

A warm meal, an encouraging word and a helping hand: WCK goes to work

World Central Kitchen's mission is, 'We envision a world where there is always a warm meal, an encouraging word and a helping hand'. They have easily lived up to this goal in Bermagui recently.

This has been World Central Kitchen's (WCK) first disaster relief response in Australia. WCK was originally set up by celebrity chef Jose Andres in 2010 and has since provided hot meals to people in disaster areas all around the world.

Thanks to a long-standing connection through MasterChef, Dora Weekley of WCK and Kelly Eastwood of Eastwood's Deli devised a plan to supply two hot meals a day to firefighters, volunteers and families affected by the fires. The meals are delivered daily by volunteers to locations from Batehaven in the north down to Quaama. Bermagui ticked all the boxes, with helicopter and boat access as well as roads in and out, a supermarket, a hardware store, and a gym for preparing and serving food. But Australia posed unique challenges for WCK because the people in need were so dispersed—and Aussie pride made some people reluctant to ask for help.

After initial set-up by Sam Bloch, the Director of Field Operations at WCK, the day-to-day running of the kitchen, menu planning and meal preparation has come down to chefs Elsa Corrigan of WCK and Kelly Eastwood.

Elsa left her own restaurant in California to help other people. 'There's always something happening,' she said, 'and we try to get there as soon as we can. We are the food first responders.' Over the last two and a half years Elsa has worked with WCK in the Bahamas, Ventura, Hawaii, Mozambique, Florida, Nebraska and North and South California. 'I meet the most amazing people—all the volunteers have such big hearts. We love having people come to help us out.' WCK operates completely on donations. Anyone can drop in and volunteer or donate at www.wck.org. You can target your money to go to the event in progress or to another event that is close to your heart.

Elsa said she has enjoyed working with Kelly, especially learning new recipes and trying new flavours from Asia, India and Morocco. The kitchen staff at Eastwood's

have continued working to support Kelly and provide guidance to the enormous number of volunteers who come in daily. There are 270 volunteers involved either in the kitchen, driving or cleaning. At the time of writing, almost 50,000 meals have been made and delivered to 51 locations in our region since 10 January.

WCK has also set up a pilot program in Mallacoota—Feel Good Feeds—providing food vouchers for all residents to purchase free meals from local restaurants, with WCK meeting the cost.

We at Bermagui and surrounds have been fortunate to have organisations such as WCK come in and support us, in a way that reflects our community's values and our efforts to rebuild. It has given so many of us a chance to volunteer and do what we can to help each other get back to a normal life as quickly as possible. All donations are gratefully accepted at www.wck.org.

Debbie Worgan



Volunteer Alison MacTaggart of Bermagui and WCK chef Elsa Corrigan cooking for a crowd

Editorial

The mega-fires are out and rain has come. Support has flowed from family, friends, neighbours, strangers, local initiatives, national and international groups bringing practical, material and psychological assistance. Now we live with the consequences – we can't go back for many reasons, particularly the way the experiences have shaped us. There's quite a disjunction of pre-fires/post-fires. With scientists' warnings about the impacts of climate disruption for over three decades and a common deficit in imagination to see what that meant in daily reality – now we know – we have experienced it with multiple hits of deep, primal vulnerability. As we restrengthen the vital elements of our lives, much is yet different from here on, gone are many previous certainties. How to go forward?

The seeds which grow the ways we rebuild our lives and communities

lie within our responses, choices and interactions. Embedding the ways we worked together in the crisis builds our community patterns from the ground up. What stands out clearly from that time is authenticity, cooperation, community connection and, even more so, generosity, kindness, care and courage – these offer foundations to meet changing futures.

Like the green shoots in the forests, good things are happening, unfurling possible roads ahead – that is not to diminish the losses and scars. Lost books are being sourced, artists are making visible what we can't put in language, schools are back, choirs are singing, cafes are open. It's not easy, it's a long haul, and we have the good hearts of each other.



Letters to the editors

A personal thank you

With the disruption to our Tilba cafés, community and home life, I arranged an evening dinner at Ellen's Pantry for my partner Leonard's birthday celebrations in late January. With a dozen Tilba friends we enjoyed absolutely delicious food.

Harvey and Rebecca spoiled us with an entrée of toasted flatbread served with olive oil and balsamic vinegar plus beetroot and hommus dips. Main course options were Mediterranean stuffed chicken breast with feta and sundried tomato, wrapped in prosciutto; salmon nicoise salad; and beef madras curry with naan bread and yoghurt. Dessert was Leonard's favourite: chocolate, almond and walnut torte served with Tilba Cream.

How nice it was to be served wine and beer on arrival in the beautiful and relaxed atmosphere of the candle-lit back deck. I highly recommend arranging a special evening function at Ellen's Pantry, Central Tilba. Thanks,

Annette Kennewell
Tilba

May your Karma run over their Dogma

How ironic—when the fires went through the NSW south and north coasts, eastern Victoria and many other places, the people who were living a life of voluntary simplicity were disproportionately impacted. Good people who had figured out how to live the best life they could

with minimal impact on the environment were often the people who copped the fire.

No sensible person ever said life was fair, even as we long for the law of karma to play a more everyday role, but here, today, this is profoundly unfair. Those on the front line of doing what we will all have to do eventually (ie live as sustainably as possible) fell, as people on the front line sadly often do. Perhaps time will show another, more positive side.

So here's to those good and decent people. May your path back be paved with kindness, and may you reach wisdom through the struggle you have faced.

Keith Bashford
Wallaga Lake

Hi Triangle team,

The last edition of *The Triangle* made me so grateful to live on the South Coast of NSW. The depth of compassion, love and community was encapsulated in the words and actions of the residents of our beautiful towns.

I thank you for the offer to waive this month's account, however, *The Triangle* plays such a pivotal role in keeping our small communities informed and cohesive that I am happy to continue to support this publication regardless of the financial devastation so many of us have experienced.

Keep on keeping on,

Erica Dibden and Team Tilba

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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 1800, boosted during holiday seasons so there's enough for visitors.

Open letter to:

**Kristy MacBain, Mayor Bega Valley Shire Council, Kathy Griff,
Bega Valley Shire Councillor, Mike Kelly MP, Andrew Constance, MLA NSW State Parliament**

Firstly we thank you for your leadership, advocacy and support for Bega Valley communities during the recent bushfires.

We add our voices to those calling for immediate and long-term action to mitigate fire threats to country and people in our region. The 2019/20 fires have shown us that we are confronted by an existential threat unlike anything we have known before. Planning for mitigation will include many different aspects, such as emergency responses and recovery measures. The focus of this letter is the provision of well-funded culturally-informed programs to care for country, drawing on detailed, local traditional knowledge of fire management.

The 2018 collaboration between Bega Local Aboriginal Land Council, National Parks and Wildlife Service, and NSW Rural Fire Service on cultural burning in the Tathra area had important beneficial effects that became evident when fire later threatened the area. The fire burnt around but not through the area where cultural burning had taken place. Cultural fire management has been credited with improving the overall health of vegetation and animal populations; increasing soil moisture; altering the balance of vegetation towards fire-resistant species, thus contributing to fire safety; helping to highlight and foster vital cultural knowledge about fire, and providing local Indigenous people with opportunities for education and employment. Other examples from communities across Australia have demonstrated these benefits. (see <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-01-30/aboriginal-cultural-burning-funding-for-bushfire-mitigation/11910464>)

Given these positive results in fire mitigation, it is concerning to hear Bega Local Aboriginal Land Council CEO, Glenn Willcox, say that difficulty in sourcing recurrent funding for fire mitigation programs has hampered the capacity of BLALC teams to carry out this important work. Indigenous knowledge of fire management is perhaps our most valuable resource as we move into a future where fires are likely to be more frequent and dangerous. We call on you to advocate for long-term funding and support for holistic fire management programs, to give us the best possible chance of protecting country and people from harm.

Specifically we seek your commitment to funding adequate human and physical resources for fire mitigation work, including state-wide strategies appropriate to changing climatic conditions expanding the capacity of BLALC and Indigenous Ranger programs to effectively lead, educate and collaborate with other agencies ensure that opportunities exist for Indigenous people to be employed in such programs, gain skills in fire management techniques, and deploy traditional knowledge relevant to our current situation

We want to explore the possibilities for small groups of volunteers such as neighbours, landcare groups, etc to work together with traditional knowledge holders, RFS and NPWS, to gain detailed knowledge of the areas where we live and take part in fire management work on a local scale. The undersigned are neighbours from Cuttagee Lake. We have been fortunate so far in not having the 2019/20 fires come through our area. We want to work towards caring for this area and the country around it, into the future. We seek alliances with groups and organisations who have the same aim in mind, to build local capacity.

Let's be ambitious about this. Indigenous people in our region are the custodians of fire management knowledge that is tremendously valuable, and recognised world-wide. Let's respect that knowledge, be proud of it, and get with it! Now is the time.

When Indigenous fire practitioner Vincent Stefferson was asked what we should be doing differently ahead of next summer (ABC's QandA bushfire special, Feb 3) he said 'I would say jump in the passenger seat and let us drive for a change... we have all this information for looking after the environment, and we're not being tapped into... We need to start opening our hearts, opening our minds, and start working together.'

We agree, and we ask you to act on our behalf to ensure that the country is better prepared and cared for, into the future.

Yours sincerely,

*Jennifer Taylor, Sue Fielding, Linda Lehany, Megan Connor,
Stuart Cameron, Paul Fletcher and Stelios Vrocharis*

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The opinions expressed by contributors to the newspaper are their own, to a greater or lesser degree, and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial team. Whilst striving to accurately report the news and views of the readers, this newspaper accepts no responsibility or liability for statements made or opinions expressed. All letters to the editor must be signed and include the writer's full name and address if they are to be considered for publication.

If you only read one book this year ...

Last year when my partner and I prepared our bushfire plan, we found it hard to find any comprehensive advice to help us prepare for a fire. There were general instructions but nothing that really gave us any confidence or understanding of what to expect.

After the New Year's Eve bushfires, we were amazed to see how many homes were still standing despite the fires coming very close. I was interested to see if there had been any research done as to why some houses might be more likely to survive than others.

I found an excellent book that gave us a greater degree of confidence in preparing for the next spate of high-risk days.

The book is *The Complete Bushfire Safety Book*, by Joan Webster OAM.

The Complete Bushfire Safety Book covers everything from why Australia is so prone to having bushfires, to how bushfires

happen, bushfire cycles and fire behaviour, how to protect yourself and your home, the killer factors, the survival factors, how to keep bushfires out of buildings, how to prepare and lots more.

This book has been acknowledged as the most authoritative publication of its type and is considered the definitive work on bushfire safety for the householder. In 2010, Joan received the Order of Australia 'For service to the community in raising awareness of bushfire safety'.

I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in understanding how to lower the risk of losing properties and lives from bushfires. As we saw with Cobargo, there might not be an option of evacuation. In the event of anyone having to face a fire front, this book could be critical.

Katrina Heding

It's the summer we all want to forget! We've been left scratching our heads, wondering where January and February went. And here we are at the beginning of autumn, with the reality of the impacts on our communities just starting to emerge. The media have gone, we're not the news of the day anymore ... but for the communities in our Triangle area, the ordeal is only just beginning.

Bermagui is slowly returning to normal. People are going about their business as usual. We shop, we socialise, we go for walks, we meet for coffee, we go for dinner in town, we participate in our activities and sports just like we always did. But something has changed. People still want to talk about their experiences during the firestorm, during their evacuations and during their recovery. One person told me she thought she was suffering 'survivor guilt'. It's that feeling you have when you know other people suffered way more than you did. You still feel traumatised – but feel you don't deserve to feel this way.

One very bright spot on our local scene, which brought cheers of joy to our communities, was the long awaited rain. We waited and waited. We felt frustration that northern areas of the state were receiving heaps of the wet stuff. We cast our eyes skyward, pleading that the clouds would stop teasing us and give us a good dumping. And, while we didn't receive huge amounts, it was enough to dampen the hot spots and give our parched soils that much-needed drink. Just driving to Cobargo is an amazing sight of brilliant green extending from horizon to horizon. If it wasn't for the blackened trees, one would never know that the countryside went through a devastating firestorm.

Dog Shows

Nothing – not rain, not hail, not firestorm, or anything Mother Nature can throw at them, will stop those determined dog enthusiasts from coming to Bermagui every year for the annual dog shows, spread over two weekends. Participants and their four-legged friends came to give our businesses that much needed boost. It was so nice to see visitors once again walking the streets, wandering into shops and eating at the restaurants.

A participant, Sue Turner, expressed her appreciation with this: 'Just back from ten days in Bermagui. I was astounded to see how good the grounds were – they were pristine despite being home to thousands of people evacuated during the bushfires. Fantastic effort from both clubs, who ran a



Pampered pooch – or prize winner at the Bermagui Dog Show

wonderful series of shows and trials despite people from both committees having lost houses/been evacuated/being inevitably stressed with fires close. The organisation was excellent. The shopkeepers were welcoming, happy to see us, dogs welcome at the caravan parks and cafés. The whole community needs to take a big pat on the back!

Thank you, Sue, for those lovely words ... a big boost to our community psyche to hear this.

Armands Beach

Most who live in Bermagui know that Armands Beach, just south of Bermagui, is the only 'clothing optional' beach in the district (declared by Bega Valley Shire Council in November 1993).

The Armands Beach Leisure Group holds regular activities on the beach, and would like to invite community members to a 'Family Fun in the Sun Day' on Sunday 8 March, starting at 10 am. The event will include games, activities, fishing and prizes. For those who always wanted to skinny dip on our beautiful, secluded beaches, this may be your chance to give it a go! For more information on this event, or any of the activities of the Armands Beach Leisure Group, please contact Errol on 6493 4108 or email plantago@armands.org.au.

Blue Water Classic

The annual Blue Water Classic fishing competition, which was postponed in January, will be held over the weekend of 7-9 March. It is hoped that this event will attract not only the fishermen, but their families back into town. For more information see the Bermagui Big Game Anglers Club website www.bbac.com.au.



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Bermagui Banter

Bermagui Seaside Fair

It was with great joy that we heard that the Bermagui Seaside Fair would return in 2020. But sadly, because of the fires, the 2020 Seaside Fair has been cancelled. The organising committee, many of whom were impacted by the fires, were unable to fully commit to this year's Fair, so made the hard decision. However, they are determined that the Fair will be, once again, high on the calendar of events for Bermagui in 2021.

Sculpture Bermagui

The annual Sculpture Bermagui will be going ahead from 6 – 15 March. Before Christmas there were a record number of applicants and expressions of interest from prospective exhibitors for this year's show. This event is more important than ever in bringing those much-needed visitors back to Bermagui.

Thank you

I would like to thank all those people who contacted me personally with positive feedback about the last issue of *The Triangle*. Given the circumstances, it was a mammoth effort from the team to get the issue out on time ... and twice its normal size.

Thanks to everyone who sent appreciative feedback about the February *Triangle*. It was an honour for us, your *Triangle* team, to collect, prepare and present all your stories, poems and photos—words and images that together documented the catastrophic events of New Year's Eve and the courage and selflessness of our community in the hours, days and weeks since. So, congratulations to you all for a job well done.

The Triangle committee

Bermagui bushfire recovery issues

With the rains in recent days, the bushfire threat in Bermagui has finally subsided. Fortunately the town has remained intact, principally thanks to the efforts of the fires and some timely wind shifts.

The economy of the town is very fragile. There have been very few tourists, so some local businesses have missed out on 30-50% of their annual sales and are still now facing paying for their stocks. There is a range of government recovery grants available for loss of property and interest-free loans to help businesses cope with the lack of summer income. Information provided at a State Government information session on Tuesday 19 February recommended contacting NSW Service on 13 77 88 or at www.service.nsw.gov.au.

It has been very stressful and tiring, and the aftermath for many is difficult. The Bermagui Community Forum is considering holding a town meeting to discuss your experiences and emerging bushfire recovery issues for Bermagui, which could include:

- assistance for small businesses
- economic resilience of the town
- counselling needs in the community
- bushfire resilience strategy, refer to earlier BCF updates.

