

Heal Country, Heal our Nation: grass roots reconciliation

In July 2017, the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal volunteers of the Gulaga Reconciliation Group hosted their first NAIDOC Week event, 'Our Languages Matter'. In October of that year, Malcolm Turnbull as prime minister dismissed the Statement from the Heart in a single paragraph, saying the nation wasn't ready for such a radical change to the Constitution.

Yet even in this barren political landscape the grass roots are shooting.

Four years on, the Gulaga Reconciliation Group celebrated NAIDOC Week 2021 in Central Tilba with an 'Exhibition, Cuppa and Chat' over three days from 8 to 10 July. The Statement from the Heart was read at the start of each day's activities. Each time it brought tears to the eyes of those listening.

These were people open to hearing an Aboriginal voice and, on the Saturday, they came to hear Uncle Bunja Smith and the Four Winds Djinama Yilaga Choir.

Bunja said that in his experience, non-Aboriginal people were increasingly open to hearing and trying to understand the story of Australia's First Nations peoples. As chair of the Biamanga National Park Board of Management, Bunja spoke about the works being undertaken at the Mumbulla Falls Cultural Area to repair the structural damage caused by the Black Summer fires that burnt 90% of the Park and of the increasing interest in cultural land management practices.

Bunja confessed to being an optimist by nature but he also spoke of the need for inclusiveness. For him, the NAIDOC Week theme, Heal Country, was about the healing of Australia and this involved connecting with people and connecting with the land.



Choristers of the Four Winds Djinama Yilaga Choir



Uncle Bunja Smith at the 'Cuppa and Chat'

Bunja encouraged non-Aboriginal people to consider using the original place-names of Gulaga, Baranguba and Nadjanuka for what Europeans named Mt Dromedary, Montague Island and Little Drom. The *Dhurga Dictionary* (Aboriginal Studies Press, 2020) has about 700 entries and was on display at the Exhibition.

As a prelude to the performance of the Four Winds Djinama Yilaga Choir, chorister and artist, Cheryl Davison,

told the story behind her painting *Bringing the Rain*. The framed, limited-edition print, donated by Cheryl, was raffled and won by Margaret Brown who was present in the audience.

Choir Elder, Iris White, spoke of the choir's heartfelt commitment to singing in language on Country, to heal Country. The choristers gave of themselves, their culture and creativity with pride and joy and, at times, raw grief. The appreciative audience was plainly moved and a standing ovation seemed inevitable, but the audience complied with the COVID instruction to remain seated and instead boosted its final applause with a rousing stomping of feet.

The choir was sensitively accompanied by Dave Ross Macdonald of The Waifs. When thanked earlier for his collaboration,

he said, 'It's a privilege. It doesn't get better than this.'

The Gulaga Reconciliation Group would like to thank the Four Winds Djinama Yilaga Choir members for their courage and trust, the Tilba District Chamber of Commerce, the Eurobodalla Shire Council and Well-Thumbled Books, Cobargo, for their financial support and all the participants across our communities, for your presence and generosity of spirit.

Cathie Muller

Joy and relief greeted the news that significant community-led bush-fire recovery projects across the Triangle region have been funded. These creative, pragmatic visions, now on the way to fruition, are the result of hours and hours of the hard collaborative work of generous community members and supportive partners. These projects will lay foundations for on-going cohesive and resilient futures for the region.

The rebuilding of Cobargo's devastated centre includes the construction of the Village Square, the Market Hall, a New Post Office and the Cobargo Bushfire Resilience Centre among other initiatives. Tilba and Quaama Halls, such vital refuges and hubs during the bushfires, will receive funds for improvements. The Bermagui Emergency Guide that has identified and addressed crisis gaps will go into production. Gratitude and congratulations go to the dedication and persistence of all involved.

Letters to the editors

The path of most resistance

Congratulations to Four Winds on being allocated \$336,317 from the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund. I'm sure they already have some of their own ideas for spending the funds, but I'll stick my oar in anyway.

The last time I attended a Four Winds Festival was Easter Saturday, 2014. That day I had my trusty mobility scooter in the back of the car and a friendly parking attendant helped me get it out. Naturally I didn't try to access the tiered amphitheatre, but instead found a space just behind it, right at the top. A spectacular view, and the sound was sublime.

It was only when I tried to get to the accessible toilet at the Windsong Pavilion that I got into trouble. No concrete path, just a steep grassy hill. Luckily some kind passer-by was there to give me a push each time I got bogged. The food tents were also inaccessible from the amphitheatre.

I knew that there was a special area for disabled patrons down the front, near the stage, but there was no way for me to get there. Apparently disabled people were to be dropped off behind the stage, then their vehicle was to be moved to the parking area. But I was there alone – I had no-one to move my car. (When I pointed this out later, a message was relayed to me from the management that 'disabled people must be accompanied by a carer'. I won't burden readers with my response to that.)

Although I'd bought a weekend ticket, I was forced to abandon my plans and drive home at lunchtime that day.

A concrete footpath across the top of the amphitheatre and from there to the Pavilion would solve the problem. When I suggested this back in 2014 I was told that the steep grade would necessitate a path 'snaking' up the hill, making it too

expensive. But, not to put too fine a point on it, Four Winds must have noticed that their audience isn't getting any younger, and site accessibility will be more and more an issue. I'm sure I'm not the only one who has refrained from buying tickets of late due to site inaccessibility.

Jen Severn
Quaama

Thank you

I celebrated my 70th birthday on the 26/06/2021 with family and friends at Cobargo. I would like to thank everyone for their attendance, presents and the hospitality displayed. I was absolutely astounded by the warmth and show of love from everyone. It had been a tough time since our homestead burned down although, thankfully, the family was saved, because not everyone could say that. We lost a couple of great friends and neighbours in the fire. The homestead is steadily being rebuilt and the fences have replaced those that were lost. So celebrating a birthday with family and friends is a great healer. Thank you one and all.

Kevin Allen
Cobargo



Kevin Allen thanking everyone in attendance.

Quaama's Greenshoots volunteers are restoring the riparian forestland along Dry River. As Indigenous elders reminded us during NAIDOC week – as we restore Country, we restore people and culture. By coming together in shared actions and ideas that then become plans before the plans become realities we can repair our shattered communities. Sandra Taylor's poem points to the innate intelligence of nature to endure, to persist, to interconnect then to thrive.

Meanwhile the whales are leaping their way to the Antarctic, a warning sounds about the semi-hidden plans for mining between Bermagui, Cobargo and Quaama, the lack of affordable housing in the midst of holiday rentals resurfaces and COVID is an increasing threat as it breaks the lines around Sydney into the regions – it's back to masks, distancing, hand washes and check ins. Stay safe.

Guinea pigs

We have recently been housesitting at a grand Edinburgh manor looking after a couple of guinea pigs as well as rabbits, cats, dogs and a tortoise. The guinea pigs were so sweet and furry, soft as silk, but why the phrase 'human guinea pigs'? It is an historical term apparently because they were used for centuries in medical research but have now been replaced by mice and rats (poor things) because they breed more quickly. I would not like to be a lab rat.

We are now the human guinea pigs here in the UK according to the headlines, all being let free to see how effective the vaccination programme has been. In reality though many of us are just like real guinea pigs, hiding away doing our own thing to protect ourselves, staying in small groups and remaining very cautious. One thing we have learned is to think very carefully before believing Boris, there have been so many U-turns in these days of COVID. Better safe than sorry.

Squeak, squeak,

Sarah Breakey

I was interested in the article in the July issue by Kathy Stokes and used internet searches to look into the supplement she recommends. I was able to find support for the effectiveness and safety of the medication in question (palmitoylethanolamide), but the statement that it is a 'prescription-only product' is apparently not true, as it can be ordered online without a script and without going through any naturopath or other practitioner. Of course, those wanting support with the treatment of their pain condition might choose to consult them, but that is only an option

Verna Aslin
Cobargo



Thumbs UP

To all the volunteers who contributed to grant submissions for the betterment of our region.

To all the artists and performers who have had to cancel ... we hope you come back!

To the kids who care about wombats and made and put up Slow Down signs near the bridge on Verona Road, Quaama.

Thumbs DOWN



To the commercial concern that got wind of the free wood chips at the Quaama Showground and showed up with trucks to haul them away for profit.

To the people who plant trees that will grow to block neighbours' efforts to reduce greenhouse gases – such as by following passive solar design principles or putting solar hot water panels and solar photovoltaic collectors on their properties. Think before you plant, please!

An invitation to join the Women's Electoral Lobby

A group of women are interested in establishing a branch of the Women's Electoral Lobby (WEL) on the south coast. The purpose is to have an organised voice in time for the local council elections in December and the forthcoming federal election. If you are interested, we suggest you check out their website which provides an overview of their fifty-year history and of the values and objectives that inform their lobbying efforts on behalf of women. You can also contact Heather O'Connor 0428 566 865 for more information.

Community Notices

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

Disclaimer

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.

Guidelines for contributors

Thanks for your local stories and photos! We love them and they make *The Triangle* our very own. Just a few tips for submitting stories and photos...

1. Stories should be 300 words maximum except by prior arrangement.
2. Photos should be sent as separate JPG attachments – not embedded into your story. Please send the original digital photo, uncompressed, so we have a large image to work with. Please include a caption for your photo at the bottom of the article it accompanies.
3. Send all articles as WORD or other TEXT documents.
4. Please do not send posters or flyers! Instead, write a few paragraphs about your event and include the date, time and venue in that. And attach a photo if you have one.
5. Think about a headline for your story. Please don't leave it to us!
6. Deadline is midday on the 22nd of the month. Any questions at all, please email contributions@thetriangle.org.au

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Narooma: BP station, Visitors Centre,

Library **Quaama:** The Quaama Store

Wallaga Lake: Merrimans Land Council

Deadlines:

Advertising: 5pm, 19th of each month

Editorial: 12pm, 22nd of each month

Thumbs / Letters to the editor:

All communications should be forwarded

to: contributions@thetriangle.org.au

Postal address: The Editors, *The Triangle*

PO Box 293 Bermagui NSW 2546

ABN: 75 182 655 270

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 Wandella). The committee

comprises volunteers who donate their

time and expertise for the benefit of

our readers. *The Triangle* is financially

self-sufficient through donations and

advertising income. Prompt payment of

accounts is appreciated. *The Triangle* is

published every month except January

and has a circulation of 1600 in print plus

online visits.

Towards 2042 – Community Strategic Plan

Council is requesting that the community comment on their Towards 2042 Community Strategic Plan (57 pages long) on the Council website under Have Your Say. The closing date for survey or email comments has been extended to 13 August.

My key observations on the Plan are:

1. The high-level goals are not very ambitious for the next twenty years – provided Council maintained the status quo, most of the goals would be possible to achieve today.

2. There is virtually no mention of tourism in the Plan. Tourism is a major economic driver now and for the foreseeable future for the Bega Valley and the Triangle area in particular.

3. This Community Strategic Plan dates back to 2016 and is not consistent with the Local Strategic Planning Statement that was updated last year.

4. With the 35% projected growth in the 60+ age group, the provision of accommodation and facilities for the over-60s and aged care demographics should be addressed as an economic opportunity for Bega Valley not just as a major challenge.

5. Annual population growth of only 0.65% is assumed over next twenty years. This low-growth assumption needs to be challenged in light of the current shortage of accommodation.

6. With the dated nature of this Plan, there is no mention of bushfire prevention. Council is not in control of 66% of the land in the shire as it is under the jurisdiction of either National Parks or State Forests and Council needs to be more proactive with these authorities.

7. The Bermagui masterplan is included in the Plan but has just been removed from the FY22 operational plan.

8. The recent experience in Bermagui with Council's decision to demolish a heritage-listed wooden bridge at Cuttagee without any community consultation, means Council is not meeting its performance goal 11 of involving the community in local decisions.

*Geoff Steel
Bermagui*



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Local projects awarded grants through the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund (BLERF)

On 30 June Andrew Constance, member for Bega, announced that twenty-five projects between Mogo and Eden would receive over \$61 million through Stage Two of the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund, co-funded by the Australian and NSW Governments. There is a two-year timeline to plan

and complete these projects.

The following list comprises the proposals that were successful in this funding round. Several of these projects feature in this month's edition of *The Triangle* and we will follow the progress of these and many more over the coming months.

