

THE TRIANGLE

COMMUNITY NEWS

Est. Sept. 2002

QUAAMA COBARGO BERMAGUI TILBA & LOCALITIES

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Living with and enjoying native birds

The Triangle area has such an abundance of native birds ... and having them visit the garden can be a highlight of the day. We certainly keep an eye out for a small nankeen kestrel that hunts most days over the paddock, the white-faced heron that strides confidently around the yard and the yellow-tailed black cockatoos that fly in and out of the hills.

There is a wealth of online resources on attracting birds to your garden. The information summarised here is from WIRES, Birdlife Australia and the RSPCA.

These organisations all agree that the best way to attract birds is by planting bird-friendly habitat: trees and shrubs that will provide food, shelter, nesting spots and safety from predators. (Search for 'bird friendly gardens' for in-depth information.)

All three organisations also support attracting birds with bird baths or other water sources. However, it is important to make water sources safe from predators, cool, clean and fresh. Site in a shady spot, off the ground, don't use metal containers, clean the container and change the water frequently to prevent algae build up, disease and mosquitoes. Any water source deep enough to bathe in should include twigs, rocks or other escape routes.

Except during extreme droughts or after fires or floods, the RSPCA and Birdlife Australia strongly discourage feeding wild birds; WIRES is totally opposed. The reasons are as follows:

Poor nutrition. Birds are adapted to a diverse diet that varies by season. Feeding tends to be monotonous and nutritionally unbalanced. Human scraps are particularly bad – for example, bread has low nutritional value for birds, raw meat is low in calcium and causes brittle bones.

Dependence. Birds may become dependent on humans. This is especially true for juveniles who may learn to get food from feeders rather than forage in the wild.

Competition. Feeders may attract a range of species and create



unnatural contexts that foster competition and aggression.

Species imbalance. Feeders may support populations of some species over others leading to imbalance in the diversity of populations.

Disease. Birds may cluster and feed closer together than is natural, enabling the spread of diseases. Some bird diseases also spread to humans.

Toxicity. Food left out (including bird seed) may become mouldy and toxic. Dairy is also toxic as birds are unable to digest lactose (the sugar in dairy). And, some human foods may glob together and get stuck in the bird's throat.

Predation. Feeding stations may make birds more vulnerable to predators.

The bottom line? It's better to create bird friendly habitat plantings and/or provide safe, clean access to water than to feed them directly.

Tikka Wilson

Welcome to *The Triangle* and another new year – 2025, a quarter of the way through the 21st century. Traditionally, each time we start a new year, we look through a filter of optimism and hope at what lies ahead. It’s a chance for renewal, an opportunity to take stock and resolve to do better this year than we did in the shabby old one that we’re shrugging off. But this year I am having real trouble finding that pleasant feeling of anticipation. The tension between hope and despair is strong and real.

Last year was a tough year here in many ways – a dry, windy winter and spring reminding us that climate change was proceeding apace. And when it did pivot and started raining this past month, I didn’t feel the joy that usually accompanies full water tanks and a greening landscape.

Instead, it felt more like relief – we’d been given a reprieve, but we know there will be greater climate challenges to come.

As it turned out, 2024 was a year of events that would have once seemed unimaginable: the hottest year on record for the globe leading to America’s second biggest city burning in the first week of 2025; the first convicted felon voted into the White House; enormously destructive wars being waged with death and displacement deliberately aimed at civilians while the world, reduced to handwringing impotence, looks on. Social media giants and AI have made determining the veracity of what you see and read increasingly difficult and even the most superficial fact checking has been abandoned.

But, at the same time, we live in a beautiful corner of the world, no one

is shooting at us or laying waste to our communities and most of the people we share this with are decent human beings, living their lives, growing their gardens, running their businesses and kissing their kids good night. I am surrounded by natural beauty and ridiculous bounty, and I live in a community that by and large still values kindness, courtesy, respect and a degree of good-humoured stoicism.

These are the wonders that we can cherish and nurture. All of us who work to bring *The Triangle* to you every month hope we can continue to bring you stories about the natural world, about human interactions and examples of hope and growth. Life is precious, beauty is sustaining and sharing all this is a natural human urge.

Letters

Changing times

I have recently noticed people walking along a track in Akolele that runs along Bermagui Road and then down to the lake.

I just want to advise everyone that I have seen red-bellied black snakes in the area, the most recent a magnificent 1.5 metre-long mature snake peacefully sunning itself.

They are not aggressive but would probably react if you tread on them.

So, tread softly ... or, maybe, noisily.

Jo Lewis,
Akolele

Dear Editors,

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the two lifeguards, Ryan and Indy, on duty at Horseshoe Bay Beach last month, for their kindness and caring.

These lovely young people allowed us to share their shade while we watched our family members (who live in Victoria and country NSW) enjoy swimming in the beautiful, clean water Bermagui is known for.

Ryan insisted on getting chairs for my husband and myself and, as elderly folk with medical conditions, this was greatly appreciated.

It is wonderful and so refreshing to encounter compassion and kindness for, as long as we have young people like these, our future is in safe hands.

With much gratitude,

John and Karen Vuki, Bermi residents



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

Join your fire brigade!

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

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

Get in touch or find us on Facebook

- **Tilba** – centraltilba@farsouthcoastteam.org.au 0448 100 974
- **Quaama** – quaama@farsouthcoastteam.org.au 0400 738 978
- **Cobargo** – rfbcobargo@gmail.com 0412 919 708
- **Bermi** – bermaguirfb@gmail.com 0474 201 859





Thumbs UP

To the stallholders who keep turning up to the Saturday Tilba Market near the Post Office, no matter what the weather is like, the musicians who share their gift of music by busking and the regulars who come every week for fresh produce.

To all those who make the public toilets in Cobargo, Tilba and Bermi reliably clean and pleasant. When you need to go, you need to go, and I'm always thankful for the cleanliness. Thanks.

To everyone who has made and served food, stripped and made beds, and cleaned during the busy holiday period. It ain't over, but many people work very hard at this time of year.

To Lee, our hardy NRMA rescuer, goodonyer mate.

Thumbs DOWN

To dog owners not respecting the sign at Valiant Coffee to please have your dog on a leash.



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 cclsang333@gmail.com.

Who does the work

The Editorial Committee

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Tikka Wilson (Secretary)
Bhagya (Treasurer)
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Bermagui: 777 Supermarket, Post Office, Shell Bermagui, Bermagui Country Club, Bluewave Seafood, Library, Visitors Centre

Central Tilba: Post Office, ABC Cheese Factory, Sweet Spot

Cobargo: Post Office, United Petrol, Cobargo General Store, The Bowerbird Op Shop, Well Thumbed Books, Information Centre

Wallaga Lake: Merrimans Land Council

Narooma: BP station, Library, Casey's Café, **Quaama:** The Quaama Store

Deadlines:

Advertising: 5pm, 19th of each month

Editorial: 12pm, 22nd of each month

Thumbs / Letters to the editor:

All communications should be forwarded to: contributions@thetriangle.org.au

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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.

Introducing *The Triangle* Community News podcast



Flick Ruby and Jacob Round with the tools of their trade

The Triangle has 22 years of loyal readership, and for the next six months we are going to trial offering some of our content in audio form.

Produced monthly as a companion to the print edition by audio engineer and podcast producer, Jacob Round, and Flick Ruby, *The Triangle* Community News podcast will hopefully bring some of our content to new audiences, including the visually impaired.

The Triangle Community News

podcast will come out when the print edition hits the streets from February 2025, with our editorial, an interview with a member from the community and highlights from the Fridge Door.

Search for *The Triangle* Community News wherever you get your podcasts!

Or find us on our new social channels: Facebook – *The Triangle* Community News

Instagram – @thetriangle2550

We hope you listen in!

Flick Ruby and Jacob Round

I thought I was coping

'I thought I was coping,' she burst out, 'It overwhelmed me when I saw Mark Ayliff', tears welling in her eyes.

We were talking about our experience at *The day she stole the sun*, the documentary film shown at Cobargo about the mega fires that ravaged our region on New Year's Eve, 2019. We shared a similar response – a triggering of deeply personal, non-material, embodied impacts – a kind of naked sensitivity rising up from profound lived experience. 'It was the sound particularly', that loud rumbling fire-roar that resonated in the very fibres of the body-mind resurrecting the state-of-being experienced when facing the terror, heart-loss, death, brutal realities.

She was one of those who had taken shelter in the Quaama Fire Shed as the firestorm hit – texting her daughter, 'I don't know if I will get through this' – fires outside defending their community.

For me during the film, a morass of feelings like those just after the fires, rose up. I couldn't speak of this unnamable

emotional physicality – it had no words, no language, yet it pervaded my inner being. An embodied state of open vulnerability, of groundlessness when the ground of assumed certainties drops away.

From an inner protective caution, some community members chose not to see the film. Some, my friend among them, left quickly after. For this local audience, this film held images of familiar faces, sites, buildings, streetscapes, rivers, sacred mountains, images of home and what befell on that night. As the film progressed, for some, embodied memories were awakened.

As a community, we came together through the bushfire experiences and help poured in. Daily life gradually refilled both with old patterns and for some with cellular change. The film acted as a catalyst to still unresolved impacts yet to be addressed five years on.

It would seem Life can be punctuated with significant events that drastically interrupt regular life bringing changes of

awareness, direction, values, connections and depth that are integrated into who we are, and can create a visceral connectedness with others – often with good heart emanating compassion and shedding quiet tears when looking out into the world – responding to floods, LA fires, mayhem in the Middle East, more and more ... We all have our roles and varied gifts contributing to creating enmeshed inclusive resilience. One local described this difficult uncomfortable painful re-ignition as a spiritual gateway.

Two Eden women who were directly impacted by the fires, artist/educator Sue Norman and bushfire counsellor Colleen Weir, directed their energies into writing a short, simple illustrated booklet on understanding trauma in the brain. It includes two very accessible strategies to aid 'the natural survival processes affecting recovery from trauma' – *NYE on the River of Life* – available for free at Well Thumbed Books, Cobargo.

Rosemary Beaumont

Have your say in NSW's plans to improve travel options and transport networks

NSW member for Bega Dr Michael Holland is encouraging the residents of Bega Valley and Eurobodalla Shires to comment on the NSW Government's plans to improve travel options and the region's transport network.

Public consultation on the draft South East and Tablelands Strategic Regional Integrated Transport Plan (SRITP) closes on 28 February.

By 2041, population growth and projected demographic changes across the region will increase demand for diverse transport options and network improvements to ensure access to essential goods and services for today's communities and those in the future.

This region plays a key role in providing seamless connections between NSW and the ACT, and NSW and Victoria,

as well as to other major cities, centres, ports and towns.

During the consultation period, Transport for NSW representatives will be in the region at various pop-up locations to talk with local residents.

A copy of the draft plan, initiatives list, early engagement report, Local Government Area (LGA) summaries and other resources are available on the project's webpage. Go to the Transport for NSW website and enter SRITP in the search bar – this will bring up the web page for their online survey.

The survey has been designed to allow people to pick the themes that most concern them, such as First Nations, public transport, safety, active transport, freight or environment.

The survey also allows people to

easily provide feedback on actions and initiatives identified for the region. These include infrastructure projects, programs and service improvements in the short, medium or long term.

More detailed feedback is also welcome and can be sent using an email address on the form or by uploading a submission to the Have Your Say page.

Dr Holland said the SRITP is a crucial step for ensuring our transport infrastructure and services meet the growing needs of our region and contribute to better health outcomes through more equitable access to essential services, education, and employment opportunities.

*Extracted from
Dr Michael Holland's press release*

Animal Welfare South Coast desexing program

Under the new desexing program system, our Animal Welfare branch offers subsidised desexing vouchers for pet owners who hold a Centrelink Pension Card or who need financial assistance because they're experiencing financial difficulties.

To apply online for a voucher search for 'far south coast animal welfare league'. In your search results, click on the link that says: 'find us – far south coast branch'. Scroll down to desexing, complete the form as well as you can, and press submit.

Dogs, cats and rabbits are eligible. The value of the voucher varies depending on individual circumstances such as weight, size, age etc. The desexing program is available for owned pets only.

When you complete the online form, your request for a voucher will be received and approved by email. An email link to the voucher will be sent to you with the amount that has been approved. You pay the difference in the cost of desexing to a participating vet by debit/credit card.

Contact the branch if you cannot

access a computer or have problems with the email address. You could also get help from a friend or use a computer at the library.

Our phone number is 0400 372 609. All other services incur a normal cost. Cats and dogs that are available will appear on our Facebook page.

We now have a new acting President. Her name is Catherine L'Ecuyer and we all wish her well in the future.

Suzanne Doyle

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Get the right documentation in place now

In 2024, I personally supported eight families with death and dying. I helped some to get their affairs in order after a terminal prognosis; others through their last weeks and days. I officiated at funerals or coordinated wakes and helped next of kin to navigate the release of a deceased's funds.

Much of the year was grief-laden but, for me, grief is an old friend, so that aspect wasn't stressful.

What was stressful and frustrating, however, was dealing with corporations that have no idea of the added layer of grief they impose on someone who is trying to deal with the convoluted processes required after someone dies.

Here's what I learnt last year: there are generally six critical documents that insurance companies, government departments, banks, utilities and superannuation companies want before they will even begin to deal with a deceased estate:

- The insurance policy number, Super membership number, bank account number etc.
- An ORIGINAL, FULL birth certificate.
- An ORIGINAL, FULL death

certificate (they'll sometimes accept an Interim Death Certificate until the full certificate arrives).

- A valid Last Will and Testament or proof of next of kin.
- An original marriage certificate (if relevant).
- Photo ID of the deceased AND the person making application for funds.

IMPORTANT: As most of these organisations do their business online, they want **certified copies** of all these documents scanned and uploaded to their websites (always check with them re their certification requirements first).

It is far easier for you to get these documents while you are alive (except for the Death Certificate of course), than it is for someone to get them once you've gone.

So ... if you don't have them, make it a priority to apply for them from the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages in the state/territory where the document was originally created (e.g., if you were born in NSW, you'll apply to the NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages).

