

## Make the most of the winter school holidays Tilba Festival fun on 13 July



Tilba Festival banners

Things are starting to take shape for a fabulous festival this year, featuring outstanding local talent on two stages all day, delicious food, craft stalls and fun-filled activities for the kids and adults.

Now held in winter to keep that Tilba spirit going all year, the Festival is a celebration of heritage, local produce, and the creative and musical talent of the community. The Tilba Festival has been one of the best days out on the NSW South Coast for over thirty years and a highlight of the year for the Tilba District.

The Bate Street businesses come together with stallholders, food producers and entertainers to deliver a day that all the family will enjoy and remember long into the future with plenty of activities to keep all the family members entertained, including the boot toss, the very popular egg toss and the cheese roll.

We'll start the day with a smoking ceremony, street cleansing and Welcome Dances by the Gudu Dancers, our very own local Indigenous dance troupe.

The Tilba Festival is organised by a small group of enthusiastic local volunteers. The Festival is a not-for-profit community event and proceeds benefit the Tilba District directly through donations to local community groups.

You can check out our Tilba Festival Facebook page for updated information. If you'd like to get involved in any way, please contact Chrissy on 0457 074 980. It is going to be a fabulous, fun day!

*Chrissy Montague*



Sol Ramana-Clarke jokes around at the Tilba Festival

## Proposed changes to Eden-Monaro's electoral boundaries

All residents of the Triangle region live in the Federal seat of Eden-Monaro and all of us live in the State seat of Bega. However, the southern section is in the Bega Valley Local Government Area (LGA) and, in the north, the Eurobodalla LGA is split between the Federal seats of Eden-Monaro and Gilmore.

The 2024 proposed electoral boundary changes will not change our inclusion in Eden-Monaro, but I thought some readers

might be interested in the draft proposal released last week. The previous electoral boundary change saw Tuross Heads, Moruya and Batemans Bay move to the Federal seat of Gilmore and Eden-Monaro went west to include Tumut, Tumberumba, Batlow (the Snowy Valleys LGA) and Yass and Murrumbateman (Yass Valley LGA). The current proposal suggests returning Tuross Heads to Eden-Monaro, retaining the Snowy Mountains towns of Cooma,

Thredbo, Adaminaby and Jindabyne and gaining Goulburn and Marulan.

Anyone really curious about these proposed changes, can visit the AEC website, type 'Proposed redistribution of NSW electoral divisions' into the search bar and then click on Eden-Monaro under the maps heading.

*Angela Marshall*

### Change is in the air

The weather may not be warming up yet, but Cobargo is getting a new feel. Stand in the main street and you can see building on six sites, more if you venture into the side roads.

I love to see buildings going up and watch the tradies who are doing the hard graft to make this happen.

Tradies are always a boost to a town. Stand in a queue at the coffee and food sellers and see how many of the customers are tradies!

However, the impact of tradies is not limited to appetites but also provides us with the welcome evidence that we are getting more gender diversity in the building workforce. Not many years ago a building site would have been a strictly male domain but not anymore. In Cobargo

you will see a number of women working side by side with their male colleagues.

As a society we have (perhaps belatedly) started to recognise the need to view our total population as potential workers. Some workplaces are still traditionally female dominated, and underpaid, in comparison to ones dominated by men. However, this is also changing and the long held beliefs that some jobs are, or should be, gender specific are changing.

So is it all good news?

In part-time employment there is little gender disparity in terms of gender based pay, but as of Nov 2023 across all full-time industry and occupations, the weekly female to male pay deficit is still \$238.

However, we are getting better. In

2022 we were the 43rd in the world rankings in terms of the greatest gender pay gap, we are now 24th.

Well done to those small and large customers and government instrumentalities that are actively interested in, and promoting, a gender diverse workforce and a shout out to the builders who are making this happen.

*As a postscript, please note that I am not implying that any builders working in Cobargo are discriminating against their female employers in terms of wages or in any other way.*

### 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.



#### Thumbs UP

To our fabulous community who helped Bermagui CWA raise more than \$120,000 to complete our two new affordable rentals. If everything goes to plan, new tenants will be in before Christmas.

To the Cobargo School of Arts Committee and friends who hosted a community potluck dinner with forty very happy eaters. A great night.

To Bermi Marine Rescue who have been training to assist with flood rescues in the future.

To the women of our regional CWAs who work tirelessly for their communities.

#### Thumbs DOWN



Dogs, please do better: train your humans to pick up your waste

Humans, please do better: put your waste, especially plastic, into a bin.

## Join your fire brigade!

You can take up many different roles, for example, in communications, equipment maintenance, administration and catering. Just roll up and say g'day at your closest fire shed on a training night.

- **Cobargo** – Wandella Road – Thursdays 7.00 - 9.00 pm fortnightly.
- **Quaama** – Gordon St – Saturday 1.30 - 3.30 pm fortnightly.
- **Tilba** – Latimers Lane, Central Tilba – Monday 7.00 – 9.00 pm.
- **Bermagui** – 18 Bunga Street – Monday 5.00 – 6.30 pm fortnightly

#### Get in touch or find us on Facebook

- **Tilba** – [centraltilba@farsouthcoastteam.org.au](mailto:centraltilba@farsouthcoastteam.org.au) 0448 100 974
- **Quaama** – [quaama@farsouthcoastteam.org.au](mailto:quaama@farsouthcoastteam.org.au) 0400 738 978
- **Cobargo** – [rffcobargo@gmail.com](mailto:rffcobargo@gmail.com) 0412 919 708
- **Bermi** – [bermaguirfb@gmail.com](mailto:bermaguirfb@gmail.com) 0474 201 859

### Meet your local rural fire brigades



# What is a JP?

Justices of the Peace (JPs) are volunteers appointed by the Governor of New South Wales. Their activities are supervised by the Attorney General of NSW under the Justices of the Peace Act 2002.

JPs are usually highly respected individuals who come from all sections of the community and are located across NSW. A JP has to pass a knowledge test and take an Oath of Office before a NSW court. They must always comply with legal requirements and the JP Code of Conduct. A JP's contact details are public – their full name, a contact number, language/s spoken, and the suburb or town and postcode where they usually provide JP services.

## What can a JP do?

JPs have three primary functions:

- to witness a statutory declaration
- to witness an affidavit
- to certify a copy of an original document.

Generally, a JP in NSW must be physically present to exercise these functions. If authorised by the law of another State of Australia, a NSW JP can witness or certify documents for use in that other State.

A JP must act honestly and fairly, remain independent and impartial, deal with requests for JP services in a timely

manner and must not unreasonably refuse to provide JP services.

## What must a JP NOT do?

- charge a fee or accept a gift for providing JP services
- act if subject to a conflict of interest.
- reveal information that is private, confidential or commercially sensitive
- assist or write in a statutory declaration or affidavit
- provide legal advice
- draw up or store copies of legal documents
- witness or certify documents for use outside Australia.

## How do I find a JP (NSW Justice of the Peace) in my area?

1. Search the 'JP Online' register.
2. Go to a local community desk.

Ask at local places if there is a JP at a location near you (e.g. local council or shire offices, a police station or a courthouse, the office of your local MP, shopping centre, library, chemist or bank.)

The NSW Department of Communities and Justice publishes a *JP Handbook* that is available online or by request for the reference of all members of the public.

Delmah Thompson

## Who does the work

### The Editorial Committee

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**Printing:** Excell Printing Group, Pambula

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



Each edition of *The Triangle* cost **\$3.00** to produce. Please donate what you can.

## 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).



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# Launching Renewable Bermagui

Building on the achievements of Renewable Cobargo, local community members in and around Bermagui are excited to announce the launch of Renewable Bermagui in 2024!

Renewable Bermagui is a chapter of the Cobargo and District Energy Transition (CaDET) group and aims to support local households and businesses to access new clean technologies, to understand and reduce their electricity bills and emissions, and to promote community engagement

in energy sustainability and resilience initiatives.

We are launching Renewable Bermagui with a community information and 'energy expo' event on Sunday 28 July, 9.00 am – 12.30 pm at the Bermagui Surf Lifesavers Club.

We invite all members of the community to attend – home owners and renters, community organisations and small business owners. Come and learn about new technologies, as well as

strategies for reducing the cost of energy bills. Meet the Renewable Bermagui team over a cuppa and morning tea.

This event is being generously supported by the (former) Clean Energy for Eternity Bermagui chapter. You can check out all the event details at our website (see below) or email us at [renewablebermagui@gmail.com](mailto:renewablebermagui@gmail.com) if you have any questions. We hope to see you there!


*Renewable Bermagui*

*Renewable Bermagui is a chapter of Cobargo and District Energy Transition (CaDET), a community group working to improve energy security and energy efficiency in our local area, and to assist the transition to clean, local electricity generation.*

[www.renewablecobargo.com/bermagui](http://www.renewablecobargo.com/bermagui)



Renewable Bermi: Some of the faces behind Renewable Bermagui – Alex, Cassie, Cath and Per.



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- At Nardy House we aim to create an environment where you can grow and develop professionally in a caring and supportive atmosphere.
  - Nardy House provides an opportunity to work with like-minded people who are committed to improving the lives of those living with
  - profound physical disabilities.
  - It is located in the peaceful country side of Quaama, 30 km north of Bega on the NSW south coast and provides a 5 bed permanent accommodation home and a 6 bed respite facility for residents.



**Contact our CEO, Denise Redmond on 0408 675 259  
or email [denise@nardyhouse.com.au](mailto:denise@nardyhouse.com.au) to find out more.**

# Fungi Festival events continue till 21 July

The fungi cup is still half-full! There are lots of fantastic food, arts and science events to join over the remainder of the Fungi Festival.

Food lovers, get in quickly and be inspired with the special fungi menu hosted by the Dromedary Hotel on Wednesday evening 3 July. The Drom team will be using locally-grown mushrooms, truffles and other ingredients. The four-course menu will amaze all fungi and meat lovers – have a look at the website for the menu. Try the fungi on the menu at Tilba Valley Winery, the re-opened Pam's Store in Tilba Tilba, Central Tilba Bakery, the truffle cheese at Tilba Dairy and, at Coco in Cobargo, mushroom risotto and truffle cheese toasties.

Extend your fungi cooking skills with Kelly Eastwood who is hosting a cooking lesson on mushrooms with Asian flavours on Friday 5 July in Bermagui. From umami-rich shiitake to the delicate enoki - learn how to add depth and complexity to soups, stir-fries and noodles at this fun evening.

In Bermagui, science, art and early childhood educator Caitlin Brown will host fungi-themed nature art classes for primary aged children in the school holidays. Children will explore all things fungi with Caitlin at Good Vibes Studio.

You can purchase local oyster mushrooms and truffles for your own fungi dishes at the Tilba Markets and online from Gulaga Gold or join a truffle hunt at Gulaga Gold in Dignams Creek. Work with the scent-trained dogs to locate the black truffle treasures, experience the aroma, dig ripe truffles and enjoy a truffle tasting with a glass of local wine while you learn to use truffles.

Inspired? Grow your own mushrooms at home with easy-to-grow oyster mushroom kits available from the Cobargo Coop.

Cobargo is the centre for fungi art throughout the Festival.

Visit the Lazy Lizard Gallery to view a small, local fungi art exhibition. Coco will be displaying the Fungi Festival's photo competition winners and shortlisted entries.

Don't miss out on learning more about fungi with fungi ecologist Dr Sapphire McMullan-Fisher. Sapphire will speak about 'What fungi are doing for our bushlands?' at Cobargo School of Arts on Friday evening 5 July. Book online or purchase your ticket at door.

Book now and invite your family and friends to come to the area and join in the fun. For more information on Fungi Festival events and to book tickets go to the Fungi Festival website.

*Annette Kennewell*



Caitlin Brown of Bermagui inspires children to share her love of fungi and nature. Caitlin's mushroom puppet helps to communicate her fascination with fungi in her children's art classes.



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

# Macquarie University Survey

## Building climate-ready communities and health systems

In the face of more frequent and intense events driven by climate change, such as the 2019 Australian Black Summer bushfires, we can no longer afford to ignore the impact of climate change on our health. As bushfires and floods become more common, health conditions such as asthma and heat-related illnesses will increase. Climate change events like storms can also lead to road closures or blackouts, making it harder to access healthcare when needed.

