

THE TRIANGLE

COMMUNITY NEWS

Est. Sept. 2002

QUAAMA COBARGO BERMAGUI TILBA & LOCALITIES

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Marine Rescue's new inflatable put through its paces

Lifesaving operations on the water have just expanded for Marine Rescue Bermagui because Marine Rescue NSW has taken delivery of new custom-designed, multi-purpose vessels that can be deployed quickly across NSW in the event of an emergency. A state asset and part of the State Operations Group, one of the new vessels (call sign MR15), is currently based in Bermagui.

The vessels form part of Marine Rescue NSW's response to recommendations from the 2022 NSW Flood Inquiry, with the Service receiving \$3,748 million of State Government funding to build capability and capacity to support NSW SES and other agencies during significant emergencies.

MR15, a 4.2 metre Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB), seats a maximum of six and has given Marine Rescue extended capabilities to perform flood



Marine Rescue Bermagui takes charge of the new Inflatable Rescue Boat. All photos: Deb Worgan

rescue work across the state as well as assisting boaters in difficulty thanks to the vessel's ability to perform on inland waterways, as it is most suited to operations on rivers and lakes.

The vessel also carries specialised flood rescue equipment and will mainly be deployed to assist in rescue and relief

situations, where Marine Rescue would be working to assist the SES.

MR15 will also offer greater opportunities for more well-rounded training exercises, providing trainees with experience in the use of different vessels and equipment.

On 7 August, members of Marine Rescue Bermagui took MR15 out for its first open water training session with BG30, and the feedback is that it performed beautifully, moving easily at speed through the calm water and demonstrated towing well.

Some volunteers from Marine Rescue Bermagui have become part of the State Operations Group and have been busy honing their knowledge of the IRB and its capabilities, and will be out and about on Wallaga Lake, Corunna Lake and the Bega River over the next few months familiarising themselves with the vessel and waters.

Meanwhile, Marine Rescue Bermagui is keen to welcome new volunteers.

Because we need you.

*Lisa Ashurst
Volunteer*

Bermagui Marine Rescue



Marine Rescue Bermagui volunteers try out MR15 on the Bermagui River.

Welcome to spring! It needs an exclamation mark – it’s just so exciting. When the days are getting longer and maybe warmer, but not so warm that we feel threatened by summer – spring has only just started!

Luckily for us, our collective volunteer rural fire brigades are presenting their annual Get Ready Weekend for summer information days throughout the Triangle region so we can be truly armed with information to prepare for the coming

season.

We can also prepare our vegie gardens. *What’s Growin On* is a great guide for preparing your garden, and when and what to plant. Mark is always happy to answer your questions about your gardening problems, plant and pest infestations, and plant identification.

Still talking about spring and preparation, our local elections are being held on Saturday 14 September. *The Triangle* is helping by publishing an

easy, at-a-glance guide that will help you understand how, when and why you must vote within your local government area (LGA) on the day. So being forearmed with knowledge you will be able to either send in your postal vote before 9 September (refer to pages four and five) if you can’t be in your area. Or vote locally. It’s compulsory, the upside is getting one or more of those democracy sausages.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

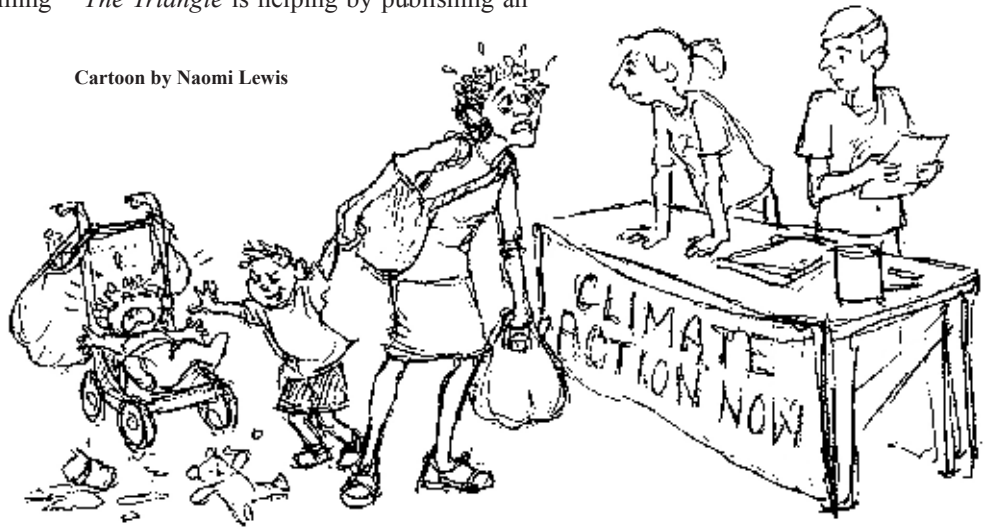
ACROSS

9 Fruit dove, 10 Opera, 11 Sturt, 12 Rule of law, 13 To be had, 14 Cairns, 16 Fantome Island, 21 Unsung, 23 Looks in, 26 Honeycomb, 27 Endow, 28 Servo, 29 Manoeuvre.

DOWN

1 Off site, 2 Suburbia, 3 Stitch, 4 Notre Dame, 5 Kelly, 6 Go to jail, 7 Dealer, 8 Car wash, 15 Billabong, 17 Tennyson, 18 Nosedive, 19 Duchess, 20 Snowies, 22 Sentry, 24 Obeyed, 25 Norms.

Cartoon by Naomi Lewis



'I'm looking for information about renewable energy'



GET READY WEEKEND

TALK TO YOUR LOCAL BRIGADE ABOUT FIRE RISK IN YOUR AREA

- **Central Tilba**
Saturday 14 Sept, 10-2pm
RFB Station
Latimers Lane
- **Bermagui**
Saturday 21 Sept, 9-12 noon
Sunday 22 Sept, 9-12 noon
RFB Station
18 Bunga Street
- **Cobargo**
Saturday 21 Sept, 10-1pm
RFB Station
Wandella Road








FOR MORE HELP PREPARING YOUR PROPERTY AND FAMILY FOR BUSH FIRE GO TO [RFS.NSW.GOV.AU](https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)



Thumbs UP

For the music at the Valiant Coffee Cart on Saturday mornings – it has been excellent! Lovely tunes, vibes and catch ups in the CWA garden - thanks James and crew!

To the new businesses that have invested in the Triangle. It's a vote for the future of a healthy and vibrant community.

Thank you to the Montreal Goldfield Committee for keeping Bermi's history alive. With volunteers running low, they still managed to create a documentary on Bermagui's gold rush while running their interesting and engaging enterprise.

Thumbs DOWN

It was with great disappointment that we discovered that one of the recent users of the community car obviously had a small bingle and did not report it, even though they had tried to hide it by using red gaffer tape. Very disappointing.



To whoever dumped these unsightly, toxic tyres and wheel rims in the vicinity of our beautiful Nutleys Creek in the Bermagui State Forest. When you find a conscience and go back to get them, don't worry, they've been relocated to the tip. You're welcome.



Beware! There seems to be a permanent parking inspector prowling Cobargo, right when we have lost parking spaces on both sides of the highway to building works. It is no longer safe to park for literally 60 seconds to walk an ailing 75-year old woman across the highway. For all such acts of kindness the Council will gouge \$320, an enormous sum for a parking fine.

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 and cc lsang333@gmail.com.



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

Disclaimer

The opinions expressed by contributors to the newspaper are their own, to a greater or lesser degree, and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial team.

Whilst striving to accurately report the news and views of the readers, this newspaper accepts no responsibility or liability for statements made or opinions expressed.

All letters to the editor must be signed and include the writer's full name and address if they are to be considered for publication.

Who does the work

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Linda Sang

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Bega: Candelo Books, Bega Library

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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

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PO Box 293 Bermagui NSW 2546

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The Triangle is a community newspaper.

Its aim is to provide information and news to the people in the Triangle area - the area bounded by the three mountains (Gulaga, Mumbulla and 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.

Eurobodalla Council Elections 2024

Eurobodalla Shire residents will be voting on 14 September 2024 for a mayor and eight councillors to sit on the Eurobodalla Shire Council.

For more detailed information on candidates, locations, opening hours, and accessibility type 'nsw electoral commission eurobodalla' into your regular browser.

Key dates

7-13 September – pre-poll voting
9 September, 5pm – postal applications close
14 September – election day
27 September – postal ballots must be received
1-3 October – election results

When and where to vote

Pre-poll voting, 7 to 13 September

Batemans Bay Community Centre
Moruya Mechanics Institute
Narooma Sport and Leisure Centre

Election day, Saturday 14 September

Batemans Bay Community Centre
Batemans Bay High School
Batemans Bay Surf Lifesaving Club
Bodalla Public School
Boomerang Centre, Mogo
Broulee Public School
Central Tilba Hall
Dalmeny Community Hall (Fire Shed)
Durras Progress Hall
Kyla Park Hall
Long Beach Fire Brigade Station
Moruya Public School
Narooma Sport and Leisure Centre
Nelligen Mechanics Institute Hall
Sunshine Bay Public School
Tomakin Community Centre
Wallaga Lake Koori Village Community Hall

Candidates for Mayor

Colleen Turner, Malua Bay, The Greens
Sharon Winslade, Rosedale, Labor
Rob Pollock, Potato Point, Independent
Mathew Hatcher, Tomakin, Independent
Anthony Mayne, Mossy Point, Independent
Claire McAsh, Jeremadra, Independent

Candidates for Council

The Greens

Colleen Turner, Malua Bay
Joslyn Van der Moolen, South Durras
Charlie Bell, Tomakin
Niall O'Donnell, Lilli Pilli

Labor

Sharon Winslade, Rosedale
Maureen Searson, Catalina
Patricia Ellis, Bergalia
Gail Vincent, Batemans Bay

Jason Ford group

Jason Ford, Surfside
Marlene Brayshaw, Rosedale
Dave Greer, Catalina
Rosemary Deadman, Surfside
Robert Fortuna, Surfside
Geoff Martin, Surfside

Mathew Hatcher group

Mathew Hatcher, Tomakin
Amber Schutz, Catalina
Laurence Babington, Corunna
Ronald Meek, Long Beach
Carrie Taylor, Central Tilba
Rebecca Mahon, Batehaven
Charles Stuart, Denhams Beach

Anthony Mayne group

Anthony Mayne, Mossy Point
Karyn Starmer, Moruya
Michelle Hamrosi, Broulee
Sally Christiansen, Narooma
David Grice, Long Beach

Claire McAsh group

Claire McAsh, Jeremadra
John Hawke, Batemans Bay
Krystal Tritton, Moruya
Gary Traynor, Moruya

Phil Constable group

Phil Constable, Narooma
Mick Johnson, Tuross Head
Patricia Hellier, North Batemans Bay
Kristy Beecham, Narooma

Rob Pollock group

Rob Pollock, Potato Point
Sofia Keady, North Batemans Bay
Keira Marchini, Eurobodalla
John Tait, Surfside
James Thomson, Belowra
Lindsay Brown, Narooma

Ungrouped

Neil Gow, Long Beach, Independent

Local elections on the far south coast

It's that time again. All NSW residents will cast their votes for local Councillors and Mayors on Saturday, 14 September.

There are a lot of candidates in the two Local Government Areas (LGAs) covered by *The Triangle*, so we have set them out within their chosen groups and indicated where they live. You can vote for any candidate standing in the LGA in which you live.

Some pointers:

- This election, Bega Valley Shire residents will vote directly for Mayor for the first time, rather than having the elected Councillors select the Mayor after the election.
- You can vote for an entire group above the line or select your preferred individual candidates below the line in a ranked order of preference.
- All registered residents are entitled to vote as are all rate payers within the LGAs, even if they live elsewhere.
- You cannot vote in any LGA other than the one in which you are registered, but you can vote at any polling place within it.
- You cannot cast an absentee vote in local government elections. If you will be away, you must apply for a postal vote before 5.00 pm on 9 September. You can apply either online or download a form and post it to the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC). If you need help with the postal vote application, the NSWEC is happy to assist you over the phone on 1300 135 736.
- Pre-poll voting begins on 7 September and votes can be cast in the major town centres including Narooma, Bermagui and Bega.
- If you want to know more about the candidates, you can search for their websites or social media pages on the internet.
- If you have any questions, the NSWEC website is the best source of information – type 'nsw electoral commission bega valley' or 'nsw electoral commission eurobodalla' into your usual browser. If you need help getting information online, our local libraries are good places to ask for assistance.

