners did the same, holding yellow flowers as Michael, again on the back of his beloved ute, was carried up the main street to the cemetery.

Michael loved nothing more than to have a healthy, happy herd of cows that were milking well. He strived for perfection in everything, from milk quality to pastures. Three times in the last nine years Michael and Ancret's farming business has been listed in the top 100 for milk quality nationally, and they routinely sit in the top five percent. Michael has left Ancret and the children with an incredible legacy in the farm at Kanoona. He was an inspiration to many in the dairy farming world and will be sadly missed.

June Tarlinton



COVID-restricted mourners in Cobargo held yellow flowers as the cortege made its way up the hill (photo: Toni Ward)



Michael Shipton, fifth-generation dairy farmer

From little things ...

We're getting excited! Cobargo Community Garden will soon have its very own community shed. Donated by Building Angels – a small-scale registered charity – the shed is 8 x 4 metres and will offer a space for gardeners and the community.

The Phoenix Shed will not just provide a multi-functional space for the community to share common interests and to swap skills, but will also play a role in the 'Building Back Better' program offered by Building Angels.

The program aims to give confidence to budding owner-builders so they can tackle a shed-build of their own. Those interested in the Phoenix Shed workshop – tentatively scheduled for September – can contact phoenix@buildingangels.org.au directly for more details.

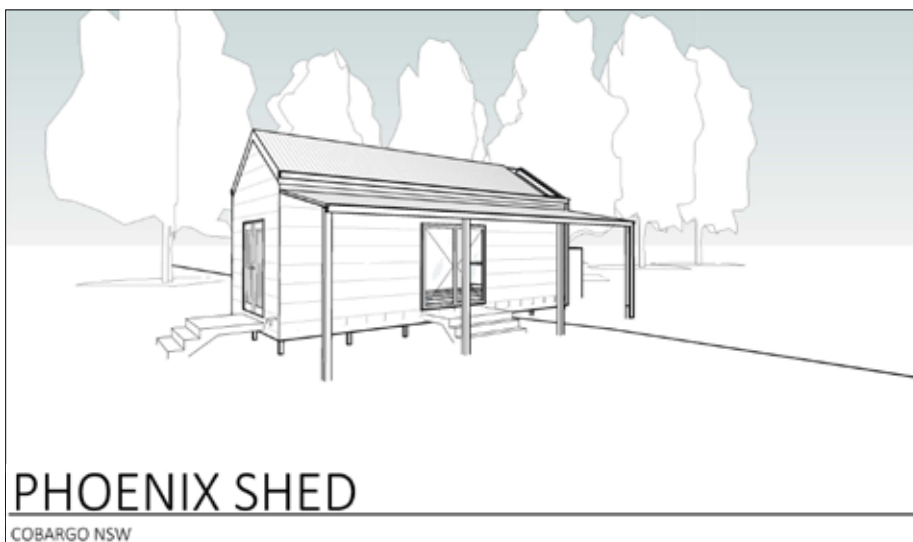
Building Angels' Lisa Tuersley says, 'As well as attending the workshop, participants can access discounted materials through the Building Angels 'Building Back Better' program, specific to this shed-build or in fact to any re-build which meet the project's terms and conditions.

'The anticipated cost for building materials for a base model shed is approximately \$12,500.'

Further info about the community charity can be found at www.buildingangels.com.au/bushfire-relief.

With the support of Building Angels, Cobargo Community Garden is now shaping up as a hub of connection and learning – and as a place to not only to grow your own food but to grow new possibilities.

Cornelia Eichler



Cobargo Naturopath



Michael Jensen ND. DHOMM. DHM. DTM.

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Ignis aurum probat

'Fire tests gold' – or so Seneca, the Hispano-Roman Stoic philosopher said. No, I haven't read Seneca but his words rang through my head during January. A little more literal than perhaps he intended?

We were all so numb back then, no matter what our circumstances. Now I look around Cobargo and see a community in transition but mercifully unchanged in its essential character.

Some of us leapt into the breach, with plans and new homes organised with such energy and focus it took my breath away. Others gathered together to share ideas of what a future Cobargo might look like. Some of us took time out to try and find our own place in this future world. And some moved on to new lives in other places.

We still grieve and reach for a tool or favourite bowl that no longer exists. I'm told that this will go on for a long, long time, but there's hope and there are plans and dreams may become real.

Trauma psychologist Dr Rob Gordon warns of the impact of trauma at the six month mark. It didn't make sense to me. Surely our recovery would be a steady progression with the odd hurdle or setback, certainly, but July came and with it a brick wall. Around me, people were saying, 'The past few weeks have been tough'. And so they have, but we will move on.

Recently I've heard the phrase 'aspirational society' used a few times. I thought it was just another term for ambition and even greed. Like Oliver Twist, we all want a little more, but what we aspire to as a community and individuals can be who we become, and now is the time for our aspirations to take form.

Now, everywhere I look there are swelling buds and signs of spring, and I look at Cobargo with renewed optimism. A day in town still restores me. The Recovery Centre in its new place is a big step and plans for a walking trail and the greening of our village are in progress. The Tool Library is a great innovation and shiny new fences and construction here and there can't help but swell the heart.

Sally Raspin

Visit our Website

www.thetriangle.org.au

A new community building and community disaster refuge for Cobargo

When the New Year's Eve bushfires struck our area and village, many people thought, 'Where's the safest place to go?'

A lot of people headed for the Showground. But they were prevented from staying there and told to leave for the designated evacuation points, all of which were some distance from Cobargo. Hundreds of people drove through fire to Bermagui and many others to Narooma or Bega.

Mass evacuations during bushfires can often end in tragedy. Only good fortune prevented a tragic outcome on our roads on New Year's Eve, and this highlights the pressing need for a modern community facility in Cobargo that can be used as a relatively safe, last-resort community refuge in bushfires and other disasters.

The multitude of activities during the relief and ongoing recovery effort has also shown a need for a modern community building with the flexibility to host a broad range of activities, from whole-of-community meetings to parent-and-children activities, from community catch-ups to club meetings and educational and training sessions.

The much-loved School of Arts Hall is, of course, still a main focus for community activities but in 'normal' years the Hall has a very full program.

With all this in mind, the Cobargo Showground Land Manager and the Yuin Folk Club, supported by the Cobargo Show Society and other community groups, have developed a proposal for the Cobargo Showground Community Building and Community Disaster Refuge.

We're proposing that the new building will be built near the Showground Pavilion, at a location now being discussed by the Land Manager and regular Showground users. It will meet two priority needs: for a modern space that can be used by the whole

community, and a purpose-built, fire-resilient facility that can provide last-resort shelter from a bushfire or other natural disaster requiring refuge.

Two young architects from TAKT Studio have prepared a concept design, funded by the Cobargo Community Bushfire Recovery Fund. TAKT's concept design is in keeping with the rural location. It's an energy-efficient design that will keep running and maintenance costs manageable. The aim is for it to become a model of sustainable design, integrated with the larger plan for Cobargo's recovery.