At Macquarie University, we are supporting health systems to cope with the new challenges brought about by climate change and are seeking to prepare communities to stay safe and healthy when and where climate crises strike. Our team of researchers come from different backgrounds and areas of expertise. We want to find ways to reduce climate change's negative effects on health and ensure everyone, regardless of their circumstances, has access to appropriate healthcare and can be prepared.

To help us understand the needs of people who are managing a health condition during an extreme weather event, we are seeking people to tell their personal stories.

Volunteers will take part in an interview to share their recent experiences managing a health condition during a disaster such as a bushfire, flood or storm. We aim to understand the health challenges they faced and the solutions they found. We will use this information to design new ways the health system can support the long-term needs of communities in the face of environmental shifts.

Sharing your experience can pave the way to a more resilient, prepared community and help the health system plan for future climate-related disasters. Plus, as a thank-you, all participants will receive a \$100 eGift Card. If you would like to find out more about being involved, contact Dr Hania Rahimi Ardabili at [hania.rahimiardabili@mq.edu.au](mailto:hania.rahimiardabili@mq.edu.au).

*Dr Hania Rahimi Ardabili*

### International Knitters



A hardy group of knitters braved the elements in Cobargo on 8 June, joining fellow knitters from around the world during World Wide Knit in Public Day.






**Have you been affected by natural disasters while managing a health condition?**

### Macquarie University is conducting research to design a climate-ready health system and prepare communities to stay safe and healthy when climate crises strike.

We are seeking volunteers to take part in an interview about their experience of managing a health condition during natural disasters.

You can participate if you are:

-  From disaster-affected communities managing a health condition (as a patient or a carer) during climate-related disasters (e.g. floods and bushfires)
-  Able to attend a 45-60 minute interview (online, phone or in-person)
-  Able to read and speak in English

All participants who complete the study will receive a \$100 eGift Card as a token of our appreciation.

#### For more information contact:

- Dr Hania Rahimi-Ardabili  
[hania.rahimiardabili@mq.edu.au](mailto:hania.rahimiardabili@mq.edu.au) (02) 9850 9419
- Ms Kalissa Brooke-Cowden  
[kalissa.brooke-cowden@mq.edu.au](mailto:kalissa.brooke-cowden@mq.edu.au) (02) 9850 6051



The study has been approved by the Macquarie University Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC Number: 15666).

# Honorbread – now in Narooma!

As she handed over my triple-shot coffee on a sunny winter morning, Amanda explained that locals are still discovering the new Honorbread outlet in Narooma. ‘When they find us, people are just excited to have a good bakery in town again,’ she said. Her next customer agreed.

Bless you, Bermi, we all love an excuse to visit, but my olive and rosemary loaves taste better with reduced carbon miles. Standing in line, I bumped into local Narooma vet Kate, who told me that she too is enjoying buying bread closer to home.



Amanda serving in Honorbread Narooma

Located in mid-town next to an art shop and up from the Post Office, people wandering into the new Honorbread shop are enjoying a breakfast bun or muesli, a hot lunch with salad and, surely, to worship another black tahini and honey scroll.

‘I bake, and use Honor’s sourdough starter, but I come here for the coffee. Great coffee is hard to find,’ Toby told me while tucking into some toast. Tasha nodded while munching muesli next to me at the inside bar table, telling me she comes in for the bread weekly.

Honor explains that she and Tim had been looking for a location on the sunny side of the street in mid-town Narooma for the last five or six years. While taking a squiz at the new art shop, a real estate agent pointed out that the Chinese restaurant next door was closing down. Given the location and prior food approvals for the site, everything seemed to finally align.

‘What really drives me is the fact that forty local people, up to fifty in the peak season, now rely on our bakery for their livelihoods. I want to ensure they can have enough shifts to live well, so we are growing. We have been open for nearly a decade in Bermi and it’s exciting to have the scope to keep doing new things and selling them in a different location. I also really enjoy making and sharing great bread.’

When I asked her how the business differs in Narooma, Honor has noticed that Narooma is more of a working town, so more salads and lunches fly out the door compared to Bermi. ‘Another great thing about Narooma is that it’s close enough to Bermi so food quality is not lost in transportation, which particularly affects pastries.’

Keep cranking them out, Honor and team!

Flick Ruby



**Living in and around Bermagui?  
Curious, concerned or engaged  
in clean energy cost savings  
and solutions?**

Renewable Bermagui is launching in 2024  
with a community information event

**Sunday 28 July 2024  
9:00am – 12:30pm**

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## End of Life Matters

After *The Triangle* went to print in June, I discovered a very important resource in relation to my article on Voluntary Assisted Dying. Southern NSW Local Health District has appointed a Voluntary Assisted Dying Coordinator in Narooma at the Community Health Centre. I've had an extensive chat with the person in that role and for those wanting information on or seeking assistance in that pathway, phone 0460 874 453 or email SNSWLHD-VAD@health.nsw.gov.au or phone the Narooma Community Health Centre on 4475 7200. A local, trained and qualified person is always the best course when seeking current information.

### Free workshops in the Eurobodalla

National Dying to Know Day falls in the week of 8 August each year, and I have been running events since it first began twelve years ago. Talking about end-of-life issues has become so prevalent that in 2023 the Hon NSW Minister for Seniors, Jodie Harrison, hosted a Dying to Know Day launch at NSW Parliament House

I've been fortunate that Eurobodalla Council has recognised the importance of supporting its community with end-of-life education and, once again, this year I am running free workshops at all three of their libraries in August.

These info sessions are designed to help you identify your values for a fulfilling life and death, design a personalised funeral that reflects your essence, begin a 'Life Snapshot' journal of your meaningful moments, record your wishes and guide you on how to have sensitive discussions with your family.

That's a lot to cover I know, but I'll be providing simple handouts that will make the process easier.

**Bookings are required** at each venue, so get in early if you're interested.

- Tuesday 6 August 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm at Batemans Bay Library phone 02 4473 5850.
- Wednesday 7 August 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm at Narooma Library phone 02 4476 1164.
- Thursday 8 August 10.30 am – 12.00 pm at Moruya Library phone 02 4474 1333.

Or go to [www.esc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.esc.nsw.gov.au); then go to their Events page and find the sessions there to book online.

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

## The Sydney Writers Festival comes to the South Coast

Living a good six hours' drive from Sydney, you often feel like you miss out on what is on offer in the cities. However, in May Sydney just got a whole lot closer thanks to a live-stream event offered at a number of south coast libraries. This is the second year that events from the Sydney Writers Festival have been live-streamed to Narooma, Moruya and Batemans Bay libraries, as well as to Bega Valley Shire library. What a wonderful and easy way to bring the best of city life directly to people living outside metropolitan areas!

Over four days at the end of May, the link-up offered a program of interviews and discussions with such well-known authors and thinkers as Leigh Sales, Lisa Millar, Trent Dalton, Viet Thanh Nguyen, Julia Baird and more. It was a great opportunity to hear firsthand the background to their works and get to know the authors on a more personal level.

Thumbs up to the Eurobodalla and Bega Valley Library networks – hopefully this initiative can continue to provide people living in regional areas with access to literary and cultural events without the need to travel to a capital city.

*Deb Worgan*



Narooma Library audience for the Sydney Writers Festival



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# Uniting Church news

Cobargo Uniting Church has started a monthly Family Church, oriented around the children who attend. Hence, we are big on craft, children's music, snacks and read a story from The Jesus Storybook Bible by Sally Lloyd-Jones. Rev Karen guides us, but everyone can be involved (unless they are feeling a bit shy). Most of our time is around tables, although we begin and end in the Church.

Although our Church is child-focussed (currently ages five to twelve), we find the adults enjoy it too, letting out their inner child by adding actions to the songs and expressing their creativity through the craft. It's a time for the whole family, so we ask that at least one adult per household accompanies their children. We are all learning together – no experience needed! You are welcome to join us and no – the walls will not fall down, if it's your first time to church!

Please contact Rev Karen first on 0400 299 751, as we occasionally change our time. However, the usual time is:

First Sunday of the month at 3.30 pm (for approximately one hour) meeting at Cobargo Uniting Church, Bermagui Road, Cobargo (come in via the back door).

*Reverend Karen Paull*



Uniting Church Cobargo: children and adults enjoying craft at Cobargo Family Church

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## Uniting Church times and places

**Cobargo Uniting Church,  
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First Sunday of the month at 3.30 pm  
at Cobargo Uniting Church –  
Family Service for families with  
primary school aged children

Second Sunday of the month at  
10.00 am at Cobargo Uniting Church  
– Communion Service

Fourth Sunday of the month at  
10.00 am, 9 Bega Street, Cobargo  
– Prayer and Praise  
(interdenominational)  
– contact Brian on 0487 936 505

**Narooma Uniting Church,  
134 Wagonga Street:**

First Sunday of the month at 10.00 am  
in winter Communion Service.

Contact: Rev Karen Paull on  
0400 299 751 or karenp@cruc.org.au

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The last month has been a joyful time but also a sad time as youth milestones were celebrated and loss was experienced as some of our treasured community icons leave us.

The Carr and McMahon families combined as their two amazing daughters Jacinta Maree and Stella Red celebrated their 21st birthdays with a party and a family gig at the Cobargo Showground. The girls have been besties forever and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate together. The fabulous and unique cake made by Aunty Helen certainly dazzled. The families and friends danced the night away on a rather chilly night.

Margaret Lohse has had a lovely weekend away at Eden with her family celebrating her 80th birthday. Margaret worked in the family supermarket until the business was closed and she always had a delightful smile with a cheery hello for all.

Quaama/Cobargo Quilters (QCQ) is a

group of friendly and welcoming quilters and fabric and fibre craftspeople who have been meeting weekly for many years at the Cobargo CWA cottage. Over this time, QCQ has been proud to support the local community and this year is no different. \$500 has been donated to the Cobargo Rural Fire Brigade. This money was raised at QCQ's biannual Friendship Day, a day where like-minded people from the local area and beyond get together for fun, food and friendship. For those interested in going along to QCQ, please see the community notice page at the back of *The Triangle* for more information.

It is with sadness, we farewelled local identity John Balas, who passed away in Thailand on 29 May 2024. John lived in Wandella for 35 years, and he held a special spot in his heart for the life he had in the valley. John was a character with a thirst for knowledge and will always be remembered as 'that Frenchman'.

Local dairy farmer, Vin Motbey, ninety years old, also passed away at his home on 15 June 2024 after a brief illness. Vin leaves behind his much-adored wife June and children Charles, Shirley and Gail. Vin was the eldest of nine children and, at just nineteen years old when his father passed suddenly, Vin stepped up to support his mum and help provide for his siblings. Hard work and Vin went hand in hand. He simply loved nothing more than teaching and enjoying the company of his beloved family.

Yowrie grazier, Peter Sutherland, also passed on 27 April 2024. He leaves behind his wife Gloria, daughter Roxanne and his much-loved grandchildren. During his time, Peter enjoyed life at Yowrie where he carved out a living from sheep, cattle and producing eucalyptus oil. Peter was also a highly skilled marksman and an avid tennis player.

Gentlemen R.I.P.



Margaret and Horst Lohse on the beach at Eden enjoying Margaret's 80th birthday with family



The Quaama Cobargo Quilters donated \$500 to the Cobargo Rural Fire Brigade, represented by Phillippe Ravenel and Dave Rugendyke



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## Construction commences for Rebuild Cobargo

The construction phase of the Rebuild Cobargo Project, as announced by the Cobargo Community Development Corporation (CCDC), is on track with Monarch Building Solutions.

On Saturday 25 May, the CCDC held a Public Information Day in the Cobargo School of Arts Hall bringing together the builders' representatives, local trades people and other interested community members.

The event was well attended and took the form of a more informal meet and greet activity. Several trades people took the opportunity to complete Local Trades Expression of Interest (EOI) forms that have gone directly to the builders. Monarch also had the building graphics and details on public display at the Hall to help provide context for those interested.