- \$9,611,992 Cobargo Community Development – to revitalise the Cobargo CBD (eastern and western projects combined)
- \$9,794,916 Land Managers Bega Showground – create the Bega showground Community Centre
- \$1,048,399 South Coast Health and Sustainability Alliance – Tilba Halls Future Resilience Project
- \$5,000,000 Eurobodalla Shire Council – complete Stage 2 of the Mogo Adventure Trails Hub
- \$230,000 Mogo Village Business Chamber Ltd – Phoenix Community Wellbeing Program
- \$3,268,818 Wagonga Local Aboriginal Land Council – Muliyaan Cultural and Wildlife Centre
- \$4,524,317 Eden Community Access Centre Inc – develop the Eden Mountain Bike Hub
- \$7,276,190 Narooma School of Arts & Soldiers' War Memorial Hall Inc. – construct the Narooma Arts and Community Centre
- \$998,522 The Family Place Inc – ReGrowth: Connect, Create, Perform
- \$336,317 Four Winds Concerts Inc – improve the Four Winds cultural precinct in Barraga Bay
- \$4,896,425 Cobargo Bushfire Resilience Centre Inc. – create the Cobargo Bushfire Resilience Centre
- \$1,730,515 PlayAbility Incorporated – establish a Playability inclusion hub
- \$476,252 Bermagui Preschool Cooperative Society Ltd – Bermagui Preschool Therapy and Counselling Room Project
- \$947,803 The Crossing Land Education Centre – community-led recovery and regeneration education hub for South East NSW
- \$383,133 Marymead – Regenerate: NSW family and relationship counselling
- \$461,625 Lions Club of Tathra Inc. – Tathra safer pathways project
- \$450,000 Bega Valley Shire Council – upgrade Barclay Street Sportsground
- \$426,015 Bega Valley Shire Council – upgrade Bermagui Indoor Sports Stadium
- \$600,000 Bega Valley Shire Council – Bega Valley Shire tourism support program
- \$300,000 Bega Valley Shire Council – support small businesses in the Bega Valley
- \$766,983 Bega Local Aboriginal Land Council – create Bega Aboriginal Community multipurpose workshop
- \$3,914,356 Narooma Mountain Bike Club Inc – construction of the Narooma Mountain Bike Trails Hub
- \$2,071,465 Campbell Page Limited – EcoCrews in Eurobodalla and the Bega Valley
- \$2,078,769 Mogo Local Aboriginal Land Council – reconstruct the Mogo Local Aboriginal Land Council Office

Cuttagee Bridge notice for interested community members

Cuttagee Bridge Community Advisory Group BVSC has issued a request for community members to register for a Cuttagee Bridge Community Advisory Group. Applications close 15 August.

Interested community members are encouraged to register. Council wants to work with the community to find the best solution for Cuttagee Bridge amongst a number of competing principles including risk and safety, durability, economics, heritage and tourist values and environmental issues.

*Geoff Steel
Bermagui*

U3A Bermagui and district

Term 3 classes commenced on Wednesday 28 July and all classes are via the Zoom platform. Enrolments are still open for many of our classes – visit our program on the website to check out how you can keep your brain working during these stay-at-home days.

If you are keen to join U3A, please visit our website on <https://bermagui.u3anet.org.au/> and from there you can enrol online for classes as well.

If you would like to learn more about U3A or any of the classes before enrolling, please feel free to call Jan Rivers on 0409 901 672.

Jan Rivers, U3A Program Coordinator

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Another gold for the Triangle region

Returning to my family's cattle farm at Dignams Creek in 2005, I added the running of the property to my other career commitments. When my parents bought the family farm in 1961, small farms in the area were viable but, in today's world, that is no longer the case. With the intention of ensuring long-term viability, my husband, Alan, and I brainstormed many likely, and unlikely, possibilities. Ultimately we settled on truffles.

In 2012 I organised a workshop with Victorian truffle experts for fifty interested local landowners. The workshop resulted in two farms establishing truffières but now ours is the only one still operating with the other since sold and discontinued.

Cultivation, heavy lime application and fencing led to the planting in 2013 of 270 English oak, evergreen oak and hazel trees. Gulaga Gold truffière was established and, five years later, produced its first high-quality Périgord black truffles to our great delight.

By 2019 we had proved that, where the necessary growing conditions existed, truffles are commercially viable in this area. We also established local markets from Milton to Eden and exported excess to the USA. In 2020 the drought and bushfire smoke reduced production, but this year's rain has seen a resurgence, with the biggest truffle yet emerging at a whopping 521 grams.

Gulaga Gold truffles are delighting enthusiastic diners at local restaurants from Merimbula to Narooma. They are being used by Tilba Real Dairy for cheese, Bodalla Dairy Shed in

cheese and icecream and by il Passaggio Provedore to produce truffle oil and salt.

This year, we have commenced 'Truffle Snuffles' where visitors can spend a few hours learning about and hunting the elusive truffles and then sampling truffled foods. The search uses local dogs, another community involvement that I devised. Hepburn, owned by Narooma vet Kate le Bars, is the current star, while others are still in training. The 'graduation' of Snoop Dog from Bermagui and Nova from Narooma is imminent.

I believe that truffles offer a huge opportunity for this area. With as few as two to three hectares needed to plant out the trees, other small landowners may also be able to achieve commercial viability for their farms. With the benefits of cooperative marketing this area can export worldwide. As a winter producer, truffles (and truffle hunts) also provide the opportunity to build winter-based tourism in the area, helping create a local year-round tourism industry resulting in, again, more secure employment and sustainable communities.

The season is short – just while frosts last. So if you haven't tried truffles yet, or gone on a hunt, now is the time to do so.

*Fiona Kotvojs
Gulaga Gold*



Fiona Kotvojs with a large truffle



Trish Olson and daughter, Olivia, find black gold



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Tree resilience
Tree magnificence

the Forest in Being is.

Sandra Taylor

Boost your immunity and stay well this winter

There are some key nutrients involved in maintaining a healthy immune system including vitamins A, C, D, E and K, found in food such as fruit and vegetables; and zinc in meat, seafood, nuts and seeds.

The daily consumption of fresh vegetables of all colours of the rainbow can provide antioxidants that protect the body. Keep it simple and try juicing or making hearty homemade soups that contain a wide variety of fresh vegetables. Chicken soup is a well-known remedy for upper respiratory tract infections due to its mild anti-inflammatory effects. Add fresh garlic and ginger, and season with fresh herbs such as oregano, parsley, thyme, rosemary and sage. Herbs have antioxidant and antibacterial properties that assist in eliminating toxins and relieving symptoms. Herbal and nutritional medicine has been used for centuries to support immunity, accelerate the healing process and restore health naturally.

Eat organically produced food wherever possible and wash your fruit and vegetables to get rid of chemicals that can weaken your immune system. Avoid processed food, trans-fats, sugar and environmental toxins that can cause damage to the body and lead to health problems.

Sleep is very important because it is when the body repairs itself. Aim for between six and eight hours of high quality sleep every night.

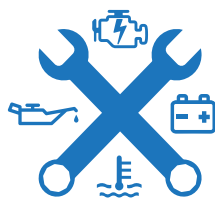
Vitamin D is essential for both physical and mental health. It is produced by the body during exercise and obtained from safe levels of sunlight exposure. It is also found in some foods. Vitamin D modulates the immune system and optimal levels are required to prevent illness.

Laughter and a positive attitude are known to have wonderful health benefits too!

For more information call 0410 460 688. Stay well.

Kathy Stokes

Naturopath & Nutritionist



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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

For The Triangle Inc
Monday, 13 September, 12pm
Well Thumbed Books
51 Princes Highway,
Cobargo
Contact: 6493 6084

Rescuing the Murrah Archive

There's a fascinating piece penned by Canberra-based historian, Dr Richard Read, in the latest issue of *Recollections* (available free from the Bermi Library, Quaama General Store, Well Thumbed Books, the Cobargo Co-op, Bates General Store and elsewhere) about 'an irreplaceable community collection', the Murrah Archive.

The archive is a collection of historic documents relating to, as Read describes it, '... the evolving and changing worlds of the residents of the farm-based Murrah ...' and its community hall – '... an irreplaceable memory bank for one small, remote NSW south coast locality'.

Regrettably, '... for years, the material mouldered away in the damp, unwholesome environment of a shipping container positioned beside the hall' and some of the material – particularly photographs – has deteriorated significantly.

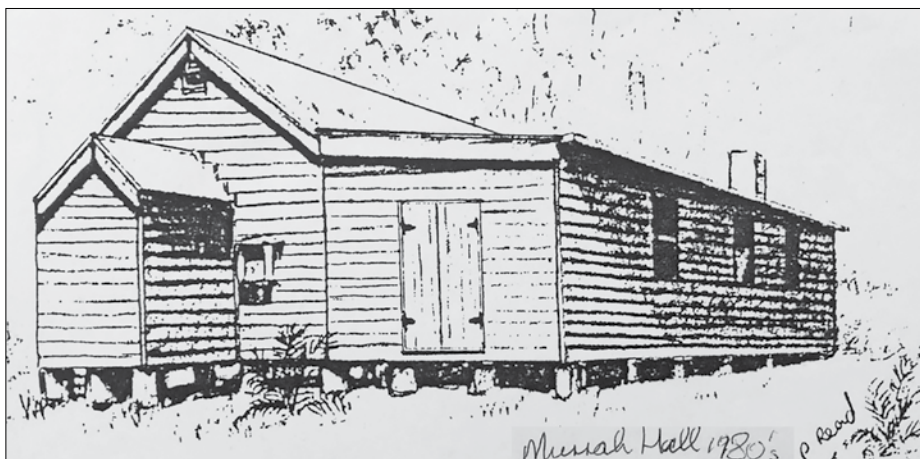
Read came across a reference to the Murrah Archive in an obscure academic essay and sought the help of the South Coast History Society and the Bermagui Historical Society to trace its whereabouts – if, indeed, the archive had actually survived. Their 'find' turned out to be an historical goldmine, with Richard Read concluding '... this material is every bit as

important from an historical understanding of small Australian communities on the ground as seemingly more significant state and national collections.' The article in *Recollections* is the first of several that have been inspired by the material that was recovered.

As well as writing these articles, Richard Read has taken the necessary steps to restore a number of items in the Murrah Archive and has provided appropriate archive-quality storage for the collection. And it will not be returning to storage in the totally unsuitable shipping container adjacent to the Murrah Hall!

The sad fact is that there are many other historically important collections on the NSW south coast (half-written family histories, for example) that, like the Murrah Archive, need to be saved before they deteriorate significantly or are completely lost. (Quite coincidentally, the latest issue of *Recollections* also includes the intriguing, regrettably unfinished and previously unpublished recollections of Dr Ted Blomfield from the days when he was Pambula's GP). Local history societies, museums and libraries are well-equipped and eager to preserve these documents.

Peter Lacey



Murrah Hall

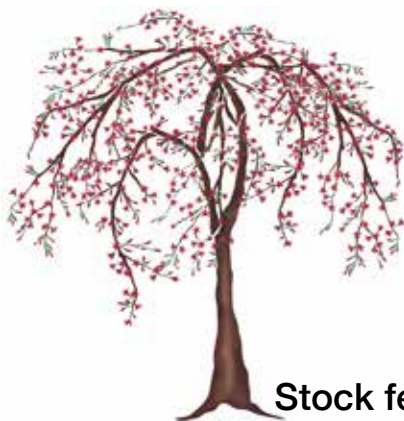


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Do you know when you have an itch that just doesn't go away? You know you need something but you can't quite put your finger on it.

Many years ago I was standing in a coffee queue at a market and started chatting to the girl with a turban on who was next to me. She told me she practised and taught Kundalini yoga (she, being a yogi, was ordering chai; I still drink coffee). One of my long-discarded New Year's resolutions that year had been to create a more dedicated yoga practice. I had dabbled in hatha, vinyasa, bikram and yin for years but none of them had stuck. I didn't know why or what 'a dedicated practice' meant but I'm a signs person – if it shows up three times I pursue it.

It still took me another two months to get to a class. Upon my arrival at 6.30 am (incidentally recorded as the coldest day in Sydney for more than fifty years and I'm so not a morning person) I found a note stuck to the door – Class cancelled. The joke was on me again :-).

Somehow I found myself back there and within two classes

I was hooked. There was something different about this yoga. It moved energy in a way I had never experienced. I always left feeling lighter. Within weeks I was doing two classes a week and then added a 5.00 am sadhana (2.5 hour daily practice) weekly. Within six months I was in France doing teacher training with a person who I learned later was a maverick teacher (but that's a whole other story). I've been practicing and teaching since and I'm passionate about sharing this powerful practice.

In short it scratches the itch. It has taught me many things about myself, features and flaws ;-), about this wonderful and heartbreaking world we live in, but most of all it has taught me the freedom of discipline, how to be with what is and choose joy on this adventure we call life.

Kundalini yoga + meditation is known as the super-fast highway to awareness. Awareness is the first step to liking yourself, your life and the people in it. It meets you where you are – bendy as a pretzel or stiff as a poker. It's not for everyone but it's uplifting for anyone. In this chaotic ever-changing world we all need to reduce anxiety, relieve stress, relax our nervous systems and boost our immune systems.

