

QUAAMA COBARGO BERMAGUI TILBA & LOCALITIES

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Garraywaa Gallery – a visual treat

Keen observers have probably already noticed that there is a new shop down on the Flat at Narooma. Garraywaa Gallery opened just before Christmas after Cheryl Overton and her husband, Darren, fitted out the small shop as a light, bright and stylish gallery that is welcoming and stimulating. Cheryl (formerly Cheryl Davison) is well known to many *Triangle* readers. She has always been a woman of many parts and a multitude of skills and talents. Over the years she has become a celebrated visual artist specialising in painting and printmaking, a ground-breaking businesswoman and community leader, Four Winds First Nations Creative Director and the founder and leader of the Djinima Yilaga choir that has travelled nationally and internationally singing in Dhurga, the local Aboriginal language.

The walls are lined with Cheryl's framed prints and there is a range of interesting objects on display. There are bangles and neckpieces made from felted wool, moulded and textured paper bowls and vessels, ceramics, quirky key holders and candlesticks among other intriguing items. This gallery reflects Cheryl's aesthetic and her commitment to fellow Aboriginal artists and crafts people. On the floor there are some striking balls woven from coastal spinifex by Dean Ware of Mystery Bay; a low, felted wool seat, shaped like a grinding stone with its smaller round pestle inside it, made by Michelle Slezak and a bookshelf with books by Aboriginal authors for children and adults.

I urge people to drop in for a look and a chat. If you are looking for an imaginative gift or some distinctive



Cheryl ready to welcome you to Garraywaa Gallery

homewares you will find a wealth of exciting and individual options to choose from. Garraywaa Gallery is open seven days a week from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm. Cheryl can be contacted on 0432 152 735 or emailed at garraywaa@outlook.com. A website is also being designed and should be accessible soon.

Angela Marshall



Dean Ware's woven grass balls



Michelle Slezak's felted wool seat

Editorial

Welcome back to another year of The Triangle. We will try to keep you up to date with what is going on in the area, local stories, local legends and local events.

So far, 2024 has been wet and drizzly, then a few humid days to dry out; but really it has been a mild summer so far. The gardens and lawns are enjoying it though and responding by growing before our eyes. The many holidaymakers have toughed out the damp days and the streets and morning coffee venues are packed. I wonder if the secret is out that this is such a good place to visit and live?

Why is it so good? We all know the answers ... as well as the natural beauty of the area, the mild climate, the welcoming community and the slower pace of life, we are fortunate to live where there seems to be no limit to the number of community and creative activities to become involved in. There are workshops, seminars and classes, gallery openings and exhibitions,

Letters

Debra Worgan

sports clubs, library activities, author talks, theatre shows and festivals, dance, music, bands, book launches and more. You can find out what is happening on the Fridge Door usually found at the back of the paper. As well as these activities there is no shortage of places where you can become a volunteer and give back to the community - always very rewarding.

The Triangle keeps on keeping on, adapting and trying to meet the needs of the residents.

We would love to hear your stories and opinions, and receive your letters and thumbs up or down. If you have something to say – send it to us at contributions@ thetriangle.org.au. We would love to get your donations too! You can donate through our boxes at pickup points or through the donation button on our website. You are the voice of this area, and we need your support to carry on.

Let's talk turkey

I have been invited to write a regular article on my favourite subject: dying well. Sounds morbid, doesn't it? But those of you who know me understand that my passion is to help people to get their affairs in order before they die. As a funeral celebrant and death doula, I have seen the fallout when people, for a number of reasons (mostly fear or feeling overwhelmed), choose to ignore the inevitable and don't plan for their dying.

We talk of leaving a legacy: an inheritance, something tangible, a light footprint etc, but the most graceful legacy we can leave is to get our affairs in order long before we think we need to so we don't leave a mess for our grieving people to have to try to sort through.

I've seen the best and the worst deaths, and I can tell you that the worst were those that ended in confusion, anger, resentment and family rifts because of the mess left behind, whether it be a garage stockpiled with 'things'; a string of online accounts that no one knows how to access; inadequate funds for a funeral: preferences not noted down; conversations left unspoken; no Will to guide bequeaths.

In these articles I will walk you through simple steps to take that will help you to leave a loving legacy; to be remembered as a person who loved those around them enough to find the courage to face their mortality and clean up their affairs so no one else had to.

Starting next month, we'll talk about Advance Care Directives, Voluntary Assisted Dying, End of Life terminology, palliative care, funeral options, how to talk with loved ones and a whole lot more. In the meantime, you can access my rest-easy tools at rest-easy.com.au.

> Shanna Provost Central Tilba

To the team that has driven the rebuilding of Cobargo. Looking

Thumbs UP

forward to the change in conversation from 'When will it start?' to 'When will it finish?'

To the people who have been populating our roads and highway with handmade signs reminding us to slow down for our vulnerable wildlife.



Thumbs DOWN

To those who use community halls and put away



unwashed plates ... this not only attracts mice but shows a complete disregard for your community.

To tourists who tell locals it is none of their 'f...ing business' when asked to not leave garbage or to put their dog/s on leash. Treating locals like they are servants is arrogant, selfish and irresponsible, and does not set the right example for children.

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 or less except by prior arrangement.

2. Images and graphics should be sent as attachments - not embedded into your story. Please send the original digital photo or

Guidelines for contributors

image, uncompressed, so we have a large file to work with. Generally above 1 mb is large enough. Accepted formats include jpg, jpeg, png and pdf. Please include a caption for your photo at the bottom of the article it accompanies. Contact us for assistance. 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 and cc lsang333@gmail.com.

Full steam ahead for Cobargo main street rebuild!

As the Cobargo Community Development Corporation (CCDC) announced at the end of last year, the construction phase of the Rebuild Cobargo Project will commence in early 2024 with completion forecast for mid-2025. The Project is fully funded by the Federal and NSW State governments through the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund.

Designed by NSW Heritage awardwinning architects Dunn Hillam Architects, the project will provide three new buildings with associated car parking and landscaped areas, providing an exciting, accessible and inclusive town centre with contemporary amenities and services for our community.

Of particular importance is that the buildings will also include much-needed residential accommodation in the form of five large two-bedroom apartments, including two designed to enhanced accessible standards. As with all the Project buildings, these apartments will always remain under community ownership and be leased to long-term tenants.

The successful tenderers, Project Coordination (Australia) Pty Ltd, already has construction projects underway in the Bega Valley, one of which is the new Bega Police Station complex.

One of the important requirements of the successful tenderer was for employment preference to be given to suitably qualified and experienced local trades and services sub-contractors where available and practicable. Project Coordination (Australia) Pty Ltd has indicated that they fully support this, in line with the contractual agreement.

CCDC chairperson, John Walters, has welcomed this commitment stating:

'Both the construction phase and the finished project are extremely important for our community development and sustainability. This has been recognised by both the Federal and NSW governments which have provided invaluable support and guidance throughout the Project. Social planning on this scale assists and supports essential ongoing community cohesion and development.

'At the recent 2023 Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) NSW Planning Excellence Awards the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon Paul Scully MP, stressed the importance of recognising projects like Cobargo's that are based on originality and innovation, quality of outcomes, support and benefit



to local development, and the recognition of excellent collaboration.

'The Project continues to receive strong support from all levels of government and the CCDC thanks our local MPs, Kristy McBain and Michael Holland, for their ongoing efforts on our behalf, and the BVSC for its ongoing cooperation and guidance.'

Community Representative Director, Debra Summer, will soon be detailing arrangements for upcoming community briefings that will include an opportunity to meet with Project Coordination (Australia) Pty Ltd representatives. In addition, experienced local trades and services subcontractors will be offered the opportunity to register their interest in participating in the construction phase of the rebuild.

'For more information, and to follow the Rebuild Cobargo construction progress, please visit ccdc.org.au or log in via the QR Code above to view the rebuild plans.

In addition to CCDC updates in *The Triangle*, look out for further information on the rebuild in other local print media, social media and community email releases.'

Debra Summer and Steve Williams

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.

Who does the work

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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 1800 in print plus around 3000 unique online visits each month.

Fungi Feastival launches photo competition

Have you taken a great photo of fungi somewhere within the Eurobodalla or Bega Valley shires? Enter it in the Fungi Feastival's photography competition that runs from now until early June for great prizes.

Fungi photography is growing in popularity. The reasons so many people are passionate about it are varied. As Andrew Larkin (facilitator of Fungi Photography Workshops in 2023) explained: 'With an estimated three million fungi species and only around 150,000 of those identified, fungi photography is an unmatched opportunity to find and photograph something absolutely new to science. Even if a mushroom isn't new to science, it is very often new to me. It is the ultimate citizen-science version of Pokemon Go.'

For others, it is the excitement and rush of getting the perfect shot. Josh Whitworth described walking the Kianga rainforest trail after recent rains. At the bottom of a gully he found a caterpillar crawling towards a woodear mushroom on a rotting log. He was able to get his camera lens set up just in time to take about twenty quick shots and capture 'the shot'.

Then there is the detail you see in nature. For Fiona Kotvojs, 'Once you start looking for fungi, you see them everywhere. They come in all shapes and sizes. My favourites are the tiny ones, almost hidden till you see them. Then you wonder how you missed their loud red, luminescent green or perfect brown. When you start looking for fungi, then you see all the other amazing things around us. It makes me pause, really look and enjoy my surroundings as I get the perfect photo.'

This photo competition is part of the lead up to the Fungi Feastival celebrating the science, food and art of fungi. It will run from 21 June to 21 July. The photo competition has two rounds, each with youth and open sections. Entries for the first round



Towamba pine forest, taken with Samsung S22 series smartphone, *Aleuria aurantia* (orange peel fungus). Photo by Andrew Larkin

close on 30 March and the second round on 10 June 2024. Prizes include fungi books, mushroom growing kits and truffle hunts. For details on how to enter the fungi photo competition visit the Fungi Feastival website and look for the photo competition section.

For interviews and more information, call Annette Kennewell on 0417 203 610. *Annette Kennewell*



Meet your local rural fire brigades

To kick off our new regular feature spotlighting rural fire brigades in *The Triangle*, we spoke to members of the Cobargo Rural Fire Brigade.

Julie Welsh joined the brigade in 2017 after a fire at her family's property. 'We came the next Thursday night to thank the brigade and my husband and I joined that very night because Cobargo was in need of members. I stay because I love it! I've learned so much that makes me more useful in my life on the farm with pumps and so many things. I've taken time off when I've needed to, and I come back because of the camaraderie.'

Dylan Salway joined the brigade about three years ago. 'I joined because it was a good way to make a difference. I lost family members in the fires. I don't want people to go through what I did. I keep coming back because I want to help people on their worst day and I've made heaps of friends. It's a really good crew.'

Tip of the Month

Do you have dams, tanks or swimming pools or access to creeks or rivers at your place? Maybe you'd like to get a Static Water Supply (SWS) sign for your gate so that local fire fighters can quickly and efficiently access water supplies to help them defend your property or your neighbour's place.