Ensure your will is current, filled in and signed correctly (one I dealt with this year had the person's address missing but everything else was meticulously filled

in and it was deemed 'incomplete' and useless).

Then photocopy these documents along with your driver's licence and passport and have them all correctly certified as copies, THEN scan the certified copies so they can be uploaded if necessary and tell someone where they are stored.

Believe me, making the effort now to get this in place will save those you love or your Executor months of stressful negotiation via long phone calls to get business entities to release your property.


Note: this is my experience and opinion only; requirements can vary between organisations. Always seek professional advice when dealing with legal documents.

Shanna Provost

www.rest-easy.com.au

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The Hotspots Fire Project for Cobargo and Coolagolite

Revised Workshop Dates 8 and 29 March

The Hotspots Fire Project is an award-winning program that provides landholders and land managers with the skills and knowledge to participate actively in fire management for the protection of life and property while at the same time ensuring healthy productive landscapes in which biodiversity is protected and maintained.

Based on best available science and operational knowledge, Hotspots understands that well-informed and well-prepared communities complement the roles of land managers and fire agencies. A shared approach to fire management is critical to any form of planning and management for the protection of life, property and the environment.

The Hotspots project consists of two days of workshops and is free to all in the Cobargo/ Coolagolite areas. Landholders gain a better understanding of fire ecology and risk management through spending time in the field with ecologists and local fire authorities, land managers and neighbours. Participants also gain

an understanding of issues relating to risk planning, legislation, fire history, the protection of threatened species, vegetation types and animals, and their response to fire and different fire regimes.

Landholders develop their own fire management plans in cooperation with their neighbours and begin to build a better understanding of the role of fire in their local area. The result is a map-based fire management plan of their property.

Landholders also participate in a field day event on how to put their fire management plans in action and implement a burn in a safe and efficient environment. The day brings together all the knowledge and planning from earlier parts of the program and provides a hands-on experience in preparing a burn site, measuring fuel loads, considering weather and other aspects of fire behaviour, and undertaking risk assessments. Landholders will then observe and partake in a demonstration burn conducted by the local Rural Fire Service Brigade.



Workshop participants learn how to burn safely

Our proven model of consultation, science and training has resulted in on-ground actions for biodiversity, community preparedness and improved hazard reduction. This workshop will also focus on the effect of fire on the local endangered population of koalas.

Information will be forwarded to registered participants.

Interested? Contact Inspector Phil Paterson on mobile number 0417 128 815.

Phil Paterson

The best is yet to come

Everything we create, whether uplifting or destructive, begins in the mind. A healthy mind builds, heals and inspires, while a stressed, disconnected mind erodes our well-being and that of the world around us. The solution? Go to the root: cultivate awareness, responsibility and self-care to unlock our full potential.

Stress is like dragging a buoy under a stormy sea, gripping its chain until our knuckles turn white and our spirit fades. We ignore the signs, clinging to old habits, until 'suddenly' we face chronic illness, fractured relationships or an empty sense of self. But what if we could change that?

Radical self-responsibility, living with an open heart and taking ownership of our emotions has the power to transform not just our lives but the world. When we stop blaming others and start listening to our inner compass, we unlock solutions, dissolve fear and find love at the centre of it all. Fear isolates and paralyzes; love connects and heals.


Imagine putting as much energy into creating solutions as we do into feeding fear. What if we understood the mind's mechanics and removed the fear from feeling? What if we lived with trust, joy and the belief that the best is yet to come?

We dream of a world filled with people willing to do the work, people who know there's no magic pill for happiness but understand that small, mindful changes ripple outward to create profound transformation.

Join us for *A Soul Reset* in Cobargo and Narooma this February or on retreat in April. Let's prepare our best selves and shape a brighter future together.

See our adjacent ad and book via the QR code or call Sarah 0417 684 300 or Kate 0427 578 642 for more information.

Sarah Lambert



A SOUL RESET

UNWIND, RECHARGE, TUNE IN AND SPARK YOUR INNER JOY BACK TO LIFE!


Have you lost trust in the world and feel like your inner compass has taken a holiday?

Are you wondering if balance, grounding and energy are even real or just myths like unicorns?

COME TO EITHER SESSION OR BOTH!

Sunday Feb 16	Saturday Feb 22
10.00AM - 4.00PM	10.00AM - 4.00PM
Cobargo Hall of Arts	Uniting Church Hall
Cobargo/Bermagui Rd	134 Wagonga St
Cobargo	Narooma
Your investment - \$45 conc. \$35	

60 years combined experience coming your way. We've been around!



For more deets & to book

Call Sarah on 0417 684 300 or Kate on 0427 578 642 (if you need to 😊)

Unlock your body's natural flow with Zenthai shiatsu

Zenthai shiatsu is a holistic, movement-based therapy that combines the healing practices of Zen shiatsu, Thai massage, traditional Chinese medicine and osteopathic techniques. This therapeutic approach is designed to restore balance and flow throughout the body, addressing a wide range of concerns such as musculoskeletal pain, digestive issues and nervous system regulation.

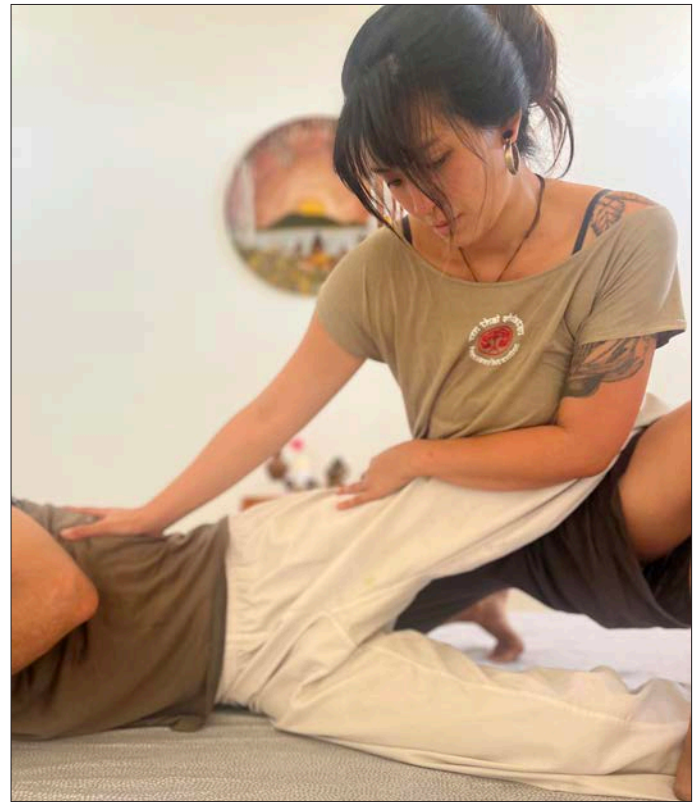
Through a combination of stretching, gentle manipulation and pressure, Zenthai shiatsu helps to release tension, improve circulation, and promote relaxation, allowing the body's natural energy to flow freely. It works to balance both the physical and energetic systems, helping to restore harmony and vitality.

Zenthai shiatsu is not only effective for treating specific ailments but also serves as a preventative measure to maintain overall well-being. Whether you're looking to relieve chronic pain, reduce stress or improve flexibility, this therapy can support your health on multiple levels.

In addition to Zenthai shiatsu, other therapeutic treatments are available including cupping, moxibustion and herbal compress therapy, all of which enhance the healing process by further promoting circulation, detoxification and balance.

Experience the transformative power of Zenthai shiatsu with Tora Jong at Harmony Health in Bermagui.

Tora Jong



Tora performing a hip stretch on the gall bladder meridian

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Paws to celebrate at puppy school Christmas party

Narooma's NATA Oval was packed with dogs, tails wagging, enjoying their Christmas party.

Their owners joined in the celebrations on Saturday, 7 December, showing their appreciation for the eleven core dedicated volunteers who make the weekly dog training classes possible.

The Narooma Dog Training Club was established in the early 2000s by Yve Robinson in her backyard on the Old Highway. Val, a volunteer who has been with the club since its inception, said that initially Yve was the only instructor.

Dog owner Kara was one of the early participants. Gus, her golden Labrador, is

the fourth dog she has taken to the classes over the years. Another owner, Jess, has her dog in black class, the top level. She remembers watching the family dog in classes when she was about eight years old.

Eventually, the classes moved to the NATA Oval and Yve's program became part of NSW Animal Welfare League Eurobodalla Branch.

Now there are six instructors – Jean, Kathryn, Peter, Kay, Wayne and Alexis – who arrive at the Oval at 9.00 am to have everything ready for the 10.00 am classes.

Dogs start in green class, then graduate through to blue, yellow, red and up to black.

All dogs over three months old are welcome and dogs come from as far afield as Tathra, Quaama, Tuross and Mogo for obedience and agility training.

The Christmas party had two relay games – an obstacle course and a ball and spoon race. Ian and nine-year-old Bessie from Cadgee, inland of Bodalla, won the canine version of musical chairs. They have been going to the classes since Bessie was six months old. Martin and four-year-old Ella from Akolele won the Simon Says game.

All participants at both ends of the leash had fun, as they do each week in class.

For more information phone 0458 953 281.

Marion Williams

Apply for NAIDOC Week activity grants now



Smoking ceremony

Grants of up to \$1,000 are available to help not-for-profit community groups and organisations run 2025 NAIDOC Week events celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievement.

The funding is for activities and events making a positive community contribution with creativity, vision and originality during this week of celebration from 7 to 14 July.

In previous years, grants have been used for activities including Aboriginal flag-raising ceremonies, storytelling, sports and games, displays of cultural artefacts, language programs, art and craft demonstrations, bush tucker gardens and murals.

Applications are open now and close on Tuesday 6 April, with successful applicants notified in June. For more information and to apply, visit Council's NAIDOC Week activity grants webpage.

*Duncan McLaughlin
Communications Officer
Eurobodalla Shire Council*



Ian and Bessie (centre) collecting their prize for winning the musical chairs game, with Narooma Dog Training Club volunteers Wayne (left) and Val (right).

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*The Triangle!***

The Triangle Community

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Happy New Year to all of you from *The Triangle*!

I wagged off towards the end of last year to have an epic journey overseas. Thanks so much to Jen Severn and others for populating the Quaama page while I was AWOL.

It's so good to be home. I hung out with family and friends in the US and France. I attended my 50th high school reunion. I ate too much, drank too much and got lots of hugs. It was fantastic and long overdue, but home is always the best destination.

It was looking pretty dry when I arrived back in November. I don't think that I'll ever again truly relax in a dry season. Thankfully, mercifully, the rain came soon after I arrived home and the earth responded almost overnight by putting on a green glow. It is a relief to not have a heightened fire worry, at least not right now.

Welcome back to the Quaama School, kids! The beginning of a new year in a new grade is always exciting. The school makes learning look like a lot of fun and we wish the new students a wonderful time settling in and making friends. I hope we'll have a lot to read about from the school in the next edition. They do so many exciting and interesting things! They learn about subjects that were never considered in school when I was a kid.

Things are generally a bit quiet here in Quaama, except for the sulphur-crested cockatoos, who have moved in recently, making their shrieking noise all over town. I read that Australian birds are the oldest on earth. They somehow survived the dinosaur-killing great extinction event that happened millions of years ago. The article said that all the world's songbirds originated here, which is a charming thought. Our birds are little feathered dinosaurs themselves, and don't they sound like it? I bet the Jurassic was a noisy place.

So, while Cobargo, Tilba and Bermagui were bustling with people, boats and caravans, and residents had to deal with parking issues and queues for coffee, we again could sit out all that chaos here in Quaama. Thank goodness we're not on the tourist map!

Because we only have one shop, one hall, one school, a park and a cemetery, there isn't a lot to say on *The Triangle's* Quaama page most months. If you have an event you want to let people know about, please let us know. If you see something, snap a good pic or if you know a local story you're happy to share, please



My cousin laid a wreath at the Suresnes American Cemetery just outside Paris on Remembrance Day. She has been a member of the American Legion for forty years. I had an epic trip.

do! Email contributions@thetriangle.org.au or give me a call on 6493 8369. We'll consider it for the next edition.

And, if you're interested in trying your hand at writing Quintessentially Quaama, it would be great to have a fresh voice. Maybe just give it a try? See how you go? I've been at the helm for years and years and would be happy to mentor my replacement. *The Triangle* is a lot of fun to be a part of. You might be surprised.



Sulphur crested cockatoos have taken up residence in Quaama of late, and don't we know it!

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Diggin Diggies

Flick Ruby

‘Let’s have a spring car boot and cake stall,’ said Sally Josh, incoming Dignams Creek Community Group President, at our June AGM. While she may have regretted making that suggestion due to the workload (she absolutely did), it was a smashing success. Not only did we pay the annual insurance and fair-trading bills for our community group several times over, but we also held a delightful community market at the New Old Shed and ran a ripper raffle that was drawn on 10 December.

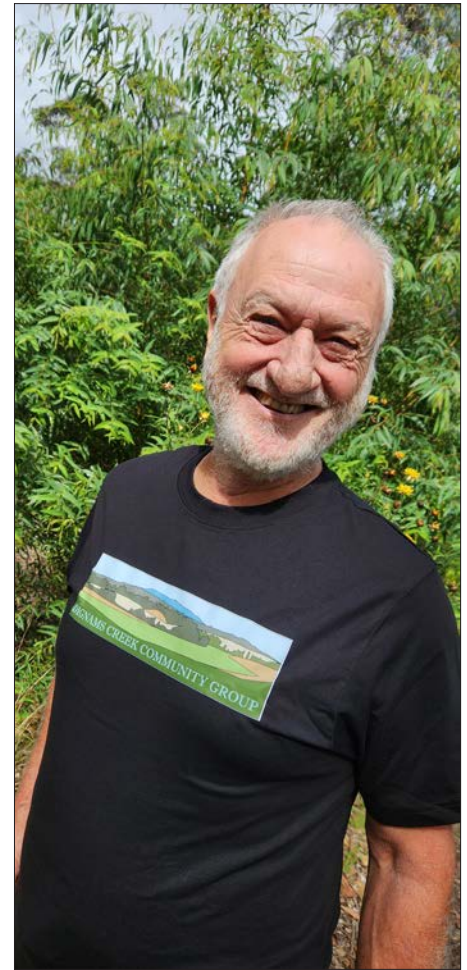
Thank you EVERYBODY who bought tickets, made great cakes and flogged fantastic junk. It’s highly likely we will make a habit of this kind of event around Christmas time. A night Christmas market with live music sounds great!