It will challenge and delight you and it will be work, restorative and playful. Come experience yourself!

Starting next Monday 26 July I'll be teaching at the Cobargo School of Arts Hall. Two classes a week: Monday evenings 6.00 – 7.30 pm and Wednesday mornings 9.15 – 10.45 am.

\$15 per class or \$130 for a ten-class pass.

Book online (<https://bit.ly/3hVtgG1>) or, for the procrastinators among us, just turn up.

Eilish Bouchier



Eilish

If you're a little curious about Eilish

Eilish Bouchier believes in life and work as purposeful and prosperous play. She practices and teaches embodied, brand leadership, integrating design thinking and Kundalini yoga and meditation. She is the former principal of an award-winning branding communications studio. Eilish has worked for more than thirty years at the intersection of creativity, commerce, consciousness and communication with global and local businesses. Learning to trust yourself and the rhythms and cycles of creation (always with rest and play) are at the centre of her work.

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Visit bvih.com.au for more information!



Bermagui Preschool's welcome news

We are delighted and thrilled with the funding approval and the acknowledgment of the importance of Early Education and recognition that quality programs targeting under five-year olds have long-lasting positive outcomes for the children, their families and the broader communities they live in.

The Preschool has been awarded \$476,252 under the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery (BLER) package and is one of 195 applications selected to receive funding across fire-affected regions in NSW to contribute to rebuilding the economic and social wellbeing of these communities.

The funding is for a new designated facility and acknowledges the important role the Preschool plays in supporting the healthy mental growth of young children and their families. The need for this facility has become very evident over the last few traumatic years.

The Therapy Room funding will

provide a facility, not only for Counselling services for children and adults on a group or one on one basis but it will also provide a safe, secure and quiet retreat when needed; a dedicated area for meetings and workshops; a space for therapy for children with additional needs; a Teachers/Educators Retreat, a place for them to take a break and much needed time out; and the refurbishment of much-needed bathroom facilities. There will also be an 'all-weather outdoor learning area', comprising a large paved area, shade and shelter for an all-weather environment, for indoor-outdoor programs and accessible for people of all abilities.

‘We are supporting families and educators to develop knowledge and skills so that our children grow up healthy and strong.’

Submitted by *Georgie Adamson*
from extracts provided by *Narelle Myers*
at Bermagui Preschool

Meg's Quilting and Bermagui Stitchers Boutique

In March this year Bermagui lost access to much-needed requirements: haberdashery and sewing supplies. Bermagui Stitchers Boutique evolved from this loss and is now stocking the essentials needed for a quick repair, along with beautiful fabrics, knitting and sewing supplies as well as locally made quilts and gifts, all to complement the available quilting service.

The shop is open from 10.00 am - 2.00 pm Monday to Friday or by appointment 0427 925 684.

Meg Dodson



Meg in her shop

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PANDANUS ACCOUNTING is an experienced Chartered Accounting firm, now based in Bermagui. We provide high quality taxation and related accounting services.

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‘This old house is falling down around my ears ...’ Don’t knock it down, renovate it!

*Warning: This article contains personal views and sentimentality ... do not read if this offends.

It makes me very happy to see some of Bermagui’s older houses, not necessarily heritage buildings but middle-aged ones from the 1940s, ‘50s and ‘60s, being lovingly restored and taking on new life – much better than the alternative.

Some of Bermagui’s older original citizens, the town’s elders, have moved on in recent years, an ongoing occurrence, and I always feel a tinge of nostalgia when I pass by their homes. But I am relieved when I see them still standing and pleased to see them being lovingly and thoughtfully restored, giving them a new life.

I mused on Murray and Margot Douche’s house in Parberry Avenue recently. This simple building of cement block seems to defy destruction. Once situated in a quiet part of town at the edge of the housing and facing empty paddocks, it is now a busy construction site, rapidly filling with new structures. I think Margot and Murray got out in good time. Their house has taken on a smart new style, tastefully ‘fixed up’ and the garden restored.

I miss seeing Leone Cramer sitting on the verandah of the timber cottage where she resided till not so long ago on Murrah Street West. I’m sure the horses are missing her. The house was built by a Wintle forefather and I think it is in safe hands, now owned by a family member who is keen to retain and restore it.

A house in West Street, has been rebuilt, but on the same footprint as the previous cottage. It is a simple design and sits perfectly on the block.

One I have been watching with interest is a cottage that was

relocated from Scenic Drive at the top of town to make way for a new ‘grand designs’ structure. This well-built simple dwelling has been reinstated in Wattle Street and beautifully restored, complete with original timbers. Walking past recently, I complimented the owner on his work and learnt that it was the house that Bob and Dolly Dyer, of Pick-a-Box fame, stayed in when they visited. Not only were they early TV personalities but also keen big game-fisher people and friends of Zane Gray (for those who remember).

The Police Station residence is getting a face-lift and this fine structure is looking good. I can’t find much information on the history of that building. Anyone else know anything?

There is another house of significant heritage on the other side of town that is being restored but more on that one later.

So, we win a few and we lose a few and I just hope the original character of the village of Bermagui isn’t totally sacrificed in the name of development, better views and the big \$\$\$ (oops, personal opinion).

Georgina Adamson



The horses are waiting for Leone



Before in Scenic Drive



Now in Wattle Street

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No good news for renters ... yet

From Council News July 9

'Short-term rental accommodation in the Bega Valley Shire will not be capped following a Council resolution at its 30 June meeting. The resolution means there will be no limit to how many nights a year people can rent out their properties for short-term accommodation, supporting the tourism industry that is critical to our shire. In making the decision, Council recognised the separate issue of a shortage of permanent rental accommodation and resolved to advocate to the NSW Government for effective measures to address this issue.

Council's resolution was made in response to the NSW Government's announcement of a new state-wide policy for short-term rental accommodation (STRA) to come into effect on 1 November 2021. The new framework applies to dwellings, secondary dwellings and shop-top housing. It does not apply to approved tourist and visitor accommodation such as hotels, motels or serviced apartments.

The framework introduces a new definition for STRA and differentiates between hosted STRA (where the host resides on the premises during the provision of the accommodation) and non-hosted STRA (where the host does not reside on the premises during the provision of the accommodation).'

I spoke to Councillor Cathy Griff who, incidentally, was the only dissenting vote on the issue and she commented that Council is looking into the long-term rental accommodation issue and is working with a consultant who has had a lot of success in Shoalhaven with affordable housing.

Georgina Adamson

Emergency guide - from Bermagui Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism

Eighteen months ago the Black Summer bushfires ravaged our region with devastating loss of lives, homes and property and unimaginable numbers of animals killed and injured. In the northern end of the Shire there was no power, water or communication services for several days. It's something that can't be forgotten.

In January and February last year, the Bermagui Chamber of Commerce facilitated three all-community meetings titled *It's time to talk*. A number of important issues were decided, one of which was to produce a bushfire emergency plan for Bermagui.

Community members formed a working group and met several times gathering content for the plan, and speaking and meeting with emergency services authorities. The advent of COVID-19 delayed progress for several months.

The Bermagui Chamber also set about applying for grants to assist with the costs of materials and equipment to produce the emergency plan as well as other infrastructure items. Fortunately, they were successful in securing funding to cover production of an initial plan, as well as large emergency notification boards and generators for community use in a power loss situation.

The Chamber is now pleased to advise that the bushfire plan, that has developed into a disaster situation guide, is currently with emergency agencies for their sign off. The next step is the production of 1,000 guides that will be distributed to the local community. The guides will be presented in a folder in loose-leaf format, enabling more information to be added, updated or removed in the future.

The Chamber would be grateful for assistance from the community in compiling and distributing the emergency guide. If you would like to help, please email the Bermagui Visitor Information Centre at vic@bermaguichamber.org.au.

2021 Whale Watching Season starts this month!

See one of the world's most amazing migrations!
Daily 2 hr tours departing from Bermagui Wharf
aboard *Bubbles* our 24-metre stable, powered catamaran.
Book early to avoid disappointment.
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Whale season to kick off with cross-cultural event and community activities

A number of special events have been organised for Bermagui to mark the opening of the Sapphire Coast whale season in 2021.

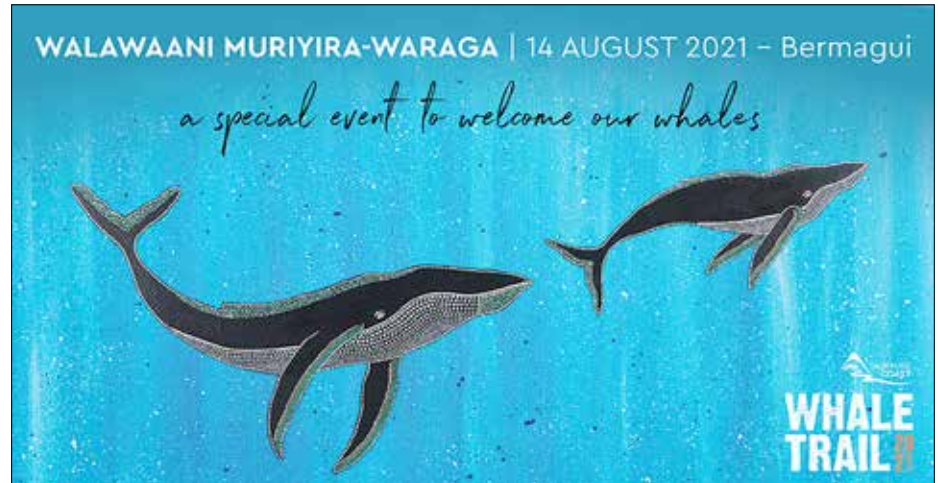
On 14 August, the town will host Walawaani Muriyira-Waraga, a special event for business and community to celebrate the start of the whale season and launch the Sapphire Coast Whale Trail, a marketing program funded by the National Bushfire Recovery Agency and Bega Valley Shire Council. The event will commence with an official opening ceremony including a Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony and dance performance.

It is the first of what the tourism industry hopes will be an annual community event. Bermagui will celebrate its rich and enduring history with the whales, focusing on Aboriginal culture at Walawaani Muriyira-Waraga, which means 'safe journey whale – many' in the

Dhurga language.

To accompany the opening event a community paddle-out is being organised to welcome the whales as they pass Bermagui on their annual journey south to the Antarctic.

During the previous week, local school and preschool children will be getting involved, developing a community art trail that will bring a riot of colour to the retail precinct of Bermagui. A number of expert 'whale tales' talks are also planned



A new cross-cultural event will open the whale season in Bermagui on 14 August.
Photo Credit: Sapphire Coastal Adventures

for the Surf Club in the afternoon.

There is special news for the Bermagui Community – Sapphire Coastal Adventures (formerly Merimbula Marina) will be offering \$25 whale watching tours throughout the day as they settle into their new home in Bermagui for the whale season when you can make good use of your 'Discover' voucher. Owner, Simon Millar, is looking forward to providing regular tours from Bermagui that gives easy access to the sea and close proximity to the stunning surrounds of Montague Island.

All events will have limited numbers to ensure a COVID Safe environment. For full details, to register for events and to learn more, visit sapphirecoast.com.au/walawaani-muriyira-waraga.

CARERS “LOOK AFTER YOURSELF” (LAY) REMINDER

NDIS Plans are due for renewal in the Bega Valley.

Carers need to include planned and crisis respite in NDIS Plan Reviews.

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Horizon Bank provides 'Hoodies for the Homeless'

Horizon Bank has teamed up with 2EC and Power FM Bega to collect hooded jumpers and warm clothing for those in need this winter.

'A Hoodies for the Homeless campaign ran in the Illawarra and we thought, why not get the Bega Valley radio stations on board to run a similar campaign from Moruya to Merimbula?' said Kim Morris, Marketing Manager at Horizon Bank.

As a result of this, Horizon Bank, Bermagui, has been collecting hoodies and warm clothing since June. Social media was used to put the call out for the community to get on board and make a donation. Other collection points included Horizon Banks in Moruya, Bega and Merimbula.

'The community response has been fantastic,' said Bermagui Branch Manager, Julie Kelly. 'It's so great to see how the Bermagui community has contributed to this fantastic cause. As a customer-owned bank, we're here to help the communities in which we operate and put people first.'

All of the donated hoodies and warm clothing were delivered to the Sleep on it Challenge held at the Bega Showground on 6 August by the Social Justice Advocates of the Sapphire Coast.



Our local Horizon bank staff, Julie Kelly, Jo-Anne Hoare and Kylie McGill, with hoodies for the homeless.