If you have a pool, tank or dam with more than 3,000 litre capacity and wish to be part of the SWS Program, please contact your local Fire Brigade for a sticker or email community.engagement@rfs.nsw. gov.au, with your name, phone number, address, postcode and local government area.

SUMMER

SALES ON

Mowers - ride

on and push

Brush cutters

side ATV

Kawasaki side x



Julie Welsh and Dylan Salway at the Cobargo Fire Shed - Photos by Flick Ruby



Join, learn, be ready!

New members are always welcome, and it's not all firefighting. You can take up many different roles, for example, in communications, equipment maintenance, administration and also catering. Just roll up and say g'day at your closest fire shed on a training night.

- **Cobargo** Wandella Road Thursdays 5.00 7.00 pm fortnightly.
- Quaama Gordon St Mondays 5.00 7.00 pm.
- Tilba Latimers Lane, Central Tilba Mondays
 5.00 7.00 pm.
- Bermagui 18 Bunga Street Mondays 5.00 6.30 pm fortnightly.

Get in touch or find us on Facebook

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- Quaama quaamafirebrigade@hotmail.com 0400 738 978
- Cobargo rfbcobargo@gmail.com 0412 919 708
- Bermi bermaguirfb@gmail.com 0412 919 708

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An extraordinary reception for Extraordinary Histories

It seems Santa's present of choice for South Coast 'big kids' was *Extraordinary Histories: Amazing stories from the NSW South Coast*, the first-ever history of the entire South Coast that was featured in our December issue of *The Triangle*.

The South Coast History Society thought it had ordered enough copies for the book to be available for the next two or three years. How wrong they were – it completely sold out within seven weeks!

Quaama's Peter Lacey, the author of the book and President of the South Coast History Society, jokingly indicated that this was all the result of the great coverage given to it in *The Triangle*.

He also revealed that the South Coast History Society will not be ordering more copies of the book. 'Instead, we plan to

The Mumbulla Community Foundation is opening their purse

The Mumbulla Community Foundation raises money to give grants to local charity and not-for-profit organisations for projects that benefit people living in the Bega Valley Shire.

They are currently offering grants related to the Black Summer Bushfires. If you're a not-for-profit and have a unique project related to bushfire recovery, there are small grants available up to \$2000 and large grants up to \$9000 for which you might be eligible. Applications can be submitted from 22 January until 29 February.

You can get more information by scanning the QR code below or going to the Mumbulla Foundation's website where the grant guidelines can be found and the application form downloaded. Search for Mumbulla grants in your browser.



revise it slightly, to add another 64 pages that will allow more fascinating stories from the South Coast to be included, and to then release the second edition of *Extraordinary Histories* before Christmas this year.

'Santa has been advised of these plans, so he'll again be able to allow space for the book on his sleigh next Christmas.'

Meanwhile, publication of the book has led to the scheduling of a number of South Coast *Extraordinary Histories* discussions in local libraries. Those in Bega and Bermagui were held in January, the Narooma discussion will be held at 10.30am on Friday 5 April and the Moruya Library discussion at 10.30am on Thursday 18 April.

For more information, contact: Peter Lacey 0448 160 852.



Sold out! Peter Lacey's book on South Coast history flew off the shelves with Santa's help.

FEB CROSSWORD ACROSS

1 Swaggie, 5 Abusing, 10 Time bomb, 11 On hold, 12 Yemeni, 13 Immersed, 14 Mark Waugh, 16 Scrub, 18 Beams, 19 Stability, 22 Sarajevo, 24 Limped, 26 Brumby, 27 Antidote, 28 Kennels, 29 Brocade.

DOWN

2 Whiteface, 3 Geese, 4 Iwo Jima, 6 Blooms, 7 Spherical, 8 Nolte, 9 A Bridge Too Far, 15 Kim Salmon, 17 Untreated, 20 Bolster, 21 Jekyll, 23 Agree, 25 Medic.

KIDS' KORNER JOKES

1. A satis-factory 2. Data 3. It went back four seconds 4. A sour puss 5. Nevermind, it's tearable 6. A green thing 7. An investi-gator 8. Cashew. 9. Don't worry, he woke up 10. They prefer a cat-alogue 11. Matt 12. Squash 13. With experimints 14. Act like a nut. 15. Tweet hearts. 16. That's the seal-iest thing I've ever heard.

SUMMER TIME CROSSWORD

1. Umbrella 2. Tree 3. Watermelon 4. Bird 5. Beachball 6. Icecream 7. Sailboat 8. Campfire 9. Seashell 10. Kite 11. Mountains 12. Tent

Women's dance therapy begins!

More and more people know about 'expressive art therapies' these days that include music, art and dance movement therapy (DMT). Long-time Central Tilba resident Virginia (Sada) York is a qualified dance movement therapist and has been running DMT groups for over twenty years. She is now offering a group dance therapy program starting March 2024 from her home studio, just outside Central Tilba.

'I trained for many years and have an Advanced Clinical Diploma of DMT. Groups I have run include a year-long dance therapy group for refugee women in Villawood Detention Centre, many years working with frail-aged dementia patients, mental health carers, as well as training sessions in psych units in Sydney.

'While all dance can feel therapeutic, in DMT we use dance AS the therapy. Dance is so healing, releasing held energy and memories, empowering, cleansing, stabilising. The body never lies and so we can access the unspoken, reflect and be witnessed, then make sense and work with whatever arises in the dance.

'I use the principles of DMT with other trainings such as somatic psychotherapy and martial arts. My great joy is working with DMT as the core therapy and, as it is non-verbal exploration, it is potent with trauma, anxiety, grief or depression, change and transition issues, and numerous health conditions.

'DMT powerfully helps you unpack any issue, clarify feelings, energise you, validate your needs, provide space to reflect, plus relief and release from being witnessed and held.'

The first women's DMT group will run in Central Tilba, for four Tuesday mornings, 10.30 am - 1 pm from 5 March.

You don't need to be a dancer, just willing to move your body and be curious about self-reflection. Capped at twelve participants, the fee is \$40 per session and there is an enrolment process so please book in. SMS Virginia on 0419 200 737 to begin the dance!

Sada dancing

Virginia York



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Moruya	The Pantry Friday
	Soge Market Tuesday 3-5pm Southlands Fruit & Veg Wed & Fri
Batemans Bay	Go Vita Wednesday & Friday
Bega	Red Cafe Wednesday Candelo Wholefoods Wednesday
Narooma	Narooma IGA Wednesday & Friday
Tilba	Tilba Cheese Factory Friday
Dalmeny	Dalmeny IGA Wednesday & Friday
Broulee	Braulee Supermarket Wednesday & Friday
Tomakin	Tomakin IGA Wednesday & Friday
Pombulo	Pambula Wholefoods Wednesday



ALANNA & ALICIA ALIVE & CONNECTED PLAY SPACE **BEGA VALLEY MALE VOICE CHOIR BEN DRYSDALE & NIALL HOWE** BLACK JOAK MORRIS BLUES AND BLESSINGS CANBERRA CONTRA BAND **CIGÁNY WEAVER** CORMAC BEGLEY **DEN HANRAHAN &** THE RUM RUNNERS **CURTIS ELLER** FIONA BOYES & THE FORTUNE TELLERS FRANK YAMMA & DAVID BRIDIE FRED PILCHER & GEORG BREU **GABRIELLE JOURNEY JONES** GANGAR **GLENY RAE VIRUS &** THE GRASS BRAZOOS GOI DIE **GRAHAM DODSWORTH GULAGA DANCERS** HARRY LAING HEATH CULLEN AND HIS BAND IACQUI MALINS JEFF GIBSON TRIO JIM & INGRID REHLE-WILLIAMS **KAVISHA MAZZELLA** KFIAFI LISA O'NEILL LIZZIE FLYNN AND THE RUNAWAY TRAINS LUCKY JIM LUCY WISE MANUS MCGUIRE MAYPOLE WITH MOLLY MIC CONWAY AND ROBBIE LONG MIRIAM LIEBERMAN TRIO PEPPER AND DAVIES **RAIN OF ANIMALS RILEY CATHERALL ROBYN SYKES** RON CALLAGHAN RORY PHILLIPS SAM STEVENSON SAPPHIRE TRIBAL BELLYDANCE SHOWCASE SASSI NUYUM SET IN THEIR WAYS SETTLER SESSIONS SHORTIS & SIMPSON WITH MICHAEL SIMIC SKIFFLE PARTY STONEWAVE TAIKO **STONYBROKE** SUNDAY LEMONADE THE BUSHWACKERS THE GOOD BEHAVIOURS THE THIRD VOICE THE WARRENS THIEVING MAGPIES TIM MCMILLAN & RACHEL SNOW TUCK SHOP LADIES TURNIP SUNDAF WHITETOP MOUNTAINEERS WILLIE AND THE CORRESPONDENTS WINTER WILSON 71 IMPA

COBARGO FOLK FESTIVAL 2024 Content of the best little folk & roots festival on the nsw far south coast

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Friday - Sunday 1-3 March 2024

cobargo showground NSW cobargofolkfestival.com

A THREE DAY CELEBRATION IN BEAUTIFUL COBARGO









On 9, 10 and 11 February, the Cobargo A, P & H Society will host their 125th Annual Show. An incredible achievement considering the vast number of challenges that have occurred over the years. The first show was held in 1889 and only nine shows have been cancelled due to war, fire, flood and the pandemic. At the first show there was all manner of agricultural produce and a huge array of animals judged. The committee was all men with women allowed onto the committee in 1914. Historically, there have only been two women Presidents, the first being Beryl Schaefer and, later, me, June Tarlinton. We held the judging of the NSW AGShows Young Woman of the Year and Ella Cowgill was selected as the winner. Ella will contest the Zone event at Adelong and we wish her the best of luck. In our junior competition the winner was Chloe Lucas and the runners-up were Zahli Lucas, Grace Manns and Jemima Bull.

The show has grown into a three-day event with a terrific line up of entertainment to see and top-quality livestock and poultry on display. Showjumping and hacking events will bring some of the best in field to compete, with the rodeo also being a much-enjoyed event. Chainsaws

June Tarlinton

will roar to life on Sunday and axemen will wield their axes as they make short work of the lengths of timber they have to cut. There are several music events to entertain with a special kids show by Amber Lawrence and Andrew Swift. Charli Butcher will entertain on Friday night and Gary Carson-Jones will get your toes tapping on Saturday night. The Lochie Cosser Outback Show is entertainment plus. There will be loads more to enjoy so come along and join us. Jump on Cobargo Show and Rodeo Facebook page to view the three days of entertainment.

