

# THE TRIANGLE

COMMUNITY NEWS

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QUAAMA COBARGO BERMAGUI TILBA & LOCALITIES

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## Bermagui CWA FUNdraising underway



Edro Ukarangi, Calib Clarke, Stuart Ponsford, Paula Rumble and Andrew Ponsford on site as the new units are built at Bermagui CWA.

If you're a regular reader, you'll know that Bermagui and District CWA Branch is building two more affordable rental units for pensioners in need. It has been a project more than twenty years in the making.

Back in 1982, the branch built four small housing units that have been providing comfortable and affordable homes for pensioners for more than forty years. They are tucked away in Corunna Street, next to the CWA Seaside Cottage. Twenty years later, the Bermagui Branch received a generous gift from the estate of the late Mrs Florence Froggett. The bequest has been enhanced through astute investment, dedicated savings and a \$200,000 grant from the NSW Government's LSCA Program.

Now, Get Smart builders are well underway on site, but we need to raise another \$100,000 to complete the project. To raise this shortfall there is a huge FUNdraising campaign planned

and we hope that residents of Bermagui and beyond will help us complete this worthwhile project:

- A giant raffle with wonderful prizes donated by generous local businesses—look for ticket sellers around town;
- 'Fund-a-Fitting' will contribute to the fittings required before occupation;
- A Grand High Tea with Art Auction, a speaker and music will be a chance to 'frock up' and enjoy this charity event; and
- Individual donations are invited so people can make a direct contribution to this meaningful project.

As we go to press, a website is being built so everyone can contribute in a variety of ways: enter Bermagui CWA into your usual browser or use the QR code that will take you straight there. Please contact us if you have questions.

Paula Rumble, Bermagui CWA President  
ph: 0428 436 228

Georgie Adamson, Bermagui Resident  
ph: 0448 629 042

Cath Renwick, Bermagui CWA Treasurer  
ph: 0419 491 104

*Cath Renwick*



Click on the QR Code to support the CWA

*The Triangle*, a labour of love created for your reading pleasure, is a lot of work, and not just for the team who produces and distributes it, but also everyone that contributes and advertises. Each page of our modest, independent, non-profit publication speaks to the community spirit and activity we have here, that felt all the more precious when I read a report published in Europe last month exploring the concept of 'news deserts'.

News deserts are areas lacking sufficient, reliable and diverse information from trustworthy sources, particularly noticeable in rural areas given that city-based newsrooms largely ignore local issues, and also, due to decreasing points of sale, and the digital shift, coupled with an ageing population.

By the definitions adopted in this report, *The Triangle* would be considered 'hyperlocal', in other words, unrelated to large media corporations with a 'special

brand of alternative local news'. Whatever you want to call it, we definitely encourage local democratic participation as well as the development of local geographical and social identities. The report reckons these kinds of efforts, 'can enjoy the support of the whole community in times of crisis, eventually making them more resilient and sustainable'. Here's hoping!

Far from a news desert, this issue is an oasis of information about opportunities offered to upgrade your NBN, learn about weaving and reconciliation, get some blessed peace and quiet at The Sanctuary in Tilba, support your regional business idea through the iAccelerate RISE program and, if you really needed more motivation, to donate and buy generously at our Bowerbird op shop as we learn about their support of Can Assist, who support those battling cancer in our community. Goodonyers and enjoy!

## Demise of local newspapers

Ironically, quite independently of Flick's editorial above, this week saw the demise of all but two of our local newspapers between Batemans Bay and Eden. Hard-working, supportive journalists from those small papers, who have worked their fingers to the bone keeping our various small communities informed about matters that do not make it into the national press, have been made redundant.

These small local papers have always been run on the smell of the proverbial oily rag but now they are increasingly falling silent. This is a summary of the state of play:

The last edition of *Narooma News* will be printed next week (starting March 25). The *Eurobodalla Independent* will also cease to be printed. The *Narooma News* online will continue but it will essentially carry the same content as the *Batemans Bay Post* website.

A similar thing is happening in the south where the *Eden Magnet* and *Merimbula News* will be discontinued in print with only *Bega District News* continuing. Again, those smaller websites will continue but will essentially carry the same content as the *Bega District News* website.

Angela Marshall  
The Triangle Team

## Letters

### Thank you to the Triangle Owner-Builders' Group

I would like to express my appreciation to the Triangle Owner-Builders' Group for the recent fire sprinklers workshop held at Verona. I had been reluctant to consider sprinklers because of the likely cost and the prohibitive nature (for me) of climbing onto the roof. The workshop has caused me to adjust my ideas and the whole thing seems more feasible, in fact highly desirable. The speakers, Greg and Ben, complemented each other well and the event was well-catered although only two (and a bit) hours long. I think quite a few attendees were rural property-owners and presumably familiar with irrigation

hardware, me as a townie not so much. I would now like a hands-on workshop! I need practical experience in joining the bits together, selecting the appropriate sprinkler heads, troubleshooting etc. I'm told the irrigation shops are very helpful but would prefer to be not quite so ignorant when I go in.

Hopefully we are now over the hump as far as the current bushfire season is concerned and I now have a few months to proceed with planning and obtaining some practical skills.

Verna Aslin  
Cobargo



### Thumbs UP

To the Essential Energy workers in Cobargo for their consultative, sensitive approach to replacing three of the painted poles and modifying one other.

To World Central Kitchen for reaching out when others turn their backs. Currently feeding and supporting people in Ukraine, the state of Texas (wildfires) and Gaza (where WCK actually built a port to secure access to food for Palestinians facing starvation). We have long memories on the Far South Coast – we thank you for your support back in 2020 and your ongoing 'compassion in action'.

To *The Triangle* team. With the demise of *Narooma News*, it is now the only real source of local news.

### Thumbs DOWN



To whoever is removing Slow Down signs for wildlife, made by caring citizens hoping to reduce the road deaths of these innocent animals.



## 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.



## End of Life Matters – why write a Will?

*Firstly, please note that I am providing information current at the time of writing; I am not giving advice or a professional opinion. I urge readers to speak with legal, medical and financial professionals about their end-of-life matters.*

Two people in a week told me they hadn't written a Will because they had no one to leave anything to; another told me that they 'didn't have much so it's not worth writing one' and others have said they don't care what happens because, well, they'll be gone.

Every single item you leave behind becomes someone else's problem. As a funeral celebrant, I've seen too often the distress of those left behind with a mess to clean up, and too many families torn apart because of how a Will was written.

The best place to find information on dying 'intestate' (without a Will) locally is the NSW Trustee and Guardian website: [www.tag.nsw.gov.au](http://www.tag.nsw.gov.au). It details what happens when someone dies without having written a *legal* Will (note: a scrawl on a serviette with a thumbprint in wine is not legally binding).

According to that web site, *when a person dies without a Will in New South Wales ... an application is made to the Supreme Court seeking the court's formal approval for someone to administer the estate ... That appointed administrator is responsible for identifying, locating and gathering written proof confirming relatives (anywhere in Australia or overseas) that are entitled to a share of a person's estate.*

It's a major task in most cases and can take months, sometimes years to complete. *If this process is rushed and a beneficiary is overlooked, the beneficiaries who have received a share may need to return part of their entitlement ... Inheritors are grouped*

*into categories and must follow a set order: a surviving spouse first, followed by children and then grandchildren. If none of these exist, your assets could go to your parents, grandparents, siblings, nephews, nieces, aunts and uncles and first cousins. If there are none of these, the State Government gets your estate.* (Check out the detailed table on the website.)

Are you still with me? It's exhausting just researching and writing this, so imagine what it would be like for those you love to have to go through all of this in their time of grief!

Depending on how intricate your estate is, you can have a lawyer or the NSW Trustee and Guardian help you write a Will, or some people choose to buy a Will Kit at Australia Post for around \$30. I always recommend you seek professional advice especially if you have a blended or estranged family, properties, trusts, a business or company. Also, estate lawyers have seen it all and they can help you identify potential issues that could trigger someone to contest your Will or start family feuds.

I have written my Will and appointed an Executor; I've ensured it's signed and witnessed correctly, and my Executor knows where it is kept. I have made lists of groups that might find some of my items valuable – theatre companies for costumes; art groups for canvases and equipment etc. I have written names on stickers on specific items and have started to give away items to my friends now, which gives me great joy. And, no, I'm not expecting to die soon (but who knows?), nor do I think I'm drawing the Grim Reaper's attention by doing this. I just want to leave as little mess as I can for those whom I love the most.

Shanna Provost  
[www.rest-easy.com.au](http://www.rest-easy.com.au)

### Guidelines for contributors

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

1. Stories should be 300 words 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 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](mailto:contributions@thetriangle.org.au) and cc [lsang333@gmail.com](mailto:lsang333@gmail.com).

### Who does the work

#### The Editorial Committee

Linda Sang (President)  
Stuart Absalom (Vice President)  
Flick Ruby (Secretary)  
Bhagya (Treasurer)  
Debbie Worgan, Angela Marshall, Steve Williams, Georgina Adamson, Jacob Round

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**Accountant:** Fredrick Tambyrajan

**Distribution Service:** Linda Sang

Distributed by Australia Post and available from:

**Bega:** Candelo Books, Bega Library

**Bermagui:** 777 Supermarket, Post Office,

Shell Bermagui, Bermagui Country Club,

Bluewave Seafood, Library, Visitors

Centre **Central Tilba:** Post Office, ABC

Cheese Factory, Sweet Spot **Cobargo:**

Post Office, United Petrol, Cobargo

General Store, The Bowerbird Op Shop,

Well Thumbed Books, Information Centre

**Wallaga Lake:** Merrimans Land Council

**Narooma:** BP station, Library, Casey's

Café, **Quaama:** The Quaama Store

#### Deadlines:

Advertising: 5pm, 19th of each month

Editorial: 12pm, 22nd of each month

**Thumbs / Letters to the editor:**

All communications should be forwarded

to: [contributions@thetriangle.org.au](mailto: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 1700 in print plus

around 3000 unique online visits each

month.

## Thank you, Bowerbird

Following on from the front page of the March *Triangle*, Bega Valley Can Assist wishes to publicly thank Cobargo Bowerbird for their most generous donation in early February.

The following information regarding the outgoings of Can Assist over the past two months will show why the Bowerbird donation has allowed this local charity to make such a difference to people in the Bega Valley who are affected by cancer.

During December and January, a total of \$12,066.20 was donated to pay the accounts for the following: pharmacy, power, gas, fuel, community transport, accommodation, Medicare gap payment and food or food supplements.

All donations are dealt with by way of referral and phone call to the Liaison Officer in Bega, and all information and donations

are strictly confidential. Our phone number is 0439 328 634.