The detailed architectural design documents for the buildings and the EOI form can be accessed via the CCDC website for general information and for those still wishing to register their interest in being part of the rebuild but were unable to attend on the day.

Following the completion of the

underground power work by Essential Energy in April, and continuing from the already completed pre-construction activities, Monarch have started with site preparations including reconstruction work of the culvert and laneway at the rear of the eastern sites to allow easier site access to the rear near the new Post Office and Market Hall.

As the project's construction phase continues, the CCDC will continue to provide monthly updates via *The Triangle*. The CCDC website will also be updated

regularly with project news. In addition, keep an eye on the local community email networks and community notice boards around the village for notification of future Public Information Days.

For project-related questions or queries, please direct all contact to the CCDC community representative directors, contact details are available on the website.

*Deb Summer and Steve Williams  
Community representative directors  
[www.renewablecobargo.com](http://www.renewablecobargo.com)*



The Monarch team, project managers and architects on site last month. Marco Galeotti, Daniel Thomas, Tony Davey, Ashley Dunn, Caitlin Welsh, Michael Ensor, Jeremy Yip and Jeremy Oakes.

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# Cobargo Conversations

## Cobargo Church Centenary

The Centenary of Christ Church Anglican Church in Cobargo will be celebrated on 11 August 2024.

The celebration will acknowledge a hundred years since the church in Hoyer Street was dedicated as a place for Anglican worship. The celebration service will be presided over by the Right Reverend Mark Short, the Anglican Bishop of the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

The format for the day is:

- 9.15 am – Morning tea; meet and greet
- 10.00 am – Celebration and thanksgiving service
- 11.45 am – Planting of the first tree in the centenary labyrinth
- 12.15 pm – Lunch at the Cobargo Hotel

Everyone is welcome to attend the morning tea and service. Bookings for lunch are required as there is a limit of sixty people. The cost of the lunch will be \$20.00 per person.

If you would like more details or to book for the lunch, please contact the Reverend John Thomas on 0427 260 833

*Reverend John Thomas*



Christ Church in Cobargo

## Serving the community – Cobargo CWA

The Bake Stall that appears on the first Saturday of the month at the Cobargo Market is one way we provide a service to the community. The amazing array of delicious goodies never fails to appeal, and the pre-ordering of ‘special’ delights is gaining popularity – simply ring Sally a few days before to place your order on 0429 933 686. A big thank you to the Cobargo community for your support.

Another way we help is by providing a cosy venue for a minimal cost. This is, of course, our lovely cottage on the Cobargo-Bermagui Road, next to the playground. The cottage hire is a very reasonable rate and it is an ideal spot for small groups to meet in comfort, or for community meetings of all kinds (there is even the Valiant Coffee Van beside us for refreshments).



The cottage is carpeted, air-conditioned and well lit. It is conveniently situated with an excellent kitchen that can also be hired if required. Equipped with plenty of chairs and several tables, the cottage is ideal for many uses. To find out when it is available for hire, please ring 0429 933 686 for help.

The main aim of CWA of NSW is ‘Service to the Country’ and we feel that we are helping to do just that in a small way, in our community. If you would like to join us, you are assured of a warm welcome (and a cuppa) at our meeting held on Tuesday, 9 July, from 10.00 am at the cottage.

*Mary Williams, Publicity Officer  
Cobargo branch CWA of NSW*



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## Cobargo Public School report

### Stage 1 – English/Visual literacy

This term, Stage 1 has been learning about visual literacy. They each created their own art piece to symbolise different themes that were represented through the colour, salience and vectors of their artwork. Stage 1 are incredibly proud of their efforts and Cobargo School congratulates them on their amazing work.



Stage 1 with examples of visual expression

### Stage 2 – Garden Club

Gardening is important for our community because it keeps our environment clean and makes life vibrant. Gardening is a calming activity that helps relieve nerves and is an excellent social activity that our school can do together. Lily, Meadow, Demi, Zoe and Trixie personally started a gardening club at Cobargo Public School as they believe it is important to honour our school environment and create an activity for students to learn the value of gardening and, ultimately, to have fun together amongst nature's beauty.

*By Lily Craythorn and Meadow Leclerc – Year 4*



The Garden Club

### Stage 3 – 3-6 Dance rehearsal

Dance is a wonderful way to express yourself and a great way to encourage teamwork. At Cobargo Public School we motivate children to participate in dancing. Cobargo School has been rehearsing an excellent dance that looks at themes of nightmares versus dreams. Year 3-6 at Cobargo School will be performing at Batemans Bay Pavilion on Monday 24 June.

*Lily and Ruby Kelly – Year 6*

## Cobargo Preschool's Book Fair

Get ready for a literary adventure at the Cobargo Preschool's second Annual Book Fair fundraiser! This community event will take place on Friday 2 August, from 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm, and Saturday 3 August from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm at 1 Park Street, Cobargo. It promises to be a fantastic opportunity for book lovers of all ages to explore a wide variety of books while supporting a great cause.

The book fair will feature an extensive collection of quality books, from children's literature to bestsellers and everything in between. It's the perfect occasion to stock up on your favourite reads and discover new authors. All proceeds will go directly to supporting Cobargo Preschool, helping to enhance educational resources and facilities for our young learners.

Enjoy more than just books! There will be a coffee van, a cake stall and the best BBQ you'll ever have, ensuring a fun-filled day for the whole family.



Story time at preschool

We are also seeking donations of quality books to ensure a diverse and rich selection for our attendees. If you have books that are in good condition and looking for a new home, please consider dropping them off at the preschool. Your generous contributions will make a significant difference.

To donate books or for more information, please contact Emma at 0401 636 827 or via email at [emma\\_a12345@hotmail.com](mailto:emma_a12345@hotmail.com). Donation and purchases help support the education and development of the children in our community.

Mark your calendars and join us for a delightful weekend of books and community spirit. Whether you're an avid reader, a casual browser or just looking for a family-friendly event, the Cobargo Preschool Book Fair will have something for everyone. See you there!

*Emma Anderson*

Once again Stuart and Phillip are off on an adventure, and they've asked me to stay at home and put Tilba Bites together. It's not a chore though – our local contributors are so generous with their time and provide interesting updates on their own adventures. The colder weather hasn't slowed Tilburnians down at all. The Woodies from Narooma held their annual expo in our beautiful halls over the long weekend; people came out in droves to attend the Joni Mitchell Tribute beautifully hosted by Damon and Zoe; we had a ball fundraising for our precious halls with local musicians from Punkalla Holler, the Shannanigans, Ako and Sol Clark playing some fave dance numbers that had Tilba toes a-tappin' at the community dance.

The 'Tilba Shuffle' is just about complete: Bec and Bec settled into the new Ellen's at Tilba café space when Jo from Eumuntea and Gaye from Sapphire Blues retired and took off for their Canadian cruise; the Clark family has set up their toy shop nicely where Gaye traded; the Tilba Cooperative is doing a roaring trade in the General Store space; and James Ing and his mates have opened a tattoo parlour beside the pub.

Tilba Festival preparations are on countdown for 13 July; renos are about to happen on the School of Arts halls; and there are still a few 'For Sale' signs literally flying in the wind along Bate Street, which can only bring more change. But adapting to change is what we seem to do well here, nestling in the arms of The Mother.



Bec and Bec are all smiles at Ellen's at Tilba



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## Tilba District Chamber of Commerce

We are pleased to advise that Council has granted approval for the Tilba Festival to take place on 13 July 2024. There is still so much to organise, but we want to fill the street with entertainment, stalls and fun for the kids. We also want to highlight our towns to encourage repeat visitors to our beautiful area.

### Volunteers desperately needed

If you would like to volunteer any of your valuable time to help us promote Central Tilba and Tilba Tilba, please email us on festival@visittilba.com.au or call Janine on 0400 992 246.

### Thanks Poo Carters and Kennards

We are very happy to advise that we have received sponsorship for the toilets with Poo Carters providing the toilets at no charge and Kennards Hire is providing the electronic road signs. This is very much appreciated as the budget is very tight this year.

It is hoped that the new signage on the highway will be completed by festival time to showcase the entrance to our towns.

We hope to have the 'Trails' decided upon to include in the updated Visit Tilba website. Any enquiries regarding this please email secretary@visittilba.com.au

The next Chamber meeting is on 2 July in the small hall at 5.00 pm. This will be our last meeting at the hall due to the long-awaited construction work set to commence later in July.

Chrissy Montague



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## Tilba CWA had a busy month

As we head into winter, the Tilba CWA has been busy as ever. Our Craft Officer, Vicky Staddon, and Nola Ezzy coordinated a fun French craft morning for the children at Central Tilba Public School in late May. The Kinder to Year 2 students made French-themed paper placemats and the Years 3 to 6 students constructed 3D cardboard Eiffel Towers. Helen Thomson worked with Linda Appelgren and Sandy Felder in the school kitchen to create a French-themed lunch of ham and cheese croissants, quiche, gougères (cheese puffs) and mushroom palmiers, followed by chocolate mousse and madeleines. Yum! *Bon appetit* indeed!



Nola Ezzy, Helen Thomson and Vicky Staddon of Tilba CWA with Anne Maddock, Far South Coast Group CWA International Officer who travelled from Merimbula to attend this French event.

### High spirits at the Bermi High Tea

Several members of the Tilba Branch went to the CWA Bermagui High Tea on Saturday 8 June to support the fundraising efforts of this determined branch. ‘We had a fabulous time chatting and sharing with Far South Coast Group members and friends. As a Branch we applaud the efforts of our CWA colleagues in their much-needed advocacy and efforts for housing solutions in our area,’ said Tilba Branch President, Annette Kennewell.

### Raffle Winner

The winner of Tilba CWA’s Mother’s Day raffle was Linda Newcombe who has always supported Tilba CWA’s raffles. Congratulations, Linda.

### Tilba Festival

We hope to see you at our CWA stall at the much-loved Tilba Festival on 13 July. Pop in to say ‘Hi’, enjoy a sweet or savoury homemade delight or add to your cookbook collection. Our next meeting is on Thursday 11 July in the Tilba Small Hall. Join us from 10.00 am for morning tea followed by a meeting at 10.30 am. All welcome.

*Virginia York  
Publicity Officer*

## Boot Scootin’ at the Tilba Dance

### Tilba Halls renovation is close

Saturday night 15 June, was a great community event in the hall with music, dancing, food, raffles and fun. We had over a hundred people and lots of excited kids, young adults and oldies on the dance floor. The line dancing was a hoot!

Our appreciation and thanks go to all who contributed to make this music night happen – Shanna, Mariano, the bands, Chrissy, Ako and Carrie, the Hall Committee and supporters, the Central Tilba businesses and those people who showed up on such a cold winter night. Thanks to everyone for their support.

We are very close to starting the renovations and extensions on both halls. We have our construction certificate and a builder ready to go – this process has taken more than three years with amazing dedication and time from SHASA and our architect.

We don’t yet have a starting and finishing date, but our halls will be closed for the duration of the build. The halls have been here for more than a hundred years, and these renovations and upgrade will keep them as a community asset for future generations.

We’ll let the community know as soon as there is a date to start the build. The committee and user groups are now working on how and where to store all the equipment offsite during the build. We do realise that this will be a major challenge for everyone, but if we look at the big picture, we can all agree that it’s a dream come true.

*Janine Halasz  
Tilba School of Arts Inc.*



Chrissy Montague leads the line dance. Photo by Salina Riley

## Botanic Gardens excursion

On Wednesday 29 May, the Barranguba class (Years 3 to 6) went to the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens in Batemans Bay for the day. On the way there some students were singing pop songs to pass the time. When we first arrived, we had our morning tea and then were divided into groups. Each group was allocated a Botanic Gardens guide who showed each group around, naming and teaching us about the plants, fungi and animal scats.

During the guided tour we also had to do a plant scavenger hunt. And we got to see the tallest tree in the Botanic Gardens. The tree is very old and was around when Captain Cook first came to Australia. We were told that if you were to cut the tree the lines inside the trunk would indicate how old it was and it would be over 300 years old. Some of the students were lucky enough to see frogs hiding inside some of the plants.