When it was horribly windy and dusty in Diggies, we re-advertised an Emergencies Only group chat that almost everyone on the road has now joined. It’s great to have notifications always switched on for that chat just in case. In the meantime, plenty of rain has flooded some of us in recently, a glorious excuse to stay at home and get creative with food stores in the cupboard. The sound of the creeks flowing is very heartening. Less so are the prolific foxes chomping chickens and generally making mischief with wildlife.

As usual, the Landcare group is going gangbusters, managing our weed project and now, with Sally Anne’s research acumen, bringing out a Weed of the Month bulletin, the first being all about elderberry weed. ‘Despite being championed as a useful herbal remedy and a good food plant, it needs to be controlled so that it doesn’t infiltrate our creek. Elderberry has the potential to transform a healthy creek ecosystem into a degraded, weed-infested area.’ Yikes.

Just for fun, we got a Dignams Creek Community Group (DCCG) t-shirt printed. The design was made years ago by Trevor King for a DCCG submission about the bypass, so he got a complimentary shirt that you may see around town!

It’s great to see the Share Shed being used again and, particularly, to see the meat safe shelves donated by the late Dave King being used for Sally Anne’s beans, Heather’s plums and Angela’s (superb pre-Christmas) tomatoes and cucumbers. Currently Sally is winning the annual giant tomato competition with a 702 g Hungarian Heart, with Angela’s 600 g Brandy Wine coming in second. But the season isn’t over and I’m hoping Diggies will be well represented at the wondrous glory of the Cobargo Show Pavilion. See you there!



Trevor King modelling the new DCCG t-shirt



Dignams Creek Community Group Car Boot Sale



Sally Josh and Heather Anderson drawing the DCCG Raffle

Images – by Flick Ruby

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Cobargo SHOW

FRIDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2025

- 9:00AM NOVICE & OPEN WORKING HORSE CHALLENGE
- 10:00AM BEEF CATTLE JUDGING
BEEF CATTLE JUNIOR JUDGING
- 1:00PM PAVILION JUDGING COMMENCES
- 3:00PM CAMPDRAFT HEATS
- 5:30PM MADSTYLE MOTO STUNT SHOW
- 6:00PM HOWLIN MITCH TRIO & FELICITY DOWD MUSIC ACTS

SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2025

- 8:30AM EQUESTRIAN EVENTS COMMENCE
DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING
- 9:00AM PAVILION OPENS
- 10:00AM CHAINSAW CARVING DEMONSTRATION (ALL DAY)
HAWKESBURY WORKING KELPIES
- 10:30AM OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE SHOW
- 11:00AM BABY & TINY TOT OF THE SHOW
- 12:00PM MINI RODEO
- 1:30PM HAWKESBURY WORKING KELPIES
- 2:00PM FANCY DRESS HORSE & RIDER
KIDS OBSTACLE COURSE
- 2:30PM MADSTYLE MOTO STUNT SHOW
- 3:00PM SHEARING DEMONSTRATION
- 3:30PM DOG HIGH JUMP & MINI DOG RACE
KIDS NOVELTIES
- 4:30PM CAMPDRAFT FINAL
- 5:00PM HAWKESBURY WORKING KELPIES
- 6:00PM MADSTYLE MOTO STUNT SHOW
- 6:30PM MOTORBIKE OBSTACLE COURSE
- 7:30PM LAWN MOWER RACING
- 8:30PM WIFE CARRYING COMPETITION
- 9:00PM PODDY DODGERS MUSIC ACT

SUNDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2025

- 8:00AM CHURCH SERVICE
SHOWJUMPING COMMENCES
- 8:30AM EQUESTRIAN EVENTS COMMENCE
- 9:00AM PAVILION OPENS
EQUESTRIAN SPORTING & NOVELTIES
- 10:00AM TEAM SORTING
CHAINSAW RACING & AXEMEN & CHAINSAW CARVING
HAWKESBURY WORKING KELPIES
- 11:30AM WHIP CRACK COMPETITION
- 12:00PM MADSTYLE MOTO STUNT SHOW
HAWKESBURY WORKING KELPIES
- 1:30PM EATING COMPETITION
- 2:00PM SHEARING DEMONSTRATION
- 2:30PM HAWKESBURY WORKING KELPIES
- 2:45PM MADSTYLE MOTO STUNT SHOW
- 3:30PM POST & FIREWOOD AUCTION
- 4:00PM RODEO
- 7:30PM CAR SOCCER

**times are approximate and may change*



The farmers are grinning from ear to ear with the recent beautiful rain. It certainly makes feeding stock a lot easier, but some were not so keen on the wild storm that raged through the district causing a fair bit of mayhem with the very hectic winds. In the first weekend in February, you will see some farmers sowing their paddocks to prepare for the year ahead. Several local dairy farmers are exhibiting some of their cows at International Dairy Week in Shepparton, Victoria which is the biggest competition in the Southern Hemisphere. We wish them the best of luck.

Congratulations are extended to Craig and Tamara Corby on the birth of a new daughter – Brooke Maria. Lane and Blair are delighted with their new sister. Happy fortieth birthday to Kellie-Anne Hancock (née Salway) who celebrated with a fabulous party.

The day she stole the sun, the documentary made by Jimmy Logue, was attended by a very large crowd. It featured many local people who spoke of the bushfire experience and how it affected them and the community. It was very well

presented and captured the harshness of the event respectfully.

Cobargo Show is coming up on 7 to 9 February and the committee is busy preparing for the big event. The new amenities block at the rear of the pavilion is nearing completion. Many new seats have been installed allowing for a much easier accessible entry and the public address system has been totally upgraded and is now a brilliant top-quality system. Adrian Pomery has helped the committee with his vast knowledge and expertise to install new speakers and many other new fixtures. At the working bee on the weekend the system had a trial run and it worked magnificently.

The huge working bee was held in conjunction with the volunteers' BBQ and a tremendous amount of work was achieved. The timber seats were prepped, many volunteers were involved in mowing and whipper-snipping and there was a lot of steel being cut and welded to fabricate several grandstand seats and new steps to ensure it was easier for our spectators to navigate their way around the grounds. There was also lots of cleaning of facilities in preparation of the event.



Cobargo Show Young Woman, Olivia Harriden

The show has a few new events including muster dogs and a chainsaw carver but there will still be many of the tried-and-true favourites. The Cobargo Show Young Woman, Olivia Harriden, will be attending and participating in the opening of the show. The opening has been given a new timeslot of 10.30 on Saturday morning to help the show run more smoothly and this year it will be opened by radio broadcaster Simon Marnie. Music entertainment will be the much-adored Poddy Dodgers and, fresh from the Tamworth Country Music Festival, former local Felicity Dowd will be performing too. We invite all our community from near and far to come and enjoy all that is on offer.



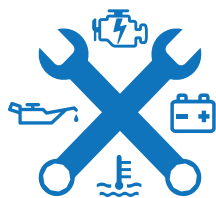
Ron and Carolyn Cole, Simon Cooke, Jeanette Allen and Sally Halupka



June Tarlinton, Mary Hoyer and Darren Morris painting new seating



Simon Cooke installing new seating and Leanne Salway prepping to paint.



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Anglican Churches of Bermagui Cobargo and Quaama

February:

**Special combined service for the Parish at Bermagui: 9.00am - 2nd
Bermagui at 8.30am - 9th, 16th, 23rd
Cobargo at 10.30am - 9th, 16th
Quaama at 10.30am - 23rd**

Contact:

Vanessa Williams, Parish Administrator
0408 177 131

Cobargo RSL Hall rebirth

It's great to see that the refurbishment project at the Cobargo RSL Memorial Hall is almost complete, with major construction work now completed.

It is currently receiving a final fit out with new furniture, a sound system and kitchen accessories. The Cobargo RSL Sub-branch advises that the refurbished hall will be available for hire from early March, with an official opening being planned for April/May.

The Refurbishment Project was funded under a \$1 million Federal Government Black Summer Grant and



The refurbished RSL Hall ready for a new life serving the RSL and the community
Photo: John Walters

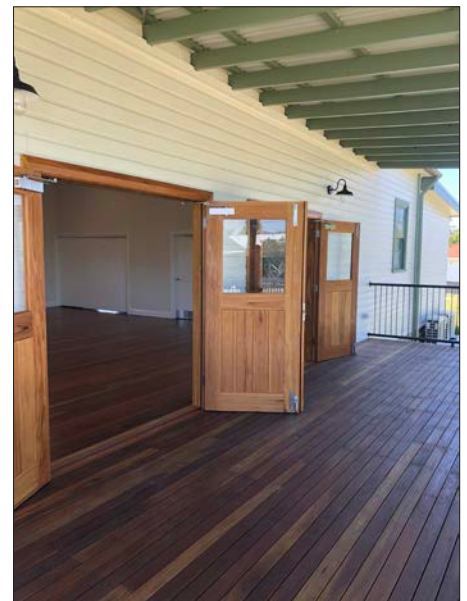
was undertaken by Rapid Constructions Pty Ltd working under the direction of local project architect Nigel Dickson from Dickson Rothschild Architects.

Glen Morrison, President of the Cobargo RSL Sub-branch said that it was wonderful to see the project completed and the hall ready to be returned for community use.

'I would like to thank our builder, architects and our supervising sub-committee for getting the refurbishment done within budget and in time for this year's upcoming Anzac Day memorial service and other community activities,' Mr Morrison said.

'The result is a beautiful building and community asset far exceeding our expectations, and we are looking forward to a bright future for the hall, and our RSL Sub-branch,' he concluded.

With a full commercial-grade kitchen, two small meeting rooms, internal bathroom facilities and new external deck areas included in the project, the refurbished hall will be available for hire for family and community events as well



The RSL Hall features new outdoor deck areas
Photo: John Walters

as official RSL activities.

Booking inquiries should be directed to Graham Churchill on 0409 638 323.

John Walters



Hear Well - Live Well

Free community talks

Tinnitus Awareness Week 5 - 11 February

To acknowledge the impact of and create opportunities to share information of things that help lessen Tinnitus, we will be hosting a T (tea) for Tinnitus event.

6 February, Thursday, at Hear Well - Live Well. Please RSVP for session times

Cochlear Implants, an option when hearing aids are not enough

25 February 11am, at Club Narooma

Please RSVP for catering purposes

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18 March 2025, 10- 11-30. Come celebrate with us at Hear Well - Live Well!

RSVP to 0411 839 414 and venue details

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Cobargo CWA says farewell to Lynne Jones



Lynne Jones was celebrated at her farewell in December by Cobargo CWA members
Photo: Flick Ruby

We hope everyone enjoyed the celebration of the Citizen of the Year on 26 January. It is an opportunity for Cobargo CWA to say thank you for the support of the community.

We will be operating our monthly Bake Stall on the first Saturday of the month from 1 February. Please note that we take orders – especially for crumpets – so email cwa.cobargo@gmail.com and avoid missing out on your favourites!

We'll be in our usual spot in the village and encourage you to partake of our delicious offerings.

At our last meeting in December, we were sorry to say goodbye to Lynne Jones, who is moving on to a more relaxed life. She has been our president and a wonderful treasurer in her time with us. We wish her all the best in the future, and I know she will continue her service with CWA in another branch. A great character, she will be missed, but we hope she will be able to keep up some gardening at her new home.

We love to meet new friends, so please don't hesitate to join us at the cottage on Bermagui Road. Give Sally Halupka (0429 933 686) or Lynn Lawson (0411 432 533) a ring for details of our next meeting. You are assured of a warm welcome.

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



Citizens gathered at the Cobargo Hall on Australia Day to celebrate the Citizen of the Year, Janet Doolin and junior citizen, Milla Kelly.
L-R Barry Benny, Russell Fitzpatrick, Sandra Benny, Ruby Kelly, Milla Kelly, Catriona Rowntree, Kennedy Kelly and Raelene Benny
Photo: Linda Sang

Game On Answers

ACROSS

- 5. Treating badly (7)
- 11. Unlucky caller's fate (2, 4)

DOWN

- 3. Honkers (5)
- 8. Nick — of Lorenzo's Oil (5)
- 17. Deter a nut running wild without drugs (9)*

RnT Leadlight at the Hub in Cobargo

Rod and Tracey Walters are RnT Leadlight in Cobargo. They have been long-time residents in Cobargo and have lived and worked here over thirty years. Late last year they took on the space that was vacated by Robyn Williams and her leadlight endeavour.

It was originally Tracey's hobby that developed into a proper business, encouraged and supported by Rod. For twenty years they manufactured from their home workshop in Cobargo, hand-crafting leadlight products that were distributed along the eastern seaboard. Times have moved on and Rod and Tracey took the opportunity to open a showroom to display their leadlight products. Leadlights, with all their beautiful colours and textures, promote soft, ambient light that creates an old-world charm in any décor. Visit the showroom and see a range of pendants, lamps and examples of door and window panels.

If the shop is unattended, ring Rod



Visit the showroom and see the range of leadlight possibilities for your home. Photo: Linda Sang

on 0402 722 743, he won't be far away.
You can email them on rntheadlight@gmail.com.

Linda Sang



A very well-placed pole or an equally well-placed plover outside the Cobargo School of Arts Hall. Photo: Mahamati

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Course enquiries: Elizabeth Johnson on 0499 818 454

An overview of courses on offer for this term ... Apple Technology, Conversation Cafe, Film and Lunch, French Language, Gentle Yoga, In the Footsteps of the Impressionists, Mental Health – A Continued Focus, Posture Improvement, The Benefits of Good Posture, The Mystery of King Arthur, The Prince and the Riff-Raff – Henry IV, Turbulent Times – Why Humans Fail, Walk, Talk and Café, Why our Local Landscape is What it is.