Therefore, we experienced incredible surprise and gratitude when the donation of \$5,000 was received and a receipt and letter of thanks was posted. This was followed up with a visit to the Bowerbird by local CA

member, Lori Hammerton, who presented the volunteers there at the time with a framed certificate of thanks.

Since Bega Valley Can Assist was formed in 2004, the volunteers have raised and donated a total of \$820,351.78.

*Lori Hammerton*



Lori Hammerton presenting Cath Eggleston and Michelle Duploc, hardworking Bowerbird volunteers, with a certificate of appreciation.

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## Follow the rain at Fungi Feastival

*Follow the rain*, a new feature-length documentary from world famous fungi hunters Stephen Axford and Catherine Marciniak, will premiere in Narooma and Bermagui as part of the Fungi Feastival. The documentary is a magical journey into the weird and wonderful world of fungi. Stephen and Catherine will be speaking and answering questions – an opportunity not to be missed.

In an endangered forest in Australia, Stephen spies an intriguing frosty blue mushroom. He discovers it has no name. No one knows where it fits in the fungi Kingdom. He is the first to document it for science. It turns out this mushroom is one of between two and eleven million species of fungi that scientists think could exist, but which have not yet been identified.

The science of fungi has been a neglected frontier of discovery. Today there is a mass myco-awakening and the race is on to document as many species of fungi as possible, as fast as possible. Stephen and his partner in life and all things fungi, filmmaker Catherine, are at the international forefront of this push.

In *Follow the rain*, they invite us into their fungi obsessed world to share their fungal finds in some of the most stunning wild landscapes of Australia – tropical islands, ancient rainforests, the hostile majesty of the desert. We discover the creepiness of zombie fungi and the wonder of the Australian ghost fungus. They take us behind the scenes into their fungarium, revealing what they observe as they record the life and death of mushrooms and mycelium growing in spellbinding time-lapse photography. They meet mycologists who are exploring mind-expanding science. And they unearth new and charismatic species.

Visually captivating, a symphonic treat and incredibly entertaining, *Follow the rain* combines a decade of research and



Stephen Axford and Catherine Marciniak of Planet Fungi

passion, magnificent fungi time-lapse photography and footage, and the most incredible fungal stories.

Thank you to Mumbulla Community Foundation for their grant to support Stephen Axford and Catherine Marciniak's visit to the Bega Valley. The Fungi Feastival will screen *Follow the rain* followed by a Q&A session in Narooma, Moruya, Merimbula, Batemans Bay and Bermagui/Cobargo. For dates, times and tickets for this and other events, visit the Fungi Feastival website. For more information please call Annette Kennewell on 0417 203 610.

Annette Kennewell

### Upgraded nbn® Fixed Wireless is here.

nbn has completed upgrades to the Fixed Wireless network in your community.

**What this means:**

- Improved connectivity will give eligible homes and businesses in your community access to faster internet speeds, increased reliability, and more choice of plans\*.
- nbn will be in your area to talk about how these changes may benefit you\*.
- It's more important than ever to check with your internet provider that you're on the right nbn powered plan.

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Visit <https://www.nbnco.com.au/residential/upgrades/more-fixed-wireless> or scan the QR code to check if you can access nbn Fixed Wireless today.

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## Good Vibes Studio – second year anniversary

We are very excited to share that the Good Vibes Studio has been open for two years!

Good Vibes Studio is a holistic movement space dedicated to connecting with your heart, spirit and community. The last few years we have welcomed many of you to our beautiful studio and have seen many lives transform in incredible ways. To see people leave with smiles on their faces, a sense of lightness and spaciousness, and a deeper aliveness in the connection with themselves is a huge joy.

We feel it's time to come together and share some celebration. On Saturday, 4 May there will be a community open day at Good Vibes Studio. Short taster sessions will be offered by many of our regular facilitators; think yoga, dance, pranayama, laughter yoga, breathwork, kirtan etc. Everyone is welcome to come and join in for free.

Maybe you have never been to the studio? Or you have joined in for one particular class for a while and would like to try out something new? Have you been joining in for two years and would like to bring a friend? We will make sure that all sessions will be available for everyone – all ages and abilities.

There will also be a cosy set up outside the studio if you simply want to drink a cup of tea, enjoy a treat or ask us all the questions you would like to.

Keep an eye out for the poster with a time schedule for the Open Day on 4 May on our socials – just type Good Vibes Studio, Bermagui into your favourite browser and you will have your choice of website, Facebook, Instagram and so on.

We hope to see you here.



Good Vibes Studio facilitators  
Photo taken by Graeme Jolly

With love,

Vera, Paula, Sunda, Maree, Marenn, Elissa, Sara, Jared, Gini, Caitlin, Joani, Josephine, Kassie, Lynn, Radha, Robbie and Neil

*Vera van der Slot*

emailmailmailmailmailmailmailmail The Triangle's email address is [contributions@thetriangle.org.au](mailto:contributions@thetriangle.org.au)



# Hear Well - Live Well

*presents:*

## A free community information event:

*Come and discover the changing world of hearing technology.*

Joe Symons, the Executive Officer of the Deafness Resources Centre in Canberra was born with severe hearing loss in both ears. Joe will show us how we can live more easily and safely with hearing loss. He will share with you different types of listening devices you may not be aware of. If you use a hearing aid, or think you may need one soon, this is your chance to get up to date on latest in assistive hearing tech.

*Find out how we can make your life and the lives of your family members easier*

## 11 April, 10.30-11.30am, Narooma Golf Club

*Please RSVP by 8 April for catering purposes and bring a friend!*

## Contact Annemarie or Sophia on 0411 839 414



# Support for regional business ideas in 2024

In 2024, the Australian Regional Innovation Fund is working with the University of Wollongong (UOW) to provide support for regional business ideas. This support is available statewide to people with a business idea, whether they are in business already or just at the ideas stage.

UOW has a history in the Bega Valley, through the Bega Valley Innovation Hub, delivering their award-winning programs in the region since 2016.

iAccelerate is the business innovation hub of UOW, working with the New South Wales government to deliver their successful RISE Program in the regions. The program can be accessed state-wide, however the UOW has seen the greatest benefits for participants when they attend in person, on-campus.

The RISE program's benefit comes from access to the experts in residence, experienced facilitators and the program content itself. iAccelerate has developed a successful program that they have been sharing across the regions to businesses in varied industries with consistently positive outcomes.

Tim Wimbourne of Braidwood Foods says, 'It was good, and it wasn't too much. So, it wasn't a huge, long commitment.'



Tim Wimbourne of Braidwood Foods, completed a RISE program

Tim came out of the RISE Program with a really clear marketing message and has been attracting new customers with a lot more ease. 'We drilled down deeply ... it wasn't until I did the RISE Program that I worked out who [our] persona was and, even more useful, was why they should buy our product. What was their problem that I was solving? That was something that I had never even thought of before as a businessperson.'

Regardless of your industry or type of idea, you are invited to apply for the

RISE Program. It will run in 2024 at the Bega Campus in May–June and at the Eurobodalla Campus, Bateman's Bay in August–September. UOW has identified that the timing is right for tourism and accommodation ideas as well technology-enabled ideas and everything in between.

If you would like more information, you can contact Natasha Berta (at [nberta@uow.edu.au](mailto:nberta@uow.edu.au) or call 0418 867 630) or type iAccelerate RISE into your favourite browser for more information.

Natasha Berta

# RiSE

## Do you have a new business idea?

### REGIONAL BUSINESS IDEAS PROGRAM

Whether you are just at the idea stage or already in business, the RISE Program can help you take your idea to being a viable business. You will learn an entrepreneur approach that can be applied to any type of business including agri-tourism, ecotourism, waste management and recycling.

**Contact:**

Natasha Berta

041 88 676 30

[nberta@uow.edu.au](mailto:nberta@uow.edu.au)

Apply on the website:

[www.iaccelerate.com.au/rise](http://www.iaccelerate.com.au/rise)



# Bermagui Banter

Georgina Adamson

Here I am still bantering on ...

Making news in Bermagui this month ...

Sculpture adorning the upper end of the town attracting lots of visitors, with the addition of a new venue. An empty shop in the Main Street is being put to good use to display smaller pieces. Great event and congrats to all involved (see fuller report on the event).

Dominating many residents' thoughts is the proposed residential development off Nutleys Creek road. Worried residents are rallying demanding more info and a public

meeting to voice their concerns.

Finally, the iconic blue building sitting over the water near Apex Park is getting some attention. Ex-fish and chip shop, ex-Blue Waters, ex-Le Wharf ... it has finally been made safe and is no longer such a dangerous eyesore. Broken windows have been boarded over and it has had a coat of paint. Better than it was at least.

As a proud one-time proprietor, I hope to see an appropriate use made of this important historical site. It's sad to see its demise and we await the next chapter.



Looks a lot better and certainly much safer. Needs a sea-type mural, maybe a job for the pre-school kids ... when they manage to cross the road!

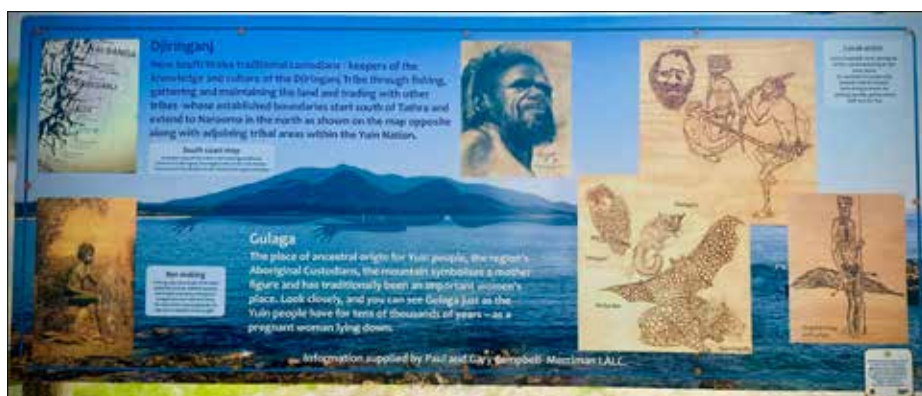
Photo: Georgina Adamson

## Montreal Goldfield

The Management Committee of the Montreal Goldfield is delighted to give further recognition to the First Nations people, the Djiringanj group of the Yuin nation, who are the traditional custodians of the land on which the Goldfield is located.

The Committee worked closely with Paul and Gary Campbell of the Merrimans Local Aboriginal Land Council to prepare an interpretive sign that would give an insight into the beliefs and history of the Djiringanj.

