

Sewergate – the cost of ablutions in the Shire

Yes it's rates time again, but this year there was a real shock to many rate payers in the Triangle. For many, their rates have increased by approximately \$1,000.

The truth though is it's not the land rates that have gone up so much, but the new sewage charge of \$890 per property. Rates are still very reasonable, in line with everything state government allows. From my shaky maths I have worked out that Council gets approximately 15.5 dollars from the land rates.

Fair enough, no-one can expect Council to run on \$15,500,000, so that when I looked at my rates and rang Council to enquire about the \$20 on-site sewage charge, I figured out that it was a little way of them raising a bit of extra revenue. I was sympathetic and after all \$20 a year is bearable.

But then I live out of town, on my own water and dealing with my own waste and sewage, so my rates are minimal.

For those of you unfortunate to live in the sewered areas, your rates have come as a huge shock. Most people I have spoken to say they were well aware of the \$100 a year for 10 years, but very few were aware that was on top of the yearly base rate of \$890.

That works out at \$2.43 per day to poo!

Again with my shaky maths and using only the residential assessments,

Council is collecting approx \$15 million from poo. That is a huge amount to pay for sewage.

Interestingly Local Government rules that, 'Water and sewerage rates

approximately two months of their pension and brings their weekly pension down to approximately \$235 per week before any other expenses. This is unsustainable and there are many other residents who will be in a similar situation.

Whilst I am sympathetic with the Council's situation, when you compare rates in a Sydney Council – Leichhardt (land value \$312,500) of \$1,200 per year, against rates in Cobargo (land value of \$52,500) of \$2,000 a year, you have to wonder.

It is time for our new councillors, our state and federal representatives to seriously lobby state and federal governments to alleviate the situation. The Bega Valley Shire can only 'rate' 29

per cent of the Shire. The rest is either State Forest or NPWS. State Forest is now run as a business. Why are they not paying the Shire money? Every other business has to pay rates. And when carbon trading comes in, and State Forests make money from retaining forests, will they give the Shire any of the money they make?

Louise Brown

All maths is approx and pretty shaky but taken from statistics gleaned from the Department of Local Government website.

△



He's got a doctor's certificate to say he suffers from constipation!

and charges are set by each Council and are not limited by rate-pegging'.

A base \$30.5 million is a much better amount to try and run a Shire with, but is it fair?

Add then the recent Development Application from the Bermagui Country Club to build 256 blocks of flats, 56 duplexes and 65 houses using their own sewage system (an admirable aim) all of which presumably would be exempt from this charge and it becomes even less fair.

Take a single aged pensioner on \$273.40 per week, with a rates bill of approx \$2,000, with all the rebates taken into account. This is

Editorial

Well don't let anyone tell you in summer that we had a mild winter. No, we've had a good old-fashioned cold winter. Bit light on the rain, which feeds the suspicions about 'seeding' the clouds over the Snowies ... But it has been chilly this year, and once again snow has been visible from the Triangle. Here's hoping for good spring rains, otherwise we will quickly slide into that dreaded D word.

Great isn't it, world oil prices go up, Aussie dollar goes up and petrol prices go up. The only slim silver behind the threatening cloud was that for the first time in years, the price of petrol in the country was of parity with that in the city. But no, the

world oil price goes down, the Aussie dollar goes down and once again, petrol prices in the country are at least 10c a litre more than in the city. No blame to our local service stations, it's just another of those hidden/ignored costs of living in the country, like our rates in comparison with urban rates. With a small population, large area, transportation and energy costs rising it's going to cost us all more. But this gloomy scenario is brightened by the Transition Town concept.

Spring will end our hibernation and herald the start of all those summer activities as we strive to raise funds to improve and provide amenities for all to enjoy. We all need to get behind the various activities which people have worked hard to organise. This month brings us the Open Day at Montreal, the CEFE Fashion Parade, music back on at the Tilba Valley Winery, a couple of exhibitions and a fundraiser for the Tilba Halls.

The Bermagui Country Club development is open for inspection. It's very grand, 265 blocks of flats up to three stories high, 56 duplexes and 65 houses on small blocks, Mr. Dickinson will be weeping.

Final word, don't forget to vote on September 13th. △

Letters to the Editors

New and Independent

I am a candidate in the upcoming Local Government Elections and if successful on 13 September I will be working hard for one of the most interesting and diverse parts of the Bega Valley Shire – the Triangle. I am focusing on:

- public transport – where is it?
- road maintenance and safety
- alternative energy solutions for



Snow on the hills outside Cobargo August 2008

homes and businesses

- tourism and special events to promote our area.

I'm canvassing our local communities to hear what residents are concerned about to hopefully find solutions and look forward to meeting as many as possible before E Day.

Yours sincerely
Prue Hall-Kelly
Independent



Thank you

I would like to thank all the wonderful people who contacted me recently when my gorgeous husband Chris died. All of the cards, flowers, gifts, phone messages, verbal expressions of condolence, hugs and prayers have been very much appreciated by me and Chris's children and their families.

Chris was always a very social person who enjoyed the company of others enormously. Unfortunately, in the latter stages of his illness he was unable to receive visitors and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody for being so understanding. Again, a big thank you to everyone.

Anne Packe and family



Money for nothing!

When Bega Valley Shire ratepayers who recently received their rate notices for 2008/09 had recovered from the initial shock of their 9.33% rate rise, they may have noticed a new charge: \$20 for "on-site sewage management". The accompanying explanation is that this charge is to be applied to properties "not connected to a reticulated sewerage system". In short, ratepayers in unsewered towns are now to be charged for the privilege of *not* being on the sewer.

What next? A "recycled items self-management levy" for not receiving a kerbside hard-rubbish collection? A "soft-edge roadside profile tax" for not having kerbs and gutters?

How about a "cross-country fitness trail charge" for doing without footpaths?

The possibilities are endless, and could represent a fast turnaround in Council's financial status over the coming years.

Jen Severn
Quaama



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My Triangle

Stan Whiffen

At the grand age of 86, World War II veteran, Stan Whiffen, still proudly lives on the dairy farm he bought in Tilba in 1953 from Lou Poole, a member of that pioneering family.

When Stan was still a youngster, the family moved from Cobargo to Tilba, living and milking at 'Glenrock', 'Haxstead', and later at 'Henkley' for 10 years.

Stan joined the PMG (forerunner of Telstra and Australia Post), but in 1940, he headed off to war, aged 18. His PMG experience enabled him to become a signaller in the Army where he served in New Guinea after training in Queensland. He also served as a cook. However, Stan was called home after 14 months to help look after his Uncle Ken's farm because Ken was dying of cancer. This farm was later passed to Stan's Uncle Jack, and Stan rejoined the PMG for another 6-7 years.

In 1953 he bought the present farm for £3,000. The farm was mostly

bush, and carried only 17 cows. The Bank of NSW had refused to lend money because they believed the farm was not viable, so Stan was lucky enough to be offered a loan of £1,500 by Mrs Lawler, the Central Tilba haberdashery shop keeper. Stan stayed on at the PMG, leasing out the farm for the first twelve months. He and some mates worked their weekends clearing during this time.

Stan proudly states he had repaid the loan in 12 months, and then started dairying himself. He soon was milking 50 cows. He used horses for all field work until 1961 when he bought his first tractor.

In 1959 Stan married Cathy Smeets who was just 17 years old. They had started dating when Cathy was just 15 years old. Understandably, he was often referred to as a 'cradle snatcher'. Perhaps as



testament to their love, good judgement and tolerance, this marriage is still as strong as ever today. They have two sons and six grandchildren. Son John works the family farm.


Stan looks back fondly to the 'old times',

especially the Friday night dances at Central Tilba where he always went, and danced well. He says this and fishing were his only recreations, apart from some football when he was younger. His favourite spot is Poole's Point where he fished off the beach with a hand line, catching salmon, bream, tailor and whiting.

Stan never talks about the war, and did not bother to collect his medals until two years ago after the urging of some friends. He had never been interested in medals.

Stan has been so contented and happy with Tilba and farming that only once in his life has he had a holiday, when in the late 1970s he visited a mate in Cowra for four days.

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THUMBS UP

To the folks at Le Anders Gardens at Fairhaven who found a missing dog and rang our local ABC, and
For the pathway outside the Cobargo Retirement Village.



THUMBS DOWN...