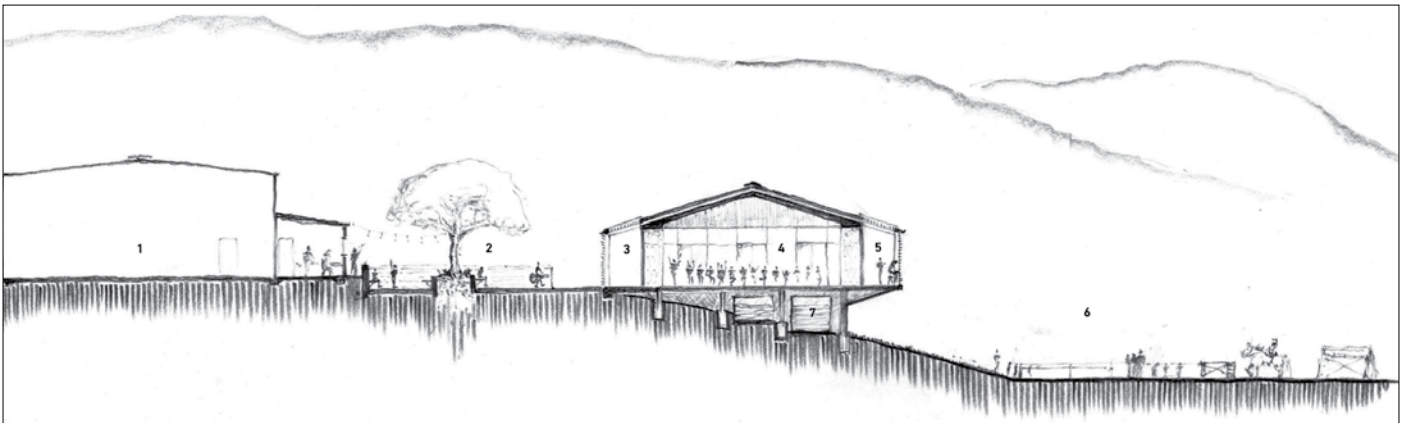
This building is an opportunity to showcase local craftsmanship, artistic skill and creativity, and to show that small rural communities like Cobargo do not simply endure disaster but come through stronger and more connected than ever before.

We hope that it will attract State and Federal Government bushfire/resilience building grant funding, funding from private charities and foundations, business sponsorship and contributions in kind. Discussions with Bega Valley Shire Council, the NSW RFS, Resilience NSW and the National Bushfire Recovery Agency have been very positive. We already have offers of support from significant Australian companies.

A small group of residents has come together to work with the Cobargo Showground Land Manager, the Yuin Folk Club and the Cobargo Show Society to progress this project. The detailed design work is now under way. If you're interested in hearing more and contributing during the consultation and design phase, please contact Zena Armstrong on info@cobargofolkfestival.com.

Greg Holland, Cobargo Showground Land Manager

Zena Armstrong, Yuin Folk Club



A dual purpose, energy-efficient design to show that Cobargo can not simply endure disaster but can come through stronger and more connected than ever before

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Gerry Burton
18.1.39 - 5.8.14
Time passes but memories stay.
Love and miss you every day.
Forever, Brenda.

A cartoon illustration of a chef. The chef is wearing a white uniform with a red sash and a tall white chef's hat. He is holding a golden tray with both hands, as if presenting something. He has a friendly expression. The background is plain white.

New kids on the block catch local artist's eye



Lena Kuppens and Harry Binnendijk's tiny Via Luna gourmet take-away outlet and James Bristow's Valiant Coffee caravan feature in a new work by Shirleyanne Myers. See the original in vivid technicolor on *The Triangle* website – or drop into the Lazy Lizards Gallery for a copy on a card.



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Cobargo Conversations

CWA focuses on domestic violence this month

We at CWA are sometimes asked what we do – are we about more than tea and scones?! The answer to that is, yes, as well as having a great time with a group of friends, we also advocate to governments, both State and Federal, for changes that will improve the quality of life for all. These advocacies are wide ranging. However, once a year we have an awareness month (September) where we focus on one aspect of concern to us all.

This year the focus for September is on domestic violence. In Australia, one woman is killed every nine days and one man every 29 days as a result of domestic violence. It is the major cause of homelessness among women and is of great concern in rural, regional and remote areas where help is often more difficult to access than in urban areas.

We want everyone to realise that this is an enormous issue in all communities and, by raising awareness, to enable those living with domestic violence to realise that help is available. Violence is never acceptable in our society but with the current COVID-19 virus the situation is worse.

We are determined to get the message out that more needs to be done to help support services.

This year members of CWA voted overwhelmingly to urge governments to treat domestic violence as a national emergency. We can all help by standing together and saying we will no longer accept this level of violence in our towns.

For those who need assistance, contact 1800RESPECT or 1800 737 732 or White Ribbon at www.whiteribbon.org.au or Domestic Violence NSW at www.dvnsw.org.au.

Mary Williams

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Something to celebrate at last with the welcome August rains, filling tanks and dams, opening lakes, and replenishing wetlands and rivers.

But while most of us have relished the rain, snug in our homes, it's caused problems for others. Hardships continue for people affected by the bushfires and still living in temporary accommodation. And for one unfortunate couple in Beauty Point, whose property was damaged in the storms that battered us. Their roof detached from the house, landing on the road opposite – a nasty shock. Thanks to friends and neighbours they have been looked after, but it'll be some time before they can return home.

Another victim was the Carmella T. An iconic fishing trawler, a part of the Bermagui wharf for over 40 years, ended up on the bottom of the harbour. But it's not all a bad luck story. See next page.

Bermagui business is looking good

Every shop in Lamont Street is occupied. Now that's been a while ...

The latest addition to the main street shopping strip is the new Il Passaggio Provodore, an auxiliary to the restaurant at the Wharf. It's next to Frame and Brush in the main street and sells fresh pasta made on the premises, a range of small goods, some fresh fruit and veg, and a few grab-and-go food options. A great atmosphere walking in there, you'll just want to have pasta for dinner, and there's everything you need to make a pasta meal.



Hannah Abraham has opened Provodore to supply her hand-made pasta and specialty goods for dining in.

This new business arose partly out of the need to reinvent during this time of COVID restrictions, and to keep staff employed. As the demand for Il Passaggio's pasta product grew, Hannah Abraham started producing more fresh and dried pasta, selling through a number of retail outlets and to restaurants, now distributing as far as Sydney, Canberra and the Southern Highlands. This meant she needed a bigger space and new equipment to keep up with demand.

Hannah's deep-rooted passion for pasta, 'fresh is best', fired by her travels to Italy, drives this specialty shop.

The pasta products are made with 100% quality Australian flour and Bega Valley eggs. Other products in the shop are sourced locally. There's a fine range of imported Italian cheeses and small goods and exciting plans to collaborate with more local producers for supplies in the future.



The Provodore stocks a fine range of imported Italian cheeses and small goods.

Dining out is now dining in

Not so many dining out options these days, but Bermagui is well-served for pre-cooked meals to enjoy at home. As well as the usual that Bermagui has to offer – pizza, Chinese, fish & chips, Indian, and cafes – other dining establishments are offering a take-home service with pre-packaged meals. Residents of Bermagui are being well catered for.

On the north side of the bridge, operating out of River Rock Café, Dipak and Madhuma have set up the unique **Bermagui Pick-up Kitchen**. Take-home

meals are available Sundays from 5 pm till sold out (and they do sell out). Each week the menu changes depending on what produce comes through the door, but nourishing soups, curries and ragouts are some of the choices, all at very reasonable prices.

What makes this venture different is that, as well as responding to the restrictions imposed by COVID-19, it's a not-for-profit community venture. Each meal bought will help buy a meal for the displaced Batwa tribe in Uganda or go towards sewing machines and training for the 'Sewing the Seeds' project for women in Tamil Nadu.

It's a win for everyone. Go to **BermaguiPickUpKitchen** on Facebook for more information.

Kelly of Eastwood's has certainly reinvented her business with her pre-packaged meals, and even a delivery service. Her experience with World Kitchen operating out of her premises, feeding thousands over the bushfire period, taught her a lot. It was an obvious follow-on when COVID restricted people being served in the shop.

She's been delivering packaged meals to Crackenback, Moruya and Canberra markets for some time so it was logical to extend this. Then she added the home delivery element and it's in popular demand.

This venture has also enabled her to employ more local people for driving, preparing and packaging. Everyone's winning. And Kelly assures me that her cooking classes will resume whenever that's possible.

To see the menu and place an order (for pick up or delivery), visit her website, www.eastwoodsbermagui.com.au.

Shopkeepers in Bermagui are to be congratulated on consistently keeping their doors open over these difficult times, and reinventing elements of their business to adapt to safety requirements and restrictions – hand sanitising stations at entrances, limiting numbers, and recording contacts for people through the door in some places. Everyone's learning to adapt and be more diligent.