After the guided tour, we were taken to an open classroom where we were taught more about plants and how they reproduce. We took a closer look at different plants through a microscope. Then we got to re-pot a seedling. The plants that we re-potted were important because they sell them to fund the Botanic Gardens.

We had our lunch and a play in the Gardens play space. The whole class was on this big spinning piece of equipment. It was really fun. The Botanic Gardens excursion was a great experience and would make a lovely day out for families.

In other news, Tilba School entered a team in the Netball Knockout Competition for the first time this year. Our first game was against Bodalla who were tough competition with lots of experience. Unfortunately, our team lost 4 - 21 and was knocked out of the competition. We look forward to improving our netball skills and giving it another shot next year.

*Abbie and Gracie*



Tilba kids hanging out at the Botanic Gardens



Tilba Public netball team

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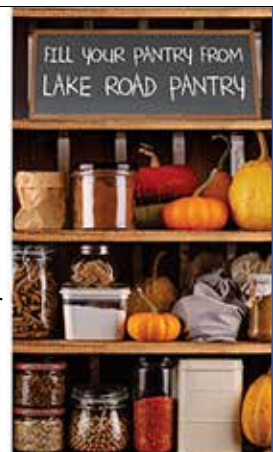
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## Sawdust and Chalk

In a little nook at the top end of Bate Street in Central Tilba is a store built on the 'heirloom principle'. The store was opened in June by Tilba locals, Nicole and Grant Clark, who value sustainability, longevity and bringing back purposeful products for children. Sawdust and Chalk chooses only quality, long-lasting products that foster imagination in children; they're not into quick-pick toys that end up in the trash in six months.

'We're definitely about toys that will be repurposed and handed down. My kids still play with my father's and my own childhood building blocks. They're heirlooms,' says Nicole.

The store is focused on kids – big and small. Their products are all handmade from sustainable components under Fair-Trade principles, locally made where possible, and those items that come from Germany, Spain and around Australia all run to the same 'purposeful' ethos.

'We're the complete opposite to large chain stores,' says Nicole. 'We're more expensive, but our toys are designed to last through the generations and don't come at the expense of others. I think it's good

for people to question why items can be so cheap.'

A lot of the toys are Steiner influenced. Nicole's motivation is for children to use their imagination to use toys for a number of purposes instead of playing with something pre-built.

As well as building blocks and Connetix (magnetic tiles) made from recycled plastics, there is a range of baby clothes including the handmade local Kakadu collection with tie-dyed and handmade dresses and vests.

And, of course, there's the play mat where parents can join their children in experiencing the toys first hand.

'After a high-profile career that took me around the world, I had to find things that made parenting fun for me. As a parent, it's about bringing back those childhood feelings – you have to learn how to play all over again,' says Nicole.

All toys are vetted by the couple's three children Grace 10, Pippy 8 and Goldie 3. If they don't get a seal of approval from the three girls, the toys aren't stocked. It's truly a family business.

*Shanna Provost*



The Clark family



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## Working bees buzzing

There's a blue whisp of aromatic smoke from a cottage chimney, the grind and clunk of a battery-powered pruner and a charming garden path strewn with vibrant autumn leaves and snappy twigs. Walk a bit further and you can see tree limbs swaying and hear the odd crack of a branch. Turn the corner and there they are – the Feed Diggies group, gloved, booted, down in the dirt and reaching up into bushes, working together to help one household get through some garden jobs fast. Yes, after a bit of a break, Feed Diggies recently met at Jen's place for a working bee. Just four of us this time but, boy, we managed a lot in four hours. A comprehensive prune of some fruit trees and a massive hack back of buddleia – thanks, Angela, for the tips on where best to prune on the peach branches. Then a good old tidy and weed of the entrance area and chook enclosure as well as stacking said prunings for a later pile burn. Then there was the inevitable (and fun) sharing of cuttings from some prized and coveted plants. We also found a mystery fruit on a gorgeous tree that Jen had planted years ago (research and cross-referencing with the rest of the group identified it as a type of quince).

When the jobs were done, we stood back and admired our handiwork. What a transformation! These working bees achieve so much – but it's about more than just getting through the work of food-gardening. It might be a cliché, but the whole really is worth a mountain more than the sum of its parts. We might feel daunted by the tasks to be tackled when we arrive at a working bee but, within moments, people find their flow, help, laugh, joke, work pleasurably in silence in the sun, slurp from their water bottles, pat dogs, ask 'what's that plant?', stand up, stretch and stare at the impressive, beautiful bush. The lunch break is a chance to flop down and rest, enjoy some home-cooked and wholesome delicious food, chat, share stories, admire each other's place (and Jen's almost-completed, unique hand-built place has the ultimate wow factor). We give and receive wisdom and musings on plants, recipes, soil, compost, weeds, chooks, just about everything. At the end of the working bee, we are left feeling tired and elated, better connected and cherished as neighbours and friends. The sense of fun, the goodwill, laughter and the learning are amazing. Can't wait till the next one.

## Koalas spotted

Joy! Dignams Creek residents were ecstatic to hear that koalas have again been sighted in Dignams Creek. Koalas have been under extreme pressure from habitat loss and the 2019-20 fires had a devastating effect. Numbers in the Eurobodalla are incredibly low, with no koalas seen for three years. So, sighting two koalas in the tree canopy of Kooraban National Park in Dignams Creek is exciting news (Kooraban means koala in local Yuin language). The announcement of the sighting came after drone surveys were used to check known potential koala habitat in Eurobodalla and Southern Shoalhaven. The surveys are part of the Eurobodalla Koala Recovery Project, led by the Coastwatchers Association in partnership with National Parks and Wildlife Service and Forestry Corporation of NSW. The project is part of the Eurobodalla Koala Recovery Strategy which, in addition to searching for koalas and mapping sightings, is also planting 6,000 koala food trees in strategic parts of the project area.

If you'd like to know more about this



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# Diggin' Diggies



Chilly Dignams Creek AGM Photos: Flick Ruby

great project, the *About Regional* online publication has an excellent story – go to *About Regional* and then search for koalas and drones.

Still on the topic of koalas, a section of land in Dignams Creek has also just become part of a recent expansion of Gulaga National Park. Great news – this will further support habitat protection for these adorable (and currently, in this location, endangered) creatures. Well, we've heard that The Koala Action Network had a free open day in Bega on Saturday 29 June, 11.00 am - 2.30 pm. Those who attended heard about koalas in the forested coastal ranges between the Bega and Bermagui Rivers. There was also information on the NSW Koala Strategy and its projects. It was surely an interesting day!

## A chilly AGM

Like a lot of community groups, Dignams Creek Community Group has just had its AGM. Despite the chilly wind

we braved it with our hats and scarves and some warm-hearted banter. The meeting reminded us that the group has been going for thirty years. Congratulations and a huge well done to all officer bearers and members who've put in the effort to complete numerous projects and maintain the functioning of the group over the years. A special thankyou to Merryn Carey who has been the group's Public Officer for the duration. Wow, big effort Merryn! Your community salutes your dedication, and you definitely deserve the break you're taking from this role. As well as reshuffling all office bearers this time (thanks to those outgoing and welcome to all newcomers), the AGM gave us all the chance to catch up on projects. The Landcare project that will be receiving Landcare funding for a project to assist with management of some specific weeds – especially wild tobacco bush that we would rather didn't become more established on the creek.

The guidance of the local Landcare staff and their support with the mapping

of weeds on properties bordering the creek has been amazing. And thank you so much to Sally Anne Gaunt for putting in the successful grant application. Another highlight of the meeting was when outgoing Deputy President, Jacob Round, gave us all a brief demonstration of the recently acquired Automated External Defibrillator (AED). What an excellent, lifesaving piece of kit to have in our community! Thanks Jacob and the Bowerbird Opp Shop for making it happen.

Of course, there was a delicious afternoon tea, trestle table loaded with homemade goodies, including a vegan cake which was luscious. Even the warming fire and all those impromptu fireside catch-ups couldn't keep us out in that biting wind for too long after the meeting closed. Rosy-cheeked and thickly-jacketed, we headed off in the fading afternoon to our cosy homes – each of us perhaps pondering how to organise the perfect Diggies fundraiser.

Watch this space.



Working bee

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## Seasonality

The topic of conversation on most people's lips at the moment seems to be the weather, which always happens when there is a change in the seasons ... and this is a particularly abrupt change.

Personally, I like the change of seasons and feel invigorated. Break out the bags of warm clothes and get rugged up and, if you are able, take a walk during the day to warm you up. But I appreciate it's not the same for everyone especially those who lack adequate housing and warmth, something we can all work at redressing.

If you have excess warm winter clothes and blankets, please donate them to any local charity for redistribution to those who need them.

Time for warming food too so check out this month's Open Sauce that presents pumpkin, in abundance at the moment, versatile and inexpensive.

BVSC news this month also deals with change

### Bermagui Community Forum

The Bermagui River is one of the most popular estuaries within the Bega Valley for recreation and is also commercially important for oyster aquaculture, recreational fishing and marina operations at the harbour near the ocean entrance. All commercial fishing in the river has been prohibited since 2002.

The river is regarded as one of the most pristine estuaries in the Bega Valley Shire. The significant ecological values of the estuary include its clear waters, tidal flows, extensive saltmarsh, mangrove and seagrass. The estuary represents a key attraction for residents and tourists.

Council has produced a very detailed and lengthy (150 pages) Draft Bermagui Coastal Management Plan for comment.

The recently released Draft Council

Budget for 2024-25 includes a grant-funded \$4.2 million major project identified as 'Cuttagee Bridge renewal'.

It is good that Council is initiating this grant-funded project but given the level of community interest in the outcome, the Forum suggests Council briefly provides some detail about how the money will be spent. Is it for the options assessment? Cost benefit analysis? Preliminary architectural designs? Any community engagement?

### Council to draft an Affordable Housing Contributions Policy, 13 June 2024

Following a feasibility analysis for affordable housing contributions in the Bega Valley Shire, Council will develop an Affordable Housing Contributions Policy.

I read and reread this piece and still don't understand it. I would love to be enlightened and have the policy explained. The words 'strategies, policies and feasibility studies' always send out alarm bells to me when there is real and urgent need for a sector of the community that is really struggling.

If you would like to read more about this topic, go to the Council website.

### The South Coast History Society and *Recollections* are asking for help.

We need your help ... and we're really hoping you WILL help. So much work goes into regularly producing this high quality, extremely popular magazine. But it is also very costly to produce – currently requiring us to find \$25,000 a year.

South Coast History Society is a volunteer-based, not-for-profit organisation and, to produce *Recollections*, we must – somehow – raise that not-insubstantial

amount every year. If you can help, please contact the South Coast History Society at southcoasthistory@yahoo.com or phone 0448 160 853.

A very worthwhile publication, *Recollections*, is full of interesting stories and information from our local region's past. If you haven't picked up a copy and read it, do yourself a favour. I loved the recent one about notable female figures in our district, past and present.

### Council Recreational Strategy Survey

Council is seeking feedback on its Recreational Strategy principally via a community survey.

Council wants to know which recreational assets you enjoy and where improvements can be made. They are focussing on the following categories of recreational assets:

- sports fields
- skate parks, playgrounds and public toilets
- parklands and natural reserves
- aquatic facilities
- maritime facilities

The community comments deadline is 7 July.

For more information on any of these topics and to subscribe to the Bermagui Community Forum please email: bermaguiforum@gmail.com.

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## NATURA Far South Coast

The latest issue of NATURA is out. (Issue No. 13, April - May 2024). The newsletter is about observing and understanding the flora and fauna of Bermagui and Wallaga Lake's forests and shorelines

I'm always happy to open my emails and find the latest issue of *Natura* pop up. I have written before about this online publication and continue to sing its praises. Debbie Taylor puts it together each month and it deals with the 'minutiae' of creatures living with us in our region offering interesting, and often intimate, details of their lives. It is fascinating stuff with some amazing photos that Debbie takes herself.