To the positioning of the above pathway and its access. This is an accident waiting to happen.

Potoroo found Pottering

A project to assist the recovery of Long-nosed Potoroo populations on the Far South Coast has developed an information booklet in a local Aboriginal dialect to help find the vulnerable marsupials.

Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) Threatened Species Officer, Melissa Mass said the Cultural Connections project had been surveying extensively for the last 18 months, but had found only two populations in the area.

The populations have been found in the Gulaga area and in Mimosa Rocks National Park.

'Having found only these two populations after 18 months of searching suggests the Long-nosed Potoroo is in need of assistance to help recovery back to a healthy and viable population', said Ms Mass.

'This project is a collaborative effort between the local Aboriginal community, members of the wider commu-

nity and DECC. DECC has compiled the information booklet with the help of linguist Jutta Besold and the Aboriginal community, and incorporated the local Dhurga language in the bilingual



text. We believe this is the first of its kind and hope to develop more booklets in the future for other threatened species'.

Ms Mass said the Long-nosed Potoroo is a small to medium sized mammal, which looks like a cross between a rat and a wallaby. It feeds al-

most exclusively on underground fungi called truffles. She said they are nocturnal animals and can be found in dense understorey in coastal heath and Eucalyptus forest and move like a wallaby hopping on their hind feet.

'We have tried using a number of methods to locate the species. First we tried looking for their typically cup-shaped diggings in areas where they had previously been located five years ago. Then we tried hair tunnels in straight line transects, we then used infra red cameras. All failed to locate potoroo in the landscape. However our last method, hair tunnels placed out in a grid across a site, located a population of potoroo in the Wallaga Lake area and in Mimosa Rocks National Park. We have also been using peanut butter, rolled oats, golden syrup and truffle oil baits to attract the animals'.

To help assist the recovery of Long-nosed Potoroo community members should ensure their cats and dogs are unable to roam bushland particularly at night and report any potoroo sightings to the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

△

Passionate about Wilderness

Well never have we at *The Triangle* seen such prompt action! At the Bega Valley Shire 'Big Ideas' day, it was suggested changing the name of the coast from the Sapphire Coast to the Wilderness Coast. So...

Australia's Coastal Wilderness, which extends from Lakes Entrance in Victoria to Bermagui in NSW, has been officially launched by the Federal Tourism Minister, Martin Ferguson.

The launch of the Coastal Wilderness, which is part of the National

Landscapes marketing initiative was held in Torquay, Victoria, last week where Mr Ferguson also launched the Great Ocean Road National Landscape.

The NSW representative at the launch was Coastal Wilderness steering committee member Tim Shepherd. Mr Shepherd is also a member of the Sapphire Coast Tourism Board and Far South Coast NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service regional manager. Chair of the steering committee Phil Rickards, from Gippsland was also in attendance.

At the launch Mr Ferguson paid homage to the natural beauty of Australia, 'I do believe the landscapes which surround us are unparalleled in their beauty. In the fiercely competitive world of tourism they present us with enormous opportunity and point of difference', he said.

△

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Grow your own food and eat it too ... Community Garden Project

Women's Resource Centre would like to invite women and children to the free Grow Your Own Food and Eat it Too ... more community garden workshops. They will be run on 4 & 11 September from 1pm-4pm for women who want to develop skills in no dig gardening, planting trees and seedlings.

Come along and join in with other local women and children and begin a lifestyle of self sufficiency and make your own home gardens sustainable. The workshops will be facilitated by Kathleen McCann, a permaculture specialist who will

provide simple down to earth information and easy steps to grow your own produce and increase

local women to develop new skills and confidence with other women in a friendly supportive environment and at

the same time improve their health and well being through organic gardening.

Without the financial support of the Mumbulla Foundation these workshops would not be possible.

The Southern Women's Group Inc manages the Women's Resource Centre (WRC), which is a community centre that provides information,



Mary, Esme and Kathleen - Grow your Own Food and Eat It Too

awareness of methods that are achievable at home with the aim that families can achieve good results in their gardens and prepare for Spring planting.

The Grow Your Own Food and Eat It Too workshops are supporting

referral, support and community development through education. For more information please call the WRC coordinator Gabrielle Powell on 6492 1367 or drop in at the centre at 29 Parker St Bega.



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Pat's Piece

How sad it was to hear that the Palestinian refugee who was deported, even though he had told Australian Immigration that his life would be at risk if he was sent home, was shot dead outside a magistrate's court in Palestine last week. Thank goodness the present government is changing the rules and offering more protection to these unfortunate people.

I recently had a card from a friend of mine who is travelling in Europe; it was from Buda, an old town outside Budapest. It depicted a Christian church built in the 12th century that became a mosque in the 16th century. Much later the interior renovations included Christian imagery and Islamic patterns. My friend had this to say: 'Who says we don't know how to cross between cultures?' *But do we?*

In light of the above and the obvious display of bigotry and racism over the building of an Islamic school in the Camden area recently, it would seem there are always those hell bent on destroying what has been achieved over the last fifty years.

In direct contrast we have a Muslim family living here in Bermagui, one of whom is our local Doctor. I can only imagine how difficult it must be for a family to become part of a small village community when they come from an entirely different culture, yet this same doctor treats the elderly frail in their own homes. He does not over service us, or hand out drugs willy-nilly, he shows concern for our welfare and is an excellent diagnostician. We as a community are very much the benefactors of his expertise. He admits himself that at times it's been difficult, but the good people here have convinced him to stay.

My daughter Cate is an educator with the Electoral

Commission; she teaches people from emerging democracies the due process of democratic institutions. Sometimes she has people from as many as eight different countries in one group. She regularly remarks on the immediacy with which they form a group and communicate, collaborate and enjoy one another, even though their background language and culture are worlds apart.

I guess it's all about compassion and mutual respect, the two components we need most to create a peaceful world based on social equity.

Unfortunately, because of our inability to get it right we are more likely to be hearing about young men dying on the battlefield before their lives have hardly begun.

Despite all this it is essential that we remain positive and live with hope in our hearts.

Pat Thompson



Notes on budget airline travel

It is exciting going travelling, especially if you can afford to go overseas and miss some or all of winter, but a new travel scene has arrived and one which needs getting accustomed to. It is the budget airline, which has appeared in place of the regular service to some destinations, ie Bali – Qantas no longer flies direct there, only Jetstar or Garuda

If you have a good travel agent, they may tell you of all the changes that have arrived but if the agent forgets and presumes that you are a seasoned traveller, very little information will be passed on to you.

The crazy thing is that most of us look forward to a flight, a few hours to read in peace, eat and drink at

leisure, perhaps watch a movie or snuggle up and go to sleep. Be prepared for disappointment.

You will get a shock as none of the above pleasures come easily to the budget traveller. In fact if you are travelling with a friend/partner/ you may not even be seated together and heaven help you if the flight is full and you wish to change, not a chance. Best to make sure all your bookings are done simultaneously and you have requested seats together.

Then there is the little problem of drinks on board, all of which have been removed from you en route to the plane. There will be no welcoming hot or cold towel, OJ or even water,

(continued next page)

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More people more gas

'Population growth is inexorably linked to increasing greenhouse emissions', according to Tom Kirsop. Mr Kirsop, a former pharmaceutical scientist and government adviser, was guest speaker to a capacity audience at the Bermagui Institute's big public dinner at the Bermagui Hotel.

'The Australian Government has just announced a very large annual increase in immigration – about 190,000 this year – and intends to bring an extra one million people to the country in the next four years', he said.

'It is a population policy related to growth, to increased production, to increased consumption – and to increased greenhouse emissions'.