Bermagui Farmers Market will be 'popping up' again early this month, and then probably running fortnightly, depending on available produce. It's obvious that people want to buy fresh local produce whenever possible, so let's hope this weather means a good growing season. Enquiries: Lynne Ford 0425 711 795.

Down, down, and up she rises ...

This story was going to be an obituary for the Carmella T, an icon of the Bermagui fishing fleet that suffered serious damage during the storms battering the coast last month. But after a week of sitting on the bottom of the harbour, she rose again.

'She was always a lucky boat,' a wife of a previous owner told me, and indeed this seems to be true.

The Carmella T was built in Ballina in the early 70s by the Lavelle family, who had a long association with Bermagui, and was named after the matriarch of that family, Carmella Theresa. She fished between Ulladulla and Bermagui, but the Bermagui Wharf became her more permanent home when Ken Stevenson and Richard Tucker owned her from 1976 to '84, followed by the Paulaus, then Rocky Lagana and brothers. She's been rigged out for many forms of fishing ... seine trawling, poling for tuna, long lining.

In the 70s, 80s and 90s, the fishing industry was at its peak and there were as many as 14 professional fishing boats in the Bermagui Harbour. The wharf would be alive when the boats came in, with locals and visitors enjoying the excitement of large catches being brought in, and many young local boys earning a bit of pocket money helping to unload volumes of fish.

This all changed after 2006 when industry restructuring, the introduction of quotas, and buy-backs of licenses came into play, meaning the Bermagui fishing fleet was severely depleted.

The Carmella T was one of the boats affected and since then she's had various owners with various dreams – at one stage she was to be used as a charter, running surfing safaris. Who knows what her future will be.

With the classic lines of a timber-hulled fishing vessel, painted white and blue with a distinctive Road Runner on her fly bridge, the Carmella T has always been a popular feature of the wharf, and it was sad to see her sink slowly to the bottom of the harbour at her mooring during the big storms. Then, amazingly, she appeared at the surface again, a little grubby from her time on the bottom, and with some damage to the fly ridge. But the image of that Road Runner is still visible.

Still life in the old girl?

Georgina Adamson



The Carmella T (middle). You can't keep a good boat down, it seems.



A bit worse for wear, but she'll brush up.

Thanks to Aunty Joy Puglisi for her help with this story, and Lyndal Jenkins for her photos.

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Commercial fishing on Wallaga Lake – when and where?

Since writing about Wallaga Lake in a couple of editions of *The Triangle*, I've been approached by a number of individuals about commercial fishing on the Lake. I was surprised to hear that there was anything in Wallaga Lake worthy of commercial activity but apparently there is – especially when the Lake is open, as it is now. It seems that there are prawns, oysters, octopus, as well as flathead and other finfish species, up for grabs. There are, however, restrictions as to where and when the commercial fisherfolk can undertake their activities on Wallaga Lake.

I enquired of the Department of Primary Industries and Environment (DPIE). They responded promptly, providing me with a link to a page on their

website (www.dpi.nsw.gov.au) that details the restrictions on Wallaga Lake (google DPIE wallaga estuary general fishery closures). They also provided a number to call (1800 043 536) should I observe 'any activity, commercial or recreational' that I suspect is unlawful, to 'assist compliance officers in combating illegal commercial and recreational fishing'.

As per the information on the link DPIE provided, commercial fishing of any kind cannot be undertaken from 6 am Saturday to 6 pm Sunday on weekends from March to October. At long weekends you can add 6 am to 6 pm on the public holiday Monday. As for November to February, the prohibited hours on weekends are Saturday 6 am to Sunday (or public holiday Monday)

8 pm.

Set mesh nets are prohibited from 15 May to 31 August, specifically in the Meads Creek area.

There's a very involved and detailed map of Wallaga Lake at the newish boat ramp at Beauty Point. This shows some areas in the Lake where any fishing activities at all are prohibited. It would be hoped that everyone follows the rules in such a fragile environment as Wallaga Lake, an Intermittently Closed and Open Lake (ICOLL).

Ann Maree Menager

Next month: What makes a healthy aquatic environment and the requirements to apply for a Recreational Fishing Haven



Treasurer wanted

Bermagui and District Netball Association is in need of a Treasurer. We are a fun, lively, dedicated committee of working mums who cannot take on another role but are keen to see the sport develop for young people in our region. The job is not onerous, we have very simple and easy finances to manage but the small committee would love a hand. If you have time available to attend a meeting every second month for one hour, please get in contact with Amy Brady, President on 6493 5000 to express your interest.

BVSC reveals plans for the Wallaga Lake walk project

On 19 August, some BVSC staff set up a shade tent in the Wallaga Lake carpark and showed residents a long-awaited display of the plans for the revamp of the Wallaga Lake walk, which will repair the 2016 storm destruction of the much-used boardwalk.

The plans are much reduced from the original concept plans first viewed in community consultation in 2018. The plans have now been run through a very extensive consultation process, including an archaeological expert and field assessment as well as the lengthy quoting and contract phase. Construction is hopefully not far off now.

This part of the Great South Coast Walk will involve a more accessible pathway from the Wallaga Lake carpark to the rotunda along the Murunna Point track. There's also a short path being made more accessible from the Camel Rock carpark across the wettish land there. They will also build some viewing platforms at certain scenic points such as Horse Head Rock. The vast majority of the path will be left untouched and natural.

The funding of more than \$220,000 for this project was not enough to do any more than this abbreviated scope but it's better than nothing. And a long wait will soon be over for better accessibility for prams, wheelchairs and people unsteady on their feet to be able to enjoy more natural beauty along Wallaga Lake.

Ann Maree Menager

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Bermagui Banter



At last! On 27 July, after significant rains sent the level sky-rocketing, Council sent in the big guns and opened Wallaga Lake, allowing it to flush and reinvigorate from the next day (photos: Ron Webb)

New local network provider for Bermagui

Although That Geek Guy has been operating for only a short time, the business has been a great addition to the Bermagui township.

Jason began business operating from the back of his van, and in 2019 opened premises in Bermagui, in the 777 complex, just before he and Jess's first baby, Luna, was born. Busy times.

The business has grown fast and provides invaluable assistance on all IT matters: repairs to equipment, advice, and

service and sales. The Geek Guy is now responding to the need for a better, and less expensive, local network provider. It became obvious during the fires that there was a desperate need for a better communications system.

That's why they have embarked on providing an Independent Wireless Delivery Network to supply Bermagui and surrounding areas with a fast, reliable Internet service, at a reasonable price.

Jason and Jess are both committed to

contributing to and supporting their local community, and one of their goals when they set up their business was to create jobs in Bermagui. They have already done that and the new service will extend this opportunity, as well as providing the town with an alternative service provider.

For more information about the new network, and for plans and pricing, visit their website www.thatgeekguy.com.au.

Georgina Adamson

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A walk on the south bank: reflections on the Bermagui River

It's apt that the name Bermagui derives from a Djiringanj word, Permageua, meaning 'canoe with paddles', as waterways are the main feature of our town. Sparkling seas, estuaries, wetlands and the river all provide a water wonderland for residents and visitors.

But I wonder how many have really explored the river, which flows seven kilometres from its source, the confluence of Coolagolite and Nutleys creeks, entering the ocean at Bermagui. It's regarded as one of the most pristine and uncontaminated estuaries in Australia.

I'm fortunate to observe and enjoy this waterway on my daily walk along the south bank, at various times and tides. I relish the healthy stands of mangroves that hug the road, and observe the myriad of life under them ... colonies of soldier crabs make their home in the safety of cover, shrimp and minnows in the shallow waters.

In the evening, ibis, cranes, cormorants and spoonbills nestle into the low branches. During the day cormorants, pelicans and seagulls hunt in 'packs' for the fish that have ventured there. I often witness a feeding frenzy.

On the north side the river carves a deeper channel with a narrow shoreline. On the south, it has created broad, sandy tidal flats.