This month deals with bees and moths in great detail and those wee birds, the Silvereyes which we see flittering and jittering around and catching insects mid-air. I was interested to discover that they are migratory birds and make the journey across Bass Strait to visit here.

This and so much more in the publication ... do check it out if you are interested in the world of Nature around us.

Email: deb\_taylor142@hotmail.com

Georgina Adamson



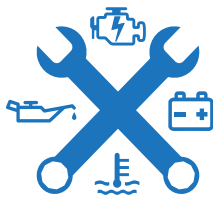
Tussock moth



Silvereye



Leaf cutter bee All images: Debbie Taylor



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## Bermagui and District CWA

Bermagui CWA is delighted with the response to our Grand High Tea and Art Auction that was the culmination of six months' dedicated fundraising. You can read about it on page 25.

It did us 'country women' the world of good! All volunteers and supporters are to be congratulated – well done and thank you!

Something different for our next meeting on Friday 5 July at 1.30 pm. It will be held at the Bermagui SES Base, 4249 Tathra Bermagui Road, Bermagui. As our hosts for the day, the SES will be providing afternoon tea and telling us about their role in our community. Please come along to hear a wrap-up on our fundraising, building program and coming events.

*Chris Richard-Preston  
Publicity Officer*



CWA Bermagui and District – Paula Rumble (President) thanks Cath Renwick (left)

## Bermagui Preschool

What kid doesn't love to watch construction vehicles? At the preschool, Bermi kids have had a wonderful time watching big cranes, cement mixers and workmen carrying out construction work, and it is reflected in their play.

The children have used the recent real life construction projects in and around the Preschool and community as inspiration for their play and learning. They have watched the trades people at work and then transferred this information to their imaginative play and games. The children's cubby building has taken on elements of design and engineering as the children have constructed elaborate spaces with blankets, pegs, cardboard boxes and

other resources. Lego and blocks have been used in building planning, design and construction projects. Outside the trucks, trowels and blocks have been used in play to concrete, cement and render block walls and build paths and roads. These are just a few of the examples of the activities the children have engaged in to learn fundamental engineering, maths, science and technology skills through their play.

An important way for kids to learn through watching real experiences and reenacting them through play.

*Extracted from a report by Narelle Myers, Early Childhood Teacher Director, Bermagui Preschool.*



Love watching those big machines



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## A massive thank you from Bermagui CWA

Bermagui CWA's members could not be happier or more grateful. Their 20-year quest to build two more affordable housing units for seniors is almost complete after they smashed their \$100,000 fundraising target.

The finale of their last fundraising push was the Grand High Tea and Art Auction on 8 June at Bermagui Surf Life Saving Club. The sun was out, the excitement palpable and everyone dressed for the occasion. Beautiful tables set with fine china were laden with delectable hot and cold, sweet and savoury treats.

The sold-out event, with instrumental music from Guitarama, drew people from Dubbo, Dunedoo, Wagga and Sydney, plus CWA members from across the Far South Coast.

Bermagui CWA President Paula Rumble paid special tribute to Del Gray, who passed away last year, and to Elizabeth McFadden who was instrumental in getting the development application approved in 2021.

The generosity of the people of Bermagui and surrounds

brought a tear to her eye. 'From the little boy who donated \$1 to the people who have donated huge amounts of money, thank you for coming together as a community for those in need,' Ms Rumble said.

Guest speaker, former ABC journalist, Linda Mottram, spoke about the need for government to produce research-based policy to address the housing crisis.

Bermagui auctioneer Geoff Speers excelled at getting everyone into the spirit and their cheque books out, with lively bidding ensuing. Bermagui CWA treasurer Cath Renwick said everyone left with even bigger smiles on their faces, including twenty who left with paintings under their arms.

'We think we may have raised \$120,000. We will spend that extra money on upgrading the four existing units as they become vacant in coming years,' Ms Renwick said. 'A massive thank you to all the people who made this possible.'

*Marion Williams*



Left - Some hard workers making sure everybody had a cup of tea  
Photo Chris Richard-Preston



Geoff Speers, auctioneer extraordinaire Photo Chris Richard-Preston



Glendamai Morgan enjoying the High Tea in Bermagui



Maggie, Iwona and Pamela enjoying themselves Photo Chris Richard-Preston

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## Bermagui Public School, Week 7

Bermagui Public School has lots of exciting events coming up! Our Athletics Carnival is coming up on Monday 1 July. We have been training every Friday to find out who will be competing in shot put, long jump and high jump on the day. Apart from those activities, we also have heats for running races: 5-7 year olds will run 70 metres, 8-10 year olds run 100 meters and 11-12 year olds run 200 meters. After all of those, we will have the race finals, with the top six people from each year group and gender. Finally, we will have our competitive relay and then our parent-child relay.

Apart from the Athletics Carnival, we have the results for three of our Primary Schools Sports Association (PSSA) sports. In netball, our school won one of three games with an amazing score, 21-5! Although we lost the other two games, we scored 34 more goals than we did last year. In soccer and AFL, we lost despite trying

our hardest. We'll keep practicing and look forward to next year's games.

An exciting visual arts competition is also coming up. At our school, we have three sports houses: Gulaga, Montague (Barunguba) and Mumbulla (Biamanga). We are getting new house flags that go on display at different events throughout the year. Each flag will have a student design on them, so the competition is all about picking the best design for that house. I can't wait to see who wins!

Driving past, you may have noticed our new signs. Mr Constable surprised us with new signs around our school the other day and they look so good. They all display our school's Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) colours and values. They remind us to be respectful, responsible and safe at all times.

Some of our Year 3-6 students are participating in the Multicultural Speaking Competition. From Stage 2, we are sending

Willow D, from Stage 3, Eddie, Alice, Sienna and I are participating in the stage competition and will find out soon who makes it to the next round in Moruya. Good luck to everyone!

On Friday 17 May, Kindergarten went to Tilba Dairy. They went as a part of their science unit 'Paddock to Plate'. The kids found out where milk comes from and met some very polite cows. Stage One also went on an excursion – they went to Mogo Zoo in week 5. They saw lots of different animals and even fed the camels. How cute!

And, finally, our school is so grateful for the Bermagui Co-op's newest donation! They fundraised to buy our school a defibrillator that is kept in our office. A defibrillator is a small machine that shocks your heart into beating again. It can save people's lives, but hopefully we will never need to use it!

*Billie Matters*



Our fantastic netball team



Feeding the camels at Mogo Zoo

## Tilba Valley Winery & Ale House

Our own Tilba Valley Beers & Ciders now on offer  
Enquiries & bookings - 4473 7308

### WHAT'S ON

Music starting at 12.00  
is free of charge

|        |          |                           |
|--------|----------|---------------------------|
| Sat 6  | 12.00 pm | Loose Change              |
| Sun 7  | 12.00 pm | Pete Roberts              |
| Sat 13 | 12.00 pm | Beach Bar Swing Dj Set    |
| Sun 14 | 12.00 pm | Salty                     |
| Sat 20 | 12.00 pm | Minh Ha                   |
| Sun 21 | 12.00 pm | Jakob Poyner              |
| Sat 27 | 12.00 pm | Punkalla Holler           |
| Sat 27 | 5.00 pm  | San Cisco Live (ticketed) |
| Sun 28 | 12.00 pm | EMAD                      |

Located 8 km south of Narooma or 4 km north of Central Tilba  
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## Anglican Churches of Bermagui Cobargo and Quaama

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Bermagui at 8.30am -

7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

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

Quaama at 10.30am - 28th

Contact: The Reverend John

Thomas Tel: 0427 260 833

## Moodji News

Costa Georgiadis's official eighth Far South Coast Regional Tour took place recently in a whirlwind of activities across the region with his tour focussing on community resilience, regenerative urban agriculture and youth empowerment with 'regional circularity'.

The four action-packed days kick started with a mass planting of over 2,000 organic garlic cloves at Jigamy Farm and a blitz tidy-up of the Twofold Aboriginal Corporation Cultural Gardens Project and a demonstration of the lasagne garden method.

Next, Costa proceeded to FLING Physical Theatre to share stories from arts professionals to Bega Valley youth interested in pursuing careers in the arts

The next day, had Costa deep dive into a hands-on day with kids and volunteers at Bermagui Preschool's Moodji Farm. Its new front gate sign was hand printed by all in a flurry of colours before a living mandala was co-created with kids. A mega harvest was also collected for Eastwoods to feature in its menu for The Moodji Futures Dinner where a hundred patrons indulged

in a three-course meal at Bermagui Surf Club. What an evening!

Next day the tour headed down to Sapphire Coast Anglican College (SCAC) to initiate the college's organic waste audit. In conjunction with its Permi-Plot project, all green waste will be directed to a range of composting facilities built and managed by students.

The final day delved into all things 'circularity' in Bega. With participants from Bega River and Wetlands Landcare Group - BRAWL, Bega Valley Seed Savers, Far South Coast Landcare Association and Bega Valley Circularity getting the lowdown on what this ambitious project has lined up in coming years.

Phew ... exhausting stuff. But what an opportunity for so many to have the inspiration and energy of this gardening guru visiting the far south coast.

Thanks to all (and there were many) involved in the organisation of this fabulous tour, especially Dan Bakka.

*Dan Bakka's report  
abbreviated by Georgie Adamson.*



Costa tries out the worm-composting bathtub at the South Coast Anglican College

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SUN 21 JUL 3PM **KOI KINGDOM** - JAZZ-FUSION  
SUN 4 AUG 3PM **OMAR MUSA & MARIEL ROBERTS** - HIP-HOP POET & CELLIST  
SAT 17 AUG 6PM + SUN 18 AUG 12PM **AFFINITY QUARTET** - CLASSICAL  
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FOUR WINDS MUSIC IN NATURE

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I'm unable to say much this month. I've been away on my first holiday in years, but I've heard how cold it's been in messages from neighbours and friends. I'm writing this on the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year. While the coldest days of winter are likely still ahead of us, at least we can take some comfort in the expanding light knowing that warmth will follow.

So, I send you greetings from sunny south India! I've been holed up at the Indus Valley Ayurvedic Centre (IVAC) in Mysore. It's a proper retreat. I've been pampered with daily therapeutic treatments such as massages, scrubs and being pounded by warm bags of rice dipped in some herbal decoction. This goes on every day! As well as two yoga sessions and a visit with the doctor who checks out my vital signs, dispenses herbal pills and customises the treatments I need. The food is fabulous. It's pure vegetarian South Indian cuisine and I'm inspired to learn how to make it at home. The restaurant manager here has put a lot of the recipes online and is happy to help me get started. If I get any good at it, watch out for my turn on the Open Sauce page in future.

The Quaama School students had a big day when Bell Shakespeare came to the Quaama Hall. This Sydney-based acting company is world class and loves to engage its audiences and give them a love for timeless, well told human stories. From all accounts, our students had a great time, as did the actors. Here's a quote from their team, 'There were literal shrieks and cackles of laughter, with many children completely losing it!' – Team Hamlet, Quaama Public School. I'm a bit jealous! What a wonderful opportunity for the kids. Thanks to the Scully Fund for enabling these actors to tour remote and regional Australia.

And I just saw a post from Julia from Reclink. They've got more funding – yay! So, we're likely to see more free classes popping up to keep us active and engaged. Right now, they're in the planning stage, so if you have something to offer or if you would like to make something happen, contact Julia on 0431 531 453. I'm so pleased and hope that there will be yoga at the hall again (now that I'm right into it). I'll keep you posted.

Some sad news. Greg Ruth, the previous owner of the Quaama Store with his wife Ros, has passed away. We send our best wishes to Ros and the family.



Sending warm greetings to cold Quaama from my holiday at the Indus Valley Ayurvedic Centre in Mysore India. Pictured left to right; Dr Belaku, therapist Mahalakshmi, yoga teacher Rama Chandra, my good self, therapist Lakshmi and restaurant manager Sunil. Om Shanti!

## Carmel Conway: 19.09.1934 – 30.05.2024

In 1963 there was a big house for sale on the outskirts of Cooma, for a very reasonable price. Too reasonable. A migrant couple with three growing boys, the father working as a panel beater, went to have a look. It needed some work but the couple, between them, had the skills so they bought it. But soon cars started arriving. Single men, or groups of them – the house, it turned out, had been a brothel.