Georgina Adamson



Funding for the sign was provided by Museums and Galleries of NSW

## Honorbread

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Tathra	Wharf Locavore   Thursday & Saturday
Moruya	The Pantry   Friday Sage 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	Broulee Supermarket   Wednesday & Friday
Tomakin	Tomakin IGA   Wednesday & Friday
Pambula	Pambula Wholefoods   Wednesday



## Bermagui Matters opposes controversial development plans

Bermagui residents are very concerned about a proposed gated housing development for seniors in Bermagui (Metacap's **DA 2023.301**) currently under review with Bega Valley Council. They formed a group named Bermagui Matters, created a Facebook group and collected over 780 signatures on a petition to Council. Their concerns include:

- **Extreme bushfire risk** – The proposed site is located in an area of extreme bushfire threat with limited exit roads. In the event of a bushfire, emergency services would face dangerous scenarios to evacuate senior residents.
- **Inappropriate design** – Stage one proposes 162 small houses packed onto blocks as small as 270m<sup>2</sup> which, with a lack of tree shade, reduced green surfaces and poor solar orientation, will create a heat island effect. This design plan does not fit into the character of Bermagui or Council's own strategic plans.
- **Ecological loss** – Loss of biodiversity and likely local extinction of nationally significant species resulting from the destruction and fragmentation of important ecological habitats.
- **Traffic nightmare** – This housing complex, combined with several other housing developments in Bermagui, will create ongoing traffic congestion and road deterioration.
- **Infrastructure strain** – The sudden influx of many additional senior-aged people will place significant strain on local services particularly medical care, emergency services, utilities, sewerage and the water supply from the Brogo River.
- **Unhealthy social model** – An homogenous gated housing precinct isolates and marginalises elderly people.
- **Buyer beware** – Metacap's business



Housing density for Stage 1



The first stage displaces this beautiful forest habitat.

strategy is to own the residential assets, operating and managing them, rather than selling to individual buyers. These types of residential land lease villages have become captive to large corporations who ratchet up management fees and channel Government age pensions and self-funded retirement funds to their shareholders.

- **Housing crisis** – Bermagui residents would prefer solutions to the

lack of affordable housing in Bermagui by supporting environmentally-sensitive developments that give people of all ages housing security.

For more info email Bermagui Matters Action Group at [bermaguimatters@gmail.com](mailto:bermaguimatters@gmail.com).

Look up and follow Bermagui Matters Facebook page. Just search for Bermagui Matters on Facebook.

  
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## Bermagui Public School

Bermagui Public School has had a great start to the year with some exciting events happening and even more coming!

In Week 2, we had our annual swimming carnival. Our winning team was Montague house with a close second for Gulaga house and Mumbulla coming in third. Another sporting event coming up is our cross country in Week 10. This is a day where students, eight years and over, run across a large section of our school and along the river. Eight- to ten-year olds run two kilometres and seniors (eleven- to twelve-year olds) run three kilometres. For

our younger kids, we had the K-2 skills day. In this event, there are eight activities run by the Year 6 students down on our playground. This year, due to wet weather, we unfortunately only got to complete two rotations but we may have another go in Term 2.

Apart from sport, our school started an art club at lunch time, run by one of our 5/6 teachers and an Assistant Principal, Mrs Early. This club went on an excursion to Sculptures Bermagui and had a tour of all the incredible art!

Congratulations to all the kids who

got Bronze and Silver awards at the assembly in Week 5. Grace was the first to get a Gold award and pin this year. The last thing I'd like to talk about is our new Word of the Week. In Term 1, we have been doing class names. Here are our words so far:

Week 4 - *yuraga* means sun

Week 5 - *dhawara* means moon or night-time

Week 6 - *budjan-baraga* means more than three birds

Week 7 - *mangga-waraga* means more than three ferns

*Billie Matters*



K, 1 and 2 at AFL skills day



Swimming carnival



The art club at Sculpture Bermagui

## One more literacy tutor needed for YESS at Bermagui School

The Youth Educational Support Service, a local volunteer group, is seeking one more tutor to join our dynamic team of eight dedicated literacy tutors. The tutor would teach three students one-on-one for a total of 1½ hours a week at Bermagui Public School.

You need no formal background in teaching, just a willingness to help children. Tutoring starts in early May and

continues during term time. Volunteers usually tutor one specific morning a week, 9.30 to 11am, Monday to Thursday, and we arrange back-up tutors if volunteers need to be away on any given day.

Working under the direction of Bermagui School's expert learning support staff, YESS uses MULTILit, a highly effective literacy program. New tutors receive training and on-going support when

starting off. Over the last 14 years, YESS volunteers using MULTILit have achieved wonderful results improving students' literacy skills, enhancing their confidence, class participation and academic success in many Far South Coast schools.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please call Frances Perkins on 0423 780 498.

*Frances Perkins*



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## Bermagui and District CWA

The March meeting was followed by a delicious afternoon tea to celebrate the 2024 country of study: France. As the French normally don't eat dinner till 8.00 pm, *le goûter*, a feast of sweet treats, is served to tide people over. Members enjoyed many traditional home-baked favourites.

The Land Needlecraft and Cookery Day, including CWA branches from The Far South Coast, was held in the Bermagui Country Club on Tuesday 12 March. The entries of note from Bermagui were as follows:

Needlecraft, selected for State: Norma Reid, Beaded Doll; Marjorie O'Brien, Quilt (also First place, Class A). Third place in the Combined Branch Project – glasses cases.

Cookery, First place, Sorelle Lambe (Sultana Cake). Second place Jo Mills (Moist Apricot Roll); Ros Billington

(Almond Bread). Third place, Jo Mills (Marble Jaffa Cake).

Planning for our Grand High Tea and Art Auction to raise funds to build an additional two units at the Corunna Street site is well under way. The construction has begun, and our Affordable Housing Raffle is now online – search for Bermagui CWA 2024 raffle on your favourite browser and click the raffle button at the top right of the page. Or look out for ticket sellers around Bermagui. Our target is a massive \$100,000 and we need your generous support please.

Next meeting will be held in the Corunna Street rooms at 1.00 pm on Friday 5 April. Come along for interesting discussion and good fellowship. There will be hot cross buns for afternoon tea! All welcome.

*Chris Richard-Preston  
Publicity Officer*



Sorelle Lambe with her winning Sultana Cake.

## Driftwood

Over summer, several driftwood structures have appeared on our local beaches. The practice has been called the new 'rock stacking' as these activities have similar ecological impacts.

Beach driftwood structures are of concern for various reasons:

- Beach driftwood provides habitat and food for small invertebrates and micro-organisms that live on the beach and are an important part of the food chain, in particular for shorebirds.
- Shorebirds use driftwood to shelter from predators.

- Driftwood stabilises dunes and allows beach sand to build up in strong winds.
- The structures can be the site for litter.
- The structures may be unsafe and liable to collapse, especially if young children play underneath them.
- The structures can be a source of fire. Fires are illegal on NSW beaches, one reason being the loss of wildlife habitat when driftwood is used.
- On beaches devoid of other built elements, driftwood structures are out of place.

Collecting wood from forest areas is

considered a 'key threatening process', and relocating or removing driftwood could be considered the same for beach ecosystems.

Other states such as Queensland and Tasmania protect driftwood. With the increasing prevalence of structures, NSW should also recognise the importance of beach driftwood.

Please, leave driftwood where nature places it.

*Karen Joynes  
Co-ordinator*

*Bermagui Dune Care  
bermaguidunecare@skymesh.com.au*



Driftwood structures aren't as lovely as they seem



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Happy autumn to all of you. The leaves are falling as that subtle shift towards winter has begun. Time to start thinking of firewood and soup.

The folks from the NBN were recently in the Quaama Hall as well as in other community centres around the Triangle region. They have been upgrading our NBN network, making the range from the towers greater by kilometres. This means that rural farms that could previously only get satellite internet might now be able to access a cheaper and faster fixed wireless service. And those who migrate will make more space for satellite internet users as it will be less congested. A win all around. You can read about it if you search for NBN fixed wireless upgrade.

Our school has welcomed fifteen new students this year, including nine in kindergarten. Playtime includes collecting berries and fruit from the school orchard. And the mountain bikes and bike course behind the school are being put to good use too. Literacy is always high on the agenda with teachers focussed on students developing the skills they need to be successful readers and writers. As well as the three 'Rs', there have been more physical learning days too including a trip to Sculpture Bermagui, competing in the AFL Gala Day in Bega and bushwalking in Bournda National Park.

And speaking of bushwalking, I've noticed that blackberries are starting to encroach on the walking tracks around Dry River and the cemetery. Bloody things. I'm hoping that some attention



Quaama kids compete in the AFL Gala Day in Bega

will be paid soon to ensure continued access to this beautiful Quaama asset. We can't let them take it back!

And one last thing .... sadly, a couple of people have told me about some petty thieving going on in town – stealing fruit and veg, and raiding honesty jars! Maybe keep an eye open for suspicious activity. Parents, if your kids have some unexplained pocket money, you might want to have a chat.



Sculpture Bermagui was a hands-on experience

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## Cobargo creative, Ivan Hollins



Ivan and his iconic fence

Among the most successful presents I have given to family and friends are special wooden boxes, hand crafted by Ivan Hollins. Maybe you have also been tempted by them when browsing in Cobargo Creators, or by his river redgum tables with antique sewing machine bases. I invited myself over to Ivan's place for morning tea to hear the story of how he brought his remarkable woodworking skills to the Triangle area.

Ivan was born in 1938 and raised in Victoria. At around age twelve, his family moved to a large property outside Mildura. 'My father was a veteran from the First World War, serving in Gallipoli and on the Western Front. He was wounded and came back to Australia in 1920 as a first lieutenant. When I was eighteen, Dad contracted Parkinson's and my brother suddenly died in a gliding accident, so it fell to me to run seventy acres of orange trees. I certainly got chucked in at the deep end and had to learn how to manage a farm, maintain and repair machinery like pumps, sprayers and tractors, and all about fertilisers and sprays. Everything to eradicate pests was done by hand; by the time you'd finished spraying, you had to start again.'

Ivan started to tinker with wood turning later in his life. 'I'd always had an interest, but farming is a lot of work. Then I found myself separated from my wife and at a loose end, so I started doing woodturning and taking my creations up to Canberra on the weekends for about a year. I maintained my interest in woodwork after



Ivan in his workshop

moving to Kanoona near Candelo. Dawn and I had fruit, vegetables, chickens, ducks and sheep – and so much fruit that I started making wine – still a hobby. We decided to downsize and moved to Cobargo, living in a caravan on our empty block until our house, built in Wagga, was brought down by police escort. We have lived here for sixteen years now, and it's here that I've had the time to get more creative.'