Local Councils are in caretaker mode during the election period – no major decisions are made that might limit or bind the actions of the incoming Council. The hard work won't start again until the first official Ordinary Meeting. That meeting is convened after the newly-elected Councillors have been through a formal induction process.

So here we go! Who do you want to represent you for the next four years? Grab a cuppa and a pencil. There is plenty of space on these pages for you to make notes – you can then take your *Triangle* with you to the polls!

Bega Valley Council Elections 2024

Bega Shire residents will be voting on 14 September 2024 for a mayor and eight councillors. For more detailed information on candidates, locations, opening hours, and accessibility type 'nsw electoral commission bega valley' into your regular browser.

Key dates

7-13 September – pre-poll voting
9 September, 5pm – postal applications close
14 September – election day
27 September – postal ballots must be received

When and where to vote

Pre-poll voting, 7 to 13 September

Bermagui Indoor Sports Stadium
Bega Valley Civic Centre
Eden CWA Hall
Twyford Hall, Merimbula

Election day, Saturday 14 September

Bega Valley Civic Centre
Bega Valley Public School
Bemboka Memorial Hall
Bermagui Indoor Sports Stadium
Brogo Public Hall
Candelo Town Hall
Cobargo School of Arts
Eden Marine High School
Merimbula Public School
Pambula Public School
Quaama School of Arts
Tanja Hall
Tathra Public School
Towamba Public School
Tura Marrang Library
Wolumla Memorial Hall
Wyndham Public School

Candidates for Mayor

Peter Haggar, Brogo, The Greens
Russell Fitzpatrick, Griegs Flat, Independent
Tony Allen, Cobargo, Independent
Helen O'Neil, Cuttagee, Labor
David Porter, Tathra, Independent
Mitchell Nadin, Kiah, Independent

Candidates for Council – Groups

The Greens group

Peter Haggar, Brogo
Liane Munro, Mogareeka
Emma Goward, Bega
Vivian Harris, Bega
Jamie Shaw, Mogareeka

Labor group

Helen O'Neil, Cuttagee
Simon Daly, Pambula Beach
David Neyle, Tathra
Nicola Collins, Bermagui

Mitchell Nadin group

Mitchell Nadin, Kiah
David Porter, Tathra
Peggy Noble, South Pambula
Jason Hetherington, Pambula Beach
Morgan Eneberg, South Pambula

Ungrouped

Tony Allen, Cobargo
Russell Fitzpatrick, Griegs Flat
Phillip Dummett, Verona
Clair Mudaliar, Eden

Merimbula Merroir: celebrating Sydney rock oysters

Merimbula will proudly present Merimbula Merroir, a month-long celebration of the award-winning Sydney rock oysters of the Sapphire Coast.

The Merroir will run from 1 to 30 September, with specialty dinners, events and tours. There will be accommodation packages offering visitors a unique opportunity to explore premium, wild-caught Sydney rock oysters.

The centrepiece of Merimbula Merroir is the Bidhiinja Oyster Exhibition, developed by the Australian National Maritime Museum in collaboration with the NSW Department of Primary Industries. The Merimbula Old School Museum will host the exhibition that will uncover the history of oyster reefs in New South Wales and highlight the ongoing efforts to restore these vital ecosystems. The opening on 1 September will feature live music, food vendors and activities. In honour of Father's Day, admission will be free for all fathers attending the opening.

Other events during Merimbula Merroir include a progressive, seafood-inspired dinner, oyster-themed paint and sip experiences, and specialty cooking classes. You can even kayak to the oyster leases and learn to shuck your own oysters. Visitors will be able to enjoy the warm weather and may catch a glimpse of humpback whales migrating south with their new calves.



Working the oyster leases Photo: Merimbula Tourism

Search for Merimbula Merroir online for details, including information on new events that are being added daily. Or you can contact Hanna Marshall, Merimbula Tourism Inc, on 0455 275 125.

Hanna Marshall

End of Life Matters

In a recent ABC Southeast Radio interview, announcer Eddie Williams said that there seems to be much more conversation in the media about death and he asked me why I thought this was so. I had to think on the spot and was surprised by my response: 'We live in a different world now, Eddie. So much has changed in these past five years and we're beginning to realise just how fragile we are, so we're now more inclined to talk about it.'

I went straight from that interview into running my third information session in a week, then to assisting at a large funeral (the second in seven days in one community), to helping a family make preparations for the impending inevitable, to being there for a dear friend wracked with grief at the loss of her beloved, to helping another family work through the

stressful journey of sorting estate matters – all of this in five days!

I am so grateful for the opportunity to be of service in this way, but this revolving door that has me continually spiralling through all the end-of-life phases brings home to me the tangibility of our mortality.

Some people say to me, 'Oh, it's just that we're at that age...' It's not. The people I'm journeying with are of all ages.

Death has never surprised me. I've walked hand in hand with it since I was a small child – I guess that's why I do what I do. But it seems to me that every time I turn around now, there Death is, patiently waiting.

In my recent Dying to Know Day sessions I urged people to:

Find their own way to be OK with the inevitable.

Get clear on their values, because these will influence the choices made, especially with Advance Care Directives and funeral instructions.

Learn as much as they can about the last phase of life so they can make educated choices.

Talk with professionals: GP, solicitor, financial advisors etc and ask questions.

Write down their choices and talk, talk, talk to their 'people' about their reasons for particular choices so they can be understood and better supported.

To borrow a catchphrase, 'Nobody gets out of here alive', so it's best to meet Death with a sense of poise that only good planning can bring.

Shanna Provost

www.rest-easy.com.au

Notice of event at Well Thumbed Books

Do you want to know how the President of the United States is elected?

- How does the process work?
- What is the Electoral College?
- And how does it work?
- What are the major differences between the two candidates?

Come along to Well Thumbed Books at 11.00 am Tuesday 17 September, 2024.

There won't be any experts in the room, but we hope to have a few of our American-born neighbours there to give us their first-hand knowledge.

Heather O'Connor 0428 566 865



**new
members
welcome!**

Members can

- shape new business recovery and local economic development opportunities
- build business networks through our informal gatherings

Join via our website at cqbr.org.au
or email us at cqbrgroup@gmail.com

Helping our business community thrive

NATURA Far South Coast

It's that time of the year when our local landscape is set aglow with the seasonal blooming of wattles. With their long racemes of bright yellow flowers, it is *Acacia longifolia* – the long-leaved wattle – that is the most prominent along roadsides and in our forests. Also known as the Sydney Golden Wattle, this acacia can mature into a large shrub or tree and, when heavily in flower as they currently are, can be smelt – and even heard – long before you are standing beside them. 'Heard?' I hear you ask as you question my sanity, and I shall defend myself with a most emphatic 'Yes!' If it's large enough and in full bloom, these trees are so full of European honeybees busily at work collecting pollen and nectar that they literally 'buzz'. The visiting bees can be so numerous that I

often hear them from quite some distance away but, if I stand near the tree, I can also hear our smaller native bees at work as they try to dodge their larger – and far more numerous – European cousins.

Of course, *Acacia longifolia* is not the only wattle that is in full bloom now but, of all our local species, *Acacia pedina* is my personal favourite. Commonly known as the Bermagui wattle, this acacia has a very limited range that extends from Bermagui to Tathra and is found nowhere else, making it a very special and somewhat rare plant. If you are not already a NATURA Far South Coast subscriber and would like to learn more about the Bermagui wattle (and our other local acacias, the native bees that visit them and my recent, rare observation of a tree-dwelling funnel web



A native sweat bee (genus *Lasioglossum*) feeding on *Acacia longifolia* (long-leaved wattle)
Photo: Deb Taylor

spider) please email me at deb_taylor142@hotmail.com and I will happily forward you a copy.

Deb Taylor

CWA Far South Coast Group advocates for ongoing action on domestic violence

In the wake of the horrific reality of a spike in the number of deaths of Australian women this year at the hands of their intimate partners and increasing community outrage around the issue, the Country Women's Association (CWA) of NSW will use its annual Awareness Week campaign to highlight the need for ongoing action to reduce rates of gender-based violence across NSW.

CWA of NSW Awareness Week will run from September 1 to 7, this year highlighting the continuing crisis around gender-based violence – including domestic and family violence – and violence against women by men who are not their intimate partners.

Stephanie Stanhope, President of the Far South Coast Group of the CWA

of NSW, said it was clearly an enormous issue that was not going away and needed to be brought to the forefront again during Awareness Week.

'We represent 8,000 women across NSW, and we believe it's important to keep applying pressure to policymakers for improved support and protections for victims of gender-based violence,' Stephanie said.

During this year's Awareness Week, the CWA of NSW is calling for:

further changes to bail laws to better protect victims, particularly in rural and regional areas;

prioritisation of sustainable funding models for frontline victim support services – and services that identify and target perpetrator risk factors;


the prompt establishment of a real-time system to record, track and share information on perpetrators across systems and jurisdictions; and

additional resources for women facing violence in rural and regional communities where isolation and lack of services can make it even harder for those looking for support and assistance.

Stephanie said, 'This Awareness Week, we hope to continue the conversation around gender-based violence, acknowledging its many complexities and remaining totally committed to finding the resources and strategies that can start turning these terrible statistics around.'

Contact: Annette Kennewell, CWA FSCG Publicity Officer on 0417 203 610.

Annette Kennewell



Tilba Valley Winery & Ale House

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

<p>WHAT'S ON Music starting at 12.00 is free of charge</p>	<p>Sat 7 12.00</p> <p>Sun 8 12.00</p> <p>Sat 14 12.00</p> <p>Sun 15 12.00</p> <p>Sat 21 12.00</p> <p>Sun 22 12.00</p> <p>Sat 28 10am</p> <p>Sun 29 12.00</p>	<p>Tyler Hauptberger</p> <p>Tony Jagers</p> <p>Todd Cook</p> <p>Lionel Robinson & Casey Greene</p> <p>Dave Nolan</p> <p>Just Us</p> <p>Tattered 'n' Torn</p> <p>Amy & I</p>
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Located 8 km south of Narooma or 4 km north of Central Tilba
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The whale migration has begun!



A whale heading along our coastline to the Antarctic. Taken from *Bubbles*, Sapphire Coastal Adventures' whale-watching boat.
Photo credit: David Rogers and Merimbula Marina

The coast is calling



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Coastal
Adventures**

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sapphirecoastaladventures.com.au

Sing for spring

By the time this edition of *The Triangle* hits the streets we will have officially entered spring. Despite the sudden and unusually cold onset of winter this year, it didn't seem to last too long and thawing out has begun, the sun has more warmth, once it arises, and the daylight hours are lengthening.

The whales are on their migration south again, which is also an indicator of the seasonal change, and there is starting to be some frenzied activity among our feathered friends.

Speaking of singing, the annual Spring Sing will be held again this year on 8 September at the Four Winds Pavilion, when some of the shire's local choirs get together to celebrate the new season with song. It's a lovely event and if you have been thinking about joining a choir, this is the place to check out what is available across the shire.

The choirs will get together and workshop a few joint pieces in the morning and the audience is invited to come and enjoy the fruits of their work from 3.30 pm



Combined voices from the many choirs that performed at Spring Sing 2022
Photo: Debbie Worgan

Turning the threat of climate change into an opportunity

Bermagui's new community initiative, Renewable Bermagui, is focused on expanding the use of renewable energy, improving resilience to natural disasters, lowering energy costs and generating local job opportunities. The launch event on 28 July was well attended by people of all ages.