Cobargo community Christmas lunch

Building on the success of previous years, the Bowerbird Op Shop community Christmas lunch on 25 December 2024 was a resounding success!

The Bowerbird Op Shop President Corrine Harris reflected, 'The Christmas day lunch again provided a wonderful opportunity for a range of people who would otherwise be having Christmas day alone to get together to enjoy great company and a wonderful meal.'

My thanks to those who attended and to those who helped with the food and the staging of the Cobargo School of Arts Hall. An additional shout out to community members who were unable to attend but donated presents to give the lunch a really festive feel.'

While the wet weather was a dampener last year, the celebration bounced back with over forty merry makers meeting old



Everything was beautifully prepared for a festive lunch



All the guests helped themselves to a bountiful dessert buffet

friends and making new ones.

Everyone will know the date of the

2025 event, and we look forward to an even bigger show in 2025.

Steve Williams

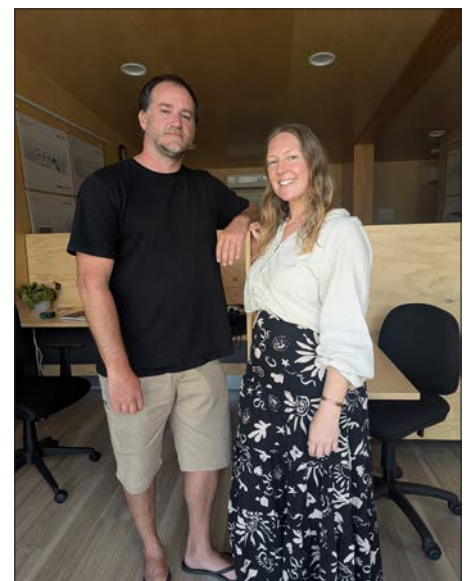
New co-working space opens in Cobargo

Late last year we launched The Village Workspace and opened our doors to the community, offering a new co-working space with affordable hot-desks and private offices for daily bookings.

We are excited to share the space with local business owners and creatives who are looking for an alternative place to work that feels both professional and welcoming. With a combined ten years of working remotely and rotating between the home office, the kitchen table, local libraries, cafés and even the pub – we both understand the challenges that come with working from home. Without colleagues

nearby to bounce ideas off, or connect through conversations unrelated to work, it can be both isolating and uninspiring to constantly work alone. Not to mention the ongoing search for reliable wi-fi away from both loud distractions in public areas and other family members when working at home. Our hope is to create somewhere that feels welcoming for anyone wanting to be productive – no matter if it's paid employment, their own business, life admin or a personal project.

The Village Workspace is equipped with high-speed internet and printing facilities as well as the option to book a shared table for collaborative projects or after-hours meetings and presentations. We also plan to host regular workshops and co-working events that allow local business owners, remote workers and creatives the opportunity to connect, collaborate and upskill. As locals who both grew up and live in the area, we feel strongly about building strong networks so that people from the Valley get to benefit and learn



David and Sarah in The Village Workspace
Photo: Linda Sang

from the myriads of talents and skillsets found in our little patch of the world.

The workspace is located in the Innovation Hub, next to the Co-op in the former Access Centre offices. We are currently open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 8.30 am to 5.00 pm and bookings can either be made online at coworkingcobargo.com or in person.

If you would like to check out the space and find out more, drop by and say hello or get in touch. We look forward to co-working with you soon.

*Samantha Morris
and David Foster*



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OK SHED OP SHOP
BEST LITTLE OP SHOP ON THE COAST

Rebuild Cobargo embraces the New Year!

The Cobargo Community Development Corporation Limited (CCDC) hopes that Cobargo Community members had a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

We left 2024 with the Rebuild Cobargo sites powering on in the lead up to Christmas. There was a brief stoppage for Christmas celebrations and work recommenced on 8 January 2025 – followed by very welcome but inconvenient rain for building purposes soon after. Monarch Building Services quickly remediated the project sites following the rain event and is making progress on the next stages of the foundations for completion early this month (February).

Monarch Project Manager, Lochie Badham, commented: 'Following rain interruptions, we have done our level best to catch up. It's in everybody's interest to move on as quickly as we can. I must add that Monarch is also conscious of parking issues around the rebuild and that is why our tradies park on the Cobargo Road next to the School of Arts Hall rather than on the Cobargo to Bermagui Road.'

The Village Square and Market Hall sites will have had their footings in place for the slabs to be poured in January. At that stage the vertical build will begin and the rebuild will really start to take shape.

In our last *Triangle* update we announced that CCDC had moved into the former Access Centre offices in the Cobargo Innovation Hub next to the Co-op. It is open on Wednesdays,

providing the opportunity for community members to make a time to drop in to view the project designs in detail and to ask questions.

This is the most direct and accurate opportunity to view project designs and clear up any misunderstandings that community members may have about where and how we are progressing.

This office also houses the new business enterprise, The Village Workspace, a co-workspace opening up valuable office and meeting space to the community.

And a reminder – the time-lapse cameras are now fully functioning on the rebuild worksites, but they do not record continuous video or CCTV surveillance footage. They are positioned and oriented to capture the progress of each of the rebuild sites only – they do not capture images of people walking past.

As always, in addition to our updates in *The Triangle*, look out for further information in other local media and through social media and community email, or visit our website at ccdc.org.au.

For further information please feel free to contact one of our Community Representative Directors.

Deb Summer and Steve Williams
Community Representative Directors
Cobargo Community Development Corporation



Concrete trucks and pumper delivering bulk concrete to the Village Square site in mid-January as the Rebuild Cobargo project fired up after a brief Christmas/New Year break.



The Monarch building team at work completing the footings and under-slab waterproofing at the rear of the Village Square site in January.

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or Linda on 0407 047 404



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Cobargo's Citizens of the Year

This year it is a great pleasure to announce that we not only have a Citizen of the Year, but a Junior Citizen as well.

The Cobargo Citizen of the year is Janet Doolin.



Cobargo Citizen of the Year, Janet Doolin

Janet has owned Cobargo Farm for the past thirty years. She started this farm with her parents, Bruce and Sheila Holloway, from scratch on a vacant block of land. Since then, she has been an inspiring role model for our community, having supported multiple not-for-profit

organisations in Cobargo and surrounding areas for many years. This includes driving over 600 km a month for OzHarvest to collect and distribute food to people in need.

During the Black Summer bushfires, she actively supported people with food, vouchers and accommodation.

Janet has been a member of Red Cross and the Rural Fire Brigade, and previously, Marine Rescue Bermagui and Meals on Wheels Bermagui.

She has been an active member of the Cobargo Chamber of Commerce (formerly Cobargo Tourist and Business Association) for more than 25 years and currently holds the position of President supporting community and business.

Our Junior Cobargo Citizen of the Year is Milla Kelly.

She shows dedication, talent and a true sense of community spirit through her remarkable achievements in sports and her unwavering commitment to representing Cobargo on a larger stage. Her leadership and teamwork exemplify our community values.

Milla has represented The Sapphire Coast and Far South Coast regions in Tag and Touch Football, Netball and Swimming, and is a mentor, role model and active coach of younger players. She



Cobargo Junior Citizen of the Year, Milla Kelly
Photo: Linda Sang

has earned refereeing qualifications and can now officiate at weekly games.

Milla is an active member of her school's Representative Council and has received academic, sporting and citizenship awards.

Lynn Lawson



Thumbs Up to the Cobargo Scouts who put on a terrific sausage sizzle at the Citizen of the Year event at the Cobargo Hall on Australia Day Photo: Linda Sang

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Thank goodness for the rain! Gardens and paddocks that have not had a good soak in quite a while will see a burst in growth particularly with the warm, humid weather as well. Of course, it does mean mowers will be used more frequently, but water tanks are full and the threat of fires is delayed for the moment. As we move into 2025, I do hope you have had a chance to catch up with family and friends and enjoy some special time together to appreciate the natural beauty of our area. Many of you will have had businesses to run and, hopefully, this busy summer period has been good to you. There will be a lot to challenge us this year – a Federal election by May; the increasing urgency of climate action; cost of living and housing issues; the everyday demands of daily life. Added to all this is the endless stream of information (and misinformation and disinformation) designed to influence us all. While it is important to keep up to date, communities such as ours, where there are strong connections between people and opportunities to talk about local, regional, state, national and international matters, have an advantage. This is a way of maintaining hope in a world that often seems to be heading in a direction that is not in our best interests. Maintaining community connections, talking with each other about the matters of the day – and there will be a lot to talk about this year – is a sure way to maintain community strength and help us weather the challenges. We have a lot to be grateful for.

La Galette 2.0

Patricia Coutant is best known for her Breton galettes and crêpes. For nearly

six years her cafe, La Galette at Tilba Tilba, introduced locals and visitors alike to the Breton galette and other French-style savoury and sweet favourites and established a dedicated following. Maintaining a food business during the fires and COVID is certainly an achievement and toward the end of 2023, Patricia decided it was time to have a break.

The Tilba area has an almost mystical way of drawing people into its unique landscape and generous community and for Patricia there has never been any question about living here. Her journey to where her life is today is similar to many who choose to live here and adapt their skills to make a living. La Galette evolved from having a food stall at the Tilba Market over ten years ago, which Patricia loved – participating in community life in this way was a great foundation for opening La Galette.

Back at the Tilba Market making delicious crêpes after the break, an idea that was born many years ago resurfaced – La Galette 2.0 in the form of a food van! While crêpes are easy to manage at a market stall, the Breton galette and its savoury fillings are more suited to a permanent setup like a van or café. Finding the ideal van was not too difficult thanks to a Sydney buy and sell site. It was all negotiated online via Facetime – seen on Sunday, here by Tuesday. And the van is pretty cute, easily towed by Patricia’s Hyundai i30 that had to have a tow bar fitted. Connected to a 15 amp power supply it can run two galette/crêpe hotplates, store all the necessary ingredients according to food safety requirements and has a small clean-up space. Patricia says that setting it up was pretty easy and it is compliant with local

government requirements.

Community endorsement goes a long way in getting a venture off the ground. Patricia is grateful that she lives in a community that helps each other. She particularly appreciates the assistance of Peter Lonergan in setting up the food van and Chris Scroggy who has allowed her to operate next to Sweetwater. Indeed, it seems to be a mutually beneficial arrangement where people can buy a galette or crêpe and then take it into Sweetwater for a coffee or other beverage.

Since opening in late December, business over the holiday period has been good. Patricia will see how it goes after the holiday period is over and is considering doing other markets and festivals. Information about La Galette is available on Facebook including trading hours. In the meantime, the food van is located at the entrance to the main Central Tilba carpark next to Sweetwater.



Patricia and La Galette 2.0

Kamilashila Open Day

If you have ever wondered about the Buddhist Centre just south-west of Tilba Tilba, now is your chance to find out. Kamilashila Open Day is on Saturday, 8 February, from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm at 9000 Princes Highway, Tilba Tilba, a stunning location on the slopes of Gulaga. This free-entry family-friendly day warmly welcomes everyone to join the Kamilashila Tibetan Buddhist Centre community for a day of exploration, connection and fun. There will be stalls featuring books, art and craft, and information about the Buddhist Centre’s programs; learn to meditate sessions led by resident monk, Venerable Tsultim; guided tours of the beautiful temple and centre facilities; face painting and drawing activities for kids; a raffle with thoughtful prizes; chai and coffee van; and a delicious Tibetan vegetarian lunch.

The Drogmi Buddhist Institute, that operates Kamilashila, was established in 2009 by Khenpo Ngawang Dhamchoe in the Sakya Tradition of Tibetan Buddhism.

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Kamilashila

The Institute is dedicated to promoting the understanding, study and practice of Tibetan Buddhism in Australia and conducts regular meditation sessions, public teaching and runs a formal teaching program.

More information about this warm and welcoming community is available on Facebook @Drogmi Buddhist Institute.

Building works commence at Central Tilba Halls

Over four years ago, a small group of people met in Narooma to look at ways in which Southcoast Health and Sustainability Alliance (SHASA) could help the Tilba community with future projects. Smilie Magill was part of this meeting and keen to see what SHASA could offer. By chance the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery funding had just been announced, and it appeared that the Tilba Halls met the eligibility criteria. Smilie, as a committee member of the Central Tilba School of Arts Trust (CTSOAT), took this to the committee and a decision was made to apply for funding. With a relatively tight timeframe that included the Christmas/ New Year period the Halls Committee

in partnership with SHASA completed the application by the due date at the end of January 2021. In June that year it was announced that the funding application was successful.

Over the last three and a half years the dedicated steering committee of CTSOAT and SHASA members has met almost weekly to navigate its way through all the hoops and loops that are required for public buildings. The able assistance of Architect/Project Manager, Steph Chui, has been pivotal in progressing the project along with the huge input of steering committee members. Adjacent landowners, Chris and Robyn Scroggy, have also worked constructively with the project. Government support has also been crucial in ensuring that this project is completed.

Actual visible building work is now underway to the delight of the steering committee. It did seem like it was never going to happen. With a well-organised work schedule, builder Hahn Gunthorpe and his team are onsite full time and the community will be able to watch progress and see the upgrade taking shape. Great validation for the perseverance and persistence of the project steering committee and its desire to ensure the ongoing future of the Halls.

Christmas Carols at The Drom

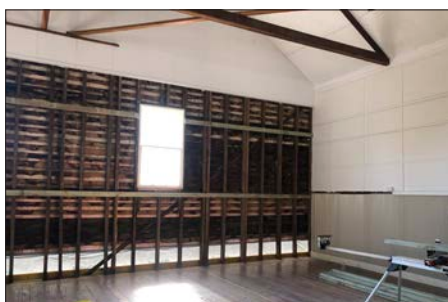
For various reasons, the usual Christmas carols gathering did not happen in Central Tilba. However, so that the village and all the families with kids didn't miss out, Andy and Jess organised carols to happen at 4.30 on Christmas Eve outside the pub. It was a lively event with Andy providing the music – and Shanna singing a song – for all the kids' favourites. Jess had even organised word sheets! Well done, Andy and Jess and all involved and thanks to The Drom for hosting. It was a good start to Christmas celebrations.