With the recent rains the Brogo dam went from 10% capacity to overflowing. We are now faced with Level 4 water restrictions for several weeks because of poor quality water as a result of run off from the fire ground. Council are trucking clean water 60 km per day to our town.

Despite all this, Bermagui is still open for business. We have had two dog show weekends in February, Sculpture Bermagui is on in early March and the Four Winds Festival and fishing comps will be at Easter.

We all need to promote visits to Bermagui amongst our out-of-town friends and contacts.

Please put your views forward at our Facebook page ([bermaguiforum](https://www.facebook.com/bermaguiforum)) or email bermaguiforum@gmail.com.

*Cliff Abbott, Co-ordinator
Bermagui Community Forum*

Three friends in Ballarat have promised to source replacements for any books lost in the recent fires. Let the women at Well Thumbed Books know what you're looking for and we will co-ordinate the search. So far, we are searching for any books by Margaret Atwood and one by Jennifer Johnson, *How Many Miles to Babylon?*

Armands Beach Leisure Group 'Fun in the Sun Day'

Armands Beach Leisure Group invites all to come and join us for our 15th annual Family Fun in the Sun Day at Armands Beach on Sunday 8 March. This is a family day for those who enjoy some sunbathing and skinny-dipping but also the fun games.

Recently there has been an increase in attendances as more people discover the enjoyment of our naked lifestyle. But you can still come and join us if you are not quite sure about shedding your gear; it is a clothing-optional event, as are all of our events. And the beach and events are always family-oriented.

Check out our website at www.armands.org.au and our Facebook page (Armands Beach Leisure Group) for more details.

Dave Bulman

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ON TO IT EXCAVATIONS

Bermagui Banter

Bermagui visitors returning

Slowly, visitors are returning to the Sapphire Coast. Volunteers in the Visitor Information Centre (VIC) are reporting a growing number of people travelling through. Recently, VIC co-ordinator Christine Bimson attended the Illawarra Caravan and Camping show. The Sapphire Coast stall had representatives from Bermagui, Tathra, Merimbula and Eden volunteering their time to spruik the region's many positive attractions, beautiful beaches and friendly locals. A special flyer, produced by event organisers, encouraged people to visit the Sapphire Coast, Eurobodalla and Snowy region and was included in all show bags to help these three regions on their 'Road to Recovery'.

'The commitment by show attendees to book a holiday or return for another stay was just amazing,' said Christine. 'Many had been evacuated from our area because of the fires but that didn't discourage them. Everyone recognised the difficult times faced by the small businesses whose summer season basically didn't eventuate and their promises of support were inspiring.'

The coming Easter holiday period promises to help our businesses recoup some lost income from the dismal summer. As locals, we hope that all our local cafés, restaurants, gift shops and related businesses are able to make it through this year. The term 'shop local' is even more important than ever. If everyone just bought an extra cup of coffee, or a restaurant meal from time to time, or a gift for someone, it will help keep our businesses here. No one likes to see a lot of empty shops!

However, while Bermagui is open for business, and our beaches are as beautiful as ever, visitors need to understand that many of our national parks and state forests are still closed, and will be closed for some time. They include Wadbilliga NP, which might be closed for three months. The Ben Boyd/Green Cape area was badly affected and much of that will remain closed for a number of months. A comprehensive list of those closures is available at the Visitor Information Centre.

Carolyn Banados



The Sapphire Coast stall at the Illawarra Caravan and Camping show.



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Michael Mobbs, Moya Smith and Doug Mein at Bermagui Institute Dinner on 13 February.

Michael is known as 'The Off Grid Guy'. He has disconnected his inner-Sydney house from mains water, sewer and 'poles-and-wires' electricity and pays less than \$300 per year in utility bills. He spoke to the Bermagui Institute on 13 February on sustainability, more specifically 'Leave Rain Where It Falls'.

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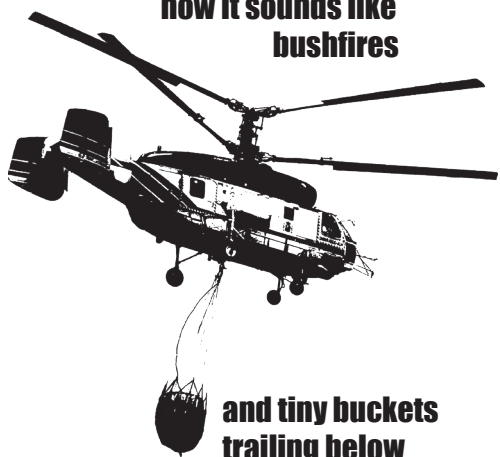
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Peter Storey



Wallaga Lake local Seán Burke says it wasn't a 'wanted' ad, although it was just outside his house.

Wallaga Lake—how did it survive?

It's late January and the sky is turning orange again. Neighbours are leaving in caravans or cars loaded with camping gear. I decide to wait for the official alert. My dog is voting with her feet and won't leave the front door.

The orange light flows into the house, lighting up the rooms in bronze and copper. It looks ethereal, better than any interior decorator could achieve.

The grey and black begins to turn out the lights. I wait. Two hours pass. The sky and life returns to almost normal—although nothing will be normal again.

Ah, the birds have returned, dipping into their bath and fluffing up their feathers. The honey eaters, red wrens, yellow robins and grey sparrows line up, all waiting their turn. Several are looking a little battered, their feathers jutting out at all angles.

The teal, blue and green of the water is shot through with silver currents. The

fish graciously arch their backs and jump. The pelicans glide in, landing smoothly at the water's edge.

I look out at the green trees surrounding Wallaga Lake. I marvel at their shapes, with every shade of green, touching the horizon. The gold and silver bark lines the shore.

How did this beauty survive, when so much was lost? Was it the prayers of the Kamalashila Buddhist Centre, the prayers of the Wallaga Lake Koori Village Seventh Day Adventist Church? Both of these community meeting places survived. Our ancestors wrapped us in a protective blue silk scarf.

A miracle? It feels like..A time to reflect on these special places and how we must protect them for ourselves, our children, grandchildren and all sentient beings.

Deborah Taylor

Farewell to Annette Irvine

Annette Irvine has been the Liaison Officer and Treasurer of the Bermagui Red Cross branch for the past nine years, a tireless worker in all aspects of what we do, a presence at the Bermagui markets and fundraising, at the same time as keeping track of meetings, assisting with donations and sale of produce, baking for cake stalls and a provider of financial information to both our members and the larger Red Cross body. Her smiling face and willingness to assist new members and pass on her knowledge of how this system works will be sorely missed. She

and her husband Terry are making a move be nearer to family and we wish them very much happiness in this. I'm sure we will see her again when she visits Bermagui and that the Bermagui Golf Club will lure her back as much as possible as well. Thank you Annette, we will miss you.

'My Red Cross experience goes back to 1955 when I was in the Sydney VAD parade for the Queen mother,' says Annette. 'Then in Darwin, from 1957, I was the Branch Secretary for many years, where we ran first aid classes regularly, which came in very handy when Cyclone Tracy came in 1974.'

'Then we came to Bermagui nine years ago. I met some ladies at the Bermagui Country Club to find a dressmaker, and walked out with the Red Cross briefcase.'

'I will miss all my friends, and wish them continued success. Thanks to the very generous Bermagui community for their support during my Red Cross years here.'

Jane Gilchrist



Farewell Annette! Front: Chris Richard-Preston and Sheila Hall; back: Jane Gilchrist, Janet Doolin, Annette Irvine, Barbara Harrop, Heather Sobey, Norma Gowing and Sheila Cleburne.

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In case you were wondering: Red Cross funds allocation

Over the years, you will have seen Red Cross volunteers at the Bermagui market once a month, running cake stalls, selling goods and collecting outside Woolworths. We could not do things that benefit our community without your donations and help.

These donations have assisted many areas of need in our own community, and others such as the Lombok earthquake and Sulawesi tsunami. We are now, of course, dedicated to drought and bushfire assistance in Australia.

In times of emergency, such as the recent bushfires, you saw Red Cross volunteers in Bermagui and other evacuation areas, tirelessly taking registrations to keep track of families, pointing distressed persons in the direction of appropriate assistance, providing an amazing humanitarian shoulder to lean on, and much more.

All this, often when the volunteers have been evacuated themselves.

So it has been sad for our hard-working volunteers to see concern about the distribution of funds raised for the current emergency situation by the Red Cross and similar community groups.

With the assistance of local volunteers, Red Cross is rolling out immediate assistance for people who have been impacted by bushfires: those in financial hardship, those who have lost homes or loved ones, been hospitalised, and whose homes need structural repairs. Funds are allocated via our on-the-ground contact with affected communities.

Keep up with current information on Red Cross financial

assistance on the 'Australian bushfires: how we're using funds' page on www.redcross.org.au. Or drop by a recovery centre.

The following is current as of 20 February 2020:

Funds raised since July 2019: \$140 million

On-the-ground disaster services

\$5m for 24/7 support including evacuations, relief centres and outreach services

Immediate assistance grants

\$50m to support people whose homes were destroyed

\$10m to make structurally damaged homes safe to return

\$1m for bereavement payments

\$500k to support people hospitalised for injuries as a result of the fires

Mid-to-long-term recovery

\$55.5m to be allocated to further immediate and longer term bushfire assistance

\$18m to support community recovery for three years or more

Up to 10c in the dollar will be spent on admin support costs, and we're working to keep it as low as possible.

So if you see our volunteers in the field, come and talk to us. This tiny little group is doing an amazing job and they need your support. Better still, we welcome new members. We are a friendly, casual group who meet every three months at the Bermagui Country Club. Next meeting is Monday 11 May at 2 pm.

Jane Gilchrist

Thomas Cairney Estate funds aged care home services for Bermagui locals

Tom Cairney was born in Scotland in 1912 and moved to Australia as a child. He settled in Bermagui in 1947 with his wife, Cobargo girl Flo Bryce. They built a house at 36 Bunga Street.

Tom did mechanical repairs and drove the feeder Pioneer bus to the Princes Highway to meet the Eden-Nowra service, which connected with the Sydney-bound train. He often delivered passengers back to their homes, and carried parcels. Family friend Errol Masterson, who also worked with Tom, describes him as a great mentor. 'I cannot remember him getting angry, always greeting people with a smile and a twinkle in his eye,' Errol says.

Tom was a keen beach fisherman and co-owned a wooden boat which he took 'outside' most mornings before work. He won a local award for 'Greatest Yarn Teller', a trophy Errol still has at home to this day.

Unfortunately Flo became ill and went into care. Though nearly blind, Tom mostly cared for himself. Errol remembers taking the newspaper to him every day. They would sit on his steps for an hour or two and talk of times gone by.

Tom and Flo were well-respected by all who knew them. When Tom died in 1988 he stipulated that proceeds from the sale of his house be used to assist aged

residents in his beloved town, Bermagui – a town that loved him, too.

IRT recognises the efforts of Murray and Margot Douch for facilitating the establishment of the Thomas Cairney Scheme.

Residents of Bermagui waiting on a Home Care Package can now receive IRT aged care home services in this interim period, thanks to funds from the Thomas Cairney Estate. There are a few criteria to be eligible. If you are interested please discuss with your local GP or contact IRT on 134 478.

*Helen Spence
Head of Operations, IRT Home Care*

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Going back to the swinging 60s

Popular music of the 1960s is well-known and is certainly worth listening to. It was different, it was ground-breaking and, perhaps most importantly, it encapsulated the history of that exciting decade when, as Bob Dylan observed, 'The times they are a changing'.

Popular local musician Sam Stevenson is presenting a selection of music from the era at a free concert, at 2 pm on Thursday 9 April, at the Bermagui Country Club and everyone – especially all who lived through the 1960s – is invited to attend.

The music will be placed into its historic context, so some of the highlights of the 1960s will also be recalled during the afternoon presentation. Afternoon tea will also be provided.

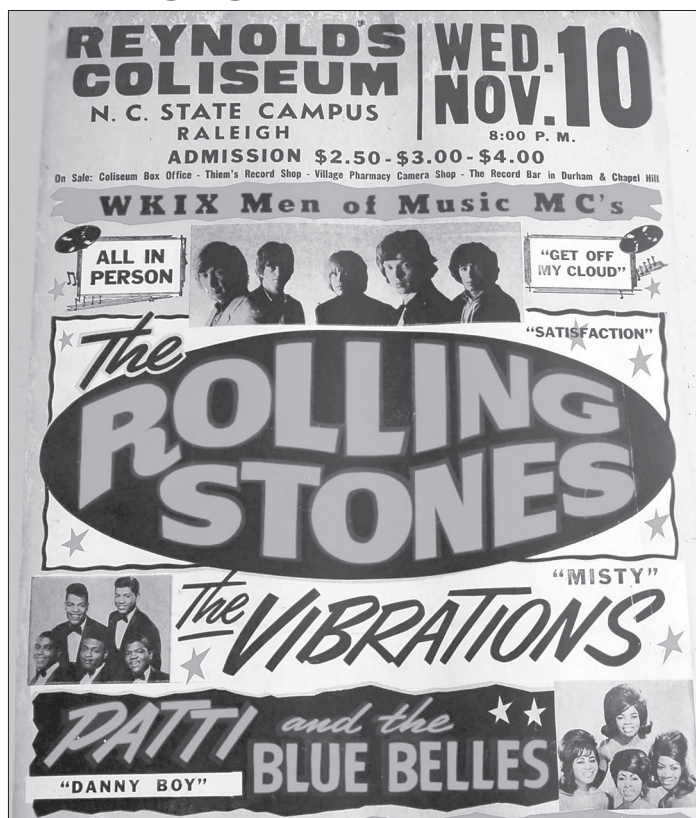
The concert has been organised by the South Coast History Society (the publishers of 'Recollections', the free South Coast history magazine). It was originally scheduled to be part of the Bega Valley Seniors Festival in February but was postponed to April in the aftermath of the bushfires.

Whilst the concert is free, it's essential to book a seat in advance, either at southcoasthistory@yahoo.com or by phoning 0448 160 852.

Those who can't make the concert in Bermagui on 9 April have two other opportunities to attend: in Merimbula at 1.45 pm on Wednesday 8 April and in Bega at 10.15 am on Thursday 9 April.

These South Coast History Society Bega Valley 2020 Seniors Festival community presentations are proudly supported by Bega Valley Shire Council and Bega Valley Historical Society.

Peter Lacey



The Rolling Stones, one of the 'bad boys' groups of the 1960s.



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Well, how different is our world now! The rain finally came, dams and tanks are full and it's back to looking like Ireland. The blackened paddocks are now the most impossible green. You could almost forget the terrible dry, parched land that led to so much grief.

And our community is on the road to recovery too, although what's left of our neighbours' homes is still behind fencing, and our water continues to be trucked in from afar. And Telstra finally got it together to fix the exchange, which was down for six weeks causing no end of difficulty for its customers (don't I know about it!).

The Night Off sure went off at the Hall last month! What a great idea, making a space to cast off our worries for a night and just dance and enjoy each other's company. And that amazing World Central Kitchen didn't just cook, but served us as we entered, with OzHarvest providing delicious desserts that were passed around on trays. Great music, great people, great time!

The Hall has returned back to a space for us to use to dance

and enjoy while the recovery support continues as long as there is need. The food side of it is winding down but necessities like tools, clothes and supplies will still be there and goods will still be sourced on request when possible. The space will be cleared when the Hall is in use with the gear stored in the side rooms only to be brought out again when the key is returned. And the supper room is now a drop-in centre, with games and hot drinks to offer a welcoming time-out space away from our clean-up and rebuilding projects.

But we're just on the first lap of what will be a marathon effort. It's important to remember that. For those who are still camping out next to a pile of rubble and twisted metal, the road ahead is long. Now that the World Central Kitchen crew have moved on to disasters elsewhere and other support services pack up and retreat, those of us with a roof over our heads cannot forget to keep lending a hand to those who may be doing it tough over time.



A crowd gathers.