A huge camp draft will be held on Friday night with the highest scoring ten entries riding off for top honours on Saturday. It is the Champion of Champions



Junior equal runners-up Zahli Lucas, Jemima Ball and Grace Manns

in the horse training demonstration, an event not to be missed. With all things that have expanded, changes have been made to the judging schedule in the Pavilion. The judging will be held on Friday 9 February from 1.00 pm. Pavilion entries will be accepted until Thursday 8 February until 5.00 pm. Non-perishable exhibits can be delivered any time during pre-show week with the final time being 11.00 am on the Friday 9 February. Contact our secretary



Judge Deb Summer and Junior Chloe Lucas

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Contact our CEO, Denise Redmond on 0408 675 259 or email denise@nardyhouse.com.au to find out more.

to place entries in show week – call 0417 0456 0354 or 02 6493 6666, or email your entry to secretarycobargoshow@ yahoo.com.au. We would love you all to dig deep and place some entries to make this 125th year a major celebration.



Agshows NSW Young Woman of the Year, Ella Cowgill

June Tarlinton

Cobargo Celebrates Australia

It has been a busy time for the members of the Cobargo CWA, starting with the Cobargo Celebrates Australia event held on 26 January in the School of Arts Hall.

This event is sponsored by the Cobargo Branch of CWA each year. It began with the usual sausage sizzle provided by the CWA and cooked by the Cobargo Scouts. The ceremony began when the Mayor of Bega Valley Shire arrived with the Ambassador for the day, Warwick Noland, World Superbike Champion.

The flag was raised by the Cobargo Scouts after Cobargo CWA President, Lynn Lawson, welcomed everyone to the event. The School Captains of Cobargo and Quaama Public Schools each gave an address on what Australia means to them. This always attracts attention as each speaker has a different perspective and it is interesting to hear the views of the younger members of our community. They certainly held up the tradition this year.

Warwick Nolan then spoke of his career as a Superbike rider. Coming from a small country town, he took us on his journey to drive faster than everyone else. His desire to become World Champion was an overriding ambition that he



finally achieved after travelling in Europe to achieve his goal.

The main event followed when the Cobargo Citizen of the Year was announced.

John Walters was nominated for his role as Chairperson of the Cobargo Community Development Corporation and Vice Chair of the Cobargo Quaama Recovery Group Incorporated. His role in other areas such as the Cobargo Rural Fire Service, Cobargo Co-operative Management Board and others was also mentioned. The Rebuilding of Cobargo, due to begin shortly, is mostly due to his efforts and those of his committee. His award was greeted with acclamation from the audience.

Mary Williams Cobargo CWA



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oil and acrylic paints, canvases, brush sets, visual art diaries, markers and pencil sets.



52-54 Princes Highway, Cobargo

Phone: 6493 6401

Renewable Cobargo update

New office space

Renewable Cobargo has a new office. We're now in Unit 4, Innovation Hub (next to the Cobargo Co-op). Call us to book a free energy consultation.

All things EV

MP for Bega, Dr Michael Holland, officially launched the Far South Coast Electric Vehicle Charger Tourism Circuit at the Tathra Hotel on Thursday, 21 December. The public EV charger at Tathra Hotel was the final EV charger in a series that enables electric vehicle drivers to recharge at Cobargo, Bermagui, Tathra, and Bega. With funds contributed by the venues and the NSW Government, the new chargers encourage tourists with electric vehicles to explore our region and spend time at several iconic locations while their cars charge up.

Renewable Cobargo will host an EV Show and Tell at the Tathra Hotel on Saturday, 24 February, 10 am to 1 pm. It's an opportunity to share your EV with your neighbours or find out about what it's like to own and drive an electric vehicle.

Did you know?

The federal government's Energy Made Easy website can help you find the best deal on energy plans. If you see a better deal, with a simple phone call you can change your plan. Or give your current retailer a call and say you're thinking of changing to a competitor with a better plan. Surprisingly, they might offer you a better deal if they think they will lose you as customer.

Renewable Cobargo is an initiative of Cobargo and District



EV charger launch at the Tathra Hotel. L-R Josh Galloway, Essential Energy, Michael Holland MP, and Cliff Wallis, Tathra Hotel.

Energy Transition (CaDET), a community group working to improve energy security and energy efficiency in our local area, and to assist the transition to clean, local electricity generation. Book a free energy consultation with our Community Energy Coordinators 0419 718 615 or 0405 383 692, renewablecobargo. com or renewablecobargo@gmail.com.

Tikka Wilson





David Neyle 0405 383 692 david.neyle@renewablecobargo.com

Fiona Drum 0419 718 615 fiona.drum@renewablecobargo.com

Unit 4, Innovation Hub, Cobargo www.renewablecobargo.com renewablecobargo@gmail.com

This month at the Cobargo Community Access Centre

Another busy month is coming up at the Access Centre, kicking off with more digital skills sessions. Learn how to use your computer, phone or tablet to greater effect. We provide FREE one-on-one ongoing support to help you with your digital skills and to learn new ways to use your devices.

If you don't have a computer, you can come into the Access Centre and use one of ours, with assistance from one of our volunteers. On Fridays we have a full complement of trained volunteers willing and able to help, but help is also available on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

You can learn how to FaceTime your family and friends, send emails, jump onto social media, do some online shopping, communicate with Government departments and learn how to spot an online scam.

Online scams are becoming more and more common and affect many unsuspecting people. To help overcome some of the issues associated with online scams, the Cobargo Community Access Centre is hosting a workshop delving into some of the legal and financial issues associated with online scams. There will be presentations from Shoalcoast Legal Services and Anglicare's Financial Counsellor. This important workshop will be held on Thursday 29 February between 11.00 - 2.00. A light lunch will be provided. To book your place, email us on info@cobargoaccess.org.au or phone 0493 671 117.

Our very popular High Tea Tuesday will be on 20 February. Do come along and meet some new people and have a cuppa, cake and a chat. It's open to all members of the community and it is a great way to make new connections or build on existing ones.

The Cobargo Community Access Centre is a community service providing pathways to service providers and government organisations. If you need assistance with sourcing a service, drop into the Access Centre and we'll give you a hand. We also have regular outreach visits from Shoalcoast Legal Service and Sapphire Health and Wellbeing Services, whose services are provided free of charge.

The Access Centre also has small office spaces for hire as well as a meeting space for around eight to ten people. Just give us a call on 0493 671 117 or drop us an email on info@cobargoaccess.org.au for more information.

Cobargo Community Access Centre – we're here for you.

Chris Walters

Volunteer Hub up and running!

The Cobargo Community Access Centre was opened in 2022 as a follow on from the Bushfire Relief Centre with the vision of building a stronger, more resilient community together. The Access Centre engages with and supports members of the Cobargo community and the broader region, including those affected by the Black Summer bushfires and other disasters.

We are building a database of volunteers to provide valuable community assistance to people and organisations that need it.

This may include volunteering at the local op shop, helping out with mobile pantries, the Folk Festival and Agriculture Show or helping a local resident with their shopping. You might like reading to someone who finds it difficult, helping with medical appointments or you just want to help people navigate a world that seems to change overnight.

If you wish to learn more about the Access Centre Volunteer Project, feel free to call us on 0493 671 117 or send an email to info@cobargoaccess.org.au.

We are located at the Cobargo Innovation Hub (next to the Co-op), opening hours: 10 am - 3 pm Tues, Thurs and Fri.

Chris Walters



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Come see us at the Cobargo Community Access Centre

- for help to access a range of government services;

- for referral to services including:
- Sapphire Health and Wellbeing Service
- Shoalcoast Legal
- Here 2 Help -
- adult literacy and numeracy support
- Be Connected Building digital skills

Need an office or occasional meeting space? The CCAC has small offices and a large meeting space (up to 8 people) for hire.

Call Rebecca on 0493 671 117 for rates and bookings. Open 10 am-3 pm Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays. Drop in or make an appointment

> Cobargo Innovation Hub 48 Prince Highway, Cobargo www.cobargo.org.au



Late last year heavy rains caused an unusual flooding event in Cobargo



Flooding at the top of Bermagui Rd and Princes Hwy Photo: Michael Stephens



Watching the creek from Benny's Butchery Photo: Matt Nettheim



Louise Miles in front of the old Kinetix building Photo: Matt Nettheim



The Narira Creek was running fast Photo: Michael Stephens



Apex Park in Cobargo goes under Photo: Matt Nettheim



The CWA Cottage and the Valiant Coffee Van brave the elements Photo: Matt Nettheim

Diggin' Diggies

Flick Ruby



Diggies folk meet with the Cobargo Fire Brigade at the Diggies Get Ready event

Diggies, like everywhere, has been transformed by the rain. Just weeks ago, our green, butter-ad community was dusty, brown and dry. Now our lawns laugh like Vincent Price while wearing out the John Deeres.

Still, summer isn't over yet, so following up on the 'Diggies Get Ready' event held with the Cobargo Fire Brigade late last year is on the to-do List. We got together for a potluck at the NewOld Shed and made some decisions about re-establishing our meeting place and investing in some radios as UHF very rarely loses signal unlike phones and internet. We also learned a lot, about what SWS stickers mean (Static Water Supply - water from tanks, pools or creek and rivers that Brigades can access) and how helpful a Storz fitting is (65mm is preferred but 30mm also fine) to make tank water available to fire fighters. We were also reminded that making property numbers more visible really helps the Brigade, and so does leaving gas bottles in place and not heaving them into paddocks.

We agreed to practicing fire drills to be clear on who does what on the day and what happens with animals. Who knew that prior preparation prevents piss poor performance?! Our first drill might be timing how long it takes each of us to pack our cars and get to our meeting point



Diggies market day

(to drink all of Dave's bourbon). Max Niemeier, our Cobargo Captain, provided a lot of other useful information and thanked us for the catch-up as the Brigade draws heavily on local knowledge and it's valuable to see familiar faces and meet newer residents.

The Diggies Land Care mob are making a real dent in the wild tobacco problem. They are thrilled to have a little bit of funding for a biodiversity mapping exercise, with many properties willing to allow a botanist access to identify flora to get an accurate and up to date snapshot of what thrives and survives here.

Finally, with our gardens bursting, we have decided to hold a marketplace at the Share Shed at 4.00 pm fortnightly on summer Saturdays. There will be sharing and swapping, but also some buying involved. Come and check it out! If you haven't had one of Sticky's apples, you haven't lived.



Sally Josh at a market stall

Photos by Flick Ruby



With Christmas and the New Year behind us the normal patterns and routines of life are returning – sometimes welcomed, sometimes more reluctantly.

The impending threat of a hot and dry summer retreated at the start of December – we are now blessed with full tanks and rampantly green and vigorous grass as far as the eye can see. With wet days rather than beach days, the local businesses have flourished and parking has often been imaginative! Happy New Year and all the best for 2024.

As the new year starts it is an opportunity to reflect on the past year and to prepare for the coming year - wishes, plans, hopes, challenges and whatever is important and a priority. As the saying goes, 'we live in interesting times' and external to our day to day lives there is plenty to be concerned about. However, many of us actively participate in our community and it is here that many of the things that sustain us happen - connections, friendships, caring, contributions, involvement, sharing skills and abilities, collaborations, finding ways to make our future better and sustainable. As we broach a new year these are the things that will make a difference.