Mr Kirsop noted that the business community generally supports increasing immigration as population

growth means increased sales and profits. 'And environmental organisa-

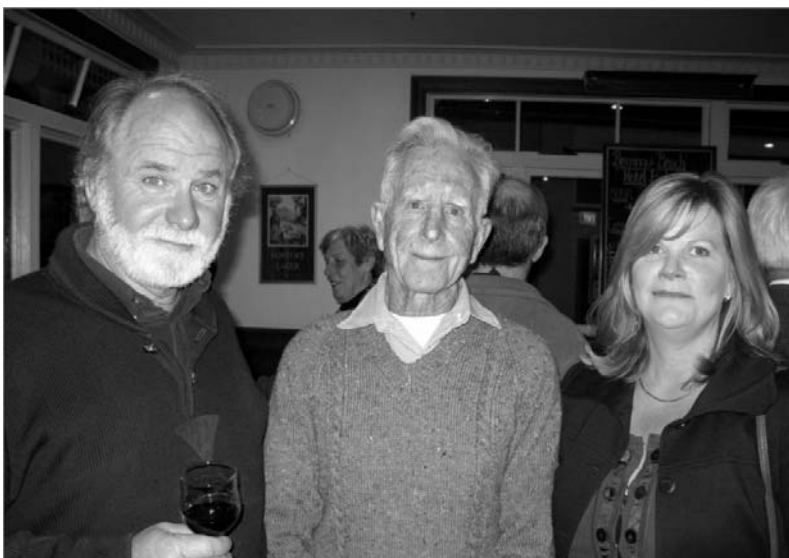
in favour of the fortunate migrants who come here and discriminates against those millions forced to remain in third world countries.

'A less discriminating policy would be to cut immigration and divert instead the billions of dollars saved to foreign aid to assist third world countries to stabilise their populations and raise their standards of living.

'This foreign aid should aim to educate and empower women, to educate men and to support family planning programs.

'Unless population stability is achieved the task of reducing greenhouse emissions is well nigh impossible'.

Tom Kirsop was thanked on behalf of the Institute and the audience by Bill Broadhead of Bermagui.



Dr Terry Hanzlik, Guest Speaker Tom Kirsop and Kathryn Hede

tions, campaigning for greenhouse gas emission reductions, don't oppose such a population policy as they see it as a humanitarian issue'.

But Mr Kirsop believes that an immigration-led population increase is itself discriminating. 'It discriminates

(from previous page)

let alone the pillow and blanket. These, like the meals, should all be ordered ahead and paid for in advance including the blanket at \$8 each. On reaching your seat, there may be water, which could be refilled if you are able to find the bubbler in the ill lit cabin, but any other refreshments or meals need payment.

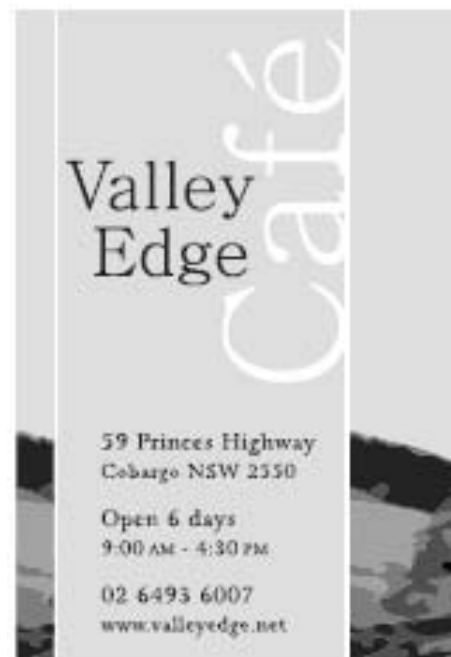
The scenario of entertainment is yet another hurdle. You can pay and order your own tiny DVD, which takes up all your tray table. None of this freedom of choice for movies on the back of the seat – the old fashioned small screen drops down in the

middle rows for the one movie on an approximate five–six hour flight, plus some shorts, all of which you can hear when you pay for headphones.

I won't mention the seating as we all know what economy seating is these days, just be prepared to be cramped, enjoy the fact that you are on holidays and trust the destination will be worth the effort.

The above trip was taken with Jetstar (recently voted World's best budget airline); maybe other readers have some interesting comparisons.

Rosemary Millard



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Tilba Bites

This month your Tilba news is coming from a variety of correspondents (you could say due to slackness on my part), but I'd rather think if you cannot be everywhere at once, what is wrong with delegation? Over the 68 issues of *The Triangle* to date I have increasingly enjoyed helping to bring you up to date with local news, stories, events, lies, innuendos and suppositions. But how sweet it is to have help and a different slant from other local people, for which I thank you very much. On with the news!

Colin Sagar has advised me that his proposed Heritage Walking Tours of Central Tilba Village are just about ready to kick off. Organisational details including Council's permission, insurance, advertising and booking procedures are coming together, and 'a few good yarns too!' according to Colin. He hopes to be starting the tours in the September school holidays.

It is interesting to note that several properties in the Tilba district appear to have sold quite quickly, despite a supposedly slow market. I guess it attests to the fact that we live in a very special part of our country and that most times there is very little for sale in the area. Good wishes to friends new and old who are coming, going or simply relocating. It can be a pretty traumatic time moving and sorting through one's collectables and baggage, but also uplifting once the journey is underway.

Welcome to Joe Smart, who has come to live with Jamie and I at

Kinnoull Hill, Tilba Tilba. Joe is just 13 and will be attending Narooma High School. He has slipped into farm life very quickly (which he has experienced before) and we hope he has a happy, healthy and growing up time with us. He and I were picking fireweed the other day adjacent to the highway, as some locals noticed. Joe got a bit bored, so we fitted in a bit more driving practice in the paddock. He is a good quick learner and well worth tutoring. Anyone who noticed my silver Subaru bogged to the axles in a wet gully, need not necessarily presume that I was driving!

Hope all you Olympophiles are enjoying your daily fix. It is good at this time of year to have something other than footie! My niece, Angie Ballard is a Para-Olympian in her sport of wheelchair (3 wheeler) racing. She has been training hard under the tutelage of Louise Savage and leaves for Beijing about the 1st of September. Angie raced in Sydney and Athens and hopes that this will be her best Games. She has to travel overseas several times a year to compete sufficiently with others of a similar disability. She is a very gutsy performer and in her spare time is studying at university in Sydney. We wish her all the best.

Simon's 60th

A Tilba contingent comprising of a bus full of staunch party people headed to the Narooma surf club to help Simon Simpson celebrate his 60th. At this point I would like to say to his wife Linda what a superb job you did in organising the event. As a 'this is your life' theme with a great narrator and an excellent DVD job by Hoots it

was a great night had by all. As the evening wore on I think he was sufficiently embarrassed to appease the countless people that he has in some way embarrassed, shocked, depressed or aggravated. To the people who turned up out of Simon's past to help convey this embarrassment, the residents of Tilba applaud you.

Thanks for listening,

Ewen Genders



Not another bloody birthday!



You know you're getting old when your eldest progeny turns 30 and he or she is still less than half your age. In my case there's still five years to go before my son Miles attains that mark. I recently observed the rites of his joint 30th birthday party (Kieran, Steve and ringleader Miles) that extended over an entire weekend on the top of 'Shuff's Hill'. The sixty or so participants came from all points of the compass, including several from overseas. As Miles is now Perth-based there was a strong WA component. Not wishing to be the old farty at the party, I confined myself to the odd cameo appearance to quaff an ale or two before retreating to my eyrie on the opposite hill. The distant 'doof-doof' of their sound system continued unabated until being somewhat dulled by a visit from the local constabulary. A repeat visit finally saw the noise abate on Sunday afternoon, although a couple of lyre birds in the valley saw fit to emit the odd 'doof' for a couple of days thereafter.

The die-hards kicked on until Monday morning. An old fart inspection was impressed by the minimal property damage, vast

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Tilba Bites (continued)

quantity of empty drink containers and the blissed-out faces of the participants. The onset of rain saw a few stragglers adjourn to the 'Drom'. When asked what my 30th had been like, I had to confess that I couldn't remember the details. It would have undoubtedly been a mega-bash as (a) it was in Sydney, (b) it was the 1970s and (c) I was betwixt wives. I can only assume that substance abuse led to hazy memory. Although I would like to be around to ask the same question of the party-goers in 2038, I surmise that my chances are minimal, damn it.

Having been born in the UK during the war (it is rumoured that a bomb blast precipitated the vinegar stroke) I turned 60 back in 2003. The post-war baby boom has now come home to roost with a vengeance, with 60th birthday parties abounding. Robin (Idi) Croxson's party was reported earlier. The legendary Tilba mechanic Roger Barraclough turned 60 on August 14. As Roger was holidaying in NZ a group of us decided to phone through our congratulations. However, we were greeted by an answering machine. Following a rousing chorus of 'Happy Birthday' the phone was passed around the circle for individual



How about one of you track and field experts sprinting down to the shop for a litre of milk?

greetings. The final speaker, Wendy Woo, said 'Hello Roger' then looked perplexed. After a few seconds silence she announced 'He's not answering'. One can only hope that there was enough space on the answering tape for the resultant explosion of laughter as the circle imploded.