WCK serves free savoury food for the night. Photos Veronica Abbott

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The day repeats

He stands on the roadside of his home
Flames reframe the landscape he knows so well
A hollowness overcomes and overwhelms
He is alone.

Alone with the roar and the heat, the day repeats,
the flickering and retreat, and in a beat
It returns fiercer than before
A monster gnarling at our country's door
Taking everything under
Engulfed and charred
Leaving invisible scars
The upheaval of life and land and yet he stands
Angry and defiant, willing the giant
You won't take this, he screams to the abyss.

And in a blink he returns to the outside perch
Unable to piece together if that memory is
here
or
there
Tears cascade his worn face, new lines from
weeks gone by.

Gripping the arm of woman he loves
His mind reminds him of that day
Longing to forget but longing for lessons more
Instead he scrapes back the ash and the tears
swallows their fears
And steps forward into a new day.
Come what may.

Laura Holmes

(Laura lives in Sydney. She navigated fires and road blocks to reach her parents' house in Quaama on 3 January, her car loaded with gas bottles, fresh food and more. When she heard her father's account of New Year's Eve she sat down and wrote this poem.)

Asbestos in Quaama

Asbestos was once thought to be a miracle fibre, useful in a variety of applications. Its principal use was in building boards commonly known as fibro.

Many of the houses in Quaama were built in the 1890s to 1940s. Many had additions using asbestos cement sheets. There are three types of asbestos, blue, brown and white, and blue asbestos (crocidolite) is the most potent. It causes the almost universally fatal cancer known as mesothelioma. It is likely that the fibro used in the Quaama houses contains crocidolite.

Mesothelioma can be caused by low levels of exposure to crocidolite. The threshold dose above which blue asbestos may cause mesothelioma is not known although scientists have debated the question for decades.

There can be no guarantee that the fibres have been destroyed by the fires or in some way physically altered so as to be rendered harmless. Once damaged, the sheets are subject to accelerated weathering, which may release more fibres into the atmosphere. While airborne fibres may be dissipated in the wind or the risk reduced by the dampening effect of rain, the danger posed by damaged fibro sheets and loose asbestos fibres needs to be recognised.

A coherent plan for asbestos removal should be devised and implemented as soon as possible. This is a big task. Local governments will need to be active. The source of asbestos cannot be allowed to remain indefinitely.

Duncan Graham

www.duncangraham.com.au

Duncan Graham is a writer, senior counsel at the New South Wales Bar and medical doctor, with extensive experience in asbestos litigation and knowledge of the scientific literature about asbestos diseases. The views expressed are those of the author and are not intended to be either medical or legal advice.



ABC South East NSW broadcast their Breakfast show live from the Quaama General Store on Thursday 20 February. Simon Lauder interviewed locals about their experiences during and since the NYE fires that destroyed dozens of local homes. The show wrapped up with Jan Preston playing boogie on keys ahead of her local tour that weekend. Photo credit Peter Lacey



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Recovery is a funny word to describe what we're going through, now that the fires are all but over. It implies that we are on the path back to what it was like pre-fires. In many ways that is not possible because we have all been through an extreme time of upheaval, one which has left us all acutely aware of how tenuous our 'normality' is. We have all probably learnt things about ourselves and our community that have changed us, and we know what it's like to live for weeks at high alert, awaiting something that may or may not happen.

Perhaps there is no word to adequately describe this post-fire time – maybe it is part survival and part recovery. Whatever it is, now that the rain has come and the kikuyu has sprung to brilliant life, there's a lot to get back into perspective, personally, in business and with community. While the Tilba villages and surrounding areas were mostly saved from active fire, it is worth noting that the constant demands of fire preparedness, the long days of smoke and ash and the stress of evacuations all had an emotional, psychological and physical effect.

Local Tilba businesses have been severely affected by the loss of income during the January/February period. For many, the peak January period provides a buffer for the quiet winter months. At a time when physical and mental energy is low there is much to do – getting back into the routine of business operation, following up on insurance claims, accessing government support, looking at and getting involved in specific promotional and marketing campaigns, dismantling fire protection, looking after yourself, staff and family.

Harvey Martin, from the popular Tilba Teapot, describes this as a bit of rebuild. Closed for most of January, Harvey and Rebecca, who also operate Ellen's Pantry, lost five staff. As business starts to pick up they are now starting to re-employ. They are grateful for the support of the local community and try to use local produce as much as possible. Much of their perishable stock was donated to the Evacuation Centre during the power outage at New Year. While they are investigating business disaster support, they have also used this time to review business operation with Ellen's Pantry now available for small private functions in the evening. Always welcoming, they reckon they are poor but happy!



For Tilba Real Milk there were many logistical issues during January. Erica Dibden describes this as their first experience of crisis management and, for a business operation which depends on water and power, it's easy to understand the challenges. Ensuring independent water and power supplies was critical to maintaining a routine with their Jersey

dairy herd, which reacted to the adverse conditions. Independent power was also critical for the ABC Cheese Factory. While the factory was only closed for three days, during which time many thousands of litres of milk had to be dumped, it was important to start processing as soon as possible. With many road closures, distribution of their bottled milk proved difficult.

Erica stresses the need to be aware of the mental health effects of this difficult time. This is particularly important when running a family-owned and -operated business which employs staff who were themselves also deeply affected by the fires. As business and family life returns to a more manageable pace, Erica is pondering the importance of industry for our local community. In reviewing their crisis management, she and Nic know what is important in keeping their enterprise going and will be better prepared for the future. In the meantime, they too will investigate available business disaster support.



Accommodation businesses cannot operate without visitors. Many remained closed until late February and are looking at ways to get the message out that they are open and ready to welcome guests. Kathryn Ratcliffe, who operates Mountain

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View Farm at Tilba Tilba, is feeling the lack of energy which seems to be so much a part of this post-fire period. She is pleased that there were good bookings when the accommodation reopened in mid-February. Kathryn acknowledges that getting back into old routines is challenging. And while the fire season is not completely over yet, it is important to keep a certain level of fire preparedness. Talking about what will stimulate business has to be balanced with action, and Kathryn is finding that online campaigns like Spend With Them and Empty Esky are useful. She was also pleasantly surprised at the number of enquiries following a post on the Canberra Noticeboard Facebook page. All this has to be juggled with insurance claims, business disaster support and managing a young family. Kathryn, who has an entrepreneurial approach to her business, is exploring out-of-season growing of flowers (while continuing to grow Everlasting Daisies), paddock-to-plate events and developing an online shop – while running a range of accommodation options at the foot of majestic Gulaga.

Peter Lonergan at Tilba Sweet Spot says that late February was similar to other years and that visitors to the area are coming in response to calls to support regional and rural areas. He is participating in an online site called Shop South Coast. While Peter acknowledges that the Tilba area was very lucky to avoid active fire, the trauma of the past few weeks has left its mark. As President of the Tilba and District Chamber of Commerce, he urges Chamber members to visit the Recovery Assistance Point at Narooma Golf Club. As a smaller version of a Recovery Centre, services include health, welfare, charities, government services, and business and rural assistance. Peter stressed that it's important to get an idea of what is available, as well as sharing information about the individual effects

of the fires which can add to a pool of information that may guide future decision makers.



The disruption to school life has not been overlooked. All schools in these areas have been allocated a School Counsellor/ Psychologist for a period of time. Central Tilba Public School welcomed Marjory Gray for four weeks at the start of the school year, to support and work with students and teachers. Marjory said that the constant evacuations were particularly draining for children. She has been mostly working with things like memory boxes, where memories are stored and possibly shared; helping the students with thank you cards for the personal messages from children in Rosewood, Queensland, who sent backpacks filled with goodies for each student through #backpacksforthebushfires. Marjory felt the students were coping beautifully and she enjoyed her time in the Tilba community. The school in turn greatly appreciated her time and input.

At the centre of our individual capacity to respond to disasters like the recent fire season is our connection with community. Many people have commented on this and how communities came together and supported each other. In the Tilba community this was particularly evident when there was a call from the local RFS to prepare the Tilba villages. There was a hearty response as John McMahon facilitated local teams to assist their

neighbours in preparing their properties. John says that this showed the true value of community as people offered their time to assist once their own properties were prepared and then continued to check on how their neighbours and friends were managing.

To acknowledge and celebrate this sense of community, John, in conjunction with our local RFS Brigade, is organising a Community Gathering, to be held on Sunday, 8 March, starting at 5pm at the Central Tilba RFS Shed, Latimers Lane, Central Tilba. BYO picnic, drinks, picnic rug and chairs. This will be an opportunity for us as a community to show our appreciation and thanks to our local RFS Brigade for the amazing work and support throughout the last three months. Jason Snell, who so capably led the several community meetings at the RFS Shed during the fires, also thanks the community for the support the local Brigade received during this time. For further information about the gathering contact John McMahon, 0488 221 113.

There is a proposal for a Eurobodalla shire-wide celebration of all RFS Brigades on Saturday, 28 March, so keep an eye out for further information about this.

Gulaga, the Mother Mountain, whose influence over our area was very evident during the fires, will be the focus of a very special ceremony at 9 am on Sunday, 8 March, International Women's Day, at the Tilba Sportsground. 'Humming the Songlines – Gulaga', known as a 'Humming Bee', was traditionally performed by Guboo Ted Thomas, and will be re-enacted under the cultural guidance of Lynne Thomas. A collaboration between local Yuin women Lynne Thomas and Lynette Goodwin, Tilba CWA, the Gulaga Reconciliation Group and Open Sanctuary, all are welcome. BYO chairs, rug and a plate to share for morning tea – tea and coffee provided.

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The South Coast Calendar

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It's been a harrowing summer for many of us but in the true Australian spirit we are all now concentrating on how to rebuild and refocus on getting businesses, large and small, booming in our area.

Late last year the Narooma Chamber of Commerce, the Tilba CC and the Eurobodalla Council held two community meetings to create a vision for a sustainable community and business environment for the next 20 years.

Many initiatives were mooted but the most important was considered to be an integrated, accurate and up-to-date *South Coast Calendar (SCC)*.

There are many What's On listings out there, but most are restricted in area of interest or are out of date.

The SCC will be available in beta test from 8 March. In its final form any local club or body, festival or market, and any Chamber member, will be able to create and maintain their own calendar of events. Users will be able to see the events on the web site, with many search criteria.

But the most exciting thing is that we aim to have users see events in their area of interest automatically on their phone or tablet (as long as they have a Google account).

We will also provide help on how to create both calendars and Google accounts. If you want more information now email admin@southcoastcal.com.au.

Cas Mayfield

Halls News

The Halls Committee and friends are supporting the residents of Cobargo and Quaama by cooking and serving a meal once a month to sixty or more BlazeAid volunteers stationed in Cobargo for the next six months. Our first date is Sunday 1 March. If you feel that you can help in any way please contact Janine on 0400 992 246.

The Committee is also hosting a 'Thank you' dinner for the local RFS Brigade and their partners in the Small Hall on the night of Friday 27 March. These incredibly dedicated volunteers made our safety their priority during the past months – our huge THANKS to them all. We hope they can take a well-earned break now after the recent rains.

The Easter Festival break is nearly upon us and we will soon be busy cooking up a storm in preparation for our annual Easter Festival stall, selling our trademark homemade sausage rolls. Looking forward to seeing record numbers of visitors in Tilba for the Festival, providing a much-needed boost to our local businesses.

Don't forget, if you are looking for a beautiful heritage venue to hire and some catering equipment to boot, get in touch with the Halls Secretary on 0428 256 082 to discuss your needs.

Sally Pryor

"I am grateful for my struggles
because without them
I would not have found my strengths."

Alexandra Elle

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Tilba CWA Community News

I'd like to say things are returning to normal after the bushfires, but it still feels surreal. This month Tilba CWA members will begin cooking monthly dinners for sixty or more BlazeAid volunteers based in Cobargo. Our Secretary Helene Sharpe is coordinating our volunteers so we have teams delivering cooked main courses and desserts for the BlazeAid volunteers who are rebuilding farm fences.

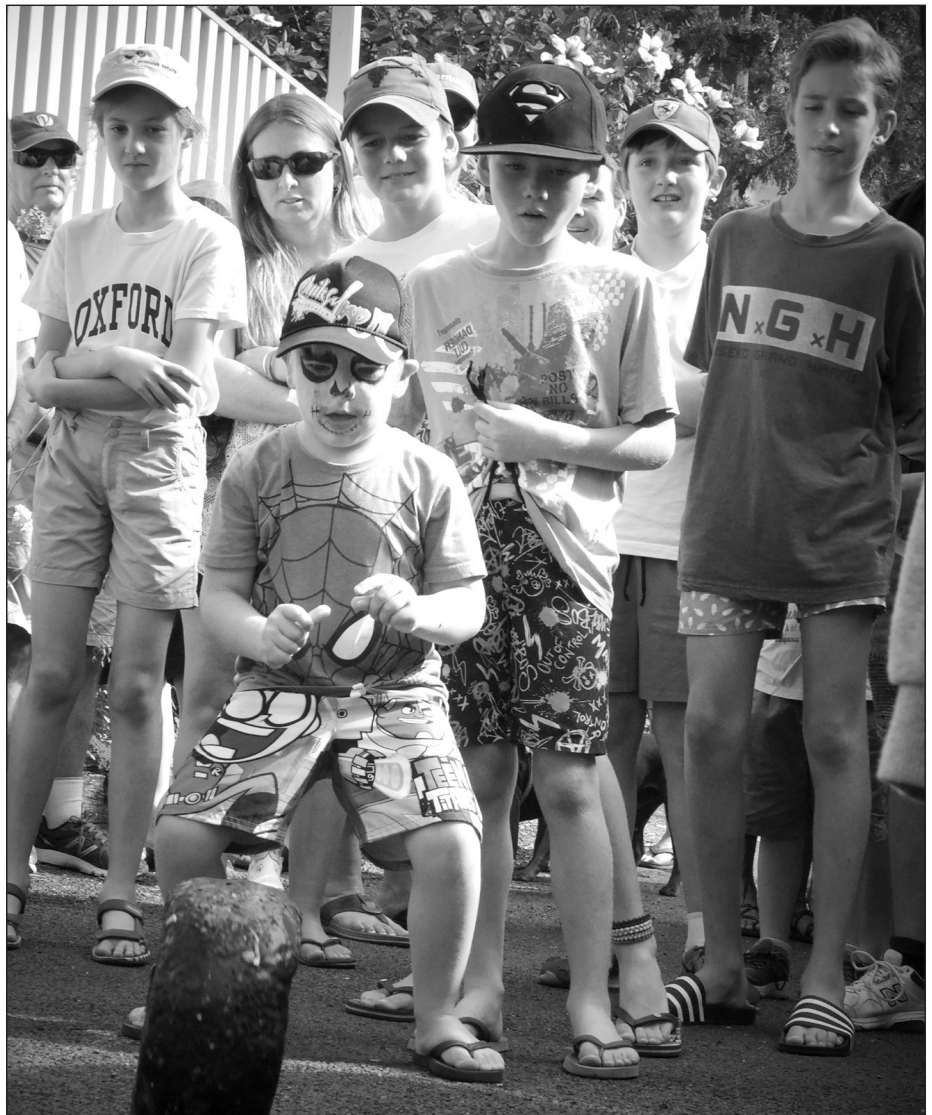
Zoe Burke, our Handicraft Officer, is preparing our hand sewn wallaby pouches for display at the CWA Far South Coast Group Handicraft and Land Cookery Day in Bermagui on 10 March. Another craft project is also underway—Vicky Staddon, our International Officer, has sourced and tested a pattern for making washable women's sanitary pads for donation to Papua New Guinea.

Tilba CWA members are looking forward to participating in the Humming Bee on International Women's Day, Sunday 8 March at 9 am at Tilba Tilba Oval. CWA members are baking fresh muffins and arranging cups of tea and coffee following the Humming.

Today I'm baking 'Decorated Butter Biscuits' for the students at Central Tilba Public School to sample. My hope is to encourage them to participate in the children's section of the Land Cookery competition in Bermagui. Linda Appelgren and Sandy Felder have offered to help the children cook these biscuits in their school Garden Kitchen, 'Dhananj'.