Did you know ... that this area was the site of the Bermagui District Racing Club in the early 1900s, with a 1200-metre track, complete with grandstand? Race meetings were subject to tidal conditions, of course.

And there's more. An airstrip was established on this racecourse in the 1930s, offering a twice-weekly service to

Sydney, with a mail service every Saturday. An enterprising Mrs O'Shea, former owner of the Bermagui Hotel, offered a 'Fly to Fish' return package for a little over ten pounds.

January 1937 saw 'record crowds' (600 people through the gate) attend a two-day aerial show, with a 'fine display of stunting and bombing' by visiting Sydney planes. Read all about it on the signs at the end of the road, as well as information showing the varieties of birds and plant life that exist there.

It's a lot quieter these days and the sand flats are being allowed to regenerate. The area is now restricted to on-foot visitors, and work on restoring the riverbanks with sea grasses and salt resistant plants is again taking hold.

The river is also being monitored to ensure its continued health. Currently there's a Macquarie University study into the oyster reefs and islands of oyster clusters – an indication of the health of the river, and what conditions encourage their growth.

Oyster reefs, those clumps in the river visible at low tide, 'provide habitat and a safe haven for many species, including juvenile fish. Oysters also filter the water column as they feed and clean the water in the process, leading to healthier estuaries.'

It's a wonderful area to explore, but be mindful of keeping to the tracks and do keep dogs controlled – it's a fragile environment and many species of birds feed and breed there.

Georgina Adamson

Legacy responds to COVID

Since 1923 when it was first formed, the uniquely Australian organisation called Legacy has been caring for the families of deceased war veterans, upholding the torch of the service featured on the Legacy badge.

Currently there are 100 widows being supported by the Narooma Legacy group, which has responsibility for Narooma, Moruya, Tuross Heads, Bodalla, Dalmeny, Tilba and Bermagui. This assistance, when needed, includes financial, emotional, social and practical care to ensure widows continue to live safely and happily, often without local family support

There are ten very special ladies from Bermagui who regularly gathered for lunch at various restaurants until COVID-19 impacted that social outing. However, the three Bermagui Legatees (Legacy volunteers), Lynn Williamson (Honorary Secretary), Pam Beaumont and Gail Whelan, are working to maintain contact either by phone or face-to-face meetings, to keep that connection going.

Sadly, Legacy Badge Week, 1 to 5 September, has been cancelled to keep volunteer Badge sellers and donors safe. Our treasurer, Stephanie (phone 0413 229 133), is boldly asking that you make a donation and wear last year's badge.

Should you generously choose that option, Steph will readily provide a tax deductible receipt. Give her a call.

Account name: Narooma Legacy group (Legacy Club of Wollongong and South Coast)

BSB: 082 – 057

Account number: 695300893

Grateful thanks if you choose to donate this way.

Legacy's iconic Tin Hats in Bermagui are securely situated at the Country Club and Beach Hotel. The Golf Day held each year in Narooma (2 October 2020) is a friendly, fun filled event which provides another much-needed source for donations to help us continue our support role.

Gail Whelan

Covert COVID Conversations on Alcohol & other Drugs

- Noticed a change in your mood since the fires and during Lockdown and the pandemic in general?
- Trouble sleeping as well as you used to?
- Relationships with family and friends feel forced and difficult?
- Found yourself turning to having a drink to escape?

This 1-hour workshop could be the start to getting you back on track

Tuesday 25th August
-12 noon to 1pm, online via Zoom



Call or email Joel
0499 544 979

jzimmer@lifelinecentralwest.org.au

Bermagui Men's Shed: ready to go!

By the time this issue goes to print, the Bermagui Men's Shed will be up and running. I visited President Phil Baldwin onsite and was amazed to see a large green shed erected and almost finished. Equipment is due to be sourced from various temporary storage places and their first meeting is scheduled for late August.

Operating hours will be extended and of course strict adherence to COVID rules will be put in place. There's plenty of space for social distancing!

There are plans to build a 12-metre-square meeting room in a separate shed behind the workshop, open to the broader community, and offering a space for other not-for-profit community groups to use.

There's much potential for this block, with uninterrupted views to the west and the north. Great for a community garden?

For more information on the Men's Shed and how to become a member, call Phil Baldwin on 0421 114 882.



The new Men's Shed - plenty of space for social distancing!

Georgina Adamson

Handover for Bermi Autos

Owners Jim and Marg Jones, and my husband Wayne Brooks and I, have delivered reliable and friendly service at Bermagui Autos for the past ten years. Now it's time to hand over the reins. We welcome Tim and Jessica Mead and their three children, Maddison, Mackenzie and Parker.

Many townsfolk may know Tim – he grew up in the area, attending Cobargo Public School. Tim and Jessica are looking forward to their children experiencing the lifestyle that Bermagui can provide.

We know that Tim will provide the service our customers expect. During this transition, we'll be working alongside Tim to ensure a smooth handover. We all wish them every success!

Jim and Marg would like to thank you for your friendly support over the years. Jim feels it was the best move he ever made! He'll enjoy his fishing, travelling in his caravan, and being part of the community of Bermagui in his retirement.

Rose Brooks

Marine Rescue ready to serve despite COVID-19

These are strange times we're living in. Distancing, masks, sanitising, leaving your contact details, zoom meetings, cancellations and staying at home... The impact of COVID-19 on Marine Rescue Bermagui's daily operations has been immense but the volunteers maintain their commitment to providing key services – monitoring marine radios and responding to emergencies on the water.

Meetings were the first thing to change; social distancing means our base can now accommodate a maximum of ten people – two of whom are the radio operators. Some meetings have been moved to the Bermagui Country Club, but Zoom has allowed larger meetings to continue, with 20-plus people attending the recent AGM.

The next major impact of COVID-19 was in the training program. The need for continued training was highlighted when, over a 10-day period at the start of the last school holidays, we were called out for three 'assists', two of which were at night. This all happened before Victoria's total lockdown period.

Crew training has now changed significantly. Social distancing means a maximum of six people can be on our boat BG30 at a time – and three need to be qualified. To get our trainees through, we've begun a split shift to minimise the number of people on the boat at any one time. We've also introduced more land-based training activities to teach and reinforce the rules and regulations of the sea, as well as rope, knots and lines. This has resulted in some novel ways to get the information across – and entertain local passers-by at the same time.

Marine Rescue NSW has also stepped up and now offers volunteers state-wide theory training rather than a base-by-base approach. In Bermagui we've had three trainees complete their Radio Operator training completely online, and another three are midway through their Crew Training. A Coxswain course is also offered online.

Fundraising? Fundraising and community events seem like a thing of the past and we've had to cancel them for the moment. The other changes to the day-to-day running of the base involve the now-familiar sanitising, cleaning surfaces, signing in and using personal protective equipment, both in the base and on the vessel.

Although boaters have been encouraged to stay at home during the COVID-19 crisis, they can be reassured that if they're in trouble on the water, Marine Rescue Bermagui is operating and ready to respond.

Did you know that you can now support your local Marine Rescue through the Return and Earn at Woolworths Bermagui? Or if you think you'd like to become a volunteer with Marine Rescue Bermagui, please contact the Unit Commander, Caron Parfitt, on 0417 248 724.

Debbie Worgan



Negotiating the obstacles – Marine Rescue in training

The complete 'club person': Gerry recognised for services to bowls

Gerry Hammerton was awarded Life Membership of the Bermagui Lawn Bowls Club at its deferred Annual General Meeting on 29 July. Like most other sporting clubs, Bermagui Bowls has suffered a disrupted season. The presentation to Gerry was the highlight of the AGM and was formal recognition of his outstanding contribution.

On the green, Gerry has figured prominently in pennant fixtures, special events, tournaments and numerous club champions, usually in the role of skip. He has enjoyed regular success in all formats of the game. Of equal satisfaction to Gerry has been his administration and promotion of bowls for over 27 years, firstly with Bega Bowling Club, and for the last 11 years with Bermagui, including nine as Secretary and frequently as team manager. Gerry has been a delegate and office bearer at district level of Bowls NSW for a total of 18 years.