My Triangle

From the Gold Coast to the South Coast

Chartered accountant, Eva Mosler-Teichmann, drove an old Hyundai Getz from the Gold Coast to her new home at Bermagui back in April. The little car was packed with computers, boxes and the dog.

'The Getz went really well until we got to the traffic lights in Moruya and then she just stopped. I was thinking we'd make it no worries, then I'm asking people for a push. Thanks to the NRMA we weren't delayed too long,' Eva said.

After 22 years on the Gold Coast, Eva and her partner, journalist Ed Southorn, had decided the time was right to finally make the move they had been planning for a decade.

'We went looking back in 2013 for somewhere to settle away from the Gold Coast. We explored about a dozen locations along the NSW coast. Bermagui was the last spot on our list and it was the best,' Eva said. 'Ed had remembered Bermagui and Tilba from his surfing trips back in the 1970s. The Gold Coast has become so crowded and overbuilt, everywhere there is a target for high-rise development, it never stops.'

'A few years after we had decided to move to Bermagui, our son moved to Canberra. That was the clincher for us. To be on these beautiful beaches and not see a building anywhere is wonderful, the town is just stunning and the people are friendly. We love all the walks, the pub, Fishermen's Wharf, the shops and exploring Cobargo and Tilba has been a revelation.'

'Yes, it's getting busier along the south coast but hopefully any future development will be carefully managed. To be honest, we're not telling our friends back on the Gold Coast much about where we are.'

Eva was born in Munich and lived in China for four years teaching German. She met Ed in Shanghai where he had a posting with Brisbane's *The Courier Mail*.

Eva taught German at the University of Queensland then decided on a career change, studying for a Bachelor of Business. She became a chartered accountant while working as KPMG's Gold Coast small business manager. She started her own small

firm, Pandanus Accounting, in 2009.

'I wanted to work at a pace where I was able to give clients the time they need. I really enjoy that part of the job, talking with people and helping them achieve their financial aspirations.'

'We're so grateful to be in Bermagui, I'm even enjoying the winter, it's so refreshing after the humidity up north.'

Eva is operating Pandanus Accounting full-time at Bermagui. Ed is assisting with the administration tasks and teaching journalism online at Canberra University and Griffith University.

Ed Southorn



Eva busy at her desk



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CONTINUING EDUCATION SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS

Mumbulla Foundation, in cooperation with Community Bank of Pambula & District (our local Bendigo Bank) and supported by the Foundation for Regional & Regional Renewal (FRRR) is pleased to announce a program of scholarships to support continuing education for residents of the Bega Valley, with particular focus on Health, Social, Business, Agricultural, Arts and Environmental studies.

The overall intention of our program is to provide opportunities for continuing educational and professional development for residents of the Bega Valley Shire.

These scholarships, of up to \$1000 each, are open to all ages and may be available to successful applicants who meet the eligibility criteria as listed below.

- The applicant must be a resident of the Bega Valley (evidenced by driver's licence, rates notice, utilities bill, etc)
- The applicant is currently enrolled (full time or part time) in a recognised course with a recognised training organisation such as a University, TAFE, VET organisation or professional organisation, certified by an enrolment letter or advice.
- The applicant must be enrolled for the duration of the course.
- The applicant can identify the key purpose(s) or use of the grant funds, such as travel, books, course fees, etc.
- The applicant can describe key goals in undertaking this course of study.
- The applicant is willing to provide us with confidential updates on their progress; these would not be published without explicit approval from the grant recipient.
- Applicants are required to advise if they are in receipt of other grants/scholarships; this does not exclude applications but will be taken into consideration when awarding grants.

Preference will be given to applicants experiencing financial hardship, especially as an outcome of the Black Summer fires.

Funds will be deposited only into the personal account of successful applicants.

Applications are now open. The application form can be found at www.mumbulla.org.au/Grants.

Applications close August 13th at 5:00pm. Applicants will be notified by September 3rd.

Applications and enquiries should be emailed to mumbullafoundationgrants@gmail.com

We will acknowledge receipt of your application once it is received.

So much has happened since the Green Shoots gathering in June that it seems like a lifetime ago. But it was a great day and the fruits of all the labour on the day are still to be seen along Dry River. It was a pretty good showing with volunteers rewarded with interesting walk and talk tours as well as Ellie's delicious catering. A lot of planting and general tending was done too to restore this fire-damaged end of our town. It is wonderful to see the regrowth being more than just weeds and including different native species, many hand picked for the spot. If you haven't been down there recently, I highly recommend you check it out. Walk along the river from the bottom of Bega Street at 'Rob's Corner' up to the cemetery. You can take a left turn on your way and end up instead on the corner of Murrah and Murrabrine Streets. The trails are wide and well tended and a big asset to our town.

A new treasure chest arrives

The Weston Creek Men's Shed have done it yet again. A new full container arrived in July perfectly timed to coincide with the Quaama Mini Market. This one had a lot of big ticket items and useful tools. Much of it found new homes that morning. Donations were gratefully accepted and generously given. The organisers are now having to foot the bill for the container transport so none of it will go astray. Next time you see activity around the container next to the tennis courts, stop in and check it out. They open on random days but are always open on the same day as the Mini Market, so mark your calendar on the third Sunday of the month and be sure to go to both. You'll find great bargains and a wonderful lot of volunteer organisers in both locations who will make you feel most welcome.



The new treasure chest had much sought after items this month. Thank you to the Weston Creek Men's Shed and our very own Goldilocks and the Three Beards for making it happen.

And sad news as our town has lost two treasured neighbours, Brian Dummett and Jim Blacka. Both the Dummett and Blacka families have been locals for as long as anyone can remember. Our condolences to their families and friends.



Council funnelling bushfire dollars where it counts – restoring our villages and catchments.



Volunteers planting natives along Dry River

Register now to participate in more Quaama Renewal projects

We are offering two writing workshops with Marian Devitt – From Fear to Flow: A Writers' Workshop; and Creating Compelling Characters. From Fear to Flow is designed to increase activity in your process-oriented, imaginative right brain and quieten your intrusive inner critic. This workshop is suitable for all levels of current writing practice and is on at Quaama Hall on 24 July and 21 August. Places are still available for the August date. Creating Compelling Characters – is designed to clarify how writers at the top of their craft create compelling and memorable characters. This workshop is also suitable for all levels of current writing practice. Bookings still available for Saturday 7 August 2021 11 am to 2.30 pm at Quaama School of Arts Hall

Monthly meditation and mindfulness sessions commence on 14 August. Join Steve Chin on the second Saturday of every month for an hour of meditation and mindfulness for healing and wellness. Sessions include: introduction to meditation and mindfulness; breath awareness and mindfulness; meditation in

stillness and in motion; integrating meditation and mindfulness into daily life for peace, health, harmony, healing and wellness. Book for every session you wish to attend.

Resting in Goodness with Madhuma Thompson continues with bookings still available for the final sessions on August 21 and 28.

All events are free to participants and bookings can be made via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/or/Quaama-renewal-projects-335045627> or call 0437 263 128 email – quaamarenewalprojects@gmail.com

If you are an experienced tutor or practitioner and would like to be involved in helping our communities in their renewal journeys, please contact quaamarenewalprojects@gmail.com for more information or to request an activity proposal form.

This project is supported by Sapphire Community Projects, Quaama Progress Association and funded by the NSW Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund.

Please follow <https://www.facebook.com/quaamarenewal> for information and contact Veronica for bank details.

*Veronica Abbott, Quaama Renewal Projects
Quaama Bushfire Relief Community Fund*

<https://www.gofundme.com/manage/Quaama-bushfire-rebuild-fund>



Steve Chin has over 18 years' experience in teaching Tai Chi, Qigong and meditation and will lead meditation and mindfulness sessions in Quaama.

News from Quaama School of Arts Hall

The Quaama School of Arts Hall Committee has been busy with renovation and improvement projects, inside and outside our hall, that were put on hold while the hall was needed for bushfire relief. We have re-lined the front storage room and put in paths around the front of the hall down to the veranda and the toilets; and the stage and main floor have been repaired, sanded and re-finished. The re-discovered red timber is beautiful.

Thanks to a donation from the Minderoo Foundation we have new LED lighting now installed throughout the hall spaces, sensor lights outside and numerous new power points – luxury!

Still to come is the replacement of the tired old doors and an upgrade of all door hardware as well as fitting out a new, comfortable front office and break-out room as well as insulating and re-lining the ceiling and floor of the supper room. This will make it a much more comfortable space for smaller gatherings.

While all of this has been happening, the Committee has been working on our wish list of projects for the next twelve months as well as managing the increase in bookings as established activities return and disaster grants mean new activities and events are being scheduled.

With so much happening we need some more people on the committee so we can share the project management and hands-on tasks, or to take on admin positions that will free up existing members to work on the projects. If this sounds like something you can help with, please contact the hall committee by email at: quaamahallbookings@gmail.com. We meet once a month at the hall and the meetings are currently on the third Tuesday of the month from 5 pm.

Veronica Abbott



New concrete paths now connect the front door of the hall to the veranda and toilets.



The Quaama Hall floor is looking like new again after restoration.



There was a big turnout to farewell Jim Blacka at the Quaama Cemetery. He was a well loved and respected member of our community who will be missed by many.



Brian William Dummett
16.7.1959– 1.7.2021

A humble and loving man who will always be remembered. A proud local community member who we will all miss – his smile, his pranks, his laugh. We all have so many stories to tell and memories to reflect on.

Loving brother, father and grandad. A fulfilled life on the land.

His future generations will carry on the Dummett name in the cattle industry with pride.



Volunteer Ron Dale took time away from slashing the oval at the Quaama Sports Ground to help his neighbours by loading free mulch for anyone who needed it. Thank you Ron!

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Is your child going into Year 7 in 2022?
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High School at Sapphire Coast Anglican College
and see why we are the school for your family.

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

Day 1

Thursday 18th November from 9am

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

Day 2

Friday 19th November from 9am

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



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When I look at Facebook every now and then, I often see stunning images of sunrises and sunsets from around our special area, frequently featuring Gulaga or Wallaga Lake. I love these images and I am always checking out cloud formations, which have been particularly appealing this winter – or maybe I am just noticing them more. During these unusually uncertain times, being aware of what's around us seems especially poignant and, of course, is part of the NAIDOC theme this year, Heal Country. Enjoy, keep well and stay safe.

Short long time

Thirty-five years is a long time. Ken and Linda Jamieson, who arrived in Central Tilba in 1986 as the new owner/operators of Bates General Store, which incorporated the Central Tilba Post Office and the Central Tilba school bus run, have enjoyed every bit of it – as Ken says 'the years have flown by.'

Ken spent his early years around Jindabyne and Cooma where his father was a policeman. He and Linda, whose family emigrated from the UK in 1960, saw an opportunity to become self-employed and benefit their young family with a country upbringing. This was vastly different from their Sydney life, where Ken was an Assistant Manager at an RSL Club and Linda was a comptometrist. No doubt there were many challenges (and maybe a few reservations) in those early years – running combined businesses with two young children and another on the way, as well as being newcomers in a small community. Linda's parents, Ken and Dorothy, joined them in the early years helping in the

business and the home while living in what is now the B&B.

Back then, Central Tilba was not quite the busy tourist village it is today. Declared by the National Trust as a heritage village and area in the mid-70s, it was just starting its tourism journey. Ken and Linda remember it as slightly alternative, with a small number of businesses and very quiet after dark and on weekends. There was the Drom of course as well as other young couples – Phil and Debbie Elton at Tilba Leather; Nic Dibden and first wife Marion at Tilba Woodturning Gallery; Jeff Lean at the Honey and Nut Gallery (now Gulaga Gallery); Barry Johnson at the Tilba Teapot; Peter Storey at ABC Cheese; and the Snells who had a fruit and

vegetable run.

While Bates General Store and Post Office has been the core of Ken and Linda's long-running business, there have been extensions and expansion over the years. The Two Story B&B was opened in 1994 and is the longest-running accommodation of its type in the area. Bates General Store is also the home of the famous Mrs Jamieson's Fudge. As well as essential everyday items, Ken ran a tyre change business for many years, a fitting partner to the fuel pumps that still supply locals and visitors with petrol and diesel. Not content with this multi-faceted business, Ken drove the local school bus until 2005; he is a Justice of the Peace; and, as a qualified Driving Instructor, he has guided many



Ken and Linda Jamieson

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of the local younger generation through their driving education.

The Tilba District has always benefited from the contributions of those who value and appreciate what it means to live in a small rural community. The Jamiesons have, in addition to running a very community-focused business, nonetheless found the energy and time to participate in the life of this active and ever-changing community. With all three of their children attending Central Tilba School and Narooma High School, they were part of P and C activities; Ken has been an RFS member for over 35 years; Kane, their eldest, is one of few who started in Cubs and went right through to Scout Leader; they have been part of the Tilba Festival from the beginning; and Linda was President of the Chamber of Commerce for many years.