Please join Tilba CWA for a cuppa and chat or come along to one of our Craft or monthly meetings.

*Annette Kennewell,
President, Tilba CWA*

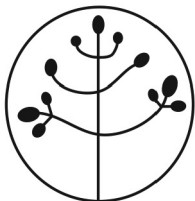


Tilba Festival 2019

Tilba Festival is on again

Coming up on Easter Saturday, 11 April, is the Tilba Festival. This family event has been held since the mid-80s and is a celebration of heritage, local produce, musical talent and community in the spectacular Central Tilba village at the foot of majestic Gulaga. After the recent upheaval and loss, this is an ideal time to celebrate all that is great in this region – hours of live music, an amazing array of food, traditional street games and lots of entertainment for kids, all covered by the entry fee. All proceeds of this volunteer-run Festival support various local groups. More details will be available next *Triangle* and on Facebook (Tilba Festival)

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As I sit on my quad bike at the bottom of our farm I just cannot believe how different the mountain looks. New Year's Eve was an experience none of us will forget.

We felt we had prepared as best as we could. The constant ads on telly—'Have you got a fire plan?'—caused endless conversations about the stock, where to put them, etc etc. We came up with what we thought was a good idea. After all, the drought had lots of farms crippled from lack of water and feed, and most paddocks were bare already, so all would stay in their paddocks and the dairy cows would be put into the house paddock. So with 564 head tucked neatly into their allotted paddocks, the fire came. Nothing could prepare us for what happened.

We sent Megan to Cobargo with baby Mitchell in the car. Unwittingly we sent her through the fire. Her sister talked to her as she drove, terrified, with strong words of

encouragement. 'Just keep going, don't stop'. Despite smelling burning rubber and metal she made it safely to Bermagui.

The roaring noise, the heat, the intense smoke and the crazy, erratic behaviour as the fire raged through the mountains, the bare paddocks glowing red, the fire leaping entire paddocks and then turning and burning back at us. We lost power almost straight away. So we started the tractor connected to the generator to keep the flow of water to protect the house and dairy. We managed to save lots but lost 85 head of stock, all our fodder, a horse and all our fences. We milked our cows on the day of the fire, all of us like mind-damaged shells of people. While all this went on, other people's lives were in a far worse state.

The news filtered through—lives lost, others injured and many properties burnt. It was hard to comprehend. Many homes lost, many lives torn and shattered. Then there was the news that Cobargo township was

also hit. The amazing evacuation centre set up in Cobargo to help the homeless people. Incredible humanity displayed and incredible generosity shown. After 38 days electricity was reconnected and life felt just a bit better.

So where to from here? The rains came. It has lifted spirits, doused the fires and returned a slight edge of peace to the community. Australian spirit has kicked in. Many are just waiting on the clean-up of rubble so the rebuild can start, others deciding to move away from the pain. The community has lost some wonderful people and our hearts and thoughts go to all the families affected. We hope they can somehow find the strength to believe that life can be good again.

We must remain positive for our community, for ourselves—and know that there is a future for our children in this beautiful part of the world.

Rain brings relief for Cobargo

Periods of rain from late January through February have brought much-needed relief to Cobargo and surrounding areas reeling from the impact of this summer's catastrophic bushfire onslaught. NSW Rural Fire Service Chief Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons recently announced that 'all bushfires in NSW are now contained'.

At the time of writing, the Badja Forest Road fire, which so devastated Cobargo and Quaama, is officially described as Under Control, with no remaining hotspots apparent. Regular patrols and monitoring will continue, however, until the fire is officially rated as extinguished.

The Cobargo Rural Fire Brigade acknowledges the support of the many out-of-area 'Strike Teams' through January and early February, and extends its sincere appreciation to all their members for working so effectively, side-by-side with our local teams.

The Brigade particularly thanks the Strike Teams from the Northern Rivers and Far North Coast areas who spent an extended period with us, making many new friendships along the way.

We have also been overwhelmed by the support of the community in the form of donations from all over Australia and even internationally – funds needed for our planned station upgrade, catering trailer and ancillary equipment projects.

In particular we acknowledge the support of a group of

some forty far north coast brigades who have donated both funds and materials such as poly pipe and pumps to the Cobargo Fire Brigade, and made a number of cash donations to community groups, including Quaama and Cobargo schools' P&Cs, Cobargo Preschool and Cobargo Scouts.

We also continue to be amazed by the wonderful expressions of support and kind wishes we have received since our disastrous New Year's Eve bushfires, not only from all over Australia but all over the world, such as those contained in an anonymous postcard recently received from Singapore.

Our Brigade members have enjoyed a well-earned rest through February. But our regular fortnightly training sessions restart in March, with training dates scheduled for Thursday 12 and 26 March (7 pm – 9 pm) at the Cobargo Fire Station on Wandella Road.

Anyone considering joining the Brigade and experiencing the rewards of volunteering and helping to protect and serve our wonderful Cobargo community will be welcomed. For more information please contact me on 0412 919 708, or simply come to one of our fortnightly training nights.

John Walters,

President/Secretary Cobargo Rural Fire Brigade



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## Catch-Up with your Community

A bit of background ... our intention was to find a way to work together well in this time of crisis. We saw the need for good collaboration – we have to work together really well so we can support our wellbeing and the future of Cobargo. Any good

recovery needs to be led from the community and the only way to do this is to come together, take action together and heal together.

The first Cobargo Community Catch-Up was a good first step. We were able to meet and connect, understand the shared stories, needs and visions. Importantly, everyone had a voice and was heard. The next Catch-Up is about moving into collective action as we start to take the great ideas from our first time together and co-create working groups around issues that are important to us.

This is an inclusive and transparent process. We value our diversity – this is our strength! We want to include everyone. To achieve all of this it is going to be a long term recovery. We've all faced trauma in different ways. Great things are already happening in the community with several initiatives and great self-organisation. We want to try and support people that have immediate needs as well. It's important to bring everyone in and understand that people are at different stages, emotionally and physically, and have different needs. So this is going to take patience, compassion, understanding and tolerance.

This is happening alongside Council and government information meetings where you get to learn about what services are available.

We are here as a community – living together, working together. Children have been born here. The place is what connects us – we keep coming together. We can get through this together and build an even stronger community, giving community a strong, unified voice.

*Debra Summer*



Community talks

### FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### SINGING SESSIONS WITH TONY BACKHOUSE

Share the joy of singing with world-renowned Choral Director, Musician & Educator, Tony Backhouse



**Friday, 13 March 5pm - 7:30pm**  
**Cobargo School of Arts, Cobargo**

**Saturday, 14 March 10am - 3pm**  
**Big Hall, Central Tilba**

Everyone is welcome  
Light refreshments will be provided

**Contact Jules - 0402 066 578**  
**jules.damian@gmail.com**

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## The bittersweet history of the Cobargo train

At the end of 2017 I moved to a small hamlet just south of Narooma. One of our favourite day trips would be to drive down to Cobargo, with its beautiful old world shops and cafes.

One in particular that stole my heart was the Cobargo Train Stop Café—an old red rattler reminiscent of the ones I grew up with. A trip into the city of Sydney on a red rattler was loud, to say the least. The open doors and windows made the noise in the tunnels of the city circle so much louder (no self-closing doors then!). It was with relief that we arrived at our station with that uniquely identifiable smell of the Sydney underground.

My fascination with the Café led me to look into the history of this particular rail carriage – identified as Car C3151.

Car C3151 was the first car built by the Clyde Engineering Company of Sydney. The previous cars, C3150 backwards, were built by the Leeds Forge Company in England. C3151 was a steel-bodied car that was delivered into service from the Punchbowl car sidings on 5 December, 1926.

On 7 May 1952, C3151 was involved in a tragic accident at suburban Berala Station. It was the rear car of an eight-car set from Liverpool. While it was stopped at Berala Station, another electric train from Bankstown ran into the rear of C3151, shunting it into the carriage ahead of it. At least ten lives were lost and over 150 injured. Fifty years later, the Berala Memorial Garden was put in place to commemorate the accident but, sadly, there is little information or acknowledgement of the tragedy, just a small piece

of sandstone with a plaque, in the middle of a patch of weeds, with no mention of the names of those who died.

C3151 was eventually sent to the Electric Carriage workshop, known as ELCAR, at Chullora. It was to stay there until there was space for it in the heavy overhaul and repair program. The carriage was returned to service in August 1954 and went on to serve the Sydney railway network until its retirement in 1992.

A few months later the carriage was sold to a private buyer in Pambula and spent some years being used as a cubby house for the family's children. It was sold to a buyer in Cobargo in 1998 – where it finally came to rest.

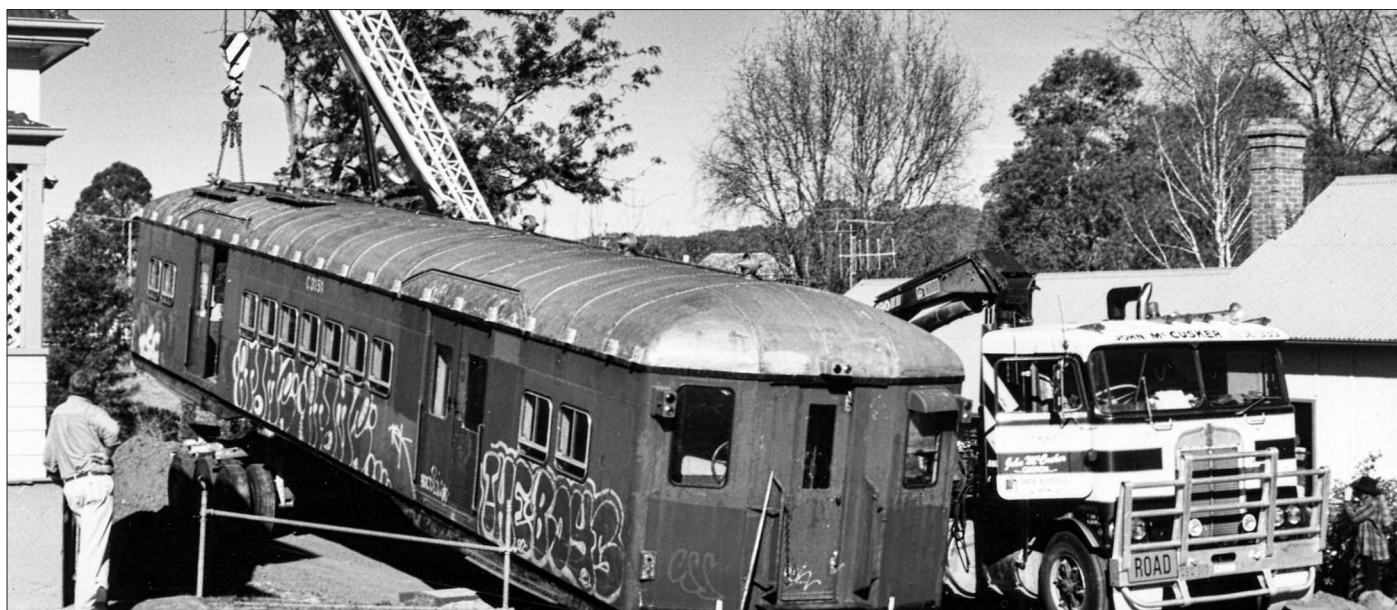
The first café was called the Wattleton Junction Train Stop, then finally the Train Stop Café.

I took great delight in taking my son to the café and sitting in the carriage, telling him about the history of this carriage while enjoying a bacon and egg roll and coffee. Just sitting in the carriage looking out the windows brought a lot of memories back, while making new ones.

With all of its bittersweet past, C3151 finally came to the end of its journey on 31 December 2019, when the Train Stop Cafe was destroyed by the devastating Cobargo fires.

*Grace Lovegrove*

*(Thanks to Tony from Track and Signal Magazine, and Stephen Hलगren who assisted in researching information on C3151)*



Car C3151 settles into its final Cobargo resting place in 1998. Photo courtesy of Bermagui Historical Society

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### Bach's Birthday Concert and Play-in, Cobargo, 21 March 2020

This month it's JS Bach's 335th birthday, and around the world a global community of musicians will unite to celebrate his music with free spontaneous performances under the banner of *Bach in the Subways* over a four day Festival ([www.bachinthesubways.org](http://www.bachinthesubways.org)).

On Saturday 21 March local recorder ensemble *Lumiere* are hosting another Bach's Birthday Concert and Play-in from 10 am to 1 pm at the Cobargo School of Arts Hall. This free concert will feature local musicians and choristers who will come together to play and sing the beautiful music of Bach in a space and a community that we all know and cherish. We are one of only two performances scheduled in Australia as part of this worldwide festival – Cobargo is pretty special!

We will be playing some Bach favourites that we have been working on and we are inviting other musicians (instrumentalists/singers) of all ages and abilities to come along and play/sing some Bach pieces that they love. You can also play along with us – we will be playing some well-known chorales and some movements from the Orchestral Suite No 2. Just contact me ([katejorgenson1@gmail.com](mailto:katejorgenson1@gmail.com) or 0428 135 052) and I will send you some music (all 440 pitch and in SATB). This will be a friendly, non-judgmental space focused on celebrating Bach and his beautiful music.

And morning tea will be provided too!

*So do drop in.*

*Kate Jorgenson*



Happy 335th Birthday JS!

## EXCELLENCE IN SCULPTURE

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*Community Centre*

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**Closing Ceremony**

*Dickinson Headland*



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THE TRIANGLE

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## Anyone for coffee?

The lovely '71-vintage Gold Coaster caravan coffee outlet, set up in the gardens of Via Luna in the Cobargo main street, has a tasty range of hot drinks tested regularly by me and various friends. Jimmy set up the business after seeing an ad posted by Lena from Via Luna for a quality coffee outlet to work alongside her recently set up Tiny Kitchen.

Jimmy rescued the Gold Coaster from its final journey to the Alice Springs tip and cleaned it up with the idea of working at festivals and markets in Alice, where he had been running a community café. But he decided to take up Lena's offer, put the Gold Coaster on the train and sent it down to Cobargo. To tow it from the station he used a '66 Valiant Safari Wagon rescued from a paddock in Alice—the perfect accompaniment for the Gold Coaster. It sits proudly close to the van, the inspiration for the business name, 'Valiant Coffee'.

The business started running in early December and like all businesses in Cobargo went through the devastating fires of NYE. Fortunately the van wasn't damaged and Jimmy has felt heartened to be able to serve coffees and listen to bushfire stories throughout the disaster. His milk comes from the dairy in Tilba



Jimmy saw Lena's ad in Alice Springs, took up her offer, put the Gold Coaster on the train, and now he serves coffee in the Via Luna gardens to appreciative customers like Sarah.

and his coffee from 1080 Grind in Mystery Bay, so supplies were not cut off by the road closures, a godsend for local coffee drinkers.

Jimmy is hoping to settle long-term in the area but, like so many now, is having

trouble finding permanent accommodation. We hope he does because the fresh green garden atmosphere, great coffee and delicious food from Via Luna play a big part in helping to make Cobargo feel good again.

*Sarah Breakey*

### NEED a CAR?

*Need a car for a day or two?*

The community car is available to borrow.

See one of the women at Well Thumbed Books or book it by phoning Louise on 0416 039 895 or Linda on 0407 047 404

### Pet Minding



**Pet Minding In-home  
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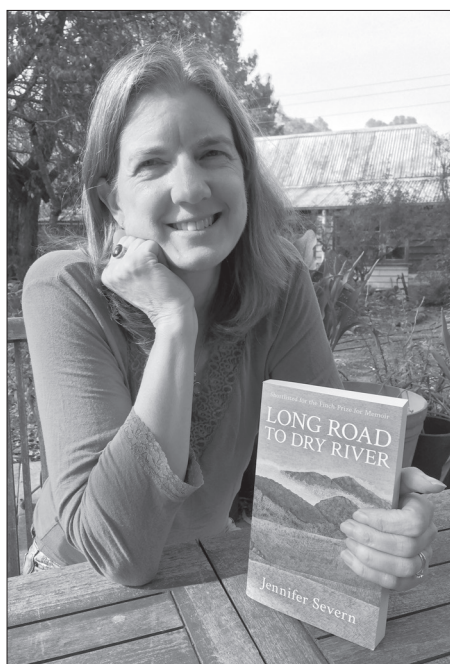


## Local writer launches memoir in Cobargo this month

Jen Severn, long time *Triangle* contributor, is a much admired member of our community, and now she has proved her worth as a published author. The manuscript of *Long Road to Dry River* was shortlisted for the Finch Prize for Memoir in 2018, and Jen will be discussing it with Mary Cunnane at Well Thumbed Books on Saturday 7 March at 10.30 am. Please come along and learn more about the circumstances that landed her in Quaama in 1998 and how her life has unfolded since, including her experience of living with MS.