Renewable Bermagui is led by a group of volunteers. Some, including Bill Southwood, Margaret Kenny-Levick, Frank Muller and Alex Boulgakov, have been involved with similar initiatives, namely Clean Energy for Eternity (CEFE) and Cobargo and District Energy Transition (CaDET).

They will help homeowners, renters, community groups and businesses with practical solutions ranging from advice on

lowering energy bills, and draught-sealing and insulation workshops to information on and access to renewable technologies like solar panels and batteries. The launch incorporated an energy expo where attendees could meet local installers.

The keynote speaker was Dr Matthew Nott who started CEFE in 2006. CEFE has raised funds to install solar panels on several buildings including surf life-saving clubs, RFS sheds and pre-schools.

He said communities can make profound changes when a group of strong people come together. 'It is our generation's moonshot to set up microgrids to make us resilient and ensure we have good communications during environmental catastrophes.'

Zena Armstrong, president of

CaDET, explained how the group formed days after the Black Summer bushfires. 'We realised the smell was sewage not being pumped away,' she said. 'Energy security became a very popular topic of conversation.'

CaDET has installed solar panels and back-up batteries on Cobargo's Co-op, RFS, RSL Hall and School of Arts Hall. The latter two function as cool refuges when temperatures soar.

Ms Armstrong would like to see other Bega Valley communities take part. 'We could become a beacon for a thoughtful approach to the energy in our life and make things easier for the generations coming.'

Marion Williams

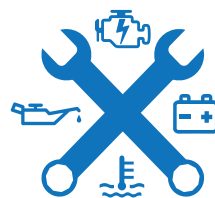
Save the Date – Mayoral Candidate Forum

The Bermagui Community Forum will once again be holding a candidates' forum so that you can hear directly from the people you will be voting for.

All Mayoral candidates will be invited to meet with the community on Sunday 8 September at 10.00am at the Bermagui Country Club.

Candidates for Mayor are not yet finalised. We will advise who they are before the candidate forum.

Excerpt from the Bermagui Community Forum



BERMIGI AUTOS

1 Sherwood Road
Bermagui NSW 2546
tim.mead@outlook.com.au
(02) 6493 5906

- ⦿ All Mechanical Repairs
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- ⦿ Tyres and Batteries
- ⦿ Log Book Servicing
- ⦿ E-Safety Rego Inspections
- ⦿ Wheel Alignment and Balancing
- ⦿ Tough Dog 4WD Suspension Dealer



MVRL: 59227
ABN: 17 651 037 731

Opening of the Preschool Therapy Room

A designated Therapy and Counselling room was officially opened at the Bermagui Preschool on Friday 26 July 2024 to help children and families process trauma and improve their mental health.

Prompted after witnessing the shock and grief experienced by local families following the 2019/2020 bushfires, COVID-19 pandemic and cost of living crisis, the Bermagui preschool became dedicated to strengthening the well-being and resilience of its children.

The Therapy and Counselling Room project was made possible with funding from the Australian and NSW Governments Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements and the Australian Governments Community Child Care Fund.

Preschool children, families, teachers and local professionals will now be able to work together in small groups or take part in targeted counselling in the classroom, learning through play in an engaging

environment that includes cubby nooks and sensory areas. Bermagui Preschool will host specifically designed sessions including art and play therapy, cooking, gardening and storytelling for children to support their recovery and emotional development.

Director and Early Childhood teacher at Bermagui Preschool, Narelle Myers, said, 'This project will support each child and family to learn. Within ourselves and our community we have the power and the resilience to be strong in our own mental health and well-being. When children develop these skills at a young age it helps them with any future stress, anxiety and trauma that may present in their increasingly complex lives. It will also support our families and educators to develop the knowledge and skills to raise resilient children as our communities become stronger and more vibrant.'

Excerpt from the Bermagui Community Forum

Cuttagee Bridge update

Bega Valley Shire Council received a funding commitment of \$15m from the NSW Government in September 2023 to restore Cuttagee Bridge in a manner that is sympathetic to its heritage principles.

In a press release on 16 February 2024, Council advised that an agreement was reached to consult with the community on three design choices, including:

- a two-lane concrete structure
- a two-lane concrete and timber hybrid option
- a single-lane hybrid design.

The two hybrid options would feature timber components with a connection to heritage design.

The Council plans to spend \$1.5m on the Cuttagee Bridge renewal in the 2024-25 financial year, being part of the \$15m Transport for NSW grant. The plan is to deliver the full project by June 2027 assuming that a preferred option is agreed upon and all necessary studies, consultation and approvals can be obtained in a timely fashion.

Initially, a project delivery agreement will be developed that will include analysis of existing data, detailed project scoping and definition, concept designs, community engagement and an options assessment.

Thanks to the Bermagui Community Forum for the news update.

Bermagui and District CWA



Gail Whelan, Norma Reid, Chris Richard-Preston, Terri Hopkins, Kath Preston and Lynne Smith

Bermagui CWA ladies presented an item at the group Cultural, International and Agricultural day in Cobargo on Monday 19 August. We proved that women in their advanced years can indeed do the Can-Can, as long as they sit on a chair!

CWA Awareness Week will be held in September. This year it will focus on gender-based violence. Bermi CWA will be holding a stall at the Bermagui Red Cross markets on Sunday 29 September with a display, information and a cake stall.

We will be having a Pizza Night following our next meeting at 5.00 pm on Friday 6 September. A reminder that annual membership fees will be due at this meeting. Hope to see a good attendance, let's share a glass of vino and watch a video of *We can Can-Can*.

*Chris Richard-Preston
Publicity Officer*

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Historian's research into former Test cricketer, Frank Ward, leads him to Bermagui

Cricket historian, Ronald Cardwell, has written seventy books but none as intriguing as putting together the life story of former Australian Test cricketer Frank Ward.

In nine years of research in NSW, South Australia and Victoria, he encountered red herrings, dead ends, a name change and no birth certificate, visited the site of the violent murders of a grandmother and aunt, proved a school's records to be incorrect and Bermagui Fishing Co-operative's early history to be incomplete.

The Sydney-born spin bowler lived



Former Test cricketer, Frank Ward

around Bermagui between 1946 and 1954.

After missing out on selection in three states, he was selected for the South Australian state team. Mr Ward had an outstanding year in his first season of top-level cricket. He played three Tests against England in the 1936-37 season and toured England in 1938.

During World War II he was one of the Rats of Tobruk who defended their garrison from German and Italian forces for eight months.

Affected by the war, Mr Ward moved to the Far South Coast for a quieter life.

He worked on Merriwinda dairy farm in Tilba Tilba for Rob Turner briefly. In return, Mr Ward negotiated the subdivision of some five acres of land known today as Serendip Lane where he built three cabins.

In February 1946, he became the founding director, shareholder and manager of the Bermagui Fishermen's Co-operative.

Long time resident, Murray Douch, told Mr Cardwell '... in many ways the Co-op put Bermagui on the map for fishing



Ronald Cardwell, cricket historian

following the departure of the big game fishermen before the war.'

Mr Ward hired out the lakeside cabins, coached the local cricket and rugby teams, and played in the cricket and rugby league teams.

He died in Sydney in 1974.

In Search of Frank Ward will be published by the end of the year. Mr Cardwell is looking for photographs of Frank Ward, and of Bermagui and the Fishing Co-operative between 1946 and 1954. Contact Mr Cardwell on 0432 699 937 or at cardwell@mcks.com.au

Marion Williams

A new retailer blossoms in Bermagui

Locals and visitors in search of quality gifts for family and friends or fragrant flowers will find exactly what they are looking for in P and Me.

In late June, Helen Carr and daughter Tegan Dibden took over the premises previously occupied by Nsted. 'We want to follow the previous owners but with our own spin on it,' Ms Carr said. 'We want to cater for gifts for everyone in the family.' Ms Dibden makes beautifully scented candles that have proved popular in the past while Ms Carr does silk painting. The shop currently stocks hand-painted notebook covers, hair scrunchies and eye pillows.

Originally from Sydney, Ms Carr moved to the Far South Coast 29 years ago and now lives in Cobargo. Her daughter was born in Bega, grew up in Bermagui

and attended Narooma High. School. Ms Dibden has retail experience but for Ms Carr, '... it is something different for me.'

The shop will also sell locally grown flowers in season. 'Everyone has been coming in and asking about the flowers,' Ms Carr said. A retired nurse, Ms Carr is also a trained florist. She will be selling flowers from her own garden, as well as sourcing blooms from other local growers.

Happily, they will continue to stock a lovely range of greeting cards. That includes cards painted by local artist Nicole Grimm-Hewitt and ones made by Tegan's husband's grandmother.

P and Me anticipates enjoying the loyal following of regular Bermagui holidaymakers who enjoyed and supported Nsted. 'I have already had people from



Helen Carr is a trained florist

Canberra come in and say they come in here every time they visit Bermagui,' Ms Carr said.

She is really looking forward to meeting people. 'Lots of people have come in and been very friendly,' Ms Carr said. 'It is a nice thing to do, running this shop with quality gifts.'

Marion Williams



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ReBoot in Bermagui celebrates 10 years!

ReBoot in Bermagui is a wonderful community event that embraces locals and visitors alike and is proudly brought to you by the Bermagui Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism.

There are activities over the weekend for all ages and abilities. It's a fabulous opportunity to re-energise after winter and, of course, a chance for some chill time to enjoy our stunning seaside town.

There's fun runs and walks, ocean swims, a road bike ride, tug-o-war, stand up paddle boarding, yoga, Pilates, tai chi, golf, bowls, tennis, pickleball, kids' entertainment and much more.

This year we are introducing two more challenging events – a 1.2km ocean swim in Horseshoe Bay and 15km mixed trail run from Bermagui to Camel Rock and back.

Mark your calendars and save the weekend for ReBoot in Bermagui – 5 and 6 October!

For the full program and to register to participate, go to rebootinbermagui.com.au

Come and join the fun and celebrate ten years with us! We can't wait to see you.

Christine Bimson



The kids' fun run at ReBoot Bermagui



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Seems like we've made it through the coldest days of winter. Plenty of lovely blooms already. I find spring the most optimistic time of the year. Nature sure seems to think so!

A horticulturist friend read this page last month and volunteered to walk the river track with me to identify the thick bushfire regrowth. Good news! The dominant plant is wattle. Some humility on my part is needed. Of course it's wattle. It is doing important work in the regeneration of the area, eventually dying and supplying nutrients for what comes next.

Our school is busy as usual and off to a great start this term. The students have the opportunity to participate in Fling Physical Theatre each Friday. They are enjoying expressing themselves through drama and movement with the support of highly skilled Fling teachers. Students are also participating in tennis lessons this term every Monday to improve their coordination and hitting skills. Class 4/5/6 is busy designing and building their solar challenge boats for later in the term when they'll compete with other schools in the Bega Valley.

We finished last term with our annual athletics carnival. As we have done for the past few years, we invited Central Tilba Public School to join us for a fun day of athletic events. Both schools competed for the Quilba Cup to decide the best tunnel ball and captain ball teams for 2024. We are pleased to confirm that Quaama came out



The happy winners of the Quilba Cup!

on top this year and will be the keepers of the cup for another twelve months!

Quaama Public School is now accepting Kindergarten enrolments for 2025. Information about the orientation days will be announced later in the term.

The Quaama Tennis Courts

Hello dear *Triangle* readers,

The reason I'm writing this is to remind y'all of the incredible community asset available in the wonderful little part of the cosmos that is Quaama.

Specifically, the tennis courts. They are an underused resource and available for all the community and surrounds. If you would like to become a member, it's ridiculously cheap at \$35 per year for a family membership and \$10 for singles. I recently paid \$20 for an hour elsewhere! Money can be paid in the jar at the Quaama shop.

There are even racquets and balls in a box on the courts for you to borrow.

Sometimes the court needs a wee bit of a weed or stick removal but, as some of you will know, this in itself is a wonderful act for mindfulness.

And an incredible act for wellness – is playing tennis. Especially when the courts have the view they have. And, as they say, (whoever 'they' are), many hands make light work.