Ivan is not only creative with wood but also metal. 'The question arose after we had fenced the sides and back of our property of what to do with the front? I had a light bulb moment and welded together parts from my collection of farm machinery, which included wheels, pick heads, old chains, ploughshares and cream separator bases. There's even an old bit of a Singer sewing machine and various bits of historic HV McKay machinery. It's been photographed by many tourists and even

published in *Outback* magazine.'

While looking around his shed full of modern and antique tools, including a bandsaw that is over 120 years old, I asked Ivan what he is making now. 'I'm currently working on two quite small boxes made from purple heart, a rare and endangered acacia that grows in very arid regions. I gathered some dead branches near Broken Hill. It's small and twisted, hard and heavy, with very few straight pieces. It's a challenge, and I like a challenge.'

*photos by Flick Ruby*

**Bermagui & District Seniors' Social Club**

**JOIN US!**

We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month at 11 am in Bermagui Country Club. Anyone interested is welcome.



We had the pleasure of attending the Cobargo Folk Festival and had an incredible fun-filled, highly entertaining time. The layout was completely different and seemed to be a casual stroll between each venue with such a varied array of acts. Congratulations must be extended to the fabulous organising committee.

Whilst meandering throughout the countryside, one may have noticed bare paddocks that have been prepared by the farmers in preparation for the planting of their next crops to feed their cows. The old ways of deep ripping paddocks with ploughs are being replaced with the much more modern direct drilling of the seeds. It is vastly less intrusive to the base soil with a lot less soil erosion occurring. Firstly, the paddocks are sprayed with a growth retardant to reduce the old vegetation to enable the seeds after germination to have the best possible opportunity to emerge from the ground. The farmer uses a seeder that has compartments, in one section it will be filled with seeds and the other side fertiliser. As they progress around the paddock the boots of the seeder extend into the ground as the disc cuts a fine groove for the seeds and fertiliser to drop into. If Mother Nature kicks in and drops some rain onto the crop within a couple of weeks the beautiful green shoots will be spied in many paddocks. I hope this sheds some light on what farmers have been up to.

Cobargo Horse and Trail Riders Club held their AGM and Pauline Blair was elected President, Shelly Davison Secretary, Treasurer Marea Blair and Vice President Nina Balas. A big thank you was extended to outgoing Secretary Charmaine Lucas. Some rides are planned with a mix of bush rides and some with ocean spray.

The Cobargo RSL renovations are underway, and things



Cows eating nice grass

are progressing well. A wonderful project holding onto some of our history.

It is lovely to experience the wonderful caring staff at Cobargo Public School as they show great care to all the new kindergarten children as they find their feet in this very new environment.

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or email [denise@nardyhouse.com.au](mailto:denise@nardyhouse.com.au) to find out more.**



## The grand opening of the CoCo Living Room

Last week, while much of the world was at home with cats on their laps, drinking tea and reading their books, a little group called the Cobargo Commons Co-operative quietly, and then noisily, opened the CoCo Living Room, downstairs in the big turquoise thing between the mechanic and the Post Office.

There was some gorgeous live music from the sensational Mr Alford, enjoyed by a room of peaceful smiles, bellies full of delicious curry, posteriors upon exquisite and sentimental furniture, all lit by almost nothing but lamps. As the night aged, the floor was cleared for a very merry dance floor in front of the hastily assembled local supergroup, the Wisecracks Family Band.

Then, after Kirtan on the Sunday, they did it all again the next Wednesday when the balladeering Scott Cook and Pamela Mae pulled into Cobargo from Canada. The CoCo Cafe put on a show-starting ratatouille, not to mention Jackie's cake, and all were delighted by Scott and Pamela's artful, heart-full songs, with a very touching guest appearance from Melanie Horsnell.

Part café, part cosy living room, part



Matt Alford performs in the CoCo Living Room Photo credit: Matt Nettheim

music-making space, the CoCo Living Room is now going to be open Tuesday to Saturday, just like the CoCo Café beside it. There are board games, books, art materials and a kids' corner. If you'd like to be kept abreast of the goings on, check out the

Facebook page for Cobargo Commons, or check them out on Instagram or send an email to [cobargocommons@gmail.com](mailto:cobargocommons@gmail.com). We look forward to sharing it with you!

*Charlie Bamford*



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## Cobargo Folk Festival

Better than ever and enjoyed by thousands (9,000 aggregate visitors over three days). A huge effort from the organisers through to the volunteers. Thanks to all, and especially the Cobargo

community for their ongoing support for this event. Next year's dates are 28 February – 1 March. Save the date!

*All photos: Matt Nettheim*





### Winner of Cobargo Folk Festival best-decorated business

The Bowerbird Op Shop was the winner of a family weekend pass to next year's Cobargo Folk Festival, for the outstanding decoration of their shop window. Trish Olsen and Ros Hewett, the Op Shop's resident artists, showed so much

ingenuity and sense of fun, in creating a tableau celebrating the festival. This photo does not do it justice so be sure to take a look for yourselves.

A special mention to David and Kyle at the PO for their light show and display of

musical notes throughout the shop. Also, to The Lazy Lizard Gallery for their colourful display of Folk Festival tee-shirts.

We look forward to next year's creations.

*Nicky Hutterman  
Shirleyanne Myers*



The prize-winning shop window

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## Anzac Day in Cobargo

Anzac Day will be observed in Cobargo on Thursday 25 April with a march followed by a Service of Commemoration at the Soldiers Memorial on the corner of Princes Highway and Tarlinton Street.

Those wishing to march are asked to assemble outside the Cobargo School of Arts on Bermagui Road by 10.20 am. Service and ex-service personnel and their descendants and relatives are invited to join the march that will be led by the Light Horse, Cobargo and Quaama Schools and the Scout Group. Uniforms and medals may be worn as appropriate. People wearing the medals of a relative should wear them on the right breast.

The Service will commence as soon as the march reaches the Memorial. Wreaths may be laid at the appropriate time during the ceremony. Red Cross volunteers will again be providing refreshments after the service, though on a reduced scale due to the construction works in the hall. No dawn service will be held in Cobargo.

## Champion cakes on sale in Cobargo

Members of the Cobargo branch of CWA competed against branches from Eden to Batemans Bay and again proved their quality in the annual Group Cookery competition. These are the members who regularly contribute to the Bake Stall held each month at the Saturday Cobargo Market.

Debbie Fisher was awarded the Champion of the event. She won a first for her Remembrance Biscuits and second for her Whole Orange Cake. Lynn Lawson took first prize for her Whole Orange Cake and gained third for her Sultana Cake. She also scored a second for her Zucchini and Capsicum Pickles. Ann Holub's Ginger Fluff Cake won her a second prize and Lynne Jones gained a third for her Chocolate Butter Cake.

Cobargo Branch also had entries in the handicraft section. A shawl from Lynn Lawson, a girl's dress from Lynne Jones, a pair of booties from Debbie Fisher and a petit point embroidery from Cassandra Cole.

The fences have been repaired and the air-conditioning replaced at the cottage, following the floods. We are pleased that the cottage is gaining more bookings and

are happy to be helping the community in this way.

The Bake Stall will be operating again on Saturday 6 April in the usual place and goodies prepared by our award-winning cooks will be available. Be early to avoid missing out! Many thanks for your support as you help us to maintain the cottage and remain viable.

*Mary Williams*

## Anglican Churches of Bermagui Cobargo and Quaama

### WORSHIP SERVICES DURING APRIL

Bermagui 7th, 14th & 21st at 8.30am

Cobargo 7th, 14th & 21st at 10.30am

**Parish combined service on  
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## Christ Church Cobargo memorial labyrinth

A year ago this month, Christ Church, Cobargo, celebrated the centenary of the laying of its foundation stone. As part of this celebration, there was a dedication of the memorial labyrinth that had been built in the grounds of the church. Since then, many people have enjoyed walking the labyrinth and finding the spiritual sustenance that can come from the contemplation engaged in as they follow the winding seven circle pathway to the centre.

The bench at the centre was given to the church in memory of the late Jim Cole, and gives an opportunity for a rest, a pause and further reflection. The bench symbolises the additional purpose of the labyrinth: as a memorial to those who have attended the church during the years since the founding of an Anglican church building in Cobargo in 1880. The first church was built on the site of what is now the General Store, but soon succumbed to the local termite population.

Many people have passed through our church doors since those times. Many names are recorded in documents; many are lost in the mists of time. We will



The labyrinth at the Cobargo Anglican Church

offer family or friends of earlier fellow worshippers the opportunity to place a plaque in their memory in the labyrinth. These will be bonded to the bricks that define the pathway, in a position of the providers' choice, so people walking the labyrinth will be able to read the names as they pass by. Over time, these plaques will provide greater definition to the pathway. The site will be steadily enhanced by screening shrubbery to give a greater feeling of privacy for those enjoying quiet moments there.

We will advertise this service in detail for anyone who wishes to provide such a remembrance.

*Alan Burdon*

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- 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?

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Open 10 am–3 pm Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays.

Drop in or make an appointment

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48 Prince Highway, Cobargo  
[www.cobargo.org.au](http://www.cobargo.org.au)

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CENTRE**

## Christ Church Centenary Labyrinth Memorial plaques

Do you have a departed family member or friend who attended Cobargo Anglican Church?

We are offering the opportunity to place a plaque for them at the Memorial Labyrinth at Christ Church, Hoyer Street, bonded to the bricks of the circles in a location of your choice.

The plaques are 120mm x 74mm, black anodised aluminium, with engraved text, similar to the image below. Additional wording is possible.

Contact the Parish Administrator  
Vanessa Williams - 0408 177 131 or  
email [cobargoanglican@bigpond.com](mailto:cobargoanglican@bigpond.com)

\$45 per plaque

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The Triangle is an amazing area, not least because nature is at our doorstep. This may account for the significant creativity and artistic endeavour that is such an important feature of this area. However, whatever the basis for the artistic aspects of our lives, our communities are strengthened and enriched, culturally and practically. During February and March, there have been great opportunities to go to large events as well as very local events. Large and small, these are how we participate and contribute – musicians sharing their music and song, artists creating and sharing their art, volunteers giving their time and skills to support events, organisations creating opportunities for young people to gain experience and skills – all the while creating space for people to get together, talk, learn, sing, dance, laugh and have some fun. Essentially, cultural pursuits like these provide balance and help us face the big challenges of our times.

## Assistant Curator wins award at Sculpture Bermagui

Alec Bond, Central Tilba Year 11 Narooma High School student, is currently studying Year 11 and 12 Art. With the support of his Visual Arts teacher, his school and his family, he recently spent three days working as Assistant Curator at the renowned Sculpture Bermagui. This opportunity is the result of the partnership work that Sculpture Bermagui does to support the development of an individual Stage 6 (Year 11 and 12) Visual Arts student and is part of a broader education program.