Many players had their introduction to bowls through Gerry's enthusiastic recruitment and cheerful instruction. Add other efforts such as fund-raising, facilities improvement and documenting club history and results ... and Gerry epitomises the complete 'club person'.

Gerry and his wife, Lori, are well respected throughout the region for their wider community service, particularly with CanAssist (cancer assistance network).

Bermagui Bowls offers a range of playing opportunities, covering social to competition. New players are welcomed and encouraged. Call 6493 5909 for further information.

Dave Richard-Preston



Incoming President of Bermagui Bowls Club Dave Richard-Preston presents Life Membership plaque to Gerry Hammerton (right).

Dog owners beware



Izzy, much loved, sorely missed

Off-leash zones are designated for dog lovers and their pets to enjoy time together outdoors where they will be safe and away from people who are not so keen on sharing their space with free-ranging, four-legged friends. They're a great place for dogs to explore, fossick in the grass and bushes and chew on everything they can. There are three signposted off-leash areas in Bermagui, but even here, dogs may not always be safe.

Last week a friend's dog, Izzy, became violently sick after her daily walk. She had only been to an off-leash area in Bermagui and a nearby State Park that day. Poor Izzy didn't make it. The Narooma vet confirmed the symptoms were consistent with 1080 poisoning – vomiting, anxiety and shaking. Understandably, Izzy's owner is heartbroken about her tragic loss. Dogs are such important companion animals, and Izzy's joyful presence is sorely missed.

Friends with dogs are now keeping a cautious eye out at all times. Families and children, as well as dogs and their owners, use these designated areas. Farmers are required to put up signs if poisons such as 1080 are used on their properties, but off-leash areas and State Parks are public access areas. No one knows if the poison was left as a bait or was dropped by a bird or other wildlife, and Izzy just came upon it. Poisons such as 1080 can stay toxic for many weeks, even after heavy rain.

Dog owners are now being urged to remain vigilant when out with their dogs in Bermagui. Successful treatment for poisoning requires immediate action and transport to the closest vet as quickly as possible.

There are so many dog lovers and pet owners about, as well as young children, it's a terrible thought that something so dangerous could be left lying about – either intentionally or by accident.

Debbie Worgan



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The Triangle contacted Council about their plans for the south end of town, where their contractors felled a large number of mature trees as part of the fire recovery operation. We're told their priority was safety, which meant removing trees burned when fire ran along Dry River – trees that could pose a risk to vehicles or pedestrians. Those lovely tall trees that once shaded the curve leading up Bega Street from the Rest Area are gone. 'Is there a replanting scheme?' I asked. None at the moment. I'm told Council has received requests both to replant and to keep the number of trees near homes down to protect from future fires. They'll address this issue when they move to a later stage of bushfire recovery. I was assured that Council will seek community engagement on the issue. Keep an ear out if you have an interest or opinion.

The RMS Depot at the north end of town has a new gate and is now locked off. It turns out that the arborists engaged by Council put all the woodchip in the depot without asking the RMS. So there was this mountain of mulch, just where trucks and machinery need to turn around. And residents were going in with their trailers and collecting mulch, even when RMS machinery was in there working. It posed a danger to everyone and would have caused issues with insurance. There must have been words with the RMS then! The tree fellers had to move the lot and the posts were sunk right after, so no more free woodchip. It's a pity it wasn't relocated somewhere else in town so that we might benefit



Gated and off limits, access to the depot is no more.

from the thin threads of this post-fire silver lining.

Over the years residents have been known to enter the depot for a bit of sand or road rock. My guess is that the RMS turned a blind eye, as it wasn't much, in the scheme of things. But the volume of chip and the number of people in there collecting it

tipped the scales. And to top it off, a pile of serious rubbish was dumped in there which would have been the last straw. If you saw access to that depot a good thing that was working fine, it's a sad story.

The Quaama Bushfire Recovery Centre has now been given permission to move from the Quaama Hall to a couple of shipping containers on the grounds, making the Hall available for hire once again (Covid willing...). The awesome work of sourcing and enabling support for the local bushfire-affected continues.

Val Durrant on Bermagoe Street is our new town mask-maker! She has a pattern and plans to make a whole heap of three-layer masks free for Quaama residents. Val has been sewing her entire life and could knock these out in her sleep so she thought she'd lend a hand to those who aren't so inclined. Good to know she's on the case. Masks don't seem likely to disappear anytime soon.



Val sews masks for Quaama.

Gratefully, this winter has been nothing like the last. We've had some real soaking, dam- and tank-filling rain. The deep orange of the drought has become a beautiful deep blue on the BOM rain forecast map. Great time to nurture the soil, to plant and get ready for a moist and abundant spring.



Gentle persistent rain makes Dry River flow.

The rebuild starts at Christophers Road

With the bushfires, communities lost not only their homes but their sense of how to move forward. Green Homes Far South Coast are proud to be helping one family on Christophers Road, Quaama to rebuild their home, offering pre-designed or custom-built, affordable, comfortable, energy-efficient homes, whatever your budget.

Green Homes Far South Coast is a local business employing local trades and is committed to working with local residents to help rebuild their lives.



Bike skills and imaginative building at Quaama School

Students have begun Term 3 with tennis lessons at the refurbished Quaama tennis courts, with the assistance of Sporting Schools funding. I hear they really enjoy the opportunity – the coach is very good.

All of our students have had the opportunity to undertake Bike Safety Lessons, a module from the Bike Ed course, under the COLA. This module aims to develop cycle skills and good riding habits. Students learned about the different parts of a bike, how and why to change gears, the power position for starting, riding in a straight line, emergency stops, scanning behind and signaling, and cycled a course which required changes in speed, tight cornering, gauging their speed and others' speeds, and riding over different surfaces. All those participating did a great job and we had fun! We may get a chance to run the full Bike Ed course, including safe riding on the road, at a later stage.

Quaama PS has been the recipient of many kind donations from across Australia. Our current student favourite is the remote-controlled cars donated by Mitchelton State School in Queensland. Cars have been zipping around the playground at lunchtime. Students have been exploring the Imaginasium shipping container, organised with assistance from Bega Valley Shire Council. It contains many interesting building materials and the students have let their imaginations run free!

We're now taking kindergarten enrolments for 2021. We're hoping to run our transition program again this year (depending on COVID-19 restrictions). Registrations can now be made online via the enrolment tab on quaama-p.schools.nsw.gov.au, or by contacting the school on 6493 8213.

Daniel Roe, Relieving Principal



Letting imaginations roam wild with the Imaginasium



Keeping a straight course: Bike Ed ensures our kids ride safely.



Grand opening of the Imaginasium



Quaama Public School

'Small School with a big heart - every student every day'

Taking Kindergarten Enrolments for 2021

Apply online via Quaama PS website

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Ph: 6493 8213

Email: quaama-p.schools.nsw.edu.au



TERM 4 — SCHEDULED TRANSITION DAYS

(please note that due to current COVID-19 situation, dates will be confirmed closer to the time).

- Mon 26 October (9:30-11:30am)
- Mon 9 November (9:30-11:30am)
- Mon 23 November (9:30-12)
- Tues 8 December (9:30-12) - includes a parent information session.

The Small School with a Big Heart is offering:

- Library facilities
- Canteen
- Targeted individual learning support
- Multi-Lit reading tutoring program
- Sporting Schools program
- Lunchtime activities program
- Language lessons (Japanese)
- Music program
- Strong community connections
- Small Schools combined camps
- School Performance/Music camps
- Diverse environmental program
- Better Buddies program

Fabulous fibres!

The exhibition at the Lazy Lizard Gallery in September highlights the work of the Bega Valley Textile Group. These busy, skilful crafters have spent their isolation time creating many and various items for the exhibition.

There's a diversity of fibre crafts practised within the group, so there'll be something to interest everyone. Most items are for sale, but all are there to inspire. Being a generous and friendly lot, the contributors will be happy to answer any questions arising from the display.