Finally, a great big shout-out from the rafters for Diana Holmes, the tireless secretary of the club, who does such an amazing job and is so committed to the courts and the club for the community.

In the words of Lleyton Hewitt – 'C'MON!'

Namaste,

Julia Willson

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Supporting our community



The adage ‘good fences make good neighbours’ appears in Robert Frost’s poem *Mending Wall*. In the poem, one neighbour is less enamoured with the barbed wire and ‘doesn’t love a wall’, however, the good fences line seems to win the argument. At least the neighbours *come together* to mend the wall that keeps their properties apart.

What a pity cows don’t understand these finer points of debate in neighbourly harmony! We’ve had a lot of wandering cows in Diggies the last few months. Urgent messages on our group chat ping us awake before seven in the morning to alert us that, yet again, cows are approaching the highway or, yet again, wandering our road or, sadly, sit scattered and sick from eating a weed after smashing the fences, with at least one little black and white casualty in Leigh’s and William’s paddock.

This latest incident brought us together to coordinate and assist one other. One astute neighbour who had previously had cows noticed something was wrong and cared enough to act. Phone calls and texts up and down the road identified to whom the cows belonged. The owners came with penicillin shots and then headed to Bega to get the right tool for the job of fence mending. One cow needed 48 hours to regain her strength and was then reunited with the herd, home behind sturdier fences. Until next time!

When I lived in New York there was pride in being able to say that you have never met your neighbours. It’s somewhat understandable when people live so close to one another in the noise and haste of that city. There are people in Diggies with a New York style, preferring to keep to themselves, which is fully respected. Those people are often the very best communicators in an emergency, likely because they haven’t felt pestered or dread



Expert pruning above, feeding Diggies working bee below Photos - Flick Ruby



the prospect of some soap opera Neighbours episode introducing drama or invasions of their privacy. Each to their own, indeed.

After living in that city for a dozen years, there’s still a wary New Yorker in me, but our Diggies community gatherings lately have been outstanding.

Heather invited us over for a morning tea and cuppa to raid her nursery of the ailing and old plants. What a bonanza! And I’m not only referring to Didi’s baking. People came back with trailers for big pot-bound trees, and I planted nearly all of my twenty lovely trees upon getting home, where I landed also with a badly needed number for a fitness trainer, a swag of bok choy from Sally Anne and a hug from Shanti that squeezed out some sadness alright.

The working bee at Sally’s and Kate’s was similarly gorgeous. As always, we all learn a lot from Angela, best tree pruner on earth, with Susy a close runner up. The lunch was great, and so was the recommendation to go to hospital to rule out deep vein thrombosis. It’s great having former nurses for neighbours! Bring on spring!

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The Cobargo Showground Land Manager has been busy organising the falling of an extremely old pine tree that was located on the Cobargo Showground near the cattle ring. The tree has been a matter of concern for some time and finally the tree loppers very carefully bought it to the ground.

The Cobargo Show Committee has been busy toiling away getting ready for the 2025 show. Calling any young ladies who would be interested in entering the NSW Young Woman of the Year, basically representing Cobargo Show. We are looking for a young lady aged between 18 and under 25 years to be our show ambassador. If you are interested, please contact June Tarlinton 0400 350 814 and I'd be only too happy to have a chat about the competition.

All the primary schools have been very busy hosting Book Week. Many extraordinary characters have appeared at school with their favourite book in hand. A wonderful way

to encourage children to gain an interest in the exciting world of words.

The Junction 2550 is the new café in town, and it is so fantastic to see another new business open its doors. A great place to grab a coffee and cake or to settle in and enjoy a superb lunch. Welcome to the team and we wish you great success.

Cobargo and District Pony Club is hosting their annual gymkhana on 8 September. The committee of Miriam, Trish and Julie are planning the event with great gusto. The Club is low on numbers and is always very encouraging to new members. If you are considering joining, come down and have a look at all the children enjoying a great day out with the ponies.

Wishing Joe Erler a wonderful 80th birthday. A lovely gentleman who certainly does not show his age as he cycles around Wandella.



My granddaughter Kara Bratby.
She is Kevin the cat from the book *The cat wants custard*.

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Parking and access to main street businesses while rebuilding continues

The last *Triangle* featured an article about businesses at the southern end of the main street and some well-loved main street eateries in the village, but it's also well worth plugging the other businesses at the 'top end of town' and in between!

The Cobargo Innovation Hub features Sally Wilson's Gallery shop as well as Zoe Pook's bespoke jewellery store. We must ensure that these two fantastic businesses aren't overlooked in their tucked-away positions to the north of the Cobargo Co-op in the Council car park.

The appeal of the Hub and the Cobargo Co-op is that they face the car park guaranteeing easy access. The car park has recently had more spaces freed up for public use following a decision by the Co-op to move staff parking to the rear of their building. This move will ensure, especially for summer and the busy Christmas trading period, that ample car parking is available for locals and visitors wishing to frequent and support the village businesses.

The Co-op is immensely valuable for Cobargo. It is a one-stop shop for the many essentials of rural village life, and hosts a Horizon Bank agency and the Triangle Tool

Library and associated Food Tool Library. If you haven't visited these volunteer-run libraries they provide a wonderful range of essential items for preserving and food processing as well as tools for big and small tasks around the property, all for a very reasonable annual subscription fee.

Another important group of services that benefits from their proximity to the Council car park are physiotherapist, Leonard Bolst, in Haydon House, and the Cobargo doctors' surgery, Cobargo vets and also the Cobargo Pharmacy.

We are lucky to have these well-established health service providers in Cobargo township and these services will increase in the near future with a planned wellness hub with allied health service providers as part of the Rebuild Cobargo Project – a welcome addition to health service offerings providing more support to Cobargo and district communities.

Cobargo may well be the most logical location for the establishment of a future dedicated health precinct. I wonder if a dentist could be attracted to town?

We have an incredible range and quality of services, businesses and businesspeople in town. While rebuilding



Thea Constantaridis shows Helen, Ruta and Didie how to make sauerkraut in a fermenting workshop through the Triangle Food Tool Library. Photo: Shanna Provost

is going on, it will inevitably affect some of the main street parking, but it's good to remember we do have access to the Council car park that holds all of this business and social activity together at a central access point.

Steve Williams

See you at The Junction 2550!

We were all so curious over the past couple of months about the activity in the empty café space in Haydon House. And now we are greeting, with great joy, a new café in town. It is open for business and finding its feet very quickly – thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of the owner and operator, Wayde Hay. After I closed Well Thumbed Books on Saturday, Wayde came over and sat outside with me and we had a Cobargo conversation, as you do when you sit outside the bookshop.

Saturday afternoon is quiet in town, Wayde had some in-between time



The generous display on the counter

with something cooking on the stove in preparation for Monday. He's been working seven days a week renovating (he's worked in construction) with his uncle, refitting the café and getting it up and running. He's had lots of experience in hospitality: working behind the scenes in the kitchen, in front of house, managing coffee suppliers, has owned and managed cafés, and has owned and worked as a speciality baker delivering wholesale gluten-free goods to venues up and down the south coast. If that all sounds like very hard work, it is. But it seems to me that Wayde welcomes it and is full of ideas and has the energy to implement them.

Wayde has come from interstate, but he's settled here in the Triangle, committed to increasing the opening hours as custom increases. He wants to open seven days a week during summer. He's offering more lunch items. And he wants to train more baristas, particularly younger people in the area, so they can have some portable skills when they want to leave.

I was telling him that once Cobargo had three or four cafés open at the same



Elke Wood and Marie Windchester sitting in the comfy reading space

time – there was enough business to go around. The Junction 2550 is a welcome addition to our town. Come, check it out, the coffee is great – Fish River Roasters – the eggs are cooked perfectly and there are plenty of savoury options as well as delicious gluten-free and vegan sweet treats to try.

The Junction 2550 is open from 6.30 am until after lunch, from Monday to Saturday.

Linda Sang

CWA and France in August

Our Branch members welcomed the students from the Cobargo Public School Years 5/6 class, and their teacher Ms Elyce Gresty, to the CWA Cottage after our last meeting, and they entertained us with their knowledge of France which is our Country of Study for this year. They had fun, while demonstrating their wide knowledge of the country, in answering our French Trivia quiz questions. The winners were awarded 'medals' for their efforts! A delicious French-themed afternoon tea followed, and the cake, decorated to form the French flag, proved a great success, thanks to our baker extraordinaire, Debbie Fisher. Many thanks to the students who were a delight to meet.

This week we also joined our friends from other Branches and community members along the Far South Coast in a day of entertainment, culture and exhibitions, and talks on microbats and fungi. Our own Mary Williams told the 'true' story of the Women (behind the Man) from Snowy River, in verse, of course! Also, members of the Branch acted out what happens in a Branch meeting (sort of!) in very fractured French, which ended with tea and scones being replaced by wine and cheese.

On a more serious note, in our Awareness Week for 2024, we are highlighting gender-based violence in the wake of the horrific reality of a spike in the number of deaths of Australian women at the hands of their intimate partners and others, and the increasing community outrage around the issue.

As you can see, the CWA has many aspects and we invite anyone interested in joining us to share in our varied agenda. Come along to our meeting at the CWA cottage on Tuesday 10 September at 10.00 for 10.30 am. You will be made very welcome!

Mary Williams,
Branch publicity officer

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The beginning of spring brings lots of messages of new life, hope and renewal. The days are longer, the weather is warmer, the soil temperatures are encouraging new growth, blossoms that bring a smile are everywhere and there is a sense of joie de vivre. All these things bring us pleasure and remind us of the value of what is around us. With the renewal that spring brings there may even be an energy boost to face the many challenges of our times. We all have work to do – caring for ourselves and those who are close to us, caring for our kids, caring for our community and environment, using our skills and resources to get from day to day – life really. Amongst all that, we must think about the future and have our say as best we can. We do get opportunities to at least have a say about who represents us, such as elections and forums, locally and more widely. Let’s make sure that the message of spring brings renewal and hope in this regard too.

Tilba Market reimagined

The Tilba Market has been a fixture in Central Tilba since December 2008. Come hail, rain or shine it has happened every Saturday in the Big Hall at Central Tilba, except the June long weekend when the Woodies have their annual exhibition or when booked for weddings and other events. With the closure of the Halls for the long-awaited upgrade, the Market has had to explore other options. Overwhelmingly, the sentiment from all involved has been to keep the market going if possible.



Tilba Market fresh produce

Several options have been considered in Central Tilba. While none offer the undercover convenience of the hall, it has been an opportunity to reimagine how the market can work. The options that have been considered do require flexibility and compromise.

For September, the Tilba Market will operate on Saturdays from the verandah of Ellen’s at Tilba and the nature strip and paved area adjacent to the cafe. If these areas are not sufficient, the verandah at the General Store will also be used. These areas mean that the market continues to have a prominent presence in the village and, while not as contained, it will contribute to the village atmosphere.

Over the years, the Tilba Market has, through its weekly hire, played an important part in keeping the Halls going. It is hoped that this temporary relocation will keep the market spirit alive and that it will return to the Big Hall when the upgrade project has finished. Many of the stallholders are long-term attendees and the weekly market is an important part of their activities. Likewise, the market has many regular locals who value what it offers. There are also dedicated produce suppliers who ensure that there is fresh produce every week. Not least, the market has been blessed to have local musicians share their talents, especially Cathie Muller, whose accomplished and often sublime piano playing was a special gift to all. Also, Hilary Montgomery who has been a stalwart stallholder for thirteen years is taking a break, along with Sandra who has kept June Rose’s stall going. Best wishes to them both and gratitude and appreciation for their long involvement – what will we do without Hilary’s cakes?

Little Yuin Aboriginal Preschool

The preschool has almost full enrolment on the three days it operates. Providing education for children from two to six years of age, it runs a full program delivered by its four educators and two trainees. Activity-based programs include the garden program where the students get to learn about the whole process of growing edible plants, including local native plants, from scratch; and the cooking program that focuses on nutrition and includes making soups, savoury foods, cakes and pancakes using produce from the garden when available.