Based on a formal Work Experience program, Alec, as Assistant Curator, worked with the Sculpture Bermagui Curation team over three days leading up to Opening Night on 8 March. Working alongside experienced curators, professional artists and volunteers,



Alec Bond

Alec gained valuable insights into the organisation and delivery of a major arts event. Sculpture Bermagui this year had three gallery areas – Bermagui Headland, Surf Gallery and Street Gallery. Alec participated in preparing the areas for display, the arrival of sculptures and their placement, and finalising the exhibition. He says he learnt a lot about the little details – technical, artists' requirements and the limitations of display areas. He says, 'This was good because I had never thought about these details before.'

For his role as Assistant Curator, Alec was awarded The Wilma Enabling Youth Award of \$400.00, given and presented by Sculpture Bermagui sponsor Debra Cushion to support the development of a young artist and their major work for HSC. The award is named in honour of Debra's mother, Wilma. This support will help Alec achieve his ambition to attend the National Arts School.

Alec says, 'I really enjoyed it – everyone was really accommodating and welcoming and made me feel part

of the team. It was great to be included in working out how to place and display artworks.'

Ivan Baker, President Sculpture Bermagui, said that Alec's participation was invaluable. Alec has an invitation to be involved again next year.

Alec is investigating sculpture for his HSC major work. Congratulation to Alec for gaining this position and for the award – all the best for the future and we look forward to hearing more from you.

## And the music goes on!

The Tilba area has a long tradition of bands made up of locals. From the Tilba Brass Band in the early 1900s to The Predicaments and River Liver Band in the 1990s, music has been an important part of community life. Now there is The Shenanigans whose lead singer is the redoubtable Shanna Provost, much loved Central Tilba resident. Al Leake on lead guitarist, Duncan Bond on keyboard and harp, Chris Fox on drums and Andy Read on bass make up the rest of the band with Sol Ramana-Clarke on sax as a guest. This is a true community band of experienced musicians who originally got together last year to jam to see if it worked. And it did! Their first gig was a community concert last Easter at Central Tilba, followed by the Tilba Festival in July.

With Shanna's long history as a band singer and entertainer, The Shenanigans



The Shenanigans performing at The Drom



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enthusiastically embrace their own style of blues, funk and soul. This was very obviously on display at their latest gig on a late summer Sunday afternoon at The Drom, Central Tilba's well known pub. With a record crowd that seemed to just materialise, The Shenanigans' easy style had many up dancing almost from the beginning. This was indeed a special celebration both of the local community and Shanna's recent birthday – it seemed as though everyone was there. And the local crowd appreciated what this group of talented musicians was giving to the community.

The Shenanigans' next gig is a community event in Cobargo on 11 May, a date to mark in your diary. There is also some talk of reviving the community dance – remember the barn dance? What a hoot – and a fitting use of Central Tilba's Big Hall and a great way to celebrate community.

## Sustainable House Day

Tingaringy, our home at Central Tilba, is opening for Sustainable House Day. This national annual event is on 21 April this year. Organised since 2017 by



Tingaringy, Central Tilba

*Renew*, Sustainable House Day has been around for over twenty years in various forms. For those whose aim is to build sustainably, it is the single most important opportunity to explore some of Australia's most unique and inspiring homes and is a trusted source of expert advice, insight and peer-to-peer education.

For the last three years, the event has been mainly online. However, this year, many of the homes will be open for on-site visits as well as having an online video.

Following Sustainable House Day there will be a month of online Extension Sessions from 30 April to 23 May. These sessions will cover a range of sustainable topics with some of Australia's best architects, designers, tradespeople and experts offering advice and homeowners sharing first-hand experience with lots of time for Q&As.

Open house tours and online sessions are all ticketed. Tickets are available only online at [sustainablehouseday.com](http://sustainablehouseday.com). *Renew's* excellent magazines, *Renew* and *Sanctuary* also provide lots of information and are available at newsagencies. Check out the website for more information about the full range of Sustainable House Day homes and the Extension Sessions.

## Our heritage phone booth

Contrary to the mostly mobile telecommunications of today, Central Tilba still has a functioning, old-fashioned, red phone booth. This is not an accident of history. Through a concerted community campaign back in 1990s, led by then Central Tilba resident, Kay Ewin, the village was allowed to keep its red phone booth, in keeping with the village heritage.



Tarquin at the phone booth

While Telstra maintains the equipment, the care and maintenance of the phone box has been a village responsibility. Many will remember the wonderful tongue in cheek signwriting of John Small that adorned its exterior. It needed an urgent repaint, so local businessowner, Tarquin Moore, has organised this work and engaged a talented signwriter called Michael to replicate John's work. Michael, by the way, has done quite a bit of signwriting around the village to suit the old style of the buildings. Donations towards this work can be left with Tarquin at Arcadia.

## Anzac Day service - Tilba

The ceremony to commemorate Anzac Day will be held at the Tilba District War Memorial in Bate Street, Central Tilba, commencing at 10.00 am on Anzac Day. It will be preceded by a march past of service personnel, Tilba RFS volunteers, Tilba school children and others. All ex-service persons and currently serving service personnel from any location, as well as relatives of those who served and who wish to march in their memory, are warmly invited to join this march that will assemble adjacent to the Dromedary Hotel at 9.55 am. The march past will be led by a lone piper.

All members of the community are encouraged to come along and join in the service as a show of respect to those in our armed services, past and present. Morning tea, provided by the Halls Committee will follow the ceremony.

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### Ticketed events in April

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Kevin Borich w/Mark Easton & Marji Curra

**Sat 20 17.00**  
Didirri 'Don't Talk Tour' & Rowena Wise

### WHAT'S ON in April

Music starts at 12.00 - free of charge

Sat 6 Cass McGufficke

Sun 7 Mel T Duo

Sat 13 Jakob Poyner

Sat 20 Tahlia Brain

Sun 21 Felicity Dowd

Sat 27 Benji Fowler

Sun 28 Punkalla Holler

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram for upcoming events

### Open Sanctuary, Tilba Tilba *The hidden language of nature: when the trees say nothing*



Linda Chapman presenting at Open Sanctuary

On a beautiful, blue sky day at Tilba Tilba in early March, Open Sanctuary hosted its first of a series about our relationship with the Other. Presented by Linda Chapman and drawing on some of Thomas Merton's nature writings, a group of more than twenty people explored our capacity for listening to nature, particularly as a response to the meta crises of our times. Linda suggested we start with simply paying attention.

Merton, a Cistercian monk, is regarded as foundational to the renewal of contemplative practice in the West. His nature writing is less well known and reveals an intimate relationship with the forest in which he found his hermitage. It was here that he recognised other creatures and elements as teachers, as life forces that helped to form him. He spoke of the '... wonderful, unintelligible, perfectly innocent speech' of nature – creation's *lingua incognita*.

Through these talks, Linda encouraged a sustained attention to nature as spiritual practice; that we might grow into becoming a mutually enhancing life presence on this earth. The talks, silence and walks created an ideal space in which to hear 'the trees say nothing'. A condensed version of these talks will be published in April in the magazine *Eremos; exploring spirituality in Australia*.

Open Sanctuary will continue to offer a series of morning reflections, which will include three short talks on a theme, interspersed by times for solitary reflection wandering the foothills of Gulaga. Regular *Dadirri* Quiet Days are held on the fourth Friday of each month and Monday Meditations are held weekly at 10.00 am. The next reflective morning will be advertised on the Open Sanctuary Tilba website (just use your favourite browser).

Open Sanctuary is a diverse community of people, from different traditions and none, who are exploring their spirituality together in the modern world through their relationships with silence, each other, the wider community and the community of the natural world.

Linda Chapman OAM

### Two exciting upcoming events hosted by Tilba CWA

#### *'Women Walk the World' on Monday 29 April*

Zoe Burke, Tilba CWA's Cultural Officer and small group tour specialist for Tilba Talks Heritage Walks, is thrilled to coordinate our annual 'Women Walk the World' event on Monday 29 April. This event is a heartfelt fundraiser for the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW). It's an easy and interesting walk plus morning tea for only \$10 per walker.

ACWW has been empowering rural women worldwide since it was established in 1929. This is a special occasion to unite with ACWW sisters globally, raising awareness and funds for the organisation's crucial work. All funds raised will be donated to ACWW to contribute to a more equitable future for rural women worldwide.

Come along on Monday 29 April to share this easy walking experience, starting at 10.00 am at Sweetwater in Central Tilba. Zoe will then lead the walk to historic Henkley Farm for a traditional CWA morning tea in the sheep shed.

Zoe believes that '... the walk is an opportunity to meet new friends and share a traditional CWA morning tea, fostering a sense of community and shared purpose, while fundraising for ACWW'. Walkers will return to Sweetwater in Central Tilba around 12 noon.

For more information contact Zoe Burke at [tilbataalks@gmail.com](mailto:tilbataalks@gmail.com) or phone 0433 114 374.



Zoe Burke (with parasol) leading a Tilba walk.

#### Delicious French film fundraiser 16 May at Narooma Kinema

As part of CWA of NSW's international French theme for 2024, Tilba branch is hosting a fundraiser at the Narooma Kinema. On Thursday 16 May join us at 6.30 pm where we will be serving French nibbles to delight the senses, with the movie screening at 7.00.

*The Taste of Things* is a delectable 2023 French historical romantic drama, written and directed by Trần Anh Hùng, starring Juliette Binoche and Benoît Magimel. Set in 1889, it depicts a later life romance between a cook and the gourmet she works for.

Tickets \$20 for this beautiful French movie, so book now with Narooma Kinema!

Virginia York  
Publicity Officer



### Australian Heritage Festival 2024 unveils a tapestry of history in Central Tilba

From 18 to 21 of April, as part of the Australian Heritage Festival 2024, Tilba Walks invites the community and visitors to step into living history during a series of four unique walks. Nestled in the scenic beauty of Gulaga, Central Tilba's National Trust Village opens its doors, celebrating local heritage, cultural stories and the picturesque landscape that has captured the hearts of many. The walks and talks, led by Zoe Burke, offer a deep dive into the historical tapestry of Central Tilba and surrounds.

#### Featured activities:

- Tilba's Heritage to Brunch, 18 April, 9.30 am: Meet the locals, taste the food and walk the history.
- Twilight Poetry by lantern light walk, 19 April, 6.30 pm: Experience the enchantment of lantern-lit walks as seven local poets weave stories through ballads and heritage, creating a poetic ambience.
- High tea at historic Henkley Farm, 20 April, from 10.30 am: Indulge in a high tea experience with local chefs from the region, explore the vistas of the historic working farm and learn of the backstories to the preserved National Trust surroundings. Several sittings available.
- Connections shared stories, 21 April, 10.30 am: Delve into settlement histories and local cultural heritage on guided walk through the National Trust Village and its surroundings.