At night, when the father was home, he could send them off with his shotgun and some harsh words. Sometimes a shot through the radiator was needed. But during the day the menfolk of Cooma encountered Carmel Elizabeth Conway, shotgun hugged to her hip, her boys under strict instructions to stay inside. She wasn't averse to letting off a shot when required either.

Present-day Triangle locals may have trouble reconciling this image with the slender, girlish woman they came to know and love, with her long plaits, ankle-length skirts and gentle Irish lilt. Carmel and Joe brought their sons Joe, Brendan and Eamon to Quaama in 1979, buying an old slab cottage on Bermagulee Street. Carmel would ride around town on her bicycle, her

beloved cockatoo Timmi perched on the handlebars. But it was during her Quaama years that tragedy struck. First Joe Senior contracted cancer. Then Eamon, who had moved to Sydney with his brothers, died in a motorbike accident. That spelled the end for Joe Senior, who passed away three weeks later. Another eighteen months and Brendan was also dead – another bike accident.



Carmel's indomitable love for life touched all those whose paths she crossed.

In unfathomable depths of grief, Carmel grew a garden. Her neighbour Stan worked at a nursery and would bring her 'pots of dead sticks', and she would bring them back to life. Over the years her half acre became a rambling, verdant sprawl of beds, paths, hedges and secret rooms, as Carmel came to terms with her losses.

In 1997 Carmel sold the Quaama property (this is when I, the new owner, was lucky to meet her) and moved to Bermagui. She took up golf. She met Jim Jubb, whose property backed onto the golf course, and the two fell in love – 'a grand love', she told me just a few years later at his funeral. It seemed that tragedy and death were stalking her, yet her indomitable love for life carried her through and touched all those whose paths she crossed.

Carmel, aged 89, died in her sleep on the night of Wednesday 29 May, after spending the day with her surviving son, Joe, visiting her special spots – Dickinson Point, the Blue Pool and her favourite, Cuttagee Headland. 'I'll be popping off now', she'd told Joe and her dear friend and neighbour Madeline that day.

Rest in peace, Carmel, you'll be sorely missed.

Jen Severn

## ***Flickerfest* 2024 returns to Merimbula on 19 and 20 July – celebrating 33 years of excellent short films**

*Flickerfest*, is celebrating 33 years as Australia’s leading short film festival. Renowned for presenting A-list short film programs, *Flickerfest* will showcase the best short films from around the world, hand-picked from a record 3,400 entries.

*Flickerfest* is excited to return to The Twyford in Merimbula on its national tour. Over two spectacular nights, audiences will be treated to the best of Australian and international short films, featuring highlights from the recent Bondi festival competitions. These screenings offer a glimpse of the hottest contemporary short films, fresh from their premieres.

On Friday, 19 July at 7.30 pm, the Best of Australian Shorts program will spotlight exceptional Australian storytelling and talent. Highlights include *Cold water*, winner of Best Screenplay at *Flickerfest* 2024, starring Bruce Spence; *Djalbuyan Nahra*, a moving drama by First Nations filmmaker Jahvis Loveday; and *Yeah the boys*, winner of the Panasonic Award for Best Australian Short Film, offering a whimsical look at Australian male drinking culture. Other notable shorts include *Ashes*, a comedy by Georgina Haigh featuring Michael Caton and Michala Banas, and *Favourites*, starring Stephen Curry and Tony Briggs.

On Saturday, 20 July at 7.30 pm, the Best of International Shorts program will feature *My week with Maisy*, a UK drama starring Joanna Lumley; *Last days of summer*, a stunning climate change drama from the Himalayas; and *The masterpiece*, an award-winning Spanish film from

*Sundance and Flickerfest*.

Join us in Merimbula for an inspiring and entertaining celebration of short films. Tickets are selling fast, so buy yours on the Merimbula *Flickerfest* website. See you there!

Elie Zaragova



*Ashes*



*Favourites*

## Serenading the Sapphire Coast – flautist Ana de la Vega at Four Winds

Audiences are in for a treat this July as Four Winds welcomes acclaimed flautist Ana de la Vega to the Windsong Pavilion. On Sunday 7 July, Ana will grace the stage with pianist Grace Kim, presenting *My Paris* – a mesmerising journey through the cultural heart of Paris during *la belle époque*.

Ana's personal musical journey, rooted in her upbringing on the family farm in Kiama, has taken her from open fields to prestigious stages across Europe. Her affinity for the flute, ignited by a serendipitous encounter has since blossomed into a celebrated career. 'When I decided to be a flautist, I had never seen a flute. I was seven years old playing in the garden on our farm when Jean-Pierre Rampal's recording of the Mozart Flute and Harp Concerto came through my parents' speakers. The second movement of that concerto rendered me speechless. Every decision from that moment on led me to the flute, to Paris ... to Mozart ...



Flautist Ana de la Vega will play in the Windsong Pavilion at Barraga Bay

A long way from the flies and the dust!'

The event promises not just a concert, but an immersion in the stirring melodies of Debussy, Mozart, Chaminade and more, curated to evoke the spirited salons and vibrant streets of Paris. Attendees can anticipate an afternoon of cultural richness complemented by local delicious food offerings and a welcoming community atmosphere. 'Ana de la Vega has conquered the world with her extraordinary talent. Her musicality is beyond compare and her inspiration for other young Australian musicians is a joy to see.' – Timothy Walker CBE AM Hon RCM.

Sunday, 7 July at 3.00 pm, food and bar from 2.00 pm; \$45 General Admission, \$35 Concession, 16 and under free.

For tickets and more information, visit the Four Winds Bermagui website.

*Madison Phillips*

## 3D printing workshop at Bermagui Library

See a 3D printer in action, find out more about how a 3D printer works and what you can use it for at an introductory workshop at Bermagui Library on Saturday 6 July. The workshop will give you a practical demonstration showing you how you can turn your ideas into reality.

3D printers create three-dimensional objects by layering materials such as plastics, composites or biomaterials.

This fascinating technology allows you to turn digital designs into physical objects and gives you the opportunity to tinker, invent and create at your leisure.

Workshop participants will gain an overview of 3D printing and learn about basic modelling tools for creating interesting and useful objects. You'll find out about open-source software and online resources such as *Thingiverse* you can use at home to create your design before you download it to the library's 3D printer.

The workshop will be held in the newly opened Creative Space at Bermagui Library.

The library is offering this space to the community to foster creativity and curiosity, and to help people network with others who are interested in skill-sharing or sharing knowledge.

Later in the year, Rachael from Bermagui Library will run Sip and Sew workshops to help people learn practical sewing techniques using the Creative Space sewing machines and overlocker.

If you have an idea for using the space or you would like to volunteer to help support a Creative Space program, please pop into Bermagui Library or call 6499 2411 and chat with library staff about making it happen.

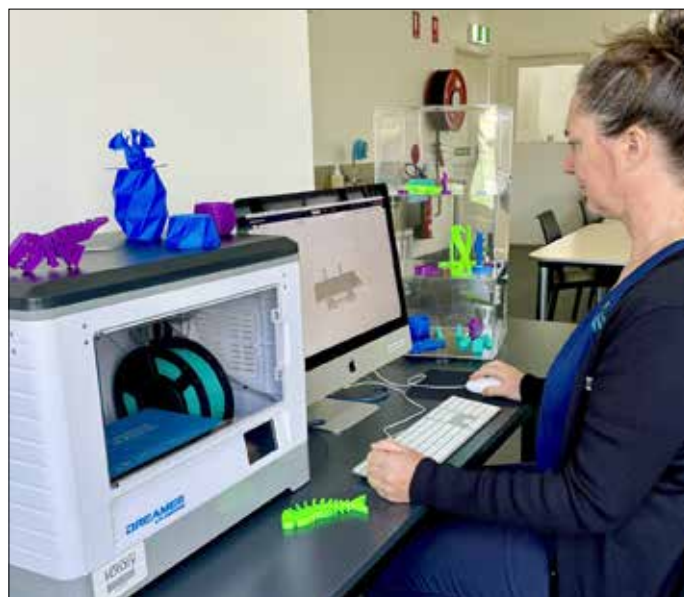
### 3D Printing 101: Basics Workshop

Saturday 6 July, 11.00 am – 12.00 pm

This maker session is aimed at adults and children six years and over (all children under twelve must be accompanied by an adult). Free.

Book online by typing Bermagui Library 3D printing 101 into your usual browser or call 02 6499 2411 to make a booking.

*Linda Albertson*



Willow experiments with the 3D printer in the Creative Space at Bermagui Library

## Twist and Turn at the Lazy Lizard Gallery

Helen Stafford has a collection of new hats featuring a new style, a wide brim and then the crown, some of these can still be 'slouch'. New colours have been introduced and favourite patterns return. Plenty of fingerless mittens are available, these enable you to still work or play but keep your hands warm. Mirror provided so you can come and try.

Steve Stafford will be featuring his culinary utensils. The

items range from bottle stoppers, cheese knives and wooden spoons to the Japanese chef knives as well as chopping boards. Steve imports the chef's blades from Japan and makes the knife handle in Australian timbers, this continues the Japanese tradition of each master craft person having a unique job in the creation of the knives.

*Helen Stafford*



Helen's new hats and Steve's culinary utensils at the Lazy Lizard



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## Shop7 Art Space Gallery calls for entries for the *Harbour* exhibition 2024



*Storm across the Sea*, inspired by *Harbour*. Oil painting by Lyndal Jenkins

We are inviting all artists to enter artworks in any medium, that are inspired by *Harbour*.

Shop7 Artspace Gallery has been hosting the much-loved community *Harbour* exhibition for over ten years now and looks forward to this year's inspirations. It has always been very popular and showcases a great variety of artists and their creations. Our generous local businesses donate the prizes and each gets to preview and choose their favorite artwork. There is also a People's Choice Award of two weeks as Guest Artist at Shop7 Art Space Gallery.

Call into the Shop 7 Art Space Gallery and pick up your entry forms. While you're there, check out this month's show of artworks by Shop7 members and their guests. It is open from 10.30 am to 3.00 pm, on the upper deck at the Bermagui Wharf, every day except Tuesday.

Completed entry forms are due by Thursday 1 August 2024. They can be posted, emailed or delivered to the gallery by hand.

The *Harbour* exhibition will open at 5.00 pm on Friday 9 August and will run until Wednesday 28 August 2024.

Any enquiries, please contact Jenny Mein, [coastclay@gmail.com](mailto:coastclay@gmail.com) or call 0264933039.

Shop7 Art Space Gallery: P.O. Box 47, Bermagui, 2546.

*Lyndal Jenkins*

## Fungi Festival – new children's art events

Two new fungi-themed art experiences for children have been announced these July school holidays as a part of the Fungi Festival program.

Caitlin Brown is a local art, science and early childhood educator who will be sharing her love of fungi and forests with children during two play-based learning workshops at the wonderful Good Vibes Studio in Bermagui.

Caitlin is also a Fungi Festival committee member and photographer who has been capturing the great diversity of colourful fungi in the Bega Valley Shire for just under a decade.

'It is so much fun finding fungi. I adore all their different fruiting colours and forms and I often use my photographs to educate and inspire children to regularly visit our local forests with their families

and observe these treasures for themselves.

Kids who love and respect our natural world thrive and they help create informed, healthy and resilient communities. I can't wait to see what the children create in these art workshops.'

Ages 5-10 years.

Saturday 13 July from 1.00 to 2.00 pm

Saturday 20 July from 11.00 am to 12.00 pm at Good Vibes Studio, 56-58 Lamont Street, Bermagui.

Visit [fungifeestival.com.au](http://fungifeestival.com.au) to purchase tickets to these art classes and other events!

*Caitlin Brown*



Mushroom drawing



A clay mushroom created in a current workshop

# Spiral Gallery Exhibitions

## 26 July - 14 August Opening on Friday 26 July at 4.00 pm

### In Gallery 1

#### Artistic journeys from the studio

Fresh artworks from the studios of Spiral Gallery artist-members, exploring their current interests, preoccupations and inspirations in ceramics, sculpture, paintings, jewellery, textiles, prints, lamps and wood.