Little Yuin is in the second year of introducing the SWAY Program (Sounds, Words, Aboriginal Language and Yarning) which is an oral language and literacy program based on Aboriginal knowledge, culture and stories. This program is going well with Aboriginal language, stories and culture being successfully embedded into the curriculum.

Transport to the preschool is important and successful funding from Aboriginal Affairs provided a new Toyota Coaster bus that was commissioned earlier this year. Each preschool day, the bus does a run from the furthest part of Dalmeny to Wallaga with seventeen of the twenty students who attend on Tuesdays coming by bus. The playground area is almost at the end of its makeover and is looking very good with its sails and soft fall flooring. Currently the playground structures are being renovated and an outdoor toilet is soon to be installed.

Enrolments for 2025 have begun and those interested in going on the waiting list can apply now. Applications will be finalised at the end of Term Four and information is available at the preschool or by contacting 4473 7396 or 0490 858 500. Little Yuin has eleven students transitioning to primary schools at Cobargo and Bermagui this year – these students will start getting to know their new schools during Term Three.



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Introducing Blaan Davies



Merrimans LALC CEO, Blaan Davies

Blaan Davies is the new Chief Executive of Merrimans Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) and a Traditional Custodian of the South Coast. With a strong background in public service and extensive experience working across both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal organisations, Blaan has dedicated his career to empowering communities and preserving cultural heritage. Blaan is currently completing a Master of Governance and Leadership at James Cook University and, building on his academic foundation, he commenced a Bachelor of Law at the University of Southern Queensland in 2024. Blaan's leadership is rooted in a deep commitment to community, culture and sustainable development, ideal for this significant community leadership role.

Thank you from Wallaga families

It was a very sad time at Wallaga Lake in July/August with two families saying farewell to those they loved. Desiree (Nan Chook) Parsons passed away on 11 July at Moruya Hospital, and Uncle Sonny (Ronald Kenneth Tighe), passed away on 7 July at Wallaga. The Gulaga Reconciliation Group and local members of the Tilba community provided financial and catering support to both families during this time. The Parsons' extended family and Mandy and Warren Foster and their extended family would like to thank everyone who supported them through this difficult period.

Eurobodalla Shire Council presents the Festival of Sustainable Choices

On Saturday 14 September, the Festival of Sustainable Choices will take place at the Moruya Riverside Park from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. SHASA (Southcoast Health and Sustainability Alliance) and its partners will have a significant presence to help you discover how a sustainable low-carbon lifestyle is also a low-cost lifestyle.

There are four or five major purchases that, by selecting the low-carbon option, can make a major difference to your budget and carbon emissions. They are: What is in your garage? What is on your rooftop? And what is heating your house and hot water? There will be a number of Electric Vehicles (EVs) on show, with their owners able to tell you their experience and the impact on their budget. The cheapest energy in Australia is rooftop solar and there will be information and people available to talk about this as well. And there will be



What the SHASA stall will look like

induction cooktops too.

Come along and find out why a low-carbon lifestyle is a low-cost lifestyle for you..

Winning Silver

Congratulations to Tilba Distilling Co for winning a Silver Medal for their Rhubarb Gin at the recent Royal Australian Distilled Spirits Awards in Melbourne. These awards are Australia's largest national spirits competition. Tilba Distilling Co is part of the Dromedary Hotel and works with partners and collaborators, Nine Circles Distillery, co-creators of Tilba Rhubarb Gin. Tilba Distilling Co gins are available from the Dromedary Hotel and their spring 2024 batch will be available soon.



Tilba Distilling Co Rhubarb Gin

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Mystery Bay Bioblitz

Over the weekend of 17 and 18 August, many locals with an interest in our environment attended various Bioblitz sessions organised by Budawang Coast Atlas of Life. A Bioblitz is an event that focuses on finding and identifying as many species as possible in a specific area over a short period of time, usually 24 hours.

The event focussed on the Council-owned block of bushland on Mystery Bay Road, opposite the campground, and the main Mystery Bay Beach and nearby Billys Beach. The events started with a spotlight walk through the bush block between 6.00



Mystery Bay Bioblitz

pm and 8.00 pm on the Saturday night led by iNaturalist guru Thomas Mesaglio. Even with the sporadic light rain, it was wonderful walk quietly along the bush tracks scouring the trees with our torches to find mammals and insects, which were identified by Thomas.

Sunday was a very busy day attended by over sixty people. There were guided walks of the local rock formations led by Thomas; looking at bush and beach vegetation under the guidance of well-known South Coast botanist Jackie Miles; and bird identification walks through the bush led by Mystery Bay 'twitchers' Mandy Anderson and Bronwen Harvey who educated us all on the different bird calls and helped us spot them in the bush. We also heard a fun presentation by Susan Rhind on her local search for the elusive and endangered Brush-tailed Phascogale.

One outcome from these events will include the preparation by the Budawang Coast group of a list of species recorded in the Bioblitz which they will make freely



Mystery Bay Bioblitz – on the beach

available to the community.

We are also seeking expressions of interest from those who might like to be involved regularly in Citizen Science activities (say monthly) within the bush block to identify and map hollow-bearing trees and identify the diversity of plant and animal species. More promotion of that opportunity will follow but, if you are keen, please feel free to let me know now.

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Tilba Fire Brigade Get Ready Weekend

Tilba RFB would like to invite our community to join us for Get Ready Weekend on Saturday, 14 September, 2024, at Tilba RFB station, Latimers Lane, Central Tilba from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm. We will be holding talks and demonstrations on the following:

- PPE (personal protective equipment) you will need if you decide to stay and defend your home.
- How to set up and use a portable pump at home in the event of fire and how to draught from a static water supply.
- Things you should consider to help safeguard your property – what to do with gas bottles, cleaning out gutters, tidying up around your home, removing any fire hazards and ensuring there is no fuel stored near your home as well as identifying potential ignition sources.
- Hoses, attachments and equipment you will need in preparing your property for a bush fire.
- What to do if you see a fire, who to call and how to use the Hazards Near Me app.



Tilba's fire trucks are ready

- What is a bushfire safety plan and what should it list? What to take if your plan is to evacuate.
- Where the elderly, frail or disabled can get assistance in helping prepare their property for a bushfire and in the event of a bushfire.
- What not to do during a bushfire? And what is the safest place to take shelter.
- Mini fire truck for the kids.

Why not come along and meet your local volunteer RFB members and learn about matters you should consider to better prepare yourself, your family and your home this coming summer.

We will be offering a free sausage sizzle from 12 noon and there will be take home information packs for the adults and fun packs for the kids.

*Jody Vassallo
Community Engagement Officer*



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Central Tilba School Athletics Carnivals and Potato Olympics

On the last day of Term 2, Tilba Public School headed down to Quaama Public School for our annual Athletics Carnival. The day began with the sprint races for each age group then the 200 metre and 800 metre running races. After lunch, the Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students participated in tabloid activities while the Years 3 to 6 students rotated

around the field events that included long jump, high jump, discus and shot put. At the end of the day, we had teams from both schools compete in tunnel ball and captain ball competitions. The winning school receives the Quilba Cup prize. We won the title last year but weren't so lucky this year.

Everyone, who came in first or second place at the Athletics Carnival qualified to attend the District Carnival held in Batemans Bay on 1 August. All the students who attended enjoyed the experience and showed great sportsmanship. Edie and Pippy made it into the 100 metre finals race for their age groups, which was very exciting for them, and our small school's relay team will go on to compete at Regionals later this term.

While most of us were at the District Athletics Carnival, the students who were back at school hosted the Potato Olympics for the K-2 students. Each student had to decorate a potato, give their potato a name and country, and make a flag. The potato athletes competed in a range of events such as break dancing, spud and



Opening Ceremony of the Potato Olympics

spoon race, high jump, weightlifting and bowling. The Years 3-6 students had their Potato Olympics the next day. It was a lot of fun. We even had jacket potatoes for our kitchen garden lunch to keep with the theme of the Potato Olympics.

Billie



Edie and Pippy, 100 metre finalists

Tilba CWA's upcoming event invitations

For CWA Awareness Week, Tilba CWA members and friends are organising a BYO picnic at the tables next to the CWA garden, near Tilba Dairy, on Thursday 5 September at 12.30 pm.

This year CWA of NSW's awareness theme is highlighting gender-based violence. Tilba members warmly invite community members to attend to share our picnic. Please RSVP to Helen Thomson by text 0407 100 710 or email hthomson0@gmail.com.

Save the date. Tilba CWA's High Tea will be held on Sunday 27 October from 11.30 am to 1.30 pm in the Sheep Shed at Henkley Farm, Central Tilba. Historic Henkley Farm was established in 1870 as a working farm, set on 153 acres with stunning views of the coast.

Tilba CWA Vice-President Helen Thomson is coordinating this five-star gourmet event. There will be French champagne on arrival and then a delicious menu of fancy food. The menu of course includes traditional CWA baked scones, jam and cream. Plus, mini quiches, sausage rolls, mini beef pies, a variety of dainty sandwiches, Sandy's famous vanilla slice,



The Tilba Garden Party, the inspiration for the High Tea

lemon curd cheesecake, chocolate fudge cake and chocolate-dipped strawberries. Tea, coffee and home-made cordial will also be served.

Tickets are \$70 with exclusive seating for only fifty people so book early. All funds raised by this event will be used for donations to help support our small local community including Tilba Public School, Tilba Rural Fire Brigade and Little Yuin Preschool at Wallaga Lake.

For tickets, please contact Helen Thomson by text 0407 100 710 or email hthomson0@gmail.com.

Annette Kennewell
President

Tilba District Chamber of Commerce News

The local Fire Brigade will be attending our next meeting to discuss the community response to a possible fire in a local building. This is important information for every resident and business owner in preparation for the coming fire season, as both individuals and a community. There will also be an update on the new Visit Tilba website.

As well, the new highway signs are nearing completion and should be in place in the very near future.

A Tilba Festival feedback and volunteer appreciation session was held on 7 August and was well attended. All agreed the festival was a great day with some very positive ideas for next year. The date for 2025 was set as 12 July with meetings to start in October. Thanks to the Drom for providing snacks on the night. Additional enthusiastic people are needed for the organising committee – so please text Jo on 0448 296 506 and join in the fun.

Past treasurer Carrie Taylor is standing for election in the council elections and we wish her well. Don't forget to vote on 14 September in the Small Hall.

Christine Montague, Secretary

The 20%ers – formerly the Tilba Fishing Club!

Inspired by the great Col Rayner's epic postie run from Tilba to Ayers Rock back in 1996 and a few beers at the Drom, the idea of getting a crew together and embarking on overnight postie runs to support the great country pubs in our corner of the world was born. Riding the humble posties would be Weirey, Cogo and Timbo. Col would run the support vehicle with Harv and Boris. Taking in the beautiful scenery, the riders would skilfully navigate their way through the bush while taming the raw power of the 110cc Honda postie at a blistering average speed of 40 kph.

Booking in as the 'Tilba Fishing Club', the first run was to Dalgety in May via Yowrie, Wandella, Conways Gap and Nimmitabel. A few water crossings presented an opportunity for Harv to capture some misadventure footage, but the skill of the riders and power of the posties outclassed even the deepest of crossings. While regrouping at the Federal they learned that Boris didn't want to miss out after all, taking the highway route on his road bike and arriving at noon. He filled in the afternoon enjoying the announcements at the local equestrian competition while waiting for the posties to arrive five hours later. After a refreshing evening, Harv won



The 20%ers contemplate a 40 kph trip to Delegate

the meat tray and Cogo tucked his precious bike in on its preferred sleeping side.

The gang most recently survived a Majors Creek run in July via a lot of circle work, led by Col and co-navigated by Cogo. Five hours into the ride, Boris was still concerned about their proximity to Mt Drom. 'Look there's Mt Drom,' he exclaimed for the twelfth time! All the while Cogo continued to claim they were 20% of the way there. After a very warm welcome by the locals at the Elrington Hotel, they didn't win the meat tray, but Timbo and Cogo learned first-hand what it means to ring the bell ... the adventures continue. The 20%ers will be making their way out to Delegate in early September.