There is no doubt that there are many stories associated with Ken's and Linda's long tenure, reflected in the name Two Story B&B. Ken recalled a couple of occasions when cattle belonging to Jack McFaul and Dennis Swadling escaped into the village from adjoining farms causing consternation and chaos. The maxim, 'always someone to help', is often used in describing close-knit small communities and Ken and Linda have certainly been assisted and given assistance on many occasions – Nic Dibden using his tractor to hoist furniture to the upper level of the B&B is a favourite; and 24-hour fuel availability during emergencies is another.

Ken and Linda plan to stay in the area but have, as yet, not decided on a location. One thing is for sure – buying a motorhome and travelling, post COVID-19 of course. Perhaps the past eighteen months exemplifies their long stay – with the huge increase in parcel business, the Central Tilba PO has been inundated beyond its capacity. Yet, many times, I have heard only

praise for how these unprecedented times have been managed by Linda, particularly, and Ken. It is always reassuring to have well-known and long-term people operating essential businesses. We will all miss Ken's welcoming g'day and Linda's quiet competence and the familiarity of the known. They have certainly made their mark in our special community. We all wish them the very best for this next part of their journey and look forward to hearing new stories from their adventures. Make sure you drop in to say goodbye before 27 August when the new owners, a couple from Canberra with local links, take over. Thank you, Ken and Linda.

Big News for our Halls

At the start of November last year, South Coast Health and Sustainability Alliance (SHASA) Community Energy Working Group members met to discuss an important funding round that had just been announced by the NSW Government. With the huge amount of \$250 million targeted at bushfire-affected areas in NSW, the so-called BLERF funding (Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund) seemed a great opportunity. SHASA had already started working on possible community energy projects with the Tilba area community – at this meeting various possibilities were thrown around particularly as the funding guidelines nominated community hall upgrades as eligible.

Of course we know the outcome now! Impressively, the Tilba Halls Future Resilience Project received full funding – \$1,048,399 – as part of nearly \$62 million to be spent across many projects in the Eurobodalla and Bega Valley Shires. (See press release p 5.)

The project will be managed through a collaboration between SHASA and the Central Tilba School of Arts Trust Inc (CTSOAT). The Steering Committee – three members from each organisation



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Tilba Bites

– is already meeting weekly. The funding is a solid endorsement of the value of the Halls to our local community as well as validation of the excellent submission that was compiled during the last Christmas/New Year period – the original application deadline was mid-December extended to 27 January. Even with the extension it was no mean feat – think getting quotes during the major holiday period! Well done to all involved.

SHASA works across the whole Eurobodalla Council area and has been key to many community-focussed energy projects. While the Tilba Halls project will be an important focus for the next couple of years, SHASA is continuing to work with the Tilba community to progress other work. Currently there are discussions with Tilba Real Dairy to look at better electricity usage and energy storage. A major challenge for SHASA is

to get funding into the area for community energy projects.

The Chamber gets results

Congratulations to the Tilba District Chamber of Commerce (TDCC) that has successfully received funding through the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund for three collaborative projects as follows:

Project 1 – Develop and deliver a Strategic Plan for the Tilba District and surrounds

Led by TDCC in consultation with People, Place and Partnerships.

Project 2 - Business Resilience Toolkit

Led by Corporate 2 Community in collaboration with six southern NSW LGAs (including Eurobodalla). TDCC is part of the collaboration working group.

Project 3 - Structural Fire Risk

Assessment for Bate Street, Central Tilba
Led by Eurobodalla Council in collaboration with TDCC.

Carrie Taylor, a local Tilba resident, has been appointed by TDCC as Project Manager for all three projects. She will work with a small steering committee from TDCC to complete these three exciting projects by September, 2022. Contact TDCC for more details at visittilba.com.au

Celebrating Central Tilba Food Co-op

This long running co-op turns 35 this month and founding members Rici Tandy, Sean Burke and Judyanne Donnellan are still involved. As a community-run co-op its aim is to supply members with quality, organic products at wholesale prices – think of the range of products you would expect at a wholefood shop! There is a small membership fee, while freight, admin and hall hire costs are shared among the members and there are no minimum or maximum orders. The co-op operates three times a year – March, July and November. Packing days are always on Wednesdays, in the Big Hall at Central Tilba and start at 10 am. Members are asked to attend every second packing day for a minimum of four hours to help setup, packing and checking orders followed by cleaning and packing up. New members are welcome and are encouraged to attend the first packing day after joining to see how it all works – it's fun and a chance to meet new people as the large piles of products are dispensed.

The July order closes on 28 July so if you have any questions or want to join contact Rici on 6493 6333/0407 139 265.



Carrie Taylor, newly appointed Project Manager

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Term 3 starts at Central Tilba School



NAIDOC painted rocks adorn the new septic tank lid

Sunshine welcomed children back to school in mid-July, with many stories of school holiday adventures. During the term holidays, the school grounds received some much-needed attention with the removal of several trees – their mulch has been added to the gardens and used as soft-fall in the playground. As well as a general tidy up, an extended retaining wall and new safety rails have been added to the access to the toilets, improving the safety of the approach.

As NAIDOC Week happened during school holidays, the


school acknowledged the history, culture and contributions of First Nations peoples in the last week of second term. This included Najanuga class painting rocks that now adorn the new lid of the septic tank making this a work of art! Barranguba class headed to Mimosa Rocks to participate in the NPWS Living Country, Living Culture Program.

The school is currently operating under Level 2 COVID restrictions that limit activities and non-essential visits.



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Tilba CWA welcomes a new president

In July former Tilba CWA President, Annette Kennewell, resigned to have more time to care for her Mum who recently relocated to Dalmeny. At our monthly meeting, new member Teresa Stubbings was elected as our interim President till Tilba CWA's Annual General Meeting in October. Teresa has been an active member of Tilba CWA this year. Teresa and her husband moved to their small farm at Mystery Bay five years ago. With a background in primary education and as a teacher librarian, Teresa brings great leadership skills to Tilba CWA. Teresa's community commitment is already evident with her role as a Multi-Lit volunteer at Central Tilba Public School.

Teresa is supported by Helene Sharpe, Tilba CWA's Secretary, and Helen Thomson, Treasurer. With Helen's experience in the pharmaceutical industry and Helen's in Human Resources Management, Tilba CWA's executive team is well skilled to continue our community work. Planning continues for our upcoming community events including a Malaysian Luncheon in September coordinated by our International Officer, Vicky Staddon, at Central Tilba Public School. Jenny Burnett will be coordinating our monthly CWA Stall at Tilba Market, with our next stall on Saturday 7 August. Helen Thomson will continue to coordinate our monthly dinner for volunteers at BlazeAid Cobargo.

All local women are welcome to attend our upcoming Tilba CWA meeting on Thursday 12 August at 10.30 am in the Barn at the Dromedary Hotel.

Annette Kennewell



Teresa Stubbings, new President of Tilba CWA, at her farm in Mystery Bay.



Gay Staurup facilitating a wool felt workshop at Umbarra Cultural Centre in July, coordinated by our Craft Officer, Zoe Burke.

Halls Committee celebrates and gets cracking!



Tilba Halls

Central Tilba's iconic, community-owned, heritage halls finally have a chance to have a resilient future thanks to a successful Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund (BLERF) application.

The grant of \$1,048,399 is part of the \$4.5 billion bushfire support program co-funded by the Australian and NSW governments for bushfire recovery, response and preparedness. The Tilba Halls Future Resilience Project application was undertaken by the Central Tilba School of Arts Trust (CTSOAT) committee, in conjunction with members of Southcoast Health and Sustainability Alliance (SHASA).

Much of the work on the halls over the past five or so years has been general ongoing maintenance and repairs. These improvements have only been made possible through the huge generosity of locals turning out to support fundraising events, visitors donating their spare change into the 'Piggy' on the wall, and many, many volunteer hours. The costs of ongoing maintenance meant that it would take a significant grant to enable these vital repairs, upgrades and additions. Such funding ensures the halls remain a viable asset into the future, comply with statutory building regulations and meet the contemporary needs of our diverse community.

This was one of 195 locally-led applications selected to receive funding across fire-affected regions in NSW and the upgrades will increase the variety and use of the halls. This in turn will support local businesses and collectively contribute to the social wellbeing of the community. The scope of this project includes land purchase, multi-purpose usage additions, health and safety requirements, increased accessibility, building fire safety, a temperature-controlled meeting room, provide a commercial kitchen and ensure environmental sustainability in the form of solar panels, a battery and fixed generator for extreme weather events.

After a suitable celebration to mark this wonderful opportunity to completely transform the amenities of the halls, a Steering Committee comprising three members each from CTOSAT and SHASA is wasting no time knuckling down to get the show on the road! The first stage of work will likely be undertaken on the Small Hall, including recladding, roof replacement and completion, and fitting out the meeting room beneath the hall.

Watch this space for regular updates as we ensure the Central Tilba Halls remain worthwhile and valuable community assets long into the future.

Sally Pryor

Tilba Tilba and South Narooma Land Care Group News

Tilba Tilba and South Narooma Land Care Group is discussing with the Tilba District Chamber of Commerce how the Group can best collaborate with the Chamber's District Strategic Plan project. President of the Tilba Tilba and South Narooma Land Care Group, Geoff Pryor, said today, 'There should be considerable community benefit from the Land Care Group collaborating closely with the Chamber on this planning project. The two organisations are looking at a smarter future for the Tilba district from a number of viewpoints, including dealing with climate change challenges and new economic directions consistent with this challenge.' Geoff said that, as part of a key project in the coming year, the Land Care Group was encouraging the community to consider the special places in the region that people value and to tell us why. 'We propose to invite people to identify and then place visual and written references to these places on-line,' he said. 'These may be used to help develop a potential application to government at a later stage to have Tilba and region recognised as a

Biosphere Reserve. Watch this space for further information!'

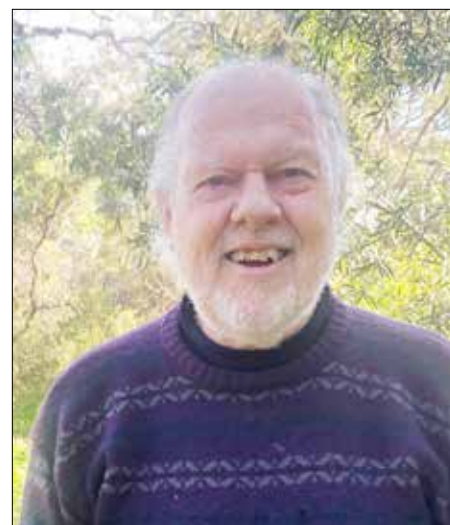
The Land Care Group held its 2021 AGM in Central Tilba last month, at which Ms Kaye Keogh from the Southern Region Business Enterprise Centre gave a keynote address outlining the importance and role of social media in the community. The AGM elected a 2021 Land Care Executive including Geoff Pryor, President, Mark Stubbings, Secretary and Vice President, and a committee consisting of Laurence Babington, Marian Devitt and Jinks Dulhunty. In his President's report to the meeting, Geoff highlighted the change in direction taken by the Land Care Group over the last year, a growth in membership and the breadth of issues being tackled. He stressed that while the Group was taking a wider approach to its role, it also saw issues of key significance to farmers, such as invasive species including weed control, as a high priority. Among the matters on the agenda was a decision that members consider and put forward suggestions for a possible name change for the Group given the awkwardness of its present title.

Other issues that will feature in the work of the Land Care Group in the coming year include:

- addressing invasive species concerns – a fireweed biological study presently being undertaken by CSIRO is being monitored and a weeds identification event is being planned;
- a forum for the consideration of the issue of regenerative agriculture; and
- tracking catchment water quality monitoring in the Victoria Creek Catchment and the Bateman's Bay Marine Park issues as part of a wider concern regarding ocean and coastal ecosystem health.

Finally, Geoff is to be part of the Eurobodalla Council's Climate Resilience Plan Working Group. This Group is assisting in the development of a draft climate resilience plan for Council. It is early days in the Group's work with COVID-19 being a disturbing factor. The results of its work will become available next year for general community comment. For further information contact Geoff Pryor, 0428 930 196.

Geoff Pryor



Geoff Pryor of the Tilba Tilba and South Narooma Land Care Group

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The corks were popped and the champagne flowed as the announcements came through that three of the applications to rebuild Cobargo were approved from the BLERF fund. The planned rebuild of the eastern and western side of the main street and the new Cobargo Bushfire Resilience Centre were given funding and now the hard works start. Congratulations to all who contributed to getting the applications submitted. A huge undertaking showing great commitment.