### In Gallery 2

#### A sort of homecoming

In recent years, fires, floods, the pandemic and global economic pressures have redefined our relationships with our home. Rhonda Ayliffe's sculptures and photographic prints of ephemeral installations all based on the house motif, explore what home means in a contemporary context.

*Diana Stewart*

Spiral Gallery 47 Church St Bega

(02) 6492 5322

Mon-Fri 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Sat 10.00 am to 1.00pm

[www.spiralgallery.org.au](http://www.spiralgallery.org.au)



*Fern Mandy Hackshall*



*A sort of homecoming image Rhonda Ayliffe*



*Wisteria Karen Sedaitis*



*Bega River Mandy Hackshall*

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## A Plethora of Postcards at Spiral Gallery ... until 23 July

The walls and plinths of the Spiral Gallery in Church Street, Bega are currently covered in an amazing collection of interesting and unique items from our 13th Annual Plethora of Postcards. This has proved to be a very popular show over the years with all ages and has always provided a feeling of *hygge* – the Danish word for warmth, optimism and a feeling of being

cosy amid the current cold winter weather.

So many different mediums used, multiple textures and finishes, magnificent ideas and quirky views of life all contained within an A6 footprint. Each year the entries are so varied with a riot of unique ideas to be explored and enjoyed by artist and audience alike.

Perhaps this 2024 show will encourage

you to enter your own tiny treasure next year?

Ready for your admiration, discussion and possible purchase, Spiral Gallery will be open from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm on weekdays and 10.00 am to 1.00 pm on Saturdays.

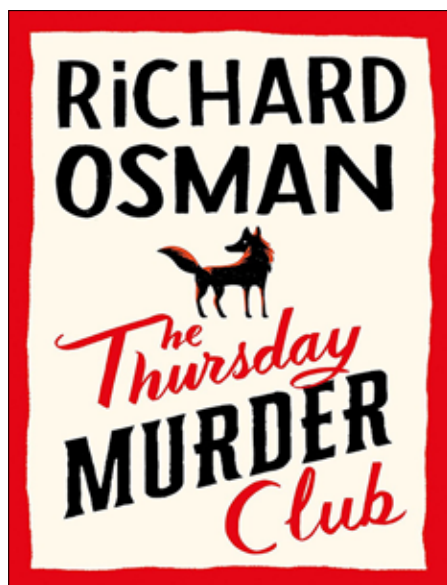
Rachel Annabel



Postcards - Some of the youth entries of 2023

## Book Review

Wendy Tucker



### The Thursday Murder Club

(and the next three in the series)

Richard Osman

Penguin

RRP \$32.000

In 2020, forty publishers bid for the rights to this first novel by television presenter and producer, Richard Osman. It has become the biggest selling adult crime novel since records began and Spielberg immediately purchased the film rights. Osman has since written three more novels in the series with equal success: *The man who died twice* in 2021, *The bullet that missed* in 2022 and *The last devil to die* in 2023. He is now about to publish the first book in a new series and *The Thursday Murder Club* film is in production with a star-studded cast.

So why all the fuss for a cosy crime series?

It's the setting, the characters and the writing. The setting is an upmarket retirement village with swimming pool, leisure activities and an excellent restaurant with fine wines. The main characters are:

Elizabeth, an ex-spy with contacts and enemies in high places; Joyce, a former nurse who cooks and wears pastels – Joyce may not be noticed but she notices everything; Ebrahim, originally from Egypt is fastidious and was a psychiatrist with a great and knowing generosity; and Ron was a trade union leader with strong opinions and a love of football.

They have a lifetimes of experience, of empathy and all the joys and sorrows of a long life. They have seen it all. Throughout the series we learn their backstories. The one thing they have in common is that they have grown older and become invisible but rage against the common depiction of old age. They fit together because these novels are essentially about friendship and longing and being true to who we are. This makes it so much more than a cosy crime novel and accounts for its success. All the main and lesser characters are fully drawn. These are not plot driven novels they are characters driven and the reader falls in love with them and knows them well.

The writing is very funny, very British, at times tragic-comic and also at times unbearably poignant.

I want more.

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BEST LITTLE OP SHOP ON THE COAST

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### CROSSWORD ANSWERS: ACROSS

1 Symptom, 5 Titanic, 10 Skeleton, 11 Choppy, 12 Marc, 13 Orphanages, 14 Seamstress, 16 Rail, 17 Stun, 18 Alison Peek, 20 Brody Dalle, 22 Tart, 24 Vacuum, 25 Newsboys, 26 Anthony, 27 Ushered.

**DOWN:** 2 Yakka, 3 Policeman, 4 Outpost, 6 In class, 7 Aloha, 8 Imprecise, 9 Snapper Island, 15 Entertain, 16 Reputable, 18 Abdomen, 19 One-twos, 21 Dough, 23 Rhyme.

**FRUIT CROSSWORD:** 1. Grape 2. Strawberry 3. Watermelon 4. Pomegranate 5. Lemon 6. Apple 7. Pear 8. Pineapple 9. Orange 10. Banana

**JOKES:** 1. Squash 2. Matt 3. Un-hoppy 4. Cashew! 5. Data 6. With experi-mints 7. A satisfactory 8. Don't worry, he woke up! 9. It went back 4 seconds. 10. It's tear-able

## Garden Tetris

Garden Tetris is a lot like the video game, but instead of trying to arrange falling coloured blocks, it's plants you are trying to fit together efficiently within a limited space. Like the game it can take some practice. That supposedly short plant you stuck in on the edge turns out much taller than you expected, the one you put in the shade needs more sun (or vice versa), that climber would be nicer over there instead, that plant needs dividing and those two plants would look much better side by side. Game on.

July is one of the best times to play Garden Tetris. In mid-winter, many plants will have paused their growing, exhausted their flowering and fruit/seed production and will be gathering their energy for the upcoming spring. Digging them up now will result in minimal disturbance, and they will be settled in their new

position, ready to grow again when the warmer weather arrives.

Before you move a plant, it is beneficial to prune it first as moving a plant disturbs the root system reducing the plant's ability to absorb nutrients and water. The corresponding reduction of the above ground parts makes it easier for the smaller root ball to do its job and satisfy the whole plant. The other thing to do before you move a plant is to have the new planting hole prepared and ready to go, thereby limiting the time the plant is out of the ground.

Before you dig, imagine the plant in a pot. You should aim to dig out a pot-sized root ball at least. The more roots you can bring with the plant the more successful the move is likely to be. Chop/dig right the way around the plant first, and then try and lever it out from below. Larger roots should be cut cleanly with sharp secateurs. Support the root ball whilst transferring the plant to its new hole and ensure that it is sitting at the same depth as in the old location.

Before you backfill, flood the planting hole and root ball with water and let it soak away. Backfill, then give another drink, this time with some added soil conditioner like seaweed extract or fish emulsion. Hold off on fertilising until you start to see the first signs of new growth. Game over.

Now study the garden for another year, note your next moves, and prepare to play again the following July.

Meanwhile, around the town gardens, the camellias continue to shine and the normally non-descript, hardy succulent shrubs, *Crassula ovata* (jade plant) are bursting as they enter peak flowering season. The banksias and grevilleas are also having a flowering flush.

In the wild places, on the sides of the road around the Triangle, the bushland is rather homogenously green at present, with very few obvious flowers currently.

Finally, this month in the veggie garden we continue catering to the cooler weather and so are mostly still limited to planting leeks, shallots or onions, peas of any description as well as broad beans and lettuce.

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

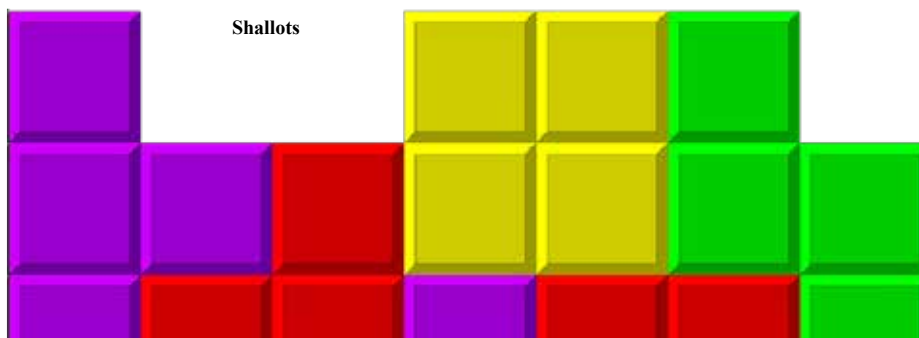
Happy growing.



Grevillea 'Flamingo'



Shallots





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MERIMBULA  
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[merimbula@excellprint.com.au](mailto:merimbula@excellprint.com.au)

BATEMANS BAY  
**4472 1599**  
[batemansbay@excellprint.com.au](mailto:batemansbay@excellprint.com.au)

*Supporting our community*




## Pumpkin Time

*I'm a great fan of using seasonal vegetables ... produce that is at its peak at a particular time of year. At the moment, there are lots of pumpkins available and they are perfect for hearty winter dishes, inexpensive and can be used in so many ways. There is always delicious pumpkin soup, creamy and smooth, but here are a couple of interesting alternatives, one sweet, one savoury*



### Pumpkin and Walnut Tart

**Tart case:**

I use a sweet short crust pastry but substitute one cup of walnuts for flour.

A blender is perfect for this, but it can be made by hand.

Blitz one cup walnuts till it's like breadcrumbs. Add 125 g chilled butter cubed and 1½ cups plain flour (your choice, I use gluten free).

When the mixture comes together, turn out onto a floured surface and work a little. Shape into a rectangle and chill in refrigerator till firm.

Gently roll out and line a tart tin lined with baking paper. I divide the pastry into two to make it easier. Roll out gently to fit. Don't worry if it breaks as you can push it together, just don't leave any cracks or gaps.

Put baking paper on top and fill with dried beans or rice and bake in mod oven for 30 mins or till coloured. Remove from oven and cool on rack. Remove beans and paper.

**Filling:**

Approximately 500 gms peeled pumpkin cut into smallish chunks – roast or steam. When cooled a little place in blender with 4 lightly beaten eggs, 1 cup brown or coconut sugar or ½ cup maple syrup and 1 cup coconut cream. Add one teaspoon mixed spice. Blend till well mixed.

Pour into completely cooled tart case and bake for approx 45 mins. Don't overcook ... just firm on top as it will set when cool.

### Pumpkin, chickpea and coconut curry

**Ingredients:**

- 1 kg (approx.) pumpkin peeled and cubed
- 1 brown onion, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, sliced or chopped fine
- 1 fresh chilli, your choice, finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon of finely sliced ginger
- 1 teaspoon each: mustard seeds, turmeric
- 1 bunch coriander (replace with chopped parsley and celery if you like)
- 20 curry leaves ... or a tablespoon good curry mix with those ingredients
- 1 tin chopped tomatoes
- 2 tins coconut milk
- 2 tins chickpeas.

**Method:**

- Put ¼ cup of a good nut oil in saucepan over high heat.
- Add onion, garlic, chillies, ginger and cook.
- Reduce to medium and cook till softened. Add spices or curry mix. Add tomatoes and coconut milk.
- Bring to boil, add pumpkin and chickpeas. Reduce to low, cover and simmer for 45 mins. Add more water if too dry.
- Take lid off and cook for a further 10 mins till sauce thickens.
- Serve with rice, naan bread, chutneys and dips.

If you still have a mountain of pumpkin, cook some off, mash and freeze. It makes a great 'filler' for so many dishes and is terrific in your dog's food.

**NEED A CAR?**  
*Need a car for a day or two?*  
 The community car is available to borrow. See one of the women at Well Thumbed Books or phone Louise on 0416 039 895 or Linda on 0407 047 404

**QUAAMA GENERAL STORE**

Your one stop shop for Australia Post services, groceries, petrol, hardware, lollies, takeaway meals, local produce and plants.