Chris Weire

Central Tilba Halls News

Our halls are ready to begin their renovations, upgrades and extensions with our builder moving in from Monday 2 September. The equipment from both halls has been moved out and relocated to a container at Mystery Bay cottages. A massive thank you to Laurence for his generous offer to house our tables and chairs, piano and other items. The catering equipment will be stored in a container on Sally Pryor's property, thanks to Victoria. The CWA and Tilba Festival have relocated their equipment to various places.

The builder and his workers will be the only people to have access to the site during the building process. He has agreed that the Council elections can take place in the Small Hall on Saturday 14 September.

We will all miss having our halls but, if we look at the big picture, it's a small price to pay for what will be a wonderful final result.

Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding in this process (that will have taken more than five years) to have a multi-functional centre ready to cater for the future needs of our community.

*Janine Halasz,
President, CTSOAT*

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Concert by the Mumbulla School at the Cobargo School of Arts

Mumbulla School for Rudolf Steiner Education is excited to announce there will be a music concert at the Cobargo School of Arts Hall on Thursday 12 September at 1.00 pm. The concert will be free and community members are welcome to come along and enjoy the music.

As part of their annual 'Music Tour', Mumbulla School Class 5 and 6 students will also visit both Tilba and Wyndham Public Schools to share their love of music with the students. The audience will enjoy music performed in string ensemble and band.

Children at Mumbulla School learn a string instrument from Class 3. This may be a viola, violin or cello. The children learn under the guidance of talented local tutors Anna Martin-Scrase, Stephen Freeman and Odette Bruinzeel. For many the path to playing can require all their will – and a good amount of support by parents and carers. Practice is purposeful with the goal of performing for a wider audience.

In Class 5, the children may consider moving their efforts to a wind instrument, including clarinet, flute, trumpet or trombone. The children learn under the guidance of local musician Georgi Hargraves – who plays with the Figmentz, among many other musical pursuits.

On 12 September at Cobargo School of Arts, the children will play a variety of traditional and modern pieces and the concert will be approximately 45 minutes long.

Mumbulla School for Rudolf Steiner Education is an independent, co-educational, non-denominational school providing education from Kindergarten through to Grade 6. The school is located at 37 Bega Street, Bega. Phone 6492 3476 or go to mumbullaschool.com.au for more information.

Vickie Goldsmith



Students playing strings

MONTREAL GOLDFIELD



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'GOLD' WAS THE CRY!

All locals old and young are invited to attend this free event on

Thursday 10th October at 6.30 pm, Bermagui Country Club auditorium



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Montreal Goldfield Wallaga Lake inc is a community based organisation run solely by volunteers, 769 Wallaga Lake Rd

Shop7 Art Space Gallery Bermagui, September 2024 exhibitions

Guest artist, Alex Bell, is showing his nature-inspired photographs, including large, framed photographs of eagles, as well as his collection of affordable prints in a variety of sizes. His photographs capture the colours and moods of nature, from dramatic coastal rock formations to delicate sandpipers. Alex Bell's photography will be shown at Shop7 Art Space Gallery for the first three weeks of September 2024.

Angela Ratten, also a guest artist, is a local ceramicist whose hand-thrown porcelain vessels are inspired by the interwoven lines found in the bush,

and the vibrant hues of the ocean. They respond to the fluidity and texture of the landscape and capture the essence of the natural environment, with a delicate interplay of shapes and patterns that emerge from her artistic process. Angela Ratten's ceramics will be exhibited at Shop7 Art Space Gallery from September 26 to October 9, 2024.

At the same time you can discover many unique artworks created by members of the Shop7 Art Space Gallery collective.

Lyndal Jenkins



Porcelain ceramics by Angela Ratten

Smooth soul-jazz at Four Winds

Audiences will be welcomed to spend the afternoon with the Virna Sanzone Quartet, performing on September 22 inside the Four Winds Windsong Pavilion. Widely celebrated as one of Australia's most soulful vocalists, Virna Sanzone possesses a rich and beautiful voice that glides effortlessly through intricate jazz melodies.

She will be joined by her long-time collaborators, three of Sydney's most esteemed musicians: pianist Matt McMahon, bassist Jonathan Zwartz and drummer Hamish Stuart. Together, they create a sensitivity and spontaneity that only years of collaboration can produce.

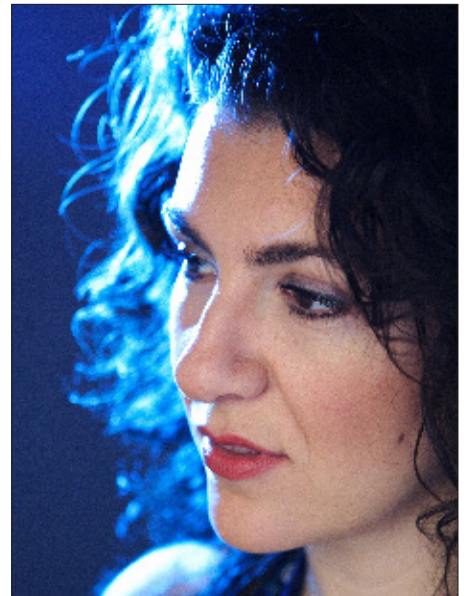
The quartet will breathe new life into much-loved jazz standards and effortlessly reinvent hidden gems,

crafting an afternoon of jazz that is both exploratory and nostalgic. As Lissa Christopher from *SMH* describes, 'Sanzone has a voice like the caramel layer in a piece of caramel slice ... so smooth, warm and pliable.'

- Food, bar and community catchup from 1.30 pm
- Performance – 3.00 to 5.00 pm.
- 16 and under free, \$35 concession and \$45 general admission
- Tickets from the Four Winds Bermagui website.

For more information go to the Four Winds Bermagui website or explore their FaceBook account.

Madison Phillips



Jazz sensation Virna Sanzone to perform at Four Winds

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Elementals showing in the SideRoom, Lazy Lizard Gallery

Margaret moved to Cobargo over five years ago, developing a love and appreciation of both the land- and seascapes seen along the coast. Margaret's formal art education was in ceramics, exploring notions of memory and lost landscapes. Several years ago, Margaret took several jewellery/silversmithing classes, culminating in a group show with fellow students. Building on the skills learned there, Margaret has embraced metalwork to now include: silversmithing to create three-dimensional objects, enamelling to bring in colour and the incorporation of beach and semiprecious stones in handmade jewellery. *Elementals* is an exhibition of a range of work that has been inspired by the light, sea and sky we see, the fire used in melting glass and metal, and the earth from which these materials have come.

Watching the sun rise above a distant horizon over the sea with the changing effects of light on the landscape, has inspired the use of colour in Margaret's enamel pieces. When placed together, small wall pieces, made from woven strips of copper enamelled in a kiln or by a torch,

produce landscapes that aim to reflect this light and colour.

Small bowls hand forged from silver and copper, some with enamel and piercing, are made to hold in the hand, edges left rough to show the marks left by the hammer and the hand of the maker.

Margaret has made a range of jewellery that moves from a quiet contemplation of the sea to more complex, exuberant works that are inspired by the stones themselves. The pale green in the prehnite pendants recall the colour of the sea with strands of seaweed seen just offshore. The clear crystals reflect light while many of the larger stones and agates are miniature landscapes within themselves.

Constantly evolving as a response to the environment and influences from life experiences, each piece is a one off and aims to bring some of the wonder of where we live into our personal spaces. Margaret will host an informal morning tea on Wednesday 4 September from 10.30 am – 12.30 pm to open the exhibition. Running through September, please feel welcome to come by to see the work on show.

Margaret Carlin



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Full house at Narooma Kinema for *Lost*

Mirringama Film's short film *Lost*, co-written and co-directed by Jane Gordon (Tanja) and Warren Foster Snr (Wallaga Lake), had its first cast, crew and community screening on Thursday 8 August with a full house at the Narooma Kinema.

Produced, cast, shot and post-produced in 2023 on Djiringanj land on Yuin country on the Far South Coast of NSW, Jane and Warren have been working on *Lost* as part of a slate of projects that brings together indigenous and non-indigenous Far South Coast creatives and community to tell stories of the region. *Lost* was preceded by one of Warren's previous short films, a documentary called *Bunaan*, along with *Home Stretch - Walawaani* and *Our Way*, two music videos from Yuin choir Djinama Yilaga. The films were followed by a Q and A session with the writer-directors and cast.

Co-writer and director, Jane Gordon,

said, 'I couldn't have been more pleased with last night's screening. It was the final birthing of a collaborative, shared vision of Warren and me to make a film that spoke of listening and learning from each other to move forward as one into the future.

'It was incredible to experience the excitement of this film coming to fruition and feel the energy and support from the community.

'Having been in a fairly isolated position working through the post-production it was just extraordinary to share this moment with a full house in the cinema.

'We can't thank the community and the Narooma Kinema enough for supporting us last night. It was so amazing for us to hear and feel the response of the audience and know that our message came across loud and clear with cries from the audience that this film needs to be screened in schools throughout



Writer-director Warren Foster Snr, cast members Ashweeni Mason, Billy Crew, Waruu Penrith and writer-director Jane Gordon at the first screening of *Lost* Photo: David Rogers

Australia, to promote healing and unity.' Let's hope that more of us can get an opportunity to see this film in the future.

Mirringama Films

Collage your curiosity

There will be a series of collage workshops in September with local artist, Yemaya Grace Maitri, at Good Vibes Studio, Bermagui.

Are you a pro-artist? A wanna-be artist? An 'I'm-not-really-an-artist' kind of artist? Are you needing a spring re-set to get your creative juices flowing again after a long, cold winter? This is your invitation to come along and collage your curiosity!

Join me on Sundays during September at Good Vibes Studio in Bermagui and we'll explore:

- getting into the zone

- collaging techniques
- composition and format
- colour, form and texture
- combining media and materials
- incorporating found objects

It will cost \$75 per participant and all tools and materials will be supplied, including:

- collaging boards of various sizes and formats
- a multitude of images and materials to choose from
- all the tools you'll need to create

plus, you'll receive a complementary collage-inspo package to take home for further creations.

Like many art practices, collage can have a positive effect on your life, including reducing stress and increasing relaxation – couldn't we all do with that? So, let's get snipping, cutting, tearing, ripping, arranging, composing, gluing and collaging your curiosity.

Collage your curiosity

12 noon to 2.30 pm, on Sundays in September, from 1 to 29 (but not 22).

Book in for one or book for all.

Good Vibes Studio

58 Lamont St, Bermagui

For further information and bookings.

Call or SMS Yemaya on 0419 888 982

Yemaya Grace Maitri

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Affinity Quartet to perform Beethoven's Opus 18 across two days at Four Winds

Sat 28 September, 6.00 pm | Sun 29 September 12 noon | Four Winds Windsong Pavilion

Tickets: \$45 general admission, \$35 concession, 16 and under free | Book tickets through the Four winds Bermagui website

Melbourne's own international prize-winners, Affinity Quartet, return from a period in Europe to perform Beethoven's first foray into string quartets, the Opus 18, as a mini cycle over two days. Four Winds has curated a weekend of delicious food and drink to pair with this exquisite offering of music in nature from Affinity Quartet.

This group of musicians has a collective wisdom and maturity which is singularly impressive ... Affinity is a musical force with which to be reckoned.
– Richard Gill, OAM.

The concert will consist of Beethoven's Opus 18. This is considered by many to be an expression of total mastery of the string quartet form. The string quartet was re-invented, liberated and developed by Haydn, Mozart and Mendelssohn in turn and, in Opus 18, the young Beethoven conquers all. With these six compact and ground-breaking works, a young Beethoven, still in his twenties, defies the logic of the Enlightenment to



Affinity Quartet: International prize winners, Affinity Quartet, journey back to Bermagui this September Photo: Kristoffer Paulsen

create a striking new direction for this intimate medium. This superbly inventive and passionate music will be performed by the rising stars of the next generation of Australian chamber musicians.