Christmas Carols at The Drom



Tilba Halls work underway





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Grampians RFS Deployment

Chris Weire is President and Senior Deputy Captain of the Central Tilba Rural Fire Brigade. As an 'arduous' qualified RFS firefighter he was deployed with RFS Task Force 2 who played a critical role in combatting the challenging Grampians fire in Victoria over the New Year period. Arduous RFS firefighters must have completed the Arduous Pack Test, an international standard for wildfire firefighting, that requires members to be able to walk 4.83 km over level ground, carrying a 20.4 kg vest in under 45 minutes – very fit in other words!

Task Force 2 of twenty arduous qualified firefighters from all over NSW, arrived in the Grampians on 31 December and followed the first contingent that was deployed on Boxing Day. Its mission was focused on maintaining and reinforcing containment lines, patrolling and suppressing any outbreaks during extreme weather spikes. Although well equipped, spike weather conditions – temperatures exceeding 38° C, low humidity and gusty NW winds – tested the team that successfully suppressed eight grass fire ignitions, and felled and extinguished hazardous trees while maintaining containment lines. The deployment demonstrated the strength and resilience of the RFS arduous team and their collaboration with the Victorian agencies ensured that lives, property and cultural heritage were protected.

For the Tilba community we can be reassured that we have such capable and well-trained volunteer firefighters in our local



RFS Task Force 2 – Chris is standing second from the left

brigade. It is most commendable that Chris is prepared to share his expertise with other communities when called upon. This type of deployment is not easy and there are considerable risks. Tongue in cheek, Chris described it in this way – *arrive, dig, cut, sweat, swear, drive, splash, direct heavy plant and giant fans in the sky, repeat for seven days, depart*. We extend our gratitude to Chris and all personnel involved for their tireless efforts in this challenging operation.

Noel Bate, another Central Tilba Brigade member, was deployed to the Hunter Region fires in his new position with the NSW Forestry Corporation.

Stuart Absalom

Chamber News

Happy 2025 to all our Chamber members and friends. We hope that you have all had a happy and prosperous holiday season.

To start off 2025, we need to confirm that we will be holding our AGM on Monday 23 February, 2025, at 5.00 pm in the Barn at the back of the Dromedary Hotel. We need lots of new blood to invigorate the Chamber to achieve even bigger and better things this year. We have the launch of the new 'visit tilba' website that will provide more interaction

with members and visitors alike. Edie and Susan have done a great job with this and now we need to get the message out there for everyone to use it.

Most Chamber positions will become available at the meeting, so please come along and put your hand up to contribute to the continued success of our district.

We are pleased to advise that the summer season has been fantastic in Central Tilba and Tilba Tilba. There have been lots of visitors, their cars parked from the highway to the school and out beyond

Bate Street, with families out and about enjoying what our wonderful area has to offer. Tilba Leather '... had a busy season with many satisfied customers.' The Sweet Spot had several record-breaking days even with power outages! A big thank you needs to go the Post Office for providing cash out services to customers who needed cash when EFTPOS was not available.

It was a great introduction for two new food services in Central Tilba – Mother Tucker with their amazing burgers, sushi, loaded fries and much, much more. Plus, Patricia with La Galette at the other end of the street pumping out galettes and crêpes. The Bakery, Ellen's, The Dairy and The Drom all pushed out great food to feed the happy masses.

The new Bate Street Comms Group was put through its paces with great communication between all businesses. A total success and a terrific way for everyone to keep in touch.

All in all, it was (and still is at time of writing) a terrific summer.

Please put the AGM in your calendar and come along to be involved.

It's also time to start becoming organised for the next Tilba Festival on 13 July 2025 – we need organisers and volunteers urgently to ensure this is a great success.

Happy 2025!

Christine Montague

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Yuin people gather at the foot of Gulaga for the Birriga Bunaan in Tilba Tilba

Strong men and women came together to shake the earth at the Yuin Nation Birriga Bunaan.

They travelled from Canberra, Victoria, Queensland and across NSW to celebrate Yuin culture at the foot of Gulaga on Saturday, January 4. Uncle Warren Foster organised the Birriga Bunaan ‘... to bring our people together for healing people and healing country.’

‘Last year’s theme for NAIDOC Week was keep the fire burning so we want to keep the fire burning and our culture going,’ the Djiringanj man said.

He also organised the Nation Dance Yuin in 2019 and the Yuin Nation Birriga Bunaan in January 2024.

‘We are trying to do it annually because people are crying out for it,’ Uncle Warren said. ‘They need something like this to come together in unity.’

Uncle Warren said that during the year, the community had lost so many people taking the journey back to the Dreamtime. ‘So, we will be honouring all those people we have lost, not just this year, and our ancestors.’

In her opening remarks to the more than one thousand performers and onlookers, Walbunja woman Auntie Loretta Parsley said, ‘Let the spirits dance with you and the ancestors watch over you.’ The ancestors would have seen much hugging, laughter and joking as friends and families reunited at Gulaga.

‘There is no better spot to dance than at the foot of our Mother Mountain,’ Uncle Warren said. ‘Gulaga holds a lot of our creation stories.’

Birriga Bunaan, meaning big celebration or big dance, was funded by Aboriginal Affairs NSW, Biamanga National Park Board of Management and the August 2024 Songs of Yuin fundraiser.

Marion Williams



Male dancers at the Birriga Bunaan



Bunaan after they all entered the ring

Central Tilba School – The big climb, Barranguba’s school camp last November

It was early on a Wednesday morning when we arrived in Narooma ready to board the bus and start our journey to Jindabyne. One of our stops along the way was the Jindabyne Information Centre where we watched a short film about the area and its native animals and plants. We also visited the Gaden Trout Hatchery Farm where we learnt all about the different breeds of trout and how the farm reproduces them. We also visited the Snowy Hydro Discovery Centre. At the end of the first day, we got to the cabins and checked into our rooms. Each cabin had a letter on it and the

cabin groups had to make up a name based on that letter. Our letter was J so we called ourselves the Jumping Jindabynes. We had some free time at the park before we went to have dinner and afterwards had a game of trivia. The Jumping Jindabynes were ahead by 78 points.

On Day Two we started the day early because we were going to climb Mt Kosciuszko. We began our climb by jumping onto the chair lifts. It was very scary because every slight movement would shake the chair lift. We got to our starting point and began to walk. The metal path was called the ‘Cheese Grater’ because if you fell over, you would get sliced up. When we got to the toilets we saw snow. We sprinted to the big snow patch and played. Some students chose to climb to the summit while others stayed behind to play in the snow. At the end we ran back to the chair lifts and hopped on. It wasn’t as shaky on the way back. Back at the bottom we found the Alpine Coaster that we had so much fun riding on. We went very fast and were allowed three turns each. When we got back to our cabins, we finished the last round of trivia and the Jumping Jindabynes won! Our prize was a box of Favourites and we got to eat them while we watched the movie *Paddington*.

On Day Three we went back to the trout hatchery to learn about National Parks. On our journey home we stopped at the prison museum, went to the park and then finally headed for home. We were all very tired as it had been a busy three days, but it was well worth it!

Banjo and Blaze



Fun in the Snowy River

It has been a lovely start to the year. The weather has been warm and there's even been some rain – lots of rain in mid-January.

The crowds have lessened now but what a busy time it was over the festive season – all the locals agree. There were long queues for coffee going halfway around the block, nowhere to park and even queues in the supermarket. The usually quiet beaches were teeming with families enjoying what we have come to consider our own private playground. Blue Pool was packed with swimmers and standers, and dogs frolicked on the dog friendly areas and beaches. The seagulls at the marina were very well fed. There were some days

when every person and their dog seemed to be out on the water in boats, on SUPs and kayaks, trying to catch dinner.

Now we can breathe a sigh of relief as the town resumes its normal pace. It is not too late though – you can still get that holiday feel by joining in on some of the activities about town.

There is a lot to do in Bermagui. Here are a few of the possibilities ... Have you ever visited Bermagui Mudworks or done a class there? How about some yoga at Good Vibes? We even have a 24-hour gym in the industrial estate. Try the Mimosa Rocks or Camel Rock walking tracks or climb Gulaga like you have always said you would. Hire a SUP or kayak and explore

upriver. Bermagui Museum is open, and Montreal Goldfield is still taking tours so get in before they close.

Dune Care is looking for new members – maybe this is the new interest you need for 2025? It is good to see surf patrols still happening during February on the weekends. Have you ever thought about joining them? Bermagui Library is continuing with their popular Words and Music events, the first is on 8 February at 10.30 am. What's not to like about all that?

So, you can see there is still plenty to do while the weather remains delightful, and now you don't have to queue to do them.

The George Bass Surfboat Marathon

Bermagui Surf Lifesaving Club has a long history with the George Bass Surfboat Marathon and when the fiftieth anniversary race was being planned, we found ourselves in a conundrum. Very keen to be involved, but no crews available to compete. An opportunity arose when a crew from Mullaloo in Western Australia reached out looking to borrow our surfboat for the race. Whilst it

wouldn't be our members rowing, our old boat was still going to make the iconic journey from Batemans Bay to Eden, fifty years after the first epic race.

Touted as the longest surfboat race in the world, boats and surfskis cover 190 km of our beautiful coastline, over seven days. As a favourite overnight stop-over for the competitors, Bermagui has offered some ups and downs, as was apparent in the 2020 race, when fire struck our region and the event was cancelled here in Bermi. However, these elite rowers are also accomplished surf lifesavers and when the call went out to assist with evacuations, many competitors came up to help.

This year's event proved to be a great spectacle for locals and visitors alike and we were thrilled to see our boat on the water. We also had four rescue crews on the water and a proactive support team on the beach and our Nippers team cranked up the BBQ over two days making over \$1000 for Junior Activities.

For fifty years this iconic race has attracted surfboat rowers from across Australia, keen to test themselves against our sometimes unforgiving ocean, and their collective courage and endurance has left an indelible mark on the history of our town. Congratulations George Bass Marathon and a huge well done to this year's competitors from all of us here in Bermagui.

*Euan McKenzie
President,*

Bermagui Surf Lifesaving Club



The WA team prepare for the start of the George Bass ocean race, borrowing the Bermagui Surf Club boat Photo: Debbie Worgan



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A vice-regal visit for Bermagui CWA



Bermagui and District CWA members were thrilled when the Governor of NSW visited their branch. On Thursday, 28 November, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC arrived in her car with Crown insignia. She was accompanied by her husband Dennis Wilson.

The couple were blown away on learning that the local branch of the CWA had raised over \$100,000 from the community over the last year. That, combined with \$200,000 from the NSW Government Local Small Commitment Allocation Program, and a wisely invested \$220,000 bequest from Mrs Florence Froggett in 2002, enabled them to build two more seniors housing units. The original four units were built in 1982 at a cost of \$60,000.

To get those extra funds, Bermagui CWA president at the time, Paula Rumble, suggested putting up signs of a thermometer around the town so people could track the progress of the fundraising effort which proved to be tremendously effective. They raised more than \$130,000, with around 95% coming from Bermagui and the surrounding district.

After twenty years of being hampered by red tape, Ms Rumble said it was very satisfying to have built the two units.

Ms Rumble told State Member for Bega, Dr Michael Holland, '... when we got that money from you, we knew we could do this.'

Ms Renwick said the branch has several new members, some under the age of forty. 'It is all because we're doing something great for the community.'

Members of other CWA branches, including Tilba, Cobargo and Pambula, came to the Bermagui CWA rooms to meet the NSW Governor. The Bermagui branch put on a magnificent morning tea fit for royalty.

Her Excellency said Bermagui CWA was amazing. 'It is the



The vice-regal couple at the Bermagui CWA rooms surrounded by CWA members.



Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC and her husband, Dennis Wilson, asked many questions as they were shown around the new units.


village mentality that keeps you all together and doing things for each other,' she said. 'It is really the heart that goes into it so cheers to CWA and there's not a scone in sight.'

Marion Williams

PS: Cath Renwick would like to remind everyone that the first Bermagui CWA meeting of 2025 is on Friday, 7 February at 1.00 pm at the CWA Hall, 10 Corunna Street. All very welcome.

A NEW VENTURE
Helen Morris (Helimai Designs)
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Zany Californian couple on Zane Grey pilgrimage find friends in Bermagui

Bermagui's appreciation of American author and fisher, Zane Grey, thrilled two Californian die-hard Zane Grey fans who visited in December. Zane Grey was a prolific writer of novels, mostly Westerns, many of which were made into movies.

He was also the ace fisher who put Bermagui on the global map for game fishing. Hence, Bermagui Historical Society's extensive collection of Zane Grey photographs and memorabilia.

Self-described global nomads Dan and Darlene Longacre sold their home in California in 2020. 'When we are in places like New Zealand and Australia where Zane Grey visited, I want to fish wherever he fished and find his camps,' Dan said.

Dan started collecting Zane Grey magazines when he was 17. After more than fifty years of serious collecting, he has no idea how many items he has. The collection includes a lock of Zane Grey's hair and his admission card to dental

school in 1893.

Their house had a room dedicated to Zane Grey books; another was crammed with fishing memorabilia. Yet another was bursting with items related to Zane Grey's movies – lobby cards, hand bills, posters and half-sheet posters. There are 'thousands and thousands' of photographs, a 'crazy number of letters' and diaries.

Darlene has become a master in transcribing Zane Grey's writing. They would rent a cabin as Darlene transcribed the diaries to check all the places. These days they enjoy seeing what Zane Grey saw, what influence he had and if anyone cares any more.

They met a woman in Bermagui's pub who said her father had always talked of Zane Grey and how much he did for the community, bringing in the fishing industry. 'His celebrity in the day was huge which is why there are so many little newspaper articles about him. Where he



Dan and Darlene Longacre
Photo credit: Stephen Mills

went, what he did – it was a big deal,' Darlene said.

Marion Williams

Summer musings

The beginning of a new year, a quarter of the way through another century and who knows, nobody knows what it will bring forth?

So far it has been a gentle summer, and we have been spared extremes, unlike other parts of Australia.

As I write this, we have had a reprieve from the dry and received some very welcome summer rains to at least put water in the tanks.