The two Nics

The partnership of these two friends in their joint pop-up venture at the Central Tilba General Store hasn't got a name – although they do trade under Two Nics Toys. Clark and Jones come to mind or maybe just Sawdust and Chalk and Muddy Play Kitchens the names of their respective businesses. In reality, a name does not seem that important, as the two Nics have created an appealing and welcoming space in this well-used and loved old store.

Friendships are built on many things – with Nicole Clark and Nicole Jones, this journey started with their interest in toys and activities that provide quality time for children as well as having young families themselves. Both live locally and their children attend Central Tilba School. Both are committed to the local community and their businesses have a natural alignment as does their friendship.

Sawdust and Chalk, Nicole Clark's online toy store offers a range of carefully curated toys. The toys reflect Nicole's commitment to the concepts of both the Montessori and Waldorf methods that limit the use of computers and technology, focus on the importance of forging a connection with the natural environment and encourage imagination, role play and fine motor skill development. With their heirloom quality, the toys are colourful, practical and designed to be used and passed on.

Muddy Play Kitchens (MPK), Nicole Jones's business, builds miniature wooden outdoor kitchens with recycled sinks and taps that work! Like Sawdust and Chalk, these muddy kitchens encourage children of all ages to play with imagination and creativity. And, like all worthwhile educational play, it is messy which is part of the fun. MPK also offers a full range of accessories.

The pop-up store is open every day

The two Nics with their kids in the store

from 10 until 3. It is well suited to the old general store with its old shelving where the colourful toys are displayed to good effect. There is also plenty of space to showcase a range of muddy kitchens both inside and on the verandah. With play space for children, parents and families can also enjoy a coffee, café food and some of the fudge that the previous general store was well known for. Over the busy holiday period business has been brisk – and a great use for this old store.

Both businesses have online stores – sawdustandchalk.com.au and muddyplaykitchens.com.au and can be seen on Facebook and Instagram.

The importance of place

Mal Dibden is well known around the Tilba area as a retired dairy farmer with an enduring interest in the history of the area. In the last Triangle (December, 2023), I wrote about Mal turning 93. I have been aware of Mal's contribution to securing the protection of Gulaga and of his position as a representative on the Board of Management of Gulaga National Park but have often wondered about the origin of his strong connection to this significant place. Luckily, Mal's daughter Julie has some historical documents that provide a sense of why this place is so important to Mal and why he felt it necessary to advocate so strongly for its conservation. Mal's own words, in his 2017 application to be a Neighbour Representative on the Gulaga Board of Management, aptly summarise his personal connection and his involvement:

I have been a resident on the above property for 65 years. I have always had an interest in the beauty of the mountain and the Aboriginal identity with Gulaga and Wallaga Lake.

During the 1960s I spent considerable time taking people onto the mountain to appreciate its beauty and natural values. During that time, I endeavoured to make the government aware of those values. At this time the mountain was a part of Bodalla State Forest. Following persistent contact with the Minister for Forests and Conservation, the late Mr Jack Beale, I received the letters advising that part of Mount Dromedary was to become a Flora Reserve to be managed by the NSW Forestry Commission.

In 1971 I was asked by Jack Beale, and nominated by him, to be member of the Mount Dromedary Flora Reserve Management Committee. I accepted this nomination and duly became a member of

Tilba Bites



Mal at Spring Hills

the committee. I held this position until Mount Dromedary Flora Reserve became part of Gulaga NP. During this time, I continued to work towards the protection of the mountain.

I was involved with others in two exercises during the early 1990s, with the help of the local Aboriginal people that successfully stopped two Forestry logging operations on the mountain. This resulted in an increase in the Flora Reserve area by ca. 3000 acres and in establishing a continuous link between the Flora Reserve and Goura Nature Reserve.

I hold considerable reference material relating to the natural and cultural values of the mountain such as:

• Mt Dromedary Flora Reserve No. 79948 Working Plan 1985;

- Mt Dromedary Fauna List (compiled from CSIRO Surveys 1974 and 1983);
- Mt Dromedary Flora List;
- History of Mining;
- Rose, D. 1990 Gulaga. A report on the cultural significance of Mt Dromedary to Aboriginal people. Present to the Forestry Commission of NSW and the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Summary

I have lived adjacent to the mountain for 65 years. During this time I have formed a deep love and attachment to the mountain. My attachment to Gulaga has been documented in numerous anthropological and historic journals. I know the mountain very well. For 20 or so years I spent approximately 100 days of each year on the mountain guiding visitors to enjoy and appreciate the mountain beauty, flora and fauna, history, geology and Aboriginal identity. I commenced lobbying for the conservation and protection of the mountain from 1969 which resulted in part (half) of the mountain becoming Mount Dromedary Flora Reserve. I served as an original member on the Mount Dromedary Flora Reserve Management Committee from 1971. With further action and determination this committee achieved the inclusion of the remainder of mountain being included in the Flora Reserve. Subsequently the Flora Reserve, Goura Nature Reserve and Wallaga Lake National Park have become the marvellous Gulaga National Park.

It is clear from the historical documents that Mal's connection to this land and the mountain is based on a spiritual understanding of the beauty and dignity of the natural environment

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and its enduring importance to local Indigenous peoples and culture. Mal was 17 in 1948 when he came to live at Spring Hills, although his mother's family came to Spring Hills in 1923. The properties Mal owned that remain the most important to him are Spring Hills, where Julie now lives, on the mountain's steep lower slopes, along with another property, Gulaga.

Mal was excited about the purchase of the Bellbrook property – that runs between the Tilba villages and Gulaga – and believes that this provides a natural gateway to Gulaga National Park. Time will tell in this regard. However, along with the many people who were taken up the mountain by Mal and his family back in 1960s and 70s, Mal's contribution through advocacy and active involvement is a gift to us all.

One last crack

Jo Lane, from Sea Health Products, previously located at Tilba Tilba, has relocated to Adelaide. A passionate marine biologist, Jo has spent the last eight years developing her Golden Kelp business with partner Warren Atkins. Jo understands all too clearly the threat of the climate crisis and the significantly beneficial role that reestablishing the Great Southern Kelp forests has for the marine environment as well as storing carbon and contributing to the circular economy. Understanding this also means that Jo feels bound to have one last crack at establishing viable kelp farming to rehabilitate these important kelp forests. South Australia already has a well-established aquaculture industry that receives government support, something that is lacking in New South Wales along



Jo and Warren collected Golden Kelp (photo courtesy Honey Atkinson)

with community support - their gain is our loss. Jo has recently been appointed senior researcher for the newly created National Hatchery Network, based near the Adelaide suburb of Glenelg, a position she was invited to apply for. The network aims to undertake research that will underpin the development of the Australian seaweed industry. This new position ties in well with the pioneering work that Jo and Warren successfully undertook at their laboratory at Tilba Tilba, where they developed the process of growing seed stock of the temperate zone Asparagopsis species of kelp as well as other species. Jo will also be able to do proof of concept in ocean kelp farming that she was unable to do in New South Wales.

In addition to all this, Jo with her family will continue to make her Sea Health Products that are available at the Tilba Dairy Shop as well as other local outlets. She is also involved in marine restoration locally at Tathra Wharf where baby kelp will be introduced to conserve the seahorse population. Other restoration work is in the pipeline which aims to address the effects of the devastating increase of sea urchins on the marine ecosystem. Good luck Jo, in all your endeavours and hopefully you will return to our community.

Rekindle Me reduces waste

One of the many pleasures of owning and driving an Electric Vehicle (EV) are the things you discover while public charging. On a recent trip to Sydney, we had to head to the fast chargers at Shell Cove as the Berry charger was out of action. Next to us was a cute Mitsubishi MiEV mini-van and the young owner helped us get the charger going as the screens were not working. In conversation, it turns out that this young guy – Wade Cawley – bought the imported ex-Japanese postal mini-van for his business, called Rekindle Me. At all of 24 years of age, Wade is doing what many people simply talk about – electrical waste





Tilba Bites

recycling. In 2023 his young business kept 31 tonnes of e-waste from landfill, his best year yet.

Like a lot of people, we tend to have a stash of old electrical items that we are not quite sure what to do with – they often wait for the hard rubbish collections but unfortunately some of this also ends up in landfill or is not recycled effectively.



Wade collecting for recycling

Stuart Absalom

Hearing about Wade's business and his obvious enthusiasm for what he does impressed us. It turns out that we can support his business even though it is based in Port Kembla through either warehouse drop offs or accessing one of the community collections that happen fortnightly at Kiama, Berry and Nowra. Wade is also active in education and has spoken at schools and been featured in documentaries.

Rekindle Me accepts TVs, monitors, any electrical cable, microwaves, electric motors, computers, servers, power tools, vacuums, phones, DVD and CD players, blenders, printers, game consoles, POS systems, air fryers, tablets, small instantaneous hot water systems, fans, mixers, coffee machines, kettles, medical equipment, irons, telecommunication equipment, induction cooktops, calculators, radios, steam mops, sewing machines and much more! If possible, items are given new homes. If they are vintage enough, they are passed onto an enthusiast. If they are broken, they are taken apart and the materials that make up that device are recycled. Large white goods items are not accepted.

I am thinking about how we can do a

community collection locally so watch this space. It is such a worthwhile business to support – well done, Wade.

Comprehensive information, including about community and business collections, is available at their website rekindleme.net, or find them on Facebook @Rekindle Me or phone 0488 723 390.



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Great Yuin Nation Birriga Bunaan in Tilba Tilba

Congratulations to the Yuin people who attended the Yuin Nation Birriga Bunaan (cultural gathering) on 13 January at the Tilba Tilba Oval. 750 dancers representing around 20 traditional dance groups participated in the Bunaan that was watched by nearly 3,000 people who attended in solidarity.

'We needed to come back together again and heal the land, our culture, our community,' said Uncle Warren Ngarrae Foster, who called the Bunaan because he was concerned that the 2023 referendum had split the community.

And what a show it was of how strong the Yuin culture remains across the land. Thank you to all who came along – your spirits were felt in every movement and brought forth the healing process to all present and to the land. Over five hours of dancing, singing and sharing stories watched by Elders, Yuin Peoples, locals and visitors certainly brought the community together as was intended.

Special mention, love and gratitude to Uncle Warren Ngarrae Foster and Aunty Mandy Foster for organising the Yuin Nation Birriga Bunaan. Uncle Warren is the true visionary behind the Bunaan and Aunty Mandy is the driving force behind Uncle. This husband and wife team are breaking down barriers, building strength within our young people and the community. The love for culture, lore and community spirit was felt on Yuin country and through the spirits of all present on this special day.

Congratulations and warmest love for their hard work and time to ensure our cultural rights are reserved on Yuin country for all – absolute power couple investing in the community and building warriors for the next seven generations.