The Wandella Hall committee is meeting with Council again to take the next step in the rebuild of their hall. The progress has been hampered by other disasters that have taken the staff off the

project but plans are underway to ensure it progresses in the very near future.

The population of Cobargo certainly swelled when the Allen clan descended on Cobargo to celebrate Kevin's 70th birthday at the Cobargo Showground. The day was filled with much laughter, stories and sumptuous food. Kevin thoroughly enjoyed himself and from the stories told it showed Kevin has always had the gift of the gab.

The new fence around the Cobargo Co-operative has certainly given the business a fresh new look and has almost completed the renovations that have taken some time to complete but have certainly been worth the wait.

The new concrete pedestrian islands have been built to help pedestrians cross the highway but I'm not sure if they are proving to be an asset or not? It will be fabulous to see the new public toilets in place and we all hope that will be sooner rather than later.

I would like to put a shout out to all the business that are operating in Cobargo – you are all amazing and stoic as you continue to trade despite the many hardships that you have faced in the last eighteen months. Thank you for showing such courage.

Word of warning: foxes are out and about and enjoying lots of our hens.

Cobargo CWA News

Our last meeting for July was postponed due to COVID-19 concerns, however we have all been in contact via emails etc and our plans are still carrying on as usual.

These times are difficult and make us appreciate our friends and neighbours. Members of CWA are especially supportive of each other and it is this spirit of friendship that has proved to be so important to us all. Staying in contact is reassuring when the world that we know has been turned upside down.

Plans are afoot to celebrate a hundred years of CWA in NSW and eighty years in Cobargo in 2022. We are planning an Op Shop Ball in mid-2022. This way we can help Cobargo Bower Bird by asking attendees at the ball to wear items purchased from the Op Shop. This will not only keep costs down for the individuals but also create a great deal of fun as everyone lets their imagination run riot! I am assured by Ros Hewitt from Bower Bird that they have heaps of wonderful gear stored away to be brought out closer to the day. We may have special prizes for the wackiest, the most beautiful or the weirdest outfit on the night – for both women and men!

Eighty years of service by CWA to the Cobargo area is a great achievement. Many residents have had grandmothers

and mothers who were members and have fond memories of CWA. We are currently researching old material and hope to showcase some of the original members and the changes that the branch has undergone over those years, highlighting the achievements and efforts by succeeding generations and new arrivals. If anyone in the community has information or photos they would like to share please contact us at cwa.cobargo@gmail.com.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank all those people and organisations that use the cottage for their adherence to the COVID-19 regulations. Best wishes to all our community from your friends in CWA. May you continue to stay safe in our very special part of NSW.

Mary Williams
Publicity Officer

Cobargo Branch of CWA NSW

Introducing the new committee for the Cobargo Tourist and Business Association

The Cobargo Tourist and Business Association (CTBA) has a new committee that was formed to support all businesses in Cobargo, Quaama and the surrounding district. The last few months have been spent setting out guidelines and planning events that (COVID permitting) may go ahead later in the year.

We would like to hear how you are faring, don't hesitate to contact any member of the committee if you have concerns, feedback or ideas.

The team is as follows: Janet Doolin (Cobargo Farm), Jane Solti (Cobargo General Store), Lorraine James (Needle Nannas), Rene Sundell (Kitchenboys) and Beth Dogan (Baking Buddies).

It has been an eventful start to the year but with cooperation we can make 2021 better so let's be positive and work together.

Beth Dogan, CTBA



L-R Rene Sundell, Jane Solti, Lorraine James, Janet Doolin and Beth Dogan



49 Princes Highway, Cobargo
Phone: 0418 613 771

WANTED
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE
DIRECTORS

Expressions Of Interest are invited from applicants interested in becoming independent Directors representing the community on the board of the Cobargo Community Development Corporation Limited.

For more information and/or an application form, please visit: www.ccdc.org.au
Or email: ccdclimited@gmail.com

All applications are in confidence, and close 5.00pm Friday 6th August

PO Box 5001
Cobargo NSW 2550

www.ccdc.org.au **LIMITED**



The Cobargo Pole Project

For the last two months we have been lucky enough to witness art being created on some of the power poles of Cobargo. Many have been completed, others are still in progress and some are yet to be started. Each pole is, or will be, a

unique expression of the artist's creativity: most are acting individually and some collaboratively. All are a great addition to the streetscape. And another reason to come to Cobargo.

Linda Sang

Pole 1 Kath Unsworth, Wrens
Pole 2 Ros Hewitt and Trish Olsen, Bees and honeycomb
Pole 3 Shirleyanne Meyers, Musical
Pole 4 Michelle Marley, Bees
Pole 5 Naomi Lewis, Gnomes
Pole 6 Helen Morris, Ross Rixon
Pole 7 Children from the local Mums and Bubs
Pole 8 Tea Fereti, Figures in landscape



\$9.62 million funding for projects to rebuild Cobargo

The village of Cobargo has been successful in obtaining a grant of \$9.62M to rebuild Cobargo main street's commercial buildings destroyed by the NYE 2019-2020 Bushfires.

The Cobargo Community Development Corporation (CCDC) Limited sought the funds on behalf of the community from the NSW Government Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund (BLERF), lodging a submission aimed to secure the timely and complete rebuild of Cobargo's village heart that was razed to the ground by the bushfires. The grant submission was the culmination of over twelve months of volunteer work, representing many thousands of volunteer hours, by the core committees and subcommittees of the Cobargo Quaama Business Recovery Group Inc (CQBRG) and CCDC Limited, in collaboration with partnering organisations offering their assistance in the bushfire recovery field. In announcing the successful grant, John Barilaro, Deputy Premier of NSW said:

'I am delighted to inform you that your applications under Stage Two of the NSW BLER Fund was successful and Revitalise the Cobargo CBD has been awarded up to \$9,611,992.00 in funding.

'The Department of Regional NSW (DRNSW) led the merit-based assessment of all applications against the eligibility and assessment criteria published in the Program Guidelines. Independent probity advisors from both the Australian and NSW governments provided oversight to ensure a robust, fair and transparent process was

followed,' Mr Barilaro concluded.

The funding received will cover the construction and community ownership of the proposed Village Square project, the Market Hall project and the New Post Office project, over four main street building blocks.

Commenting on the successful funding outcome, Shona Taranto, Chairperson CQBRG Inc and CCDC Director said: 'This is an exciting time to look to the future of the village, to look forward to a cohesive and well-considered rebuild of the destroyed blocks that will serve the community well into the future.

'We would also like to note all the hard work and the many thousands of volunteer hours put in behind this grant submission, and the varied contributions of all involved, at the core of it are our local-led committees but also, just as importantly, the several professional organisations that stepped up to the plate and offered their assistance and advice pro-bono, or at reduced cost, to bolster the volunteer work and the ultimate CCDC submission.'

CCDC Limited Director and Spokesperson, John Walters said the funding announcement restored hope for a brighter, stronger future for Cobargo:

'The Rebuild Cobargo projects involve groundbreaking concepts in community-led recovery and innovative community ownership, and will enable Cobargo to take the lead role in securing its economic and social strength, as well as resilience in the future.'

The re-establishment of a fully functional village commercial centre will not only re-establish the provision of key goods and services for locals but, importantly, will also attract direct spending in the town. The rebuild Cobargo projects will ensure that the township continues to leverage its position as a stopping point and destination for travellers passing along the Princes Highway, and as a popular and vibrant artisan village for tourists and holiday-makers to visit while staying in the region.

More information about the CCDC Limited's BLER Fund submission, the organisations involved and the planned infrastructure projects is available via the website: www.ccdc.org.au.

There is also a planned Q and A event open to the general public in September 2021 - date and details to be confirmed. This event will be broadly advertised and we welcome and encourage attendance from all interested people in the community.

*Shona Taranto, Chairperson
Cobargo Quaama Business
Recovery Group Inc.*

Finally solved in Cobargo – the mystery of the Mona Lisa's smile



I've told you – just ignore them! Now sit still and wipe that stupid grin off your face!



Jayena Fox
(divine victory over self)
Born 22. 10. 1943
Died 2. 7. 2021



Barry Hargreaves
Born 18. 7. 1947
Died 23. 6. 2021

All Hands and Hearts at the Cobargo Community Garden (CCG)

The All Hands and Hearts crew is on site every Monday for the next few weeks helping us build our new tool shed. All Hands and Hearts is a non-profit volunteer organisation that focuses on helping communities recover from natural disasters.

Cobargo Community Garden (CCG) is looking for workshop ideas and leaders

What sort of one-hour workshops would you like to attend or run at our community garden? For example:

- Essential garden tools and how to use them
- Recipes from my garden
- Planting for spring/summer for a family of four
- Botanical drawing
- Using the plant classification system
- Growing heritage vegetables and fruit
- Keeping a garden diary
- Gardening by the lunar cycle

Share your ideas with Cecile at bowercece@yahoo.com.au

Cobargo Community Garden weekly working bees

For some great company, light exercise and a cuppa, come to one or both of our weekly working bees. You will need sturdy shoes, gloves, a hat, water to drink and garden membership (\$5). You can join on the day or email Harry at harry.binnendijk@gmail.com.

On Mondays (10 am – 1 pm) we work on garden infrastructure projects. Currently

we are finishing the wicking beds but we will soon start on fencing. Please RSVP Monica on 0417 228 050 if you would like to attend on Mondays.

On Thursdays (10 am – 1 pm) we garden and attend to general maintenance. No need to RSVP just turn up.

Cheers from the CCG working group, hope to see you soon,

Harry, Monica, Margaret, Stephen, Cornelia and Cecile



All Hands and Hearts at Cobargo Community garden

The Cobargo Bushfire Resilience Centre

The Cobargo Bushfire Resilience Centre will be a unique, state-of-the-art, multi-purpose facility featuring an exhibition space, a commemorative courtyard, theatre and flexible function space. It aims to be a main street cultural centre that communicates the lived experience of bushfire in Cobargo and will act as a conduit for Cobargo's social, economic and environmental recovery by physically restoring the main street through environmentally resilient and sustainable design, developing artistic and educational partnerships with local, national and international organisations and creating a unique tourism offering for the region.



Local Architects, TAKT Studio created the concept drawings for the Cobargo Bushfire Resilience Centre.

The Cobargo Bushfire Resilience Centre will function both as a gathering place and regional focal point.

The construction of the Centre represents a major first step on the road to recovery for the heart of the village and will create a path forward for future investment in the village by fostering artistic, cultural, research and corporate partnerships that will revitalise the local economy and support social, economic and environmental recovery of the village and district.

Cobargo Bushfire Resilience Centre will be constructed over two blocks of land, 70-72 Princes Hwy Cobargo. Brian and Mary Ayliffe are donating the full value of their land (70 Princes Hwy) and Matthew Morris, owner of the neighbouring block at 72 Princes Hwy, is donating a substantial proportion of the value of his land to the township to facilitate construction.

Cobargo Bushfire Resilience Centre was also successful in securing separate funding for the Badja Forest Rd Fire Oral History Project via the BCRRF Stream 2 and with substantial funds committed by the National Library of Australia that will be undertaking the creation of an archive

of stories from the Badja Forest Rd Fire – this project will be commencing shortly.

The Cobargo Bushfire Resilience Centre is planning to hold public consultation and communication events relating to both the Oral History project and the BLERF funding announcement (COVID situation permitting) and welcomes queries from the local community.

Rhonda Ayliffe

The art of reading

Yes, there is an art to reading so come along to Well Thumbed Books and find out!

To celebrate Art Month, Well Thumbed Books is hosting a morning session on Saturday morning, 7 August, that will be chaired by Sarah Gardiner with panelists, Wendy Tucker, Graham Walker and Tony King.

This promises to be a lively discussion between the members of our entertaining, erudite and enlightened panel. It starts at 10.30 am with morning tea and more talk after.

All of this depends, of course, on COVID permitting.

Songwriter King takes the crown

Winning major awards has become as regular as a riff for gifted Aussie songwriter and muso, Tony King. The guitarist and vocalist supremo has just been awarded Australian Songwriter of the Year by the Australian Songwriters Association and APRA. He also won this award in 2009. Songs by the highly respected musician have also been awarded Best Song eight times during his career.

The 2020 awards, delayed until this month due to that pesky virus, saw King win Best Lyrics for his 'A library burns' and Best Comedy Song for 'The day the Queen smoked a joint'. King was also a finalist in two other categories for his piece 'The tide will come in'.

King, who lives and creates on the far south coast of NSW at Bermagui, says he doesn't need the big city to drive his imagination, 'The tranquil rural setting cuts out the constant static that can prove distracting in Sydney. Living in Bermagui is no impediment to the muse knocking on the door.'

This year the Australian Songwriting Awards invited nominations from international writers, proving Australia is home to some of the best musical writers

in the world.