Simon Simpson celebrated his 60th at a bash at the Narooma Surf Life Saving Club on August 16. Simon was subjected to a 'This is Your Life' scenario involving many speakers, most of whom testified to his lifetime obsession with attaching dead chooks to the underside of unsuspecting mate's vehicles. A highlight came from his Scottish son in law Ian who is commonly known as Hoots McGroot, a moniker given to him by Simon. When asked his reaction to being given such a nickname, he said it was a great

improvement on being introduced to strangers as 'The bloke who's r... my daughter'.

Cripes! I'll be eligible for Senior Citizen concessions in another couple of weeks. Yet another bloody birthday.

△



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Curry and Cabaret Night

A Central Tilba Halls Fundraiser

**Saturday 20th September, 2008
at the Central Tilba Halls**

\$25 per person for meal and
cabaret - 6.30pm for 7.00pm start.
This includes a delicious 2- course
curry meal with tea/coffee.
BYOG and a dessert to share.

\$10 per person for cabaret only -
8.00pm start

Bookings are essential for dinner
so phone 02 4473 7302 or
4473 7133 or 4473 7040
to book your table.

Come on and get some friends
together and make up a table.
Don't forget to dress up.
Wonderful prizes to be had!

Brogo Babble

Brogo A Go Go! – or – Brogo Latin Orchestra

The third in a series of Latin American music workshops will be held on Saturday 20th September. The percussion and guitar sessions start at 3.00 pm and the combined ensemble at 5.00 pm. After this performance everyone is invited to stay for dinner and social activities.

In the percussion workshop Ken will take you through a variety of Latin-American rhythms, on a number of different percussion instruments. Experience the excitement of playing in a large percussion ensemble.

In the guitar session Dave will teach the rhythmic, melodic, and the harmonic nature of the samba, choros, milonga and cha-cha. Learn specific melodies and chord progressions, and put it all together in a combined ensemble with percussion.

It all takes place at 'Ringbalin', Blanchards Rd Brogo and there is a cost of \$30 for adults and \$15 for students. A wood fired pizza oven and BBQ are provided for BYO dinner. Ring Dave Crowden on 6492 7318 to book in.

Fire Brigade AGM

Congratulations to all the elected members and especially to

Steve Maginnity who is our new fire brigade captain.

Thankfully it has been a quiet year for the brigade and they have welcomed many new members.

A reminder that permits will be required to light fires in the open from 1st September; the permit officers are Steve Maginnity and Dave Lucas.

John's open garden

John Champagne's sustainable open garden weekend was a very inspiring visit, interesting to see swales in use, having read about this method of conserving water over a long period. This is the first time we have seen them in use on such a steep hills as in our region though!

The Champagnes have worked so very hard here it's a shame they need to move townwards. We chuckled at the 'loo with its three blue's as they look very like some we recycled from our old place, well used by royalty John.

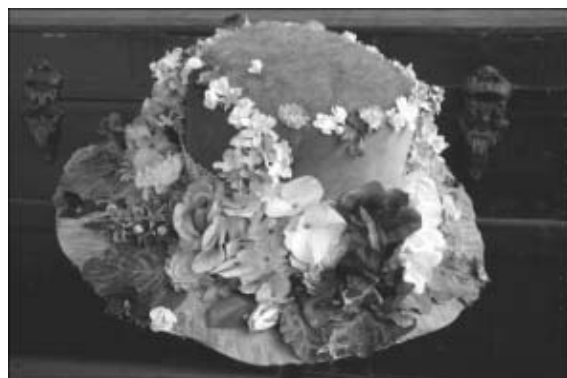
Wonderful and interesting unusual plants/plantings, some very good ideas for what to grow in Brogo. Someone will reap a bountiful harvest in years to come.

Motria

Brogo designer Motria Tymkiw

von Schreiber's floral fantasy hats have been selected for a week-long special exhibition at Floriade in Canberra at the Look and Learn Marquee. Motria will also be doing hat design workshops/demonstrations at Floriade. For schedule details and dates see the Floriade web site.

Locally in Bermagui Motria will be presenting a green-themed hat at the



Motria's green-themed hat

Clean Energy for Eternity Fashion Show fundraiser on September 27.

Barb Goms – who has been in hospital – a special thought to her at this time

To all the local *Take 5* readers, watch out for Rita Tarrant's ghost story in the Halloween special. She is, as you know a clairvoyant medium.





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Quintessentially Quaama

Quaama Rodeo becomes independent

Quaama Dry River Rodeo Committee has been running in the district for approximately 30 years with a lot of locals involved at some time or another, with two of the original members still involved. We would like to announce that we have changed our club name to the 'Quaama Independent Riders Association'. We hope that this will encourage other local 'horse' people to come join us. The committee and club members have not changed but we would be more than happy to add names to our club and now we are more than a 'rodeo' club we are hoping to appeal to any and all horse minded people in the area.

Our meetings run from 7:30pm on the first Wednesday of every month at the Quaama Sports ground hall; for all enquiries see Barry at the Co-Op at Cobargo or call Katrina on 6492 7138. Bring your horse and join us!

Fireside Notes

October 18th will be an important day in the Quaama 08 calendar. Mumbulla View is hosting the third, the biggest and the best ever open day to showcase Quaama. This time it will be a combined community event. The Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade will be even more ably assisted from other community groups.

The School of Arts Hall, Church ladies, Morning Tea and Friendship group and possibly the primary school will assist and monies raised will be distributed to these groups.

We are anticipating a car boot sale, a garden problem solver session featuring our Triangle Garden Guru, Lindy Marshall (Kangarutha Manager), veteran cars and a display of interesting motorcycles. There will be a working display of patchwork, felting and needlecrafts with items also for sale by Quaama Quilters.


Organic vegies will add flavour to our BBQ and stir fry (provided by Jeff and Bev Southam of Granpa's Garden) and we will see info on community gardens, seed savers, Transition Towns and other sustainability issues.

There will be demos of Tai Chi, Irish Dancing and possibly Scottish dancing. A billboard will highlight the businesses in the Quaama area. Not to be forgotten will be the musical entertainment at various times through the day ... and the return of Antes Pizzas for an evening meal whilst enjoying the relaxed atmosphere and evening entertainment.

The kids are not forgotten with Aussie games such as gum boot throw, sack races, egg and spoon races, and creating works for the Art Display about Mumbulla Mountain.

We will have a lucky gate prize and draw a raffle, which, as you know from previous efforts, will be well worth the purchase of a ticket.

Anyone wishing to hold a market stall or book a car-boot space, should contact Cora Hooper on 0406 513 553, and anyone wanting to play some music or entertain us, should ring Dave Hooper on 6493 8364.

Show your support for our community and make an effort to be there. You won't be disappointed! 



CEFE fashion parade – stepping out in style


Clean Energy for Eternity's Fashion Parade on September 27 will be amazing! We are working hard to raise funds for the Bermagui Surf Club and Bermagui Pre-School Solar Funds.

Starting with a complimentary champagne or fruit punch on arrival. Followed by fabulous pre-loved fashions donated by our community and featuring local male and female models. Then there will be an intermission with delicious finger foods catered by Sapphire Coast Producers' Association and our licensed bar will be open. Additional pre-loved garments will be on display. Following the intermission garments from the following will be presented on the catwalk; Ruby Vivant Boutique, Beauty & the Beach, The Pineapple House, Pretty Mermaids, Sunflower Fashions, South Coast Leather (RM Williams), Cobargo Bazaar and Gulaga Gallery.

Finishing up there will be a Wearable Art Competition where local artists and designers will have their garments paraded and a prize for the Best in Show will be presented.

Tickets for this worthwhile fundraiser are \$20.00 adult, \$10.00 children 12 and under and are on sale at Ruby Vivant Boutique, The Pineapple House and Beauty & the Beach in Bermagui, South Coast Leather and Sunflower Fashions in Cobargo, and Passionfish in Central Tilba.

We hope this fashion parade will become an annual event, growing bigger and bigger, to showcase just what our Triangle area has to offer.

We look forward to seeing you on September 27 at the Bermagui Community Centre. 