Join the celebration and participate in these activities that offer a blend of cultural experiences, historical narratives and include the breathtaking landscape that define Central Tilba and



Richard and Les, Henkley Farm, at the sheep shed

its region. Whether exploring the village, joining a poetry walk, or indulging in a high tea, the Australian Heritage Festival 2024 promises a weekend filled with discovery and connection.

For more information contact Zoe Burke on 0433 114 374 or email [tilbataalks@gmail.com](mailto:tilbataalks@gmail.com). Or visit the Australian Heritage Festival website and put Tilba into the search bar to get more information and make bookings for these Tilba events.

*Zoe Burke*

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## Cleaning up and kicking goals

On Friday 1 March, we had our Clean Up Australia Day excursion to clean up Billy's Beach and Mystery Bay. We arrived at school, ate an early morning tea and then headed to Mystery Bay on the bus. We were all confused because we were going a different way than expected but really, we were heading to a secret beach called Billy's Beach. The walk down there was great fun as there were so many cool things to see. Our first stop was the old velodrome where we practised for our cross country by walking, jogging or running laps of the velodrome for half an hour.

After cross-country training, we were all very tired but very excited to head to the beach so there was no time to rest. At the beach we found Band Aids, old pieces of clothing and, most importantly, micro plastic. We walked up the stairs from Billy's Beach and through the caravan park singing *The ants go marching one by one*. We stopped at the skip bins in the campground to dispose of the rubbish we had collected so far. Thankfully, we were able to recycle a few of the items. Then we headed down onto Mystery Bay beach and continued to pick up rubbish, finally arriving at the gazebo to rest and enjoy a sausage sizzle cooked by Sandy and Linda. The sausages were delicious and many students came back for seconds and thirds. After lunch, we returned to the beach for a play in the sand. Our group of friends decided to dig a very, very big hole while the rest of the students made rock sculptures. After playing in the sand, we got on the bus and travelled back to school.

In other news . . . on Tuesday 5



Collecting rubbish at Mystery Bay

March, Years 5 and 6 went to Narooma's Bill Smyth oval for the Paul Kelly Cup AFL Gala Day. We participated in the non-competitive comp against a Bermagui team and a Narooma team. We played each team twice and Tilba dominated every game. We also won the finals but, because we weren't playing competitively, we didn't move on to the next stage. We were all surprised at how well we played because most of us had never played AFL before. On the day, we were coached by a Year 10 Narooma High School student Cerys who used to go to Central Tilba Primary School. We did an amazing job and were happy with our efforts.

Duke Hone  
William Jones

## Tilba District Chamber of Commerce news

At its March meeting the Chamber discussed exciting projects that are in the pipeline:

- **Updating highway signs** – The goal is to create eye-catching signs that are in keeping with our heritage status to draw visitors to Central Tilba and Tilba Tilba. The first company selected to do this work has had to pull out of the project, but a replacement provider is still to be chosen.
- **Showcasing the Tilba district** – Work is in progress to upgrade the Visit Tilba website to showcase all that Tilba and the local area have to offer. This important and exciting project will be launched at the end of June 2024.
- **Tilba Festival** – 13 July 2024, right in the middle of the school holidays, has been selected as the date for this year's Tilba Festival. A committee, ideally of about six key members, is required to start working on this now. Interested people can call TDCC secretary Chrissy on 0457 074 980 to register their availability. And, of course, a team of fabulous volunteers will be needed on the day. The Chamber is excited that the Fungi Festival will run again this year from 21 June to 21 July, when the Tilba Festival will be on.

The next TDCC meeting will be held on 9 April at 5.00 pm in the Small Hall. Please come along and share your ideas.

Chrissy can be emailed at [secretary@visittilba.com.au](mailto:secretary@visittilba.com.au).

Chrissy Montague

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## Weaving

‘I don’t respond to racism with racism, I educate.’ – Auntie Deidre Martin speaking on resilience.

On the morning of Thursday 14 March, twenty members and friends of the Gulaga Reconciliation Group gathered around tables in the Small Hall, Central Tilba to learn from master weaver Auntie Deidre Martin, Walbanja woman and respected Elder from the Yuin nation.

There was talk of *flow* at my table, a term that captures the liberating experience of creating in the moment, unconscious of the mastered skills that guide the process. Deidre calmly introduced us to the art of weaving. She was the empathetic expert. I expect that Deidre understands much about the state of flow as a weaver and storyteller, yet she also has the rare ability to take those



Raffia and other weaving materials

After a rigorous registration process, Sunday 25 February saw a fun crowd of 30 spectators roll up to witness some amazing feats of bluster and athleticism, at the First Inaugural Tilba Lake Regatta held at Rob and Sally Hawkins’s property. Races were held for rowing boats, kayaks and stand-up paddle boards.

Excuses from the fifteen competitors ranged from a sore toe, poor eye sight, overweight, no sex and a 73-year old kayak. Financial bribes to the handicapper flowed as contestants jostled for a better start or a shorter course.

Winner of the Tilba Lake Trophy for rowing boats was Phil Shorten in his \$50 dinghy. We would never have heard the end of it if he didn’t win! Ex-Olympian Grant Laury turned up and was put in the smallest possible kayak available and still came second.



Jo Weire with Merv

who don’t understand on the journey. She showed us how to begin with needle and raffia to define the centre and then to use blanket-stitch to weave the strands of raffia around and around in concentric circles. Our conversations flowed, threads of this and that, as two hours flew past in the most enlightening and satisfying of ways. I entered the hall as a novice weaver and left as a novice weaver, however I glimpsed a pattern, a rhythm to pick up again.

Deidre’s work as a weaver and storyteller is widely recognised as is her work as an educator with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service. Deidre communicates her culture in words that hold your attention – not loud, not showy but they penetrate. One story she recounted will suffice here. A young boy in one of her sessions was full of useless racist words with the desire to offend until Deidre wove him into a story much bigger than the world he knew. He was hooked, he was sorry, he was thankful.

Thank you, Deidre, it was a wonderful morning.

## Tilba Lake regatta

The SUP race was won by Warren Hadfield. However, Chris Weire, whose paddle broke, lodged a protest with claims that Warren was seen with a hacksaw near his paddle. A steward’s enquiry into the matter will continue for



Grant Laury in a tiny kayak



Auntie Deidre Martin with Glenda Morgan

The workshop was supported as part of the Eurobodalla Shire Council’s Healthy Communities grant received by the Gulaga Reconciliation Group.

*Josephine Fleming*

most of the year at the Dromedary Hotel. No one can remember who won the Old Grey-haired Men in Kayaks race. One of the highlights was the race between the Tilba Tappers and the RFS blokes. The Tappers won easily after a generous bribe to the handicapper. And two of the RFS blokes had trouble finding the finish line.

The final race of the day was a ‘Le Mans’ start all boat race, with great efforts by Bev Long, Smilie Magill, John McMahon and Paul Bourke. But I can’t tell you who won!

The Regatta raised \$750 for the Tilba RFS. Thanks to Sally Pryor and Sally Hawkins who manned the sausage sizzle. Special thanks to Poo Carters who donated two portaloos for the day. It’s an annual event now, so see you next year.

*Rob Hawkins*



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### Warumpi Band songwriter Neil Murray plays Murrah and Tomakin *'Neil Murray sings from the heart of the country' – Jim Moginie, Midnight Oil*

One of Australia's finest songmen, Neil Murray, co-founder of the Warumpi Band and composer of the classics 'My island home' and 'Black Fella/White Fella', is set to make rare appearances in the area when he plays Murrah Hall on Friday April 12 and Smokey Dans in Tomakin on Saturday April 13.

Murray is touring on the back of his acclaimed new album *The Telling*.

In addition to some Warumpi classics and songs from the new album, Murray will play other solo hits like 'Good light in Broome' and 'Lights of Hay'. That the man is a consummate song crafter is reflected in the list of artists who have recorded his songs, which includes Christine Anu, Jimmy Little, Missy Higgins, Powderfinger, The Tiddas, Liz Stringer, Peter Denahy, Adam Brand, Emma Donovan and Irish legend Mary Black.

In 1995, Neil Murray was awarded the APRA song of the year for 'My island home' originally written for the Warumpi Band and re-recorded by Christine Anu. 'My island home' featured in the closing ceremony of the Sydney 2000 Olympics and the opening ceremony of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.



Neil Murray - Photo by Nathan Kelly

In 2007, 'Jailanguru Pakarnu' ('Out from jail'), the Warumpi Band's debut 1983 single that was co-written with guitarist Sammy Butcher in the indigenous Luritja language, was honoured by the National Film and Sound Archive's *Sounds of Australia* series as a significant recording in Australia's heritage. In

2016 'My island home', as recorded by Christine Anu, received the same honour.

Neil Murray plays Murrah Hall on Friday April 12 and Smokey Dans in Tomakin on Saturday April 13. For further information and tickets go to Neil Murray's website (put Neil Murray musician into your browser of choice).

David Laing

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### Heath Cullen, special live recording concert at Four Winds

Acclaimed local songman Heath Cullen and his band invite audiences to take part in a special live concert recording at Four Winds on Sunday 21 April, an exclusive peek behind the scenes as the music unfolds.

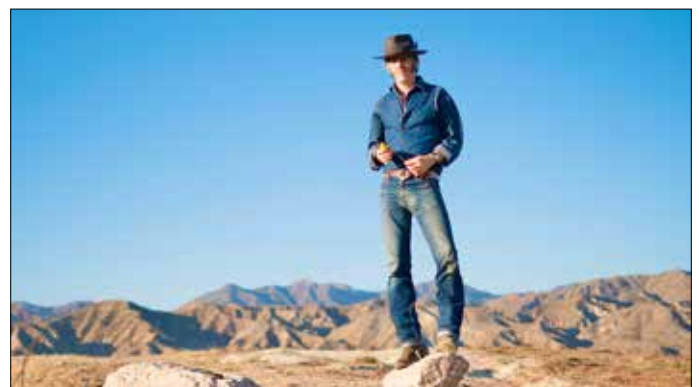
Cullen's song writing gravitas has been described as Bob Dylan-esque and is often compared to the likes of Tom Waits, Elvis Costello and Leonard Cohen.

Songwriter, storyteller and one of Australia's most talented guitarists, Heath is an incredible asset to the creative culture of the Sapphire Coast whose performance style is captivating – romancing with earthy atmospheres, peppered with grit and drenched in soul.

Most recently Heath collaborated with Grammy Award winning producer Joe Henry for this album *Springtime in the heart* and has played with members of Elvis Costello's bands *Imposters* and members of *The Attractions*.