Eurobodalla recovery group *Fires to Flourish* sponsored the event and Eurobodalla Council and Mayor Mat Hatcher in particular offered support to get it up and running. The Tilba CWA provided biscuits and slices for the Elders' morning tea, while lots of volunteer groups helped to do the groundwork and cleanup.

'I felt honoured to witness such a special event and to be able to support the dancers in a small way by helping out,' said one volunteer. 'I hope this is a regular event, because it's an important way to join together in mutual respect.'



The women dancers and Mother Gulaga



Healing land, culture and community



Men dancing at the Yuin Nation Birriga Bunaan

SuRf project update

We are now entering the last phase of the two and a half year microgrid feasibility project. The study has produced several documents that may be used by communities to progress community energy solutions including – research into social issues surrounding microgrids; a technical assessment of microgrids and solar analysis across eight communities in the Eurobodalla; and costings and business case documents for each community. This has been funded by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water and the project partners are ANU, Essential Energy, Zepben and SHASA.

This phase is focussed on producing business cases and implementation plans for microgrids and other electricity solutions for each community. This involves exploration of the three types of microgrid-style solutions:

An 'islandable' battery

A small microgrid that relies on local rooftop solar and a modest-sized battery

A large-sized microgrid that is serviced by a solar farm as well as rooftop solar and a larger battery

One small yet important detail is that a solar farm requires hectares of cleared land. The study has identified that six of the eight localities have cleared land nearby. It must be stressed that, as this is a feasibility study only, this in no way suggests the land is suitable or available. Bodalla, Mystery Bay, the Tilbas, Congo, Nelligen and Tuross Head have cleared land nearby. Broulee and South Durras do not have cleared land nearby.

As part of the business cases, there are three ownership and operating models under consideration.

The first is community owned. This involved some risk to the community but there are opportunities to access more renewable electricity as well as provide power when the main grid is out.

Halls News

The AGM on Friday 8 December, 2023 elected the following committee for 2024.

- President: Janine Halasz
- Vice President: Christine Montague
- Secretary: Sally Pryor
- Treasurer: Tony Stenhouse
- Committee members: Chris Magill, Deb Elton, Maggie Clowes and Teresa Stubbings.

Thank you to the committee for their work last year and their continued support.

The Halls Project Steering Committee has been working together since July 2021, meeting almost every Friday. Currently an application is being finalised for increased funding to ensure that the original halls upgrade project can proceed. There have been many factors contributing to the need for more funding – the range of consultants required and their costs, new standards for building, fire protection, accessibility and price increases in building materials and building costs. The project team is looking forward to a positive outcome so work can proceed.

The Halls are an important community asset and are for the whole community – past, present and future. The Halls benefit from strong community membership and support. Memberships are due at the start of each year and are open to everyone. If you would like to show your support, please email tilbahalls@gmail.com for a membership form.

Janine Halasz



A possible Tilba microgrid

There may also be potential financial benefits, if the community can provide funds perhaps topped up with a government or private grant.

The second is third-party owned which could be an investor or a retailer. The investor/retailer would seek revenue from local power consumers, the main electricity market and, possibly, the Distribution Network Services Provider (DNSP), ie the owneroperator of the poles and wires.

The third model under consideration is the DNSP-owned model. The DNSP might invest in some of the assets motivated by the benefits that a battery brings to the distribution network. Currently, DNSPs are not permitted to own or operate solar farms and have limits on any commercial arrangements regarding batteries.

More details about how these ownership models might operate, the potential revenue flows and capital costs at a high level only will be included in the SuRf project's final documentation due around April 2024.

Contact Phil Shorten, Project Lead for SHASA on phil@impartskills.onmicrosoft.com or phone 0438 217 916 for more information.

Phil Shorten

Anglican Churches of Bermagui Cobargo and Quaama

WORSHIP SERVICES DURING FEBRUARY

Bermagui 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th at 8.30am **Cobargo** 4th, 11th & 18th at 10.30am

Quaama - School of Arts Hall 25th at 10.30am

Contact: The Reverend John Thomas Tel: 0427 260 833

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Tilba Bites

CWA festive fun and friendship!

You never know who you might get chatting to at the weekly Tilba market, the heartbeat of the village. I was standing chatting to marvellous jewel-artisan Natalie when a kindly older lady admired my kimono jacket. One thing led to another and I told her I had just joined the Tilba CWA and was so enjoying it. Well, of course she is in the Young CWA and also a Group leader ... both of us are chuckling now.

So, I invited her to our CWA Christmas lunch the following Sunday. After we finally separated, I checked with our President, who said that that was 'very CWA' to meet someone and invite them - phew! At the CWA scrumptious Christmas lunch at the sparkling new home of Treasurer Eva Mosler much laughter, stories and camaraderie was shared, and now our branch is considering a road trip out to see Janice and meet her branch out at Young and explore the environs, so different to our rural landscape. So, this experience continues the enjoyable unfolding of being a very new CWA member!

The festive season saw CWA members dashing between events – first there was making food and preparations for the annual CWA Christmas carols with Santa in the Small Hall. At this much loved Tilba event the fundraising raffle prize, a beautiful whale painting by Alison Walker, was drawn by MC Shanna Provost. The happy winner was Jill Comber of Central Tilba.

We also had a CWA stall at the A Very Tilba Christmas event, organised by Jo Major for the Tilba Chamber of Commerce. Suzanne's beautiful shortbread stars were a great hit and we sold CWA tea towels and cookbooks for great gifts.

Then it was entrées, salads and desserts for the local RFS crew at their end-of-year party. For the Little Yuin Preschool,

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Raffle winner, Jill Comber of Central Tilba

Annette helped with cooking and serving lunch for their Christmas party and our Handicraft Officer, Vicky Stadon, attended their preschool graduation at Narooma Rotary Park where graduating children were given knitted koalas made by the CWA craft group.

January saw biscuit making for the Yuin Nation Birriga Bunaan on January 13, with morning tea provisions for the Elders tent and, lastly, a stall at the January 14 Trash and Treasure market hosted by Eva.

CWA is far more than cooking (though the love and care poured into that is palpable!). We are engaged in community concerns, environment and social welfare issues, a steady heart throb of care in the town. We welcome new members and enjoy social lunches after our meetings or coffee before. Next meeting is Thursday 8 February at 10.30 am in the Small Hall and we would love to meet you! *Virginia York*

Irginia York Publicity

NEED A CAR? Need a car for a day or two?

The community car is available to borrow.

See one of the women at Well Thumbed Books

or book it by phoning Louise on 0416 039 895 or Linda on 0407 047 404

The inaugural A Very Tilba Christmas was held on the first weekend in December and went off with a bang and a splash. It started with a fabulous fashion parade showcasing wearables from local businesses. From babies to men and women of all ages, local businesses worked with Bev Long to put together a parade worthy of Milan or Paris! The local models strutted their stuff on the catwalk like seasoned professionals. Meanwhile, art adorned the walls with offerings from local artists coordinated by Kate Wall. Approximately half of the art was sold during the weekend. Tilba is a melting pot of talent that is for sure. As night fell the street lit up with a huge tree and street decorations creating a fabulous Christmas atmosphere, thanks to Michelle Crain and Jon Davies and their helpers. These decorations remained through December to maintain the Christmas atmosphere on Bate Street.

Saturday saw the heavens open and stay open all day. With no overflow





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A Very Tilba Christmas

parking due to conditions, the crowds still descended and parked wherever they could get their umbrellas out. The Halls were full of stalls and kids' activities, and just about every verandah had a busker demonstrating their talents and avoiding rain as it swirled around their ankles. In true county spirit the rain did not dampen anyone's enthusiasm for the day, with visitors ducking from activity to activity and businesses enjoying the increased turnover.

Sunday was a brighter day as we hosted many workshops around town – plaited keyrings at the leather shop, bread making at the bakery, wine/whiskey and cheese matching at the dairy and, in the hall, we had kokedama making, pottery making and water colour painting. The day was completed with a bang with Kelly Eastwood and Paul West making paella and chatting about River Cottage!

The NSW Government and ESC sponsored the weekend, with Jo Major, Bev Long and Christine Montague organising. The weekend was an amazing success given the conditions, with an estimated 800 visitors coming to town. The committee



Carrie Taylor on the catwalk Photo: Tom Skulander

would like to thank everyone involved, too many to mention but you know who you are. A BIG thank you.

Pencil in the 6-8/12/24 for a bigger and drier A Very Tilba Christmas.

Christine Montague

In loving memory of Martin McCallum 6/4/1950 - 14/1/24 Lover of nature and the local community. He found sanctuary in the farm at Tilba Tilba. Deeply missed by family and friends.



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4/2 Wallaga Street, Bermagui NSW 2546 (PO Box 118) (02) 6493 3989 mail@millarcrew.com.au After a flurry of holiday activity and visitors, Bermagui is settling down to a new year, with welcome rain bringing a fresh new start and bringing luxuriant growth to the countryside and gardens.

The town has settled into regular life with children returning to schools, clubs and activities resuming and the calendar filling with the events that take place at this time of the year.

The return of the Dog Show, Sculpture Bermagui, Cobargo Festival, Four Winds music festival and Murrah Hall events ... the first quarter of the year is a busy time.

But things have been happening that have significance for the town with two housing subdivisions in the pipeline that some may not be aware of.

New developments are being planned for Bermagui. Residents in the Nutleys Creek Road area have been notified that a quite substantial housing development is before Council. You can inform yourself about the development on the Bega Valley Council's DA tracker website.

Seems to me a bit sneaky to inform the community at a time when many are distracted by visitors and with festivities!

Another is in Tuross Lane where there is a proposal to build 42 townhouses. This was first proposed in 2022 but a new larger proposal has now been submitted. The Bermagui Community Forum (BCF) published information about this in their last update before Christmas but it was missed in the December issue of *The Triangle*. Geoff Steele of BCF has put in a lot of work on both these proposals and to find out more you can read the Bermagui Community Forum newsletter or check out their Facebook page. But be quick as the time to comment or submit an objection is early February – 5 February for Nutleys Creek Road and 9 February for the Tuross Lane proposal.

What is needed in Bermagui is affordable housing ... both for rental and purchase. What guarantee is there that this is a consideration with either of these developments?

Tell 'em you found 'em in *The Triangle!*

Busy year ahead - please help us build



Fundraising committee at the building site of the new social housing units.

Bermagui and District CWA Ladies would like to wish everyone a great 2024. It will be an especially busy year for our branch with a massive fundraising effort in the pipeline as well as our regular range of activities.

As of December 2023, Bermagui CWA has accumulated substantial funds from the investment of the Froggett bequest and a recent grant from the NSW Government of \$200,000 to enable the construction of two new social housing units at 8 Corunna Street, Bermagui. However, there remains a shortfall of approximately \$80,000 that the Bermagui and District CWA aims to raise with the help of the local community.