Come. Look. Be inspired!

The twelve months since the last exhibition at the Lazy Lizard have been hectic, disrupted, difficult and confusing for our members, as for most of the folks in the Bega Valley.

The members that make up the Bega Valley Textiles group are caring and supportive. During the fires and their aftermath, and with the loss of meetings due to COVID-19, members helped each other, be it a lift, a bed during evacuations, help with their craft and resources, or life matters. Some members have been knitting rugs for fire-affected people and making face masks for use during the COVID crisis.

We've welcomed the resumption of meetings in both Bega and Cobargo. We meet at the Old Bega Hospital, on the southern outskirts of Bega, just off the Princes Highway, from 10 am till 1 pm every second Friday (September meetings are on the 4th and 18th).

There's also a meeting from 10 am to 1 pm on the fourth Friday of each month at the CWA Cottage in Cobargo.

Members are very happy to share knowledge and techniques with anyone who may be interested. When home is the safest option, there has not been a better time to learn something new. If anyone's interested in joining the group or learning to weave or spin, free tuition is offered for new members.

Contact details are: Mog Bremner 0401 968 899 or mog@mogajon.com.au, or Chris Rogers 6494 1520.

Delma Rosemond

Fabulous fibres to be enjoyed at Lazy Lizard this month



BOOK NOW DON'T MISS OUT

Come and join us at the College for our
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High School at Sapphire Coast Anglican College
and see why we are the school for your family.

Bookings are essential, please phone Aimee Hay on 6494 7777
or email aimee.hay@scac.nsw.edu.au

Day 1

Tuesday October 27 from 9am

Meet our Year 7 Coordinator Mr Tim Dowman along
with other Senior School Teachers for
your first day of activities

Day 2

Wednesday October 28 from 9am

Meet with Senior School Teachers and commence
day 2 activities. A program will be released soon and
emailed to all parents who have booked.



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River of Art, 18 - 27 September

The River of Art is an annual festival to celebrate the artists of the Far South Coast, Durras to Bermagui.

With a turbulent ten months behind us and the lingering effects of the COVID virus, a few of us thought it was important to keep a River of Art presence going in the southern areas of the River of Art catchment.

Look out for art exhibitions at Tilba Winery, Tilba Small Hall, the Dromedary Hotel, and ABC Cheese Factory. Spend a Saturday morning at Tilba Small Hall, during the Market, looking at the work of local artists and craftspeople. Or see the paintings after the markets while having a beer at the Dromedary Hotel.

Try a lazy Sunday afternoon, eating, sipping wine, viewing

art works and listening to music, all with lake views, the vineyard and the calm of the Corunna bushland. The Tilba Valley Winery and Ale House will be hosting an exhibition of local artists' work for the festival. Music on Sundays: inspiring duo Totum will be playing on 20 September, and great local band Chordroys will play on 27 September.

You can also visit the studio of local artist Zoe Bourke in Central Tilba, and Tall Trees Art Workshop in Corunna. Go to www.riverofart.com.au for details, and find out what else is happening for the River of Art on the Far South Coast. Or you can contact me at katiwall@bigpond.com or phone 0407 413 139.

Kate Wall



Jennifer Blessington and *Golden Girl*



**Vivienne Bowe
delivering her artwork
to Tilba Small Hall**



**David Whitfield and
*Threatened Gecko***

Battle of the Bards: poetic metres at 1.5 metres

There was rain, gusty winds and a late-winter chill on 22 August, but our local poets are made of pretty stern stuff. So the clash commenced at an undisclosed combat zone. The Well Thumbed Poets fired first with a haiku haka; the Bermagui Poets responded with a salvo of stanzas. Metaphoric missiles met rounds of verse – luckily they were shooting blank.

In line with pandemic conditions, verse metres at 1.5 metres were the order of the day. But it was triplets and couplets, not driplets and droplets, that had the audience ducking for cover.

A ceasefire was called, mercifully, before the acrostics were loaded.

Judge Tucker of the United Orations emerged from the judicial huddle (or as huddled as Covid allowed) to give her verdict:

Who won this bardic battle?
We think we know.
They may dispute it though ...
There was no bribery or corruption
So, *they don't care!* is our assumption.
Words rang out from every bard
And verse ranged wide in this backyard.
For our final judgement
There'll be no abuse
Because we declare it
To be a TRUCE!

Jen Severn

And if you're wondering about the ambulance (see page 10), one assiduous poet, feeling weak and tired and noticing a strange rash on his thigh a few nights before the standoff, was advised to summon an ambulance. Paramedics checked his vital signs and saw no real emergency. Said poet awoke next day to realise, somewhat sheepishly, that he had perhaps been too keen practising his haka, which did require some serious thigh-slapping ...



Judge Tucker, ready for the front-line. Or just PPE'd?



Passions ran high: Geoffrey Giuffre proffers a well-sanitised gesture.



Delicate cross-border negotiations: the judges confer.

One of the poems presented on the day: a response to the bushfires of January 2020, by Glenda Morgan.

This eye of fire

*Red sliver
Like an open fresh wound
The sky powder-coated steel
Held up only by my mind
In a prolonged gasp of waiting*

A mistaken calm

*Chin raised in wonder
To a memorial for snowflakes
Cement-colored ash falling*

*Is there a sound for floating
Under that silence
A distant roar blanketed
By thickness now of air
The breath swept bare*

*If I stare long and deep
Into the bottom of this eye of fire
I hear the stampede of the innocent*

An epitaph written on velvet black of leaf

The 8 X 8 Exhibition – again in 2020

Cobargo Creators is calling out to get busy with head, hands and heart to create your 8 X 8 squares for an exhibition opening on 8 December.

The medium is open – take your pick – paint print glass paper clay mosaic photograph thread forge knit felt wire weave crochet glue twist wrap stitch – as long as it's 8 inches X 8 inches. There's a limit of two entries per person. Deadline is 24 November.

All work must be for sale, price set at \$50. There's a \$5 entry fee per exhibit for non-members. Entry forms are available at the gallery or via email: cobargocreators@gmail.com.

The Art and Craft Bank continues to be topped up along with steady withdrawals as bags of art 'n' craft materials and inspiration wander out the door. If you haven't popped in yet, come along don't be shy, deposits and withdrawals are easy. Best of all, no bank fees apply!

As spring further unfolds, the gallery will return to opening from 10 am – 4 pm somewhere around the end of September.

Sandra Taylor

Four Winds – adapting to the times



We have adapted our forthcoming live performance program to ensure that live music will once again flow from Four Winds as we head into spring.

Restrictions allowing, we hope to welcome audiences in small numbers to the Windsong Pavilion. We will also create digital content from the performances and make that available online after the event.

We are planning a season of three Windsong Series concerts. Our plans include welcoming Timo-Veikko Valve, Principal Cello of the Australian Chamber Orchestra, and pianist Sonja Lifschitz with her amazing project 'Stalin's Piano' in which the original virtuosic score for solo piano by Robert Davidson melds with orations from the likes of Bertolt Brecht, Goebbles, JFK, Ai Wei Wei, Stalin, Sontag, Gillard and Trump – all of whom appear on screen during the performance. The Windsong Series will also feature a visiting ensemble – yet to be announced.

We'll have very limited tickets on sale for these events to ensure social distancing, so please watch your inbox for updates and 'on sale' dates.

The Four Winds team

Alcoholics Anonymous
For information ring
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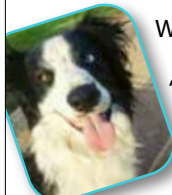
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Triangle Photo Gallery



We have received some great photos for our 'Animal' Gallery, which will be on the website on 15 September.

We'll send out an email to our on-line subscribers as soon as it's ready to view.

Next month's theme is 'Landscapes'.

Think about seascapes, sunsets - there are a lot of options.