There have been plenty of visitors enjoying all that the coast offers. Hot enough for visitors and locals to enjoy beautiful swimming conditions and other beach activities.

Talking to local businesses though, the comment is 'people are not spending this year'. Hardly surprising really, given the current economic situation and the continuing rise of the cost of living with everyone keeping an eye on their spending.

February in Bermagui usually sees a fresh wave of visitors, if you will excuse the pun, coming to enjoy the weather and the various events coming up on the Bermagui calendar. I have always felt it is the loveliest time of the year, a little quieter after the first flush of visitors, lots of families and children enjoying the school holidays at the beach. The summer season is a long way from over, take the time to enjoy it.

Georgina Adamson

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Supporting our community

Words and Music fun at Bermagui Library

The very popular Words and Music program is now running at Bermagui Library.

Words and Music started at Tura Library in September 2021 and has expanded to all shire libraries. It is a successful combination of book chat, musical interlude and a delicious morning tea.

Bermagui Library will be hosting the next Words and Music event on Saturday 8 February at 10.30 am.

'It's a relaxed and friendly event and everyone is welcome to come along,' says Rachael Higginbotham, the Bermagui Library Officer. 'It's easy to take part. Before the event, pop into the library and borrow a copy of *Dreaming in French* by Vanessa McCausland to read at home.

'Then join us on 8 February to chat about what you thought of the book – what you liked, didn't like or what piqued your interest about the story. Don't worry if you don't finish reading the book, come



Words and Music: Bermagui Library Officer, Rachael Higginbotham with *Dreaming in French*.

anyway for the music and morning tea.'

Dreaming in French is the perfect summer read. It's set in summertime on the Île de Ré, an island off the Atlantic coast of France. The gripping storyline

focuses on Saskia who inherits half a villa from a French heiress she befriended more than twenty years earlier. But how did the heiress die? And why was Saskia included in her will? Throw in a family curse and a mysterious manuscript and you have a can't-put-down read!

'People who've been to Words and Music events elsewhere tell us it's a very friendly outing and it gets people socialising with new people, so we are very excited to bring Words and Music to Bermagui to help foster new connections for people,' Rachael said. 'Bookings are essential and a minimum number of bookings is needed for the program to go ahead.'

Go to Bega Valley Library events, click the 'What's on' button, check the box that says 'Filter events', choose Bermagui Library and then click 'Words and Music' to book or phone Bermagui Library on 6499 2411.

Linda Albertson

Good Vibes Studio – three-year anniversary

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

Good Vibes Studio is a holistic

movement space dedicated to connecting with your heart, spirit and community. Over the past few years, we have welcomed many of you to our beautiful

studio and have seen many lives transform in beautiful ways. To see people leave with smiles on their faces, a sense of lightness and spaciousness, and a deeper aliveness in the connection with themselves is a huge joy!

We feel it's time to come together and share some celebrations. We're having a Community Open Day on Saturday, 8 March at Good Vibes Studio. There will be short taster sessions offered by many of our regular facilitators – think yoga, dance, pranayama, laughter yoga, breathwork etc. Everyone is welcome to come and join in without charge.

Maybe you have never been to the studio? Or you have joined in for a particular class for a while and would like to try out something new? Have you been joining in for three years and would like to bring a friend? We will make sure that all sessions will be available for everyone – all abilities. There will be a cosy set up outside the studio to relax between sessions, drink a cup of tea, enjoy a treat or ask us all the questions you would like to.

We hope to see you there!

With love,

Vera, Paula, Sunda, Robbie, Stephanie, Gini, Marenn, Caitlin, Taisha, Patrice, Ellie, Jess, Tora, Lynn, Radha and Neil



The friendly Good Vibes mob will welcome you to their Bermagui Studio for an open day on 8 March

Adam West's *Inspired by nature* 2025

Opening night was buzzing with excitement, drawing a great crowd of both locals and visitors who came out to support our small business. This year's extended exhibition was exceptionally well-attended, attracting buyers and guests from far and wide, including Bateman's Bay, Eden, Cobargo, Prague, London, New York and Colorado.

Now in its third year, the exhibition was again at Bermagui Surf Club that provides the perfect backdrop. A huge thanks to Bruce, Cheryl and the team there for all their help.



Sea and Sky by Adam West

This year, Adam showcased many new images, including a stunning panorama of Murunna Headland and *Nature's artistry*, an image captured on the Wallaga Lake sand flats where the lake meets the ocean. This photo, captured at low tide, showing vast, patterned sandbanks etched into the sand, drew a lot of attention. But the crowd favourite was *Hunter's moon*. Printed using the latest technology, its incredible detail and clarity led many to believe it was captured through a telescope, but it was taken just outside Adam's garage, with a handheld camera and a 500 mm lens.

Congratulations to Jenny, a Bermagui resident, who purchased this popular image early in the exhibition.

We truly appreciate everyone's support and feedback. It was wonderful to see fellow artists, including Roz Bannon, Ivana Gattegno and Narelle Perroux, there. We wish them as much success as we have experienced with this exhibition at their *Arid zone* exhibition at James and Georgie's Frame and Brush Gallery.

We're looking forward to fulfilling our orders and creating many new images for everyone to enjoy next year!

Marg West



Hunter's moon by Adam West

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Art in the Triangle

Natural beauty of the Far South Coast – photographic exhibition by Shelene Bailey at the Lazy Lizard

Shelene Bailey is a 25-year-old Cobargo-based photographer, who is passionate about landscape and wildlife photography. She’s been taking photos across Australia for over twelve years and has a particular passion for sharing the beauty of our local area through her work.

Shelene sells prints, calendars, magnets, greeting cards and large canvases in a small number of local stores, as well as online via her website (type Shelene Bailey Photography into your search engine). She is also on Instagram and Facebook under the same name.

Shelene provides photography services such as covering events and supplying headshots for local businesses.

‘What you choose to display in your home can bring more life into your space, display the natural beauty of our local area, spark conversations and show your commitment to supporting local artists and the community. Anyone who visits the Far South Coast is inspired by its beauty. Bring some of that beauty and inspiration into your space with a photograph!’

The exhibition will run from



Camel Rock

1 February to 28 February; our Cobargo gallery is open Monday to Friday from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, Saturday from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm and is closed on Sundays.

Shelene Bailey



Wallabies



Pelicans

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The Necks – Sunday 9 February at 3.00 pm

The *New York Times* has called The Necks ‘the greatest trio on earth’, so it’s pretty exciting that we will have them back at Four Winds playing for our community in February.

After more than twenty years of playing together, these musicians have honed their art. Formed in Sydney in 1987 by Chris Abrahams (piano and organ), Tony Buck (drums, percussion and electric guitar) and Lloyd Swanton (double bass and bass guitar), The Necks jazz trio have become globally revered for their improvisational style and hypnotic live performances that slowly unravel.

Their new album, *Bleed*, is described by bassist Lloyd Swanton as ‘easily the stillest album we’ve ever done.’ Their music has been called ‘patient beauty that slows the world down’, with another fan saying, ‘The Necks are less a band than they are some gateway to another universe.’

Tickets are selling fast for what will be a very special concert, so make sure you get your seat in the Windsong Pavilion for this ‘entirely new and entirely now’ whole world of music.

Songs of the sea – Sunday 2 March at 6.00 pm

Don’t miss this intimate cabaret setting, with dinner available before the show.

One of the mavericks of Australian music, baritone Mikangelo, the alter-ego of Michael Simic, will be joined by the Van Diemen’s Fiddles, a quartet of women fiddlers from Tassie, as well as internationally acclaimed folk artists Luke Plumb and Dave McNamara on mandolin and accordion.



The Necks at the Henie Onstad Kunstsenter
Photo: Nabeeh Saaman

Together they will bring us *Songs of the sea*, a night of maritime folk, classical and experimental compositions that weave together stories, myths and songs. From the stormy depths of the ocean, we will hear shanties about fishermen, shipwrecked sailors and mermaids.

The Van Diemen’s Fiddles will be visiting our local schools conducting workshops to continue Four Winds ongoing educational and community engagement program.

General admission \$45, concession \$35, under 16s free.

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Sculpture Bermagui 2025 is ramping up, no bull!

After 19 years as a highlight of the south coast calendar, Sculpture Bermagui is ramping up for 2025.

Entries closed to artists in mid-January with all expectations exceeded. Once again, this community-driven sculpture exhibition has achieved a record number of entries.

Now it's down to the combined skill of curators, Victoria Nelson and Carolyn Killen, to select the final exhibits from the entries and oversee curation of the unique spaces.

Renowned Canberra-based sculptor David Jensz will judge the major prize which has a combined prize pool of \$50,000 this year. Outdoor works will be displayed on Dickinson Point Headland, while those more vulnerable to the elements will be showcased at the Bermagui Surf Club. Both locations are within easy walking distance of the main street, accommodation, cafés and restaurants.

Sculpture Bermagui, a free exhibition, welcomes visitors into the heart of Bermagui to enjoy nine days of beautiful art on the Sapphire Coast. It is proudly sponsored by local businesses – it's a fantastic time to visit and sample local produce at the Fisherman's Wharf or kick back and slow down with a beverage on the sun-soaked deck of the iconic Bermagui Beach Hotel.

Coinciding with the Victoria Labor Day and the Canberra Day long weekends, the event kicks off on Saturday, 8 March and runs until Sunday, 16 March.

Visit the website, 'sculpture bermagui', for more information, or go to Facebook and Instagram @sculpturebermagui.

Community callout

In 2024 over a hundred volunteers gave more than three thousand hours of their time to make Sculpture Bermagui the wildly successful event it was. With jobs of all kinds, before, during and after the event, you can give us as much or as little time as you have spare. We will provide training and the opportunity to be part of a truly special community event.

To be involved go to the Sculpture Bermagui website and fill in the form for volunteers.

Vic Silk



The Bull Somerset Coker Photo: Micheal Blyde

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

It takes a village

Get ready for a new event in association with the Cobargo Folk Festival. 'It takes a village', a FREE Fringe celebration will bring art, music and vibrant festival energy into the village on Thursday 27 February.

Kicking off in the afternoon, this new addition will feature an exciting line up of South Coast artists, talks, a documentary and a family bush dance spreading some festival magic into the heart of Cobargo, offering a festival taster before the Cobargo Folk Festival.

As 2025 marks the fifth anniversary of the 2019/2020 bushfires, we'll not only commemorate the resilience of our community in the face of tragedy but also celebrate our incredible journey of recovery.

Join us as we honour the past and embrace the future, all while soaking up the creative, joyous spirit of Cobargo! Come a day early and don't miss out on this unforgettable celebration.

'It takes a village' is produced by the Yuin Folk Club Inc with support from Destination NSW, the NSW Government and Dave Allen from the Cobargo Pub.

Search online for Cobargo Folk Festival It takes a village where you will find the latest program.

Zena Armstrong



The lyrebird is the Folk Festival's ongoing logo. The lyrebird stands as a symbol of sacred harmony – the speaker of all languages and the dancer of life.

Four Winds in 2025

The Windsong Pavilion was packed for the Four Winds 2025 program launch.

What a smorgasbord it will be for our greedy ears! We will be able to hear classical quartets, choirs, fiddle, guitar, piano and violin concerts as well as folk, jazz, contemporary, Persian, rock, rap and reggae acts. In addition, Four Winds will offer residencies for artists to come and create music in nature, and several Windsong Live albums will be recorded in front of an audience of locals.

Board Chair Michael Darling observed that, ‘This unique site and facility, the vision of its founders, the breadth of artistic leadership, combined with the great creative force of professional and volunteer teams over the years, has resulted in a bit of a miracle.’

The word miracle landed easily on an audience that had just heard Andrea Lam play a most difficult Chopin piece perfectly. Many of us were barely stifling squeals of laughter and delight and we all clapped till our hands tingled. Thankfully, we will see more of Andrea this year on a new ABC series called *The Piano*, and also because she has curated five remarkable Easter concerts over three days. Drawing on her friends from Australia’s major orchestras, we have an impressive set of traditional and contemporary musicians playing for us this year.

The audience could not suppress applause and enthusiasm for Four Winds’



Leigh Small at the Four Winds 2025 program launch

commitment to sharing and preserving First Nations culture and knowledge.

Thanks to the leadership of First Nations Creative Director Cheryl Davison, Four Winds will feature performers like The Stiff Gins, a sculpture and screen print exhibition and a weekend festival called *Barragga Yangga*, meaning ‘many songs’ in traditional Dhurga language. During the festival, the songs generated by the Djinama Yilaga choir, a multigenerational group of local Aboriginal people, will be taught and shared in participatory workshops and performances throughout the weekend.

Creative Director David Hewett reflected on the Spring Youth Festival at Four Winds that shows off local talent in an intergenerational exchange between local youth and professional musicians. Our primary and secondary schools will continue to be visited by the musical talent coming to Four Winds, helping local young people learn about and play music, but also aspire to careers in music.

Under the guidance of Executive Director, Leigh Small, Four Winds has increased local attendance by 15 per cent, perhaps through Sunday afternoon concerts that better suit our community. Certainly, the subsidised ticket prices (\$35 conc, \$45 full and under-16s free) have helped to ensure that a broader audience can experience music in this beautiful setting.

See you at Nature’s Concert Hall!

Flick Ruby

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What's on at Spiral Gallery

Continual
Land and seascape photography
by Marcus Ward Curran



Love Merimbula by Marcus Ward Curran

Continual runs to 12 February, featuring a selection of images focused on the continual changes of light, weather, seasons and environment captured in distinct fleeting moments that may happen cyclically but never happen in the exact same way. *Continual* is Marcus's approach to the ongoing search for dynamic light, balance, composition, structure and colour working in parallel with an image's ability to tell a story and take the viewer on a visual journey.

Through continual repetition, patience and perseverance the images showcase a wide range of both land and seascape photography that highlights yet only scratches the surface of the abundance of beauty and natural wonder of the Bega Valley.

Wild Things
Mandy Jackson solo

14 February to 12 March with an opening event at 11.00 am Saturday 15 February with nibbles, wine and live music. All welcome.