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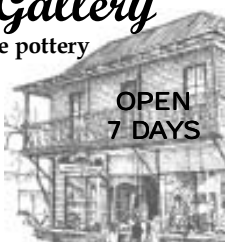
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Bermi Banter

Sulo eyesore

Could we please have the sulo bin removed from the headland above Horseshoe Bay?



The offending bin

This sulo bin is positioned almost on top of a very nice rocky memorial to Kevin Walker Fenton who was lost at sea in 1989. I am sure that his family, having taken the trouble to erect the rock and a brass plaque, are not impressed at having this sulo bin occupying pride of place in this spot. I have seen visitors endeavouring to photograph the beautiful surrounding scenery minus the sulo bin, it is not easy, and there are many other less obvious sites where the bin could be positioned.

Footprints only on Murunna Point

For the last few years the pristine Aboriginal heritage site from Camel Rock across the headland to Murrinna Point has been invaded by four-wheel drives and others, especially after rain when it's been fun to churn through the mud. In early August BVSC put a stop to this by having a heavy chain barrier and further on a locked gate installed across the access track and this beautiful area is once again for walkers only. △



Candidates Forum: Ask your questions

The Support Our Bermagui Action Group (SOBAG) is sponsoring a forum to which candidates for the Council elections will be invited. The Forum will take place at the Bermagui Community Hall at 7pm on September 4 and is open to the public. 'We hope that as many residents of Bermagui, Cobargo, Quaama as possible will attend', said Mary Cunnane, SOBAG's president. 'It is a great opportunity to ask the candidates questions about their positions on any number of vital

issues, including the recent sharp increase in rates; the appropriateness of proposed developments in the area; the pace of population growth; and the quality of public transportation, health care, and other community services. Further, we hope the candidates will talk about the recently announced Australia's Wilderness Coast initiative and how Bermagui can – as the gateway to this newly designated National Landscapes area – participate in and benefit from it'. △

Successful big book day at Bermagui

Saturday, 16th August was a great day for Bermagui Library, the new Community Centre and the Bermagui Friends of the Library who organised an excellent event to celebrate National Book Week.

There was something for everyone. Theatre Onset performed the most enjoyable piece and there was story time for the little ones. Two authors spoke about their works and were available afterwards for informal chats and signings.

Keith Fennell explained how he wrote his first book, *Warrior Brothers*, based on the diaries he kept while serving in the Australian SAS in the Antarctic, East Timor and Afghanistan and as a security contractor in Iraq and Banda Aceh. In his informative and entertaining talk he spoke honestly about his motivation, his adrenaline-charged life, his reasons for coming home and his efforts to adapt to life as a stay-at-home dad and as Creative Arts student at Wollongong University.

Judy Horacek, feminist cartoonist and children's author,

spoke about the thrill of combining her two loves, writing and art. She described her work with Mem Fox, producing the very popular, *Where is the Green Sheep*. Judy also explained the processes involved in writing and illustrating her children's books, *The Story of Grawl*, *These Are My Feet* and the soon to be published *These Are My Hands*.

Everyone who attended appreciated the rare opportunity to learn about a writer's craft first hand.

Thanks to the Bermagui Friends of the Library for organising such a rewarding day and thanks to the Bermagui Lions Club for providing a BBQ and to the sponsors Rusty Fig Wines, Pru the Marmalady and Maryvale Lavender. △



Judy Horacek signing books

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Bermi Banter (continued)

Gold, Gold, Gold

Did everyone remember? The great 'Open Day' at the Montreal Goldfield is on again.

September 13 is the big day. Guided tours will leave every fifteen minutes from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.

Real value for money. \$5.00 per person entry with billy tea and damper included in the price.

The Probus Singers will be back by popular demand and the Ulysses motorcycle riders from Bega are joining us on the day.

There'll be things to see and do all day and the Bermagui and District Lions Club will have a sausage sizzle and drinks available.



Brad Elim of Cobargo showing a group around the goldfield

Watch for the flyers about town. You'll be out and about to vote so come on over. We look forward to seeing you there.



HORSE HYPE

State Pony Club Showjumping at Cobargo a huge success.

A fantastic weekend for both riders and spectators was enjoyed at the Cobargo showground in July. Thanks to all the pony club families who worked so hard to make the grounds and equipment look so colourful and professional.

Unfortunately there were two serious falls in the first event which left the ambulance officers wondering what makes children want to ride horses, especially jumping.

The remainder of the weekend was just great showjumping with the riders from our Zone winning numerous ribbons. We were very proud of Gemma Harrington, Jennifer Holland and Kristy Wren who represented Cobargo & District Pony Club at the championships.

The Champion Team consisted of Zone 14 riders: Lane Clarke (Bemboka), Craig Matthews, Hayley Jessop and Troy Johnson (all from Bega). These riders placed in all four events which was a fantastic effort.

Pony Club would like to thank the local business houses who supported them with donations for their raffle: Cobargo Newsagency, Bangles Pottery, Cobargo Bazaar, South Coast Leather, Sapphire Nupulse, Cobargo Pharmacy, Cobargo Co-Op, Cobargo Hotel/Motel, Cobargo Vets, Fruit Ballad Wines, Turnbull Produce Moruya & Oz Events

News from The Crossing

It really has been a whirlwind time with so many exciting things happening adding to our feelings of WOW.

The launch of the Sea to Snow, a winter of programs full to the brim with interesting people all keen to take something a b o u t

sustainability home with them, generous donations of useful materials, many hours of Koala surveying around the region and the (almost) enclosing of our main hall. It has straw walls and they are not going to blow down any time soon! Special thanks goes to Fiona



James, Ebony and Rosie making straw walls

render and made lots and loads of 'just perfect' cement. Of course we still have a long way to go to finish kitchen and bathrooms and really need the help of a retired plumber who would be willing to volunteer. We'd love to hear from you if you have some time.

K o t v o j s and Allan B u r d o n, who donated the straw and J a m e s Lynn, who taught a host of v o l u n t e e r h e l p e r s how to straw and c e m e n t

(continued page 21)

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Cobargo Conversations

Quote of the month: overheard by one of our locals recently: 'Wives are like clouds, when the clouds go away, the sun shines'.

Welcome back Cecilia, lovely to see you around the traps, just make sure you keep those lips sealed.

A wonderful afternoon was spent at Dave Thompson's home in Cobargo on Friday 15th August where family and friends gathered to celebrate Dave's 90th birthday. Great food, great company, great laughs. Congratulations Dave! We all wish you the very best for the next 90 years! Dave, Pam & Garry thank all who contributed to the celebrations.

Congratulations also to Craig and Julie, they are proud grandparents of seven whippet puppies, and happy birthdays to Candy and to Ivy O'Meara, who has turned three.



Garry, Dave and Pam

Congratulations also to Dougie and Kylie, wishing you many years of wedded bliss.

Yes it's been a real winter, snow has been seen on Wadbilliga Ranges, the first time for a couple of years.

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Cobargo National Tree Day volunteers

Roy's poddy/potty calf has been fertilising the local Cobargo gardens, hope it doesn't become mince meat on the highway.

Thanks from the depths of our very shallow pockets to Bass Gas for always having the cheapest petrol in the Triangle and letting us use them as a general 'drop-off' centre. We do appreciate it.

There is a petition in town to get a move on the McCarthy house situation. Council bought this at the behest of the town for off-street parking. Then there was a move to get it listed as a heritage site. This move has stalled any progress, hence no off-street parking and no return on rate payers' investment.

The Cobargo Business and Tourism Association has put a DA into Council to bring the monthly market back into the main street. Hope Council views this positively, we miss our street market.

Vale Porky, a short but much lived life. Known and loved by many.

Very small Cobargo conversations this month, so can we infer from this that no news is good news and that it is lovely to live in a peaceful small country town?

Cobargo CWA News Update

Members of Cobargo CWA celebrated their branch international day on 12 August at the CWA cottage. Mexico is the country of study this year and members from other branches, invited guests and students from Quaama Primary School all helped to make it a most enjoyable and successful day. Unfortunately – because of other commitments –

Cobargo school students were unable to attend this year but sent along a very interesting display – well done Cobargo! Quaama students entertained the members. A display of interesting Mexican items and an attempt at a light Mexican lunch made for a very enjoyable day.