'One of the finest, most inspired Australian rock albums in quite some time ... the work of a man well on top of his game' - *Rhythms* magazine

In this intimate concert, Cullen and his band will perform reimagined renditions of his older works, alongside debut



Renowned local songman Heath Cullen, captured by Chris Strother

performances of brand new music crafted during a week-long residency with Four Winds. Limited seats will be available for this intimate experience, get in quick!

Sunday 21 April, 3.00 pm - Picnic and bar from 2.00 pm  
Four Winds - Windsong Pavilion 17 Four Winds Road,  
Barragga Bay (nine mins south of Bermagui)  
Tickets via [fourwinds.com.au](http://fourwinds.com.au)

Madison Phillips



## Sculpture Bermagui's Twilight Picnic gets a rave review

Early Sunday morning, I received a text that made tears well ... it was copied from Facebook:

**Brigitte Drakos**

**Saturday March 16, 22.07 pm**

*Just want to say a massive thank you to everyone involved in organising the twilight picnic at Sculpture Bermagui and associated events this morning at the library. We have had such a wonderful day out as a family and it was all free for us to access. Everything we did today at the library was so much fun! Making our beautiful lanterns, having faces painted, crafting our own clay oil diffusers, playing with little robots and enjoying a sausage sandwich lunch as well as delicious donuts!*

*The twilight picnic was truly beautiful and such a wholesome family event. As you looked around, you could see so many people happily enjoying a beautiful afternoon/ evening out. With*

*each other, family, friends and as a community. This was one of the best times we've had in a very long time; honestly, so very cool and I just want to say how grateful I/we are (because I'm sure many others feel the same). The fun little games for everyone to do tonight, from the simple hoola-hoops that were a huge hit! To the giant jenga and connect four. Can't forget the corn hole!*

*My sons were absolutely stoked to partake in traditional activities and will treasure the things we have brought home. The music was very fun! Great to see everyone having a dance. The Fling dancers coming through the crowd and putting on an awesome performance! And, of course, the spectacular Bioluminescence show. Wow!*

*Thank you so very much and congratulations on such an*

*outstanding, fun-filled, family friendly, good old-fashioned get-together. We have our gorgeous lanterns still glowing as nightlights.*

This provoked a multitude of similar responses ... but you can imagine how happy the organising team was. Massive thanks to Scott Baker and Gabby Rose who brought such energy, ideas, enthusiasm and commitment to the event. They both had amazing teams behind each of them too and none of it would have been possible without them all working together. Sharon, Ash and Marty Mason all shared their traditional Yuin skills.

And big thanks to the young people who contributed their creativity with the lanterns and Bioluminescence. It was a fun time!

*Cath Renwick  
Sculpture Bermagui*



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  - Tristan Dalziel exhibits until 8 May
  - Community Exhibition 'In Search of ... ?' from 10 May
- All works due in by 8 May  
Entry forms at gallery or on line**

## Sculpture Bermagui

Sculpture Bermagui this year was a resounding success. Sculptures arrived on various forms of transport and were installed on the headland the Surf Club and at a new venue in Lamont Street. Artists and volunteers rekindled friendships and made new ones. Prizes were awarded and sculptures were purchased a plenty.

Large crowds walked and gazed at a wide variety of indoor and outdoor art. The opening night was a chance to engage with artists. The success of this venture would not have been possible without the amazing volunteers. From erecting a tent to selling and welcoming, all was done with a smile and great energy.

Visitors from many areas came to look and enjoy the sculptures and enjoy what has become a signature event in Bermagui. A big thanks to all the local businesses who supported this event. To close out the event the final award was made, and the Bermagui Beach Hotel Prize was awarded to Tika Robinson for a ceramic work titled *Personal Growth*.

Penelope Gaha



Tika Robinson's *Personal Growth*

## The Ubiquitous Garden Paintings by Em Carters at The Lazy Lizard

Emily Carters is an artist who grew up split between Tomakin NSW and Canberra, who finds inspiration for her work in the gardens and stories of Australian women. With a bustling mind, Emily turns to her canvas to paint a vivid tapestry of the female experience, putting pieces of her mind into hangable wall art.

Supported by incredible people and special women in her life, she aims to capture the essence of women's shared experiences with a keen eye for colour

and detail, mirroring the quiet strength and captivating beauty she witnesses in the women around her.

Brogo, and the local region, enters as it is the home of Emily's best friend and muse, who introduced her to the area. The quietly beautiful bush, wonderful locals and the enveloping tranquility of the area always inspire her. Every time Emily is in the area her brain soaks in the colours and beauty of the region.

Driven by a desire to quiet her often too-busy mind, painting and art became a therapeutic journey, each brushstroke a sort of meditation. Her paintings resonate with understanding of the intricacies of the female experience, conveying emotions that are both personal and universal.

Through her paintings, she invites viewers to embark on a visual odyssey, where the female experience unfolds against the backdrop of busy garden-inspired doodles. Emily's vision here, to share the ubiquitousness of female experience, adds a layer of depth and authenticity to her art, creating a captivating dialogue between artist, subject and the beautiful but sometimes unsettling and uncomfortable world that surrounds them.

Emily Carters



Emily Carters' art explores the female experience



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### FLING's opportunity to champion change

FLING Physical Theatre is excited to announce the launch of its 'Champions of FLING Phase II' campaign, aiming to raise \$15,000 in donations. With this campaign, FLING seeks to broaden community awareness, deepen supporter understanding and establish meaningful relationships to expand its mission of empowering young artists.

The campaign has received a significant boost with the receipt of a Plus1 Grant from Creative Partnerships Australia, matching donations dollar for dollar until 31 June 2024. This presents a rare opportunity for supporters to double their impact and be instrumental in FLING's growth and expansion.

Since its inception, FLING has provided a nurturing environment for young dancers, fostering creativity, confidence and resilience. In 2023, the organisation achieved a major milestone with the establishment of a permanent home, FLING Studio, on Eden Street in Bega. This state-of-the-art facility has already become a hub of artistic expression, attracting both local talents and renowned artists from across Australia.

Now, FLING is embarking on the next phase of its journey, seeking support to complete essential renovations at FLING Studio. These include performance infrastructure enhancements, soundproofing, office renovations and landscaping, ensuring that the space is fully equipped to support the creative endeavours of its community.

Gabrielle Rose, Executive Director of FLING Physical Theatre, expressed her excitement about the campaign, stating, 'This is a unique opportunity for our supporters to make a



FLING Dancer at Wanderer Festival captured by Madison Phillips

tangible difference in the lives of young artists. Every donation, no matter the size, will be matched, doubling its impact. Together, we can create a vibrant and inclusive space where creativity thrives.'

To support the 'Champions of FLING Phase II' campaign and make a difference in the lives of young artists, visit the GiveNow website and enter Champions of FLING in the search bar to donate to this campaign.

*Madison Phillips*

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## In celebration of Bach's birthday

JS Bach's spirit is alive and well – if the sounds coming from Cobargo School of Arts are anything to go by.

On Sunday 17 March, lovers of Bach's music gathered in Cobargo to celebrate the master's 339th birthday. This world-wide event that aims to bring Bach's music into the community, originated in the New York subways in 2010. This year there were many similar gatherings in Europe, Asia and America, but Cobargo was the sole Australia-based event.

Kate Jorgenson, ex-local music aficionado, used her exceptional organisational skills to pull together the talents of recorder groups, Uccilini and Lumière, and choirs Spirit Allegro and Hark; as well as multiple solo, duet and group performers. Also pivotal to the running of the day was Spirit Allegro conductor David Francis as MC, stage manager and provider of interesting anecdotes of Bach's life.

The audience was treated to 18 items by more than thirty performers presenting vocal and instrumental works for keyboard, guitar, flute, recorder, clarinet, cello,



David Francis conducts the Spirit Allegro Choir at Bach's birthday celebration Photo: Deb Worgan

double bass and even a brass band.

The variety of musical moods as well as instrumental and vocal combinations demonstrated the breadth and depth of Bach's music and how widely it has been embraced and loved by generations of musicians around the world.

Well done to everyone who participated on the day – how lucky we are to have such musical talent in the Bega Valley! To share music, and the joy it brings to the community, is the glue that continues to bind us together.

Deb Worgan

## Spiral Gallery Easter exhibitions continue to 23 April

### In Gallery 1: Spiral members and friends Easter Cash/Card and Carry exhibition:

A smorgasbord of original artworks.

### In Gallery 2: *Shifting Elements* to 10 April

Young artists communicate through art their experiences of climate change created during the disARTster project by young people from the Bega Valley.

### *Odyssey* – Tracey Creighton solo: 12–23 April

A long and adventurous journey of creative wanderings – a fictional story of playful musings and the exploration of colour and line through the lens of the artist. A journey of over forty years as an artist and designer.



*Tidal Surge* by Tracey Creighton

### *Road Tripping* – Tulgeen Artists 26 April – 15 May

For Art in the Garage's new exhibition, we invite you on a road trip! We'll visit the places that inspired our artists, real and imaginary. We'll join a life-changing journey to Uluru, a fanciful festivity in Africa, and we will get lost in a botanic garden that seems to belong to an alien planet.

Of course, in the end, like all adventures, we will come home. Spiral Gallery, 47 Church St Bega, (02) 6492 5322. Open Mon-Fri 10am to 4pm, Sat 10am to 1pm. The gallery will be closed on Monday 1 April. Find us at [www.spiralgallery.org.au](http://www.spiralgallery.org.au).

Racheal Annabel

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## *All the words we know*

**Bruce Nash**

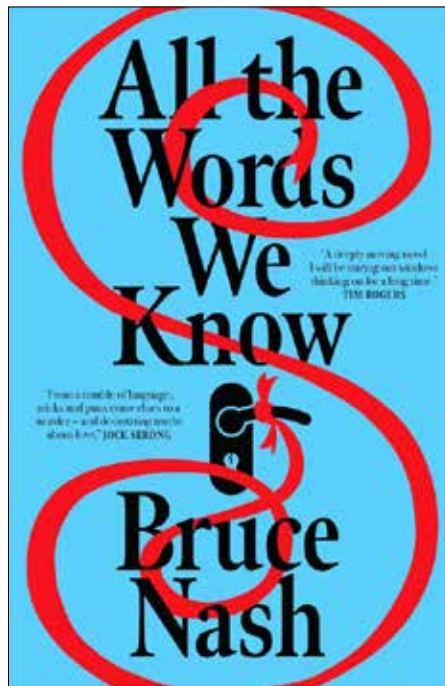
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This is the third novel from local author, Bruce Nash, and it has, deservedly, found a respected commercial publisher with all the advantages of overseas publishing and audio books.