Get them to us by the end of September. Send to

photos@thetriangle.org.au

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Olga Masters Award winners to be announced this month at Well Thumbed

South East Arts relaunched the Olga Masters Short Story Award this year, and 128 short stories were submitted from across the country. On Saturday 19 September we'll announce the winners at Well Thumbed Books; this coincides with the tenth birthday of this much-loved store. The winning entry will be published in *Island Magazine* and the other prize-winners on the competition's website.

The Award was established by Well Thumbed Books as part of the Olga Masters Festival in 2014 and ran for the next few years. After a couple of year's hiatus, South East Arts organised this year's competition, partnering again with *Island Magazine*. The South Coast Writers Centre supported the judging process and local author Jamie Shaw supported a new youth award. The Masters family have continued to support the Award, providing the main prize money.

The Award honours Olga Masters, who was born in Pambula in 1919, the second of eight children. Her early life was characterised by the poverty of the Depression, her family moving

around the South Coast region in search of work.

In 1928 the family moved to Cobargo. Olga was first published at the age of 15 in the Cobargo Chronicle, a weekly newspaper serving the south coast area between Bega and Moruya. Olga wrote as a journalist for most of her life and supplemented the family income by writing for local newspapers in the towns she lived in with her husband. On their move to Sydney she wrote for papers such as *The Manly Daily* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*.

Due to her late start and her relatively early death, Olga's published output is small, but her impact was considerable in that her style and thoughts on writing inspired many others to take up the craft.

For more information see www.olgamastersshortstoryaward.com and www.islandmag.com.

Andrew Gray
South East Arts



Later this month the winners of the Olga Masters Award will be announced in Cobargo, where Olga spent some formative years.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS
ACROSS 1. grill, 4. dig, 6. our, 7. again, 8. ant, 9. dime 11. snow, 14. can, 15. olive, 17. owl, 18. tar, 18. lolly
DOWN 1. guard, 2. IRA, 3. long, 4. drain, 5. get, 10. minor, 12. weedy, 13. roll, 14. cat, 16. ill
VISUAL PUZZLE ANSWERS
1. forget it, 2. Jack in the box, 3. somewhere over the rainbow, 4. backyard, 5. read between the lines, 6. blood is thicker than water, 7. bee line, 8. cancelled cheque, 9. once upon a time, 10. green eggs and ham, 11. try to understand, 12. downtown, 13. bump in the night, 14. first aid, 15. one in a million, 16. apple pie, 17. ice cube, 18. rocking around the Christmas tree, 19. thin outside the square, 20. six feet underground, 21. won by a nose, 22. too big to ignore, 23. half-baked, 24. neon lights



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Nature's carpet

Welcome to spring and how good has the rain been! For once we will be ensured of a great spring and optimum growing conditions in our gardens.

A lot of gardens will have a lovely selection of low to mid and then tall plants in the landscape, but we often forget about the groundcover plants that can be planted amongst these taller plants to provide an infill over the soil.

Groundcovers come in many forms and categories, from conifers through Australian natives to perennials and introduced exotic species. Many are absolute ground-huggers, and others can reach 50-70 centimetres high and be as wide as 3-4 metres.

There are categories that will tolerate first-line coastal to varieties that can handle severe frosts and low water. Others are shade-tolerant and many are edible, like herbs.

Let's start with first-line coastal. Many of the plants that suit this location are Australian natives and a stroll around coastal gardens and natural areas will soon give an indication as to what species are handling this difficult growing area.

Carpobrotus (an Australian native succulent) is good for dune stabilisation, along with Banksia, Westringia, Myoporum and Hakea that also have groundcover varieties. A good non-Australian plant is the Shore juniper (*Juniperus conferta*) that will mat well and stabilise sandy soils.

We then move into more protected locations with heavier soils and not so much wind.

For open, sunny positions in these locations the list is endless. Australian natives include Grevillea, Leptospermum, Callistemon and Banksia, with many others that are softer perennial types, including Scaevola and Brachyscome. Non-Australian plants include Gardenia radicans, Convolvulus and Cerastium (Snow in Summer).

Shaded gardens can be a bit of a problem but here too there are many plants that you can use in combination with perennials, including Camellias, Chinese Star Jasmine (often used as a climber) and Lamium, which comes in several leaf variegations and flower colours.

Herbs are a category of groundcover that don't get much of a mention but there are many of benefit. Use them to cover paths in the herb and vegetable garden, or to cover a retained

area within the garden. Several varieties of thyme are suitable for walking on and prostrate rosemary also falls into this category.

Ground preparation for groundcover plants is the same as for all other plants – include some compost mixed with the existing soil to give the plants a good start.

There is a common but mistaken belief that groundcover plants will suppress weeds. There might be some weed suppression but generally weeds will still grow through the groundcovers and will be hard to remove after the groundcovers are established.

The best method is to lay down several layers of moist newspaper and cover with a moisture retentive mulch. Then pull paper and mulch aside sufficiently to make the planting hole. Plant the plants, water in and pull paper and mulch back around the plant. By the time the newspaper has decomposed, the weeds should have died. Some careful hand-weeding and spot-spraying after that will ensure the garden stays weed-free.



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Cauliflower became all the rage a few years ago, and with its new trendy status came countless new ways of preparing it. People were stuffing and roasting the heads whole for a vegetarian 'roast' instead of having chook. And cauliflower 'steaks' became a thing too. Why not?

But one of our favourites is cauliflower 'rice'. If you're trying to reduce your carb intake or watch your weight, cauliflower rice is a great way to put a well-rounded meal on the table without heaviness.

Of course cauliflower soup is classic and so delicious. And this roasted cauliflower with parmesan is caramelised in the oven – a real flavour boost, yum! We hope you enjoy them.

The Triangle team



Roasted Cauliflower with Parmesan

- 1 head cauliflower, cut into florets
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 4 sprigs thyme
- 4 (or more!) garlic cloves, unpeeled
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- ½ cup grated Parmesan

Preheat oven to 220C. Toss cauliflower florets on a large-rimmed baking sheet with oil, thyme sprigs, salt and pepper. Roast for 15 minutes. Remove from the oven, add the garlic and onion and toss well. Continue roasting until almost tender, another 20 to 25 minutes. Sprinkle with Parmesan, toss to combine, and return to the oven for another 10–12 minutes until tender and nicely coloured.



- 1 cauliflower head
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Remove all green leaves from the cauliflower head and wash and thoroughly dry it. Cut it into quarters. Grate it either by hand using the large-hole side of your box grater or in a food processor using the grater attachment.

Cauliflower Rice

Heat the olive oil in a large frying pan and sauté the cauliflower for a few minutes. Season and stir, then cook covered for 2 or 3 minutes until tender.

You can then add aromatics to the 'rice' like curry powder or minced green onions if you like. A squeeze of lime is nice too. Be creative and add flavours to complement your main course or serve it just plain. It's delicious.

Creamy Roasted Cauliflower Soup

- Serves 4
- 1 large head cauliflower (about 1kg), cut into bite-size florets
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- Fine sea salt
- 1 medium red onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, pressed or minced
- 1 litre vegetable or chicken stock
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- Scant ¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg

For garnish: 2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley, chives and/or green onions

Preheat the oven to 220C. If desired, line a large, rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper for easy clean-up.

On the baking sheet, toss the cauliflower with 2 tablespoons of the olive oil until lightly and evenly coated in oil. Arrange the cauliflower in a single layer and sprinkle lightly with salt. Bake until the cauliflower is tender and caramelised on the edges, 25 to 35 minutes, tossing after 15 minutes.

When the cauliflower is almost done, warm the remaining 1 tablespoon olive oil in a Dutch oven or soup pot over medium heat until shimmering. Add the onion and ¼ teaspoon salt. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the onion is softened and turning translucent, 5 to 7 minutes.

Add the garlic and cook, stirring constantly, until fragrant, about 30 seconds, then add the stock.

Reserve 4 of the prettiest roasted cauliflower florets for garnish. Then



transfer the remaining cauliflower to the pot. Increase the heat to medium-high and bring the mixture to the boil, then reduce the heat as necessary to maintain a gentle simmer. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 20 minutes, to give the flavours time to meld.