King has also made his mark on the international stage.

In 2014 he was awarded Best Lyrics at the International Songwriting Awards, judged by Tom Waits and Bernie Taupin and last year was runner-up in the UK Songwriting Awards for Best Jazz Song with 'I wish I'd lived when Django did'.

King's latest accolades come at an extremely difficult time for the entertainment industry. He says, 'The last year has been really tough on musicians. COVID has been gruesome for entertainers. There have been virtually no gigs and no income. I was determined to find a silver lining, so with my partner, Nina Vox, who has kept me inspired and sound of mind during the last year, we decided to up-skill, learning to make music videos and doing a lot of writing. It made us feel like we weren't just treading water,' he says.

King also shared some thoughts regarding modern music distribution and sales. 'Streaming services like Spotify have decimated income for songwriters,' he says. 'I can provide an example of just how grim it is. Over the last year, total income from all streaming services combined for

my entire catalogue, adding up to tens of thousands of streams, was a miserly \$100. As a result, songwriters have been forced to rely on organisations like Patreon that offers subscriptions to your favourite artists so they can keep making music. Bandcamp has also become a favourite site for musicians to sell their music,' he adds.

Here are the links to those sites for Tony King's band *Beautifully Mad*.
<https://www.patreon.com/beautifullymad>
<https://beautifullymad.bandcamp.com>

Peter Rigby



Tony playing with The Commitments


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WONDER AS I WANDER

CONCERT THREE: SUNDAY 26 SEPTEMBER @ 3.00PM

Ensemble Q and friends take us around the world in 80 minutes. From a game of bowls in Vienna to memories of an old Australian house brought to life by young Australian composer Jack Lundie-Jenkins.

PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON OUR WEBSITE FOR ANY CHANGES IN RESPONSE TO THE CURRENT COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS. WE ARE MONITORING THE SITUATION CLOSELY AND THE SAFETY OF OUR COMMUNITY OF ARTISTS, AUDIENCE & STAFF IS OF PRIME CONCERN



TICKETS: [FOURWINDS.COM.AU/WHATS-ON/](https://fourwinds.com.au/whats-on/)



A busy few months for the arts

August is Art Month on the Sapphire Coast, September sees the River of Art further north, from Batemans Bay to Narooma, and in October there will be another Giiyong Festival at Jigamy, Eden. Let's hope that all the work going into planning these events will come to fruition!

Art Month Sapphire Coast in August will showcase local artists on the Sapphire Coast, with exhibitions, concerts, workshops, open studios and food trails. Kicking off with Motel Art in Merimbula on July 30 and 31, the month will feature works from local artists of all genres, film-makers, musicians and performers.

In Bermagui as part of Art Month there will be an exhibition of two popular local artists, Penny Jones and Justina Legoe. This will be held at Frame and Brush from August 6. Lovely work and worth checking out.

Another well-known Bermagui artist, Lyndal Jenkins, has a new show titled *Print* opening at Shop 7 Art Space, upstairs at the Bermagui Wharf and running from August 18 – September 8.

For the best information of what is happening when and where, visit the website:

<https://www.artmonthsapphirecoast.com.au>

A little further afield the Eurobodalla Shire is holding the popular **River of Art Festival** with activities for all ages and tastes from Batemans Bay to Narooma.

More on that in next issue.

Don't forget to put **Giiyong Festival** on Saturday October 9 at Jigamy near Eden in your diary. This will be a celebration of Aboriginal culture on the Far South Coast and will be eagerly awaited after the highly successful inaugural festival in 2019.

Georgie Adamson

Four Winds announces David Hewitt – new Director, Create and Inspire



David Hewitt – Photographer Lisa Herbert

Four Winds has recently welcomed David Hewitt to the team as our new Director, Create and Inspire.

'I've never really seen a distinction between creativity and learning – to me they are one and the same' – a really strong basis for Four Winds' Create and Inspire program!

David will be familiar to many in the Four Winds community, our region and beyond as a renowned percussionist, vocalist, composer improviser, educator and multi-disciplinary performer who has lived in the Bega Valley since 2009. David has had an extensive relationship with Four Winds dating back to his arrival in the area, working across a diverse range of projects.

He has created work for concert, theatre, film, dance, cabaret, circus and radio broadcasts and has taught at several tertiary level institutions across Australia.

David says, 'I'm thrilled to be joining the Four Winds team at this point in time, leading a team well poised to build on the great achievements of all the artists, educators, students, Yuin advisors, staff, volunteers and partner organisations who have all contributed to its development over the last decade or so. It's the perfect time to take stock and map the future in ways that will deepen and strengthen all our relationships and offerings in the long term. I also feel that artistic practice needs a community to give it relevance and that community needs art to give it heart. Informing all of this is our most treasured cultural resource – the oldest continuous civilisation on earth, one that I feel provides the key to integrating environment, community, learning and creativity. I am excited that the Create and Inspire program will be providing me with the rare privilege and challenges to combine these passions.'

Four Winds – watching the numbers

We hope you are all staying well despite these tumultuous times. While we may not be able to welcome you to the Windsong Pavilion as we go to press, we are still working hard behind the scenes. We will be ready for the moment we can all gather together and hear music once more at Four Winds. We are continuing to monitor the changing environment and whether our scheduled performances can go ahead as planned.

Thank you to all of our ticket holders for your understanding and generous support as we navigate these uncertain times. Your health and well-being remains our foremost priority.

Keep an eye on our website for the status of our events – see below for the addresses of our COVID Safety plan and what's on.
<https://fourwinds.com.au/whats-on/>
and <https://fourwinds.com.au/plan-your-visit/covid>



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Deadwood Form and Function by Zoe Burke, at the Lazy Lizard Gallery

Zoe loves this area. She feels that she has found her home, her place in the world. She has travelled and gained experience in numerous creative fields but has happily come to rest and established her real creative home, Deadwood Studio, near Central Tilba.

In her former life she worked in product design and development in Sydney, engaged in international retail surfing stores in Indonesia and worked as an architectural draftsman. Now she is here and she finds herself involved in conservation and land management plans, as well as having a strong sense of shared skills and creativity with others in this area. She says that she feels that she is only now beginning to live.

Zoe is a proud member of many local galleries and her work is both sensitive and unique. She produces amazingly creative sculptures using driftwood and other natural materials, as well as upcycled materials. She wants her work to represent local fauna and flora, and involve less impact on the environment. Each piece is woven to suggest movement and function ... windows into the fluid and fanciful way that the pieces come together. They are concise in form and engaging in function.

Zoe would love to share this exhibition with everyone. She says, 'All are welcome. It is a new beginning for Deadwood Studio, which was established in 2019, but it is my birthday too ... so let's celebrate here in Cobargo!'

Sounds like a good idea to me! Please come along and support Zoe and enjoy her exhibition. It will be on display in the

Side Room for the month of August. If you want to meet Zoe and talk about her work, she will be around the gallery on Saturday morning, 7 August, between 10 am and noon.

Naomi Lewis



Fluid Momentum, detail



Fish Food

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***Portraits Matt Nettheim* is to be launched at Well Thumbed Books**

A book of portraits had been on the agenda of photographer, Matt Nettheim, for some time and, when COVID first arrived in 2020 and we all locked down, it became the perfect project. It was then that he began the sifting through, scanning and editing of an estimated one million images from a thirty-year professional career with the camera. Eighteen months later *Portraits Matt Nettheim* is an actual thing, a high-quality, large-format, self-published celebration of the artist's love of taking photos of people. Images from his numerous social documentary projects, as well as friends, family and celebrities that he met during his twenty years working in the international film industry.

On Saturday 28 August, Matt Nettheim, now living and working in this community, will officially launch the stunning book at Well Thumbed Books, Cobargo, in what will be a bit of a performance-style event. Starting at 10.30 am, the artist will introduce his book and then perform live music to a slideshow of the images before opening the floor to a question-and-answer session. Stick around for nibbles and tea afterwards and, if you like what you see, the opportunity to purchase a signed copy of the limited-edition book. Do not miss this as only limited spaces are available.

Matt Nettheim



Donald Sutherland on the set of *The Eagle*

Art Month, Sapphire Coast Winter's End

It is artsy August art month all over the Sapphire Coast and Cobargo Creators is taking part with an exhibition of beautiful photographs by Creator member David Karonidis. One particularly cold winter in France, David took a series of photographs that at first glance appear black and white such is the stark contrast within a cold frozen world. This was the year Paris recorded snow and the horses in the fountain at Lyon were frozen over.

This exhibition, aptly titled *Freeze Frame*, will be on display in August.

Accompanying the frozen landscapes will be a tribe of whales created by whale whisperer and member, Anne Bruce. They will be leaping, breaching and diving about in the gallery. Denim in all its hues has never looked so good as when Anne turns it into whales.

So pop along – the venue will be COVID-safe with plenty of warm things to ease the last of winter from your bones and enjoy what your local community has to offer you.

Oh, and don't forget - Common Threads Exhibition opens 18 September: your work of art made of any thread can be handed in between Wednesday, 1 September, and Monday, 13 September.

Remember it must be original, for sale and made of threads – one thread or many – any medium – silk, grass, cotton, plastic, wire, wool – let your imagination roam ...

Open seven days a week

Art and Craft Bank is available for your projects and many of our volunteers have enviable skills and are happy to assist you.

Sandra Taylor



Storm Boy, still photograph



Photograph of a frozen fountain, taken in Lyon by David Karonidis

Shuggie Bain

Douglas Stuart

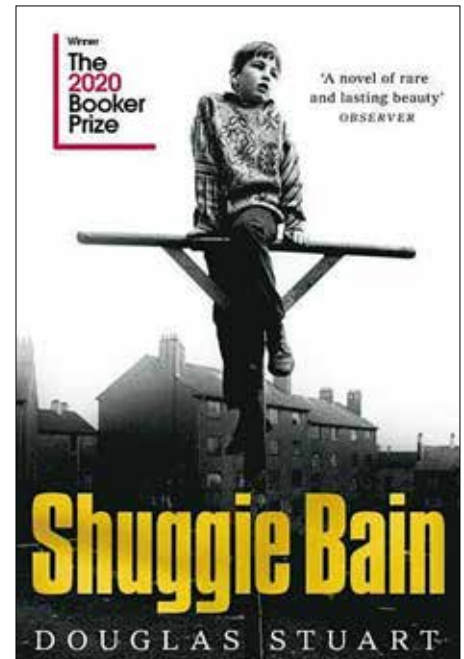
Publisher: Pan Macmillan

\$32.99

This is the debut novel of a Scottish/American writer that was long-listed for the Booker Prize and has received rave reviews. It is set in Glasgow in the 1980s against the backdrop of mine and factory closures, as grim a story I have read as any set in Scotland and centred on the working class in Margaret Thatcher's Britain. Agnes Bain, a former beauty who expected much of life, is abandoned by her husband, left with three children in a depressed and depressing suburb, addicted to drink but clinging on to her beauty and the pretence of respectability.

Her daughter departs overseas and she alienates her older son, leaving her with young Shuggie who creates strategies to try to protect her from herself and for his own survival. The relationship between mother and son is beautifully handled; the unrelenting struggle with addiction and poverty makes for dark and very grim reading. This is somewhat balanced by the courage and love shown by Shuggie for his mother while fighting his own battle to be accepted as a boy who is 'no right'. I think we know from the beginning that he is gay and can foresee the problems that presented in the 1980s.

If you are not feeling in a very strong space, I wouldn't recommend this for you now, but make a note for when you are feeling better because it is an important book written by an emerging writer we are bound to hear from again.



Pet of the Month

Kerri Brady

Trixie is a lovely girl, a wolfie/staffy cross, about nine months old and around 31 kg. She is a heavily built dog and will grow to be quite large but has a very gentle nature. Trixie is still in puppy mode although she has passed the digging stage but she will need some further training to make her into a great companion. On command she sits and stays for about twenty seconds. She loves playing ball and will fetch it and bring it back to drop at your feet. She also enjoys off-lead playing chase with her doggy friends. Trixie also loves human company, is very well behaved in the car or happy to sit quietly on her bed

at your feet. Basically she likes being anywhere her special person is. She is still young and can become overexcited, so an owner who recognises this and is able to help her remain calm would be beneficial to her. She is a very intelligent girl so training should be fun and rewarding for both dog and owner. Her new owner will need to be fit and active and able to handle a large dog. Can you give this lovely girl a home? She will cost \$395. If you are interested in Trixie or any kittens we have in care, please give our enquiry number a ring – 0400 372 609 (phone hours are Monday to Friday 9 am-5 pm).