After the horror of the last few weeks, treat yourself to one of Well Thumbed's great morning teas, and celebrate the resilience and courage of one of our much-loved neighbours.

Heather O'Connor



Jen's memoir will be launched at Well Thumbed Books this month.

## Community docos bow out this month

Over the last five years I have organised 60 documentary screenings in the CWA Cottage, the Old Cobargo Butter Factory and in the Wandella bush. Covering a wide variety of subjects, the screenings were always well received by a loyal audience.

With my new adventure at Via Luna, the time has come to wind up these monthly screenings. So ... on Sunday 22 March, at 3.30 pm, at the Old Butter Factory, *Lives Well Lived* by Sky Bergman will be the final documentary screening in the Cobargo Docos community screenings series.

The beautiful life-affirming film by Sky Bergman makes a great, final, inspiring screening.

What is a life well lived?

*Lives Well Lived* is a feature documentary film by Sky Bergman that celebrates the incredible wit and wisdom of adults, 75 to 100 years old, who are living their lives to the fullest. Encompassing over 3000 years of experience, forty people share their secrets and insights to living a meaningful life. Their intimate memories and inspiring personal histories will make you laugh, perhaps cry, but mostly inspire you.

Trailer: Go to YouTube and search for 'Lives Well Lived'.

Lena



Sky Bergman (left) was inspired by her grandmother, Evelyn Ricciuti, to make her film about the secret to a good life. Ricciuti lived to 103.

## Save the date—Juke Joint returns to Cobargo!

It's been a minute or two between dances, but the organisers of the Juke Joint music event held in the Wandella Hall and the Old Cobargo Butter Factory are returning for a party on Anzac Day, Saturday 25 April. This will be a special night for Cobargo and surrounding communities to come together, with more to be announced soon!

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**Facebook page: Curry Bunga**

## Ross Alphonsus Rixon, 21.06.1935 – 18.01.2020

It was a very sad day when the news spread throughout the family and community that Dad had passed away after complications from his bushfire injuries. He was a truly remarkable man from a generation that is fast being lost.

Dad was born in Milton to Annie and Spencer Rixon, one of ten children. A cheeky larrikin from the beginning to the day he passed, he seemed to be able to get away with anything. Well, almost anything. Not so the drinking of the altar wine while he was an altar boy.

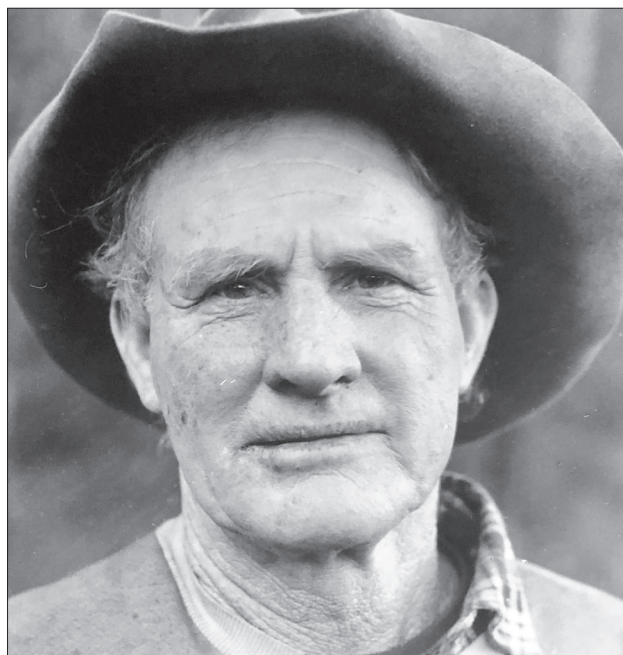
He was a drover, a horse breaker, a truck driver, a fencing contractor, a prop cutter. His last career was cutting fence posts and construction timber, and he was renowned for the brilliant firewood that he cut and carted in the last years of his life. He was still cutting firewood right up until his final days when the bushfire hit his beloved rental home.

Dad was 14 when he went droving and he quickly grew into a fine stamp of a young man, when he met and married the love of his life, Dawn Murray. She was a widow with four young children; Dad took

them under his wing and reared them like his own. Dad and Dawn had three more children and life was busy. Hard work was his mantra, with honesty and integrity at the forefront of his personality. He was not one to suffer fools but was very willing to teach anyone with a will to learn.

Life was sad when Dawn passed away in January 2011 but as time passed he regained his vigour. In 2016 he had a stoush with bowel cancer but, with true grit, and with Bella his beloved little dog by his side, he kept working.

Dad had an absolute thirst for knowledge and read countless reference books. His memory for information was extraordinary. He loved nothing more than sitting outside the Cobargo Bakery enjoying a cup of Black Russian tea and chatting to all the people he knew and strangers alike.



A true local icon. Ross Rixon will be sorely missed.

An icon of Cobargo and an iconic Australian bushman, he'll be sorely missed.

A special message of thanks to Sandy and Ange, who helped him when he was burnt and got him the medical attention he needed.

*June Tarlinton*

## Tilba Valley Winery & Ale House

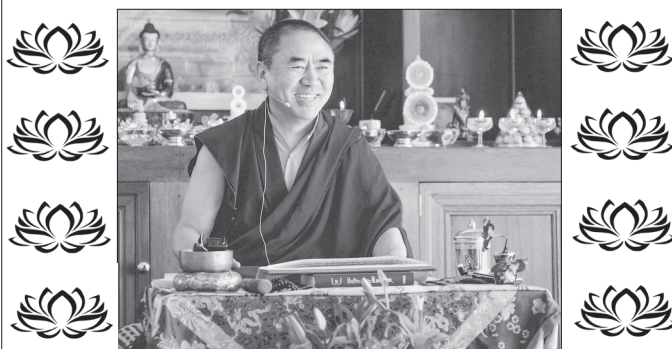
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## Pebbles for Reuben

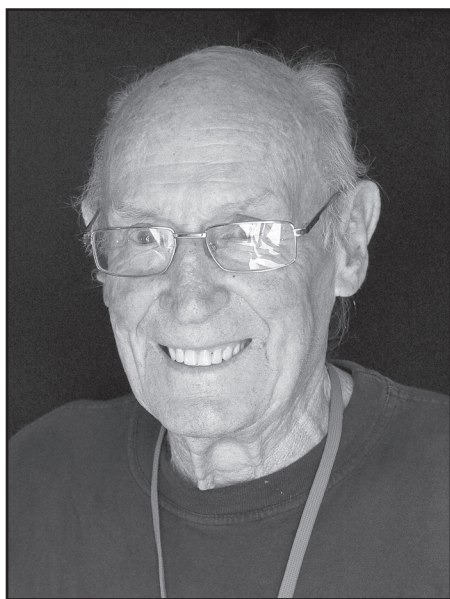
It's with sadness that the Yuin Folk Club announces the death on 21 February of Graeme Fryer, late of Lyrebird Ridge Road, Coolagolite.

Graeme was a huge figure in the development and success of the Yuin Folk Club and the Cobargo Folk Festival. With his partner, Coral Vorbach, Graeme steered the Festival from its beginnings in the village to a festival recognised by the NSW Government as a flagship event for Cobargo and the region.

Tributes have poured in from the folk community around Australia and abroad, and from members of the Australian Labor Party, of which Graeme was a prominent local member.

A private funeral service was held in Canberra and a celebration of Graeme's life is being planned for 5 March in Cobargo.

*Zena Armstrong*



Graeme Fryer

I was saddened to hear of the death of Dr Reuben Glass in Melbourne, on Sunday 10 November. Reuben, his wife Pauline and daughter Rachel arrived in Cobargo in 1958. It was Reuben's first posting as a GP after his hospital training in Melbourne, and I was his first patient in Cobargo. I was three years old. He diagnosed my heart problem and sent me to Sydney for an operation. He probably saved my life.

Reuben, with his second wife Anne and daughter Deborah, visited Cobargo after Christmas in 2017 and May Blacka organised a get-together at Cobargo Hotel with old friends and patients. There were plenty of stories shared, of Reuben's medical feats, large and small.

I live near Yass now but I've just been down to Cobargo to spend a few nights there with my brother Kevin. I camped in the caravans with them at the old farm house. Five Allen homes had burnt down.

While in Cobargo I collected some small stones from around the area. I will take them down to Melbourne later this year and put them on Reuben's grave. I have also introduced this old Jewish tradition to the Cobargo cemetery, placing a small collection of pebbles on the graves of my parents—George and Mavis Allen.

*Gordon Allen*



Gordon collected pebbles from special locations around Cobargo and, borrowing from a Jewish tradition, placed them on his parents' graves.

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### Climate change—a symptom, not a cause

In all the real (and faux) debate, climate change is seen as a *cause of the problem*. But climate change is actually a *symptom* of the problem. The cause seems to be too big and difficult to deal with, so most politicians don't even mention it.

Climate change is just the first symptom of a tsunami of effects of our current approach to living, particularly in 'advanced societies'. Coming down the pipeline: unbreathable air, undrinkable water, poisoned food. How will our children cope under these conditions? The 'natural world' as we know it, even in its present reduced state, won't be there as a balance. Like us, it's already spinning out of control.

Why do we produce so much carbon? Because we make too much stuff. Why do we make too much stuff? Because we have been conditioned by a poisoned media to want, nay demand, way more than we need. Our brains have been fried into shallow wants, the endless treadmill of demands. We remain unhappy. The closest relief for unhappiness is the next shiny object: house, car, job, carpet, lover, painting, bigger TV, bigger breasts, smaller breasts, abs, biceps, finer wine. The mirage is convincing. For some the goals and objects are achievable. But still no happiness.

Meanwhile, companies and people are all caught up in the machine to provide these baubles. Indeed, the process provides too many baubles to those along the way, particularly those at the top of the food chain (think multi-million dollar salaries, private planes, numerous giant houses). But the process is deeply and fatally flawed. It uses too many resources, leaves too much waste, and creates massive inequalities, both within countries and between countries.

There are too many people demanding too much stuff, and though our industrial complex seems capable of producing this ever-increasing amount for many years yet, the inevitable result will be catastrophic for the planet and all the critters, including humans, who live here.

There are nearly eight billion people on the planet. A sustainable global population would be possibly *one* billion. Sooner or later, by famine, war or disease, we will be reduced to one billion. The pain, the agony can hardly be imagined, but we know that this has happened in the past, with other species, and to a lesser extent with our ancestors such as the Neanderthals. The signs that we are now on the slippery path to complete or partial extinction are now in plain sight.

The blundering denials of reality by our political leaders, their absolute failure to understand the bigger picture, their craven greed to suck a few more dollars from their masters in the killing industries, their inability to grasp that adapting to the new reality is not going to do much but slightly delay the inevitable. We need to adapt to the short-term changes much better than we have so far, but, more important and much more difficult, we must change the mindset of humanity, from endless and unsatisfying wants to realising that a richer future for us all lies in learning to share, knowing that family and friends are more important than cars and phones, rejoicing in what was once known as 'an elegant sufficiency'.

Keith Bashford



#### Fire Summer

Ordinary people tell the interviewer  
'Give me a moment' –  
strive to speak of it.  
Black patches eat the map.

Words drop  
through the scorched air;  
someone hands him a bottle of water –  
his mouth is dry.

A sea-breeze drives smoke inland.  
Bulldozers clank in the forest  
and seaplanes like huge dragonflies  
swoop to sip from the shrinking lake.

Smoke free hours, strange  
blue rips through the barren clouds  
to pause the peril. The only fire break,  
the sea.

In the silent forest, to a blackened trunk  
someone fastens grey conduit  
then fills it with water  
or tears.

Linda Albertson and Kai Jensen, January 2020



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### Singing towards recovery

The science is in! Singing is really good for you, and recent research suggests that group singing is the most transformative of all.

Singing in groups seems to trigger the communal release of serotonin and oxytocin, the hormones that create a sense of 'tribal community bonding'. It helps us deal with depression, trauma and anxiety, leaving us feeling happy, relaxed and connected to others in the group. It is even better when you have a ukulele in your hands!

So last month the Bermagui Ukalisps hosted an afternoon of music, food and friendship for the Quaama/Cobargo Ukes of Haphazard. An invitation was also made to the Dalmeny Wahinis to join in the recovery singalong.

Forty-three ukulele players raised the roof of the CWA Rooms in Bermagui in joyous song. Each group performed some of their favourites, then, finding music we had in common, everyone joined in a rousing group singalong. Everyone chatted

around a table groaning with food provided by the Bermagui members.

Many members of the Quaama/Cobargo group were directly impacted by the fires. Many said they had not picked up their ukulele since the fires, feeling just too stressed. They said that the gathering was just what they needed—they went home with smiles on their faces, determined to regroup and start to sing again.

The ukulele is easy to learn, and fun. If you would like to learn to play, or join the Bermagui Ukalisps, we meet every Wednesday from 5 pm to 7 pm. For more information, contact Lori Hammerton on 0459 027 308.

Bermagui Ukalisps would like to find a bass guitarist or bass ukulele player to enhance our group experience. If you play one of these instruments and would love to join a fun, active group, please give Lori a call.

Carolyn Banados



The Quaama/Cobargo Ukes of Haphazard, ready to play again

### U3A Bermagui 'My Story' project



Many people are finding writing or drawing useful in managing their bushfire and post-January emotions. Others are finding drawing and writing helpful in

keeping a record of a 'once in a lifetime' event which is now part of their personal and community history. Some are working with their local Historical Societies to put together items for their archives.

U3A is undertaking a project called 'My Story' to help people record their personal stories, be they heroic, horrendous, stories of survival or sharing, the physicality and power of the fire, or the lasting imprint of January 2020. Your story is about your personal experience.

We are developing a process which will enable anyone in the community to contribute their story, poem or sketch and have it produced as a collection, to be given to the community, as a reminder of the event that has shifted our communities' foundations. The details of the process will be published in next month's *Triangle* and will be available on our website [www.bermagui.u3anet.org.au](http://www.bermagui.u3anet.org.au) from 15 March.

To help you get started you may wish to enrol in one of the writers' workshops that have been added to our Term 1 Timetable. These are very practical sessions and you can enrol now by sending your name, phone, email contact, and identifying which workshop you wish to attend, to [contact@bermagui.u3anet.org.au](mailto:contact@bermagui.u3anet.org.au).

Workshop 1: Cobargo School of Arts Supper Room, Tuesday 7 April, 11 am – 1 pm

Workshop 2: Bermagui Community Centre, Thursday 9 April, 10 am – 12 noon

Other enquiries about the 'My Story' project should be directed to Ruth Perrett at [president@bermagui.u3anet.org.au](mailto:president@bermagui.u3anet.org.au) or by phone on 0408 786 546.

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### Environmental zoning and bushfire hazard reduction work

In the wealth of information and discussion on bushfires flying across the radio, newspapers and social media, there is significant scope for misinformation to get out there. One example I have heard (nestled in amongst the general greenie-bashing) is that environmental zoning is preventing landowners in the Bega Valley from being able to carry out hazard reduction burns. This has not only spread on the foetid cesspit that is social media, but it has also been aired in mainstream media, promulgated by the Bega Valley Shire Farmers and Landowners Group.