When the soup is done cooking, remove the pot from the heat and let it cool for a few minutes. Blend the soup until smooth. Add the butter and blend until incorporated. Add the lemon juice and nutmeg and blend again. Taste for seasoning, adding additional salt if required or a squeeze of lemon for more zing. Blend again.

Reheat before serving. Top each bowl of soup with one roasted cauliflower floret and a sprinkle of chopped parsley, green onion and/or chives.

This soup keeps well in the refrigerator, covered, for about four days, or for several months in the freezer.

Jung Chang

Big Sister, Little Sister, Red Sister: Three women at the heart of twentieth-century China

Penguin, \$35.00

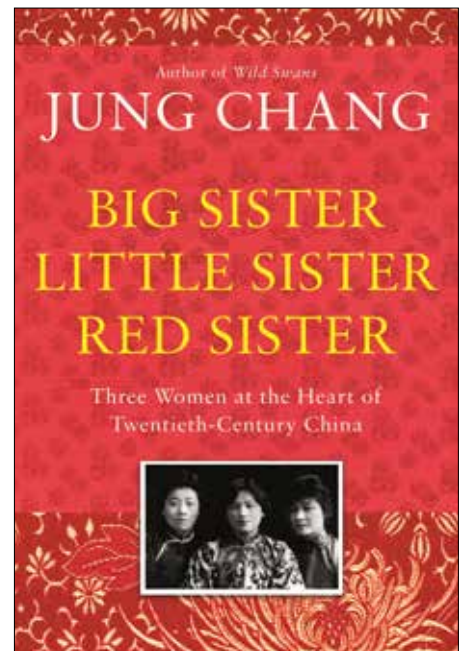
This fascinating book tells the story of the Soong sisters, each of whom helped to shape 20th century China, and each of whom deserves a biography of her own. Their story has always reminded me of the Mitford sisters in England in terms of how differently their views of the world and their values were.

The Soongs were unusual in that they were sent to America for their education and were raised as Methodists. The eldest, Ei-Ling, married the richest man in China;

the youngest, May-Ling, married Chiang Kai-shek, leader of the Nationalist Party, arch foe of Mao and president of Taiwan; middle sister was the wife of Sun Yat-sen and later rose to be Chairman Mao's vice-chair.

Their lives spanned three centuries, and for most of their adulthood they were at the centre of society and of the political and social upheavals that led to the transformation of China into an emerging world power. Lavish lifestyles, entertained and feted by world leaders in the west, in Japan and in Russia, the Soongs shaped history.

As an introduction to this turbulent time in China's history, you can't go wrong by beginning here, though you will want to question some of the author's interpretations of the struggle for supremacy waged by the men in their lives.



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Community Notices

In recognition that meetings are not happening at the moment – at least, not in the ways they used to – we're placing the 'Community Notices' page in storage for the time being.

Let's hope we can bring it back soon. Before we do, we'll be contacting all groups to make sure that details – contact names and numbers, meeting times and places – are still correct.

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Pet of the Month

Deb Cox

Blue and Sox are bonded brothers, five years old, and were adopted by their carer about three years ago. As you can see they are very handsome boys but are also quite flighty and nervous. They live on a rural property where they spend most of each day in a large 'well appointed' cat run. They do get out for a couple of hours each afternoon. However, this daily routine took over a year to establish as it has only been recently that they have been willing to be picked up when outdoors.

As their carers are relocating, Blue and Sox need to find a new home. Due to their natures, it would be difficult for them to be placed with new carers then to be rehomed once again down the track.

If you have experience and confidence in handling cats, and in particular male cats, you'd be welcome to enquire further about Blue and Sox. A suitable cattery/cat run set up will be essential and perhaps a family who've been cat breeders or cat carers in the past, who may already have a good set-up, would be suitable. Blue and Sox are not at all



aggressive toward people, are very smoochy and affectionate, and really are charming, gorgeous boys.

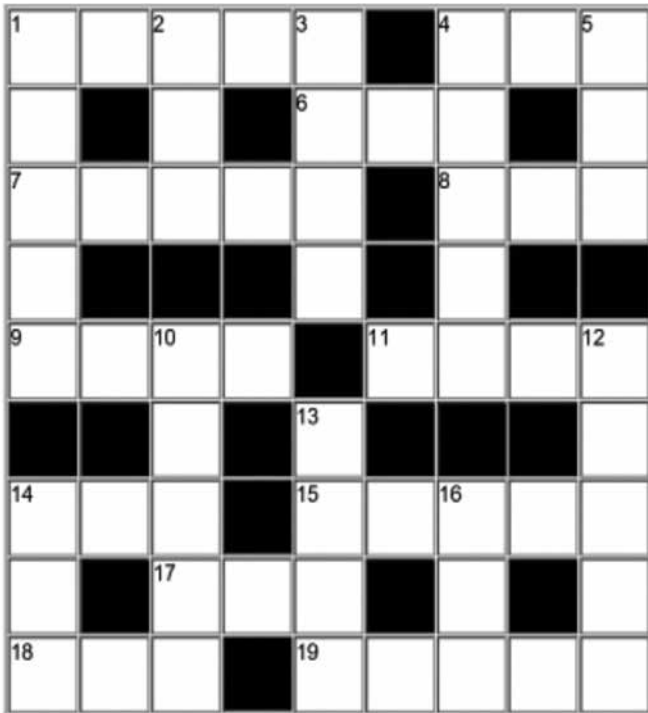
Their carer family has found the experience of first taking them in, and developing their trust and confidence, to be a very rewarding experience and will miss the unique relationship they all have.

Enquiries
0400 372 609
(Monday to Friday
9am-5pm).

Blue and Sox are not to be separated.

Game On

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Cook on griddle
4. Work with a shovel
6. Belonging to us
7. Repeated another time
8. Small insect
9. 10 cent coin (US)
11. Frozen precipitation
14. Food tin
15. Grayish green
17. Hooting bird
18. Sticky black substance
19. Candy

DOWN

1. Protect
2. Northern Ireland army
3. Not short
4. Empty liquid from container
5. Acquire
10. Not major
12. Full of weeds
13. Toilet _____
14. Feline
16. Sick

SUDOKU







		4		3			2	7
				6	1	3		5
	9	6					8	1
	1		8					4
	7	5	2		9	8	3	
6					3		7	
5	4					9	6	
2		8	1	9				
7	3			2		5		

BIRTHDAY INTERVIEW

Take some time to get to know a friend or family member a bit better.

1. What is your name?
2. How old are you?
3. What makes you laugh?
4. What is the best time of the day?
5. What are you afraid of?
6. What is your favourite food?
7. Where do you like going to?
8. What is your favourite book, TV show or movie?
9. What is your first memory?
10. What do you enjoy doing most?
11. What can you do really well?
12. What do you wish you could do better?
13. What do you love to learn about?
14. Who is your closest friend?
15. Who do you like to spend time with?
16. If you had one wish, what would it be?

VISUAL PUZZLE

1 Get it Get it Get it Get it	2 Jack	3 Somewhere 	4 DOOR
5 	6 Blood Water	7 Beeeee	8 CANCELED
9 once 	10 Egg Egg HAM	11 Try Stand 2	12 TOWN
13 N bump GHT	14 Aid ← Aid Aid	15 Mill1on	16  3.14
17 ice ³	18 R O G O N C I K 	19 Think 	20 GROUND feet feet feet feet feet feet
21 1 KNOWS	22 Big Big ignore ignore	23 RAKEN	24 KNEE light light

JOKES

- Q: What do you call a clairvoyant midget who just broke out of prison?
A: A small medium at large.
- Q: What do you call a row of rabbits jumping backwards?
A: A receding hair line.
- Q: What's the best thing about having Alzheimer's?
A: You can hide your own Easter eggs.
- Q: What do you call a boomerang that won't come back?
A: A stick.