The building contract for two new additional Sinclair Units, one of which will be fully accessible, will bring the total number of affordable units to six. These units will help to address the shortage of available housing in our community. The project has been approved by Bega Valley Shire Council. The builder, Get Smart Constructions Pty Ltd of Bermagui, has begun the groundworks.

The first scheduled general meeting for 2024 will be held on Friday 2 February in the rooms at Corunna Street. A sandwich lunch will be served at 12 noon, followed by the meeting at 1 pm. All welcome.

Chris Richard-Preston Publicity Officer



To the most inspirational person I know - Don't change. Don't stop.

Ocean swimming has been a big part of Maggi's life for the last thirty or so years. Originally becoming the first female to enter the male ranks of the Bondi Icebergs, Maggi has called Bermagui home for the past six or seven years.

Each morning still begins with swimming, but Horseshoe Bay has replaced Bondi. It doesn't matter if it is freezing, rainy or a storm is brewing, the swim is an important way to start the day.

She was one of the first to start the Horseshoe Bay regular, morning mid-week lap routine and it has grown to quite a large group now. There is always a lot of talking, laughing and camaraderie, sometimes food, and swimming of course.

In December 2023 Maggi turned 80! It was such a big milestone. What an inspiration! Her swim-buddies helped her celebrate in style.

Maggi was unaware of just how much had been organised ... there was a present and card, a cake, photos, speeches, food, and many secret, hushed conversations.

The surprises started as she left the water after the regulation 'Lap of the Bay'. A seemingly impromptu guard of honour formed as she walked down to the beach. I think she realised then that something was going on ...

The Surf Club had been decorated with tables of flowers and lots of food. Some heartfelt speeches were made and photos taken. I think Maggi may have been overcome with shock as she was speechless for a time.

Everyone has their own special connection to Maggi because she is so generous and welcoming. She is an amazing woman who has lived and continues to live life to the fullest. We all look up to her: she is a mentor and role model to us all. She is accustomed to standing up for herself and is a pioneer of female independence in an era when this



Heartfelt messages on the birthday card. Photo credit - Lisa Forsterling



Julie Blacka and Julie Hart celebrate with Maggi. Photo credit - Lisa Forsterling

was not a common thing.

We all know that Maggi is a strong, formidable woman who will pull us into line if she thinks we need it. She's probably correct, and at the same time we know we can count on her if we need support of any kind.

We are all so glad we get to spend each morning with Maggi, in the waves, on the sand and on the deck. I for one, am looking forward to the next 15 plus years of ocean swimming with Maggi – as she shows no sign of slowing down!

Debra Worgan

U3A Bermagui & District Inc



U3A offers classes taught by local members for members. Membership is available to the whole community. We continue to offer face to face classes and these may be subject to COVID restrictions. It is essential to check our website for cancellation notices.

Term 1 Class Enrolment is Online Open from Monday 29 January 2024 Visit u3abermagui.com.au Or Search "U3A Bermagui" Course enguiries: Elizabeth Johnson on 0499 818 454

An overview of courses on offer for this term ... Apple Technology, Cambrian Animal Explosion, Conversation Café with Zena Armstrong, Film and Lunch, French language, Inga Simpson Writer Talk, Lawn Bowls, Maths can be fun, Palliative Care, Rhonda Casey Author Talk, Santiago: Mediaeval Christian Church, Theatre Games.

Bermagui Preschool

The importance of early education

High-quality, play-based education and care supports young children to learn and thrive. At Bermagui Preschool we have started the year with our wonderful Vacation Care Program and we are now excited to recommence our Preschool and Long Day programs

The Preschool incorporates various programs into its curriculum.

The STEAM program will provide our children with fun, hands-on activities and games to explore foundation science, technology, engineering, arts and maths. This year our children will engage in our First Nation Indigenous Science Program and the Australian National Bird Count.

Our Cultural Program will support our children to learn about our rich local First Nation culture and heritage through ongoing language, storytelling, art and cultural activities.

Our Creative Arts Program will provide open-ended art experiences in our art studio, where children will be free to express themselves through creative processes including clay, drawing, painting and mixed media.

Our Mental Health and Wellbeing Program has been embedded in our preschool program, with the children benefiting from regular yoga and mindful meditation.

Moodji Farm forms a large part of the Preschool's life and the garden is literally blooming. Dan the Gardening Man keeps us busy with involvement in the garden, teaching us the importance of nature and gardening.

If you would like to hear more about the early learning adventures at Preschool email bermikids@hotmail.com or visit Bermagui Preschool's Facebook page. For the Moodji Garden visit the Eat Dirt Permaculture Facebook page.

> Narelle Myers Early Childhood Teacher/Director



Group of girls on the slippery dip



Boys building





Ursula Marie Ludwig (née Haack) 14 Nov 1929 - 10 Jan 2024

Ursula Ludwig died at home on 10 January 2024 – home was close to the golf course, Beares Beach and the Blue Pool that she enjoyed into her 80s. She had four children, eleven grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.

Ursula, the youngest of eight, was born in Kiel, Germany in 1929. Her schooling was interrupted by World War II. Following Allied bombing, her girls' class was moved in 1942 to Czechoslovakia. Ursula had fond memories of adequate food, safety and camaraderie, without parental restrictions.

After the war, the family moved to Wattenbek, south of Kiel. She remembered gleaning potatoes after harvest to supplement their food. After completing school, she learned cooking and retained a love of cooking and hospitality. Her first job was with a law firm in neighbouring Bordesholm.

Ursula married Hans Ludwig in 1950 and lived in his family home in nearby Bruegge. After their first child Karin's birth, Hans secured a two-year contract as a carpenter with the Snowy Scheme in 1951. Upon returning to Germany, Hans persuaded Ursula to emigrate to Cooma in 1955.

In Cooma, the family grew with the births of Susan, Annegret and Hans-Peter. They also discovered Bermagui. The family moved to Canberra in 1968 where Hans continued building and Ursula worked in administration at Canberra College of Advanced Education. Hans built their holiday home at Wallaga Lake and, on retirement, Ursula and Hans relocated in the early 1990s to their Bermagui home also built by Hans.

Ursula took up golf and lawn



bowls and joined the German and Seniors Clubs. Her active social life in Bermagui kept her involved after Hans died in 2007. Ursula was a people-person who engaged with her family and friends in Australia and Germany. A celebration of Ursula's life will be held in Bermagui Country Club at 1.30 pm on 10 February.





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Cobargo Folkie – a bit of folk, a bit of country and a heap of fun

This time of year sees a massive influx of people into our small village to attend two of Cobargo's most successful events: the Cobargo Show, followed three weeks later by the Cobargo Folk Festival.

While they are very different events, behind the scenes there is significant cooperation between the Show and the Folk Club including supporting works to improve the Showground, in the sharing of volunteers and exchanging information on what works and what doesn't.

One thing we do share is a love of good music. It's a safe bet that the majority of people attending the Show are keen on country music.

What many may not know is that there's a strong connection between the Folk Festival and the country music scene. There has always been a strong overlap between folk and country that can clearly be seen in an iconic band like The Bushwackers. Dobe Newton, Chairman of the Country Music Association, has led The Bushwackers for over fifty years and the band is a much-loved feature of the Tamworth Country Music Festival.

A look down the list of performers sees Tamworth regulars like Jeff Gibson,



Gleny Rae Virus, Den Hanrahan and his Rum Runners and emerging young artist, Rory Phillips. Their music crosses over into country with a fair amount of Americana thrown in for good measure.

The Folk Festival prides itself on representing a wide range of musical genres, from traditional folk, country music and Americana, right through to an off-the-wall folk punk/metal band like Gangar from Norway. If you love country

Gangar from Norway. If you love country music, you'll find something to enjoy at the Folkie.

In these tough times, the Folkie is amazing value for money and it puts over \$1.8 million into our regional economy.

But most of all, it's a huge amount of fun in a safe environment and in a beautiful setting. Would love to see you there.

The Cobargo Folk Festival team

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Sculpture Bermagui – a study in patience and grace

Christine Madies, a French sculptor renowned for her 'liquid stone' style, has a fascinating story: years of sculpting have literally worn her fingerprints away. It's a quirky story that she likes to recall and a somewhat unexpected result of decades of working with her hands and stone. When she was renewing her passport officials went to take her fingerprints but they found a blank slate.

Working with varieties of marble, granite and onyx - confessing that the translucent finish that can be achieved with onyx makes it her favourite stone -Christine does not always have a finished piece in mind when she begins.

'Every piece of stone is different,' and here she pauses for thought, 'Sometimes the work has to reveal itself, like there is something inside.' Christine seeks fluidity and sensuality in her pieces, painstakingly polishing them to breathtakingly thin and graceful forms.

What may start as hewing away with grinders and then chisel and hammer. finishes with hours and hours of meticulous sanding and polishing. The polishing process is delicate and Christine will use stones of different grades, then sandpaper to achieve her desired finish. 'I have to be careful ... patient, if I overdo the polish it can look plastic and artificial.' The



Christine Madies crafting an artwork with her hands.

sculpture that emerges may be as fine as one centimetre in breadth and breathtaking in its delicacy.

Exhibiting globally, Madies returns to Sculpture Bermagui in 2024 for its accessibility and stunning natural setting, believing art should be open to everyone. Her pieces, often inspired by water's movement, challenge the solidity of stone

and invite touch. With meticulous process and deep respect for the material, Madies transforms 'dead' rock into breathtakingly animate art.

Sculpture Bermagui is on from 9 to 17 March on the Bermagui headland and inside the Surf Club.

> David Monro Sculpture Bermagui



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Celebrating our local authors



Inga Simpson

U3A Bermagui is proud to introduce local Eurobodalla and widely-acclaimed author Inga Simpson to members and friends.

Inga's books have been shortlisted for several literary awards, including for her debut novel *Mr Wigg* way back in 2013. Her writings include short stories, essays and novels. She is renowned as a beautiful writer of nature and her engaging characters live, work and play within stunning and beautifully observed Australian natural environments.

While some of her books could be described as gentle stories, her post-pandemic, post-fires, page turner *The Last Woman in the World*, set in the far south coast hinterland and Canberra, is anything but. This powerful novel showcases the breadth of Inga's writing. Her own fire evacuation experiences are evident in this spellbinding novel. Inga's latest title *Willowman* is a perfect read for an Australian summer cricket season, but don't think you need to be a cricket fan to enjoy this tenderly told story about cricket, the craft of bat making and the dreams of many.

Inga's books will be available for purchase at her talk, which will be chaired by Heather O'Connor.

Friday 1 March 2024 10.30 am - 12 noon Bermagui Men's Shed Cost: \$3.00



An exhibition featuring printmakers from the South Coast. Printmaking can involve the transfer of an image from one surface to another, be it in the form of screen printing, woodblock or lino printing; impressions in clay, plastic, plaster, wax, stone; on textiles or paper or any other surface; with paint, ink, found objects. The exhibition's theme is nature – works inspired by nature and our environment.