To find out if this is true, we need to look at the *Bega Valley Local Environment Plan 2013* (the LEP). Although State legislation and planning policies do have a bearing on the planning and development process, LEPs are the first place to look. The LEP not only sets out the zoning of your property, but it tells you what activities you can do in each zoning without getting a DA ('development permitted without consent'), what activities you can do, but need a DA first ('development permitted with consent') and what activities you cannot do at all ('prohibited development').

So, what does the LEP say about bush fire hazard reduction work? Well, at clause 5.11, it is crystal clear: '*Bush fire hazard reduction work authorised by the Rural Fires Act 1997 may be carried out on any land without development consent*'. This is one of those rare occasions in legislation where there are no caveats, and no ifs or buts: you can do bush fire hazard reduction on *any land* (including land with environmental zoning) as long as you abide by the usual process, including getting permits or approvals where necessary from the RFS.

This is unsurprising really, as there are broad exceptions for bush fire hazard reduction work in most of the different environmental laws, such as laws protecting threatened species, native vegetation, Aboriginal cultural heritage, soil conservation etc. One of the few limitations which remain in environmental laws is in air pollution legislation, which can, in some circumstances, dictate when and how you can burn off.

So, to sum things up, if anyone is telling you that they or anyone else can't burn off or carry out other hazard reduction work because of environmental zoning, they either don't know what they are talking about or they are lying to you (or both).

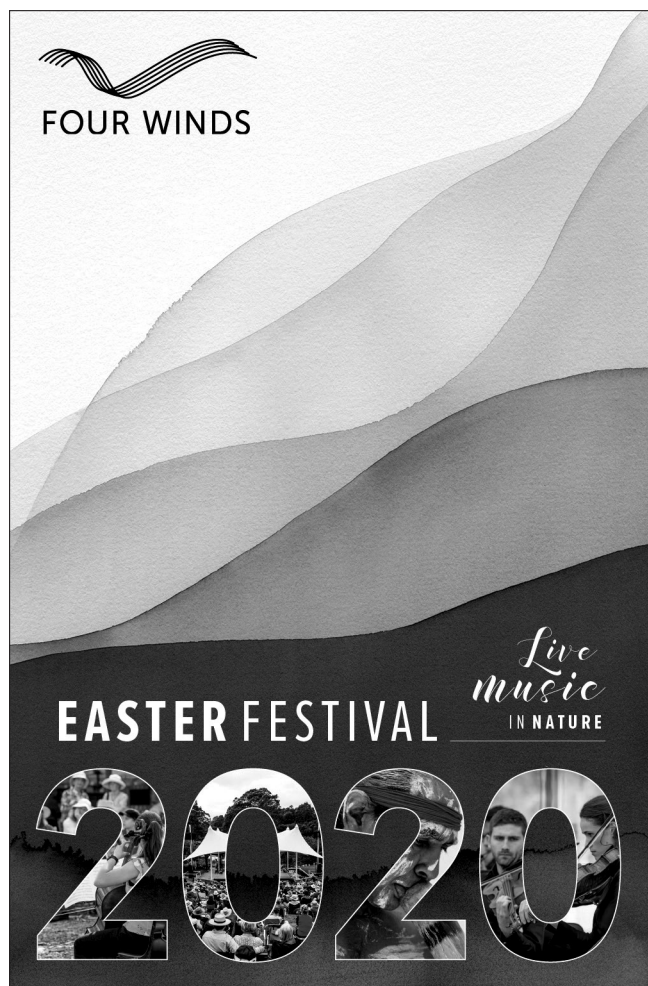
(In case you were wondering if there is anything sneaky in the terminology, 'Bush fire hazard reduction work' is defined in the LEP as establishing and maintaining fire breaks, and carrying out fuel reduction work, including through burning. It doesn't include constructing or maintaining fire trails, as these are dealt with separately.)

Ross Mackay

*(Solicitor specialising in cultural heritage protection and environmental law)*

*This article is intended as general information only, and is not intended to constitute specific legal advice for your circumstances.*

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### Is coal so bad? Yes. Here's why

Frances Crawford's references to coal and carbon dioxide (*Triangle*, February 2020) are a reminder that there's a lot of misinformation and ignorance out there.

Here's a layman's explanation, which may help people understand why the mining and burning of coal is opposed by many, and why abandoning this activity would be a significant first step in combating global warming.

To start with, carbon dioxide makes up 0.04% of our atmosphere—indeed, a trace amount. But it has powerful properties. Carbon dioxide and other gases grouped under the heading of 'greenhouse gases' trap heat from the sun in the earth's atmosphere and prevent it from radiating back into space. As a result, we experience higher temperatures and related climate effects.

Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is now at levels higher than at any time previously measured, and it's believed to be at the highest it's been for 400,000 years (NASA figures). Average temperatures have increased about 1°C since before the industrial era. Again, this seems a small figure, but we are already starting to experience flow-on effects which are anything but trivial in their effect on our lives, such as the bushfires we lived through since New Year's Eve.

If we want to stabilise carbon dioxide levels to ensure that we retain a livable planet for our descendants and fellow creatures, we need to have some grasp of the processes which capture carbon from the atmosphere and release it back again.

Green plants, through photosynthesis, take carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and use it to build plant tissue. Through food chains, animal tissues are also created. The earth's 'biomass', the sum total of plant and animal tissues, stores carbon through the life of each plant or animal, then releases it again into the atmosphere through death and decay, sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly. Trees provide quite long-term carbon storage as they can be long-lived and have massive woody trunks and large root systems.

Another significant process returning carbon dioxide to the atmosphere is the respiration of animals and plants (breaking down organic substances to provide energy for life, with carbon dioxide as a waste product).

Apart from biomass, there are other storage processes which keep carbon out of the atmosphere. It's stored in some mineral compounds, eg limestone (calcium carbonate). And there's a massive amount of carbon dioxide dissolved in the world's oceans, and in polar ice deposits.

Key to the increasing release of carbon dioxide in the modern age is the burning of deposits of fossil fuels. These deposits were created over geological ages—instead of being released back into the atmosphere by normal decay processes, the carbon from plant tissues was preserved by heat and pressure as underground deposits, as coal, oil and gas.

The problem is that the world's appetite for fossil fuels has meant that we have released back into the atmosphere,

in a couple of hundred years, carbon which was stored by plants over *millions* of years. Natural processes have not been able to cope with this as, together with the burning of fossil fuels, humanity has been busy destroying forests. This means yet more carbon released through burning and decay, and fewer living trees to absorb that carbon.

We would all like to think that natural processes can compensate for our activities. Yes, there is some evidence that more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere stimulates plant growth, but with levels continuing to rise, we are facing an upward spiral. Warming oceans absorb less carbon dioxide. Melting ice releases the gases trapped in it. Climate-related drought and bushfires destroy more and more trees. Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere rises inexorably.

There seems little room for optimism without humanity curbing its more harmful activities. People need at least a basic grasp of the carbon cycle, and to be willing to listen to scientists who are monitoring environmental changes. Is there any dispute about the facts I have presented? No, not outside crank circles—it's in high school biology textbooks. But, for some of us, it's been a long time, and some of us weren't paying attention! If going back to school textbooks has no appeal, there are some readable articles on the NASA website: [www.climate.nasa.gov](http://www.climate.nasa.gov).

Verna Aslin  
B.Sc. (Hons)



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## Level 4 water restrictions lifted

Level 4 water restrictions in place for the Brogo-Bermagui water supply system have been completely lifted.

The introduction of the Level 4 restrictions was part of suite of emergency measures implemented that also included carting water from Bega and the Army's 2 Combat Engineer Regiment setting up their water purification and desalination system (WPDS) next to Brogo Tank One to help supplement the drinking water supplies.

These measures had become necessary on the back of the Brogo River/Brogo Dam catchment being largely burnt by the Badja Forest and Werri Berri Fires and the heavy rainfall in more recent times badly compromising the water available to feed the supply to Quaama, Cobargo, Bermagui, Beauty Point, Fairhaven, Wallaga Lake, Wallaga Lake Heights, Akolele and the Wallaga Lake Koori Village.

Bega Valley Shire Council's Water and Sewer Manager, Chris Best, said that quality of water in the Brogo Dam and downstream in the river had improved immensely and had now reached a very acceptable level.

'Although this is still not our normal operating situation, the need for water restrictions is no longer there right now – and no boil water notice is required either,' Chris said.

'The water fill stations at Quaama and Bermagui are also be available again for use.

'No doubt this will be welcome news for our customers in the north of the Shire who have been saving water, however the situation remains dynamic and any heavy

rainfall in the catchment could again cause us problems.

'We acknowledge the difficulty this situation has created for many people and businesses and we are very appreciative of your understanding and cooperation during what has been a difficult and challenging time.

'We are also very appreciative of the tireless work done by our Council teams,

local contractors and water carters, and the ADF, who are still working long hours to ensure clean water remains available to everyone,' Mr Best said.

For more information on water across our Shire, visit [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/water).

*Bega Valley Shire Council,  
Media release*



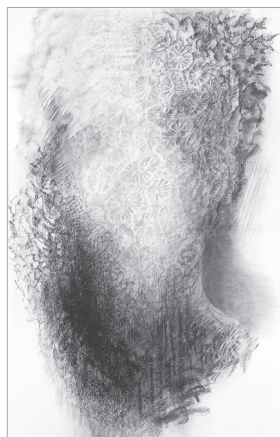
The ADF have set up a water purification and desalination system (WPDS) next to Brogo Tank One to help supplement the drinking water supplies.

### THINKING ABOUT VOLUNTEERING IN 2020?

**WE THINK YOU'D LOOK  
AWESOME IN YELLOW!**



Our community needs some helping hands  
Volunteers are the heartbeat of OzHarvest  
We are on the lookout for people to help with  
food collection and distribution. Even two mornings  
a month is enough to make a big difference!  
For further information please contact:  
**Marina Ely 0428 995 671**  
Sapphire Coast South Coordinator  
[marina.ely@ozharvest.org](mailto:marina.ely@ozharvest.org) [www.ozharvest.org](http://www.ozharvest.org)



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## Bega Council round-up

### Fire recovery

There seems to be no end to recovery assistance mobs, with grants and payments and practical help on offer. But where to start? And who has time to start searching through all the information?

Whether you're on the land or in a town, lost everything, lost income or lost a shed, Service NSW has put together a six-question online questionnaire to point you in the right direction. Go to [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au) and click on the yellow box—Fire Recovery Support.

### Recreational projects

Council's Coordinator of Recreation and Natural Assets, John Turville, says that despite the bushfire risk in some areas, his team has remained committed to delivering some exciting projects for the community.

'Unfortunately, the conditions in some communities has meant we have had to delay the commencement of some projects, but the feedback from the various communities and stakeholders has been overwhelmingly supportive of us getting on with the job wherever it was safe,' he says.

One example is the upgrade to Apex Park in Cobargo, which is underway already. And Aboriginal Heritage salvage work is progressing at Murunna Point, where a new boardwalk is set to be constructed in the coming months.

### Money for business recovery

Council has allocated \$250,000 from the Bushfire Community Resilience and Economic Recovery Fund towards business recovery, tourism marketing and events, and will ask the state and federal governments to extend this funding an additional two years.

'\$60,000 has been allocated for the recently announced tourism marketing campaign,' Mayor, Cr Kristy McBain said. 'We will invest \$95,000 to coordinate support for local businesses to recover from the bushfires and a further \$95,000 to expand the Shire's events program to attract visitors, particularly during winter.'

'These ideas have come from Council's consultations with community groups, businesses, business chambers and local tourism organisations.'

Cr McBain said local small businesses

are vital to our economy and they are doing it really tough right now. 'Many of them usually earn 70-80% of their income over the summer break and, essentially, January didn't happen for anyone because of the bushfires,' she said. 'If we don't get businesses back on track right now, the whole community will be negatively impacted.'

## NEED a CAR?

The community car is available to borrow.

Phone:

Louise on 0416 039 895 or

Linda on 0407 047 404

## Maggie McKinney



**Celebrant Services**

Marriage Celebrant: 10117

Justice of the Peace: 106801

0416 039 539

[maggie.mac@optusnet.com.au](mailto:maggie.mac@optusnet.com.au)

FOUR WINDS

EASTER FESTIVAL

Live music IN NATURE

2020

## Gift of Song for the Far South Coast

IF YOU LOVE TO SING  
HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO PERFORM  
AT THE FOUR WINDS EASTER FESTIVAL.

Composer Gordon Hamilton is writing a song for the Far South Coast, inspired by the colours of this beautiful region.

COME TOGETHER AND RAISE YOUR SPIRITS  
THROUGH SINGING.

WORKSHOP WITH GORDON HAMILTON: 28TH MARCH 2020

Bermagui Community Centre 10am – 4pm

REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE: GOOD FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Dickinson Oval, Bermagui.

SIGN UP: [www.fourwinds.com.au](http://www.fourwinds.com.au)

Supported by Festivals Australia

### FOUR WINDS

Just south of Bermagui, Far South Coast, NSW

T: 02 6493 3366 | @FourWindsAU

[FOURWINDS.COM.AU](http://FOURWINDS.COM.AU)

## FARA! Orkney band visits Cobargo



Another top Scottish band visiting for the 'Year of Scotland' in Australia, Fara brings together four leading musicians at the forefront of today's vibrant young Scottish folk scene. Kristan Harvey, Jeana Leslie and Catriona Price's three fiddles combine with Rory Matheson's piano to produce a fiery sound rooted strongly in their upbringing among the music of Orkney.

With a mixture of self-penned and traditional Orkney tunes, as well as stunning vocals, Fara's musical experiences and friendships produce an exciting and individual sound.

They are excited to tour Australia for the first time in 2020 and, with such vibrant arrangements full of rich harmonies, energetic fiddle playing and driving piano, audiences are sure to be thrilled too.

Come and celebrate a little bit of Scotland in Australia! Cobargo School of Arts Hall, Wednesday 11 March. Concert starts 7.30 pm. Entry by donation.

## The gift of song for the Far South Coast

Four Winds has asked composer Gordon Hamilton to create a song to bring Far South Coast people together. He is taking his inspiration from the many different colours in nature across our beautiful region.

The new song, commissioned with support from Festivals Australia, will receive its world premiere on Good Friday at a special concert on Dickinson Oval, Bermagui. Everyone who loves singing is invited to take part.

Gordon is creating a song which can be learnt quickly and performed by singers of all abilities. He will teach the song at a workshop on 28 March in the Bermagui Community Centre. Singers who attend the workshop will be invited to take part in the performance on Good Friday.

This joyful and uplifting experience will also be a chance to perform with a visiting professional choir, 'The Australian Voices' from Brisbane. Many local choirs have already signed up—That

Bunch of Singers from Bermagui, Heartsong and the Bega Valley Youth Choir from Bega, Balun Malu Choir who toured East Timor, and Spirit Allegro from Pambula will all be lending their voices.

Gordon Hamilton said, 'It's a great honour to be asked to write a song as a gift to the Far South Coast. Given everything that has happened recently I couldn't think of a better way to raise our spirits than through singing. I'm looking forward to hearing this amazing, resilient community lift its voice in song.'

This song continues Four Winds' commitment to commissioning songs inspired by the region. Songs by Lisa Young and indigenous composers Deborah Cheetham and Brenda Gifford have been important parts of recent Four Winds Easter and Youth festivals.

Singers can register for 'The Gift of Song' workshop and performance at the Four Winds website.

## Reflect, renew, re-imagine at the Tilba Art Show at Easter

*Through art and dance we can reclaim our primal heritage and move towards a more embodied future. As we tap into the deep sources of bodily wisdom through creative art expression, we dance the renewal, recreation, and healing of ourselves and our world.* Anna Halprin

The far south coast has been in huge challenge this summer. Artistic process can help us make sense of our experiences. Regeneration hints at a slow, unfolding, healing process – and in this traumatic aftermath, we can use artistry to find our pathways of meaning and connection into new lives and new times.

A time of endings and beginnings involves all kinds of letting go, and deepening our practices for renewal and re-creation. So whether you call yourself an artist or not, use this opportunity to reflect upon your summer experiences and

create art – as your response, to re-imagine your future, to renew your hope and focus in your life.