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

Community Notices are advertised in *The Triangle* for non-profit groups free of charge. If your organisation would like to be listed or if details change, please contact us at: [contributions@thetriangle.org.au](mailto:contributions@thetriangle.org.au)

## BERMAGUI U3A

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

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

## COBARGO AND DISTRICT ENERGY TRANSITION GROUP INC (CaDET)

Email - [renewablecobargo@gmail.com](mailto:renewablecobargo@gmail.com)  
[www.renewablecobargo.com](http://www.renewablecobargo.com)

## COBARGO COMMUNITY ACCESS CENTRE

Unit 5 & 6 / 48 Princes Highway, Cobargo  
Open Tues, Thurs and Fri 10am-3pm  
[cobargoreliefcentre2550@gmail.com](mailto:cobargoreliefcentre2550@gmail.com)  
Ph: 0493 671 117

## COBARGO CREATORS

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

## COBARGO CWA

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

## COBARGO DISTRICT MUSEUM

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

## COBARGO PRESCHOOL

Child centred, play based preschool education for 3-5 year olds.  
Mon - Thurs during school terms  
0455 043 489 [cobargopreschool@gmail.com](mailto:cobargopreschool@gmail.com)  
[www.cobargopreschool.com.au](http://www.cobargopreschool.com.au)

## COBARGO QUAAMA BUSINESS RECOVERY GROUP INC (CQBRG)

New Members Welcome!  
Enquiries: CQBRG Secretary Ph: 0418 361 781  
[e:cqbrgroup@gmail.com](mailto:e:cqbrgroup@gmail.com) [www.cqbr.org.au](http://www.cqbr.org.au)

## COBARGO & DISTRICT RED CROSS

For meeting dates or catering enquiries  
phone Kathy Rix 0488 048 701

## COBARGO SCHOOL OF ARTS

Hall bookings and inquiries:  
Linda 0407 047 404 / [cobargohall@gmail.com](mailto:cobargohall@gmail.com)

## 1ST COBARGO SCOUT GROUP

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

## COBARGO SHOWGROUND

Contact: Mike Nicholas m: 0414 012 287  
[e:miknik62@hotmail.com](mailto:e:miknik62@hotmail.com) for bookings

## COBARGO SHOW MEETING

Monthly 2nd Wednesday, 7.30 pm - Cobargo Showground dining hall. Contact Naomi 0417 456 354 [secretarycobargoshow@yahoo.com.au](mailto:secretarycobargoshow@yahoo.com.au)

## COBARGO TOURIST & BUSINESS ASSOC

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

## DIGNAMS CREEK COMMUNITY GROUP

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

## MOBILE TOY LIBRARY & PARENTING RESOURCE SERVICE

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

## OPEN SANCTUARY AT TILBA TILBA

Meditations, discussions, guest speakers & special events.  
[opensanctuarytilba.org](http://opensanctuarytilba.org) and on facebook.  
Contact: Linda Chapman 0422 273 021

## QUAAMA / COBARGO QUILTERS

Meets Mondays 10am - 3.30pm in the CWA Cottage, Bermagui Road, Cobargo, and welcomes anyone who does patchwork, quilting, or any other needlework.  
Lorraine James 0459 022 368  
or Leanne Tett 0408 627 103

## QUAAMA MEN'S SHED

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

## QUAAMA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

New members welcome. Phone: 0408 411 956  
[quaamaprogress@gmail.com](mailto:quaamaprogress@gmail.com)

## QUAAMA RENEWAL PROJECTS

[quaamarenewalprojects@gmail.com](mailto:quaamarenewalprojects@gmail.com)  
Phone: Veronica 0437 263 128  
[www.facebook.com/quaamarenewal](http://www.facebook.com/quaamarenewal)

## QUAAMA SCHOOL OF ARTS

Hall bookings and inquiries:  
Call 0408 411 956  
[quaamahallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:quaamahallbookings@gmail.com)

## SOAPI COMMUNITY THEATRE

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

## TILBA CWA

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

## TILBA MARKET

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

## TRIANGLE TOOL LIBRARY

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

## UNITING CHURCH SERVICES

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

## THE YUIN FOLK CLUB

The Yuin Folk Club organises the annual Cobargo Folk Festival and hosts folk music concerts throughout the year.  
Details at [www.cobargofolkfestival.com](http://www.cobargofolkfestival.com)  
Ph. Secretary Carolyn Griffin 0400 391 324,

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

**ANGLICAN PARISH OF COBARGO**  
Bermagui: All Saints - every Sunday 8.00am  
Cobargo: Christ Church -  
1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays 10.00am  
Quaama: Quaama School of Arts Hall -  
4th Sunday 10am  
Ph: The Reverend John Thomas 0427 260 833

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

## BERMAGUI BAPTIST CHURCH

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

## BERMAGUI CROQUET CLUB

Every Sunday morning at 10 am  
behind the Bermagui Country Club.  
Beginners and new members welcome.  
Contact: Bermagui Country Club on 6493 4340

## BERMAGUI CWA

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

## BERMAGUI DUNE CARE

Meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month  
Contact: [bermaguidunecare@skymesh.com.au](mailto:bermaguidunecare@skymesh.com.au)

## BERMAGUI GARDEN GROUP

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

## BERMAGUI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Museum Open Tuesdays 10am - 2pm.  
Researchers & helpers welcome.  
Contact [bermaguimuseum@gmail.com](mailto:bermaguimuseum@gmail.com)

## BERMAGUI & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

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

## THE BERMAGUI MARKET

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

## BERMAGUI MEN'S SHED

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

## BERMAGUI PROBUS

Meets at 10am to 12pm on the 2nd Monday of  
each month at the Men's Shed meeting room.  
Bermagui Tathra Rd. Contact Lorraine Courtis  
email [lcou6446@bigpond.net.au](mailto:lcou6446@bigpond.net.au)

## BERMAGUI SENIORS' SOCIAL CLUB

Meets the 1st Wed, 11.30 am at the Bermagui  
Country Club, with social luncheons to follow.  
New members are most welcome.  
Enquiries: [bermaguiseniors@gmail.com](mailto:bermaguiseniors@gmail.com)

## SUDOKU

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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## JULY CROSSWORD

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| 26 |    |    |    |    |    | 27 |    |    |

## Kidz' Korner

### Fruits

## ACROSS

- 1 Illness indicator (7)
- 5 Warning not to trust travel safety claims (7)
- 10 Type of bobsleigh (8)
- 11 Turbulent (6)
- 12 Wine press residue (4)
- 13 Where Oliver Twist and Jane Eyre lived for a while (10)
- 14 Dressmaker (10)
- 16 Criticise severely (4)
- 17 Render speechless (4)
- 18 Apelike son thrashed a hockey player\* (6,4)
- 20 Bolder lady regenerated as punk rocker (5,5)
- 22 Sharp to the taste (4)
- 24 There's nothing in it (6)
- 25 Christian rockers (8)
- 26 Former Deputy Prime Minister Doug --- (7)
- 27 Led down the aisle (7)

\*Indicates a cryptic clue.

## DOWN

- 2 Hard work (5)
- 3 Claim peon is beaten up for a cop (9)
- 4 Frontier settlement (7)
- 6 Student's whereabouts, preferably (2,5)
- 7 Hawaiian hello (5)
- 8 Fuzzy (9)
- 9 Sydney Harbour feature (7,6)
- 15 Amuse (9)
- 16 Held in esteem (9)
- 18 Lower torso (7)
- 19 Follow-up punches, in boxing (3-4)
- 21 Moolah (5)
- 23 Banjo Paterson speciality (5)

**Answers on page 35**

## Jokes

1. What is an elephant's favorite sport?
2. What do you call a man with no arms or legs lying in front of a door?
3. What do you call a frog with no legs?
4. What sound does a nut make when it sneezes?
5. What did the baby computer call its father?
6. How does a scientist freshen his breath?
7. What do you call a factory that makes average quality products?
8. Did you hear about the kidnapping in the park?
9. What did the clock do when it was hungry?
10. Did you hear the joke about a piece of paper?

If you have a game, quiz or crossword you would like to see on the Game On page, send it to [contributions@thetriangle.org.au](mailto:contributions@thetriangle.org.au)

# For the fridge door

| JULY          | WHAT  | WHERE  | TIME  |
|---------------|---|--|---|
| All July      | <i>Twist &amp; Turn</i> Helen and Steve Stafford's winter work pg 32                          | Lazy Lizard, Side Room                           | 10 am - 2 pm  |
|               | <i>Plethora of Postcards</i> : group exhibition till July 27 pg 35                            | Spiral Galleries, Church St, Bega                | M-F 10 - 4 pm<br>Sat - 10 - 1 pm                          |
|               | Members and friends' exhibition   | Shop7 Artspace every day except Tuesday          | 10.30 am - 3.00 pm  |
|               | Truffle Hunt  | Gulaga Gold, Dignams Creek                       | Thurs/Fri 10.00 am - 1.00 pm<br>Sat/Sun 1.00 pm - 4.00 pm |
| Weds 3        | Special 4-course fungi dinner   | Dromedary Hotel, Central Tilba                   | 6.00 pm - 9.00pm  |
| Fri 5         | Cooking lesson: mushrooms with Asian flavours   | Eastwoods, Bermagui                              | 5.00 pm - 8.00 pm   |
|               | Presentation by fungi ecologist Dr Sapphire McMullan Fisher on <i>Fungi in our bushlands</i>  | Cobargo School of Arts                           | 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm   |
| Sat 6         | 3D printing workshop, age 6 - adult, must book pg 31  | Bermagui Library                                 | 11.00 am - 12.00 pm                                       |
|               | Loose Change  | Tilba Winery and Alehouse                        | 12 noon   |
| Sun 7         | Pete Roberts  | Tilba Winery and Alehouse                        | 12 noon   |
|               | Flautist Ana de la Vega and Grace Kim, pianist, perform <i>My Paris</i>                       | Windsong Pavillion, Four Winds Barraga Bay pg 31 | Food & bar 2 - 3 3.00 pm start                            |
| Sat 13        | Tilba Festival: family fun, food, stalls, entertainment over two stages                       | Bate St, Central Tilba pg 1                      | 9.00 am - 4.00 pm   |
|               | Mushroom Open Garden and workshop   | Narooma online information                       | 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm  |
|               | Fungi-themed nature art class for primary aged children pg 33                                 | Good Vibes Studio, Bermagui                      | 1.00 - 2.00 pm  |
|               | Beach Bar DJ set  | Tilba Winery and Alehouse                        | 12 noon   |
| Sun 14        | Salty   | Tilba Winery and Alehouse                        | 12 noon   |
| Fri 19        | Flickerfest: Best of Australian short films - bookings pg 30                                  | Twyford Hall, Merimbula                          | 7.30 pm onwards   |
| Sat 20        | Fungi-themed nature art class for primary aged children pg 33                                 | Good Vibes Studio, Bermagui                      | 11.00 am - 12.00 pm                                       |
|               | Minh Ha   | Tilba Winery and Alehouse                        | 12 noon   |
|               | Flickerfest: Best of International short films - bookings pg 30                               | Twyford Hall, Merimbula                          | 7.30 pm onwards   |
| Sun 21        | Jakob Poyner  | Tilba Winery and Alehouse                        | 12 noon   |
| Fri 26        | Opening, Gallery 1: Group exhibition; Gallery 2: Rhonda Ayliffe - <i>A sort of homecoming</i> | Spiral Galleries, Church St, Bega pg 32          | Fri opening 4.00 pm<br>M-F 10 - 4 pm Sat 10 - 1 pm        |
| Sat 27        | Punkalla Holler   | Tilba Winery and Alehouse                        | 12 noon   |
|               | San Cisco live (ticketed)   | Tilba Winery and Alehouse                        | 5.00 pm   |
| Sun 28        | EMAD  | Tilba Winery and Alehouse                        | 5.00 pm   |
| <b>AUGUST</b> |   |  |   |
| Fri 2         | Bookfair fundraiser pg 13   | Cobargo Preschool 1 Park St                      | 3.00pm - 6.00pm   |
| Sat 3         | Bookfair fundraiser pg 13   | Cobargo Preschool 1 Park St                      | 9.00am - 3.00pm   |