Rose, who is our unreliable narrator throughout, is in her 80s, in a nursing home and has dementia. When Rose finds that her Scrabble partner has died by apparently falling from her window, she remembers other strange deaths and suspects the nursing home is making room for higher paying residents. Has this something to do with the *Angry Nurse* or the platitude-speaking *Golden Scare Manager*, who is clearly becoming richer? What about her dutiful son, who has her *Power of Eternal* and her password: *past word, words of the past*. Something is not right, and Rose must find out.

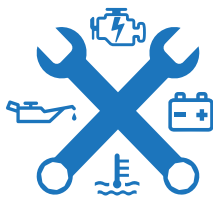
It's not the mysterious deaths and embezzlement that is at the heart of this novel, it is Rose and language. Rose must sort through the past and the present, the remembered and forgotten. And the love of language is at the heart of Rose and the novel. The language is playful and deftly funny. Muddled words and puns engage the reader, *I'm in Somalia* (when Rose



has insomnia). The wordplay shines and delights throughout Rose's journey with times of lucidity and also into the darkness of fear and forgetting. Rose is fixated on words and how words can strip the elderly of power, *I am someone, you know*, while her *Scare Plan* is reviewed, her own new *Therapeutic Intervention Regime*.

Nash has written a wickedly entertaining novel but also a genuinely moving novel about aging, loving, losing and gaining. He has made me laugh and cry at the same time, as the best of writers do.

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Sasha

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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.

Kerri Brady

## Shining a light on bulbs

Believe it or not, now is an important time to think ahead to spring, particularly when it comes to flowering bulbs.

To enjoy daffodils, jonquils, tulips, freesia, anemones, ranunculus and other late winter- and spring-flowering plants, the bulbs are planted in autumn, usually between April and early May. Several weeks of cold temperatures are needed to break dormancy and maximise full flowering potential. After flowering, many bulbs can be left in the ground and will multiply in the soil year after year.

Bulbs can be planted in garden beds, in the middle of the lawn, around the base of trees or even in pots; anywhere there is good drainage. Most importantly, you must plant the right way up and at the right depth (crucial for thermal control) to flourish. If planted too deeply, the shoot can fail to reach the surface before it runs out of energy. A rule of thumb is to plant at a depth equal to twice their width, roots face down, with the pointy side facing upwards (anemone and ranunculi are the only exceptions). For a more natural look, try planting your bulbs in clumps rather than rows.

After planting, water in with a liquid



A dark pink *Nerium oleander* (oleander)

fertiliser and cover with a light mulch to keep them from drying out. Give another light feed when the leaves emerge and again when you see flowers beginning to appear.

Once your bulbs have finished flowering, trim off the dead flowers to divert the bulb's energy away from making unnecessary seed. An important aspect of bulb care is to leave the foliage on the plant until it is completely dry, brown and dead. Bulbs store all their energy for the next growing season, and much of this is reabsorbed from the dying leaves.

Meanwhile, around the town gardens *Nerium oleander* (oleander) is continuing to put on a show, as are the *Hibiscus spp* and the *Magnolia grandiflora* 'Little Gem'. And does Grevillea 'Peaches and Cream' ever stop flowering? The Tibouchinas are beginning their purple reign and the earliest of the Sasanqua camelias have also begun their displays.

Currently, in the roadside wild places around the Triangle, all is quiet and homogenously green, with very few native plants noticeably flowering. In parts of the cleared farmland, however, we've noticed some beautiful low-growing (to around 50

cm high) bright-purple swathes of the weed *Verbena rigida* (veined verbena).

This month in the vegie garden we continue to plant peas and we always sow our garlic cloves on ANZAC Day. Also, onions. Ever tasted a fresh onion? They are on par with the difference between home and shop tomatoes. Give a row or two a go, and experience the joy of a sweet, homegrown onion. In the same family, plant leeks and shallots; though the easiest way to grow shallots is to simply plant the leftovers from a bunch of store-bought ones. Keep planting your winter brassicas (broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage and kale) and your soup staples (swedes and turnips) as well as lettuce and silver-beet for leafy greens. Last chance for beetroot seeds and if you are in areas away from the frost, keep going with the carrots.

Finally, if you have any comments, gardening questions or plant or pest identification problems, please send them through to [gardening@thetriangle](mailto:gardening@thetriangle) and we will endeavour to help.

Happy growing.



*Amaryllis* bulbs ready for planting



The perennially flowering *Grevillea* 'Peaches and Cream'

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*These cooler months' recipes are suitable for a slow cooker or the cooktop*

## Chilli con carne



- 2 tbsp oil
- 150 to 200 grams diced bacon or chorizo sausage
- 1 large onion, finely sliced
- 4 garlic cloves, sliced
- 1 fresh red capsicum
- 1.5 tsps whole cumin seed
- 1 or 2 large dried red chillies
- 500 grams 4/5 star minced beef, diced beef or plant-based mince
- 1 tbsp smoky chipotle sauce (optional)
- 1 tbsp each ground coriander, cumin and sweet paprika
- 1 tsp crushed chilli (either add with onion etc or sprinkle over at the end)
- 1.5 tsps dried herbs or equivalent in fresh herbs
- 1 tbsp tomato concentrate
- 400 grams fresh or tinned cherry tomatoes
- 200-400 grams of passata.
- 400 grams tinned red kidney or black beans
- Salt to taste
- Spring onions/coriander for garnish

## Method

Heat oil and add bacon or chorizo and fry until lightly brown. Add onion, sliced capsicum and garlic. Continue to fry until onion is slightly brown. Add whole cumin seed and dried chillies and fry for another minute.

Add meat/plant-based mince and brown it off. If needed, add water to avoid any sticking. When browned, add the dried herbs, spices and the chipotle sauce. Crushed chilli can be added now or sprinkled on when serving. Combine well.

Add tomato concentrate, cherry tomatoes, passata and beans.

Add any required water and simmer for 20-30 minutes or decant to a slow cooker for 2 to 3 hours.

Serve with rice, corn chips or pasta and garnish with diced spring onion/coriander.

## Jalfrezi

This Anglo-Indian recipe is a good way to use leftovers.



500 grams pre-cooked lamb, beef, pork, chicken or plant-based alternative. For a vegetable version

use diced carrot, sweet potato and/or pumpkin in lieu of meat.

- 250 grams diced potatoes
- 2 tbsp oil or ghee
- 1 onion, thinly sliced
- 1 red or green diced capsicum
- 4 garlic cloves, sliced
- 1.5 tsps cumin seed
- 1.5 tbsp of mild korma paste
- 1.5 tsp ground coriander and cumin
- .5 tsp of garam masala (optional)
- 1 tsp crushed chilli
- Spring onions/coriander for garnish

## Method

Par-cook diced potato and set aside to air dry. For the veg option dice carrot, sweet potato and/or pumpkin and cook until just tender and set them aside to air dry.

Heat oil in a pan and add the air-dried potato to brown until crispy. Set aside to drain on some kitchen paper.

Fry off the onion, capsicum, garlic and the cumin seed in the remaining oil in the pan. Allow some colour in the onions and capsicum but don't let the garlic burn.

Once this is done, stir in the korma paste, ground coriander, cumin and garam masala and mix in well. After cooking them off for a couple of minutes, add the pre-cooked meat/meat substitute, or the par-cooked veg and heat through. When this is hot to the touch, add in the pre-fried potatoes to heat through.

Serve with rice and garnish with diced spring onion/chopped coriander.

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- General earthworks
- House and shed site prep
- Footings and pier holes
- Green waste clearing
- Driveways
- Trenching for plumbing and electrical works
- Drainage
- Material delivery

**Neville 0428 948 589 - Dylan 0481 311 007**



## SALES RENTALS HOLIDAY BOOKINGS

02 6493 3444

Shop 10, Bermagui Fishermen's Wharf, 73-79 Lamont Street, Bermagui  
[www.butterfieldproperty.com.au](http://www.butterfieldproperty.com.au)

*"We put people first"*



# For the fridge door

APRIL	WHAT	WHERE	TIME
Now till Weds 17	Tim Moorehead	Shop7 Art Space, every day except Tues	10.30 am - 3.00 pm
Weds 3	<i>Ubiquitous Garden</i> Em Carter all April	Lazy Lizard, Side Room	10 am - 2 pm
Sat 6	CWA bake stall	Near the Lazy Lizard	8.30 am
	Cass McGufficke	Tilba Winery and Alehouse	12 noon
Sun 7	Mel T Duo	Tilba Winery and Alehouse	12 noon
Thurs 11	Hearing devices explained	Narooma Golf Club	10.30 - 11.30
Fri 12 - 23	<i>Odyssey</i> Tracey Creighton pg 32	Spiral Gallery 47 Church St Bega	M-F 10 - 4 Sat 10 - 1
Fri 12	Neil Murray performs pg 28	Murrah Hall	7 pm
Sat 13	Jakob Poyner	Tilba Winery and Alehouse	12 noon
	Neil Murray performs pg 28	Smokey Dan's, Tomakin	5 pm
Thurs 18 - Sat 21	Australian Heritage Festival, various activities and venues pg 25	Central Tilba	Information on website
Thurs 18 - Weds 8 May	Tristan Dalziel	Shop7 Art Space, every day except Tues	10.30 am - 3.00 pm
Fri 19	Kevin Borich with Mark Easton and Marji Curra ticketed event	Tilba Winery and Alehouse	4.00 pm
Sat 20	Talia Brain	Tilba Winery and Alehouse	12 noon
	Didirri <i>Don't Talk</i> tour and Rowena Wise ticketed event	Tilba Winery and Alehouse	5.00 pm
Sun 21	Sustainable House Day pg 23	<i>Tingaringy</i> , Central Tilba	Booking req
	Felicity Dowd	Tilba Winery and Alehouse	12 noon
	Heath Cullen special live recording and concert event pg 28	Four Winds, Windsong Pavilion picnic + bar	Open 2 pm start 3 pm
Thurs 25	ANZAC day march + service pg 20 assembles 10.20 am	Cobargo, starts outside Cobargo School of Arts	March starts 10.30 am
	ANZAC day march + service pg 23	Tilba, Bate St commences	10.00 am
Fri 26 - Wed 15 May	<i>Road Tripping</i> - Tulgeen artists pg 32	Spiral Gallery 47 Church St Bega	M-F 10 - 4 Sat 10 - 1
Sat 27	Benji Fowler	Tilba Winery and Alehouse	12 noon
Sun 28	SHASA EV Stall	Narooma Rotary market, NATA Oval	9 am - 1 pm
	Punkalla Holler	Tilba Winery and Alehouse	12 noon
Mon 29	Women Walk the World guided walk pg 24 contact Zoe Burke 0433 114 374.	Tilba, starts at Sweetwater	10.00 am