In the seasonal move towards autumn there is a softening – with space, light and cool – to rest, recover, reflect and re-integrate our worlds. Art is a great vehicle for catharsis, expression and recovery. Which art form calls you – Photography? Written word? Painting? Dance? Sculpture? Digital art?

Artists of the south coast are invited to enter the 2020 Tilba Art Show, 10 – 13 April. Our Facebook event page '2020 Tilba Art Show' will have more details of the exhibition, competitions and activities over the three days of the show.

Three categories of work will be voted on in a People's Choice award system – for children under 12, young people 12 – 18, and adult (over 18) works.

Media can include photography, digital art, video, poetry or prose, sculpture, painting, drawing, ceramics.

A small fee for each entry will cover exhibition costs, with a maximum of three entries per person. The Art Show will open on Easter Friday night 10 April at 6 pm. If you would like to perform music or poems or written pieces at the opening, please contact me on virginiasadayork@gmail.com.

Bring a plate and BYO to share in this community gathering. See you there!

*Art is not documentary. It may incidentally serve that function in its own way but its true effort is to open to us – dimensions of the spirit and of the self that normally lie smothered under the weight of living.* Jeanette Winterson (novelist)

Virginia Sada York



# Art in the Triangle

## Hear sculptors speak in a stunning location

The 2020 Sculpture Bermagui exhibition could be one of the best to date. There's a record number of entries, and record prize money.

Not to be missed this year are the Artists' Talks featuring three exhibiting artists, Anneke Paijmans, Hugh Burrell and Michael Purdy.

The Talks will be held on Saturday 14 March from 11 am until approximately 2 pm.

We are lucky enough to be able to enjoy them at the property of Rob and Sally Hawkins, a beautiful setting at Mystery Bay. Morning tea, light lunch and a beverage are provided.

Come and join us for a wonderful afternoon, in a stunning location, to hear three amazing artists talk about their work. Tickets are \$40, available from [www.sculpturebermagui.org.au/program/talk](http://www.sculpturebermagui.org.au/program/talk).

*The Sculpture Bermagui committee*



*Dancing branches, Michael Purdy*

In the month of March, Cobargo Creators presents the community with a smile. The exhibition 'Smile with Us' is now on show. Cobargo Creators is working towards facilitating/funding community development projects that support recovery and this exhibition is the beginning round of a creative exploration of healing our community through love and creativity.

Word was sent out to artists locally then further afield and then wider still, to create an artwork to bring a smile to our hearts. And the response has been quirky and original. Come along and be enveloped in the caring and thought that has gone into these works by people who want to see Cobargo shine again.

A raffle sponsored by the Pineapple House of Bermagui has been launched in conjunction with 'Smile with Us.' All proceeds

## After that lovely rain, the Lazy Lizard decides to 'Go with the Flow!'

We have been going pretty well at the gallery. Even though all our members were affected in some way by the fires, we are managing to keep the doors open most days and have been overwhelmed by the number of visitors, both locals and 'foreigners', who have been coming in and supporting the gallery. Thank you, all of you, for helping our community toward recovery.

This month in the Side Room, we have our favourite volunteer, Carol Taylor, with her beautiful watercolours. She was supposed to have an exhibition with us in January, but things were all just too difficult at the time and it didn't really happen. So we decided we would like to invite her for March instead. Fortunately she is ready to 'Go with the Flow!' and will be bringing in some of those lovely paintings of hers that we all admire.

Watercolour is a difficult medium. It needs sensitive handling, and Carol certainly knows how to do this. Her colours are always vibrant and translucent, even when depicting the most intricate detail. Nature is her inspiration. She has paintings of shells, leaves, flowers of all varieties (including some natives), frogs in a lily pond, grapevines, and possibly even some penguins. Also part of the show are some of those very popular and very cute small canvases, with subjects ranging from owls to elephants to pandas!

There will be plenty to see and admire, so please come along to the gallery. Carol's work will be on display for the whole of March, and we will have an opening with morning tea on Saturday, 7 March, between 10 am and 12 noon.

*Naomi Lewis*



*Protea, watercolour by Carol Taylor.*

## Smile with Us

from this raffle will be used to benefit members who have been impacted by the bushfires.

Cobargo Creators is open seven days a week.

*Sandra Taylor*

PS Down the laneway ... next to the chemist ... in the backyard ... behind Cobargo Creators ... is a shed. This shed is being transformed into studios. Cobargo Creators intends to offer these small studios to artists who have lost their working space so they can re-establish their creative practice. This will be a place of respite, beauty, practicality and company when you need it. Support and materials will be provided. If you're interested in being a part of this project, contact [cobargocreators@gmail.com](mailto:cobargocreators@gmail.com).

### Free brush-making workshop with Lorna Crane

On Sunday 15 March, 10 am to 2 pm, fire-impacted residents of Cobargo and surrounding areas are invited to attend a free brush-making workshop with Pambula-based artist Lorna Crane at the Cobargo School of Arts Hall. Lorna's handmade brushes and workshops have both received world acclaim, making this a special opportunity for locals to spend a day quietly creating. Lorna is donating all materials for the day but encourages participants to bring any materials that they may like to incorporate to personalise their work. You don't need to be an artist to join in – any fire-affected local can participate and leave with a beautiful collection of objects that will delight and inspire joy.

Lorna Crane has been teaching brush-making all around Australia since February 2015. She sources materials from her natural environment, including driftwood, bamboo and organic fibres, along with found objects, making unique, rudimentary and utilitarian brushes in a variety of shapes and sizes.

'Brush-making for me is very much a synthesis where I connect to a sense of place, searching for a deeper meaning to the way I work and think—from the making of utilitarian and rudimentary objects to exploring mark-making in all its forms—to a journey rich in discovery and ownership,' says Lorna.

During this workshop each participant will be making their own set of handmade brushes from a variety of different materials.

This is a unique opportunity to participate in a free one-day workshop, exploring the simple yet exciting technique of making brushes as well as exploring mark-making with ink on paper and cloth.

Limit 15 participants. For further information: [lorna@lornacrane.com](mailto:lorna@lornacrane.com), 0414 725 348

Rhonda Ayliffe



Some of Lorna's hand-made brushes

### The man and the ship

(Part One of 'Cook's voyage, or why the *Endeavour* was passing Bermagui on Saturday 21 April 1770')

James Cook (1728–1779) was born in Yorkshire, England. In 1747 he moved to Whitby and joined the merchant navy, working on colliers and other ships in the coastal trade and the Baltic Sea. In 1755 he joined the Royal Navy and in

1757 qualified as a Master. He served in North America during the Seven Years' War. As master of HMS *Grenville* he spent five years surveying the coast of Newfoundland. He married Elizabeth Batts in 1762, with whom he had six children.

In his first 13 years at sea, Cook became a competent navigator and surveyor. His skills brought him to the attention of the

Royal Society, which was sponsoring an expedition in 1768 to observe the transit of Venus in Tahiti and explore the South Pacific. Cook was promoted from Master to Lieutenant, and was given command of HMS *Endeavour* for the voyage.

The *Endeavour* was launched in June 1764, originally a collier for the coastal trade. A barque weighing 366 tonnes and 30 metres long, her maximum speed was eight knots. On 26 May 1768 she was commissioned by the British Royal Navy and fitted out for the three-year expedition.

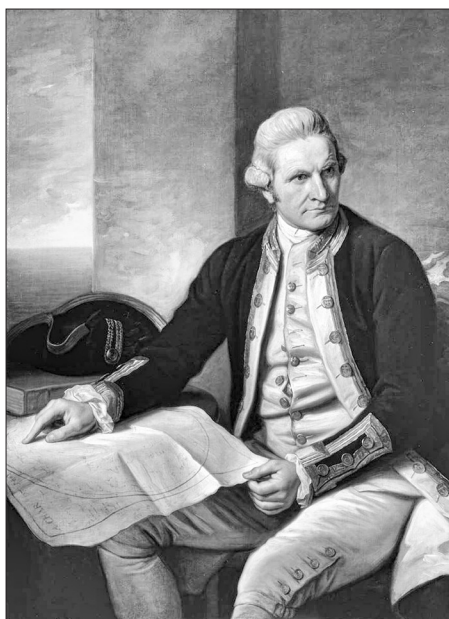
At departure, the crew consisted of 71 ship's company, 12 marines and 11 civilians. Supernumerary passengers included Joseph Banks (born 1744, Lincolnshire) as official botanist, who funded the participation of two naturalists, an astronomer and his servant, two artists and four other servants. Seven of Banks' complement would die on the voyage.

Next month, Part Two: The voyage to New Holland.

David Cotton

Bermagui Historical Society

The museum is open 10 am to 2 pm  
Friday and Saturdays for viewing and  
research. There are over 10,000 photos  
and documents in our digital archive.



The man—Captain James Cook  
(courtesy Whitby (UK) Cook Museum)



The Endeavour  
(artist's impression, courtesy APP)





# Live the dream in Beautiful Bermagui

- Fully serviced blocks
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grant@sapphirecove.com.au

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Pictures are only for marketing display purposes and full inclusions should be determined at time of purchase.

## Amazing citrus

In the recent bushfires many plants were burnt in some way, and, depending on the severity of the burn, some will recover and some won't.

Citrus are very resilient trees and many will recover to their former glory.

Citrus are presently one of the most popular categories of fruit trees available in nurseries to the gardening public. This is mainly due to the work that has been done in recent times to provide dwarf forms that are more suitable to pot culture or for our ever-decreasing house block sizes.

Autumn is a great time to plant citrus, with growers having great supplies available to retailer nurseries. We now have many varieties that are on much improved roots stocks, which give the plant a better ability to survive under many different climatic conditions and soil types.

In growing citrus it's important to consider your location, as many varieties are not suited to heavy frosts or cold southerly winds.

Optimal maximum temperatures for growing citrus are 25 – 30°C. When temperatures get above 38°C growth is inhibited, although the plant will survive up to 50°C. Oranges and lemons are more suited to colder parts of the Triangle area, although some frost protection is required in very cold locations. Limes and cumquats require a warmer, frost-protected site.

Satsuma mandarin, Meyer lemon and sour orange are more tolerant of cold and can be grown in a more open, exposed position. Locations along the coast like Narooma and Bermagui are suited to all citrus as long as they have protection from the cold southerly winds.

Select a site that's well drained and in full sun. As mentioned previously, a site that has wind protection but especially southerly wind protection is very important. Dig a wide hole but not massively deep and add a commercial planting compost to your soil. If you have made your own compost, ensure that it has broken down sufficiently to mix with your soil. Remember, don't completely change your soil when planting, but improve the soil you have.

Once you have placed the plant in the hole, check to make sure when you backfill the hole that soil does not come up above the graft. Just add enough soil to cover to where the soil came up to in the pot.

If you don't have sufficient room in the garden and you still want a citrus then try one of the dwarf forms. Mandarins, oranges, lemons and limes come in the dwarf form with at least two varieties per fruit available.

Pot culture of citrus is a bit different for several reasons. Planting in pots

requires a reasonable size pot so sufficient potting mix can be added. The more soil gives a greater water- and nutrient-holding capability. The smaller the pot the quicker the plant dries out and this leads to an unthrifty tree. Nutrient leaches out more quickly so it is important to feed potted plants more regularly.

From my experience, fertilising of citrus should take place in spring and summer, with the addition of chook manure and a side application of fertiliser in autumn.

Citrus are gross nitrogen feeders so a specially formulated citrus fertiliser is most desirable. Apply at the dripline of the plant and water in well.

When fertilising potted citrus, use a water soluble form so root burn is alleviated. A side application of fish- or seaweed-based fertiliser on a regular basis outside the regular fertilising program will also benefit the plant.

Citrus trees are vulnerable to several pest problems, including sap-sucking pests like shield bugs (stink bugs), leaf miner and scale, and several fungal problems including black spot and citrus blast.

Ask your local nursery person for control measures to combat these problems. There are both chemical and organic forms of control for all these pests.



### Subscribe to The Triangle

Do you live outside the Triangle? Be sure to receive your copy every month by subscribing. 12 months' subscription (11 issues) is \$32.00\*. Email treasurer@thetriangle.org.au or post your cheque and details to The Triangle, PO Box 293, Bermagui, NSW 2546.

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## Take comfort ...

There's nothing like food that takes us back to warm, happy times with family and friends.  
No wonder there's a whole realm of recipes collectively called 'Comfort Food'.  
We hope these tasty dishes might soothe our souls and bring forth a deeply felt 'Yum!'



### Macaroni and Cheese

This is a tried and true recipe so be exact with quantities and timing (that one minute is *one minute!*) and you'll get a perfect result.

Serves 4

300 g macaroni, casarecce, penne or whatever shape you choose

2 tsp salt, for the pasta cooking water

105 ml cream

1¾ packed cups (220 g) grated sharp cheddar cheese

½ tsp mustard powder

⅛ tsp garlic powder

⅛ tsp onion powder

Tiny pinch of cayenne pepper, or a dash of your favourite hot sauce



1. Bring a medium pot of water to the boil. Add the pasta and salt. Cook until al dente, according to package directions. Meanwhile, make sure all of your ingredients are measured and ready (combine the dry spices in a small bowl).
2. Drain the pasta and leave it in the colander for now. Return the empty pot to medium heat. Immediately add the cream and let the mixture come to a boil. Once boiling, set a timer for 1 minute.
3. Once the minute is up, add all of the cheese and spices. Stir until the cheese has fully melted to produce a creamy sauce. Add the pasta, stir until the pasta is evenly coated in cheese sauce, and remove the pot from the heat.
4. Taste and season with salt, if necessary. Serve immediately.

### Congee

Serves 4

Comfort to me is a bowl of steaming congee – rice porridge. You can eat it very simply with a few fresh julienned ginger slices, sliced spring onions, coriander, light soy sauce and a few drops of sesame oil. Maybe some fresh chillies. Make it more substantial by adding some sliced, poached chicken breast.

2 litres boiling water

½ cup basmati or jasmine rice

1 tsp sea salt

1 tsp vegetable oil

1. Pour water into a 5 litre heavy based pot.
2. Add all ingredients and simmer for approximately 1½ hours or until volume is reduced by half. During cooking time, adjust the heat to prevent burning and stir regularly to prevent sticking. Use a heat diffuser if you have one.
3. It's ready when the congee is off-white with a slightly transparent appearance. It should be thick, yet runny. Serve hot with your choice of accompaniments.



### Perfect Rice Pudding

Serves 4

50g butter

50g soft light brown sugar

100g short grain rice

1 litre full-cream milk

Zest of ½ a lemon

1 bay leaf

¼ tsp freshly grated nutmeg

¼ tsp cinnamon

½ vanilla pod, cut open lengthways

150ml double cream

2 tbsp sweet sherry, preferably Pedro Ximenez (optional)



1. Pre-heat the oven to 140C.
2. Melt the butter in a saucepan over a gentle heat. Add the sugar. Stir and cook for a few minutes, then tip in the rice, and stir to coat. Cook until the rice has swelled slightly, stirring continuously.
4. Add the milk and stir well.
5. Add the lemon zest, bay leaf, spices and a pinch of salt, then pour in the cream and sherry (if using) and bring to a simmer.
6. Transfer to a buttered oven dish and bake the pudding for about 2 hours, until it has set, but is still slightly wobbly. Allow it to cool a bit and serve warm.

## Gail Honeyman, *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine*, Penguin Random House \$32.99

**Debut Sunday Times Bestseller and Costa First Novel Book Award winner**

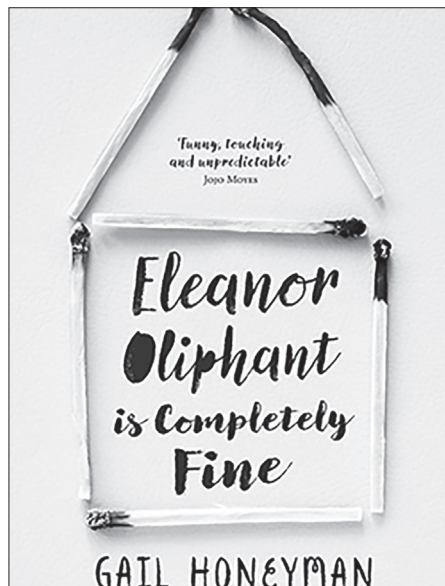
Eleanor Oliphant is most definitely not completely fine, but she is one of the most unusual and thought-provoking fictional characters I have met. The human need for connection, initially scorned by Eleanor, is at the heart of this novel.