New growth – Wood if we could

Sunday 27 May was National Tree Day and Cobargo saw a hive of activity. A diverse group of people met at Cobargo Park on the Narira Creek to continue the great revegetation work already done there by the Cobargo Tourist and Business Association.

Thirty-two people from The Learning Circle Cobargo Homeschooling Group (TLC), Cobargo Scouts, Horizon Credit Union, Landcare and many other areas of the local community joined forces to weed, mulch and plant 100 endemic trees, shrubs and grasses to further enhance the natural and visual values of the area.

Debra Summer, a member of TLC Homeschooling Group said, 'This was a great activity to represent the diversity and strong community spirit that exists in the Cobargo local area'.

The hard working group enjoyed a BBQ generously supplied by local businesses Benny's Butchery and Roly's Village Kitchen. Members of the enthusiastic group have pledged to maintain the work and continue improving this important community area for the benefit of all.

Thanks to Rebecca Norman, Arboriculture Consultancy Group, and Bega Valley Shire Council for

Cobargo Conversations (continued)

organising and funding this Tree Day event. Thanks also to the following local businesses who lent their support in many ways: Toyota Bega, Kinetix of Cobargo, Riverside Nursery, Bega Garden Nursery, Provincial Plants, and Country Energy. For further details about the Narira Creek Project and (TLC) Homeschooling Group call Debra Summer on 6493 6700.



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Bermagui

The 'Bermagui Mystery'



Site at Mystery Bay where boat was found

On Friday 8 October 1880, 29 year old Lamont Young, geological surveyor with NSW Mines Department, arrived at Bermagui by ship from Sydney, together with his field assistant, Max Schneider, for the purpose of surveying the new Montreal gold fields. Gold had been discovered only three weeks earlier.

On Saturday both men visited Montreal and met with the field's Police Officer at the Police camp. Schneider returned to Bermagui while Young met with Mining Warden, Keightley. Young returned to Bermagui late in the day. Neither he nor Schneider were ever seen again.

A boat with three men from Batemans Bay, Towers, Lloyd and Casey, had been in Bermagui since 6 October with a few bags of potatoes for sale. Early Sunday morning the boat was seen leaving Bermagui and sailing north. At least four persons were on board.

The boat was seen offshore mid morning by several people. William Johnston, a carpenter staying with the Read family at Tilba (presumably at 'Haxstead') rode south to the mouth of Wallaga Lake in the morning, and part way there, around 11.00 am, he 'was astonished' to see a green sailing boat stationary about three-quarters of a mile offshore, despite the fact that 'there was a fair wind at the time'. 'I had splendid eyesight ... and saw distinctly ... as far as I was able to judge at the time, there was only one man visible'.

On returning some time later from Wallaga Lake, (probably around 12.30 pm), Johnston again 'saw the green boat rounding the reef off Read's Point', and then when 'near to Read's old place', he saw the boat rounding the next point north.

After lunch with the Reads, Johnston rode north and around 4.00 pm or so he saw the green boat 'shining

on the reef of Mutton Fish Point' (later called Mystery Bay). None of the boat's crew was present.

The police were alerted early next day, and initially concluded the crew had had an accident at sea. They did not take the same precautions they would have if they had suspected foul play.

As is relatively well known today, the boat was severely holed. There were many belongings in the boat, including some of Lamont Young's. Subsequent police inspections revealed many puzzling facts, including:

- At least one hole in the boat is reported as having been stoved out, not in.
- In the boat there were large rocks (150 kg), taken from the beach about 150 yards away, a bullet, a supposed bottle of poison, and a shovel and axe were found nearby in several feet of water.
- There had been a camp fire near the scene, and evidence of someone having eaten there.
- There were six bags in the boat,

(continued page 22)



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Art in the Triangle

Patto's pieces at the Showroom

In the Cobargo Showroom art gallery you will find a glass cabinet filled with a colourful array of exquisite wearable art, beautiful



beaded treasures known as 'Patto's pieces'.

Patto remembers buying her first bag of beads (with the rent money) in 1992; she made some gifts and sold

a few pairs of earrings and that started her addiction with beads.

For more than a decade Patto has sold her original jewellery at various markets including Berry and Wollongong artisan markets. She also creates specialty pieces for weddings and formals and has taught beading classes.

Patto is currently doing a silversmith course and has recently discovered felting. She plans to combine these with her love of beading to come up with some new and interesting creations.

There will be an exhibition of Patto's new pieces at the showroom gallery side-room; opening night is 5th September at 6.30pm. All welcome.

The exhibition will be running until 26th September.

To all budding and established artists

2008 Bega Valley Art Award is now open. The Bega Valley Art Awards showcase the depth and diversity of art practice throughout the south-east art region. Entries close at 4pm Monday 20 October. The official opening will be on Saturday October 25th, Bega Gallery, 6.00pm. Got to be in it to win it. Entry forms available at the Regional Gallery.

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CLOSED FRIDAYS

Wood at the Heart of the Matter

with Genevieve Lacey

While finalising preparations for their upcoming exhibition in Tilba, the group of four, Sam Davis, Lois Irwin, Terry Irwin, and Sonja Jacob, are

delighted to announce that Genevieve Lacey will be their special guest. Art patrons attending the opening on Friday, September 26, from 5 to 7pm, will have the opportunity

to chat with Genevieve, acclaimed recorder virtuoso and recently appointed Artistic Director of *Four Winds* for 2010 and 2012. Many will have already heard Genevieve play this fine 'wooden' wind instrument and the history of the recorder is detailed on Genevieve's website www.genevivelacey.com.

In these last few weeks the artists will be fine tuning the catalogue. Sonja Jacob has eagerly awaited the results of each firing. Some firings have been dedicated to the subtle tonings of the forest and other firings have produced robust sculptural pieces that demonstrate the range of Sonja's interests and skills.

Terry Irwin has added art and soul to meditation stools and boxes to treasure. Terry has also included some fun with games and the odd 'don't take

this too seriously' project. Lois concentrated on painting portraits of trees, fencing structures and wooden artefacts.

Sam is still printing her work but we can expect Sam's photographic



Detail from a photo by Sam Davis

eye to see what others overlook. Sam's pictures go beyond the obvious, often they tell a story or have a hidden meaning, all intriguing, engaging and sometimes heart-stoppingly beautiful.

The exhibition runs from Friday September 26 to Monday September 29, the hours are from 10am to 4pm daily and the opening is Friday night from 5 till 7pm. The location is the School of Arts, Central Tilba. Enquiries, please ring Lois on 6493 4881.

All are welcome to the opening, which will have the added attraction of our special guest Genevieve Lacey. We might even be able to persuade Genevieve to play for us!

△

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Art in the Triangle (continued)

KarismaKatz

DJ Gosper and Christo Carlsen

The musical collaboration between DJ Gosper and Christo Carlsen has been drawing enthusiastic accolades, particularly for the duo's superb synchronicity and crowd-pleasing commitment to their songs.

DJ is an expressive contralto vocalist and is developing a reputation as Australia's tastiest blues-harp player. Christo, with his diverse experience in the folk, blues, rock and trad jazz idioms, provides superb and often surprising acoustic guitar accompaniment to DJ's evocative performance.

Together they are an original acoustic anomaly, equal parts blues, roots and jazz, with an irresistible art-house appeal. Add to this the duo's unpretentious audience rapport, and you see it is no wonder they have been described as 'refreshingly original', 'spellbinding' and 'world class'.

As member of renowned vocal trio *The Blues Cowgirls* from 2002–2005, DJ has played at various Australian blues and folk festivals, sharing the stage with some of Australia's great blues performers including Kate Meehan, Phil Manning, Fiona Boyes, Dutch Tilders, Jan Preston, Ross Ward

the Canberra Blues Society Awards winning three of the six music categories: 'Best Vocalist', 'Best Instrumentalist' and 'Best Song' (*Burn Baby Burn*, co-written with 'Katz guitarist, Christo Carlsen).

A veteran of the Canberra music scene, Christo played his first gig in the legendary summer of '69 at the St Phillip's Church in O'Connor ACT. Influenced early on by the '60s guitar heroes, as well as by the more dulcet sounds of Latin, jazz, country and folk, he believes the essence of good style lies in the ability to project emotion through the music – to make the instrument 'talk'.

Christo provides innovative accompaniment to DJ's emotive vocals. His often percussive instrumentation – developed

through years of busking – and his lilting, left-field licks often leave entranced audiences in awe!