A vibrant and colourful exhibition of new work by artist Mandy Jackson, showcasing a collection of unique animal artworks in mixed media. Mandy's inspiration has been drawn from photographs taken during her travels in Australia and overseas, as well as a fascination with creatures great and small.



Tiger, tiger by Mandy Jackson

Go to the website 'Spiral Gallery Bega' for more information.

Spiral Gallery
47 Church St, Bega
Open Mon-Fri 10 am to 4 pm
Sat 10 am to 1 pm

Diana Stewart

Quests for love



Local author and Wallaga Lake resident, Roger Juchau, has recently had his debut novella, *Quests for love*, published by Cilento in Sydney.

The novella follows two single middle-aged women, Bonnie and Stella, and their adult children, Jason and Clare, as they embark on journeys of romance that ultimately founder. With their relationships uprooted, they continue to pursue the human desire for connection. Eventually, each of them is successful in forming a lasting relationship.

'Apart from exploring the unexpected joys of companionship and the frailty of relationships, I believe my novella is a testament to the enduring pursuit of intimacy and the soulful richness of shared lives,' commented Roger on the novella's release in December.

Roger's recent publications include *The human mosaic of Balmain* (Cilento), a series of portraits of imagined people living and working in Sydney's inner west suburb Balmain. Roger, a Huguenot descendant, has written regularly on Huguenot histories.

Both books should be available at the Bega and Eurobodalla libraries, and paperback and ebook versions are available from Amazon and online retailers as well as at Balmain's Roaring Stories bookshop.

Roger Juchau

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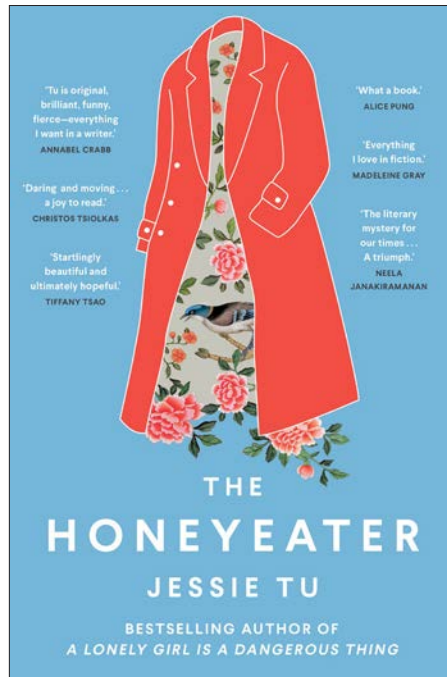
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The honeyeater
Jessie Tu
Allen & Unwin
RRP \$32.99

Jessie Tu is a book critic at *The Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald* and a journalist for *Woman's Agenda*. Her debut novel, *A lonely girl is a dangerous thing* won the Australian Book Industry Awards for 2020 Literary Fiction Book of the Year.

The honeyeater is her eagerly awaited second novel. The protagonist of her first novel was an adult but emotionally stunted former music prodigy. In this novel we meet Fay, an aspiring academic in the competitive field of translation. And, again, this character seems to be not fully adult, too eager to please, reluctant to assert herself and disabled by self doubt. Fay has disengaged from her feelings and the writing is detached, cool and precise, yet intense and full of scathing undercurrents. Tu has stated in interviews that she is exploring the stereotypes of the young Asian-Australian woman: the musical prodigy, the academically



promising.

Tu's work examines skewed power dynamics and their impacts. Fay has a cloying relationship with her secretive and superstitious Taiwanese mother. She still lives with her and continues to be the child in this two-person household. Can she leave her widowed mother? Who

needs who the most?

Fay lectures at a prestigious university in Sydney and is the assistant to a female professor and translator who mixes offers of advice and help with belittling demands, pressure, gaslighting and subtle blackmail. Who will be chosen to attend, to speak even, at the next conference?

Fay has been having an affair with an older, established academic and rock-star translator, entirely on his terms. She has recently ended things but her references to his skills and her obsession with him continue.

The world of the professional translator is fascinating. It's cutthroat, bitchy and open to abuses of power. The competition to be the chosen translator for the latest Booker winner or best-seller is extreme. It's a world I hadn't known existed.

Tu also examines the nature of translation. What is lost and what is gained? What happens when you move between languages and cultures?

In the same way, Fay examines her relationships and her place. Someone dies. Things change.

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Behind The Green In-Door

Humans have been growing plants indoors for millennia. It likely began when the first ancient Egyptian plucked a lotus stem from the Nile River and placed it in a clay pot. The Hanging Gardens of Babylon – one of the seven wonders of the ancient world – may well have been the first true ‘urban jungle’.

Meanwhile, the Chinese were perfecting the art of bonsai, while the Greeks and Romans grew laurel trees in terracotta and marble pots. As Europeans explored the world, they brought back plants from warmer climates that needed protection from the cold, prompting the need for indoor cultivation. In the Victorian era, hardy, low-light plants like *Chamaedorea elegans* (parlour palm) and *Aspidistra elatior* (cast iron plant) became fashionable among the wealthy.

An important advancement in indoor gardening came with the invention of larger, cheaper glass windows. More natural light allowed people to grow plants indoors, making the pursuit more widely accessible.

The indoor plant trend took another leap during the counter-cultural movement of the late 1960s and 1970s. Many people sought more eco-friendly lifestyles and plants became a symbol of those values. This period saw the rise of macramé plant hangers, terrariums, and easy-care plants like *Chlorophytum comosum* (spider plant) and *Epipremnum aureum* (devil’s ivy). Eventually, plants moved beyond the home into public spaces like hotels, offices and restaurants.

However, by the late 1990s, the

indoor plant trend waned. The rise of minimalist interiors and sleek metallic finishes seemed to clash with the organic, sometimes messy, nature of plants.

Fast forward to the rise of social media and its adoption by Millennials and Gen Z. The indoor plant trend went viral, as people shared their plant collections online, inspiring others to follow suit. The COVID pandemic further fuelled this hobby and today indoor plant sales are at an all-time high. The global indoor plant market is valued at around \$20 billion, and rare plants have become status symbols – like the variegated *Monstera adansonii* (Swiss cheese plant) that recently sold for \$38,000!

Indoor plants have long reflected humanity’s connection to nature and our desire for green spaces that nourish both our environment and our well-being, and the trend continues stronger than ever to this day. So come on, what are you waiting for? Any of the plants mentioned above or pictured alongside are guaranteed to succeed away from the direct rays of the sun. As Shakin’ Stevens encouraged us all to do so in song in 1981, come and ‘... join the happy crowd behind the green (in)door’.

Meanwhile, around the towns we have seen some pretty special agapanthus displays over summer, but don’t forget to deadhead the spent flowers now to stop seed spread. The bougainvillea are stunning at this time of year, and to keep this dry-tolerant, scrambling, thorny devil tamed, prune it back after flowering and chop back any aggressive rogue shoots as they appear. A final shout out to all the hibiscus currently flowering. These three plants alone brighten up any late summer garden.

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

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

Happy growing.



Monstera deliciosa (Swiss cheese plant)



Nephrolepis exaltata (Boston fern)



Spathiphyllum sp. (peace lily)

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BOBCAT & TIPPER HIRE
0439164176

Allan Dummett 0439164176

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Cooking up community ~ Linda Sang



Linda Sang at Well Thumbed Books. Photo: Flick Ruby

A lot of people in our Triangle community know Linda Sang from her involvement in Well Thumbed Books, the Cobargo School of Arts Hall and this publication. Also, she is a prolific caterer and you have likely eaten some of the delicious food Linda cooks for local events. The carrot cake or trout dip from the General Store was hers and pretty hard to resist. But like many worker bees, Linda is often buzzing too busily to speak about her life, so we twisted her arm to sit down with us for a chat, first asking how she found herself in the Triangle area.

‘Since the 1990s, my late husband and I would come and visit friends on the south coast. We loved it so much we bought a 40-acre block of land in Yowrie. Moving from Newtown to the bush in 2003, putting down roots and working in the area, was a complete lifestyle change. Like many, we lived in a caravan for a long time, building a 100-metre square deck with a big skillion roof to catch rain. Even though I grew up in a city and didn’t like camping much, I just loved living in that caravan and then the shed, until the house was built.’

It was the pristine nature and the quieter community that made the South Coast so special. ‘When we first got here, 300 people lived in Cobargo and, although it still feels small, we are now at around 700. The far south coast was just more low-key then.’

Because her work in the city as a chef/

caterer or painting film sets and props, had not allowed time, Linda wanted to be more involved in the community after the move. ‘I went and did a TAFE community services course that led me to working in disability services at Tulgeen, and also with the domestic violence court service. I worked in all sorts of different places until I needed to look after Alan until he died in 2011.’

Linda’s life went through another set of changes when she sold the Yowrie block and got a place in Cobargo. ‘I got involved with Well Thumbed Books. I’m part of the five-woman crew there. We each do one day a week – my day is Monday usually – and every fifth Saturday. It’s not a chore but a joy to be there tidying up books, playing with flowers, talking to people and having lots of cups of tea. We sell books as well! It is a business, but it’s also a community hub.

‘Sarah Gardiner, who worked on *The Triangle* for many years, invited me onto the Committee. At first, I did layout, which for a Luddite like me was an enormous and stressful task. Now my main work is collating, a clerical task that funnels all the incoming articles and inquiries. We produce an issue each month, and it’s very process-based and fiddly but totally collaborative and creative. That’s why I love doing it.’

What has been the standout edition for Linda during her ten years helping to produce *The Triangle*? ‘After the fires,

we were galvanised to publish a *Triangle* that included every voice that wanted to be heard. So many people submitted their experiences, thoughts, pictures and concerns. You name it, we published it. It was our best issue ever. It was our proudest moment, a remarkable collection, born out of a lot of anguish.

‘I hope *The Triangle* grows and develops new ways of expressing the community voice. Our new podcast is a different direction that I hope will help younger people with energy and aptitude to take it on. There’s lots of other people out there that have different voices and skills that we don’t have but need.’

What drives Linda to be so active and involved in the community? ‘I feel part of a family here. I have family in Sydney and a partner who I love visiting. Here I have a different family, the kind you create. *The Triangle*, the Hall, the bookshop – that’s family to me. We care about each other and our area. We care about housing, food, water, animals, we care about farming and trees and helping each other. I’m looking forward to Cobargo’s buildings getting up and running so we have a more vibrant local economy. I want to see this place putting down good foundations for people to raise their children to express themselves and feel part of a community. You just can’t buy that stuff, you can’t buy a sense of belonging and neighbourliness, but it can be offered, and it can be shared.’

Happy Chinese New Year

When you read this article, the official Chinese New Year will have passed, but New Year celebrations can continue with cooking and sharing meals with family and friends. I was brought up in a Chinese household with my grandparents. English was their second language, yet we only spoke English at home. It was the done thing at the time that we assimilate into the Australian culture, so I had a hybrid experience of culture, Chinese on the outside and a mix of Aussie and Chinese on the inside.

My grandmother was a great home cook, she did everything for us, but we never really noticed how she did it until it was too late. She was illiterate, only her brothers went to school, so no recipes were ever recorded. All things were measured by eye, times and temperatures judged by experience. I remember asking when I got a bit older, 'How much rice flour do you need? How much water to make the dough?' Cupping her hand, 'This much.



Time? – when it's ready. Temperature? – when it's hot'.

What she did leave me, and all her children and grandchildren, was a deep appreciation of family and food to share. It was always plentiful and delicious, inventive and thrifty. When I left home to

study, I couldn't even cook rice properly. I subjected myself and assorted flatmates to dreadful approximations of Chinese cuisine. This was the 70s, so it was guggy fried brown rice and very limp vegetarian stir fries on high rotation.

With recipes, at first I relied on Charmaine Solomon's *Complete Asian cookbook*, then Kylie Kwong and Neil Perry; more recently Nagi Maehashi of Recipe Tin Eats and the net! I rely on my memory of the hundreds of meals my grandmother cooked, the meals I've eaten in other countries, in homes and restaurants, and from street stalls. The following recipe I picked up from a cookbook that an aunt gave me called *Bamboo, a journey with Chinese food*.

Noodle dishes are good to share with others, or with yourself as leftovers. The recipe is a starting point – substitute any other protein, like prawns or tofu. Add different vegetables – just make it tasty and saucy – keep tasting as you're cooking!

Fish Chow Mein

Ingredients:

250 g fine egg noodles
2 cm knob of fresh ginger, peeled and grated
1 tbsp soy sauce
1 tbsp oil
500 g firm white fish fillets cut into 2 cm squares
2 or 3 eggs
Oil to fry
Half a small cauliflower, thinly sliced
1 medium carrot thinly sliced
6 dried shiitake mushrooms, soaked in a cup of water, drained, stems discarded and thinly sliced
Reserved soaking liquid from the mushrooms
Salt to taste
1 tbsp cornflour
2 tsp soy sauce
Half tsp sesame oil
Half tsp sugar to taste
Pepper to taste
Coriander leaves and sliced spring onions for sprinkling on top

Method:

Cook noodles till done, rinse till water runs cold, then drain and set aside.

Mix ginger, soy sauce (1 tbsp)

and oil (1 tbsp) and marinate the fish for 15 minutes.

In a frypan or wok, heat a little oil to cook beaten eggs until set, like an omelette.

Remove from pan and cut into strips, set aside.

Heat more oil in the frypan, add noodles. Do not stir but allow to form a 'cake'. Cook for 3 minutes each side, till a bit crisp and hot. Put aside in a serving dish or separate bowls.

Mix cornflour, soy sauce (2 tsp), half cup of the mushroom liquid, sesame oil,

sugar and pepper and set aside.

Sauté fish in a little oil till tender, set aside.

Sauté vegetables and mushrooms for 2 minutes on high, then add 2 tbsp of the reserved mushroom liquid and cook for 1 minute.

Add cooked fish to the vegetables, then add the cornflour mixture and cook till sauce has thickened.

Pour over the noodles, garnish with the egg strips and coriander and spring onions.