Print in Nature

Opens Friday 9 February at 4.00 pm until 28 February Spiral Gallery 47 Church St, Bega (02) 6492 5322 Mon-Fri 10 am to 4 pm Sat 10 am to 1 pm



Anneke Paijmans' print Silver Seas

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WHAT'S ON in February Music starts at 12.00 free of chargeSat 3Steve BenicSun 4Sun 4Michael Menager TrioSat 10Felicity DowdSun 11Roddy ReasonSat 17Chango TreeSun 18Benji FowlerSat 24Ako (John Atkins)Sun 25Abby May	a Tw	Our own Tilba Val Enquiries	l ley Wine & bookings	•
		in February Music starts at 12.00	Sun 4 Sat 10 Sun 11 Sat 17 Sun 18 Sat 24	Michael Menager Trio Felicity Dowd Roddy Reason Chango Tree Benji Fowler Ako (John Atkins)

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Caravãna Sun: Sunshine sounds at Four Winds

Experience an afternoon of immersive and uplifting sound under the early autumn sun as Four Winds presents Caravãna Sun with some incredible special guests on Saturday 9 March.

Celebrated by LOST Magazine as '... the most explosive performance ever witnessed', Caravãna Sun guarantees an unforgettable showcase of genre – with raw, electric energy transcending musical boundaries.

Hailing from Southern Sydney, the quartet – Luke Carra, Ant Beard, Chris Smithson and James Smithers – have captivated audiences globally with their dynamic live shows. The *Sydney Morning Herald* lauds their critically acclaimed album, *Guerrilla Club*, as a 'sonic treat' with a remarkable 4.5 stars, and we are thrilled to have them illuminating Barragga Bay for you at twilight.

Performing in the expansive Sound Shell Outdoor Amphitheatre, with sensational food trucks, a bar and a familyfriendly atmosphere – Four Winds will host Caravãna Sun alongside exceptional guest artists Benji and the Saltwater Sound System and Felicity Dowd.

Savour sonic bliss amidst nature, relish the delicious Mexican-style cuisine from Tin Cantina (and more!) and grab a refreshing beverage at the bar. This all-ages event offers free admission for children aged 5 and under.

Saturday 9 March 2.00 pm until twilight

17 Four Winds Road

Barragga Bay (nine minutes south of Bermagui)

Check out the what's on section of Four Winds Bermagui website for more details.

Madison Phillips



Caravãna Sun

From the heart exhibition at the Lazy Lizard Gallery continues in the Sideroom for February

The Lizard's eclectic collection of works, all created in meaningful heartfelt ways, has been receiving wonderful reviews. We are continuing with the From the heart exhibition for February. There are linocuts of some of Cobargo's burnt chimneys, a huge 'sorry' vase, stoneware dishes expressing feelings over the referendum result, a Shoulders of Giants wire tree, heart-shaped jewellery, ceramic platters inspired by Frida Kahlo's quote, 'I paint flowers so they will not die', and so much more. Why is the cute girl frowning? Is it a Spanish galleon or a Gondwanaland imagining of Terra Australis? Come in and check out what has been described by one visitor as a poignant exhibition.





Chain of hearts, recycled metal, by John Gosch Shirleyanne Myers



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Bermagui's own Art Gallery

- Original artworks
- Special gifts
- Local artists

Upstairs at Fisherman's Wharf Open 10.30am - 3.00pm every day except Tuesdays



Rockin' at the River Rock



Jembe Forte



Patrick Bongiorno

Zosha Fontaine All photos taken at the River Rock Cafe, Bermagui on 19 January by Debra Worgan

Tell 'em you found 'em in The Triangle!





Palm or Tarot Readings ~ Dream Work/Jungian Counselling 0431 717 714

The In-Between Christos Tsiolkas Allen & Unwin RRP \$32.99

Chatting with the Author

Christos Tsiolkas is the author of eight novels, he is also a playwright, essayist and screenwriter. He is best known for the international best seller *The Slap* and for his historical novel *Damascus*.

Christos and his partner holiday at Narooma and love the area. They especially love Cobargo and Well Thumbed Books, '... one of his two favourite bookshops in the world'.

Well Thumbed Books was honoured when on 7 January, Christos came to WTB to talk about his new novel *The In-Between*.

First the title – as Christos explained, he sees the hyphen as important. He is in between youth and old age, the characters feel they are culturally in between the old ways of their immigrant parents and Australian culture. The structure invites the reader to fill in between each chapter. The chapters are 24 hours in the life of one or both of the characters and a year apart.

Christos said that this structure allows

Pet of the month

Shady is a beautiful senior lady who has been in care for a few months. According to her microchip details she is just about to have her sixteenth birthday, however we have been told those details could be incorrect and in fact she is most likely approaching her fifteenth birthday. But that is just a number to Shady and she is more interested in the number of beach walks, car rides and pats that are happening in her life, rather than something as meaningless as age! She



Wendy Tucker





us to follow the two main characters, Perry and Ivan, over five years in the five chapters. Both have been scarred by their previous relationships. Perry by grief and regret and Ivan by anger and shame. They are both fearful of being hurt and humiliated by love again.

Christos believes that many writers today are fearful too. The fear of cancellation



Christos Tsiolkas and Wendy Tucker in conversation at Well Thumbed Books Photo: Linda Sang

and misappropriation causes writers to lose courage. He believes it is important to be courageous but that courage must be combined with thoughtfulness. Writers must be fearless and truthful. There is love, sex and violence in the novel, as there are in the lives of men.

He feels that in this novel he is in a more gentle and peaceful place and it is essentially a love story as Perry and Ivan seek and find 'A love that is not possession, anchored in kindness'.

Well Thumbed Books and the audience were privileged to hear and question this world-wide acclaimed author.

Kerri Brady

really is surprisingly fit and healthy and looks forward to meeting her new couch ... oops, I mean human.



Shady at the beach

Shady is a Golden Retriever X Kelpie, she is good with other dogs, although would probably prefer any canine companions to be past the bouncy puppy stage. She still has a spring in her step and a twinkle in her eye, so secure fencing will be required to prevent her arranging her own adventures.

Given her age, her adoption fee is reduced to just \$50. Please call 0400 372 609 (phone hours are Monday to Friday 9am-5pm). If you are interested in Shady or any other dogs or cats please call us or visit the Facebook page of the Far South Coast branch of the animal Welfare League for more information.

Remember not to leave pets in cars. It is against the law and is a very cruel death. Phone police if you find a dog shut in a car and they are panting.

Classifieds

Staff Required

Nardy House Staff Required Full Time - Part Time - Casual. Registered Nurses - Disability Service Workers. Email denise@nardyhouse.com.au or Phone 0408 675 259

Granny Plants

Gardeners might like to imagine that they are immune to the vagaries of fashion, however plants go in and out of style, just like clothes, and often a garden can be dated by its components. Think of *Cortaderia selloana* (pampas grass) in the 1970s, *Syagrus romanzoffiana* (Cocos palm) in the 1980s, *Robinia pseudoacacia* 'Frisia' (golden robinia) in the 1990s and the *Yucca* spp. (yucca) craze from the 2000s. All these plants became incredibly popular in their day until we realised that each had some kind of undesirable feature (sharp foliage, weedy seeds, grew too big etc) and the trend would be over.

Sometimes we get so caught up with the newest plant trends that we forget about some of the old tried-and-true resilient favourites, that were often easy to care for, undemanding and seemed to bloom endlessly. These forgotten classics are the plants that some might remember growing in their grandmother's garden and many of which can still be found in some of the older homes and gardens around the Triangle.

Some of these proven performing shrubs include Abelia grandiflora (abelia), Weigelia florida (weigelia), Hibiscus mutabilis (Confederate rose), Rondeletia amoena (rondeletia), Buddleja davidii (butterfly bush), Streptosolen jamesonii (marmalade bush), Brunfelsia pauciflora (yesterday, today and tomorrow), Hydrangea macrophylla (hydrangea) and Spirea cantoniensis (May bush).

These species are often overlooked in the wake of contemporary horticultural innovations, yet all carry with them a wealth of benefits that extend far beyond their mere nostalgic value. All are robust and sturdy species that have shown themselves to be capable through many good and bad seasons of growth. Whilst the above list concentrates on shrubs, there are also many currently unfashionable and forgotten groundcovers and small trees. Regardless of your garden style, there will be a granny plant out there somewhere to suit you.

Meanwhile, around the towns we have seen some pretty special agapanthus displays. Please deadhead the spent flowers to stop seed spread. Another stunner at this time of the year is bougainvillea, and there are some incredibly showy specimens around. With good management this dry-tolerant, scrambling, thorny devil can be kept tamed into a glorious cascade of pure summer colour. Prune it back after flowering and chop back any aggressive rogue shoots as they appear. A final shout out to all the hibiscus currently flowering. These three plants alone brighten up any late summer garden.

Things are pretty quiet in the wild places on the sides of the



Buddleia

road but keep an eye out for splashes of the pale yellow to cream coloured flowers of *Acacia irrorata* (green wattle). If you stop for a closer look, you will see that it has feathery bipinnate leaves and that the flowers are shaped like small round balls.

Finally, in the vegie garden, ironically the warmest month is also the time to start planning for the coldest months, so get sowing seeds of broccoli, brussels sprouts, celery, cauliflower, cabbage and leeks. Round out the soup season garden with some root vegetables such as beetroot, carrots and turnips, and keep the leafy greens coming with lettuce, rocket, silver beet and kale.

Finally, if you have any comments, gardening questions or plant or pest identification problems, please send them through to gardening@thetriangle.org.au and we will endeavour to help.

Happy growing!



Hydrangea

Marmalade bush

Abelia

Open Sauce! Recipes from the Triangle area

Taataiki

Tzatziki

Ingredients

 c plain yogurt
 ¹/₂ cucumber with peel, grated and squeezed – this is important.
 1 garlic clove, crushed
 2 tbsn lemon juice and zest
 2 tbsn olive oil salt and pepper mint

Method

- 1. Stir together yogurt, cucumber, garlic, lemon juice, and olive oil in a bowl.
- 2. Add lemon zest, salt and pepper; whisk until smooth.
- 3. Pour into a serving dish, cover tightly, and refrigerate.

Hummus

Ingredients

 x 400g can of chickpeas (reserve liquid and some chickpeas)
 tbsn tahini
 garlic clove, crushed
 tsp salt
 tbsn lemon juice
 tsp cumin
 tbsn olive oil
 Paprika, coriander or parsley chopped to sprinkle.

Method

- 1. Rinse the chickpeas in cold water and tip into a food processor.
- 2. Add the tahini, garlic, salt, lemon juice, cumin and enough reserved liquid to blend.
- 3. When the mixture is fully combined and smooth, put into a serving dish.
- 4. Drizzle with some olive oil and decorate with a few whole chickpeas, paprika and finely chopped coriander or parsley.