Don't miss this powerfully crafted, timeless program at Four Winds. Book now.

Madison Phillips

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GENERAL ADMISSION \$45
CONCESSION \$35
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FRI 23 AUG 6PM

AFFINITY QUARTET - BEETHOVEN'S OPUS 18
SAT 28 SEPT 6PM + SUN 29 SEPT 12PM
This work is performed across two days, audiences can attend one or both

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Art in the Triangle

Burst into spring with an afternoon of song featuring choirs from the Bega Valley

Spring Sing is back again in 2024 on Sunday, 8 September 8. This all-day singing workshop will take place at the Windsong Pavilion, Barragga Bay, and will be facilitated by local choir directors Dan Scollay and Geoffrey Badger. The event will culminate in a public performance in the afternoon at 3.30 pm.

Spring Sing provides a wonderful opportunity for choirs from the region to come together in a spirit of joy and sharing. Each choir is encouraged to prepare the chosen combined pieces as best they can before the event. On the day of the workshop, all participants rehearse together to polish these pieces for the final performance.

During the afternoon concert, each choir will perform a couple of short pieces of their own. The concert will conclude with the performance of the combined pieces.

Spring Sing began in 2014 as a result of a successful Mumbulla Foundation grant and has been held almost every year since.

‘We had to adjourn during COVID but the event has always brought much joy to those involved,’ says Dan. ‘The sound of a hundred voices is a big drawcard for those participating and those who come to hear the final performance. We’re so fortunate to have such a vibrant and well-supported choral scene in the Valley.’

Choirs participating this year are: That Bunch of Singers, The



Spirit Allegro performed at Spring Sing in the Windsong Pavilion in 2022
Photo: Debbie Worgan

Bega Valley Male Voice Choir, Riverbend Choir, Spirit Allegro, HARK and The Salty Singers.

The public performance is at the Windsong Pavilion at 3.30 pm with entry by donation. At the concert you’re sure to meet people who will convince you that joining a local choir is a very beneficial thing to do!

Dan Scollay

Montage et trois at Spiral Gallery

Montage et trois 6 - 25 September

An exhibition featuring GE Warburton, Kym Brookes and Belinda Rosenbaum. Opening event on Friday 6 September at 5.00 pm.

A visual poetic tribute to the natural beauty of our region, its flora and fauna, and the quiet wonderment it awakens in us. Kym, Belinda and GE will hang their works in montages – mixed groupings and compilations of their offerings.

Spiral Gallery, 47 Church Street Bega. Open Mon-Fri 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, Saturday 10.00 am to 1.00 pm. Or look up the Spiral Gallery Bega website for more information.

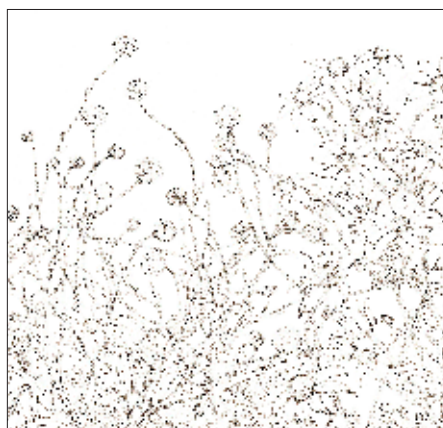
Anne Balcombe



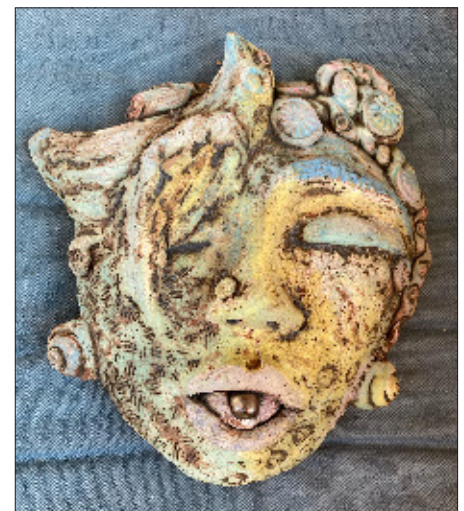
Belinda Rosenbaum Cloud Birds



Kim Brookes Centred



GE Warburton Oh my days, detail



Eggpress Delivery by Lisa Baier

Posted

27 September to 16 October

Opening at 4.00 pm Friday 27 September.

There are many posted: a letter, a woman in the army, totem poles, cakes, cows, love letters, walls, social media postings on the net. This is a theme exhibition. Come along and see how South Coast artists have responded and put their stamp on the idea, creating artworks in many media for you to enjoy.

Spiral Gallery, 47 Church St, Bega. Open Mon-Fri 10.00 am - 4.00 pm, Sat 10.00 am - 1.00 pm.

For more information check out the Spiral Gallery Bega website.

Diana Stewart

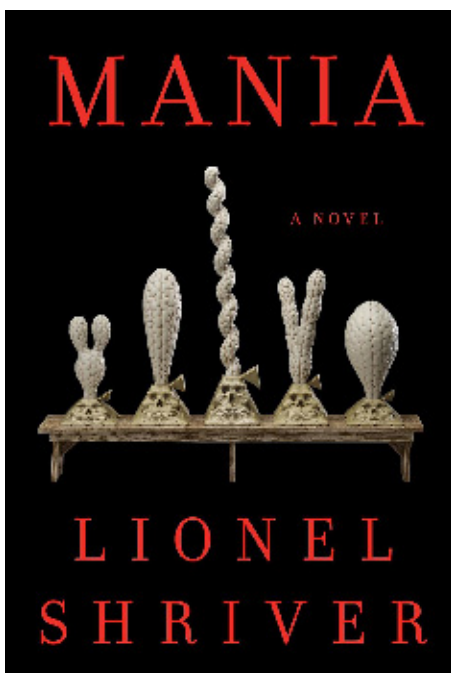
Mania

Lionel Shriver
Borough Press
RRP \$32.50

I've been a fan of Lionel Shriver since the best-selling, prizewinning novel that made her name, *We need to talk about Kevin*, appeared in 2003.

Any woman who at 15 changes her name from Margaret Ann to Lionel and sticks with it, has got to be fierce. And fierce she is. *We need to talk about Kevin* examined maternal ambivalence and a high school shooting. *The post birthday world* (2007), explores the fractures in relationships. *So much for that* (2010) is a bitter, ironic indictment of the American health system.

Then *The Mandibles* (2017) that was set in the near future and follows a New York family living through the total and irreversible collapse of the world's financial system. This was again a best seller but Shriver was accused of cultural appropriation because one of the main characters was an African-American woman and Shriver is not. This began an



ongoing literary debate about who can write about whom with a very outspoken Shriver at its centre. I loved and admired all the above best sellers but, after the intense arguments, Shriver's work and popularity seemed to decline and I gave up reading her.

I was pleased to hear that she was back in form with a new novel published this year and surprise, surprise it's about political correctness.

In an alternative recent past 'the last great civil rights fight' takes place and the Western World slowly disintegrates under the rule of the 'Mental Parity' movement. There is no such thing as stupidity, or any of its synonyms, only 'alternative processing'. Anything that appears to be 'brain vain' is cancelled and the best qualifications are no qualifications. There are no exams, doctors don't need to attend medical school, the chemists at Pfizer are not qualified and the COVID vaccine kills millions. Our first person protagonist, Pearson Coverse, resists in any way she can and *Mania* is her diary. Her children are taken into care, her husband is injured and receives poor medical treatment, both are jobless and then homeless. It's funny, it's frightening and it's relatable satire. But it's carried too far and becomes slightly absurd.

Shriver has taken a sledgehammer when she needed a whittling knife.

But I'm glad she's still angry.

Pet of the month

Kerri Brady

Ten-year-old Tom is recovering well from having a back leg amputated after being found wandering with an old injury that was obviously causing him pain.

Tom is a friendly, purry fellow who is more than happy to lie in the sun most of the day, getting up occasionally for a stroll around the house. He would make a perfect pet for an older person who is home a lot and can give him lots of attention and also keep an eye on him, as he is still adjusting to missing a leg, though he is improving every day. Tom will need a home that can accommodate his inability to climb and jump too much. He would probably be ok with another friendly, sedate cat but would also be very happy as an only cat. He loves his food and can be quite vocal when hungry!

A gorgeous boy who deserves a loving home, he will cost \$100. Please call 0400 372 609 (phone hours are Monday to Friday 9am-5pm). If you want to enquire about any of the other cats, kittens, dogs and pups available for adoption, please call us on 0400 372 609.

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



Tom would love a quiet caring home in his retirement

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For more information, please contact the President, Kerri Brady, on 0407 222 549.

Kerri Brady

Time to spring into the vegie garden

Whether you subscribe to the meteorological view that it begins on the first day of the month or to the astronomical view that it begins on the vernal equinox on the twenty-third day of the month, September brings us into the season that many consider the beginning of the gardening year – spring.

Hopefully, you are ahead of the game in your gardens and have pruned, fed, repotted, moved and planted all your trees, shrubs, pot plants and grasses ahead of the upcoming growing season. If not, get out there tomorrow and get cracking.

For those who do have all their ducks in a row, now is the perfect time to turn your attention to the vegie garden, as the warmer weather brings the widest array of annual edible sowing options. A little preparation now will put you in prime position for a fresh tasty summer harvest.

A good starting point is to perform a soil pH test to determine whether any lime will be required. At minimum, clear out spent crops and weeds, spread some compost and/or cow manure over the top and mix it in to about spade depth, scatter some fertiliser then cover with mulch. Use this same procedure when establishing a new bed.



What's the pH?

When thinking about what you will plant and where, avoid planting the same or related crops as last year in the same spot the next year.

Locate your beds so that they get plenty of sun and try not to negate that by overshadowing smaller plants with taller ones.

Another situation to avoid is overplanting, which leads to a produce glut down the track. Try to stagger your plantings for a longer, more even harvest and, if a glut does happen, research your best storage options for that particular crop.

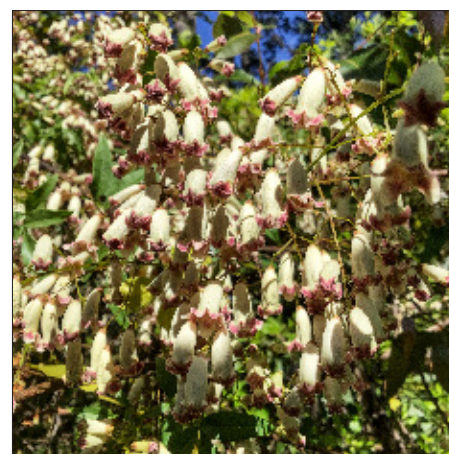
When you are ready to plant, September is a great time to plant root crops such as beetroot, carrots and swedes, as well as celery. If you are feeling optimistic you could try starting some capsicum or chilli, eggplant or tomato seeds if you can keep them nice and warm under a cold frame or on a heated pad and bring them inside during the evening. Otherwise, continue with the onions, peas, potatoes and silverbeet planting and be ready for October when the time will be right for most of your summer favourites.

Around the town gardens, spring is yet to make its full splash, however some of the *Prunus* spp (cherry blossom, plums etc) are beginning to put on a show, as are some of the deciduous magnolia trees and the *Jasminum polyanthum* (common jasmine). *Loropetalum chinense* (Chinese fringe flower) with its clusters of spidery-like pink flowers is in full flower, as is the leathery-leaved, white-flowered *Raphiolepis indica* (Indian hawthorn).

The wild places on the sides of the road around the Triangle region have begun lighting up with the golden hues of a number of *Acacia* spp (wattle) and you



Clematis glycinoides



Pandorea pandorana

might also notice some drapes of white veils in some smaller trees that are either the climber *Clematis glycinoides* (headache vine) or else *Pandorea pandorana* (wonga wonga vine). A closer look will distinguish between the two.


If you have any comments, gardening questions or plant or pest identification problems, please send them through to gardening@thetriangle.org.au and we will get back to you personally.