Eleanor Oliphant is instantly real. When we first meet her, she is socially awkward and neurotic, has a drinking habit and holds regular conversations with an evil, dominating mother. The life of an outsider is clearly captured. She keeps to her ordered, empty and lonely life without realising how bizarre and unhealthy it is.

When she and a co-worker accidentally become involved with assisting an elderly man in the street, Eleanor is exposed to new experiences and her world slowly and haltingly broadens. There is even a final twist which leaves the reader questioning a whole lot of what has gone before.

This book is quirky, funny at times, sad and shocking at others but always

quite unpredictable. All of the characters are real and believable. The novel is full of kindness and warmth but also deep, unspoken sadness. It makes you want to reach out and include everyone – even the ones who everyone thinks is a bit weird.



Ali the joey, orphaned and burnt, is being fostered by Dimity Irvine.  
Photo Josefa Ruiz Irvine, Wandella

## Pet of the Month

Deb Cox



Bella is eager to please, loves to swim and play with other dogs, leads well and comes back when called.

Two year old Bella well-behaved in the car, to swim, walks well on has good recall, knows other basic commands and is very eager to please. She is a social girl and plays well with the four resident dogs at her foster carers' home. Bella has been an outside dog but would love to be inside as part of the family. She will need good fencing as she was reported to be a fence jumper at her previous home, though her foster family hasn't had any issues to date. A home without cats or livestock would suit her best.

The adoption fee for Bella is \$360 and her microchip number is 900079000274595. All animals available through AWLNSW are microchipped, de-sexed, vaccinated, wormed, flea- and tick-treated. Their adoption fee is subsidised in the hope that rescue pets will be people's first choice and that eventually we will be able to stop unwanted litters. Please note that potential dog owners will need to have secure dog-proof fencing and suitability to the needs of the animal.

You can view available animals on our Facebook page (Animal Welfare

League Far South Coast Branch) but you will need to call us on 0400 372 609 to enquire about any of the cats, kittens, dogs and pups available for adoption. (AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation Number: R251000222).

De-sexing vouchers are available at all vet clinics in our branch area (Bega Valley Shire) for local residents who hold a Centrelink Pension Card. AWL Far South Coast will subsidise the de-sexing by \$125 for female dogs and cats and by \$100 for male dogs and cats. Simply make a booking with your vet, show your pension card and you only need to cover the balance of the de-sexing cost.

Helpful Hints: In a thunderstorm, in addition to keeping your own anxiety in check, it could be helpful to gently lead your pet to the bathroom and if possible into the bathtub as the porcelain may actually help block static electricity. Try not to give too much positive reinforcement as this may be perceived by your pet that freaking out is something you'd like to see them do again.





#### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Bermagui Saturday 2pm & Bermagui Monday 5pm  
Both at Anglican Church Hall,  
Ph Dave on 6493 5014

#### AL-ANON

Bega, Back Room 7th Day Adventist Church,  
31 Upper St (opp showground/pool)  
Tuesday 5-6 Thurs 1-2 Ph 6492 0314

#### ALICE BAILEY GROUP

Each Saturday from 12.00 to 3.00pm we gather to  
learn the Ageless Wisdom teachings. All welcome.  
Phone: Lorraine on 6493 3061

#### ANGLICAN PARISH OF COBARGO

Bermagui: All Saints- 1st, 2nd 3rd 4th Sundays 8.00am  
Cobargo: Christ Church-1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays 10.00am  
5th Sunday - One service in parish at 10  
am rotation. Contact Tim Narraway 6493 4416

#### ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE

Far South Coast Branch promotes the welfare of  
companion animals and responsible pet ownership.  
Call 0400 372 609

#### BERMAGUI BADMINTON CLUB

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

#### BERMAGUI BAPTIST CHURCH

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

#### BERMAGUI COUNTRY CLUB ARTS SOCIETY

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

#### BERMAGUI CROQUET CLUB

Sunday Social Golf Croquet 9.45 until 12.00  
Monday Association Croquet 1.30 until 4.00  
Wednesday Golf Croquet 1.30 until 4.00  
Thursday Association Croquet 1.30 until 4.00  
Call Lynn Lawson 0411 432 533

#### BERMAGUI CWA

Meeting, first Friday of the Month at 1 pm.  
CWA Rooms, 10 Corunna St, Bermagui.  
Contact: Mrs Kathryn Preston, 6493 5887  
kfstreston@bigpond.com

#### BERMAGUI DUNE CARE

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

#### BERMAGUI GARDEN GROUP

1st Tuesday every Month 10 am until 12 noon, venues  
vary, phone Heather Sobey on 0418 406 068

#### BERMAGUI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meeting First Wednesday of Month, 2.00pm CWA  
rooms, Bermagui. Researchers & helpers welcome.  
Ph Allan Douch 0428 427 873 or  
Dave Cotton 6493 5014

#### BERMAGUI INDOOR BOWLS CLUB

Social games meets for Indoor Bowls at Bermagui  
Country Club every Monday afternoon. Names to be  
on list by 2:00pm, games start at 2.30pm.  
No experience necessary. Bob Whackett: 6493 3136

#### BERMAGUI KNOW YOUR BIBLE

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

#### BERMAGUI & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

New members welcome. Meet 1st Thurs each month  
at Cobargo Hotel & 3rd Thurs at Bermagui Country  
Club at 6.30 for 7.00pm  
Enquiries: Ray Clements on 0477 017 443.

#### THE BERMAGUI MARKET

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

#### BERMAGUI MEN'S SHED

Temporary meetings until completion of new shed.  
Tuesdays, 10am Young Street premises,  
Thursdays 10am Bermagui Country Club.  
New members welcome.  
For information call Phil Baldwin on 0413005419

#### BERMAGUI PROBUS

Probus provides an opportunity to meet with fellow  
retirees on a regular basis, listen to interesting guest  
speakers and join in the company of new friends.  
Meets on the second Monday of each month at the  
Pavilion, Dickenson Oval. 10am-12.  
Contact Lorraine Courtis  
email lcou6446@bigpond.net.au

#### BERMAGUI & DISTRICT SENIORS' SOCIAL CLUB

The 1st Wednesday of each month, General Meetings  
held alternately at CWA rooms, Bermagui and  
Bermagui Country Club, commencing 10.30 am. with  
social luncheons to follow. New members are most  
welcome. Enquiries contact  
President Hilda 0438864374

#### BERMAGUI SES UNIT

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

#### BERMAGUI TINY TEDDIES PLAYGROUP

Fridays 10-12 during school term. Newborn, toddlers,  
all welcome! CWA Hall, Corunna St, Bermagui.

#### BERMAGUI U3A

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

#### BERMAGUI URBAN FOOD FARMERS (BUFF)

community gardening and growing activities -  
various times and sites.  
Contact Paul on 0466 013 153 or visit  
www.facebook.com/BermaguiUrbanFoodFarmers

#### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Weekend Mass times.  
Bermagui- Sunday 7:30 am Cobargo -Saturday 5pm

#### COBARGO CWA

Meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:30 am  
CWA Cottage, 5 Cobargo-Bermagui Rd, Cobargo  
Contact: Ms Sally Halupka 6493 7356  
cwa.cobargo@gmail.com

#### COBARGO DISTRICT MUSEUM

Meeting 5 pm 2nd Thursday of the month at  
the Cobargo Museum: researchers, old photos,  
information and new members welcome. Contacts:  
Vicky Hoyer 0422 377 278 / Bev Holland 0408 280 024

#### COBARGO PRE-SCHOOL

Child centred, play based preschool education for 3-5  
year olds in a happy, creative & caring environment.  
Monday-Thursday. Ph 6493 6660

#### COBARGO PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Families welcome every Thursday 9-10.30am.  
All ages welcome. Bring along a piece of fruit  
to share. A small donation would be greatly  
appreciated. 6493 6660

#### COBARGO & DISTRICT RED CROSS

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

#### COBARGO SoA HALL COMMITTEE

Hall bookings and inquiries: Linda 0407 047 404  
email: cobargohall@gmail.com

#### 1ST COBARGO SCOUT GROUP

Children 6 - 15yrs. Meetings 6.30pm to 8pm in school  
term Cobargo Showground dining hall. Contact  
Graham Parr on 6493 6795

#### COBARGO SHOW MEETING

2nd Wednesday every month, 7.30 pm - CWA  
Rooms. Contact Naomi Rolfe 0417 456 354

#### COBARGO TOURIST & BUSINESS ASSOC

Monthly meetings 2nd Tuesdays at Well Thumbed  
Books, 6pm. Contact: David Wilson on 0401 398 141

#### COBARGO CWA

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

#### DIGNAMS CREEK COMMUNITY GROUP

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

#### MOBILE TOY LIBRARY

& Parenting Resource Service. All parents of children  
0-6 welcome to join. Enquiries: 0428 667 924

#### LIFE DRAWING SESSIONS

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

#### MT DROMEDARY UNITING CHURCH

Bermagui: Sundays 9am at the Union Church, West  
St. Bermagui, Cobargo: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays  
at 11am; 4th Sausage sizzle at 7pm  
& praise night at 6pm, Cobargo Bermagui Rd.  
For information ring Robyn 64938324

#### OPEN SANCTUARY AT TILBA TILBA

Meets regularly on 2nd Saturday 4.30pm - 6pm,  
and 4th Friday 10am to 2pm.  
Plus, meditations, discussions, guest speakers  
& special events.  
website: opensanctuarytilba.org and facebook.  
Inq: Linda Chapman 0422 273 021

#### TILBA CWA

Meeting 2nd Friday of the month at 10 am  
Tilba small hall, Bate Street, Central Tilba  
Contact: Ms Helene Sharpe 0438 257 189  
cwasecretary@gmail.com

#### TILBA MARKET

Home grown, Hand made, Grow it, Make it, Sew it,  
Bake it every Saturday 8am to 12, Central Tilba Hall  
Stall booking essential, phone 0490 130 478.

#### QUAAMA MEN'S SHED

Meets Wednesdays from 10am at the old fire shed,  
20 Bermagui Street, Quaama. All men are welcome.  
For information contact John Preston (President) on  
6493 5887 or Ron Higgins on 0408 788 528.

#### QUAAMA / COBARGO QUILTERS

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

#### SCHOOL OF ARTS PLAYERS INC (SOAPI)

Enquiries: Robyn Freedman 0410 525 968

#### THE YUIN FOLK CLUB

The Yuin Folk Club organises the annual Cobargo  
Folk Festival and hosts folk music concerts through-  
out the year. Details at www.cobargofolkfestival.com.  
For info ph. Secretary Carolyn Griffin 0400 391 324,  
Treasurer Zena Armstrong 0402 067 615 or  
email info@cobargofolkfestival.com

**Community Notices** are advertised in The Triangle for non-profit groups free of charge.  
If details change, please advise us at [contributions@thetriangle.org.au](mailto:contributions@thetriangle.org.au)

# For the Fridge Door

| MARCH                 | WHAT                                        | WHERE                                  | TIME                |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Sun 1                 | Live music: The Awesome                     | Tilba Valley Wines                     | 12.30 pm            |
| Fri 6 to Sun 15       | Sculpture Bermagui                          | Dickinson Point headland and foreshore | All day             |
| Sat 7                 | Opening, Carol Taylor, watercolours         | Lazy Lizard Gallery                    | 10 am - noon        |
|                       | Book launch, Jen Severn                     | Well Thumbed Books                     | 10.30 am            |
| Sun 8                 | Tilba CWA 'Humming the Songlines'           | Tilba Tilba Oval                       | 9 am                |
|                       | Fun in the Sun, nude family day             | Armands Beach, Barragga Bay            | from 10 am          |
|                       | Live music: Dave Newman                     | Tilba Valley Wines                     | 12.30 pm            |
|                       | Tilba Community Gathering                   | Central Tilba RFS Shed                 | 5 pm                |
| Wed 11                | Fara, Orkney band, by donation              | Cobargo SoA Hall                       | 7.30 pm             |
| Sun 15                | Live music: Benji Fowler                    | Tilba Valley Wines                     | 12.30 pm            |
| Sat 21                | Bach's Birthday Concert and Play-in         | Cobargo SoA Hall                       | 10 am - 1 pm        |
| Sun 22                | Live music: Oscar Litchfield                | Tilba Valley Wines                     | 12.30 pm            |
|                       | Community Doco: <i>Lives Well Lived</i>     | Old Butter Factory, Cobargo            | 3.30 pm             |
| Sun 29                | Live music: Andrew Geoffrey                 | Tilba Valley Wines                     | 12.30 pm            |
| <b>REGULAR EVENTS</b> |                                             |                                        |                     |
| Mondays               | Ki yoga with Jody Vassallo                  | Open Sanctuary, Tilba Tilba            | 7 - 8 am            |
|                       | Iyengar yoga with Paula Casciola            | Bermagui Community Hall                | 7 - 8.15 am         |
|                       | Meditation                                  | Open Sanctuary, Tilba Tilba            | 10.30 am - 12.30 pm |
|                       | Yin yoga with Jody Vassallo                 | Open Sanctuary, Tilba Tilba            | 6 - 7.30 pm         |
| Tuesdays              | Quaama Singers                              | Quaama Hall                            | 5 pm                |
|                       | Trivia                                      | Cobargo Hotel                          | 7.30 pm             |
|                       | Weekly meditation                           | Kamalashila Centre, Tilba              | 10 - 11 am          |
|                       | Storytime                                   | Bermagui Library                       | 10.30 am            |
|                       | Yoga Classes with Sara                      | Bermagui Surf Club                     | 10 - 11.15 am       |
| Wednesdays            | Sound Bath                                  | River Rock Café, Bermagui              | 10.30 am, 6 pm      |
|                       | Appalachian Jam Session                     | Cobargo Hotel                          | 7 pm                |
|                       | Dru Yoga                                    | Cobargo School of Arts                 | 10.30 am            |
| First Wednesday       | Bermagui Historical Society Monthly Meeting | CWA Hall Corunna St                    | 2 pm                |
| Last Wednesday        | Cobargo Seed Savers                         | Call Ruta 0406 186 115                 | 10 am - 12 noon     |
| Thursdays             | Mind Body Stillness Meditation              | Call Lenore 0412 793 174               | 10 - 11 am          |
|                       | Rhymetime                                   | Bermagui Library                       | 10.30 - 11 am       |
|                       | Growers Market                              | Bermagui Country Club                  | 3 pm                |
| 3rd Thursday          | 'Everything Tech' night                     | Bermagui Library                       | 5 - 8 pm            |
| Last Thursday         | Gardening talk, Keith Mundy                 | La Galette, Tilba Tilba                | 11 am               |
| Fridays               | Community raffles                           | Cobargo Hotel                          | 7 pm                |
|                       | Open Mic Jam                                | River Rock Café, Bermagui              | 7 pm                |
| Saturdays             | Tilba Market                                | Big Hall, Central Tilba                | 8 am - noon         |
|                       | Cobargo Market                              | Princes Hwy (main street)              | 8 am - 1 pm         |
| Sundays               | Community Joker Draw                        | Cobargo Hotel                          | 6.30 pm             |
|                       | SUP to Cup Paddle                           | River Rock Café, Bermagui              | 9 am                |
| 1st Sunday            | Tilba Food Share                            | Call Annie: 0409 443 064               | 10 am - 12 pm       |
| 3rd Sunday            | Cobargo/Quaama food swap                    | Call Tam: 0409 882 944                 | 10 am - 12 noon     |
| Last Sunday           | Bermagui Red Cross Markets                  | Dickinson Oval                         | 9 am - 12 noon      |