Holidays and summer are the perfect times to have a few quick and healthy snacks on hand. You can make ahead and store in the fridge. Serve with toasted, tortilla wrap 'chips' or vegetable sticks. A perfect, easy treat for pre-dinner nibbles.

Avocado salsa

Ingredients

- 1 large, ripe avocado
- $1 \frac{1}{2}$ tomatoes
- 2 tbsn coriander
- 2 tbsn lemon or lime juice
- 2 tbsn red onion, chopped
- 1 dash Tabasco sauce

Method

3.

- 1. Combine all ingredients.
- 2. Mash and toss gently with a fork.
 - Cover and refrigerate.





Creany Mushroom On

Creamy Mushroom Dip

Ingredients

4 tbsn unsalted butter 6 tbsn flour 2 c vegetable or chicken stock, ½ kg button mushrooms, chopped 1 c sour cream Salt and pepper

Method

- 1. Melt butter in a small saucepan over medium heat.
- 2. Add flour and cook, stirring constantly, until it forms a smooth paste, 1 to 2 minutes.
- 3. Remove from the heat.
- 4. Place mushrooms in a large frypan and add 1 ½ c of the stock.
- 5. Cook on high heat until the mushrooms have softened but still hold their shape, and almost all liquid has evaporated.
- Add the remaining ¹/₂ c stock. Once boiling, stir in the flour paste and cook until thick enough to coat the back of a spoon. Let cool.
- Add sour cream and stir to combine. Season as needed.

Basil & cashew dip

Ingredients

50g parmesan cheese, grated 1 garlic clove, crushed 40g fresh basil leaves, washed 20g fresh parsley leaves, washed 160g raw cashew nuts 1 tbsn white wine vinegar, to taste 60g olive oil

Method

- 1. Place cheese, garlic, basil, parsley, vinegar and nuts in a food processor. Pulse until chopped.
- 2. Gradually add oil.
- 3. Process until well combined.
- 4. Cover and refrigerate.

Debra Worgan



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS Bermagui Saturdays 2pm at the Anglican Church Hall, Ph: Dave on 6493 5014

ANGLICAN PARISH OF COBARGO

Bermagui: All Saints - every Sunday 8.00am Cobargo: Christ Church -1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays 10.00am Quaama: Quaama School of Arts Hall -4th Sunday 10am

Ph: The Reverend John Thomas 0427 260 833

ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE

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

BERMAGUI BAPTIST CHURCH

West Street, Bermagui. Family Service Sundays 10.00-12 am All Welcome.

BERMAGUI CWA

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

BERMAGUI DUNE CARE Meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month Contact: bermaguidunecare@skymesh.com.au

BERMAGUI GARDEN GROUP 1st Tuesday every Month 10 am until 12 noon, venues vary. Phone Christine 0400 301 040

BERMAGUI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Museum Open Tuesdays 10am - 2pm. Researchers & helpers welcome. Contact Allan Douch 0428 427 873 or Dave Cotton 6493 5014

BERMAGUI & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

New members welcome. Meet 1st Thurs each month at Cobargo Hotel & 3rd Thurs at Bermagui Country Club at 12 for 12.30 pm Enquiries: Geoff 0407 164 466

THE BERMAGUI MARKET

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

BERMAGUI MEN'S SHED

Meets Tues, Thurs & Sat from 10am @ new shed adjacent to the council depot on Bermagui Tathra Rd. All men are welcome. Contact Ian Bailey 0409 691 458

BERMAGUI PROBUS

Probus provides an opportunity to meet with fellow retirees on a regular basis, listen to interesting guest speakers and join in the company of new friends. Meets at 10am to 12pm on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Men's Shed meeting room. Bermagui Tathra Rd. Contact Lorraine Courtis

Bermagui Tathra Rd. Contact Lorraine Courtis email lcou6446@bigpond.net.au

BERMAGUI SENIORS' SOCIAL CLUB

Meets the lst Wed, 11.30 am at the Bermagui Country Club, with social luncheons to follow. New members are most welcome. Enquiries: bermaguiseniors@gmail.com Community Notices are advertised in *The Triangle* for non-profit groups free of charge. If your organisation would like to be listed or if details change, please contact us at: contributions@thetriangle.org.au

BERMAGUI U3A

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

CATHOLIC CHURCH Weekend Mass times. Bermagui - Sun 7:30am Cobargo - Sat 5pm

COBARGO AND DISTRICT ENERGY

TRANSITION GROUP INC (CaDET) Email - renewablecobargo@gmail.com www.renewablecobargo.com

COBARGO COMMUNITY ACCESS CENTRE Unit 5 & 6 / 48 Princes Highway, Cobargo Open Tues, Thurs and Fri 10am-3pm cobargoreliefcentre2550@gmail.com Ph: 0493 671 117

COBARGO CREATORS

Established in 2012, a volunteer-run, not-forprofit art collective. Manages the Cobargo Creators Art Gallery. New members and volunteers always welcome! Committee meets monthly. email: mail@cobargocreators.org

COBARGO CWA

Meets in the CWA Rooms, 20 Bermagui St 2nd Tues of the month, 10.30am. cwa.cobargo@gmail.com Cottage Hire 6493 6428 or 0429 933 686

COBARGO DISTRICT MUSEUM The Cobargo Museum: researching local history, old photos & information. New members welcome. Contacts: Vicky Hoyer 0422 377 278 Bev Holland 0408 280 024

COBARGO PRESCHOOL

Child centred, play based preschool education for 3-5 year olds. Mon - Thurs during school terms 0455 043 489 cobargopreschool@gmail.com www.cobargopreschool.com.au

COBARGO QUAAMA BUSINESS RECOVERY GROUP INC (CQBRG)

New Members Welcome! Enquiries: CQBRG Secretary Ph: 0418 361 781 e: cqbrgroup@gmail.com www.cqbr.org.au

COBARGO & DISTRICT RED CROSS For meeting dates or catering enquiries phone Kathy Rix 0488 048 701

COBARGO SCHOOL OF ARTS Hall bookings and inquiries: Linda 0407 047 404 / cobargohall@gmail.com

1ST COBARGO SCOUT GROUP Children 6 - 18yrs. Meetings 6.30pm to 8pm in school term Cobargo Showground dining hall. Contact Graham Parr on 0429 936 795.

COBARGO SHOW MEETING

Monthly 2nd Wednesday, 7.30 pm – Cobargo Showground dining hall. Contact Naomi 0417 456 354 secretarycobargoshow@yahoo.com.au

COBARGO TOURIST & BUSINESS ASSOC Meets every 2nd Tuesdays, 6pm @ the CWA cottage. Contact: Janet Doolin 0409 033 828

DIGNAMS CREEK COMMUNITY GROUP Meets randomly. Contact Nick van Stek, Pres. 0439 361 118 or Felicity Ruby, Sec. 0452 161 673

MOBILE TOY LIBRARY & PARENTING RESOURCE SERVICE

All parents of children 0-6 welcome to join. Enquiries: 6496 1918

OPEN SANCTUARY AT TILBA TILBA

Meditations, discussions, guest speakers & special events. opensanctuarytilba.org and on facebook. Contact: Linda Chapman 0422 273 021

QUAAMA / COBARGO QUILTERS

Meets Mondays 10am – 3.00pm in the CWA Cottage, Bermagui Road, Cobargo, and welcomes anyone who does patchwork, quilting, or any other needlework. Lorraine James 0459 022 368 or Leanne Tett 0408 627 103

QUAAMA MEN'S SHED

Meets Weds from 10am, 20 Bermagui Street John Preston (President) 0429 179 184 Ron Higgins on 0408 788 528. All men are welcome.

QUAAMA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

New members welcome. Phone: 0408 411 956 quaamaprogress@gmail.com

QUAAMA RENEWAL PROJECTS quaamarenewalprojects@gmail.com Phone: Veronica 0437 263 128 www.facebook.com/quaamarenewal

QUAAMA SCHOOL OF ARTS Hall bookings and inquiries: Call 0408 411 956 quaamahallbookings@gmail.com

SOAPI COMMUNITY THEATRE

School of Arts Players Inc (SOAPI) writes, produces and performs theatre in the region. 10 years to adult. No experience necessary. Facebook @SOAPItheatre or call Robyn Freedman 0410 525 968

TILBA CWA

Meeting 2nd Thursday of the month, 10.30 am Tilba small hall, Bate Street, Central Tilba Contact: Teresa Stubbings 0417 418 447

TILBA MARKET

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

TRIANGLE TOOL LIBRARY

Behind the Cobargo Co-op Open 9-12 on Tues, Fri and Sat www.triangletoollibrary.org.au Lynn 0411 432 533 or Nacre 0419 425 208

UNITING CHURCH SERVICES

Narooma - Sundays at 9am, 134 Wagonga St. Cobargo - 2nd Sunday at 11.00 am. 4th Sun Prayer & Praise (ecumenical) at 11 am. 38 Bermagui Road, Cobargo Phone Di: 4476 2024 mtdromedary.uca.org.au

THE YUIN FOLK CLUB

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

 \triangle The Triangle February 2024 page 38

www.thetriangle.org.au

For the fridge door						
FEBRUARY	WHAT	WHERE	TIME			
All Feb	One from the heart Lazy Lizard member exhibition	Lazy Lizard Sideroom	10 am - 2 pm			
Sat 3	Steve Benic	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon			
Sun 4	Michael Menager Trio	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon			
Fri 9	<i>Print in Nature</i> group exhibition opening 4 pm	Spiral Gallery	10 - 4 M-F 10 - 1 Sat			
Fri 9, Sat 10, Sun 11	Cobargo Show, celebration of all things rural: animals, competitions, judging, entertainment, food & a fun fair	Cobargo Showgrounds. For info go to: www.cobargoshow.org.au	Fri opens 9 Sat & Sun opens 8.30 am - Sun 7.30 pm			
Sat 10	Felicity Dowd	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon			
Sun 11	Roddy Reason	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon			
Sat 17	Chango Tree	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon			
Sun 18	Benji Fowler	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon			
Sat 24	Electric Vehicle (EV) show + tell	Tathra Hotel	10 am - 1 pm			
	Ako (John Atkins)	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon			
Sun 25	Abby May	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon			
MARCH		·				
Fri 1	Inga Simpson book launch + talk pg 32	Bermagui Men's shed	10.30 - 12			



EV Show and Tell in Tathra

Saturday 24 February 2024 Tathra Hotel, 10am to 1pm

Bring your electric vehicle

Come along and share your experiences. All types of EV cars are welcome.

Thinking about buying an EV?

Explore a wide range of vehicles and have a chat with their local owners.

Check out the Hotel's new EV chargers

Call or email to book in your EV 0419 718 615 or 0405 383 692 renewablecobargo@gmail.com



... Do you need

- to hold a community or board meeting?
- in a comfortable environment?
- in a central venue?
- with commercial kitchen facilities? Would you like it catered?



We have exactly what you are looking for! at very reasonable rates

Contact: Cobargo CWA 0429 933 686 cwa.cobargo@gmail.com

Game On