Happy growing.

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Make the most of the citrus season

Make the most of the citrus season by capturing some of the golden goodness of citrus.

There still seems to be plenty available as evidenced by boxes of surplus around the streets. Fresh is best – so grab

a few lemons, mandarins, oranges or grapefruit and get preserving and cooking.

I enjoy a mixed juice of whatever I have in the fruit bowl. My favourite at the moment is a tangelo/mandarin mix. Don't discard all the peel, I save some

rind from mandarins and freeze or dry it. It is a delicious addition when cooking poultry, especially duck.

Recipes from *Marmalade ... and other stories from la cucina Isola* by Georgina Adamson

Trick with Peel

I learnt this idea from a dear, elderly, past resident of Bermagui who, when she had a freshly squeezed juice, would save her rinds and put them in the freezer, there to use when she made marmalade or candied peel.

The freezing seems to tenderise the peel. When required, put the halves in a saucepan, cover with water and simmer till tender. Drain and, when cool enough to handle, scrape out most of the pith and cut into whatever shape you require, strips, wedges or smaller pieces for marmalade.

If making marmalade, proceed as normal with equivalent amount of sugar to peel bringing the pan slowly up to heat to dissolve the sugar, then simmering to thicken.

For peel, make a syrup with equivalent amounts of sugar and water till sugar is dissolved. Simmer for a few minutes then place peel in the pan and continue to cook slowly until most of the liquid has reduced. Be careful at this stage to remove before it catches.

Remove and place on baking paper on a wire rack and allow to dry overnight. Sprinkle or toss in caster sugar if desired



then put into sterilised jars for storage.

The preserved peel is a lovely addition to fruit cake, to decorate desserts and just to nibble on. For pure decadence you can also dip the larger pieces of peel in dark melted chocolate.

Tip: Use thick skinned peel and any sort of citrus fruit – orange, lemon, grapefruit.

Preserved Lemons

Preferably use thick skinned lemons. This is another useful pantry item and great to use when cooking Middle Eastern-style food, goes well with chicken, lamb, fish, cous cous and more.

You will need large, sterilised glass jars. Prepare jars by washing and drying well and sterilising in the oven.

Wash the lemons and cut into quarters or eights, depending on size. Toss in a large basin with coarse salt and massage well. Scatter salt into the base of the jars. Pack the lemons into the jars, skin side out and push down firmly. Add bay leaves, cloves and a cinnamon stick for flavour.

Sprinkle with the remaining salt. Add extra lemon juice to ensure the lemons are covered then seal tightly. Leave for a couple of months until salt is dissolved.

When ready to use, remove and discard the pith and chop the peel before adding to your dish. Only use one or two pieces as it has quite a strong flavour.

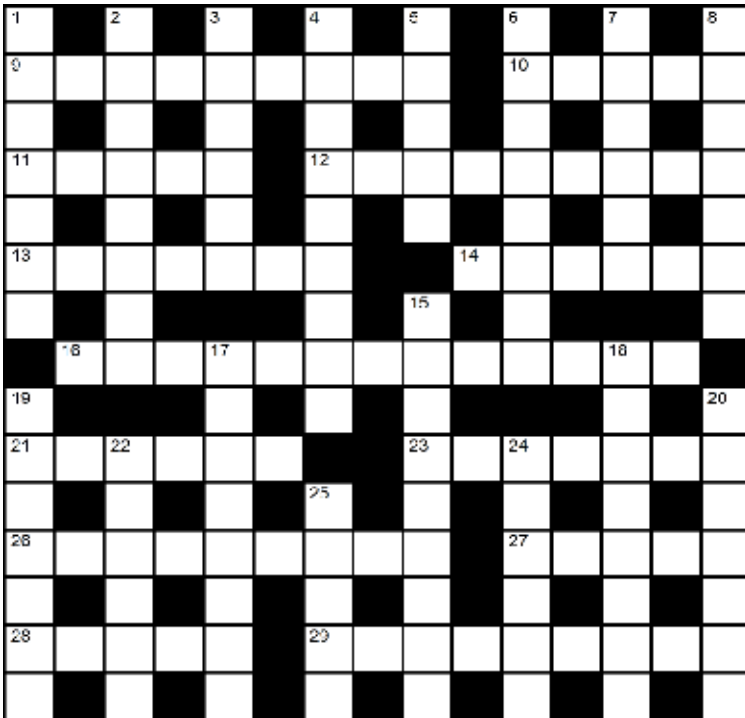


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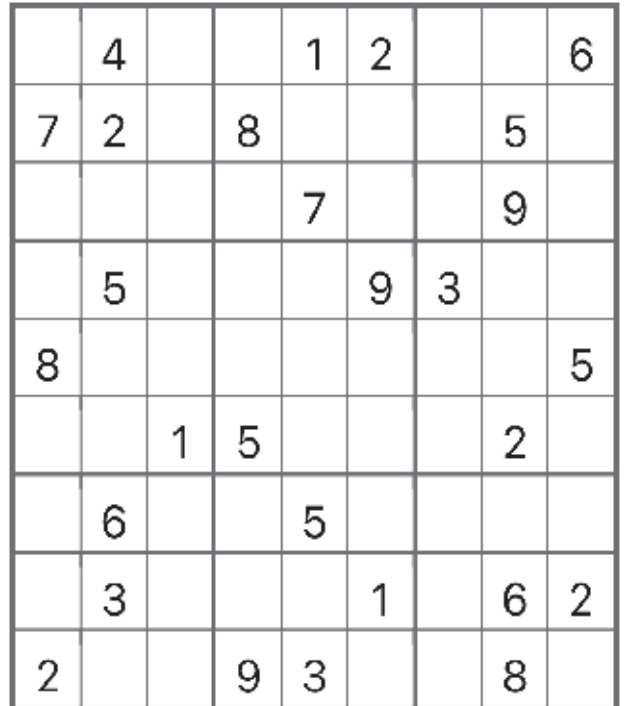
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SEPTEMBER CROSSWORD



SUDOKU



ACROSS

- 9 The Wompoo --- (5,4)
- 10 Musical drama (5)
- 11 A highway and a desert are named after him (5)
- 12 Awful role misrepresented an essential of civilized society (4,2,3) *
- 13 Up for grabs (2,2,3)
- 14 Piles of stones in Queensland? (6) *
- 16 It once housed a leper colony off the Queensland coast (7, 6)
- 21 Like many heroes (6)
- 23 Checks in on (5,2)
- 26 Hive sweet spot (9)
- 27 Finance (5)
- 28 Fill up here (5)
- 29 Stratagem (9)

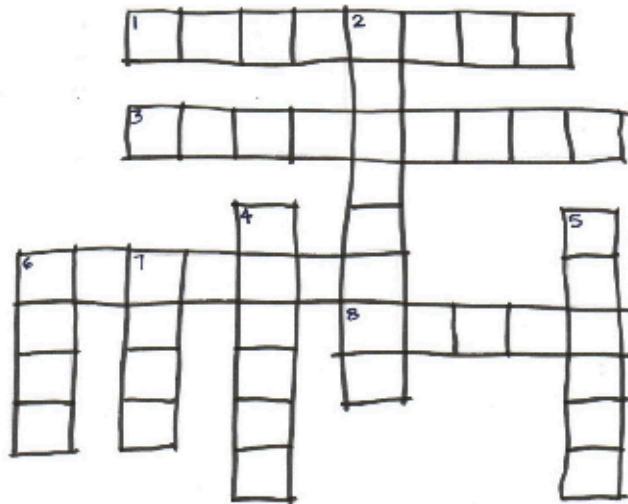
*Indicates a cryptic clue.

DOWN

- 1 Away from the main place of business (3,4)
- 2 Commuter country (8)
- 3 Pain in the side (6)
- 4 Fire-struck Paris landmark (5,4)
- 5 Notorious bushranger (5)
- 6 What 5 Down had to do, more than once (2,2,4)
- 7 Trader (6)
- 8 Service at 28 Across, sometimes (3,4)
- 15 Oxbow lake (9)
- 17 "Idylls of the King" author (8)
- 18 Steep drop (8)xe
- 19 Duke's wife (7)
- 20 Looked up to in NSW (7)
- 22 Guard (6)
- 24 Followed orders (6)
- 25 Accepted standards (5)

Answers on page 2

Kidz' Korner The Very Hungry Caterpillar Crossword



ACROSS



3.

DOWN



2.



5.



4.



6.



8.



6.



7.

WORD BANK

Cross these words off after you've used them.

APPLE
BUTTERFLY
CAKE

CHEESE
CUPCAKE
ICE CREAM

LOLLIPOP
PLUM
SALAMI

For the fridge door

SEPTEMBER	WHAT	WHERE	TIME
Up till Mon 9	Postal voting closes 5 pm. Available online	Search 'nsw electoral commission' and type in your Council name	Closes 5.00 pm Mon 9
All Sept	Merimbula Merroir Oyster Festival pg 6	Merimbula and environs	Check website
Sept for the 1st 3 weeks	Alex Bell nature-inspired photography	Shop7 Art Space, Wharf Co-op Bermagui	W-M 10.30 am - 3 pm
Weds 4 open, then all Sept	<i>Elementals</i> Margaret Carlin metalwork, enamel and semi-precious stones pg 28	Side Room, Lazy Lizard Opening morning tea	10.30 am - 12.30 pm
Thurs 5	CWA BYO picnic to raise DV awareness RSVP Helen 0407 100 710 or email pg 7	CWA Park near Tilba Dairy	12.30 pm
Fri 6 - 26	<i>Montage et Trois</i> opening Fri 5 pm Three artists pg 31	Spiral Gallery, Bega	M-F 10-4 Sat 10-1
Sat 7 - 13	Pre-polling available till the 13 Sept	Selected pre-polling sites no voting on Sunday	M-W 8.30-5.30 T-F 8.30-6.30 Sat 8.30-5.30
Sat 7	Tyler Hauptberger	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon
Sun 8	Meet the candidates: Mayoral forum	Bermagui Country Club	10.00 am
	Tony Jagers	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon
	Spring Sing combined choirs workshop and performance by donation pg 31	Windsong Pavilion, Four Winds, Barragga Bay	3.30 pm performance
Thurs 12	Mumbulla school music concert free pg 26	Cobargo School of Arts	1.00 pm
Sat 14	Vote in our local government elections pg 2/3	Many polling places in the BVSC and Eurobodalla	8.00 am - 6.00 pm
	Get Ready for summer info pg 23	Central Tilba RFB station	10 am - 2 pm
	Todd Cook	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon
Sun 15	Lionel Robinson and Casey Greene	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon
Tues 17	Talking about all things US elections pg 6	Well Thumbed Books	11.00 am
Sat 21	Get Ready for summer info pg 2	RFB station Bunga St Bermagui	9 am - 12 noon
	Dave Nolan	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon
	Get Ready for summer info pg 2	RFB Station Wandella Rd, Cobargo	10 am - 1 pm
Sun 22	Get Ready for summer info pg 2	RFB station Bunga St Bermagui	9 am - 12 noon
	Just Us	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon
	Virna Sanzone Quartet, smooth soul jazz pg 27	Windsong Pavilion, Four Winds, Barragga Bay	1.30 bar open starts 3.00 pm
Thurs 26	Angela Ratten's hand-thrown porcelain vessels pg 27	Shop7 Art Space, Wharf Co-op Bermagui	W-M 10.30 am - 3 pm
Fri 27	Posted group exhibition opening 5 pm Friday till Oct 16 pg 31	Spiral Gallery	M-F 10-4 Sat 10-1
Sat 28	Tattered & Torn ticketed event	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	10.00 am
	Affinity Quartet: Beethoven Opus 18 over two days check website for food and drink times pg 30	Windsong Pavilion, Four Winds, Barragga Bay	6.00 pm
Sun 29	Amy & I	Tilba Winery & Alehouse	12 noon
	Affinity Quartet: Beethoven Opus 18 continued. Check website for food and drink times pg 30	Windsong Pavilion, Four Winds, Barragga Bay	12 noon