Friday 19 September 2008 at 7.30pm at the Cobargo School of Arts Hall.

Admission \$12 members \$15 non-members.



DJ Gosper and Christo Carlsen

and the USA's Eugene Hideaway-Bridges.

DJ has recently made her return to the stage following surgery and treatment for breast cancer. She is now a full-time professional musician, firing on all four and making her mark in the Australian blues, jazz and folk scenes!

In November 2007 DJ scooped

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Soft Footprint Recipes



Carole Broadhead helps to reduce our food miles by sharing quick and healthy recipes for local, seasonal foods.

Hi everyone,

This month I found beetroot and leeks at the SCPA Farmers Market and decided to make two simple soups that can be eaten together!

The first one is potato and leek.

Ingredients:

- 3 large potatoes, peeled and roughly chopped

- 2 leeks, the white part sliced thinly and washed

- 3 cloves of garlic

Place a large knob of butter in the pan and gently cook the leeks and garlic till soft, then add the potatoes and just cover with either water and stock cubes or a stock. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Bring to simmer gently until potato is cooked, let it cool a little and then blend. Add some milk but be careful it is not runny. It needs to be a bit thick to join with the other soup.

The second soup is a beetroot soup and is made in a similar way.

Ingredients:

- 6 beets around 150gm each peeled and cut into pieces.

- 2 large onions peeled and roughly sliced.

- The white inner heart of celery chopped.

Place the celery and onion into a saucepan with a large knob of butter and cook gently, then add the beetroot and stock or water. Season well with salt and pepper.

Simmer for around 2 hours until the beetroot is cooked, let it cool a little and then blend. Adjust the seasoning and add a tablespoon of red wine vinegar before serving.

Now here is the good bit! Place the two soups in separate jugs and holding a jug in each hand, gently pour the soup into warm bowls. They will look great with the white and red soups taking up half a bowl each. You can use a chopstick or a fork to gently pull one soup into the other to make a pattern. Top with chopped dill.

Serve with warm crusty bread, not only is it a good talking point but it tastes good as well.

Enjoy your cooking,

Carole Broadhead

SCPA Farmers Market enquiries
Paul Davis 6492 3207



Pet of the month

This month's pet is Jazz. She is a medium sized 5yo Ridgeback x Red Heeler who is affectionate and is looking for someone who will allow her to be a devoted follower. Jazz has a bit of 'middle-aged spread' and would benefit from regular



'walkies'! If you are interested in adopting Jazz, or any other pets in care with AWLFSC, please contact enquiries phone 0400 372 609. All pets are vet-checked, de-sexed, microchipped, vaccinated and wormed prior to adoption and property inspections are required to ensure the best and safest possible future for all these lovely pets. Adoption fees are \$195 for dogs and puppies, \$100 for cats and \$150 for kittens. AWLFSC receives no government funding and operates solely on the fundraising efforts of its volunteers. Donations are greatly appreciated and may be sent to P.O. Box 101A Bermagui 2546, and new members are always very welcome.

Should you be interested in becoming one of the Branch's dedicated carers please contact Kerry 6493 3372.



WHO DOES THE WORK

The Triangle is a community newspaper; its aim is to provide information and news to the people in the triangle area. The committee is made up of volunteers, who donate their time and expertise for the benefit of our readers.

The Triangle is financially self-sufficient through income generated through our advertisers. This is a tight budget and prompt payment of accounts is appreciated.

The Triangle is published every month except January and has a circulation of 2,000.

Deadlines

Advertising - 20th of each month

Editorial - 23rd of each month

Advertisers please note that a fee of \$40 may be charged for initial ad layout.

Letters to the Editor:

Letters should be no more than 150 words. All letters must be signed by the writer and give both business and home phone nos. so letters can be verified.

All communications should be forwarded to:

The Editors
The Triangle

PO Box 2008 Central Tilba NSW 2546
thetriangle2@bigpond.com

Telephone: (02) 4473 7927

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Book Review



David Lodge:
Deaf Sentence.
Harvill Secker,
London, \$27.95

Great news! I thought David Lodge was dead, but here is yet another great novel by this fantastic English writer, and it lives up to all expectations. As an academic himself (and I presume, one who suffers hearing loss), he absolutely 'nails' his main character – a retired Professor of Linguistics, who is coming to terms with early retirement caused by his deafness, while his (younger) wife is going ahead in leaps and bounds in her career; more tragically, he is faced with increased responsibility for his ageing father who lives alone, obviously not coping

and of course refusing to move into a nursing home. Throw in the complications of a strange and deluded American post-graduate student who pressures him in to supervising her bizarre thesis, the politics of universities and the on-set of grand-parenting and you have it all – a terrific novel. If you haven't read him before, try getting hold of *Changing Places*, *How Far Can You Go?*, and *The British Museum is Falling Down* – the last two about English Catholics struggling with the Church's teachings on contraception – you'll love them.

I also picked up for \$1.00 a copy of a Faye Weldon book, *Letters to Alice on First Reading Jane Austen* – it's now in the Bermagui Library, and will give you great background on Austen – highly recommended.

Heather O'Connor



News from The Crossing

(continued from page15)

We also have some lovely top-soil in new garden beds thanks to Mal and Nick Dibden, Noel Haase, the Wollangarra Staff Crew and International Student Volunteer Crews.

The winter programs included two international student volunteer crews, two permaculture groups from Sydney and a 'Learning for Sustainability' short course from BEGA TAFE. Young participants from our region have included students from Bega TAFE doing ecotourism training, trainees on our inaugural Sea to Snow Journey, and the Landcare

'Pathways to Sustainability' program for young people. During most of these programs we have had the volunteer assistance of an extraordinary young woman called Kim Hill. We are extremely grateful to her. We are also grateful to Kim Tyson who co led the Sea to Escarpment Section of the Inaugural Sea to Snow journey with Dean. She says she'll be back in November to tackle the Escarpment to Snow Section!

The Crossing is hosting a two-week permaculture course in October. For further details ring John on 6492 7306.



Garden Magic



Spring's here and that means food, water and mulch for your garden. Expect a shock when you go to the local nursery for a

bag of fertiliser. There's a world wide shortage of materials (partly attributable to China's shut down for the Olympics), so prices have gone through the roof.

Citrus, in particular, will benefit from a feed, particularly if they've gone a bit yellow. Use blood & bone (if you can afford it), cow manure or citrus food. Keep an eye out for leaf miner, which is that tunnelling effect on the new foliage of oranges, lemons, limes, etc. You need to cut those leaves off (and dispose of – don't put in the compost). Spray with a systemic such as Confidor or Rogor. Be aware, however, that you mustn't use Rogor on Meyer lemons, Seville oranges or cumquats.

Since we're all inspired at this time of year, you're probably working on a vege patch. If you want to plant for aesthetics, though, the following are drought tolerant plants (who knows what Summer will bring) – Silver Bush; Pittosporums Silver Sheen, Silver Song, James Stirling and Miss Muffett; Lavender, Leucospermum; Cistus; Westringia; Eremophila; Ceanothus; Strelitzia; Anisodonta; Alogyne, etc.

Until next time,

Lindy Marshall



Classifieds

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Hot water storage tank, 300L, excellent condition, new thermostat last year, \$200. Medium size fridge, good condition, runs well, \$70. Ph 6493 8515.

Canaries and finches. Ph John 6493 6691.

Zebra finches \$5 ea, Fish:Guppies \$3 ea. phone 6493-5705 10 am- 7.30 pm (Bermagui).

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The 'Bermagui Mystery'

(continued from page 17)

four of which contained jumbled clothing, apparently belonging to more than one person, scientific books, private papers of Young, all apparently stuffed in hurriedly and carelessly.

· There was no sign of a struggle.

· The kellick, chain and rope were missing.

Over the years many theories were put forward. The NSW Parliament Select Committee of Enquiry concluded in 1883 there was nothing to support drowning or kidnapping. It believed 'the party were murdered, and their bodies thrown overboard some distance from shore in order to avoid detection'. Remarkably, Johnston, who found the wrecked boat, was not called to give evidence. The fact that he saw only one man in the boat does not seem to have been reported to the Committee.

Besides Schneider, many suspects were put forward. Eighteen years after the incident, Constable Colyer of Central Tilba developed a completely new theory identifying the

murderer as Mr Reader, who disappeared mysteriously from his Tilba residence the morning after the boat was wrecked. This report was never taken seriously by the police, despite containing new evidence.