All animals available through AWLNSW are microchipped, de-sexed, vaccinated, wormed and treated for fleas and ticks. The 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 be suitable to the needs of the animal. You can view available animals on the Facebook page, www.facebook.com/AnimalWelfareLeagueFarSouthCoastBranch, but you will need to call Animal Welfare League FSC Branch on 0400 372 609 to enquire about any of the many cats, kittens, dogs and pups available for adoption (AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation Number: R251000222). If you would like to become a member please call 0400 372 609. If you have lost or found a companion animal please call BVSC Companion Animal Facility on 6499 2222. De-sexing vouchers are available at all vet clinics in our branch area that includes Bermagui, Cobargo, Bega, Merimbula, Pambula and Eden. 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.



Trixie

emailmailmailmailmailmail The Triangle's email address is contributions@thetriangle.org.au

Preparing for spring



Well, here we are in the last month of winter and spring just around the corner and, with it, the start of the gardening year. New growth appears on deciduous plants, perennials wake after their enforced winter hibernation and bulbs pop up everywhere as new life begins.

As I write this, COVID has caused a few problems but one thing is for sure – gardening is a great way to keep us safe both physically and mentally.

The next couple of months involves many tasks in the garden including the preparation and planting of the spring vegetable garden, planting of flowering annuals and the completion of late winter and early spring chores that need finalising before too much new growth appears on plants.

The pruning of deciduous fruit trees and roses should be close to being completed. Winter spraying must have been completed and, if not, just check that the buds are showing a slight colour and have not burst. If they have burst, then you have missed the boat and any spraying with a winter spray could burn the blossom leading to no or very minimal fruit set.

New growth on roses and fruit trees is a delicious target for aphids so keep an eye out for them. Spray with an organic insecticide and there are several of these available.

The vegetable garden should be getting the finishing touches prior to planting. Initially the garden should be dug over to spade depth and a spreading of lime (500 gms per square metre) all over applied. Some well-rotted cow or poultry

manure can be added and forked in.

When growing vegetables, it is important to practice crop rotation. By this I mean try not to plant the type of vegetable in the same position as you did last season. This applies particularly to tomatoes and potatoes as these two groups of plants are in the same family and any pests or diseases lying dormant in the soil could cause problems with this season's new crop.

Be aware that the soil in August and September can still be fairly cold, so there is no great benefit in planting too early. Plants need warmer soils to start growing and although they will survive, they just will not grow. An old gardener's rule is to plant the garden over the October long weekend but still cover the plants at night, particularly tomatoes.

When setting out the garden, plant taller vegetables like corn and tomatoes on the side of the garden that is less likely to shade the rest of the garden.

For more permanent kitchen crops like herbs, it is important to remember that there are three main categories of herbs. There are moisture lovers, like mints and coriander, the dry garden herbs, like parsley, sage, rosemary and the thymes, and the leafy forms, like the perpetual lettuce, spinach and more of the leafy herbs, that require more fertile soil. It is good garden practise to plant your herbs in these groups so that you can ensure that each group receives the nutrients and water it requires.

This month will see the last chance to plant bare-rooted fruit trees and roses and, as I have said many times, it is absolutely important you pay particular attention to the condition of the plants you are about to purchase. Poorly-stored plants in retail situations can allow the root systems to dry out and if this has happened the chance of the plant failing to reshoot is high. Look for plants that show no sign of the bark shrivelling and check that the roots are not too dry. If there is any indication of this, leave the plants alone. No matter what the discounted price might be they will be a failure.

Ensure when planting these new plants, to prepare the soil well and water in.

Anyway, now you have all the information you had better get out and get on with it. Till next time – happy planting.

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Truffle season lasts just six to eight weeks and is all over by mid to late August (depending on frosts). So now is the time to make the most of our local truffles.

I have included recipes that require a 20 g truffle – basically plenty for a scrambled egg breakfast, truffled camembert and a pasta dish for two people.

First, a little truffle goes a long way. Allow 3 – 5 g per serve. To store your truffle, keep it refrigerated. Wrap your truffle in clean paper towel and place in an airtight container. The paper absorbs moisture that can cause your truffle to deteriorate. Change the paper daily. Regardless of what you have read elsewhere, don't store it in rice as this dehydrates your truffle. It is best to use your truffle within a week. Grate whatever remains and make into truffle butter that you can freeze and bring out later in the year. Truffles are easy to use, the trick is to keep it simple. There are more of my favourite recipes on our Gulaga Gold web site and Facebook (including truffle ice-cream which is GREAT).

Truffle-infused eggs

Store fresh, clean eggs in the same jar as the truffles for two or three days. The aroma will infuse through the shell and produce truffle-flavoured eggs. Use the eggs as soon as you take them away from the truffle as the aroma is lost as it disperses out just as it infused in.

Make into omelettes, scrambled eggs, poached eggs, frittata (grate a little more truffle over when serving for an extra truffle hit) or use in a dessert (like baked cheesecake). Boiled and fried eggs don't taste as good.

Use the truffle in another recipe.

Truffle-infused Parmesan cheese

Store the Parmesan and truffle in an airtight container together.

Use the truffled Parmesan grated in and over a risotto or pasta. The truffle flavour decreases once the truffle is removed from the container so use the Parmesan within a few days.

Truffled Camembert

(this is my favourite recipe)

Ingredients:

1 round of Camembert cheese
About 5 shaved/grated truffles

Method:

Unwrap the Camembert. Keep the wrapping paper. Slice the cheese in half on the horizontal. Put a layer of thin truffle slices or grated truffle on each piece of cheese. Leave some of the surface of the cheese exposed so the two halves will stick together again. Put the two halves together again. Wrap up again in the paper or use some greaseproof paper and place back in the fridge for two to three days. Serve on a cheeseboard at room temperature.

Truffle pasta (2 people)

Ingredients:

2250 g pasta. Use only good quality pasta for this recipe.
25 g salt
Knob butter
½ clove garlic (don't add lots or it overpowers the truffle)
Small pinch chilli flakes (don't add lots or it overpowers the truffle)
Sea salt (optional)
6-10 g truffle in the recipe (can add an additional 2 – 3 g per person at table if you want)
About ¼ cup cream
Parmesan, grated (use truffle-infused parmesan if you have it)

Method:

Boil five litres of water with salt, add pasta and cook until tender. Draw off a cup of cooking water and drain pasta through a colander. Return the pot to the heat, add butter, garlic, chilli flakes and a little sea salt. Gently cook until fragrant. Add steaming hot pasta, reserved water and toss. Finish with splash of cream and freshly grated Parmesan. Serve piping hot into warm bowls. Shave 2-3 grams fresh truffles per person at table over the warm pasta for the full truffle aroma hit.



Truffle risotto Photo Credit: Virginia White

For the Fridge Door

AUGUST	WHAT	WHERE	TIME
Sun 1	Live music: Roddy Reason	Cobargo Hotel	5 pm
Sun 1 all month	Freeze Frame: David Karonidis	Cobargo Creators	10 onwards
Sun 1 all month	Deadwood Form + Function: Meet Zoe Burke Sat 7	Lazy Lizard	10 - 12 pm
Weds 4	Bermi & District Seniors' Social Club	Bermagui Country Club	11.30 am
Sunday 8	Live music: Stitch	The Dromedary Hotel	1 pm
	Live music: Howling Mitch	Cobargo Hotel	5 pm
Sat 14	Cross-cultural event: Whale festival more details p13 to book covid safe event visit -sapphirecoast.com.au/walawaani-muriyira-waraga.	Adjacent to Bermagui Surf Lifesaving club	
	The Art of Reading: readings & discussion	Well Thumbed Books	10.30
Sun 15	Quaama Mini Market	Quaama Hall	Noon onwards
	Live music: Gary Carson Jones	Cobargo Hotel	5 pm
	Live music: Robz Simpson	The Dromedary Hotel	1 pm
Sun 22	Live music: The Sugarants	Cobargo Hotel	5 pm
	Live music: Rick Bamford	The Dromedary Hotel	1 pm
Sat 28	Book launch: Portraits Matt Nettheim performance and discussion	Well Thumbed Books	10.30 am
Sun 29	Live music: Soul Stories!	The Dromedary Hotel	1 pm
	Live music: Tim McMahon	Cobargo Hotel	5 pm

ANSWERS -

CROSSWORD ACROSS

1. prong 4. Kildare 9. CNN 10. Indiana Jones 12. embed 14. in so 16. it 17. ELO 18. Strangelove 21. Bah 23. ex 24. amid 27. Colas 29. Doogie Howser 31. oar 32. Zhivago 33. Jimmy.

CROSSWORD DOWN

1. Phibes 2. old 3. grandma 4. khaki 5. Lions 6. aces 7. RNS 8. en 11. PTO 13. both 15. nee 16. Ile 17. Evil 18. sax 19. Nui 20. LLCool 21. beg 22. osprey 25. Magna 26. Diego 28. Tori 29. dah 30. Sam 31. Oz

OLYMPICS QUIZ

1. Greece in 1896 2. Pierre de Coubertin 3. 1904 4. Paris in 1900 5. Citius - Altius - Fortius meaning Faster - Higher - Stronger 6. Greece

TOKYO

7. Discover Tomorrow 8. 33 sports with 50 disciplines 9. karate, skateboarding, surfing, sports climbing and others 10. Miraitowa 11. three times 12. 42 venues

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

13. 19 countries 14. USA 15. Australia, France, Great Britain, Greece, Switzerland 16. Michael Phelps won 28 medals 17. Dakar/Senegal 18. 1972 Waldi



If you know about something that is happening around town, let us know! We can chase it up and add it to our content and events list.

Contact:
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Game On



OLYMPICS QUIZ

- Where and when were the first modern Olympic Games held?
- Who is regarded as the 'Father of the modern Olympics'?
- When were the first Olympic medals awarded?
- Where and when were the first women allowed to compete in Olympic Games?
- What is the Olympic motto?
- Where is the Olympic flame traditionally lit?

TOKYO OLYMPICS

- What is the motto of the Tokyo Olympics 2020?
- How many sports will be included in the 2021 Tokyo Olympics?
- Which sports will be included in the Tokyo Games 2021 for the first time?
- What is the name of the mascot of the Olympics 2021?
- How many times has Japan already hosted the Olympic Games?
- How many different venues are used for the various Tokyo 2021 events?

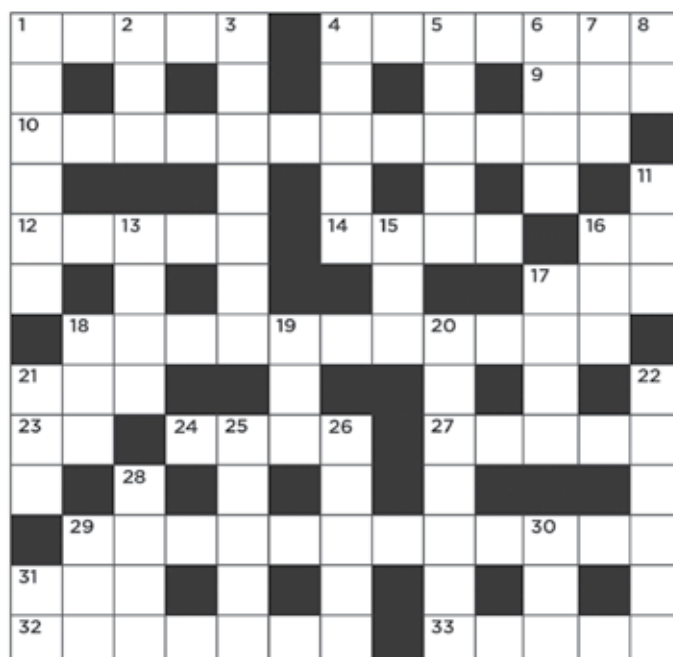
OLYMPICS GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

- How many countries have already hosted the Summer Olympics?
- Which country hosted the Olympic Games most often?
- Which five countries have participated in every Summer Olympics?
- How many medals has the most decorated Olympian ever won?
- The next Youth Olympic Games will be held in 2022. Do you know where these games will take place?
- When was the first official Olympic mascot introduced and what was the name?

SUDOKU

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

CROSSWORD



Answers on page 9

ACROSS

- Fork point
- Ancient
- Nana
- Hearthrob doctor of TV and old movies
- Cable News Network
- Military clothing color
- Brisbane football club
- King toppers
- They help you heal
- 14th letter
- School org.
- This as well as that
- Originally called
- de-France
- Doctor who hates Austin Powers
- Boots Randolph instrument
- Rapa _ (aka Easter Island)
- Rapper and NCIS: Los Angeles actor
- Implore
- Fish-eating hawk
- _ Carta
- San _
- Spelling actress, first name
- Lah-de- _
- America's uncle
- The Land of _

DOWN

- 'Abominable' doctor played by Vincent Price