Serves 4



COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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

ANGLICAN PARISH OF COBARGO

Bermagui: All Saints - every Sunday 8.00am
Cobargo: Christ Church -
1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays 10.00am
Quaama: Quaama School of Arts Hall -
4th Sunday 10am
Ph: Vanessa Williams 0408 177 131

ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE

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

BERMAGUI BAPTIST CHURCH

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

BERMAGUI CROQUET CLUB

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

BERMAGUI CWA

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

BERMAGUI DUNE CARE

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

BERMAGUI GARDEN GROUP

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

BERMAGUI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Museum Open Tuesdays 10am - 2pm.
Researchers & helpers welcome.
Contact bermaguimuseum@gmail.com

BERMAGUI & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

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

THE BERMAGUI MARKET

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

BERMAGUI MEN'S SHED

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

BERMAGUI PROBUS

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

BERMAGUI SENIORS' SOCIAL CLUB

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

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

COBARGO AND DISTRICT ENERGY TRANSITION GROUP INC (CaDET)

Email - renewablecobargo@gmail.com
www.renewablecobargo.com

COBARGO CREATORS

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

COBARGO CWA

Meets in the CWA Rooms, 5 Bermagui St
2nd Tues of the month, 10.30am.
cwa.cobargo@gmail.com
Cottage Hire 6493 6428 or 0429 933 686

COBARGO DISTRICT MUSEUM

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

COBARGO PRESCHOOL

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

COBARGO QUAAMA BUSINESS RECOVERY GROUP INC (CQBRG)

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

COBARGO & DISTRICT RED CROSS

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

COBARGO SCHOOL OF ARTS

Hall bookings and inquiries:
Linda 0407 047 404 / cobargohall@gmail.com

1ST COBARGO SCOUT GROUP

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

COBARGO SHOWGROUND

Contact: Mike Nicholas m: 0414 012 287
e: miknik62@hotmail.com for bookings

COBARGO SHOW MEETING

Monthly 2nd Wednesday, 7.00 pm - Cobargo Showground dining hall. Contact Naomi 0417 456 354 secretarycobargoshow@yahoo.com.au

COBARGO TOURIST & BUSINESS ASSOC

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

DIGNAMS CREEK COMMUNITY GROUP

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

MOBILE TOY LIBRARY & PARENTING RESOURCE SERVICE

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

OPEN SANCTUARY AT TILBA TILBA

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opensanctuarytilba.org and on facebook.
Contact: Linda Chapman 0422 273 021

QUAAMA / COBARGO QUILTERS

Meets Mondays 10am-3.00pm in the CWA Cottage, Bermagui Road, Cobargo. Anyone welcome who does patchwork, quilting, or any other fibre or needlecraft. Contact Lorraine James 0459 022 368 or Leanne Tett 0408 627 103

QUAAMA MEN'S SHED

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

QUAAMA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

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

QUAAMA RENEWAL PROJECTS

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

QUAAMA SCHOOL OF ARTS

Hall bookings and inquiries:
Call 0408 411 956
quaamahallbookings@gmail.com

SOAPI COMMUNITY THEATRE

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

TILBA CWA

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

TILBA MARKET

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

TRIANGLE TOOL LIBRARY

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

U3A BERMAGUI

Lifelong Learning Opportunities
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UNITING CHURCH SERVICES

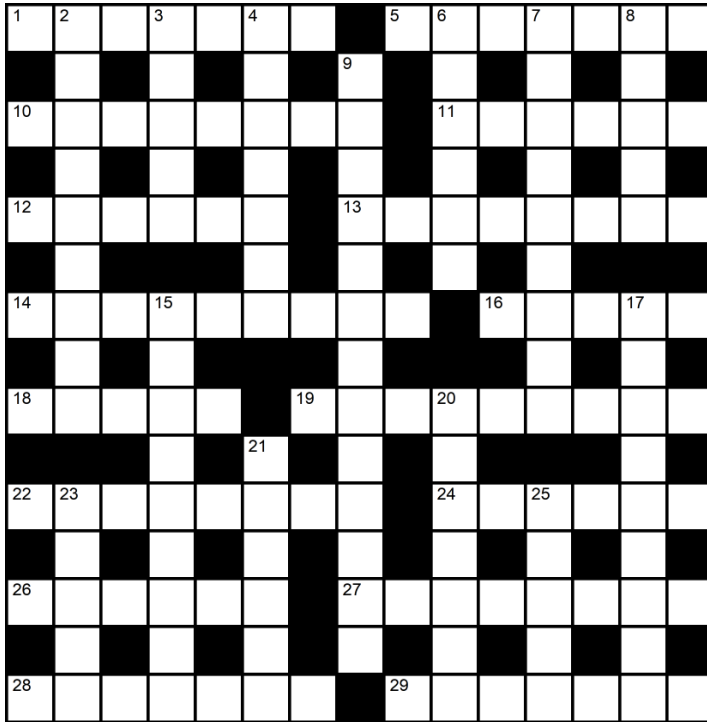
Narooma - Sundays at 9am, 134 Wagonga St.
Cobargo - 2nd Sunday at 11.00 am.
4th Sun Prayer & Praise (ecumenical) at 11 am.
38 Bermagui Road, Cobargo
Phone Di: 4476 2024 mtdromedary.uca.org.au

THE YUIN FOLK CLUB

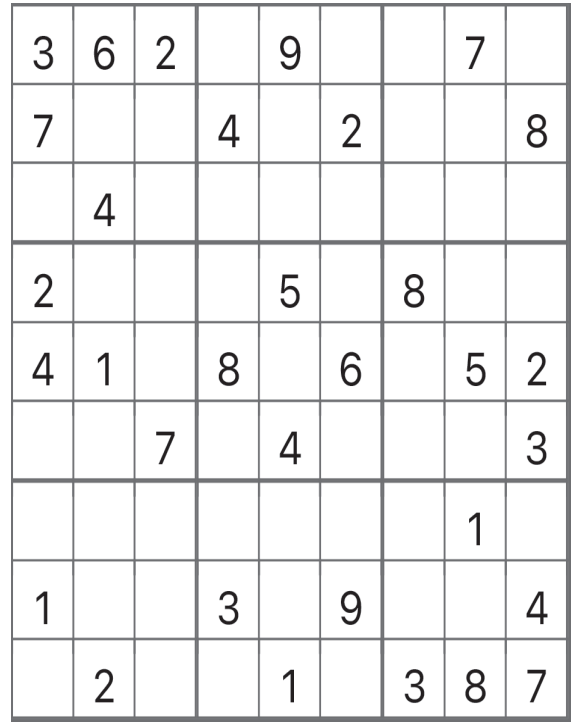
The Yuin Folk Club organises the annual Cobargo Folk Festival and hosts folk music concerts throughout the year.
Details at www.cobargofolkfestival.com
Ph. Secretary Chris Walters 0476 787 480,
Treasurer Peter Shears 0439 738 377 or email info@cobargofolkfestival.com

Game On

FEBRUARY CROSSWORD



SUDOKU



ACROSS

- 1 Gentleman of the road (7)
- 5 Treating badly (7)
- 10 Future threat (4,4)
- 11 Unlucky caller's fate (2,4)
- 12 Mocha native (6)
- 13 Deeply absorbed (8)
- 14 Former international cricketer, brother of fellow-cricketers Steve and Dean (4,5)
- 16 Clean vigorously (5)
- 18 Grins from ear to ear (5)
- 19 What a gyroscope should provide (9)

- 22 Where WW1 started (8)
- 24 Walked lamely (6)
- 26 Wild horse (6)
- 27 Poison remedy (8)
- 28 Mutts' huts (7)
- 29 Rich fabric with raised designs (7)

DOWN

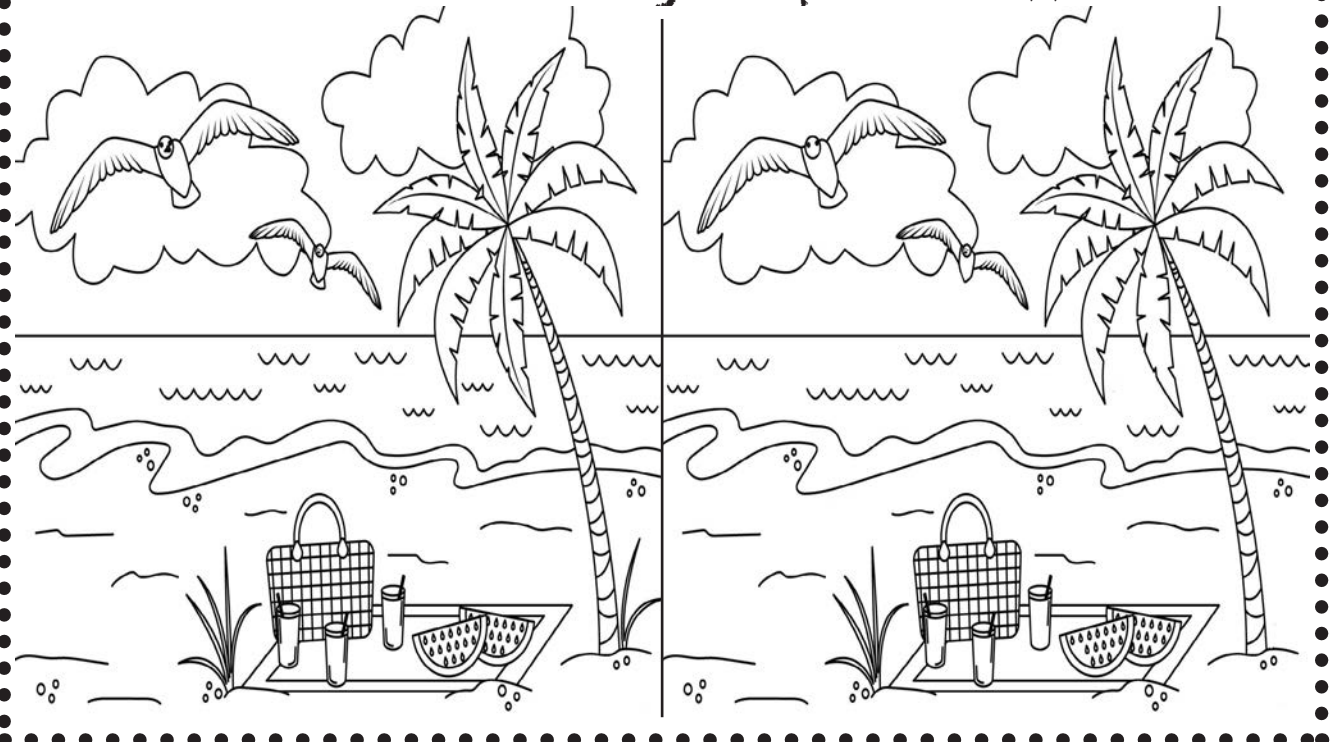
- 2 The banded ---, a bird of dryer regions (9)
- 3 Honkers (5)
- 4 Island site of US victory in 1945 (3,4)
- 6 Flourishes (6)
- 7 Laser chip turned round in all directions (9)

- 8 Nick — of *Lorenzo's Oil* (5)
- 9 Epic film about 1944's Operation Market Garden (1,6,3,3)
- 15 Perth rocker, with The Scientists and The Surrealists (3,6)
- 17 Deter a nut running wild without drugs (9)*
- 20 Long pillow (7)
- 21 The other side of Mr. Hyde (6)
- 23 Give consent (5)
- 25 Frontline physician (5)

Answers on page 17

*Indicates a cryptic clue.

Kidz' Korner - Can you spot 8 differences?



For the fridge door

FEBRUARY	WHAT	WHERE	TIME
Sat 1 till Weds 12	<i>Continual</i> land and sea photography Marcus Ward Curran pg 37	Spiral Gallery, Bega	M - F 10 - 4 pm Sat 10 - 2 pm
All Feb	<i>Natural Beauty of the Far South Coast</i> photography Shelene Bailey	Side Room, Lazy Lizard pg 33	M - Sat 10 am - 2 pm
Fri 7 - Sun 9	Cobargo Show, pastoral and horticultural country show, activities, displays, fun fair pg 14 + 15	Cobargo Showgrounds	Facebook or online for program times
Sat 8	Kamilashila Open Day, family-friendly event with various activities, food and drink available pg 24	Kamilashila Tibetan Buddhist Centre, 9000 Princes Hwy Tilba Tilba	10 am - 2 pm
	Words and Music with Racheal H, bookings essential pg 31	Bermagui Library	10.30 am
Sat 8 - Mon 10	Bega Valley Kennel and Training Club Championship shows and training trials info on Facebook	Dickinson Oval Lamont St Bermagui	Look up program times on Facebook
Sun 9	The Necks, celebrated three-piece 'improvisational' style and hypnotic live performance' pg 34	Windsong Pavilion, Four Winds, Barragga Bay	Food Truck and bar 1.30 pm Event 3 pm
Thurs 13 - Sun 16	Sapphire Coast Kennel & Obedience Club All breeds championship shows, obedience, rally trials. Info Facebook	Dickison Oval, Lamont St, Bermagui	Look up program times on Facebook
Fri 14 Feb - to Weds 12 Mar Sat 15 Feb opening	<i>Wild Things</i> Mandy Jackson, opening 11 am nibbles, wine and music pg 37	Spiral Gallery, Bega	M - F 10 - 4 pm Sat 10 am - 2 pm
Sun 16	<i>A Soul Reset</i> workshop with Sarah Lambert and Kate Nirlipta pg 9	Cobargo School of Arts	Check ad or online
Thurs 27	<i>It takes a village</i> free Folk Festival fringe events: various musicians, bush dance, solo artists, bands pg 35 program online	Cobargo, RSL hall, SoA Hall, Cobargo Pub, Valiant Caravan, Cobargo Commons	4.00 pm - 10 pm
Fri 28 - Sun 30	Cobargo Folk Festival program online	Cobargo Showgrounds	See ads pg 6 + 7
March			
Sun 2	<i>Songs of the Sea</i> various artists, maritime/ folk pg 34 more info online	Windsong Pavilion, Four Winds, Barragga Bay	Food truck & Bar from 5 pm Event 6 pm



He says he wants the vegetarian option.

Cartoon by Naomi Lewis