The investigation is marked by inadequate and incompetent detective work. It was a matter of weeks before Sydney police came to the area. There were several instances of conflicting evidence, often by the same persons, yet the witnesses were not queried rigorously in that regard.

The mystery of the disappearance of five men remains.

Harry Bate

Acknowledgements:

This article is based on the book: *Five Men Vanished*, Cyril Pearl, Hutchinson Australia, 1978.

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Bega: 5.30pm Monday, Steps & Traditions,
Uniting Church Hall, Gipps St
7pm Tuesday, Topic/ID/BBS,
Catholic Church Hall, Gipps St
6pm Wednesday, Uniting Church Hall, Gipps St
8pm Friday, Catholic Church Hall Gipps St

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Quaama - St Saviour's - 1st Wednesday of the
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Bermagui - All Saints - Thurs. 10.00am Morning
Service, Sun. 10.00am Morning or Communion
Service.

COBARGO GARDENING & FRIENDSHIP CLUB

2nd Monday every month - 12 midday. Venues vary -
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For info visit www.thebegavalley.org.au/16550.html,
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COBARGO SHOW MEETING

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COBARGO CWA

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BERMAGUI BADMINTON CLUB

Bermagui Sports Stadium. Social Badminton -
Tuesdays 2 to 4pm, Sundays 10am to 12noon.
Contact Heather on 6493 6310. Competition
Badminton - Wednesdays 7pm to 9pm. Contact
Nicci on 6493 6602

BERMAGUI COUNTRY CLUB AMATEUR ART & CRAFT SOCIETY.

Bermagui Country Club Amateur Art and Craft
Group: Monday mornings: Porcelain Art, Tuesday
Mornings: Needlework/Patchwork and Art, Thurs.
am: Embroidery and Leadlighting, Fri. am: Pottery,
Friday pm - 2nd and 4th Fri. each month: Spinning.
Visitors and new members welcome. Ph. 6493 3445.

BERMAGUI SES UNIT

16 Young Street Bermagui. Meetings every Tuesday
6pm. Ph. 6493 4199

BERMAGUI KNOW YOUR BIBLE

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

THE BERMAGUI MARKETS

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

BERMAGUI PLAYGROUP

Fri. am in school term 10am-12pm Bermagui
Preschool, Young St, Bermagui. Ph: 6493 4183.

BERMAGUI & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

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

BERMAGUI INDOOR BOWLS CLUB

Meets for social bowls in the lower auditorium
Bermagui Country Club at 7:00pm. Ladies and men.
Contact Joy on 6493 5104.

BERMAGUI SEASIDE FAIR

Sat 14th March 2009. Helpers and interested people
please phone Jo Jacobs on 6494 0191.

QUAAMA MORNING COFFEE LADIES

Meet at 11am every Wed for morning tea and
friendship. Newcomers always welcome. Bring a
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for next Wed's venue.

QUAAMA / COBARGO QUILTERS

Meets Mondays, 10am - 3.30pm in the CWA
Cottage, Bermagui Road, Cobargo, and welcomes
anyone who does patchwork, quilting, needlework,
sewing or any other handcraft. Dianne Smithett,
6493 8590.

QUAAMA BAND

Come & join a community band. All levels
welcome. Sundays 3 - 6 at the Quaama Hall. Ph.
Greg 6493 8240.

QUAAMA TEXTILE GROUP

Fabric and Textile Art Group meeting monthly at
Quaama. Phone 0427 402 025.

OVER 50'S FUN & FITNESS

Every Tuesday, 2pm to 3pm at the Bermagui
Country Club, with Nancy Casu, qualified fitness
instructor. 'Heart Moves' and 'Tai Chi' program.
Cost \$8, free introductory class. Contact Penny
Levin (Pres.) 6493 5602 or Jan McCartney (sec.) 6493
3573.

THE YUIN FOLK CLUB

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

QBC COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

Free monthly concerts at the Bega Bowling Club,
Cobargo Hotel, Narooma Sporting Club, Tuross
Kyla Park Hall and Quaama Hall. Visitors,
Children, Musos welcome. Contact Ted Weiss on
6493 6548.

!!Community Groups!!

Please Note

We need to keep this page up to
date. To maintain your notice in
The Triangle, please drop us a
line before 23rd October 2008.
If we don't hear from you, your
community notice may be
removed. Email
thetriangle2@bigpond.com or
phone Jen on 6493 8515.

MOBILE TOY LIBRARY & PARENTING RESOURCE SERVICE

All parents of chn. 0-6 welcome to join.
Cobargo - every 2nd Wednesday 1.30pm - 2.30pm at
CWA cottage; Bermagui - every 2nd Friday 10.30am
- 12pm in the Ambulance station grounds;
Quaama - Wednesdays by prior arrangement.
Enquiries: 0428 667 924

TILBA VALLEY WINES BRIDGE CLUB

1st Wednesday every month from 2pm. All
standards catered for - partners not necessary - stay/
play as long as you like - visitors to the area
especially welcome. Further details: Peter - 4473 7308

DRY RIVER RODEO COMMITTEE

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

MACHINE PATCHWORK GROUP

9.30am to 3.30pm fortnightly at Julie Terry's home in
Tanja. Ring Julie on 6494 0100.

MYSTERY BAY COAST CARE

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

LIFE DRAWING SESSIONS

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

SOPHIAN GNOSTIC CIRCLE

Christian Gnostic teachings and discourse, first
Saturday each month. CWA Hall, Cobargo, 2-3.30pm.
\$10 donation. Phone Sue on 6493 8473.

DIGNAMS CREEK COMMUNITY GROUP

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

AGLOW CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

AGLOW is a world wide Interdenominational
Christian Women's Fellowship, providing
opportunities to help women discover their identity
in Jesus Christ. Enquiries ph. Elizabeth Farnsworth
02 4473 8413.

SOUTHERN LIFECHURCH

Sundays @ 4pm, Union Church building, West St,
Bermagui. Pastors Gary & Michele Tyrrell 6493 6483

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

Mon 1.30 - 3.30pm Thurs 7.30 - 9.30pm Cobargo
School of Arts Supper Room. Scottish Country
Dancing for everyone - no experience necessary.
Teacher: Sheelagh Brunton 6493 6538.

IRISH DANCING CLASSES

Beginners to Advanced. Adults and children over 6
years old welcome. Thursdays 3.30 - 4.30pm,
Cobargo SofA Hall. Ph. 6494 3332 or 6493 8267.

OPEN SANCTUARY@TILBA

Gatherings at Holy Trinity Church Tilba Tilba on the
second and fourth Saturday evening of each month
at 5pm. Music, meditation and shared reflections,
supper afterwards so please bring a plate if able.
Meditation group meets every Wed at 10 am.
Inquiries Rev Linda Chapman 44761006.

FOR THE FRIDGE DOOR

Thursday 4th	Candidates Forum	Bermi Community Centre	7pm
	Grow your own food	Women's Resource Centre	1.30pm onwards
Friday 5th	Patto's Pieces	Cobargo Showroom	6.30pm
Sunday 7th	True Blue, free	Tilba Valley Winery	12.30pm
Thursday 11th	Grow your own food	Women's Resource Centre	1.30pm onwards
Saturday 13th	Open Day	Montreal Goldfields	10.00am - 3.00pm
Friday 19th	KarismaKatz	Cobargo School of Arts	7.30pm
Saturday 20th	Curry and Cabaret Night	Central Tilba Hall	6.30pm
Sunday 21st	Wedded Bliss, free	Tilba Valley Winery	12.30pm
Friday 26th - Monday 29th	Wood at the Heart of the Matter	Tilba Hall	10.00am-4.00pm
Saturday 27th	CEFE Fashion Parade	Bermi Community Hall	1.30pm onwards
Sunday 28th	Adam Hole & the Marti Curran Trio	Dromedary Hotel	5.30-9.30pm



Bermagui Little Lambs

Preschool/Long Day Care

Vacation Care

Before & After School Care

Owners: Debbie and Ashley Lamb

Phone 6493 4487



Created By You

Beads & Papercrafts

Prop: Suzanne Jeffery

Auckland St. Bega
(opp. Betta Electrical)

Ph: 6494 7925